



## Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* November 30, 2016

“It’s always a pleasure, as well as very good for one, to hunt with a neighboring pack.  
One gets in a rut if one never sees how they do it in someone else’s country.”

J. Stanley Reeve in *Radnor Reminiscences*

**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. Puppies!** The June litter of puppies got names recently! David and the staff are hard at work training them for hunting later on in 2017. Welcome Rainbow, Ranger, Riddle, Rowdy, Rudy, Rusty, Ramona, Reason, Risky, and Ruff to the pack! These are the second litter produced from Rockbridge Legend 2010 (sponsored by Kathy Munsey) and Rockbridge Relic 2011 (sponsored by Jean Taylor).

**3. Opening Meet. Saturday, November 5 at 2:30 PM** at The Hunt, Inc. We had a great turnout for our Opening Meet of the season with 42 riders and many more members and friends on hand to wish us well. We had good hunt with a coyote chase as the highlight. Very special thanks to the Eichelberger family for providing the main course and several of the side dishes for the breakfast and to Valerie Mann for coordinating the breakfast for us. Thank you to everyone who contributed food or drink for the event. It was a great way to start the formal hunting season!

**4. Christmas Celebrations!** Our annual Christmas Meet and Party is coming up fast! On Saturday, December 10, we’ll be meeting at The Hunt, Inc. and we’ve invited the Farmington Hunt for a joint meet. Carol Lueder has graciously agreed to coordinate the breakfast for us and she’ll be looking for help with food and drink. If you know you can help, please contact Carol as soon as possible ([shop@fchase.net](mailto:shop@fchase.net) (H) 540-463-9189 (Cell) 540-460-5302). **Also remember to make reservations no later than Thursday, December 8** with Hugh Brown ([brownhh@jmu.edu](mailto:brownhh@jmu.edu), 540-568-3501, 540-886-6359). Thank you!

**5. New Year’s Celebrations.** 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 in beautiful Swoope, Virginia on Saturday, December 31. Time and location TBA. We’ll be meeting at 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’ll be looking for help with food for that event, so stay tuned.

**6. Virginia Field Hunter Championships.** Congratulations and thank you to Liz Hall for representing the Rockbridge Hunt in the 2016 Virginia Field Hunter Championships held at the Farmington Hunt on Sunday, November 6. Liz completed all three phases of the competition – under saddle, a mock hunt, and an individual test. Liz looked grand in her Rockbridge Hunt colors and represented us well. She faced stiff competition in the event including the eventual champion, Will Coleman of the Keswick Hunt, who we are certain has won the event as well as the North American Field Hunter Championships in the past. Well done Liz!

**7. Reading Group Update.** We recently finished reading Gordon Grand’s collection of hunting stories *The Millbeck Hounds* as well as another chapter from *Hounds and Hunting Through the Ages* by Joseph B. Thomas (Chapter 6, *Comments on Hunting a Pack*). This month, we are reading another collection of Gordon Grand stories – *A Horse for Christmas Morning* and we plan to meet on Sunday, December 18 in the early afternoon to discuss it (location TBA).

We’re planning ahead for the winter with *Mr. Merston’s Hounds* by John Welcome on the agenda for January, and Siegfried Sassoon’s classic *Memoirs of a Fox-Hunting Man* 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!

**8. Hunter Pace!** Thank you to everyone who helped put on our last fundraising ride of the calendar year. We didn’t have a spectacular turnout, but we got lots of compliments on the trails and the course. The lovely weather was a bonus.

Coordinator:	Valerie Mann
Advertising:	Liz Hall & Hugh Brown
Trail clearing:	Hugh Brown, David Conner, Joe Conner, Pete Holladay, Duane, Liz and Abby Hylton, Laura Jarvis, Cindy Morton, Kathy Munsey, Jake Wilson
Trail flagging and de-flagging:	Cindy Morton, Katharine Conner, Lu Dooley, Kathy Eichelberger, Laura Jarvis, and Lauren Keating
Parking:	Hugh Brown
Registration	Valerie Mann, Sarah Edwards
Start/Finish:	Lu Dooley, Candi Hylton
Checkpoint	Lauren Keating & David Bolen
Lunch donations & coordination:	Valerie Mann, Cynthia Secker, Candi Hylton, Trish Lyons, Lauren Keating, Liz Hall, Laura Grantham and Hugh Brown

### Rockbridge Hunt Fall Hunter Pace Results

Optimum Time for all divisions – 1hr 18 min

#### Open Division

Place	Names	Time
1	Jessie Hines & Rebecca Tilson	1:45
2	Claudia Campbell & Trish Darby	1:51
3	Trish Lyons & Martha Tubmar	1:53
4	Arran Siebert & Jan Solovey	2:07
5	Anna Alford	2:09

### **Junior Division**

Place	Names	Time
1	Jill Hufford & Samantha Hufford	2:00

### **Mixed Doubles Division**

Place	Names	Time
1	Joe Manning & Stacy Thompson	1:48
2	Gale Struble & Lynn Struble	1:54

### **Vintage Division**

Place	Names	Time
1	Lynn Gilbert & Sally Mann	1:31
2	Diane Long & Ann Warner	1:47
3	Sue Charlton & Lynn Williams	1:53
4	Carrie Funderburg, Kathy Lamb and Beverly Purswell	2:03
5	Deborah Baker & Rob Baker	2:22
6	Anita Claytor & Kim Claytor	2:23

**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: **Draw & Cast**

**Draw** - When you go into the coverts and hounds are looking for any fox or other quarry. (Drawing also is separating one hound from the rest of the pack.)

**Cast** - Once hounds have found their quarry and begun chasing it, if they have a loss – they are trying to recover the line of that particular fox - that is casting. Hounds may cast themselves or the Huntsman may cast hounds.

“The first **draw** was Marsh's wood, below Bromall, where as usual the fox was viewed away over the meadows. Hounds opened to the line beautifully, carrying it on across the brook and over the road into Mullin's farm, where scent was very catchy, hounds working well, but slowly, on down Mullin's meadow into his wood, where instead of turning left-handed as usual, they went on through the wood and across the road into the State Farm, and on across the new cemetery property to a field north of the Eagle road, where scent failed completely. After a couple of **casts**, hounds were taken back into the Butler Farm, drawing the Leedom Mills Wood and on through to Moore's, and into Wild's wood.”

## 11. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar

Saturday, December 10	Joint meet with Farmington Hunt and Christmas party at The Hunt, Inc.
Saturday, December 31	Joint meet at Glenmore Hunt's New Year's Meet in Swoope
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

\*Fundraising events

## 12. Other Hunt-related dates

Saturday, March 11, 2017	Farmington Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Saturday, March 18, 2017	Glenmore Hunt <i>Ball</i>
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**

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