



Trainer Candidate

MICHAEL W. MERRYMAN

Michael Merryman's family has been involved in the Maryland horse industry for decades, and he notes he "grew up in the dirt of Barn A" at Pimlico Race Course, where he and his mother, Ann, stable their racehorses.

Merryman went to college out of state to play baseball and study Agricultural Business, but he had a strong desire to return to Maryland and the family's farm in Baltimore County, called The Orebanks, which breeds, breaks and trains Thoroughbreds.

"I spent a summer working in Lexington, Ky., at a successful sales and breeding operation, which gave me insight into a different aspect of the business I had not yet been accustomed to," Merryman said. "After returning home I started my Equine Dental business in 2012, while also riding and training horses. Every summer I split my time between the racetrack and making all of the hay that feeds our horses, both at the farm and track throughout the year."

Two years ago, Merryman purchased his own piece of the family farm to keep the land in the family. "We turned what were crop fields into lush hay fields and built what will be my forever home here in Maryland," he said.

Merryman is among the younger generation of horsemen in Maryland who he believes need to be a part of planning and making decisions for the industry's future.

"Going forward in our industry, I truly believe that the younger generation should be involved and have their voices heard in the important issues that we will face in the upcoming years," he said. "With the proper guidance and leadership, I believe that our industry can not only sustain, but thrive and grow as I have seen how easily hooked my fellow peers are on the sport of horse racing that we all love."