



Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* August 13, 2019

*“If some animals are good at hunting and others are suitable for hunting,
then the Gods must clearly smile on hunting.”*

– Aristotle

1. Judged Pleasure Ride! Saturday, July 27. Thank you to everyone who helped with our third annual judged pleasure ride. These judged rides are getting more and more popular, so this event looks like a keeper. Special thanks to Susan Richardson for designing the course and putting together the obstacles and judges' protocols. Thank you to Susan and Bob Richardson for hours of work on the trails – clearing and marking the course. And special thanks to Liz Hall for coordinating the lunch, prizes, and advertising and for working with Glenmore Hunt on creating a new judged ride series. We hope to include a couple more events like ours in the series next year.

The hard-working crew included:

Coordinator and Course Design: Susan Richardson

Course clearing and marking: Bob & Susan Richardson

Advertising: Liz Hall & Hugh Brown

Registration & Welcome: Hugh Brown & Cindy Morton

Start/Finish: Lu Dooley

Obstacle Judges: Kathy Eichelberger, Louise Golian, Lauren Keating, Trish Lyons, Valerie Mann, and Susan Richardson

Food: Liz Hall, Hugh Brown, Lu Dooley, Kathy Eichelberger, Liz 7 Abby Hylton, Wendy Kagey, Lauren Keating, and Valerie Mann. There may have been more food donations – Thank you all!

2. Gymnastics Clinic with Diane Long! We have another special event coming up this week – **Saturday, August 17.** Diane Long has graciously agreed to conduct a gymnastics jumping clinic in the riding ring at The Hunt, Inc. Diane has been starting horses for 40 years. She galloped racehorses and earned her certificate to teach from 4 Seasons Farm where she coached and trained. She has been a Rockbridge Hunt member for 30 years and has introduced countless horses and riders to the joys of jumping and foxhunting. All jumping disciplines are welcome. The clinic will be organized in groups of four by skill level – 18''–2', 2'–2' 6'', 2'6'' –3', and 3'+. Entry fee is \$40 per horse/rider. For more details contact Liz Hall at ehhall1229@yahoo.com, 434-760-3784. Rain date: Sunday, August 18.

3. Work Days! We've had two very productive work sessions at Broadview so far this month! Thank you to our volunteers for coming out to free our trails from unbelievable amounts of blockage.

Saturday, August 3: Bob & Susan Richardson, Valerie Mann, Diane Long, Kathy Eichelberger, and Hugh Brown

Saturday, August 10: Bob & Susan Richardson, Duane Hylton, Diane Long, Kathy Munsey, and Hugh Brown

Our next trail clearing date is Saturday, August 24. Location TBA. You *know* you want to be a part of the trail clearing effort! We have a special Volunteers' Hunt scheduled for Sunday, September 15 for those who come out to help with the clearing this summer! 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. You really can make a major difference!

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!

4. Kick-off Party. The Executive Committee is busy making plans for our annual party to kick off the hunting season on **Saturday, September 14**, 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 foxhounds! We have a number of new hounds this season--come and meet them. 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!

5. 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 14. 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!

6. 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 7	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Sunday, October 6	Rockbridge Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	rockbridgehunt.org
Sunday, November 17	Glenmore Hunt Fall Hunter Pace	glenmorehunt.org

7. 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.

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. Save the Date! Rockbridge Hunt Ball – Saturday, February 8, 2020, Natural Bridge Hotel. The coordinators of the Rockbridge Hunt Ball are already hard at work. They have selected a date, location, and secured the band! They also have designs on a special new theme with a more relaxed dress code, and a reduced ticket price. Watch this space for more details! It’s going to be a blast!

10. Foxhunting Reading Group. The next meeting of the Foxhunting Reading Group will be on Tuesday, August 27. We'll be discussing *The Fox's Prophecy* by D.W. Nash with commentary by R.W.F. Poole. If you'd like to borrow a copy, let one of us know. Everyone is welcome!

~Cindy, mortonc@wlu.edu and Hugh, brownhh@jmu.edu

11. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee

Earth – Any place a fox goes to ground for protection.

"Best get off now, sir, 'tis a dreadful place for a tired horse."

*When I did so I went to my knees. My legs seemed to be made of cotton-wool, and my feet to have no connection with the rest of me. I was not quite sure where I was putting them and I staggered along drunkenly. Away in front, abruptly, the voices died. Then they clamoured again, but singly, brokenly, mournfully, informing us of frustration and a thirst unassauged. Old George's horn told us the same and round the spine of the ridge we came upon them, a little above us, milling and crying around the great **earth** in the rocks, the grey horse standing amongst them, his head drooping at last, and old George's face glowing like a lantern through the deepening dusk.*

Excerpt from *A Long Way to Go* by Marigold Armitage

12. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your Calendar

Saturday, August 17	*Jumping Clinic with Diane Long at The Hunt, Inc.
Saturday, August 24	Work Day
Saturday, August 31	Work Day
Saturday, September 14	Kick-Off Party at the Tex Tilson Lodge
Sunday, September 15	Volunteers' Hunt
Wednesday, September 18	Autumn Hunting Begins!
Sunday, October 6	*Fall Hunter Pace at The Hunt, Inc. - <i>Hunter Pace Series!</i>
Saturday, October 26	Joint Meet at Glenmore Hunt's Opening Meet
Saturday, November 2	Rockbridge Hunt Opening Meet & Joint Meet with the Glenmore Hunt
Saturday, November 16	Rockbridge Holiday Craft Show, Virginia Horse Center
Saturday, February 8, 2020	*Rockbridge Hunt Ball at the Natural Bridge Hotel

13. Other Hunt-related Dates

Sat August 17-Sun Aug 18	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i> https://www.facebook.com/MiddlebrookHoundsHuntClub/
Saturday, August 17	Bull Run Hunt <i>Hunter Show</i> , Orange County Fairgrounds www.bullrunhuntclub.com
Sunday, August 25	Farmington Hunt <i>Jumper Show</i> at Durbin's www.farmingtonhunt.org
Sunday, September 1	<i>Hunt Night</i> at the Warrenton Horse Show warrentonhorseshow.com
Tuesday, September 3	Bull Run Hunt begins Autumn Hunting www.bullrunhuntclub.com
Saturday, September 7	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace - Hunter Pace Series!</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Saturday, September 7	Glenmore Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i> glenmorehunt.org
Saturday, September 21	Glenmore Hunt begins Autumn Hunting glenmorehunt.org
Sunday, September 22	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> Maceland, Chatham VA, rain date 9/29 www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Sunday, September 22	Bull Run Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Highlands www.bullrunhuntclub.com
Saturday, October 19	Bull Run Hunt Opening Meet, Locust Hill Stables www.bullrunhuntclub.com
Saturday, October 26	Glenmore Hunt <i>Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds</i> glenmorehunt.org
Sunday, November 3	Farmington Hunt <i>Fall Hunter Pace</i> www.farmingtonhunt.org
Sunday, November 17	Glenmore Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace - Hunter Pace Series!</i> glenmorehunt.org

14. 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
2019-2020**

Lauren Keating, President

H 540-463-5574
keatadvn@gmail.com

Cindy Morton, MFH

W 540-458-8109, M 540-570-0770
mortonc@wlu.edu

Hugh Brown, MFH

H 540-886-6359, W 540-568-3501
brownhh@jmu.edu

Louise Golian, Treasurer

C 540-460-2628, H 540-377-9409
Louisegolian@gmail.com

Valerie Mann, Hon. Secretary

540-580-6614
valeriemann1229@gmail.com

Laura Arnold, Steward, 2019-2021

(H) 540-725-3656 (Cell) 540-815-0325
vinluke@cox.net

Susan Richardson, Steward 2019-2021

804-212-6194
ten9tilson@yahoo.com

Liz Hall, Steward 2019-2023

434-760-3784
ehhall1229@yahoo.com

Diane Long, Steward 2019-2023

540-473-3151
dglongacres@yahoo.com

Please Support the Sponsors of the Rockbridge Hunt

Blue Ridge Equine

Valley Division, 55 Mint Spring Circle
Staunton, VA 24401
(540) 460-5702
<http://www.blueridgeequine.com/>

Broadview Ranch

1397 Zollman's Mill Rd., Lexington, VA 24450

540-458-1001

<http://www.broadviewranch.com> store@broadviewranch.com

Dover Saddlery

484 Maury River Road, Lexington, VA 24450

540-462-3820

<http://www.doversaddlery.com> lexington@doversaddlery.com

Grey Horse Saddlery

Ms Mary Ann Jacobsen

8705B North Pacific Court

Middletown, MD 21769

301-3-5-2832

greyhorsesaddlery@gmail.com www.greyhorsesaddlery.com

Ms Carol Lueder & Fair Chase, Inc.

407 Kyloe Road, Southern Pines, NC 28387

540-460-5302

<http://fchase.net> shop@fchase.net

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

Trish's Designs

Equestrian Jewelry by Trish Lyons

25 Skyview Lane

Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473

540-348-1073

Taw0106@yahoo.com

Virginia Gold Orchard

100 Asian Pear Way, Natural Bridge, VA 24578

540-291-1481, M 540-354-2348