

THE ROCKBRIDGE HUNT CLUB, INC.

1. Founded - 1947
2. Recognized by "The Masters of Fox Hounds Association of America" - Jan. 1962

EXPLANATIONS

The Hunt Clubs in the United States are varied in size and nature, but the unifying purpose of them all is the sport of hunting the fox. When a hunt becomes organized and wishes to become more formal in nature, it is often done so by the specifications of the "Masters of Fox Hounds Association of America". If the Club feels it's standards are acceptable to the Association, it seeks admission to the organization.

In the Fall of 1960, a representative of the organization came to the Rockbridge Hunt and inspected the kennels, the hounds, and the hunting territory. This representative then recommended, to the organization, that the Club be given the status of "registered". A hunt is given this temporary status for a minimum period of one year, and is inspected again and then if in the opinion of the organization it meets all standards necessary, it is given the status of "recognized" which was awarded to the Rockbridge Hunt Club on January of this year. Being a member of this organization keeps the Hunt Club standards high, and promotes interest in the sport as a whole. There are only 98 Hunts recognized in the United States.

Each Hunt has as the accepted dress a wardrobe which is full of tradition. It varies from the top hat and tails formality, to the tweed coat and hunt cap casualness. The "colors" of each Hunt differ, and can be worn only by certain appointed members, which are worn on the coat collars. In the Rockbridge Club, it consists of a green collar with yellow piping. Awarded at the same time are the buttons, with the Hunt Club emblem engraved.

No. of Hounds - 25 (12½ couples) of the breed "American Fox Hound"

No. of Meets - Twice a week - Wednesdays and Saturdays,
2:30 P.M. in Lexington.

Members: Most from the Lexington Area.

Other areas represented: Roanoke, Lynchburg,
Waynesboro, Afton, Hillsville.

Three schools are associated with the Club:
Hollins College, Southern Seminary, and Fairfax Hall.

The Hunt itself:

Leaves kennels at appointed time.

"Huntsman" goes first with hounds.

"Whippers-In" follow Huntsman and help keep hounds
in line.

"Hunt Staff" follows and is followed by the 'field'
led by a field master.

Ladies and Gentlemen members of the hunt first,
visitors and then 'juniors' (under
18 yrs.)

The field follows at a reasonable distance and listens
to the excitement of chase.