

Rockbridge Hunt NewsHound June 13, 2016

"To be victim to the whims of the weather gods was a foxhunter's plight, like it or not." ~Martha Wolfe from *The Great Hound Match of 1905*

1. Spring Poker Ride. Saturday, June 11. Thank you to everyone who helped to make our second spring fundraising ride a success. We had a good turnout including visitors from the Deep Run Hunt, Glenmore Hunt, Middlebrook Hounds, and the Stonewall Hounds.

Many, many thanks to all of our volunteers:

Organizer: Louise Golian

Course design & flagging: Louise Golian & Pam Schnake

Trail clearing: Hugh Brown, Louise Golian, Brent Hall, Diane Long, Bob Richardson

Registration: Carol Lueder & Sandy Collier Parking, Advertizing & Paperwork: Hugh Brown

Gate Crew: Ray Collier, Jesse Hines, Diane Long, Valerie Mann, Katie Wick

Start: Hugh Brown & Louise Golian Finish & Casino Master: Louise Golian

Lunch: Carol Lueder, Sandy Collier, Hugh Brown

Food & Drink Donors: Louise Golian, Hugh Brown, Diane Long, Carol Lueder, Trish Lyons Course de-flagging: Hugh Brown, Katharine Conner, Louise Golian, Liz Harry, Lauren Keating

Poker Ride Results

1st — Stacy Thompson with full house, queens over kings (that means 3 queens and 2 kings)

2nd — Mike Stoher with an ace-high flush

3rd — Mary Lee McDavid with 3 4s (three of a kind)

4th — Trish Lyons with two pair — aces and kings

5th — Lauren Keating with a pair of aces

6th — Robin Sazanov with a pair of kings

- **2. Mowing.** Very special thanks to Lynn and Joe Williams for recently doing some much needed mowing at the Tex Tilson Lodge! We'd like to try to keep the grass tamed this summer as best we can. If you have time, energy, and/or equipment and would be willing to help, please let Cindy or Hugh know. We would really appreciate the help!
- **3. Summer Work.** The Executive Committee is putting together a list of projects that need to be completed in our hunt country this summer. This will include some painting work at The Tex Tilson Lodge, mowing, trail trimming, deadfall clearing, etc. We'll have specific details out soon, but please give thought to how you can help. Anyone who helps with these critical maintenance projects is eligible to hunt in our Volunteers' Hunt scheduled for Sunday, September 11!

- **4. Breakfasts and Tailgates.** The Executive Committee is also thinking ahead to the hunting season. We are hoping to have at least one formal hunt breakfast each month between September and the New Year. We are also looking for ways to organize our tailgates and potlucks a little better so that everyone can contribute and we can minimize duplication. Executive Committee members have volunteered to "host" a tailgate and provide a little extra something to make sure no one drives home hungry. We're still working on the details, but if you'd like to "host" a tailgate during the upcoming season, we would love to help you find a date. Pair up with a friend. It doesn't have to be formal or fancy. Fried chicken? Pizza? Anything goes!
- **5. Foxhunting Reading Group.** The reading group met last week to discuss the second book of the summer Marigold Armitage's *A Long Way To Go*. Lynn Williams graciously hosted the meeting and fed us well. Thank you Lynn! We also discussed Chapter 5 ("Attributes of a Good Hound") of Joseph B. Thomas's classic work on foxhunting, *Hounds and Hunting Through the Ages*.

The group is now reading Martha Wolfe's *The Great Hound Match of 1905* and will meet on Wednesday, July 20 to discuss it. Carol Lueder is selling these books with a very good discount for the reading group. For those of you who want to shop ahead, the book for August is *The Fox in the Cupboard: A Memoir* by Jane Shilling. This book is fairly modern (2004) and was fairly popular so used copies should be abundant. There are copies that we're willing to lend so you certainly don't have to buy it. Please note: Anyone is welcome to attend our group meetings. They are not restricted to Rockbridge Hunt members or foxhunters. Contact Cindy Morton or Hugh Brown for information about how to join in the fun.

Cindy Morton, mortonc@wlu.edu; Hugh Brown, brownhh@jmu.edu; Carol Lueder, shop@fchase.net

6. Capital Campaign for GPS Hound Tracking Collars. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated funds to this important campaign. We now have \$7,400 for Huntsman David Conner to spend on the tracking collar system. We hope to have the system up and running by the fall and we are so grateful to everyone who contributed to helping us dramatically improve the safety of our hounds. If you'd still like to contribute, please do. The collars will need new batteries and repairs in the future and every little bit helps.

7. Important Reminders!

•Summer Trail Riding at The Hunt, Inc. Rockbridge Hunt members have permission from many generous landowners to *hunt* on their property. This does not entitle any individuals to *trail ride* on private property. Rockbridge Hunt members can ride on much of the property at The Hunt, Inc. but you must know where the boundaries are and respect them. Many of our landowners do allow trail riding but not all of them do. When individuals ride on private property without permission, landowners are (justifiably) displeased. These situations are one of the main causes of permission to hunt being withdrawn. If you don't absolutely know for certain where you can ride and where you can't, please make arrangements to ride with someone who knows the territory. Most of the Executive Committee and the Hunt Staff know the property and will be happy to meet you and ride with you.

Also, please be very certain that any dogs you have with you are under your control at all times and kept off private property.

•Insurance, waivers, and helmets! The new year has started for us – so that means new waivers are needed for everyone. For insurance purposes, it is *critical* that any member or guest riding at The Hunt, Inc. have a signed waiver on file. There is a box with waivers on the mounting block in The Hunt, Inc. parking lot and on the hunt barn. We will also have new waiver forms available at summer events and work days. If you are not sure if your guest has a current waiver, you may check with Hugh Brown or just sign a new one. We also *strongly encourage* everyone to wear approved helmets when riding. Thank you!

8. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: Venery

Venery: hunting or chasing wild game (from Old French *venerie*, which comes from Latin *venari*, to hunt)

"Hunting takes a fair imagination, some trust, and a little blind faith. Between a man and his horse, the hounds and the fox, some will excel where others will fail. **Venery** is a game, a war game, a puzzle and a gas. It's something of the whimsical combined with an eeriness boarding on the supernatural. It's a science. But mostly it's an art."

~Martha Wolfe from The Great Hound Match of 1905

9. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar

Saturday, August 13
Saturday, September 10
Sunday, September 11
Saturday, September 17
Saturday, September 17
Saturday, September 24
Saturday, September 17
Saturday, September 18
Saturday, September 19
Saturday, September 24
Satu

Sunday, September 25 *Fall Poker Ride Sunday, October 30 *Fall Hunter Pace

Saturday, November 5 Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds

*Fundraising events

10. Other Hunt-related dates

Sunday, November 13

Sat. & Sun, June 18-19	Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace Weekend
	https://www.facebook.com/MiddlebrookHoundsHuntClub/
Saturday, June 25	Glenmore Hunt Murder Mystery Ride
	http://www.glenmorehunt.org/
Sat. & Sun, July16-17	Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace Weekend
Saturday, July 23	Glenmore Hunt Foxhunting Clinic
August 10-14	Lexington National Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center
	http://www.horsecenter.org/Events/
Sat. & Sun, August 20-21	Farmington Hunt Foxhunting Clinic
	http://www.farmingtonhunt.org/home
Sat. & Sun, August 20-21	Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace Weekend
Saturday, August 20	Bedford County Hunt Hunter Pace, Long Meadows Farm
	http://www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Saturday, August 27	Glenmore Hunt Fun Horse Show
Sunday, August 28	Farmington <i>Hunter Pace</i> (south of town)
Saturday, September 3	Maury River Hunter Pace, Virginia Horse Center
Saturday, September 11	Bedford County Hunt Hunter Pace, Maceland, Chatham
	http://www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Sat. & Sun, Sept 17-18	Middlebrook Hounds Hunter Pace Weekend
Sunday, November 6	Virginia Field Hunter Championships
Sunday November 6	Farmington Hunt Fall Hunter Pace
Saturday, November 12	Farmington Hunt Opening Meet

Glenmore Hunt Fall Hunter Pace

11. 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.

Rockbridge Hunt Executive Committee 2016-2017

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Please Support the Sponsors of the Rockbridge Hunt

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Dover Saddlery

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Ms Carol Lueder & Fair Chase, Inc.

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Pink Cadillac Diner

4743 South Lee Highway, Natural Bridge, VA 24578 (540) 291- 2378 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 info@southerninn.com

Stone Bridge Equestrian Center

100 Equus Loop, Natural Bridge, VA 24578 540-291-24578 stonebridgeequestriancenter.gmail.com

Virginia Born & Bred

16 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450 540-463-1832 or 800-437-2452 Http://www.virginiabornandbred.com

Virginia Gold Orchard

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