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# **MHC Update**

# **MHC Update**



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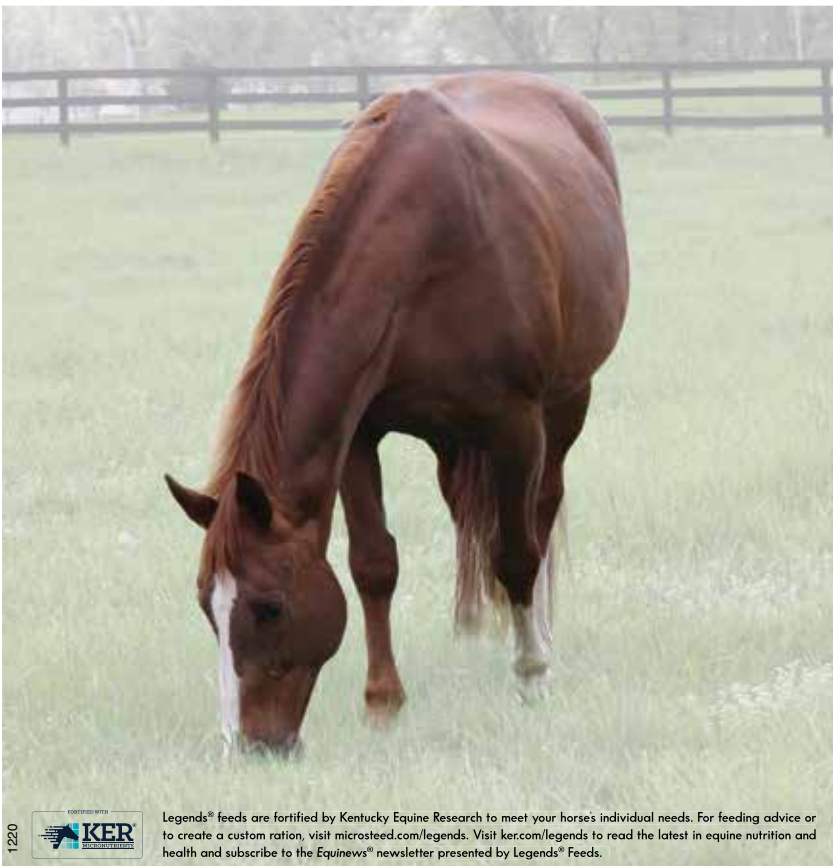
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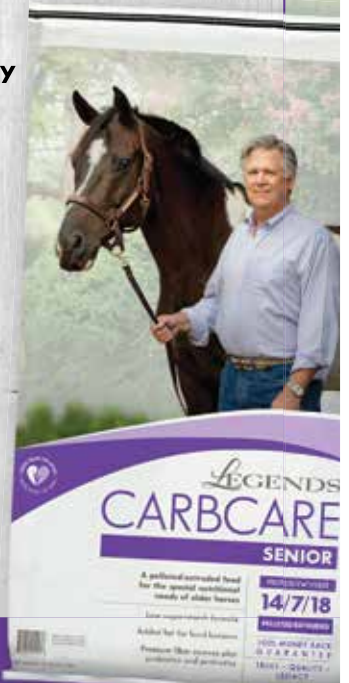
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## Leonidas A Wins Potomac Pace

On November 15, 15-1 longshot Leonidas A took the win in the fifth running of the \$100,000 Potomac Pace Invitational at Rosecroft. The 5-year-old Australian-bred arrived in the U.S. this past July after being purchased by Steve Finklestein's Jesmeral Stable. Driven by Austin Siegelman and trained by Sheena McElhiney, Leonidas A set a lifetime mark of 1:48 and won his 13<sup>th</sup> race of the year.

Leonidas A stayed back at the start and then Siegelman moved him to the inside rail as the field past the grandstand. In the backstretch, Siegelman moved Leonidas A off the rail and just behind Bettor's Wish but as they neared the wire, Leonidas A charged to the front, winning by a length.

The favorite, Bettor's Wish, finished second while World of Secrets came in third.

## Tent Collapses at Fairgrounds

On November 2, the Baltimore County Fire Department posted on Twitter that high winds caused at least one tent to collapse on several horses at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium. All horses were removed safely and one person was transported to a hospital with minor injuries.

## Lisbon Horse Parade Goes Virtual

While there will not be a physical horse parade in Lisbon in 2020, the Great Farmers Feed the Hungry Christmas Parade will happen, virtually. Participants are invited to get creative, dress their horses, decorate their tractors, and make a video of what they would have done in front of the reviewing stand.

Participants will upload their 30 second videos to the Parade by December 12 and the videos will be compiled and premiered on New Year's Eve. For complete details, visit the parade's website at [lisbonchristmashorseparade.org](http://lisbonchristmashorseparade.org).

## Sam Schaefer Wins Hunter Classic

Samantha Schaefer (Westminster) topped the \$50,000 National Horse Show Hunter Classic at this year's 137th National Horse Show on October 30. Riding In The Know, owned by Schaefer and her younger sister Madeline, the elder Schaefer sister bested 21 combinations for the win in the three-phase competition.

In the first test, a 3'6" course, Schaefer scored an 87.12 to sit in second place. The top six pairs continued onto the second test over a 3'9" course. Schaefer's score of 87 pushed her into the lead where she remained after the top three competed over a 4' course.

In addition to the Classic win, Schaefer earned the Hunter Classic Rider Award with a \$5,000 cash prize provided by Audi of Lexington and Samuel A. Boone. She also was named the Meralux Farm Grand Champion Professional Hunter Rider after winning a number of classes at this year's National Horse Show.



Emma Miller/Phelps Media Group

Samantha Schaefer and In The Know win the National Horse Show Hunter Classic

## Sagamore's Plank Leaves Racing

In early November, Kevin Plank announced that he is shutting down Sagamore Racing and will no longer be breeding and running horses out of the historic Sagamore Farm. He purchased the farm in 2007 and made several major renovations before establishing Sagamore Racing. Plank does intend to keep the farm where he plans now to grow corn and rye for Sagamore Spirit.

Plank told BloodHorse, "I love this farm and am so proud of what we've built with Sagamore Racing, including helping to re-energize racing in Maryland and experience success on the track." He added, "The farm will remain in my family, but after 14 years it is time to use this beautiful piece of property in a new way. It will remain an asset to the community, but the primary purpose of our next chapter will focus on growing corn and rye to support

all we are doing with Sagamore Spirit and our award-winning rye whiskey."

Sagamore Racing saw its last runner Global Campaign (Curlin x Globe Trot, A.P. Indy) finish third in the Longines Breeders Cup Classic on November 7. Bred by WinStar Farm LLC in Kentucky, the 2016 colt is co-owned by Sagamore Farm LLC and WinStar Farm LLC, and currently has netted over a \$1,000,000 in winnings.

The Classic also marked the last race for Global Campaign as he is set to stand at stud at WinStar Farm in Kentucky for the 2021 breeding season.

BloodHorse reported that Plank has been selling off horses in recent years and plans to have the farm fully transitioned by the end of this year. A small number of retired horses will remain on the farm to symbolize the history of Sagamore.

## Mackenzie Hicks Finishes First 50-Miler

Thirteen-year-old Mackenzie Hicks of New Windsor completed her first 50-mile endurance ride on October 24 in Fort Valley, VA. The Fort Valley endurance ride, which is held in the Massanutten Mountains, is a challenging and technical ride that consists of rocky single lane trails, old roadbeds, open fields and forest roads. The ride also includes several climbs to the top of the Massanutten range.

For the ride, Hicks rode Rackin' Randy, a nine-year-old gaited Spotted Saddle Horse. This was also his first 50-mile endurance ride.

Hicks rode along with seasoned endurance rider Angela Kemerer, who has mentored her since she entered the sport of distance riding in 2018. Competitors had twelve hours to complete the course. Hicks and Kemerer started the ride at 7:30 AM and crossed the finish line shortly before 7:00 PM.

Hicks is a member of the Burntwoods and Frederick Pony Clubs and is working

*continued...*



Becky Pearman

Mackenzie Hicks and Rackin' Randy at the Fort Valley Endurance Ride

IF YOU HAVE NEWS, VIEWS OR UPDATES TO CONTRIBUTE, PLEASE SEND THEM TO THE EDITOR at The Equiry, P.O. Box 610, Lisbon, MD 21765 • FAX: 410-489-7828 • email [editor@equiry.com](mailto:editor@equiry.com). Be sure to include your full name, phone number and address. All submissions become the property of The Equiry.

towards riding in a 100-miler endurance ride.

## Ahesahmahk Dahn Earns Joe Kelly Award

At this year's Maryland Million on October 24, Ahesahmahk Dahn of Baltimore was presented with the 2020 Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award for his work with City Ranch. Dahn, who is also the current Maryland Horse Council Treasurer, started City Ranch, Inc. in 2007 to introduce Baltimore City children to horses.

The Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award is presented annually by the Board of Directors of the Maryland Million Ltd. to honor the memory of Joe Kelly and celebrate important characteristics that are valuable but often unrewarded. The award recognizes honesty, hard work and humility – qualities that serve as inspiration to others.

"Being chosen a recipient of this award really gives encouragement [to] what we're doing at City Ranch, [showing] that we're valued in the industry and that the industry thinks what we're doing is significant," Dahn said. "To be recognized for that, from your colleagues, says an awful lot about what they think of you."

To read more articles on Dahn and City

Ranch, go to [equiery.com](http://equiery.com) and search for "City Ranch."

## Kayla Wolfe Wins Laura Pickett Award

This year's Washington International Horse Show and the USHJA Zone 3 Championship was held in Leesburg, VA, at Morven Park International Equestrian Center, due to COVID-19 restrictions at the usual venue at the Prince George's Equestrian Center. One of the highlights of the regional competition is the annual presentation of the Laura Pickett Trophy for Excellence in Horsemanship, which was donated to WIHS by Vicki Lowell in memory of the beloved equestrian and trainer, Laura Pickett.

Pickett lost her fight against breast cancer when she was just 52 years old. This trophy honors her contributions to the sport and the legacy she has left behind. WIHS posted recently in a press release about the trophy, "She inspired enthusiasm for life, in addition to good horsemanship." The trophy is awarded to an up and coming rider who best exhibits these same qualities.

This year's winner is Kayla Wolfe of Burke, VA. The 17-year-old has been a member of the WIHS Junior Committee for four years and has also competed at WIHS, finishing in the ribbons in the 2016 WIHS Children's Hunter



Shawn McMillen Photography

**Kayla Wolfe wins the 2020 Laura Pickett trophy**

Championship. "While showing on the local circuit over the years I have learned how much Laura Pickett meant to the riding community, and it is such an honor to be a recipient of this award and carry on her name and what she stood for," Wolfe stated.

Wolfe currently trains with Kristin Mangum and is a senior at Bishop Ireton High School. She will be attending the University of California Davis next year and has verbally committed to compete for the university's equestrian team.

## 2021 Horse World Expo Canceled

2020 strikes again as the owners of Horse World Expo announced on November 12 they are canceling the 2021 Horse World Expo set to have run in Pennsylvania. The cancellation is due to the ongoing occupancy restrictions for the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex buildings and overall public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Organizers posted on the show's Facebook page, "We hope that you and your family stay safe, and we want to extend a sincere "thank you" to the many attendees, exhibitors, clinicians, performers, employees, and all others who have contributed to the success of Horse World Expo over the past 18 years. We look forward to seeing you again on March 3-6, 2022."

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## Leihy Wins Horse Month Selfie Challenge

Congratulations to Angie Leihy of Bowie, who won *The Equiery's* October Horse Month Selfie Challenge. Leihy sent us six selfies taken at various Horse Month activities and earned a bucket full of prizes.



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# Celebrating 30 Years of The Equiery



The December 2020 print edition of *The Equiery* celebrates 30 years of being Maryland's source for horse information! Yes, 30 years ago in December 1990, the very first *Equiery* landed in tack and feed stores, being hand delivered by co-founders Crystal Brumme Pickett and Mercedes Clemens (pictured).

Over the past 11 months, *The Equiery* has been sharing covers from every year bringing us to this issue, the 350th edition of *The Equiery*! On the December 2020 cover, you will see our readers' favorite covers from each year, votes counted from Facebook likes. We also reached out to current and former *Equiery* staff members to find out which covers stand out the most to them.

What we present on these pages is a history of *The Equiery* magazine as told through its covers. Enjoy! And thank you for your continuous support. We could not be what we are today without you.

## December 1990



Of course, Issue Number 1, December 1990 is obviously one of my favorites! It was our first issue and co-founder Mercedes Clemens and I were scared to death, but yet oddly confident that we had a grand slam on our hands.

Our concept was simple: we created a portable tack shop/feed store bulletin board, with a free Directory of Riding Stables at its heart.

The simple cover reflected our simple mission—and truth be told, we were inspired by art covers of *The Chronicle of the Horse*—but we wanted to do art differently than those classic *Chronicle* covers, which framed the art in a small space in the center of the cover. We wanted to use the ENTIRE cover. But at that point, we did not know any equine artists—plus, we had no money to pay an artist.

An old college roommate of mine drew this simple horse head as a favor, and we used a standard, free font. We were fortunate enough to actually “sell” ads—rock bottom, introductory rates that kind people couldn't say no to. But it also took some of our own money to get that first issue on the street. So, yeah, it was scary! With the launch of the first issue, we quickly met artists who were willing to let us publish their art on the cover FOR FREE! Wow!

— Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

## April 1991



This cover was dedicated to Col. Turnabout, owned by my childhood friend, Debbie Hauser. She asked if it would be ok if she might be able to purchase a dedication page for Col. Turnabout in *The Equiery*, even though

it had been three years since he died.

“Of course, Debbie!” I said, “But wait—why

just an inside page, why not the cover!”

And thus was launched a unique sales product with over three decades of cover dedications—each emotional and touching in its own way. Debbie's suggestion also launched one of the most beloved features still running in *The Equiery* today: Greener Pastures. Astute followers will notice that after the first year, fewer covers featured art. Why? Because the waitlist for cover dedications was often well over one year!

— Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

## December 1991

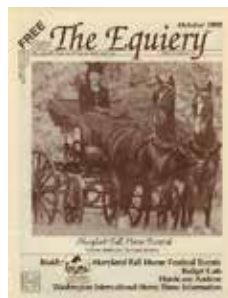


We had made it one year! We celebrated by splurging on spot color. This was the second cover we ran featuring the art of Cathy Kelley, a horsewoman and graphic artist for *The Washington Post Magazine*. Cathy was the

first of our many “Postie” relationships, which included (but is not limited to) writer and editor Kathy Blumenstock (who eventually edited *The Equiery* for a while), the late, great photographer and writer Sarah Libby Greenhalgh, and another great photographer and writer Laurel Scott, who eventually also became an *Equiery* editor. Some of Cathy's clever illustrations created exclusively for *The Equiery* back in the '90s are still in use today.

— Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

## October 1992



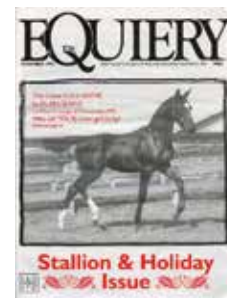
This photo taken by the incomparable, award winning photographer Cappy Jackson represents, to me, all the wonderful mentors who generously gave of their time and talent to help a struggling, little local publication.

A regular cover photographer for *Horse & Rider* and a regular contributor to *Maryland Horse/*

*Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred*, Cappy's talents were beyond our budget—but she never charged us for the photos she let us use. What a gift! Cappy was just one of many mentors who generously contributed their talent (or at ridiculously reasonable rates), including but not limited to Peter Winants (*Maryland Horse* contributor and later editor of *The Chronicle*), Tim Capps, Margaret Worrall and many others. What a privilege to have these towering talents as mentors.

— Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

## December 1995



Our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Co-Founder Mercedes Clemens had sold her half of *The Equiery* to me several years prior, but continued to serve as *The Equiery's* Art Director until 2005. In honor of our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Mercedes created and gifted to *The Equiery* a new logo/masthead, which first appeared on this issue and is still used in a slightly altered form by *The Equiery's* new owner, the Maryland Horse Council.

— Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

## January 2005



I had the most fun when we were at the Maryland Horse World Expo proudly showing off the publication and working in conjunction with the show organizers. I so greatly enjoyed working with my fellow horsewomen at

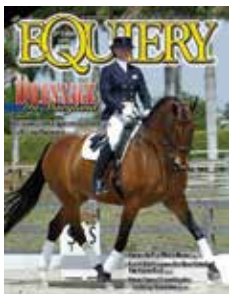
the publication including Katherine [Rizzo], dynamo Crystal [Brumme Pickett], who is truly a one woman army charging forward, as well as Tracy [McKenna], Carolyn [Del Grosso], Lynn [Hoffman] and the various interns.

— LuAnne Levens, former Associate Publisher

continued...

## Celebrating 30 Years of *The Equiry*, continued...

### September 2005



It always amazes me how many people in the horse community came into our office bearing food, and I don't think any of it was healthy! Suzie Floyd (pictured on our September 2005 cover) in particular with her beautiful riding clothes and slim figure had a field day with us, particularly when she was taking her cooking classes! I gained 20 pounds in the five years I worked there! The baking was phenomenal from her.

—LuAnne Levens, former Associate Publisher

### June 2006



While I was at *The Equiry*, the Maryland Horse Council and this publication were crossing over in terms of accomplishing many things related to the growth of the Maryland horse industry such as establishing the Maryland Horse Industry Board and supporting it through the Feed Fund bill. In addition, there were talks about a Maryland Horse Park (reported in several issues including the feasibility study published in the June 2006 issue), taking positions on Sunday hunting, and getting behind gambling so we could share a portion of those funds to help save Maryland's horse industry, specifically racing.

I also remember fondly Ross Peddicord bouncing in periodically, interacting with people like Jim Steele and Dorothy Troutman, living legends if you will; and so many others who are so vital to our industry. I learned more about other farms in the Maryland horse community while *The Equiry* continued to be a source of information for those who needed to find stables and products and information—legislative, supplies and otherwise. I am so very, very proud to have been part of *The Equiry* team and I continue to applaud its efforts and the uniting with MHC... the perfect combo!

—LuAnne Levens, former Associate Publisher

### July 2008

I feel that this cover captures a wonderful moment in time as the little boy realizes he has been slimed by his pony, and Muffy



looks completely innocent and is posed perfectly. Brody and his family have moved out of state, and he is now 18 or 19. We gave him this as a poster one year at Expo, and the family still has it (even though he took up other sports in high school). This photo was taken by another future cover subject, Jacqueline Morris, who was on our March 2019 cover.

—Tracy McKenna, Associate Publisher

### October 2009



My first cover as Art Director! After several months of guidance and tips from former Art Director Derrick Cook, I was let loose to design my first *Equiry* cover. I remember spending a lot of time playing with colors and fonts until I felt it was ready to show the team. Just a few additional tweaks from our amazingly creative group of *Equiry* staffers and then off to the printer!

—Katherine O. Rizzo, Editor-In-Chief/Art Director

### October 2012



The cover of our October “International Issue” used to take turns every other year between the Washington International Horse Show and Fair Hill International. In 2012, it was WIHS’ turn. For certain big issues, our entire staff would collaborate to choose a cover image. Cover images are harder to come by than one would think; a remarkable photo does not always make a remarkable—or even doable—cover. But to me there was no other option in 2012 than Diana De Rosa’s photo of Elise Ledsinger aboard Practical. The horse’s beautiful expression, the bright colors of the tri-color champion ribbon were stunning! I worked for *The Equiry* for a period of 79 monthly covers and to this day, that is my most favorite.

—Jennifer Sponseller Webster, former Associate Publisher

### March 2015

If I had to pick a runner-up best *Equiry* cover, it would be the March 2015 cover of James Stierhoff and the 2010 and 2012 Maryland Hunt Cup winner, Lucy Goelet’s Twill Do. We were cele-



brating James and Twill Do’s selection that year as winners of the Maryland Steeplechase Association’s Hurdy Gurdy Award. I’m a big fan of timber racing and of Twill Do, in particular, so this particular choice was everything to do with subject matter, and not just artistic quality!

—Jennifer Sponseller Webster, former Associate Publisher

### January 2017



*The Equiry*’s first glossy cover also happened to be the last Maryland Horse World Expo. Coated cover stock had finally become financially attainable but who knew that this Maryland Horse World Expo would be our last? This issue marked the closing of a fruitful 18-year partnership.

—Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

### January 2018



A beautiful photo, a spectacular layout by Art Director Katherine O. Rizzo, a fitting tribute for the transition to the New Year, and the new *Equiry* owner, the Maryland Horse Council. A photo celebrating snow and winter was a brainstorm solution to the unfortunate last minute cancellation of Horse World Expo. We had not celebrated horses in the snow on a cover since December 1991. And I had such fun leading the Maryland Horse Council Executive Committee through the photo selection process - it was truly a collaborative effort - which to me meant that this ownership transition was the right thing to do, at the right time.

—Crystal Brumme Pickett, Founding Publisher

### August 2018



Almost a Cover - I have been in love (obsessed) with this photo since the moment it was submitted for the 2018 Foal Photo Contest... Greystone’s Baron instantly melted my heart! His cute little Fjord baby self just exuded fun, curiosity, sweetness, simplicity and love. Plus, I just wanted to squish his fluffy little face with his eyelashes for days! So it may not have been the actual cover for that August, but



## Celebrating 30 Years of *The Equiry*, continued...

to me, it wins every year.

- Emily Nessel, Marketing Coordinator



### January 2019

And then... in January 2019, the first full glossy edition of *The Equiry* came out! Having a fully glossy magazine was the brainchild of current MHC President Neil Agate who kept saying "we need to be all glossy" until we made it happen!



### June 2019

Out of all the photo shoots for covers I have done for *The Equiry* over the years, this one is most memorable simply because of the experience of the shoot itself. The athletic, and sometimes unruly

Senior Senator, circling the huddled group of his connections while they just kept smiling at

the camera was priceless. It was a challenge to get the three-time Maryland Hunt Cup winner composed for what would end up being the cover image but I felt privileged to be in Team Senior Senator's company and grateful to be able to tell their story.

- Katherine O. Rizzo, Editor-In-Chief/Art Director

### November 2019



One thing that has always stood out to me is how supportive the horse industry is to each other and to other causes. People are always willing to step up and lend a hand, or money, as needed and they are always caring and supporting many causes, not just horsey ones.

I am looking forward to seeing *The Equiry* grow and prosper and continue to keep horse people in the know as well as continue to expand the horse industry

- Carolyn Del Grosso, Bookkeeper

### June 2020

My current opinion may be skewed by the fact



that the COVID-19 pandemic is still going on, but my choice for favorite cover is from the June 2020 issue. It was just such a heart-warming scene captured by Jennifer Cloutier. It felt hopeful...it felt special...it felt joyful.

When I first saw the cover put together, it seemed perfect, just what we all needed in that moment to remind us that everything would be okay...reminding us of how unique and remarkable the bonds with our horses can be and how powerful that is in bringing our community together. Our horses bring so much joy to us and to others and we should never take that for granted...not on the good days and especially not on the bad days.

- Emily Nessel, Marketing Coordinator

### January 2021

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# Interning with *The Equiery*: Then & Now

By Leah Fondelheit

In addition to the staff, readers, freelancers and advertisers who have worked together to produce *The Equiery* over the past three decades, there are the interns. These young professionals in the making contributed their own fresh ideas to this magazine. From creating promotional materials, writing articles and coming up with clever cover teasers, among other assignments, these *Equiery* interns have each left their mark on *The Equiery* as much as *The Equiery* has imprinted on them.

Many of these interns came to *The Equiery* with some type of equine background, but in addition brought a variety of passions. After completing their internships, many have stayed in the equine industry while others have gone on to different career paths. As we celebrate *The Equiery*'s 30th Anniversary, we also celebrate these interns and caught up with several of them to find out where they are now!

## Margaret Rizzo McKelvy: 2003



As one of the first *Equiery* interns, Margaret McKelvy had a unique introduction to *The Equiery*. She had met then *Equiery* owner/publisher Crystal Brumme Pickett while on a trail ride. Margaret had explained to Crystal that she was

majoring in communications and public relations at the University of Maryland, College Park. This sparked Crystal to offer her an internship with *The Equiery*.

Margaret contributed to Out & About and wrote about the Marion duPont Equine Medical Center. She said one skill she honed during her internship that she still applies today is writing. "Writing is a big part of what I do, as well as marketing. All the experience of proof reading and writing helped contribute to my writing skills today," she said. Margaret now runs her own business, Mythic Landing Enterprises, LLC, which offers services from graphic design to bookkeeping, marketing and advertising, to web development, and everything in between.



## Lauren Maruskin Foley: 2003

Studying communications, with a passion for horses and magazines, led Lauren Foley to intern with *The Equiery*. During her

internship, and later as a full-time staffer, she did a bit of everything from writing, database updates, customer service and marketing tasks. One thing Lauren learned during her internship was how to confidently talk with people, whether it be answering phones, helping riders find a lesson barn, or calling someone for an interview. "Horse people are the best, so it was a great way to build my confidence, talking to some really neat people!" she said.

Lauren is currently working for *The Chronicle of the Horse* magazine as their Editorial Production Manager. "With three children ages five and under, I don't get to ride my horse as much as I used to, but I get to live vicariously through everyone I read and write about in *The Chronicle*," she added.

## Starr Crusenberry: 2004-2005



Having read *The Equiery* for many years and just finishing up an internship with Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred's *Maryland Horse*, Starr Crusenberry figured interning with *The Equiery* was the next step for her career path

objectives. She was able to contribute to several articles including features on *The Equiery*'s Perpetual Eventing Trophy winner and a series on a deadly outbreak of equine herpes. From this internship experience, Starr said, "I still use many of the copy editing skills I put into practice during my time at *The Equiery*. Always fact check names, spellings and dates!" She is currently the Head of Marketing & Communications at Victor Insurance.

## Lauren Risby: Dec 2006-Aug 2007

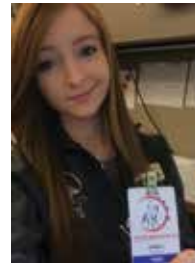


Looking for more experience in an office setting that also involved horses while at college, Lauren Risby and *The Equiery* were a great fit. While interning she wrote three articles and completed various other projects.

She stated, "I learned about editing, which has helped me in my personal and work life." Lauren currently works as the Regional Controller at AssuredPartners. "I have two horses and just had a baby boy over the summer," she added.

## Jamie Humphries: 2010-2011

Jamie Humphries became an *Equiery* intern through her trainer Katherine Rizzo, who happens to also be *The Equiery*'s Editor. While interning with *The Equiery*, Jamie got an on-location, behind-the-scenes look at the Wash-



ington International Horse Show and when in the office, helped with data entries and articles. Jamie, who now works for the US Dressage Federation, said, "the internship helped me make a decision that I wanted to work in the equine industry. *The Equiery* gave me the opportunity to take my first steps in it." Jamie has been working for USDF for five years now heading the organization's youth programs.



## Hannah Rosenberg: 2011-2013, 2015

Katherine Rizzo was also Hannah Rosenberg's riding instructor and knew of her interest in journalism so she suggested Hannah

apply for *The Equiery*'s internship program. This internship offered her a host of opportunities with one of her favorites being, "helping to select the cover model for the foal issue!" Although she added, "That, or going to pick up (and of course sampling on the way back) Lisbon's amazing Harvest Fried Chicken, which I think we served at every major event."

Hannah explained that *The Equiery* helped her become a well-rounded writer and marketer. The internship also helped her understand the spectrum of what goes into producing a magazine or running an event—"an experience which I still value and reference today," she said. Hannah is currently working as a Digital Marketing Manager at the Verizon Business Group and is getting married next year.

## Jenna Beal: 2012



Majoring in journalism and growing up riding horses, Jenna Beal's *Equiery* internship involved writing about events and announcements, and securing ad space. One of her favorite pieces was the annual foal edition. "We used

pictures of foals that had been sent in and made yearbook superlatives," she explained. "We got to pick who was class clown, mostly likely to succeed, and many more fun ones." Some of the skills learned from this internship helped Jenna become more confident and comfortable while talking on the phone with anyone, espe-

*continued...*

## Interning with *The Equiery*: Then & Now, continued...

cially when it comes to selling products. It also helped her see how dedicated people are to the publication and the strong connections it has with the community. Jenna is currently selling food service equipment for commercial use. She also just got married and bought a house.

### Carly Weilminster: 2012-2013



Knowing *The Equiery* was the go-to publication for all information about what was going on in the Maryland equine industry, Carly Weilminster applied to *The Equiery* internship program to help develop her writing and communication skills as well as pursue her interest in equine-interest communications, while majoring in communications. Carly worked on editorial pieces including covering the UMD breeding program that was starting up again at the time. "The UMD breeding program allowed me to follow the foals and write about how they were doing with their racing careers," she said.

One thing Carly appreciated from this internship was learning how to do a good interview. She commented, "you have to be able to represent the person and their story by making them feel comfortable enough to open up. By learning this, I was able to connect easily with whomever I was interviewing. It helped me become more personable with them and allowed me to truly capture the person's passion and personality." Carly is currently living in Lexington, KY, and working as the Director of Communications and Public Relations for

US Equestrian. She oversees the organization's social media platforms.

### Kira Young Connor: 2013



Having met Crystal Brumme Pickett at a Maryland Horse Industry Board meeting, Kira Young Connor was invited to send her resume to *The Equiery*. She found herself contributing in a variety of ways during her internship. "I designed and managed various email campaigns, I attended shows to provide coverage and photographs for the publication, and I had the unique opportunity to be a liaison to the Cavalia equestrian production while they were on tour in DC," she stated. With Cavalia, Kira assisted with various grassroots marketing efforts and represented *The Equiery* at media events. A few things she learned during her time at *The Equiery* were effective marketing and the importance of fostering solid community relations through interpersonal connection. Kira is currently living in Nashville, Tennessee.

### Alexa Easton: Summer 2014



Heading into her sophomore year of college, Alexa Easton was looking to get experience in the communications industry with relation to equestrian sports. *The Equiery* gave her that opportunity. "It allowed me to be creative in my young professional life," she said. Some of her intern experience involved

taking photos and reporting from Pimlico during Preakness week. Alexa is currently working on getting her MBA in marketing and technology at Georgetown University.



### Elizabeth Scully: Summers 2014-2016

Elizabeth Scully had been submitting steeplechase photos to *The Equiery* for Out & About when Katherine Rizzo suggested she apply for a summer internship. While interning she continued to photograph events and help with the Maryland Steeplechase Association Governor's Cup Series Awards Reception event logistics. "I learned how to write a good event-recap article at *The Equiery* and became familiar with new software and technology that I continue to use today," she said.

Elizabeth is currently a junior at Loyola University Maryland studying history with a business minor. She has been able to ride in a few jump races on the National Steeplechase Association circuit and hopes to continue race riding as an amateur jockey.



### Veronica Green-Gott: Winter 2014-2015

New to the area at the time, Veronica Green-Gott admired *The Equiery* magazine and was looking to combine office life with her love for horses. During her internship, Veronica focused on the organization of the Coming

*continued...*

# Forward Strides

## Interning with *The Equiry*: Then & Now, continued...

Events calendar. "I looked into what shows, clinics, and special or new events were scheduled for the month and organized them into the monthly calendar," she explained. "This internship helped me find the different organizations and associations that are in the equine industry." Veronica started her own business, Golden Fleece Marketing, this past January. The company focuses on helping equine related clients run their business through marketing, web design, blogging and social media advertising. Veronica is happy to say she is able to work from home and still have time to ride and train her two horses.

### Sara Gordon: Summers 2016-2018



With a passion for horses, journalism and photography, interning at *The Equiry* made perfect sense to Sara Gordon. She found that

*The Equiry* would help her extend and explore her passion while she was majoring in multimedia journalism with a minor in equine science at Virginia Tech. Sara completed many

tasks while interning, including writing articles, taking photos, proofreading and attending events. She is currently working for the Maryland Horse Breeders Association as their Communications Manager. Sara also writes for MHBA's publication *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred*, as well as taking photos, proofreading and managing the website. "I absolutely love my job!" she said, adding, "My best advice? Pursue your passions. It'll be worth it."

### Stacey Wells: Fall 2018



While working on a degree in writing and having a background with horses, Stacey Wells found *The Equiry* internship program to be a good opportunity for finding out how a publication operates and how to implement and improve her

own writing skills. "I wrote articles about noteworthy events in the Maryland equine industry, from Marylanders competing in the Mongol Derby to a feature story about the Baltimore City Mounted Police," she said. Stacey gradu-

ated from Magna Cum Laude in 2019 with a degree in Political Science and a minor in Writing. She is about to start a new job at a law firm.

### Leah Fondelheit: Fall 202



Leah Fondelheit is a senior at the University of Maryland, College Park majoring in Equine Welfare and Management. Her mentor, Dr. Amy Burk, told her about internship opportunities

with *The Equiry*. Leah found that her interest in *The Equiry* is more along its involvement in the Maryland equine industry and the business aspect of a publication. "I have never worked in an office setting before and enjoy seeing what it's like to run a publication," she said. "Many of the tasks I have completed so far involve organizing and proof reading of classifieds, articles, and the Out & About column." Leah said she has enjoyed interning with *The Equiry* even with the struggle of the COVID-19 pandemic not allowing her to physically meet with staff in the office.

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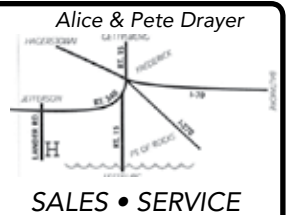
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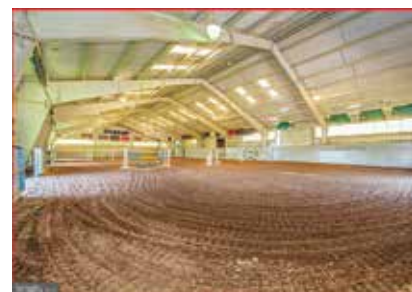
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# **MHC - IP**



## Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue

Bullet: 28 year old, 15 hand, Appaloosa gelding. Sound for walking rides, but would do best as a companion.

adoptions@gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org;  
www.gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org



## Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue

Billy (Hillbilly): 20 year old, 16.2 hand, Belgian cross. walk/trot/canter for intermediate rider.

adoptions@gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org;  
www.gentlegiantsdrafthorserescue.org



## Days End Farm Horse Rescue

Zola: 2020, 11.3hh, Morgan X. Adorable, athletic prospect for any discipline. Zola is handled daily and would be the perfect prospect for someone looking for their next up and coming superstar.

301-854-5037; Adopt@defhr.org; www.defhr.org



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RubyRu: 16yo, 14.3h reg Mountain Horse mare. Very well broke, ready to hit the trail w/int rider. Sweet, well gaited, lovely trot & canter. Great "handle", has camping exp. Adoption fee \$1100. Located in Frederick, MD.

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## The Foxie G Foundation

Drevan: 13yo, big, 16.2H, pretty Thoroughbred mare with a lovely way of going. She has shown on the local level as a hunter and does best with a soft confident rider. Adoption fee \$500.

301-667-2553; whinnywhiskers@thefoxiegfoundation.org;  
www.thefoxiegfoundation.org



## MidAtlantic Horse Rescue

Mr. J: ch, g., 16h, 2010. 2020 RRP Makeover Eligible. Sound, light balanced mover. Adoption fee \$1800. Other nice TBs available.

302-376-7297; Bev@MidAtlanticHorseRescue.org;  
www.MidAtlanticHorseRescue.org



## Lifeline Horse Rescue & Rehab., Inc.

Toosmartsweetheart: super sweet 16h chest '02 OTTB mare. Trained Eng & West, has trail exp. Bomb-proof solid citizen, safe for kids & beginners. Would make perfect husband horse. Req some maintenance.

301-318-1686; Leila@lifelinehorserescue.org;  
www.lifelinehorserescue.org



## Middle Ridge Farm & Rescue

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301-305-6440; info@middleridgefarm.com;  
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## Maryland Horse Rescue

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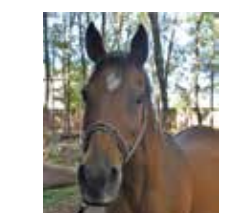
609-738-3255; SRFadoption@gmail.com;  
www.Adoptahorse.org



## Maryland Equine Transition Service

Remington "Remi": 2000, 16h quirky Appendix gelding, companion-only home, prefer turnout with buddies, generally middle of the pack, doesn't like to be left behind. UTD on shots, farrier, dental. FTGH

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## Maryland Equine Transition Service

Allistar FC "Alli": 2000, 14.2h reg. Arabian mare looking for a new job w/confident, advanced handler/rider to help her regain confidence. Trained Eng, but may need a restart. Tack included! Unlimited potential! FTGH

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# EQUIERY LIFE

## MARYLAND WILL MISS...

**Robert C. Curran** died on October 8 at the age of 62. Born with Down Syndrome, Curran lived for 34 years at the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, to whom his family is grateful. He enjoyed the support of day programs at CHI Centers, The Support Center and Easter Seals. He loved his family, music, dancing, a party and good food. He never knew a stranger and brought joy, love and laughter to all he met.

**Charles Robert Player, Jr.** of Playland Farm in Union Bridge died unexpectedly on October 11. He was 86. Growing up during the Great Depression, Player worked as a child to contribute to his family and was the first of his paternal line to go to college. He worked his way through college and was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After the war, Player became a CPA as well as a financial advisor, estate planner, real estate agent, general contractor and a farmer.

### Eve Lloyd Thompson

*Submitted by Crystal Brumme Pickett*

Former Poolesville resident Eve Lloyd Thompson died on October 13 at her home in Wellington, FL, from complications related to dementia and Alzheimer's. She was 86.

A graduate of from Cornell University with a major in Zoology, Thompson intended to become a veterinarian, but was stymied by her sex and thus subsequently followed a different path: modeling in New York City. She also worked as a buyer in women's sports and leisure wear for department stores in NY and Washington, DC, while continuing her amateur career in horses competing in saddle seat, hunters, jumpers, dressage and competitive trail riding.

In 1967, Thompson married DC dentist Richard K. Thompson, Jr. In 1971, the couple settled in Poolesville, where they bred racehorses and became active members of the Potomac Hunt.

Thompson's tenure as the executive director of the Washington International Horse Show coincided with the shows most glamorous years, when Presidential First Ladies were often WIHS's honorary chairs, when embassies threw parties, ambassadors crowded to attend and black tie was de rigueur. Gracious and dynamic,

Thompson adroitly made sure WIHS remained the social event for Washingtonian society.

During the early years of cable television, Thompson served as color commentator of horse sports for the local cable channel Home Team Sports (later known as Comcast SportsNet Mid-Atlantic and today known as NBC Sports Washington). She also served as president of the Maryland Horse Shows Association, secretary of the American Horse Shows Association (today the United States Equestrian Federation), chaired numerous AHSA committees, and in 1996 was a member of the FEI Judicial Committee at the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Thompson was a founder of the Bernice Barbour Foundation, a significant contributor to organizations working to improve animal welfare in the US, with a significant impact on key veterinary schools. She served on the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine's first External Advisory Council, which she chaired from 1998 to 2018, becoming the first Dean's Leadership Council Emeriti. In 2005 she received the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Service Award. She also served on veterinary boards at University of Pennsylvania, Tufts University, and Johns Hopkins Center for Alternative to Animal Testing. Thompson was also one of the founders of Animal Grantmakers.



WIHS photo

**Eve Lloyd Thompson**

### Patricia Ann Straat

*Submitted by Crystal Brumme Pickett*

Foxhunter and scientist Dr. Patricia Ann Straat died on October 23 at her home in Sykesville after a six-year battle with lung cancer. She was 84. Born in Rochester, NY, Straat became a Marylander in the 1960s when she attended Johns Hopkins University to earn a PhD in biochemistry. She had earned a BA from Oberlin College.

After Johns Hopkins, Straat became a team member on the Infrared Interferometer Spectrometer (IRIS) experiment, which was on board the 1971 Mariner 9 Mission, the first spacecraft to orbit Mars. She went on to be named Co-Experimenter of the Labeled Release life detection experiment on the 1976 Viking Mission, the first spacecraft to successfully land on Mars, and was a member of the Biology Flight Team during the Viking

## COMINGS & GOINGS

A fond farewell to longtime MJC Stakes Coordinator **Coley Blind**, who has retired. Former trainer **Jason Egan** has been promoted to Stakes Coordinator as of November 1, 2020. Jason is married to MHC Board member Jordyn Egan.

Former Hilltop Farm (Colora) trainer, **Jess Fay** has moved back to her home state of Maine.

Mission. Following the Viking Mission, she became a health scientist administrator at the National Institutes of Health, retiring in 2001.

"To Mars With Love," published in 2019, is Straat's memoir about the Viking Mission and her early experiences foxhunting.

Always a "horse girl," Straat discovered foxhunting in the 1970s, was smitten with the sport, and quickly became a member of the now Howard County-Iron Bridge Hounds, participating in every aspect of the club, mounted and unmounted. From an enthusiastic green field member in the back, to club horse shows, social events and hound walking, to serving as a whipper-in and honorary secretary and a governor, Straat touched every aspect of the club. Even after hanging up her stirrups, Straat continued to actively support the club and the sport. Straat and her life partner, Mary Grande, settled on a small horse farm in Sykesville, where Straat could indulge her love of woodworking.

Standardbred owner **William "Bill" Leon Spicer** died on November 2 at the age of 93. Spicer attended local schools and joined the Merchant Maries as a young adult. He served on ships that delivered troops and supplies for the World War II war effort. When the war ended, he returned to Dorchester County to work for Luthy Farm Machinery.

Spicer married Nancy Malkus in 1950 and the couple had two children. In 1954, he started working at the Spicer Lumber Mill as a mechanic and became owner of the family mill in 1983. He continued the operation until he retired in 1997. After Nancy died in 2016, Spicer began farming with his brother-in-law Ted Malkus.

Spicer loved horses and considered himself a "racehorse man." He spent a lot of time at Gypsy Hill Farms with Marty Burton and his son Brian working with trotters. After retiring, Spicer assisted his son Tommy at Chesapeake Wood Products. Over the years, Spicer owned several horses and traveled to various tracks watching them race on the circuit. He was a member of the Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners Association.

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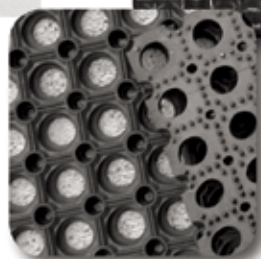
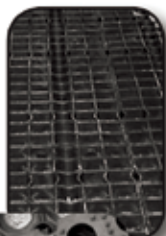
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