

Rockbridge Hunt Newsletter – Winter 2005

New Members

We have one new member join – Erin Foster –since the last newsletter. Please welcome her when you see her in the hunt field.

Annual Meeting

The main purpose of this newsletter is to request nominations for the positions open on the Executive Committee (“EC”).

The positions that will be open are President, Secretary, Treasurer, MFH and two of the four (four year) steward positions.

Our annual membership meeting is always held the second Wednesday in May which will be May 11 at 7:30 pm. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted floor for these positions.

At the meeting a review of 2004-5 hunting season will be presented, a budget for 2005-6 will be presented and voted on, and other topics. Every hunting member who has paid their dues in full has one vote; paid up family memberships can only file one vote per family. Landowner members also have a vote irregardless of how much land they own and irregardless of whether they actually hunt. Also, “Hunt Inc” members have a vote if they are riding members.

Stewards are elected for 4 year terms with elections for two every other year. The two steward terms ending in May 2005 are currently held by Kathy Eichelberger and Sandra Worthy. Fred Burks and Terry Whitmore will continue in their positions for another 2 years.

The nominating committee has been appointed and consists of Jay Moore (head, and riding member), Lucy Turner (land owner) and Lauren Keating (land owner).

Please contact a committee member if you know of someone you would like to nominate and is interested in holding the position.

One new item that will be discussed at this May’s meeting is a proposal for a “seasonal capping”. In brief, this will be available only to hunting members in good standing of another hunt. Folks paying a seasonal capping can generally once a week. More details will be presented at our annual meeting. Our neighboring hunt, Glenmore, has a similar “associate” status.

MFH

Cindy Morton 463-6025

President

Carol Atwood 463-1000

Treasurer

A. Blair Jones 544-7359

Honorary Secretary

Judy Mundy

Stewards

Sandra Worthy ('05) 254-3372

Fred Burks ('07) 258-2828

Kathy Eichelberger ('05) 947-2966

Terry Whitmore ('07) 291-1861

Newsletter Committee:

Blair Jones

abjones@vt.edu

Erica Jones

emjones@vt.edu

Cindy Morton

cmorton@wlu.edu

Hunt-mail list serve:

Contact cmorton@wlu.edu

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Summer Plans

Discussion is underway for organization for some summer trail rides to take place at various locations. We have done these in the past and they have been exceedingly popular. There is also the potential for pot luck meals following. The big reason we have not done these for the past two summers is that we need someone motivated enough to organize them and get out the information.

If you have a location you think would be suitable – some trailer parking and several hours of trails - please let Cindy (Morton) know. All reasonable offers will be considered. Cindy is accepting possible dates and locations and is arranging the final schedule.

Miscellaneous bits and saddle pads

The executive committee has appointed Terry Whitmore to fill a steward position vacated by Paula Ursoy. Terry has been rumored to be hunting since she was a little tyke. This year at Virginia Hunt Week while Blair and I relished breakfast after a fun hunt with Rappahannock, we were collared by a former Rockbridge Hunt member who was reminiscing to us about Terry foxhunting with her father at a very young age. Terry runs a local barn, and offers riding lessons, board and stallion services.

The Executive Committee will be hosting the annual landowner's luncheon on March 20th. This lunch is made possible by the Executive Committee. All landowners will be invited. All Rockbridge Hunt members are also invited to come - please contact Carol Atwood if you are interested in attending so she can get a head count. Riding members are also welcome to help with the cooking or decorating if they so desire – contact Carol.

Kathy Eichelburger reminds members to consider nominating retired or deceased horses to our Honor Role. Nominations can be made to the Executive Committee and voted on, and a donation will be accepted. Your horse's name and years of hunting will be included on the existing plaque which currently contains approximately 6 horses. I have to admit I was under the impression that horses had to be deceased, but only retired will suffice. If retired status you might be grilled a little – “you SURE that horse will never hunt again?”. In any case, I hope I did not mislead anyone.

Hunt members wishing to ride on Hunt Inc. “commons” property and property privately owned are welcome to do so with some qualifications. Please do not send your friends over to ride without a personal escort. Rockbridge Hunt members with riding privilege can ride on the personally owned “lots” except for the 5 acres of “withdrawn” property around the residences for each lot of 20 acres give or take. The best bet is to stay on trails that you are familiar with.

Hunting Etiquette

Two pointers to help everyone enjoy their day of hunting. First of all, if you are bringing a guest you are encouraged to obtain a copy of the waiver from the website or from any Executive Committee member so you can have this filled out when you arrive. And as soon as you arrive, please introduce your guest to our MFH Cindy and present the \$25 capping fee to Treasurer Blair Jones or Secretary Judy Mundy (or Cindy Morton as a backup). If you would include the date and name of the guest along with the capping fee that will facilitate the treasurer's ease of bookkeeping.

The second pointer is please remember that the hunt is not over until it is over. Admittedly sometimes it can be hard to tell when the hunt is actually done, but when in doubt ask the field master. (And field masters if you would try to announce when we are done!). I've been hunting for some 20 years and still get fooled occasionally. It is suggested to stay in your place and act like the hunt is still on until you definitely hear otherwise. If you are in that much of a hurry to get in, excuse yourself from the field and take yourself in.
Erica Jones

Spring Hunter Pace

We have scheduled a spring hunter pace to take place on Saturday, May 15th; rain date May 16st. As a brief aside, fund raising events are very important for the longevity of this hunt. In the past year we have been running a deficient for income versus receipts. Average day of hunting costs approximately \$1000 to pull off. End of lecture.

We will need help before hand in advertising this event, generating a “prize list”, and marking the trail. The day of the pace we need timers, someone to tally scores and award ribbons, folks willing to “gate sit”, folks willing to pass out water at the mid point, someone or a group of someone's to organize and serve the lunch, and mounted folks to take down trail markers after the pace and serve to check the trail for stray and lost riders. We generally serve lunch to the riders as part of the entry fee, and supply lunch to those folks “gate sitting”

If you can help, please contact Fred Burks at 258-2828.

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Hunt Ball Silent Auction

The hunt ball was certainly well attended due to the efforts of many hunt members. Collecting silent auction donations at the hunt lodge seemed to work quite well. The treasurer is still tallying receipts and expenses - but here is a list of people and businesses donating goods and services (not in any order!) that were auctioned off:

People:

Joe Allen & Katharine Conner
Lee & Laura Jarvis
Terry & Cynthia Secker
Tom & Barbara Debevoise
Tammy Hamilton
Fancy Hill Farm
Wilson And Lola Shepherd
Pete & Susan Whitlock
Fred & Barb Burks
Gloria Rangel
Laura Arnold
Shelby & Jason Bingham
Joe and Pam Moskal
Katherine Quinn
Arwen Quinn
Lois Farmer
Barb and Tom Debevoise
Anne Howard
Bernard and Candi Hylton
Beverly Purswell
Dr. Chuck Cover
Joy and Andy Watkins
Jane Morley
Barbara Rowe
Katie Wick
Carol Atwood
Diane Long
Paula Ursoy
Ann Layman
Sandy Anderson
Louise Golian
Debbie Bono
Chris Bowring
Cheryl Haas

Blair & Erica Jones
Bob & Susan Richardson

Businesses:

Augusta Farmers Co-operative, Fairfield
Bit 'n Bridle, Kim Harris, Staunton
Martinique, Roanoke
Pink Cadillac, Natural Bridge
Virginia Born and Bred, Julia Lindsay, Lexington
Rockbridge Interiors, Lexington
Animal Medical Associates (Stan & Kathy Eichelberger), Roanoke
Beauticontrol, (Nancy Conner)
Dominion Saddlery, Lexington
Lee Lazarus, Moneta
Rockbridge Interiors, Main St, Lexington
Saddles 'n Stuff (Pam Milliron), Daleville
Shepherd's Tack Shop, Roanoke
Studio Metalworks, Roanoke
The Tack Room, Roanoke
We also had the print donated by the P. Buckley Moss Foundation, that was put up for raffle.

Field (hound) Trials March 23, 24

Rappahannock Hunt is hosting these trials which will probably be the first MFHA-sanctioned performance trials in the state of Virginia. The four hunt clubs that will be participating are Bull Run Hunt, Deep Run Hunt, Rappahannock Hunt and Rockbridge Hunt. Each hunt club will bring a limited number of hounds (probably 8) to be judged. A huntsman from another (nonparticipating) hunt club will hunt the hounds as a group. Several judges will ride and score hounds while they are hunting. Scores will be compiled at the end of each day and will be combined for overall placings. The trials will consist of two days of hunting with the four huntsmen from each hunt riding as whippers-in. The closing date has already passed for a very small number of members of participating hunts to ride in the field (word went out on the Rockbridge Hunt listserve) This is the reason our Wednesday 23rd hunt was cancelled; David Conner will be gone.

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The Rockbridge Hunt **Summary of the Executive Committee** **Meeting on January 11, 2005**

The Executive Committee met on Jan. 11, 2005. Members present were: Cindy Morton (MFH), Carol Atwood (Pres), Judy Mundy (Sec), Blair Jones (Treas.), Sandra Worthy ('05), and Fred Burks ('07). Absent were Kathy Eichelberger ('05) and Paula Ursoy ('07). Different brands and strengths of radios were compared. The old radios are clearer so staff could use those and others could use comparable ones such as Motorola "Talkbout" radios. Erin Foster was voted in as a member. Paula Ursoy resigned her steward position and the Executive Committee appointed Terry Whitmore to complete Paula's term. Fred will work on a draft to investigate a category of "Seasonal Capping", where riding members of another recognized hunt could ride with us at a reduced fee, perhaps \$275 or more. Carol read the Hunt Inc. Restrictive Covenant, which states that Rockbridge Hunt members may ride on 15 of the 20 landowner acres in Hunt Inc. as well as Hunt Inc. property. Carol will clarify this in the newsletter. Fred strongly stated that staff, as well as our membership, should welcome visitors with open arms and recognize them as potential members. The huntsman's pasture fence at the kennel needs repair. Fred

will donate fence posts. Plans were discussed for the Hunt Ball, the Landowner's Luncheon, the June Horse Show, a Spring Hunter Pace and Trail Rides.

The Rockbridge Hunt **Summary of the Executive Committee** **Meeting on February 16, 2005**

The Executive Committee met on Feb. 16, 2005. Members present were: Cindy Morton (MFH), Carol Atwood (Pres), Judy Mundy (Sec), Blair Jones (Treas.), Kathy Eichelberger ('05), Fred Burks ('07), and Terry Whitmore ('07). Sandra Worthy ('05) was absent. We have received the \$10,000 that Viola Wise left to the hunt and will receive \$1500 soon from last Hunt Week. Fred brought in examples of seasonal capping from other hunts for us to compare. He will draw up a draft for "Seasonal Capping". The Landowner's Luncheon was planned and will be on March 20. Cindy discussed our invitation to the Field Trials in Rappahannock on March 23 and 24. Fred will meet with volunteers soon to plan the Spring Hunter Pace on May 14. A possible hunter trials or a schooling day at Fred's farm in the future was discussed. Cindy suggested dates and places for trail rides.

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Calendar

March

Sat, Mar 12, Bedford County Hunt Ball
Fri, Mar 18, Glenmore Hunt Ball
Sun, Mar 20 1pm, Rockbridge Hunt Landowners Luncheon
Wed, Thurs Mar 23-24, Rappahannock Hunt hosts Field Trials

April

Sat, April 2, Maury River Hunter Pace
Sat, April 16, Glenmore Hunt Spring Hunter Pace (rain date April 17th)
Sat, April 30, Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride (tentatively at Hunt, Inc.).
Sat, April 30, BREAA timed cross country "pace", Green Hill Park Contact Erica Jones 544-7359

May

Sat, May 7, Glenmore Hunt Fun Hound Show & Derby Day Party
Wed, May 11, Rockbridge Hunt Annual Meeting 7:30 pm
Sat, May 14, Rockbridge Hunt Spring Hunter Pace (rain date May 15)
Sat, May 14, Bedford County Hunt Point to Point Races
Sat, May 21, Rockbridge - Glenmore Joint Trail Ride (Broadview)
Sun, May 29, Virginia Hound Show

June

Sat, June 4, Rockbridge Hunt Horse Show
Sat-Sun, June 10-11, Old Dominion Endurance Rides
Sat, June 18, Sunrise Stables Hunter Pace
Sun, June 19, Glenmore Hunt Fathers' Day Steak Dinner & Trail Ride
Sat, June 25, Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride

July

Wed, Thurs July 6-7, Glenmore Hunt Foxhunter Camp/Clinic
Sat, July 9, Horses & Hounds Wine Festival at Johnson's Orchards (BCH)
Sat, July 23, Bedford County Hunt Hunter Pace & Trail Obstacle Competition

August

Sat, Aug 6, Rockbridge Hunt Work Session (AM)
Sun, Aug 14, Rockbridge Hunt Work Session (PM)
Sun, Aug 21, Rockbridge Hunt Work Session (PM)
Sun, Aug 28, Rockbridge Hunt Work Session (PM)

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