

Rockbridge Hunt Newsletter – September 2005

New Member

Please welcome a new hunting member Lucy Rolston from Staunton, Va.

The usual procedure for getting someone a membership is to bring them out hunting three times, get two written letters of recommendation to the executive committee, and get them squared away on rules and dues. Experienced foxhunters can sometimes expedite this procedure.

Educational Program

Rockbridge Hunt will host an educational program for those interested in learning more about foxhunting on Sunday, September 11 at the lodge. A “panel” consisting of David Conner, and former Masters David Bolen and Gene Clapsaddle will give brief presentations on topics which might include: the basics and traditions of mounted foxhunting, breeding and training a pack of foxhounds and safety in the hunt field. There will be time to answer questions and address topics of interest to the audience.

Following the discussion, there will be a tour of the kennels and an opportunity to see the hounds, up close and personal! For more information, please contact Cindy Morton (office 540-458-8109, home 540-463-6025, email mortonc@wlu.edu) or Carol Atwood (current President, home 540-463-1000, email cfta@planetcomm.net).

In addition, we (Cindy and Carol) are available to make presentations about foxhunting and the Rockbridge Hunt to groups or meetings. We have a slide show for more formal meetings. We are also happy to come to riding clubs or local stable groups, for formal presentations or informal discussions.

If there is a group of riders who might be interested in coming out to hunt, we are available for mounted educational programs. We're happy to travel to a local stable, with horses, to do this or we can host a program at the Hunt's property. Generally, a mounted program would start with a brief overview of the basics. The rest of the time might be spent in a trail riding situation to simulate various parts of a day of hunting. If you're interested in something like this, contact Cindy or Carol, as listed above.

MFH

Cindy Morton 463-6025

President

Carol Atwood 463-1000

Treasurer

A. Blair Jones 544-7359

Honorary Secretary

Judy Mundy

Stewards

Sandra Worthy ('09) 343-2713

Fred Burks ('07) 258-2828

Kathy Eichelberger ('09) 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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Members passing:

Helen Browning passed away on August 30th. She was a landowner member of the Rockbridge Hunt and is survived by her spouse.

Lee Jarvis passed away on July 18 at his home. Lee and Laura were hunting members of Rockbridge Hunt. Lee had been helping out with organizing the lodge, organizing tail gates and helping out with breakfasts and other social type events when he was not riding horses or motorcycles.

Lee was retired from service with the state police for 27 years and had been substitute teaching at Rockbridge County schools.

I am organizing some sort of planting or trees or landscaping at the lodge in his memory. If anyone would like to contribute, or if you would like to confur on some landscaping ideas I would love to hear from you:

Erica Jones

1171 Happy Hollow Road

Newport, VA 24128 (H) 540-544-7359.

E-mail emjones@vt.edu

Seasonal Capping Available

The Rockbridge Hunt Executive Committee has created a Seasonal Capping Fee for the coming hunting season. This could be not only a potential source of revenue (which is always in short supply) but also is a friendly gesture to neighboring hunt members wanting a change of pace.. The fees will be \$250/ Person or \$350/ family.

Please keep in mind that the seasonal capping fee applies only to people who are already full, hunting members of a MFHA-affiliated hunt club. This is **not** a new category of membership -- individuals who subscribe to the seasonal capping fee are not members of Rockbridge Hunt -- and will not require any changes to the bylaws. Our goal in creating this option is to provide a means for foxhunters from other clubs who would like to cap with us more than three times per hunting season (this limit is specified in the Rockbridge Hunt bylaws).

There will be a standard form available for those applying for the seasonal capping fee posted on the web.

The following rules/criteria shall apply:

1. Seasonal capping shall be limited to full riding members in good standing with another MFHA

Recognized Hunt or Registered Hunt.

2. Requires the prior expressed approval of the Executive Committee.

3. Seasonal Capping shall be limited to one (1) hunt per week. The MFH may grant exceptions.

4. Seasonal capping fees must be paid in full to the treasurer prior to hunting. These fees shall not be pro-rated, are non-refundable, non-transferable and cannot be applied toward any other dues and fees.

5. Rights and privileges granted to Rockbridge Hunt members do not apply.

Trail clearing sessions:

Apparently there was a good sized group of loppers with people attached that showed up at the work session at the lodge, so those trails are looking pretty spiffy. Attendance at West Airlie was pretty sparse with 8 folks spread out in 3 groups although a really nice log jump got installed, and a useful section of trail got re-cleared. There is still a "West Virginia Gate" that needs replacing (or that is what I always call strands of barbed wire wired onto a vertical pole which is then slid through two wire loops). Fred has purchased a new gate for this section of woods we often get into but would be delighted if someone wanted to go install the gate. You will get directions! You can drive to the gate site in a 4x4 PU truck or even a 4-wheel drive Toyota Corolla if you are careful and it is not too wet.

Other work that needs to be done are two trails on Broadview that need work with loppers. One of the areas can be driven into if it's not too wet. The other might be done from horseback or you can drive in part way and then walk.

Fred Burks needs some help at Montafon Farm and the surrounding area.

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Here is a list of folks who helped out with trails and jumps this summer. Many many thanks!

Anna Alford (not a member)
Carol Atwood
David Bolen
Megan Brooks
Fred Burks
Anita Claytor
David Conner
Joe Conner
Katharine Conner
Tom Debevois
Lu Dooley
Dick Ford
Erin Foster
Lynne Garland
Lisa Hedrick
Pete Holladay
Laura Jarvis
Blair Jones
Erica Jones
Lauren Keating
Cindy Morton
Barbara Rowe
Gary Ruley
Lola Shepherd
Wilson Shepherd
Arwen Quinn
Jessie Kirlin
Sara Wood
Sandra Worthy

Bits and Pieces

Hunt Breakfasts: The fees for breakfasts have been reluctantly raised after discussing this for years, literally. Starting this fall the fee for a regular breakfast will be \$10 per person, and a pot luck will be \$5 per person. Charging for pot lucks was considered a necessity as we hire someone to clean the lodge after we come through with a pot luck and the five dollars was hoped to help defray that hunt expense.

Tailgating: This went extremely well last year with Laura and Lee Jarvis doing a lot of the work. One way other hunt members (riding or un-mounted) can help

out this year is to purchase semi-perishables and stash them in your trailer to bring out at a moment's notice. Popular tailgate munches are pretzels, chips, nuts, crackers and cookies. Perishable items such as vegetables, cheese and dips will be devoured if you are willing to spring for a little more outlay. If you put something in your trailer now, I can guarantee you will make someone happy at some point in the year. Salt and some calories are probably a good thing for everyone involved after hunting. Fluids are a little harder to arrange but certainly possible. If you do not want to stay after that particular hunt, you can drop off your food donation and bolt. No one will object to the donor not being there.

Pre hunt money matters: Please be sure that your dues are up to date before appearing at your first hunt of the year. If you are going to hunt in Hunt Week you are supposed to be a member of good standing of one of the host hunts or pay an additional fee. Also, please have capping fees in a labeled envelop as to who they are for, and what day, ready to hand to the field secretary, treasurer, or president before the field leaves. Overdue capping fees are difficult and embarrassing to chase down so please don't put any executive members in the position of guessing who your brought capping and when.

Staff changes: Fred Burks will be our Field Secretary for the season 2005-6. Please take any capping fees to him. He will also have waiver forms and take note of guests you might want to introduce.

Fall Hunter Trials: We are trying to have a hunter trials with a tentative date of December 4th at Broadview Ranch, assuming a sufficient number of jumps can be built or borrowed by then. "Real" (safe and sturdy) cross outdoor jumps are decidedly not cheap to build. If you have ever seen a horse flip a coop out hunting or go through the rotten wood on a coop you will appreciate this fact. A trials is usually a shorter (than a "pace") judged course with jumps. I'm sure competitors will be allowed to go around un-judged if they so desire.

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The Rockbridge Hunt (2005-2006)

Equine Activity Liability Release, Waiver of Right To Sue, and Assumption of All Risks

In exchange for being permitted to participate in foxhunting, cross-country riding, horse shows, or any other equestrian activities of Rockbridge Hunt, Inc., the undersigned participant (including any minor participant for whom he signs this agreement) releases and agrees not to make or bring any claim of any kind against Rockbridge Hunt, Inc., and/or its Master, Field Masters, Officers, staff, stewards, members, employees, guests, or any landowners, landholders or other persons making property available for Rockbridge Hunt, Inc., for any injury (including death) to the undersigned (or to the included minor participant) or for any damage to property whether from anyone's negligence or not, or for any other cause arising out of participation in these dangerous foxhunting, cross-country riding, horse shows, or other equestrian activities.

The undersigned participant (including any minor participant for whom he signs) acknowledges that he has full and complete notice and understanding of the Equine Activity Liability Act (§3.1-796.130 et seq.) and of all the dangers intrinsic of equine activities which may cause, contribute to or result in the death or personal injury of the participant or damage to the participant's property, including but not limited to: (i) the propensity of an equine to behave in dangerous ways or to trip and/or fall; (ii) the inability of anyone whomsoever to predict or foresee an equines reaction to excitement, weather conditions, sound, movements, objects, persons, animals, reptiles, birds or insects, and the effects of such reactions; (iii) the hazards of surface or subsurface conditions, including but not limited to objects or conditions on, under or protruding from the surface, both latent and patent; (iv) the hazards which rocks, cliffs, hills, fences, trees, stumps, logs, bridges, ditches and other debris and obstacles, and any equine activity in conjunction therewith, may foreseeably or unforeseeably present; (v) the dangers and risks of tack or harness slipping or breaking for whatever reason; (vi) the dangers and risks of becoming entangled in tack, harness, or vehicles used in equine activity; (vii) the risks of falling from or otherwise becoming unstable on an equine or a vehicle used in equine activity for any reason whatsoever or for no identifiable reason and (viii) any negligent act or omission by Rockbridge Hunt, Inc., or its members, or any owner which causes or results in the death or personal injury of the participant or damage to the participant's property. The participant (including any minor participant for whom he signs) does further ASSUME ALL RISKS AND DANGERS of death, personal injury an property damage which are in any way associated with the risks enumerated in the preceding paragraph.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING EQUINE LIABILITY RELEASE, WAIVER OF RIGHT TO SUE AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS. I HAVE CONSULTED AN RELIED UPON MY OWN ADVISORS ON ALL QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND I HAVE NOT RELIED UPON THE SPONSOR/PROFESSIONAL OR ANY OWNER FOR ANY ADVICE OR EXPLANATION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Address:

Print Name

Signature and Date

Print name of the minor participant for whom signing, if any.

The Rockbridge Hunt, 61 Hark To Loop, Glasgow, Virginia 24555

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Rockbridge Hunt Fall 2005 Fee Schedule

Hunting, Single -- \$535.00

Hunting, Family -- \$635.00

Hunting, Student -- \$267.50

Hunting, School -- \$802.50

Social -- \$267.50

Landowner -- No subscription fee. Subject to annual review by the Executive Committee

Honorary, lifetime -- No subscription fee. Awarded by voting members to:

Dr. David Bolen, Jr., MFH

Dr. G. E. Clapsaddle, MFH

Ms Janet Wynot

Ms Helen Young

Capping fee -- \$35.00

Breakfast -- \$10.00 (pot-luck \$5.00)

Non-members may hunt as a visitor only by invitation of a member, and such member shall pay a capping fee for each visitor introduced, and no visitor shall be introduced more than three times during the season, except by special permission of the Master of the Hounds. Non-members unfamiliar with a hunting member are encouraged to contact someone on the Executive Committee for an invitation.

Those desiring new hunting membership must hunt twice prior to being proposed for membership and must be proposed by two members in writing addressed to the Secretary. Membership is approved by the Executive committee and subject to a one time initiation fee of \$300.00 for new single or family hunting membership.

Fees should be paid to Rockbridge Hunt, Inc. preferably by check. Payments should clearly state from whom and for what and be directed to the Rockbridge Hunt treasurer:

A. B. Jones
1171 Happy Hollow Road
Newport, VA 24061

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Hunt Week Schedule

Hunt Week is currently scheduled for October 13 through October 30th. Rockbridge is hosting their day on Saturday October 29th. Fred Burks and Sandra Worthy are organizing a catered breakfast but need volunteers to help with non-food items. The fixture for our day of hunt week will be at Gerri Wenz and Robert Wicklund.'s "barn" (near Montafon). Schedule:

Thurs, October 13 Middleburg Hunt
Fri., October 14 Day off
Sat., October 15 Old Dominion Hounds
Sun., October 16 Rappahannock Hunt
Mon., October 17 Bull Run Hunt
Tues., October 18 Casanova Hunt
Wed, October 19 Commonwealth Foxhounds
Thurs, October 20 Deep Run Hunt
Fri., October 21 Princess Anne Hunt
Sat., October 22 Reedy Creek Hounds
Sun., October 23 Colonial Fox Hounds
Mon., October 24 Keswick Hunt
Tues., October 25 Farmington Hunt
Wed, October 26 Bedford County Hunt
Thurs, October 27 Middlebrook Hounds
Fri., October 28 Glenmore Hunt
Sat., October 29 Rockbridge Hunt
Sun., October 30 Oak Ridge Fox Hunt

Sat., Oct 15, 2005 Rappahannock
Hunt Ball

Internet Links:

The current waiver:

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/archive/0506waiver.doc>

And the current waiver in PDF:

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/archive/waiver.pdf>

Directions to the fixtures:

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/archive/RHDirectionsFixtures.doc>

The Bylaws:

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/archive/bylaws.html>

Information on the new seasonal capping program:

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/archive/0506SeasonalCap.doc>

Hunt week:

<http://www.vahuntweek.org/>

8/23/05 Summary of the Executive Committee Meeting The Rockbridge Hunt

The Executive Committee met on August 23, 2005. Members present were: Cindy Morton (MFH), Carol Atwood (Pres), Judy Mundy (Sec), Blair Jones (Treas), Sandra Worthy ('05), Kathy Eichelberger ('05) and Fred Burks ('07). Absent: Terry Whitmore ('07). Trail clearing is going well. There is plenty to do at Montafon Farm and West Airlie. Plans for the Fox Hunting Seminar/Kennel Tour on Sept. 11 were discussed. Sandra and Fred will co-chair the Virginia Hunt Week committee for our hunt on Oct. 29. We need help with set up, decorations, tables and chairs, parking, etc. Gerri Wenz and Robert Wicklund.'s barn for this fixture is beautifully renovated. The meal will be catered. Carol offered Broadview Ranch for our Fall Hunter Trials. Dec. 4 was suggested as the tentative date to allow time for jumps to be built. The price of our breakfasts was discussed. Pot Luck meals will be \$5.00 and all other meals will be \$10.00. Call Carol if you are willing to help with or be in charge of any breakfasts.

Remember to bring food and /or drinks for the tailgates. We always need volunteers! There is something that everyone can do to help the hunt. Also, do not put the MFH or the Field Secretary in the awkward position of having to ask you for dues or your guest's cap fee.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Mundy, Secretary

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Rockbridge Hunt 2005-2006

Master of Foxhounds: Cynthia J. Morton (463-6025)

Huntsman (Professional): David Conner (463-9547)

Field Master: Joe Conner

Whippers-in (Honorary):

Katharine S. Conner

Nancy Conner

Susan Conner

Cynthia J. Morton

Gary P. Ruley

Honorary Masters of Foxhounds:

Dr. G. E. Clapsaddle

Dr. David Bolen

Secretary (Honorary): Judy Mundy
5092 Springwood Rd, Buchanan VA 24066
473-3108

Hunt line:

540-462-1113

Tex Tilson Lodge:

540-463-3781

Capping fee is \$35

Limit of 3 caps per season

<http://home.wlu.edu/~mortonc/archive/>

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Rockbridge Hunt 2005-2006

W Sep 14 5:00 PM Hunt, Inc.
S Sep 17 8:00 AM Hunt, Inc. – Jr. Day*
W Sep 21 4:00 PM Broadview
S Sep 24 8:00 AM Montafon Farm
W Sep 28 4:00 PM Zollman
S Oct 1 8:00 AM Broadview – Jr. Day**
W Oct 5 4:00 PM Pollock
S Oct 8 8:00 AM Montafon Farm
W Oct 12 4:00 PM Bolen
S Oct 15 8:00 AM Hunt, Inc.
W Oct 19 2:30 PM Pollock
S Oct 22 9:30 AM Foxdream

Glenmore Hunt Opening Meet

W Oct 26 2:30 PM Zollman
S Oct 29 8:00 AM Windward Farm*

Rockbridge Hunt hosts Virginia Hunt Week

W Nov 2 2:30 PM Broadview
S Nov 5 TBA Hunt, Inc.*
Opening Meet & Joint meet with Glenmore Hunt

W Nov 9 2:30 PM Pollock
S Nov 12 10:00 AM West Airslie – Jr. Day
W Nov 16 2:30 PM Broadview

Deer season is November 19 – Dec 3

W Dec 7 2:30 PM Zollman
S Dec 10 2:30 PM Hunt, Inc.*
W Dec 14 2:30 PM Pollock
S Dec 17 10:00 AM West Airslie

Joint meet with Glenmore Hunt

W Dec 21 2:30 PM Broadview
W Dec 28 11:00 AM Montafon Farm – Jr. Day
S Dec 31 11:00 AM Zollman
Sun Jan 1 11:00 AM Hunt, Inc.*

Joint meet with Bedford County Hunt

*Breakfast follows hunting. Make reservations with Carol Atwood, 463-1000. Cost will be \$10 per person.

**Potluck follows hunting. No reservations needed, please bring a dish to share. Cost will be \$5.00 per person.

On designated Junior Days ("Jr. Day"), capping fees will be waived for junior riders.

Weather and unforeseen events may disrupt the schedule. Be sure to call the **Hunt Line (540) 462-1113** for cancellations and other important notices.

Tex Tilson Lodge 540-463-3781

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Calendar

September

Sunday, September 25, 2005 Foxfield Races
Sunday, September 25, 2005 Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace
Sunday, September 25, 2005 Deep Run Hunt Trail Ride

October

October 2-4, 2005 30-mile ride at The Homestead 2005
Sunday, October 9, 2005 Farmington Hunt Club Fall Foxhunters Day/Field Hunter Show,
Saturday, Oct 15, 2005 Sweet Briar College Hunter Trials
Saturday, Oct 15, 2005 Sunrise Stables Hunter Pace
Saturday, Oct 16, 2005 Deep Run Hunt Trail Ride
Sunday, October 23, 2005 Farmington Hunt Club Cross-Country Team Event
Sunday, October 23, 2005 Deep Run Hunt Hunter Trials
Sunday, October 23, 2005 Steeplechase at Oak Ridge
Saturday, October 29, 2005 Benefit Dinner-Dance for Hoofbeats Therapeutic Riding Center

November

Sunday, November 6, 2005 Virginia Field Hunter Championships
Sunday, November 13, 2005 Farmington Hunt & Keswick Hunt Hunter Trials at Keswick
Sunday, November 13, 2005 Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace
Sunday, November 20, 2005 Glenmore Hunt Fall Hunter Pace

December and beyond

Sunday, December 4, 2005 **Rockbridge Hunt Hunter Trials**
at Broadview Ranch Equestrian Center(tentative)

Friday, March 3, 2005 Glenmore Hunt Ball

Saturday, March 18, 2006 **Rockbridge Hunt Ball** Contact Pam Moskal, swert22@cox.net
Saturday, April 22, 2006 Glenmore Hunt Spring Hunter Pace (rain date 4/23/06)

