

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

J. Robert "Rob" Burk, MS Executive Director



Maryland
HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD



Rob is a lifelong horseman who was hired by the MHIB as its first official Executive Director in December 2002. Growing up in Northern California, Rob trained with many of the countries most accomplished Dressage, and Eventing Professionals. Moreover, as a teenager Rob worked as a groom for an Olympian, the late Captain David Foster of County Meath, Ireland. As a young rider Rob earned several State championships in California, and when he headed off to college he was an H-A rated member of the U.S. Pony Club. In College Rob was an IHSA Regional Open Over Fences and Flat Champion, and the fourth ranked AQHA Open Western Reining and Horsemanship Collegiate Rider in the Nation. Rob earned a Bachelors of Science in Equine Science from Otterbein College, and a Master of Science from Virginia Tech. At Virginia Tech Rob managed the main project of the Middleburg Agricultural Research and Extension Center under the guidance of the late Dr. David Kronfeld.

While with the MHIB Rob has worked at the Maryland Department of Agriculture to educate the public about the positive impact of the equine industry on the State, and has focused on broadening acceptance of equine operations into State agricultural programs. Rob is married to Dr. Amy Burk of the University of Maryland Equine Studies program, and has a daughter named Emma Elizabeth.

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For more information about the MHIB visit us online at:

MEET THE MHIB STAFF

www.marylandhorseindustry.org