



# The Horsemen's Newsletter

May 2014

Vol. 24 • Number 5

## MTHA Welcomes New Director of Finance to Staff

Rosemary Lishia, a face known to many Maryland horsemen for her work with the Thoroughbred Purse Account, has been hired as the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association/Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Fund Director of Finance.

A 1998 graduate of Winthrop University, Lishia came to Maryland in 2001 with her husband Scott where she was employed by the Maryland Jockey Club as a senior racing accountant tasked with working with the Maryland Thoroughbred Purse Account on a daily basis. Previously she worked as an assistant horsemen's bookkeeper at Monmouth Park.

"We are thrilled to add someone of Rosemary's experience in the Maryland racing industry to the MTHA family," commented MTHA Executive Secretary David Richardson. "She has a relationship with many horsemen already so the transition to her new role should be seamless."

As part of an agreement with MJC, Lishia will continue to assist the Horsemen's Bookkeeper's office with certain duties on an as needed basis to assure horsemen's needs are met.

## MRC Takes Steps to Modify Void Claim Rule

The Maryland Racing Commission took preliminary action in April to expand the state's void-claim rule, most likely in time for the Laurel fall meet.

Under the revised rule, a successful claimant would be able, at his or her discretion, to void the claim of any horse that the state veterinarian determines must be vanned off following a race. The claimant would have a period of one hour after the race is declared official to make that decision.

The revision would expand the current rule, which voids claims of horses that die during races or die or are euthanized on the track following a race.

The MTHA Board voted in favor of this proposal during its April board meeting. MRC officials expect formal adoption to take place at its May meeting scheduled for May 20 at Pimlico.

## MTHA to Hold Election for Board of Directors

The MTHA's election for the Board of Directors, held every three years, will take place again this summer.

All 15 directorships are up for election. Directors will be elected to a three-year term.

A nominating committee has been appointed to develop a slate of nominees to be presented to the general membership at an MTHA meeting on Thursday, June 12 at 5PM in the Director's Room at Laurel Park. This committee consists of Linda Gaudet (chair), Tim Keefe, H. Neil Glasser, Larry Murray and Chris Bricker.

Any member who wishes to run for election should call the MTHA office at 410-902-6842 and plan to attend the June meeting.

In addition to announcing its nominees at the meeting in June, the nominating committee will receive nominations from the floor. Floor nominations need a verbal endorsement from at least four members and written consent from the nominee. Nominations will also be accepted by presenta-

tion of a petition bearing the signatures of at least five members and the nominee.

Ballots will be mailed to all members in July, with a return deadline scheduled for August.

Results will be announced in mid-August on [mdhorsemen.com](http://mdhorsemen.com) and in this newsletter.

Also, new for this year is a change in how ballots are sent and processed. Previously all ballots were sent from and returned to the MTHA corporate office for counting by volunteers. However, starting with the 2014 election, all completed ballots will be mailed from and returned to a third-party company who specializes in corporate and non-profit elections. This election services company will count ballots electronically and certify the results.

Candidate profiles will be featured in a future *Horsemen's Newsletter* issue.





# 2014 MTHA Backstretch Pension

## Sign Up Schedule:

Pension Plan Registration for the year ended 2013 will take place at the following times and locations. Bring your MRC Badge and W-2, 1099, or tax return for 2013. For more information call the MTHA office at (410) 902-6842.



Don't miss your chance to win a

## John Deer Gator

Be powerful and get things done on a NEW Gator! MJC is raffling a 2014 John Deere CX 4x2 valued at \$5,700. Tickets are \$10 each or six tickets for \$50. Stop by the racing office for details.

## The Horsemen's Newsletter

Published by the

**MTHA**

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**The Horsemen's Newsletter**  
reports on issues and events  
of interest to owners and trainers  
in Maryland.

### May 5 through May 9

Laurel Track Kitchen,  
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### May 12 through May 16

Pimlico MTHA Office, 10:30 a.m. to noon

**Failure to register will result in  
the loss of your 2013 benefit.**



### Poker Tournament

The winners of the Poker Tournament held March 31 at Bowie were Ken Tucker and Edmund Benson. Also finishing in the top four were Lou Garner and Dave Leze. The next tournament is scheduled for Bowie on Monday, May 19 at the Bowie Kitchen at 12 noon.

### Bowling

The next Bowling Tournament is being planned for Monday, June 2 at the Columbia Bowling Lanes. For more info please call Dan.

### Baseball Tickets

Bowie BaySox and Orioles tickets are going fast. Each are being distributed on Saturdays in the track kitchens. Please see the flyers to see the time for each distribution. Everyone who signs up will most likely receive tickets, but hurry, tickets are going fast.

The winners of the first Orioles ticket packages were: Ken Tucker (April 12 game vs. Toronto), Matt Dillon (April 16 game vs. Tampa Bay), Luis Sallazar (April 26 game vs. Kansas City) and Wayne Potts (April 29 game vs. Pittsburgh).

You need to sign up only once as your name will be included in all future drawings. Each ticket package includes two box seat tickets and a parking pass valued at over \$125.

## In Memoriam

Lifelong horseman **Monroe Holloway Jr.** passed away March 29 at after a long illness.



A longtime employee of trainer Ann Mertryman, Monroe was 68 at the time of his passing.



Colorful Thoroughbred owner **Robert "Bobby" Abbo** died on April 20 at the age of 70 following a year-plus battle with leukemia.

Abbo had achieved racing success most recently as the owner of 9-year-old millionaire Immortal Eyes.

A noted philanthropist, Abbo was active through his Poor Robert's Charities, an organization that provides needed vehicles as well as financial support to many area non-profits, including St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families, which last April awarded him its Mary McGrory Advocacy Award.

Born in Washington and an All-Met football player at Georgetown Prep, Abbo inherited from his father Frank the Roma, an Italian restaurant founded in the 1920s, as well as an oyster bar and Poor Robert's, the bar that Frank built for and named after him.

Former Maryland trainer and tack salesman **Frank Hendricks** passed away on April 24.

Hendricks, a U.S. Air Force veteran, trained horses for 30 years for clients such as Alvin Akman and Orioles owner Peter Angelos before starting a saddlery business from his Monkton Farm.

Memorial contributions in Frank's name may be made to Hereford Volunteer Ambulance Association Inc., 901 Monkton Rd., P.O. Box 262, Monkton, MD 21111 or Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Fund Inc., 500 Redland Ct., Suite 105, Owings Mills, MD 21117.



## Calendar

### Live Racing:

Pimlico ..... Now - Jun. 7  
 Timonium ..... Aug. 22 - Sep. 1  
 Laurel Park ..... Sep. 5 - Dec. 31



**Fasig-Tipton**  
**Auctions:**

Midlantic Two-Year-Olds  
 in Training ..... May 19-20



**NCADD**

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND  
 DRUG DEPENDENCE, INC.



### Assistance Fund's Counselor Borchardt Recognized

Bill Borchardt, the Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Fund's Drug Counselor, received the National Council On Alcoholism and Drug Dependence's Unsung Hero Award for 2014.

NCADD focuses on raising public awareness and sensitivity on the issue of alcoholism and drug dependence in Maryland through sustaining a campaign of education, information-dissemination and public policy advocacy to ensure persons affected by the disease of addiction, and their families, have access to resources, support systems and services critical in accessing treatment and sustaining recovery.



Chickens will no longer be permitted on the backstretch of Maryland racetracks.

# MTHA Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 12, 2014 - 5PM  
 Laurel Park Director's Room

Open To All Members

## Legendary trainer Dickie Small passes at age 68

Richard W. "Dickie" Small, who trained Broad Brush and Concern to major victories during a 40-year training career that earned him immense popularity and admiration from his peers in Maryland and beyond, died in early April from complications stemming from a lengthy struggle with cancer. He was 68.

Small was a former Green Beret in Vietnam who grew up around horses in Maryland hunt country as the son of trainer Doug Small and the nephew of the late Sidney Watters Jr., a 2005 Racing Hall of Fame inductee.

Small trained for many years for one of the top owners in Maryland, Robert Meyerhoff, with Broad Brush and Concern their best horses.

Broad Brush won 12 stakes from 27 career starts and earned \$2.65 million. As a 3-year-old in 1986, he won the Grade 1 Wood Memorial, finished third in the Kentucky Derby-G1 and Preakness-G1, and was beaten a head by Wise Times in the Travers-G1. As a 4-year-old, he won the Santa Anita Handicap-G1 and Suburban Handicap-G1.

Concern, a son of Broad Brush, won the 1994 Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 at Churchill Downs as a 3-year-old, capping a year in which he won the Arkansas Derby-G2, ran third in the Preakness, and was second by a neck to Holy Bull in the Travers. He ended his career with seven wins from 30 starts and earnings of almost \$3.1 million.

Early in his career, Small trained Caesar's Wish, a filly who broke a stakes record held by Ruffian in winning the 1978 Mother Goose at Belmont Park. He told the Maryland Jockey Club she was the best horse he ever trained.

Small's career began in 1974, when he took over his father's stable. According to

Equibase, Small had 1,199 wins from 7,670 starters for stable earnings of \$38.9 million.

He won 182 stakes, 36 of them graded, and won at least one stakes race every year from 1974 to 2013, except for 2003.

"That is an amazing statistic," said Coley Blind, a longtime Maryland racing official. "I remember the year he didn't do it. He was so disappointed that the streak was broken."



Despite being stricken with cancer several years ago, Small continued to come to work regularly at his Pimlico barn, furthering his reputation as a tough guy with a gentle soul.

"They say a horse that can run will keep anybody going, and they may be right," he told *Daily Racing Form* in a March 2013 article. "I've had a great time in the game."

Known for his bowtie and fedora and an engaging manner, Small was a tireless worker and a mentor and benefactor to innumerable Marylanders—particularly female exercise riders—who eventually became successful in racing and other endeavors, including M.C. Brock, Jerilyn Brown, Andrea Seefeldt Knight, Rosie Napravnik and Forest Boyce.

"He touched so many lives," said Seefeldt Knight, who retired in 1994 and is one of just three women to ride in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness.

Small was twice divorced and had no children, but "Dickie's family were the people who worked for him and all the people he worried about and helped," Seefeldt Knight said. "There had to be 200 of us, probably more. He helped kids through college and did many, many things people never saw. There are no words for someone like Dickie."

# State Fair Meet Reverts to a Seven- Day Schedule in 2014

After a one-year experiment, the Board of Directors of the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association has voted unanimously to revert to a more traditional seven-day meet in 2014 at the Maryland State Fair's five-eighths mile oval in Timonium.

Looking to give horsemen increased options during the long break in live racing during the summer months, MTHA leaders expanded the meet in 2013 to 10 days. Disappointingly, handle dropped significantly during this lengthened meet mainly because of the lack of entries caused by restrictions placed on shippers from Penn National and Charles Town.

The 2014 Timonium meet runs during the Maryland State Fair from August 22 through September 1.



**MTHA**

500 Redland Court, #105  
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

**May 2014**

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## MARYLAND CARES

*for retired Thoroughbreds*

Visit these non-profits Preakness weekend to learn more:



**Foxie G Foundation**  
Outside Dining Room



**MidAtlantic Horse Rescue**  
Racing Office



**Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation/Second Chances**  
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