



Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* December 12, 2019

“The attraction of hunting is that it acts on the mind like a poultice on a sore.”
Leon Trotsky

1. Christmas Meet & Party! We’re planning to start the winter holiday season with our traditional Christmas Meet following by a dinner party this Saturday, December 14. The hounds will meet at 11:00AM and the party will follow the hunt at the Tex Tilson Lodge. If hunting is canceled (the weather has been awful!), we will go ahead with the festivities at 1:00pm with the meal served at 1:30pm. Please contact our very gracious coordinator Valerie Mann if you can help with the meal. Please make reservations with Hugh for the event.

2. Boxing Day Meet & Potluck. We plan to go ahead with our Boxing Day Meet on Thursday, December 26 at The Hunt, Inc. This mid-week meet is currently scheduled for 2:30PM and we will follow the hunt with a potluck breakfast.

3. New Year’s Meet Our New Year’s Meet will be on Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at 11:00 AM at The Hunt, Inc. Erica & Blair Jones have graciously offered to coordinate our hunt breakfast that day. If you can help with food, setup or cleanup, please contact Erica at 540 544 7359 or emjones@vt.edu.

4. Holiday Craft Show Thanks. Extra special thanks are due to Trish Lyons for masterminding and doing the bulk of the work for our new event, the Holiday Craft Show on Saturday, November 16 at the Virginia Horse Center. We had at least 365 visitors that day and around 20 vendors. We cleared around \$1,100 on the event and that really helps the budget! The event was such a success, we are planning to bring it back in 2020!

Thank you to everyone who had a part in the event, especially our organizing crew:

Organizers:	Trish Lyons, Sarah Edwards, Terry Whitmore
Thursday/Friday set up:	Jake Wilson, Charlie Lyons.
Saturday morning crew:	Cindy Morton, Louise Golian, Lu Dooley, Lauren Keating, Hugh Brown, Liz Hall, Kathy Munsey, Hillery Lester, Laura Arnold, Gabriella Jones.
Saturday afternoon crew:	Lauren Keating, Hugh Brown, Cindy Morton, Liz Hall, Hillery Lester, Gabriella Jones, Felicia Mays, Diane Long, John Elkins, Rick Ambacher, Will Whitmore, Jack Reeves, Brad and Maureen Bennet, and other helpful vendors.

5. Hunter Pace Series. Congratulations to Kathy Eichelberger and Liz Hall for winning the 2019 Hunter Pace Series! This was the second year of our collaboration with the Glenmore Hunt and the Oak Ridge Fox Hunt for the pace series. We all think that the series improved attendance, so we’ve signed on for 2020! Watch for details early next year!

6. Foxhunting Reading Group. The next meeting of the Foxhunting Reading Group will be on Tuesday, January 14. We'll be continuing our discussion on a variety of books on foxhunting in Ireland. 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

7. Rockbridge Hunt Ball. Save the Date! 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. We're starting to look for items for our silent auction, so think about what you could donate or solicit. Thank you!

8. Sedgefield Cup 2020. The dates have been set for the 2020 renewal of the Carolinas Foxhound Performance Trial – The Sedgefield Cup – March 27-29. A number of Rockbridge Hunt members are planning to participate again this year. Registration forms and the full schedule will be available soon. Mark your calendar now for an exciting weekend of foxhunting and fellowship in North Carolina!

9. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your Calendar

Saturday, December 14	Christmas Meet & Party , The Hunt, Inc. Meet at 11:00 AM
Thursday, December 26	Boxing Day Meet & Potluck , The Hunt, Inc. Meet at 2:30 PM
Wednesday, January 1, 2020	New Year's Meet & Hunt Breakfast , The Hunt, Inc. Meet at 11:00 AM
Saturday, February 8, 2020	*Rockbridge Hunt Ball at the Natural Bridge Hotel

10. Other Hunt-related Dates

Fri. March 27-Sun. Mar. 29 Carolinas Foxhound Performance Trial, "The Sedgefield Cup" Hoffman, NC

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
2019-2020**

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