



July 2025

YEARLING BREAKING SEASON



Young horses thrive in the proper environment. Think of how trainers describe their horses after a few weeks at Saratoga, for example. There is not a better environment than Merryland Training Center for young horses to be educated, for older horses to recuperate, or for weanlings to be raised in competitive groups.

With yearling breaking season right around the corner, now is the time to reach out to us and reserve a stall in the training barn for your youngster. We have grass paddocks for individual turnout, large fields for group turnout, extra-

large sand round-pens, a Eurociser walking machine, and a Puett Starting gate at the head of our 5/8th-mile training track. And our turf gallops offer horses a break in the routine.

Our riders are licensed and experienced. They gallop at Laurel in the mornings and come to Merryland during our training hours of 12:30-2:00 pm. Farm trainer Sonja Aleksic oversees the training barn and provides frequent communications to owners. We also routinely post videos of the horses on the track on our YouTube channel.

Our horsemanship at Merryland Training Center results in repeat business year-after-year. Get your name on the list. Reserve your spot today. Please call the office at 410-879-1952.

Upcoming Saratoga Event



**Partnership & Syndicate
Meet and Greet**
Saturday, August 9th, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

If you'll be at Saratoga in early August make sure you mark your calendar for **Saturday, August 9th**. We'll be at the Partnership and Syndicate Meet and Greet at the [National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame](#) from 9-11 am. Come meet Mike Pons and Sallyellen Hurst and learn about our partnerships and what makes us different from the others. Free admission to the museum and complimentary coffee and donuts will be provided.

MHBA Yearling Show



Our staff did an excellent job prepping and handling the yearlings.
L to R: Ava Grabowski, Molly Reynolds, Sallyellen Hurst, Lauren Wineholt, Cheyenne Piccolo, Rica Gutierrez and Jesus Gutierrez.

Country Life exhibited 10 yearlings at this year's Maryland Horse Breeders Yearling Show in Timonium on Sunday, June 29th. The latest in a long line of superb judges was noted bloodstock agent David Ingordo, whose resume includes selecting Horses-of-the-Years ZENYATTA and FLIGHTLINE.

Some 40 yearlings went through the showring, and a number of Country Life youngsters made Ingordo's short list. Ribbon earners were led by the Vekoma filly out of Lunar Rille, second in her class, and the McKinzie colt out of War Value, third in his class. Other ribbon winners included the Olympiad colt out of Kenda (4th), Moon Vision's colt by Known Agenda (5th) and Maybe I Will's filly by Omaha Beach (5th).

Whether a yearling won a ribbon or not, they all are now eligible for a \$40,000 Yearling Show Premium Award based on success at the racetrack: \$20,000 will be divided (similar to a purse) and distributed to the exhibitors of the four yearling show graduates who earn the most money as 2-year-olds in 2026 and another \$20,000 divided among the four highest-earning 3-year-olds the following year.

Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

DIVINING ROD

HOT ROD KITTY: 6/7 at PEN, Maiden (breeder Dr. Stephen Jackson, Debbie Jackson & Flint Stites; owner Short Straw Stable, Stephen G. Jackson and Debbie Jackson; trainer Flint Stites)

BO'S BOURBON: 6/13 at PEN, Claiming (breeder Clover Hill Farm Inc; owner Double Bogey Racing; trainer Erin McClellan)

DIVINING SMILE: 6/18 at DEL, Starter (breeder James B. Steele; owner James H. Cronk; trainer Donovan Haughton)

LIVING WATER: 6/26 at DEL, Claiming (breeder Mr. & Mrs. Roy Jackson; owner Caleb Bayley; trainer Elliot Sullivan)

RUSTYS GFIVEFIFTY: 6/27 at PEN, Claiming (breeder Bowman & Higgins Stable; owner Roger A. Nickol; trainer Erin McClellan)

MOSLER

SAPONARA: 6/12 at PEN, Starter (breeder Barak Farm; owner Guadalupe Perez Aguirre; trainer Elisha Perez)

ALEA LACTA EST (COL): 6/19 at CPR (PAN), Allowance (breeder/owner Criadero San Silvestre; trainer Juan Cespedes)

RAPIDO ROSA: 6/29 at LRL, Allowance (breeder/owner Barak Farm; trainer Jose Corrales)

LADY MOSLER: 6/30 at MNR, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm; owner Michelle Helms; trainer Eddie Clouston)

HELLO HOT ROD: 6/30 at LAD, Claiming (breeder Hillwood Stables LLC; owner Jason Corley; trainer Michael Hewitt)

FRIESAN FIRE

HOT ON YOUR HEELS: 6/7 at LRL, Maiden (breeder Elke Zuckerwar; owner Luis Morales; trainer Pedro Nazario)

WHISKEY AND YOU: 6/22 at LRL, Starter (breeder Winding Creek Farm; owner Terry H. Overmier; trainer Roy Peacock, Jr.)

SHKHARA FIRE: 6/29 at LRL, Allowance (breeder/owner Barak Farm and Dino's Thoroughbreds, LLC; trainer Jose Corrales)

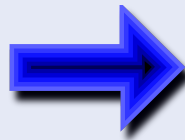
OTHER COUNTRY LIFE/PARTNERSHIP-bred or OWNED winners:

RASCALLION (Maximus Mischief - Keep Right) - Claiming win on 6/4 at Delaware. Bred by Country Life Farm & Keep Right LLC; owned by Gabriella Wilhelm and trained by Jonathan Maldonado.

BILL OF RIGHTS (Constitution - Real Good Time) - Starter win on 6/20 at Laurel. Bred by Country Life Farm & Real Good Time LLC; owned and trained by Joanne Shankel. This was his 5th win and increased his lifetime earnings to \$131,469.



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stallion videos,
training videos and more!**



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