



## Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* December 20, 2016

“Huntsman Rody, blow the horn,  
Make the hills reply.'  
The huntsman loosens on the morn  
A gay wandering cry.”

From *Ballad of the Foxhunter* by William Butler Yeats

*Merry Christmas!*

**1. Rockbridge Hunt Ball 2017. SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, February 18, 2017 at the Hampton Inn Col Alto.** Music by The Domino Band. We loved the new location and band last February, so we are going back to the Col Alto with the same band. You won't want to miss this great party. Terry Whitmore is coordinating the ball this year and she is looking for help. Please contact her if you are willing to help in any way ([ststable@yahoo.com](mailto:ststable@yahoo.com), 540-460-3052). Carol Lueder has agreed to coordinate the very important fundraising aspect of the ball – the silent auction. Please start thinking about things you would be willing to donate or things you would be willing to solicit for the auction. Carol is a workhorse, but she can't do it alone. ([shop@fchase.net](mailto:shop@fchase.net) (H) 540-463-9189 (Cell) 540-460-5302). Thank you!

**2. Christmas Celebrations!** Thank you to everyone who helped put together a wonderful Christmas hunt and breakfast. Very special thanks to Carol Lueder for coordinating the event and providing so much of the meal and the decorations. She had lots of help in the kitchen and with decorating from Sandy Collier, a good friend to the Hunt. Thank you to Laura Jarvis for getting the fire laid and the lodge warmed up for us. And thank you to everyone who brought food and drink for the event including (but probably not limited to) Hugh Brown, Lu Dooley, Kathy Eichelberger, Louise Golian, Liz Hall, Candi Hylton, Diane Long, Valerie Mann, Cindy Morton, and Lynn Williams.

**3. New Year's Eve Meet at Glenmore.** There will be a change to the fall fixture card for New Year's Eve. We have been invited to join the Glenmore Hunt for their New Year's Meet at Bellevue Farm in beautiful Swoope, Virginia on Saturday, December 31. Time TBA.

### **Directions to Bellevue Farm Fixture:**

Parking for Long Rigs at Bellevue Farm is *Limited*. Those driving Long Rigs should follow these directions and plan to arrive early to insure adequate parking.

From the Lexington Area, follow I-81 North toward Staunton. Take Exit 220 toward Staunton on Route 262. Take exit for Parkersburg Pike (Route 254) and turn **left** at the stop sign of the exit toward Buffalo Gap. Follow Parkersburg Pike for **6.8 miles** passing Westwood Animal Hospital, the small village of West View, toward Buffalo Gap. Just past the junction of Parkersburg Pike and Buffalo Gap Highway (Route 42), turn **left** at the Junction Convenience Store onto Hewitt Road. Follow Hewitt Road crossing the railroad tracks to the Bellevue Farm fixture.

Long Rigs will park parallel to Hewitt Road while smaller vehicles will turn **right** into Bellevue Farm and park within the farm yard fields.

**Glenmore Hunt line: (540) 885-7004**

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**Glenmore Hunt contacts:**

Brenda Simmons, Hon. Secretary: 540-292-8948

Joe Manning, MFH: 540-290-2423

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**Glenmore Hunt Waivers can be found here:**

[http://www.glenmorehunt.org/docs/waiver\\_2009\\_0827\\_1s.pdf](http://www.glenmorehunt.org/docs/waiver_2009_0827_1s.pdf)

**4. New Year's Day Meet at The Hunt, Inc.** We'll be meeting at The Hunt, Inc. for our own New Year's Meet at 11:00 AM on Sunday, January 1, 2017. We've invited the Glenmore Hunt to join us that day and Valerie Mann has graciously agreed to coordinate the breakfast after the hunt. She is looking for help with food and cleanup for that event, so please consider volunteering (540-580-6614 [valeriemann1229@gmail.com](mailto:valeriemann1229@gmail.com))

**5. Wall Calendars.** Louise Golian has put together our annual Rockbridge Hunt wall calendar for 2017 and it is gorgeous! She will have copies at upcoming events. Contact Louise to reserve yours. They will be \$20 each. Thank you Louise! ([Louisegolian@aol.com](mailto:Louisegolian@aol.com))

**6. Reading Group Update.** We are currently reading Gordon Grand's collection of stories *A Horse for Christmas Morning*. In January, we are reading *Mr. Merston's Hounds* by John Welcome with Siegfried Sassoon's classic *Memoirs of a Fox-Hunting Man* on the agenda for February.

If you have any questions about the reading group, please contact Cindy Morton or Hugh Brown. Anyone is welcome to join in the fun at any time!

**7. Sedgefield Cup 2017.** The dates have been set for the 2017 renewal of the Carolina Foxhound Performance Trial – The Sedgefield Cup – March 24-26, 2017. There will be some copies of the Registration Form at the Tex Tilson Lodge or contact Hugh Brown or Cindy Morton for an electronic copy. Mark your calendar now for an exciting weekend of foxhunting and fellowship in North Carolina!

**8. Foxhunting Literature.** The "Ballad of the Foxhunter" quoted at the beginning of the NewsHound is a beautiful and poignant poem written by the Irish poet William Butler Yeats. The full text of the poem can be found here:

<http://www.poemhunter.com/best-poems/william-butler-yeats/the-ballad-of-the-foxhunter/>.

The poem has also been rearranged and set to music by the Celtic group *Cherish the Ladies*. The song is beautifully arranged and full of sweetly sad harmonies. You can listen to it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTU3KQx4dqY>

**9. Southern States Proof of Purchase Program.** For several years now, the Hunt has been collecting Southern States feed bag and supplements labels (we need the proof of purchase label). We get about 25 cents per label. Cindy Morton has graciously been coordinating this effort for us. Many members have been participating and it really does pay off. Since we started participating in the program, we have cashed in over \$3,000 in feed/supplement labels! Keep saving those Southern States proofs of purchase – any equine feed or supplement from Southern States – Triple Crown, Legends, etc. To make it even easier, there’s a collection box at the Tex Tilson Lodge for labels. Every label makes a difference!

**10. Educational Bits** – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: **Landowners**

### **Landowners.**

“Of all the “VIP’s” in any way connected with a hunt club by far the most important of all, more so than the horses or hounds or even the Master himself are the **Landowners**. They are the people who live in the houses on the tops of the hills and by the sides of the roads that crisscross the country. They are the people whose chickens we scare, whose horses come snorting and piglets run squealing whenever the Hunt goes galloping by. They are indeed the “Very Important People” of the country.

Without the **landowners**, fox hunting as a sport could not exist, for it is upon their pleasure, their cooperation, and their good will that it most definitely depends. Across their fields and over their meadows, through their woods, and over their streams the hunters must ride to follow the line of fox and hound. Friends indeed they must be. And friends indeed they are.”

Above excerpt from: A Story of Sport and the Deep Run Hunt

We have a long tradition in the Rockbridge Hunt of giving a Christmas gift to the landowners who allow us to hunt on their land. For many years that gift has been bags of citrus fruit – oranges and grapefruit. Cindy and Hugh delivered this year’s gifts in early December. The fruit was purchased by the Hunt from the Rockbridge County High School and benefits their music department. We hope everyone would agree that this use of Hunt funds serves two great purposes.

### **11. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar**

Saturday, December 31	Joint meet at Glenmore Hunt’s New Year’s Meet at Bellevue Farm
Sunday, January 1	New Year’s Hunt at The Hunt, Inc. with breakfast to follow
Saturday, February 18	*Rockbridge Hunt Ball, Hampton Inn Col Alto
Saturday, March 18	Closing Meet at The Hunt, Inc. – cookout to follow the hunt
Saturday, May 6	*Rockbridge Hunt <i>Derby-Day Hunter Pace</i>
Wednesday, May 10	Annual Meeting of the Rockbridge Hunt

\*Fundraising events

### **12. Other Hunt-related dates**

Saturday, March 11, 2017	Farmington Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Saturday, April 1, 2017	Glenmore Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, April 8, 2017	Glenmore Hunt <i>Ball</i> – <b><i>New date!</i></b>
Saturday, April 22, 2017	Maury River <i>Hunter Trials</i> , Pennmerryl Farm, Greenville

**13. The Rockbridge Hunt NewsHound** is archived on the RH website under Newsletters in the Archive section. You can also access copies by logging into Google or Google Groups and read stuff from the Friends list. If you don't have a Google account, it's easy to create one using the same email address that you use for the Friends list.

As always, if you have feedback or suggestions for the Executive Committee, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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**Rockbridge Hunt Executive Committee  
2016-2017**

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**Please Support the Sponsors of the Rockbridge Hunt**

**Broadview Ranch**

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<http://www.broadviewranch.com>  
[store@broadviewranch.com](mailto:store@broadviewranch.com)

**Dover Saddlery**

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**Pink Cadillac Diner**

4743 South Lee Highway, Natural Bridge, VA 24578  
(540) 291- 2378  
[email@pinkcadillacdineronline.com](mailto:email@pinkcadillacdineronline.com)

**Rockbridge Farmers Co-op**

645 Waddell Street, Lexington, VA 24450  
540-463-7381  
<http://rockbridgefarmerscoop.com/>

**Southern Inn Restaurant**

37 South Main Street, Lexington, Virginia 24450  
540-463-3612  
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**Stone Bridge Equestrian Center**

100 Equus Loop, Natural Bridge, VA 24578  
540-291-24578  
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