



Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* January 29, 2019

“Personally, I'd rather have a run a little slow so that I could see a bit of hounds and their work, that lasted an hour or two, than a very fast twenty minutes, when practically one's whole attention had to be devoted to navigating a stiff country. There's plenty who would not agree with me here, I know, but what a blessing we don't all think alike.”

-J. Stanley Reeve, *Radnor Reminiscences*

1. Soup-er Bowl Potluck! We are scheduled to hunt at The Hunt, Inc. on **Saturday, February 9**. We have a potluck on the Fixture Card for that day. So, we'd like to make that our Soup-er Bowl party and encourage members (riding and non-riding) to bring soup to share (chili and stew included!)—preferably something in a crockpot so it will stay warm and be ready to eat without chaining someone to the stove. We'll have bowls and spoons. We can all share a fun meal and our favorite winter-warming recipes. (Be prepared! People WILL ask for your recipe!) If we have to cancel hunting on February 9, we'll go ahead and have Soup-er Bowl Potluck at 1:00 PM. We hope to see you there!

2. Rockbridge Hunt Ball 2019. Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the Natural Bridge Hotel. Music by the ever-popular Sound Express/Legacy. You won't want to miss this great party! Terry Whitmore and Trish Lyons are coordinating the ball this year and they are looking for help. Please contact Terry if you are willing to help in any way (ststable@yahoo.com, 540-460-3052). Invitations have been mailed. If there is someone you'd like to receive an invitation, contact Hugh Brown (brownhh@jmu.edu). Thank you!

Natural Bridge Hotel. The hotel has 14 rooms reserved at \$69 each for the night of the ball. They will hold that block of rooms until February 9. They will still honor the \$69 room rate after that date if rooms are available. Call 540-291-2121 to reserve a room and mention the Rockbridge Hunt Ball.

Silent Auction. Besides a great dinner and music, we'll have the very important fundraising aspect of the ball – the silent auction, so please start thinking about things you would be willing to donate or items you would be willing to solicit for the auction. If you have items to donate, please contact Carol Lueder, Hugh Brown, Terry Whitmore or Trish Lyons. The sooner we have your items, the easier it is to get them catalogued and bid sheets prepared. Cindy Morton has been working on a web preview of the auction. Go to the Rockbridge Hunt website and click on the Events Tab in the column on the left side. Check back for regular updates!

Not sure how to help? Here are some ideas for silent auction donations:

Making things – canning/cooking/baking, carpentry, sewing/crafting

Doing things – Build or paint, pet sitting, photograph, be a handyman. You'd be surprised how many people have things they want done or have planned to do, but life gets in the way.

Teaching things – Riding lessons, guitar/piano lessons, sports lessons (golf, tennis, etc.), exercise classes.

Bringing things – Compost (manure) for a garden, wood for fireplace/woodstove, maybe you have a wonderful garden of flowers and could provide a nice arrangement monthly for a year.

Lending/Sharing things – Have a vacation home? a trail ride on your land or someone you know with a picnic after, tickets to a sports or entertainment event.

Planning something – A private dinner at your home, or make it a cooking class with a meal after, this could be a fun package to plan with a few other members.

Ask for something – Is there a shop or restaurant you frequent and enjoy? Would they donate an item or a gift certificate? How about lessons from someone you've learned from? How about a B&B or inn?

3. Work, work, work! You may or may not be aware that we have brand new tenants in the Huntsman's House this winter. When our previous tenants let us know they were moving away, we decided to take the opportunity to do some major work on the house to improve its overall condition. Lauren Keating spearheaded this effort with lots of help from Louise Golian and many of the Executive Committee members. Here is a list of the recent improvements:

- Replaced water pressure tank
- Replaced interior door handles
- Sanded and painted master bath cabinets
- Repaired the door to the deck
- Repaired kitchen cabinet drawer
- Replaced track lighting in upstairs hall
- Hall bathroom: repaired towel rod, painted cabinets, cleaned light fixture
- Painted basement and repaired ceiling and wall
- Removed junk from furnace room, replaced filter
- Repaired outside spigot

Our new tenant is also doing some work on the house for us! His list includes:

- Replacing the screens for front and back door, as well as one of the bedroom windows
- Fixing the kitchen drawer
- Installing a carbon monoxide detector
- Installing another smoke detector, on outside of kitchen door
- Making doors kid-proof inside with latches
- Adding various outside lights

We have more work to do on the house in the spring including replacing the deck. The rent from the Huntsman's House is an incredibly important source of income for the Hunt, so we need to take care of it. Thank you to everyone who helped with the work! We'll be looking for more help in the spring!

4. Foxhunting Reading Group. The Foxhunting Reading Group is scheduled to meet again on Monday, February 18 at 7:00 PM to discuss this month's selection: *The High Mettled Racer* by Ernest Lewis. We have several copies circulating if you'd like to borrow one. Location TBA. For questions about the Reading Group, please contact Cindy Morton, mortonc@wlu.edu or Hugh Brown, brownhh@jmu.edu.

5. Wall Calendars. Louise Golian has produced yet another gorgeous Rockbridge Hunt wall calendar for 2019. They are \$20 each. She will have copies at upcoming events and there are copies at the Tex Tilson Lodge. Thank you Louise!

6. Rockbridge Hunt Lending Library. Looking for something to do when it's freezing cold outside and we can't hunt? How about reading about foxhunting? 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. Sedgefield Cup 2019. The dates have been set for the 2019 renewal of the Carolinas Foxhound Performance Trial – The Sedgefield Cup – March 29-31. A number of Rockbridge Hunt members are planning to participate 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!

8. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: **At Fault**

Hounds are said to be *at fault* when they are unable to find the scent of the quarry they've been pursuing.

*“They were **at fault** in some cattle-stain where a farmyard ran down to meet a straggling, untidy-looking fence. The huntsman sat his steaming horse, allowing them to cast themselves.”*

Excerpt from *Red Coats Galloping* by John Welcome

9. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your calendar

Saturday, February 9	Soup-er Bowl Party, Tex Tison Lodge, following the hunt
Saturday, February 23	*Rockbridge Hunt Ball, Natural Bridge Hotel
Wednesday, May 8	Rockbridge Hunt Annual Meeting, Tex Tison Lodge, 7:00 PM
	*Fundraising events

10. Other Hunt-related Dates

Saturday, March 2	Farmington Hunt <i>Ball</i> , Boar's Head Inn, Charlottesville www.farmingtonhunt.org
Saturday, March 2	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Ball</i> , Stonewall Jackson Hotel, Staunton www.facebook.com/MiddlebrookHoundsHuntClub
Saturday, March 9	Glenmore Hunt <i>Ball</i> www.glenmorehunt.org
Sunday, March 10	Blue Ridge Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Trelawny Farm, Berryville www.BlueRidgeHunt.org
Saturday, March 16	Warrenton Hunt <i>Point to Point</i> , Airlie Race Course www.warrentonhunt.com
Saturday, March 23	Piedmont Fox Hounds <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Salem Course, Upperville
Saturday, March 23	Piedmont Fox Hounds <i>Point to Point</i> , Salem Course, Upperville
Sun. March 24-Sat. Mar 30	Bull Run Hunt <i>March Madness</i> www.bullrunhuntclub.com
Fri. Mar 29-Sun Mar 31	Carolinas <i>Foxhound Performance Trials</i> “The Sedgefield Cup” www.sedgefieldhunt.com
Saturday, March 30	Bull Run Hunt <i>Ball</i> www.bullrunhuntclub.com

Saturday, March 30	Orange County Hounds <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Middleburg
Sunday, March 31	Orange County Hounds <i>Point to Point</i> , Middleburg
Saturday, April 6	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Club <i>Judged Pleasure Ride</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Saturday, April 6	Bedford County Hunt <i>Ball</i> www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Saturday, April 6	Old Dominion Hounds <i>Point to Point</i> , Ben Venue olddominionhounds.weebly.com
Sunday, April 7	Old Dominion Hounds <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Ben Venue olddominionhounds.weebly.com
Saturday, April 13	Glenmore Hunt Spring <i>Hunter Pace</i> www.glenmorehunt.org
Saturday, April 13	Rappahannock Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Greenwood Farm, Washington www.rappahannockhunt.com
Sunday, April 14	Loudoun Hunt <i>Point to Point</i> , Oatlands Plantation, Leesburg www.loudounhunt.com/point-to-point-races.html
Saturday, April 20	Warrenton Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Clovercroft/Millpoint Farm www.warrentonhunt.com
Saturday, April 20	Middleburg Spring <i>Races</i> , Glenwood Park, Middleburg www.middleburgspringraces.com
Sunday, April 21	Blue Ridge Hunt <i>Point to Point</i> , Woodley Farm, Berryville www.blueridgehunt.org
Saturday, April 27	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Sweet Briar College, no rain date www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Saturday, April 27	Loudoun Fairfax Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> , Philomont www.loudounfairfaxhunt.com
Saturday, April 27	Foxfield Spring <i>Races</i> , Charlottesville www.foxfieldraces.com
Sunday, April 28	Middleburg Hunt <i>Point to Point</i> , Glenwood Park, Middleburg www.middleburghunt.com/
Saturday, May 4	Virginia Gold Cup <i>Races</i> , Great Meadow, The Plains www.vagoldcup.com
Saturday, May 18	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Spring <i>Hunter Pace</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Saturday, June 15	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> Oldenacres, Goode, rain date June 22 www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/
Saturday, June 15	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Poker Ride</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Saturday, August 10	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Hunting Clinic</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Saturday, September 7	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> oakridgefoxhuntclub.com
Sunday, September 22	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i> Maceland, Chatham VA, rain date 9/29 www.bedfordcountyhunt.com/

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.

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2018-2019**

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