



## Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound*

February 22, 2018

*“Foxhunting is not a science, it’s an art. If its vagaries could be calculated the fun would be gone. Each time you take hounds to the field, something new turns up. The last chase is never like the preceding one. You may hunt wild foxes in a natural territory for fifty years and upon the last hunt, as upon the first one, the wily Red Ranger may leave you bemuddled.”*

~Mason Houghland, MFH in *Gone Away*

**1. Rockbridge Hunt Ball 2018.** We had a ball at the ball! Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way with this major event! Whether you were on the organizing committee, bought a ticket, brought a friend, made a donation, or bought an item in the silent auction, every contribution made a difference!

Grateful thanks to our small, hard-working hunt ball committee that included:

Organizer: Terry Whitmore

Hotel, Catering, and Band Arrangements: Terry Whitmore, Trish Lyons & Rebecca Tilson

Invitations, Decorations & Slideshow: Hugh Brown

Setup Team: Terry Whitmore, Trish Lyons, Carol Lueder, Lauren Keating, Hugh Brown

Silent Auction: Carol Lueder, Laura Jarvis, Cindy Morton, and Hugh Brown

Website management: Blair Jones and Cindy Morton

While the price of the subscription covers the cost of the dinner, ballroom and band, the Silent Auction is what generates the profit to help feed the hounds and fund the hunt. Very special thanks to our many Silent Auction Donors: Anna Alford, Ardmore Equestrian Center, Blue Ridge Equine Clinic, BRC Stables, Buchanan Livestock Co., Hugh Brown & Joe Manning, Casanova Hunt, Center of Gravity, Margo Clegg, Barb Debevoise, Lu & Ed Dooley, Dover Saddlery, Kathleen Eckert Edgewater Animal Hospital, Kathy Eichelberger, Bob Ermilio & Ermilio Clothiers, The Georges – Lexington, Glenmore Hunt, Louise & Bruce Golian, Liz & Brent Hall, Kathy Hughes, Laura Jarvis, Dan & Jan Jones, Erica & Blair Jones, Ann Layman, Diane Long, Carol Lueder & Fair Chase, Inc., Bill & Barbara Luton, Trish & Charlie Lyons, Valerie & John Mann, Teresa Morris, Kathy & Jeff Munsey, Linda Oberlender, Sue Oliver, Omni Homestead, Beth Pappas, Torben Pederson, Kathy & Gary Ponder, Rappahannock Hunt, Rockbridge Farmer’s Co-op, Rockbridge Hunt, Saddles & Stuff, Cynthia & Terry Secker, Shenandoah Framing, Arran & Rick Siebert, The Southern Inn, Virginia Horse Center Foundation, Joy Watkins, Katie Wick, Susan Wildfong, Lynn & Joe Williams, and Jake Wilson & Jessie Knadler.

Our silent auction was among the most successful in many years. This was due in great part to the tremendously generous donations from Carol Lueder as well as her hard work in soliciting donations from many local businesses. Our sincere thanks to Carol Lueder – Honorary Member *Extraordinaire!*

And very special thanks to the following for financial donations to the ball: Susan Brady & Ben Ostby, Laura & Jerry Grantham, Ann & Allen Layman, Doris & Steve Moses, and Lynn & Raymond Tuckwiller.

**2. Restrictions on Riding at The Hunt, Inc.** Charles and Sharon Peebles own two lots in The Hunt, Inc. The two lots in The Hunt, Inc. are subject to a set of covenants. Among those covenants is the following:

*"The owners of such twenty-acre tracts and of the remaining portion of such original tract shall have an easement to cross or traverse any and all of such twenty-acre tracts for equestrian fox hunting purposes or other horseback riding purposed with the exception of five (5) acres of each tract which the owners there-of may restrict to their own singular use and benefit. This privilege shall extend not only to the owners as aforesaid, but their immediate families and guests."*

Charles has notified us, by providing maps, of the five acres on each lot where equestrian purposes are prohibited. These areas are not marked by a fence or any kind of visual barrier. We are providing links to the two maps. When you open the map, it will probably be helpful to select the button marked Satellite. You can slide the map around and zoom in and out.

As always, if you don't know the property lines and boundaries, please ride with someone who does! This is absolutely essential and a basic courtesy to all of our landowners. If you can't find someone who knows the boundaries, let Cindy or Hugh know and they'll arrange for someone to ride with you. Thank you.

Lot 13

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4aTD08jbUBhQm5mZ1FZakNDWIBkV0c3ZEdwNzZJSHZUUmZB/view?usp=sharing>

Lot 2

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4aTD08jbUBhZDMwdGZEM1IWMXNWWWF1TEQwLVk3WFNpR3VR/view?usp=sharing>

**3. Website Thanks.** Many grateful thanks to Blair Jones who has been donating the cost of the internet service provider and domain name fees for our website for many years. He has also been cheerfully managing and updating the website as well. Thank you so much Blair!!

**4. Sedgefield Cup 2018.** The dates have been set for the 2018 renewal of the Carolinas Foxhound Performance Trial – The Sedgefield Cup – March 30-April 1. We plan to enter hounds in the event and a number of Rockbridge Hunt members are planning to ride or car follow again this year. If you'd like to join us, contact Hugh Brown or Cindy Morton for a copy of the registration form and schedule. Mark your calendar now for an exciting weekend of foxhunting and fellowship in North Carolina!

**5. Foxhunting Reading Group.** The next meeting of the Reading Group will be Thursday, February 22 at the home of Carol Lueder. The discussion will start at 7:00 PM. If you'd like to join us for dinner beforehand, we'll start that around 6:15 PM. We are currently reading *Gone Away* by Mason Houghland. Copies of the book are circulating among the Reading Group members. Please contact Cindy Morton, Hugh Brown, or Carol Lueder if you would like to borrow or purchase a copy. We are going to be reading Michael Sinclair-Smith's *Lure of the Chase* in March.

**6. Rockbridge Hunt Lending Library.** Looking for something to do when it's cold outside? How about reading about hunting? Our lending library at the Tex Tison Lodge has grown and there are some terrific books to be borrowed. Anyone is welcome to check out books from the library and there is a sign-out book located on the shelf. Included so far in the library are copies of many of the books read by the Reading Group, a whole collection of Dick Francis racing thrillers, and a number of other books about horses and riding. Happy reading!

**7. Educational Bits** – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: Couple & Brace

**Couple** – Two hounds. Hounds are always counted in couples, i.e. eleven hounds equal five and a half couple. Tradition has it that the extra half couple (hound) is the one who finds the fox.

**Brace** – When counting foxes, two equal a brace and three equal a leash.

*“A little at one side, kept well together by the huntsman and a couple of whippers-in were the hounds (the Atherstone pack), about forty of them, or, technically, "twenty couples," strong-limbed, large-eared, party-colored, wholesome looking fellows. They attracted much attention and elicited frequent commendation, for they were said to be the very finest pack in England, -- as was also each of the three other packs that I saw. To the unskilled eye, and simply viewed as dogs, they were not remarkable; but it was a case in which the judgement of an unskilled person could have no value.”*

Excerpt from "Fox-hunting in England" in *Whip and Spur* by George E. Waring

## 8. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar

Saturday, March 24	Closing Meet, 2:30 PM, dinner to follow the hunt, bring something for the grill
Fri Mar 30-Sun April	Carolina Foxhound Performance Trial, “The Sedgefield Cup”
Wednesday, April 4	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Wednesday, April 18	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, May 5	*Derby-Day Hunter Pace (Kathy Eichelberger & Arran Siebert organizers)
Wednesday, May 9	Rockbridge Hunt Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 12	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Wednesday, May 23	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Sunday, May 27	Glenmore Hunt & Rockbridge Hunt Joint Reception at the Virginia Foxhound Show, Morven Park, Leesburg
Saturday, June 2	*Judged Pleasure Ride (Lynn Williams organizer)
Wednesday, June 13	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, July 14	*Summer Poker Ride
Wednesday, July 18	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, July 28	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, August 4	*Gymnastics Clinic with Diane Long
Wednesday, August 8	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, August 11	Work Day at The Hunt, Inc.
Wednesday, August 15	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, August 18	Work Day at Broadview
Saturday, August 25	Work Day at Broadview
Wednesday, September 5	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, September 8	*Fall Poker Ride
Wednesday, September 12	Rockbridge Hunt Trail Ride
Saturday, September 15	*Kick-Off Party at the Tex Tison Lodge

Sunday, September 16	Volunteers' Hunt at The Hunt, Inc.
Wednesday, September 19	Autumn hunting begins
Sunday, October 7	*Fall Hunter Pace (Sue Charlton & Laura Jarvis organizers)
Saturday, November 3	Opening Meet
Saturday, December 15	Christmas Meet & Party
Tuesday, January 1	New Year's Day Meet
	*Fundraising events

## 9. Other Hunt-related Dates

Sunday, March 11	Farmington Hunt <i>Horse Trials, Dressage Show &amp; Combined Test</i>
Saturday, March 17	Glenmore Hunt <i>Closing Meet</i>
Sun March 18-Sat March 24	Bull Run Hunt <i>March Madness</i>
Saturday, March 24	Bull Run Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Saturday, March 31	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Fri Mar 30-Sun April 1	Carolina <i>Foxhound Performance Trial</i> , "The Sedgefield Cup"
Saturday, April 7	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Trials – Fox Ridge</i>
Saturday, April 7	Glenmore Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Saturday, April 14	Glenmore Hunt <i>Spring Hunter Pace</i>
Sat.-Sun, April 21-22	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Fri April 27-Sun April 29	Bull Run Hunt <i>Weekend Camping Trailride</i>
Sunday, April 29	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> at Sweet Briar College
Sunday, April 29	Farmington Hunt <i>Jumper Derby – Durbin's</i>
Sat.-Sun, May 19-20	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Sunday, May 20	Farmington Hunt <i>Puppy Show – Kennels</i> (tentative)
Saturday, June 9	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Pace – Mint Meadows</i>
Friday, June 15	Farmington Hunt <i>Evening Gymkhana &amp; Social – Millington</i>
Saturday, June 16	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> at Oldenacres, Goode
Sat.-Sun, June 16-17	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Fri. June 22-Sun. June 24	MFHA Staff Seminar, Mount Vernon/Alexandria
Friday, July 13	Farmington Hunt <i>Fun Hunter Show and Evening Gymkhana – Millington</i>
Saturday, July 21	Farmington Hunt <i>Poker Run – Location TBD</i>
Sat.-Sun, July 21-22	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Saturday, August 4	Farmington Hunt <i>Jumper/Dressage Show – Millington</i>
Saturday, August 12	Farmington Hunt <i>De-Spooking Day – Toad Hollow</i>
Saturday, August 18	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic – Millington</i>
Sat.-Sun, August 18-19	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Sunday, August 19	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic – Kennels</i>
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>
Sunday, November 4	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> at The Cedars, Cifax
Sunday, November 4	Farmington Hunt <i>Fall Hunter Pace – Durbin's</i>

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

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