



Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* August 16, 2018

“There is a passion for hunting, something deeply implanted in the human breast”

From *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

1. Poker Ride! Saturday, July 28 at Greenock & West Airlie Farms near Brownsburg. Many grateful thanks to everyone who helped to make our summer fundraising ride a success. It was a perfect day to ride in our beautiful northern hunt country. We got a much needed break in temperature and humidity and a good sized crowd turned out. We had visitors from all over including members of the Bedford County Hunt, Glenmore Hunt, Middlebrook Hounds, Stonewall Hounds, and Deep Run Hunt! A thousand thanks to Louise Golian for her leadership of this important fundraising event again this year.

Very special thanks for our hard-working team:

Organizer: Louise Golian

Jump construction: Louise Golian, Brent Hall

Course flagging and Bee Control: Louise Golian, Pam Schnake, Lucy Turner

Advertising: Liz Hall & Hugh Brown

Parking: Brent Hall & Hugh Brown

Registration: Abby Hylton & Carol Lueder

Gate minders: Lu Dooley, Duane Hylton, Gary Mantello, and Cindy Morton

Start/Finish: Kathy Munsey

Casino Master: Louise Golian

Lunch & Registration Setup: Hugh Brown & Carol Lueder

Lunch: Hugh Brown, Sue Charlton, Louise Golian, Liz Hall, Abby Hylton, Diane Long, Carol Lueder, Trish Lyons, Kathy Munsey, Arran Siebert, Lynn Williams

Course de-flagging: Katharine Conner & Louise Golian

Results!

1 st Place:	Sandy Cryder (Glenmore Hunt)	Full House
2 nd Place:	Cindy Kiser (Glenmore Hunt)	Straight
3 rd Place:	Diane Long (Rockbridge Hunt)	2 Pair
4 th Place:	Gretel Mangigian (Deep Run Hunt)	2 Pair
5 th Place:	Wendy Kagey (Rockbridge Hunt)	2 Pair
6 th Place:	Joe Manning, MFH (Glenmore Hunt)	2 Pair

2. Gymnastics Clinic with Diane Long! Saturday, August 11. Very special thanks to Diane Long for conducting a wonderful gymnastics jumping clinic in the riding ring at The Hunt, Inc! There were 14 participants and they all really enjoyed their time with Diane. All of the proceeds from the event were given to the Hunt, so we are deeply grateful for Diane’s donation of her time and talents! Major thanks also to Liz Hall for organizing and advertising this event for us and for managing riders and jump crew on the day of the clinic! Other volunteers included Cindy Morton, Lauren Keating, Lu Dooley and David Conner and also Carol Lueder who made lunch for the volunteers. Thank you also to our mowing team of Cindy Morton, Kathy Eichelberger and Jake Wilson (and probably others) – the riding ring looked great for the event!

3. Kennel News! We are delighted to announce that we have new puppies in the kennel! Rockbridge Opal 2014 (sponsored by Carol Lueder) produced a beautiful litter of puppies in late July. The sire is Andrews Bridge Laser 2011. Laser is a black & tan hound and his coloring must be very dominant – most of the pups are black & tan! Come see them at the Kick-Off Party next month!

4. Work Days! It's that time of year again! We plan to have work days on most Saturdays in August. Please plan to help as much as you can. All that spring and summer rain has created a jungle in our hunting country, so it's all hands on deck! **Our first work day will be Saturday, August 18 at Broadview! Meet at the barn at 8:00am or 9:00am.**

Advanced skills are not necessary! If you can't run a chainsaw, bring loppers. If you don't do loppers, wear gloves and you can help drag the cuttings off the trail. All levels of skill and ability welcome! Just come. We'll find something for everyone to do.

Want to work, but not on weekends? We would welcome teams of members doing trail clearing on alternate days – we just need to make arrangements with landowners to have you there. Please contact Cindy Morton if you want to schedule an alternate work party.

And remember – we have a special Volunteers Hunt scheduled for Sunday, September 16 for volunteers who help with trail clearing or who help with the maintenance of our lodge, barn, and kennels this summer.

Work day packing list: gloves, bug spray, protective clothing, hat, loppers or chainsaw (if you have them). Thank you everyone! Let's work together to get our hunt country in good shape for the fall!

5. Kick-off Party. The Executive Committee is busy making plans for our annual party to kick off the hunting season on **Saturday, September 15**, at the Tex Tilson Lodge. At 4:00 PM you can get a look inside the Kennels with Huntsman David Conner and see our newest puppies! The rest of the evening's events will start at 5:00 PM. Activities will include a select silent auction, hound sponsorship, committee sign-up, plus yard games and more! Reservations are not needed for this casual event. The main course and beverages will be provided, please bring an appetizer, side, or dessert to share. Invitations will be in the mail soon. Please let Hugh know if there is someone you would like to receive an invitation. We hope to see you there!

6. Hound Sponsorship. We are hopeful that many of our Rockbridge Hunt members and friends will consider choosing and sponsoring a hunting hound this year. Throughout the year our hounds must be fed, vaccinated, given flea preventative treatments and receive medical attention. We can expect to spend over \$330 on each hound each year. The importance of hound sponsorship cannot be overstated. Your contributions are vital to the well-being of our pack. We will have a hound sponsorship table at our Kick-Off party on September 15. Sponsorship for an entire year is \$150, or \$75 for a half year. Many of us like to sponsor the same hound year after year and if that is your wish please contact Valerie Mann by September 1st to renew sponsorship of "your" hound. (valeriemann1229@gmail.com or 540-580-6614). The list of hounds available for sponsorship will be available soon.

Very special thanks to Dr. Brent Hall for continuing our hounds' veterinary care this year!

7. Hunter Pace Series. There are three more hunter paces coming up this fall in this year's Hunter Pace Series. We are participating in this series with the Glenmore Hunt and the Oak Ridge Fox Hunt. Points will be awarded to riders who place first through sixth in all divisions. All other riders will receive an attendance point at each event toward the Championship. Bonus points will be awarded to riders who participate in all six events. Series participants who forego riding in an individual hunter pace in order to volunteer at the pace will also be awarded points toward the Championship. The dates and links to more information are:

Saturday, September 1	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Sunday, October 7	Rockbridge Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	rockbridgehunt.org
Sunday, Nov. 18	Glenmore Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	glenmorehunt.org

8. Getting Ready for the Hunt Season. The start of hunting season is only a few weeks away now! The Executive Committee is working on plans for riding and social activities and our hunt staff is hard at work training the hounds for the upcoming season. Here are some things you can be doing now to get ready for the fall:

1. Buy a Hunting License. This is not optional, everyone must purchase and carry a current hunting license. (See “Are you Licensed to Hunt” below for instructions.)
2. Start legging up your horse – and yourself!
3. Make sure your Coggins is up to date, along with other vaccinations and worming.
4. Sign a waiver for the season.
5. Check your tack for wear and tear.
6. Check your trailer and towing vehicle - tire pressure and wear, electrical systems, etc.

9. Are you licensed to Hunt? Remember to get a new Virginia Hunting License before the start of hunting season. This is not optional, everyone must purchase and carry a current hunting license. We recommend that you get a statewide license if you plan to attend joint meets away from home. You can purchase licenses several ways:

On-line at <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/licenses/>

By telephone: 1-866-721-6911 (available Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM, except **holidays**)

In person at local license agents located around the Commonwealth. Licenses are also sold by some clerks of the Circuit Court.

10. Virginia Hunt Week. After a two-year hiatus, Virginia Hunt week is back! The schedule of specific hunts and days is still very tentative, but mark your calendar for October 13-28! Updates will be posted here: <http://www.vahuntweek.org/>

Tentative Schedule:

Saturday, October 13	Deep Run Hunt
Sunday, October 14	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt
Monday, October 15	Keswick Hunt
Tuesday, October 16	Farmington Hunt
Wednesday, October 17	Middlebrook Hounds
Thursday, October 18	Bedford County Hunt
Friday, October 19	Stonewall Hounds
Saturday, October 20	Glenmore Hunt
Sunday, October 21	Rockbridge Hunt
Monday, October 22	Shopping!
Tuesday, October 23	Casanova Hunt
Wednesday, October 24	Rappahannock Hunt
Thursday, October 25	Old Dominion Hounds
Friday, October 26	Bull Run Hunt
Saturday, October 27	Commonwealth Foxhounds
Sunday, October 28	Caroline Hunt

11. Foxhunting Reading Group. The reading group will meet on Wednesday, August 29 to discuss *Thoughts on Hunting* by Peter Beckford. Time and location TBA. Let one of us know if you need to purchase or borrow a copy. If you want to look up what we've read in the past, there is a list: http://foxhuntinglibrary.blogspot.com/p/blog-page_31.html

Cindy, mortonc@wlu.edu

Hugh, brownhh@jmu.edu

Carol, shop@fchase.net

12. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: **Autumn Hunting** and **Cubbing** or **Cubhunting**

Cubhunting – The time spent hunting prior to Opening Meet, usually from mid-September to late October, used primarily to teach the young entry to hunt with the pack. Now referred to as **Autumn Hunting**.

Excerpts from a letter from the Masters of Foxhounds Association:

*“The term "**cubbing**" comes from years back when it was the practice in England (it's never been a practice in the USA or Canada) where English hunts would first start hunting in the fall to concentrate on culling overpopulation of young foxes. Remember, fox are vermin in England. They are not considered as such here. The Countryside Alliance and British MFHA realized this term and practice had to be stopped for many good reasons.”*

*“To hunts in the USA and Canada, "**cubbing**" simply means the start of the season where we begin training young hounds, and conditioning hounds, horses, people and even the quarry as we get in shape. The animals also learn. Hunts go out very early to start. A little longer each day as the season progress until all the animals are in better condition and hunting turns into its formal season. It is important to understand the quarry also learns since early on it is not pressed very hard. They get stronger and wiser as they learn how to evade hounds.”*

*“The term "**cubbing**" is used here and in England despite both MFHA's recommending not to use the term. The reason, simply because it isn't what is done any longer. It was never done in the USA and was stopped in England some time ago. The correct term is "**Autumn Hunting**" which is what it is this time of year as hunts begin their season.”*

Excerpt from *Diary of a Fox-Hunting Man* by Terence Carroll:

*The term **cub-hunting** is slightly misleading, and may give some people the impression that hounds leap on defenseless puppy-like mites. In fact, by the time hunting starts, cubs are well on their way to being fully-grown.”*

13. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar

Saturday, August 18	Work Day at Broadview
Saturday, August 25	Work Day
Wednesday, September 5	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, September 8	*Fall Poker Ride at Broadview (<i>Lauren Keating, organizer</i>)
Wednesday, September 12	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, September 15	*Kick-Off Party at the Tex Tilson Lodge
Sunday, September 16	Volunteers' Hunt at The Hunt, Inc.
Wednesday, September 19	Autumn hunting begins
Sunday, October 7	*Fall Hunter Pace (<i>Sue Charlton & Laura Jarvis organizers</i>)
Sunday, October 21	Rockbridge Hunt hosts Virginia Hunt Week (<i>tentative!</i>)
Saturday, November 3	Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds
Saturday, December 15	Christmas Meet & Party
Tuesday, January 1	New Year's Day Meet
	*Fundraising events

14. Other Hunt-related Dates

Saturday, August 18	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i> – Millington
Sat.-Sun, August 18-19	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Sunday, August 19	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i> – Kennels
Saturday, September 1	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Fox Hill
Sunday, September 2	Warrenton Horse Show <i>Hunt Night</i>
Monday, September 3	Farmington Hunt begins <i>Autumn Hunting</i>
Sat.-Sun, September 15-16	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Sunday, September 23	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> at Maceland, Chatham
October 8-13	Theodora A. Randolph <i>Field Hunter Championships</i>
October 13-28	Virginia Hunt Week
Sunday, November 4	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> at The Cedars, Cifax
Sunday, November 4	Farmington Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> – Durbin's
Sunday, November 18	Glenmore Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i>

15. 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 2018-2019

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Please Support the Sponsors of the Rockbridge Hunt

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Broadview Ranch

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