



# COUNTRY LIFE PRESS MERRYLAND MAGAZINE

From Beginning To Winning



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## Inside:

Meet Kim Crowell 2

Mixing it up at Merryland 2

Foal Gallery 3-4

For more information  
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## CLF-SIRED JUVENILES LIGHT UP OBS SALES!

The OBS Spring Sale of 2-year-olds in Training provided fantastic results for Country Life sires Friesan Fire and first-crop sire Freedom Child. Three MD-bred juveniles, all foaled at Country Life, went through the ring. A chestnut filly by Friesan Fire out of Duck the Punch (bred by Mrs. Glennie Martin and Country Life Farm) brought a final bid of \$230,000 after a smokin' 9.4 work on breeze day ([video](#)). She was purchased by West Point Thoroughbreds and Team D (Tony Dutrow).



**\$230,000 Friesan Fire-Duck the Punch filly foaled at Country Life on May 4, 2015.**

Also hitting the 6-figure mark was a colt from the first crop of Freedom Child (by Malibu Moon). Foaled at Country Life for bloodstock agent John Stuart, the chestnut out of the stakes-producing Distorted Humor mare Final Humor worked in :10 flat ([video](#)) and sold for \$160,000 to West Coast trainer Simon Callaghan. A Freedom Child filly out of stakes-winner Minnesota Mafia, bred by Country Life Farm, brought \$55,000 from West Coast agent and TVG analyst Nick Hines ([video](#)).

These three Country Life-sired and foaled juveniles were among the highest-priced Maryland-breds in the sale. This spring/summer should be interesting with more Friesan Fires hitting the track and Freedom Child's first crop entering the starting gates!



**Left: Freedom Child filly out of Minnesota Mafia sold for \$55,000.**

**Right: Freedom Child colt out of Final Humor sold for \$160,000.**



## RISING STAR FOR FRIESAN FIRE!

Speaking of fantastic 2-year-old sale results, keep an eye on a 3-year-old named Army Mule. Last year's \$825,000 sales-topping colt at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-olds in Training Sale is by Friesan Fire and he won his first start in style on April 30th at Belmont Park, getting named a TDN Rising Star! Trained by Todd Pletcher for St. Elias Stables' Vinnie Viola (a West Point graduate) and ridden by John Velazquez (the same owner/trainer/jockey team that just won the Kentucky Derby with Always Dreaming), the 3-year-old colt crossed the wire more than 8 lengths in front of the rest of the field in the \$75,000 Maiden Special Weight.

Friesan Fire continues to make headlines. Also in the winner's circle in April for Maryland's leading sire were Love on Fire, Friesan Flyer, Helgoland and Fire Control (twice).



**Josh Pons visits with Army Mule in Todd Pletcher's barn at Belmont Park.**

## APRIL SHOWERS BRING KIM CROWELL!

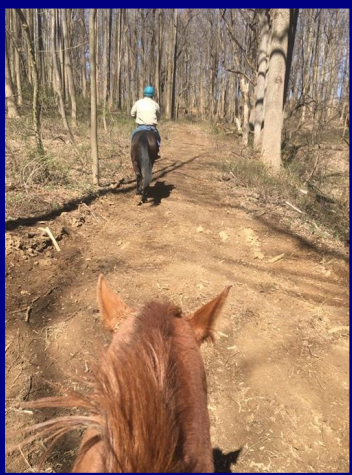
We welcomed a new member of the team on May 1st as Kim Crowell joined our staff as Broodmare Manager at Merryland Farm. Kim graduated from Wilson College in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Equine Management. She grew up on her family's dairy farm in Massachusetts and is no stranger to hard work. She milked cows twice a day in addition to working various other jobs including teaching riding lessons and doing barn chores at a local riding stable. She also worked a season at Pin Oak Lane Farm in PA caring for mares and foals and working the foaling shift at night.

We're excited to have Kim on staff and hope you'll get to meet her on your next visit to Merryland!



Kim Crowell, new Broodmare Manager at Merryland

## TRAINING FUN AT MERRYLAND!



Merryland has long been considered a "mini Fair Hill" training center, with its individual grass paddocks, Eurociser and round pens. This year we took it a step further and created a mile-long training path through the woods. Not unlike the versatility of Fair Hill or the training yards in Europe, farm trainer Jackie Savoye makes use of the topographical features of Merryland to the benefit of the horses. Whether it's the traditional 5/8ths-mile training track and starting gate, the woods path or the long sloping hills of the back fields, the variety of cross training stimulates the young minds of the 2-year-olds and freshens an older horse who needs a change of pace from the racetrack.



Left: Stakes-placed Flash McCaul (left) and 15 Lutay Love (right) enjoy the change of scenery galloping on the back hill.



Left: Yearling fillies can't wait to start their training this fall after seeing the older horses go up into the woods and back fields for gallops! (L to R: Lucky Ninety Nine, Cameron Marie, Freedom Bella and '16 Platinum Mine).

Bottom: Coming off the track on a beautiful spring day at Merryland.





# APRIL FOAL GALLERY



**Filly by Twirling Candy out of Miss Moonshine on 4/2. Owned by CLF & Miss Moonshine LLC**



**Filly by Imagining out of Shekeepsherbootson on 4/4. Owned by Jim McGreevy.**



**Colt by Friesan Fire out of In Dad's Wallet on 4/9. Owned by Bill Bayne.**



**Colt by Super Ninety Nine out of Moon Map on 4/10. Owned by CLF & Moon Map LLC.**



**Colt by Bayern out of She's Funomenal on 4/14. Owned by John Stuart/Bluegrass Farm Partners.**



**Colt by Friesan Fire out of River Angel on 4/14. Owned by Bill Bayne.**



**Colt by Orientate out of Grecian Maiden on 4/15. Sadly he passed away at 3 days old.**



**Filly by Golden Lad out of Toasty on 4/15. Owned by Mike Palmer's Dreamtime Stable.**



**Colt by Race Day out of Brusque on 4/18. Owned by Hector Alcalde.**



**Colt by Friesan Fire out of Rockhard N Noble on 4/19. Owned by Sharon Banford.**



**Colt by Friesan Fire out of Seven Days on 4/20. Owned by William Campbell.**



**Filly by Super Ninety Nine out of GG's Dolly on 4/24. Owned by Spendthrift Farm.**



## MORE APRIL FOALS



Colt by Golden Lad out of Corinnaise on 4/25. Owned by Candyland Farm.



Colt by Friesan Fire out of Scarlett Rah on 4/26. Owned by Smith Farm & Stable.



Colt by Gemologist out of Sassy Molly on 4/26. Owned by CLF & a Raise You LLC.



Filly by Take Charge Indy out of Kanani on 4/28. Owned by CLF & a Raise You LLC.



Colt by Orb out of Captive Melody on 4/28. Owned by CLF & a Raise You LLC.



Colt by Super Ninety Nine out of Holy Trail on 4/29. Owned by Mrs. Mildred Wilson.

Keep up to date on all that's going on at Country Life & Merryland via our [Facebook Feed](#) (even if you don't have a Facebook account).

And don't forget to check out live video from our [Foaling Stall](#) on Ustream.

## NEW RACING PARTNERSHIP UPCOMING!



Last year's purchase, an Into Mischief filly named Into Bluegrass, is nearing her first start with trainer Mike Trombetta at Fair Hill.

At last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-olds in Training Sale we purchased two fillies for our "Carry Back LLC's", partnerships named after the 1961 Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner who was conceived at Country Life, sired by farm stallion Saggy. Modeled after our Raise You breeding partnerships, these 10-share LLC's aim to purchase middle-market 2-year-olds to race in the mid-Atlantic.

We will be shopping again at this year's May sale, the Monday and Tuesday after the Preakness, in hopes of finding more good prospects for our racing stable. Call now to reserve a share and come shopping with us on May 22-23 in Timonium!