

Rockbridge Hunt Newsletter - June 2001

Hound Show Wrap-Up

This year the Rockbridge – Glenmore Derby Day Hound Show moved to a new location – Fred & Barbara Burks' Montafon Farm. It's a beautiful farm and everything worked out wonderfully. Well-groomed hounds in the best of health, showing on a field of green set off by a white fence always makes a beautiful picture. The ring was set up to take advantage of some shade and the spectators, the handlers, and the hounds appreciated that.

We'd like to thank Fred & Barbara for generously making their farm and their house available for this event. It was a perfect setting. David Conner led the team that prepared and showed the hounds: Katharine Conner, Nancy Conner, Lauren Keating, and Cindy Morton. David Bolen helped with hounds and served as ringmaster at the show. Some of those folks also set up and removed the ring and everyone helped with party cleanup. Frank Bierman arranged for us to use parts of a dressage ring generously loaned by the Virginia Horse Center. Mary Lynn Camper handled secretarial duties at the show.

Carol Atwood did the planning for the Derby party but when she got sick shortly before the show several people did a great job with last minute notice. Nancy Conner, Paula Ursoy, and Jean Taylor carried on with the major food preparations and did a wonderful job. Jean is a prospective member you may have met at several hunt functions over the past year or so. She'll be a great addition to the club (she's a fabulous cook!).

Fred Burks provided all kinds of help getting the house and yard ready for the party. David Bolen handled the bar and Gene Clapsaddle served the BEST mint juleps! Jean Viel (the new president of Glenmore Hunt Club) handled the betting on the race. It truly is a fun party and a relaxing time when we don't have to worry about our horses waiting in the trailer. And it was a real treat to be in such luxurious surroundings.

June Hunter Show

The show is about here. We will be looking for folks to help with setup on Friday, and jump crew Saturday and Sunday at Hollins. Please contact Cindy Morton if you can help 463-6052

Another Foxhunting Survey

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries will be conducting a state-wide survey to collect information to better determine the economic impact of mounted and unmounted foxhunting in Virginia. The survey is also designed to establish demographic and attitudinal profiles of foxhunters in regard to their lifestyle and cultural heritage.

Responding to these surveys can help preserve the sport of foxhunting. The VDGIF is the licensing body for hunting in the state of Virginia. To some degree, they control the natural resources within the state. One of the primary ways for these people to learn anything about the sport of foxhunting is to conduct surveys. Some of us will undoubtedly receive this survey. Please try to fill it out and return it promptly. The VDGIF will keep individual responses private: "The results from the survey will be reported only in an aggregate, never attributed to any individual."

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JT MFH

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Hound Report

Waffle's five puppies (sired by Cowboy) continue to grow and thrive. David and Nancy Conner have been tying them and walking them; both are important parts of their training. It's plain to see that the flea control program contributes enormously to the general health of the puppies. It also made things a lot more pleasant while getting the show hounds ready for their day in the ring.

Widget (Waffle's sister) has a litter of seven pups sired by Timber. While these pups all have some color (yay! no more white pups!) several of them are dilute shades which means their color will fade out as they mature, just like their sire.

The pack has been switched to a different formula of feed although it's still coming from the same feed mill in Lynchburg. We hope this change will save money without compromising the condition of the hounds. Certainly at the time of the hound show the pack looked great but it's difficult to evaluate changes in feed outside of the hunting season.

The entire staff, especially David Conner, deserve a round of congratulations and thanks for their successful participation in the Derby Day Hound Show. None of them signed on with the goal of being show hound trainers and handlers but they always do a great job.

Endurance Ride

Some plans are starting to gel for the Labor Day ride. Brenda Baird will be ride secretary and Kathy Eichelberger will probably be ride manager. Kathy is planning on trying to hire the same ride veterinarians as last year. Blair and Erica Jones have agreed to coordinate the food and grill the chicken for the Saturday meal. Viola Wise has volunteered to supply all (Viola, did you really say ALL?) the dessert for Saturday and Sunday. David Bolen is planning a new, more all-weather type trail with the P & R station at the Tex Tilson Lodge this year. It is not too soon to start your requests for decent weather for the weekend, though. Anyone wanting an entry form should contact Brenda at 384-7793.

Hunter Pace

The Rockbridge Hunt Spring Hunter Pace was a great success. The weather was beautiful and more than ninety horses and riders completed the course. We weren't quite prepared for such success and unfortunately ran out of drinks at the checkpoint and food at the luncheon. Most of the entrants did get some food but there wasn't much choice toward the end. There was also a long delay between when the early riders finished the course and when the ribbons were awarded. Various possible solutions to these problems are being considered. We'll also try to have some chocolate next time!

An evaluation form was available and in spite of the problems the comments were almost uniformly positive. Everyone raved about the course and Fred Burks deserves all the credit. He's already planning for the next pace and he's organizing a crew to paint the coops. There's no way we'll ever see a prettier day than the one we had; it was gorgeous. If Fred could have any input on the weather, he would!

We'd like to offer heartfelt thanks to all the other volunteers: David Bolen, Barbara Burks, Katharine Conner, DD Hinty, Lee & Laura Jarvis, Lauren Keating, Ed Snider (one of the new landowner members), Rick Robinson, Bruce and Louise Golian, and Marai Wise. We couldn't do it without you.

Being the last pace in the Adjacent Hunts Series definitely helped attract entries, as did the new location. Riders loved the course (more than one said it was the best hunter pace course they'd ever ridden) and we can expect many returning participants at this location. It also gives us some definite ideas about how to develop some of our other fixtures into good hunter pace courses. For example, Broadview has suitable trails but not enough jumps. It's impossible to predict the weather or the turnout for these events and Rockbridge was very, very lucky. Planning for future hunter paces will focus on ways to minimize expenses and the losses that occur with bad weather.

By the way, the winners of the series were champion: Mary T. O'Brien and Jane A. Walsh (from Glenmore) and reserve: Hugh B. Sproul and Nancy Palmer also from Glenmore.

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Results:

Trail	Riders	Hunt Affiliation
1	Arthur Bernstein, Candy DeButt	none
2	Marie Tilson, Rebecca Tilson	Rockbridge Hunt
3	Nick Alberti, Joan Alberti	Rockbridge Hunt
3	Jamie Mintey, Heather Hurst	none
4	Cindy Chandler, Rita Mae Brown	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Club
5	Cydney Willis, Maggie Moen	none
6	Jenny Lamb, Wilson & Lola Shepherd	none/Rockbridge Hunt
Hilltopper		
1	Henry Papiano, Heather Hamilton	none
2	Terry Whitmore, Richard Cuthbertson	Rockbridge Hunt /none
3	Lisa Germick, Kris Scanlon	none
4	Jacque Battle, Jane Eckes	none/Bedford County Hunt
5	Stan Eichelberger, Kathy Eichelberger	Rockbridge Hunt
5	Larry Mann, Sally Mann	none
6	Debby Brigh, Susan Pettyjohn	none
Optimum		
1	Louise Golian, Hallee Morgan	Rockbridge/Rappahannock
2	Douglas Ginsburg, Hannah Morgan	Rappahannock Hunt
2	Bernard Hylton, Candi Hylton	Rockbridge Hunt
3	Sandra Cryder, Graham Pitsenberger	Glenmore Hunt Club
3	Sara Wood, Teresa Stewart	Glenmore Hunt Club
4	Jane Walsh, Mary O'Brien	Glenmore Hunt Club
5	Jessica Buchanan, Lorin Falls	Rockbridge Hunt Pony Club
6	Kim Volpe, Diana Bunting, Brooks Cushman	Middlebrook Hounds

The Final (I Promise) Hunt Ball 2001 Wrap-Up

The contributors to the silent auction have not been properly thanked. Please support these 23 businesses that so kindly supported us. Without these donations the silent auction would not happen!

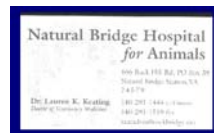
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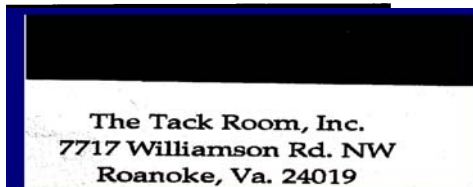
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We also need to thank these members and friends for their generous donations:

Ms. Brenda Simmons	Ms. Jean Taylor	Ms. Diane Long
Ms. Ann Layman	Mr. Bernard Hylton	Mr & Mrs. Lewis Holladay
Mr. Nick Alberti	Mr and Mrs Wilson Shepard	Blair and Erica Jones
Ms. Debbie Flint	Frank and Lois Farmer	Ms. Nina Marshall
Ms. Sandra Worthy	Rockbridge Hunt PC	Dr. and Mrs. Gene Clapsaddle
Mr. Gary Ruley	Kevin and Brenda Baird	Mr. Joe A. Conner
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Mr. Frank Hartis	Ms. Susan Richardson	Ms. Paula L. Ursoy
Col. Gene Browning	Ms. Diana Bunting	Mr and Mrs Terry Secker
Richard & Sharon Ford	Ms Susan Bailey	Fred and Barbara Burks
Ms Kathleen Haugen		

Hunt Ball 2002 Update

The Hunt Ball "Non-Committee" has officially become a Committee! Members are Carol Atwood, Susan Bailey, Beverly Bowring, Barbara Burks, Nancy Conner, Lois Farmer, Laura Jarvis, Buster Lewis, Cindy Morton, Pam Moskal, Terry Whitmore and Sandra Worthy. The official date of the Ball is February 23, 2002. The Dee Roberts Orchestra has been booked for the event. They are an awesome 15 piece ensemble from Lynchburg. Please mark your calendars with the date and encourage others (even those who aren't Hunt members) to attend.

If you'd like to help with ANYTHING or if you have an idea to share, please contact Pam Moskal at (540) 989-3182 or swert22@home.com.

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Minutes Annual Membership Meeting May 2001

(Editor's corrections in []).

Annual Meeting, May 9, 2001, 7:30 PM, Hunt, Inc.

Present: Carol Atwood, David Bolen, Fred Burks, Gene Clapsaddle, Katharine Conner, Nancy Conner, Louise Dooley, Kathy Eichelberger, Frank Farmer, Dick Ford, Lee and Laura Jarvis, Blair and Erica Jones, Lauren Keating, Diane Long, Cindy Morton, Pam Moskal, Judy Mundy, Wilson and Lola Shepherd, Pete Whitlock, Sandra Worthy.

Meeting called to order 7:30 pm by president Pete Whitlock.

Reading of minutes dispensed with as published in June 2000 newsletter.

Copies of the treasurers report were passed out by Katharine Conner.

All [money making] activities actually showed a profit this year. Extra from sale of prints at hunt ball was not a budgeted item. [Bowring prints are still some more available for purchase. (They go for \$75; talk to Lois Farmer).] Only unpredicted expense of any size was the cost of building panels at Montefon.

Dick Ford pointed out that we lost money on the summer trail rides last year.

In number of members we lost 2 full membership and 2 social members; gained 4 new members.

Frank commented that he thought utilities would increase this next year 20%.

The memorial fund was originally set up to be a 'savings fund' and is to be borrowed against but the idea is loans are to be re-paid.

Fred Burks enquired what is the current value of "Hunt Inc"; given that we 'own' 1/13 as an owner of one lot.

Dick Ford thinks that Hunt Inc. is worth in the neighborhood \$100,000. The state forestry folks are reimbursing a certain percent of the cost of re-planting (oaks).

The budget was accepted as presented.

Election of officers.

Slate presented with David Bolen and Cindy Morton, MFH; Carol Atwood, president; Katharine Conner, treasurer; stewards Kathy Eichelberger, Sandra Worthy, and Paula Ursoy (not present).

Fred nominated Wilson Shepard for position of secretary.

Frank moved that nominations be closed and slate accepted. Motion passed.

MFH report:

David Bolen thanked David Conner and staff for all the hard work. David also thanked Fred Burks for work on new territory. VMI is planning to join next year as a school member.

Hunt week is in the planning stages for October 2001.

Hound report (Cindy Morton) Not a good weather year for hunting. Two nice litters of puppies. Hounds look good right now. All our hounds are negative for Leishmaniasis. [Actually one hound still testing slightly positive]. Don't think it is worth the risk to breed outside the pack (at this point). Cindy thanked David Bolen for continuing on as MFH.

David Bolen also thanked Cindy; "could not have done it without her".

June hunter show report (Cindy Morton):

Still looking for sponsors; will be more classes as is over 2 days. Cost is \$50 per division; \$15 per class.

Facilities are less expensive than Fancy Hill; even for the 2 days versus one day at Fancy Hill.

Education programs (Carol Atwood) - have decided not to do one this year as other adjoining hunts are doing them and we can attend them. Slide show almost done for presentation to Lions club, 4-H, any group who would like to see it. Would like to educate community to the fact that we do support gun hunting; we do buy hunting licenses; and to help educate against propaganda put out by the anti-hunting, anti-foxhunting folks.

We are looking for member to take over the kids educational program.

Carol said she is willing to a 'trail riding' educational program.

Endurance ride report (Kathy Eichelberger): Date is set and will be the Sunday before Labor day. David Bolen is going to lay out a new trail which will have PR stop here at hunt lodge. Need 'manager' for day of ride as Kevin Baird is unavailable; Brenda Baird is still being secretary; the Joneses (Blair and Erica) are doing food and Viola has volunteered to do deserts.

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Hunt week report (Cindy Morton) - same time of year; 8 hunts; October 13-21st or so. Kick off party in Warrenton area; we will be last hunt this year and will do a breakfast. (2 more hunts than last year). New territory report (Fred Burks) - 34 panels in place; approximately 1/3 of territory is paneled. Fred is looking for volunteers to help with paneling. Landowners seem enthusiastic.

Misc:

Work sessions- will try to keep going with one a month.

Wilson has a completed "50 year history" article which will be in lodge.

Hunt Inc increased liability from 1 million to 2 million and wants us to increase to 2 million, also. Was suggested that our current policy is close to this, actually. Was suggested executive committee look into this.

Kathy Eichelberger reminded members about honor roll program. She is working on scrap book to go with it.

Wilson commented that he had a good time at landowners luncheon and would like to encourage riding members to attend so they can meet the landowners.

Dick moved that cost of landowners lunch be paid out of general funds and motion was passed.

Frank moved to adjourn at 8:46 pm.

April 02, 2001 Minutes of the Executive Committee of RH

Present: Pete Whitlock, Cindy Morton, David Bolen, Carol Atwood, Katharine Conner, Lauren Keating.

Absent Fred Burks, Erica Jones

Ms. Conner took notes for Ms. Jones

Discussed a letter from Wilson Shepard containing suggestions on trails and property maintenance.

The social membership status was discussed and accepted as published. Social members can cap.

We will not be doing an educational program this year; Glenmore and Bedford are doing them.

Rita Mae Brown suggested that Rockbridge and Oak Ridge rotate hosting a hunter trials (different from a hunter pace). We agree but location could be a problem. The horse center is a possibility and Carol will investigate.

Annual meeting: May 9, 2001.

Rockbridge Hunt News
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