



Rockbridge Hunt NewsHound

July 28, 2020

“The first draw was Marsh's wood, below Bromall, where as usual the fox was viewed away over the meadows. Hounds opened to the line beautifully, carrying it on across the brook and over the road into Mullin's farm, where scent was very catchy, hounds working well, but slowly, on down Mullin's meadow into his wood, where instead of turning left-handed as usual, they went on through the wood and across the road into the State Farm, and on across the new cemetery property to a field north of the Eagle road, where scent failed completely. After a couple of casts, hounds were taken back into the Butler Farm, drawing the Leedom Mills Wood and on through to Moore's, and into Wild's wood.”

J. Stanley Reeve, *Radnor Reminiscences*

1. Judged Trail Ride. Our first fundraising ride of the new season was a huge success! We had 34 riders participate and everyone seemed to have a great time with the challenges and with the trail ride that followed. Very special thanks to our team of volunteers who put the event together for us:

Event Coordination and Online Registration: Liz Hall
 Obstacle Design & Course Preparation: Susan Richardson and Bob Richardson
 Judges: Susan Richardson and Bob Richardson
 Trail design and marking: Cindy Morton, Terry Whitmore, Lauren Keating
 Greeting & Parking: Cindy Morton
 Start/Finish: Hugh Brown
 Score Tally: Liz Hall

Results

Name	Horse	Division	Adult/Jr	Place	TOTAL
Jane Eckes	Brandie Bay Storm	Experienced	Adult	1	47
Liz Hall	Indelible	Experienced	Adult	2T	45
McKenzie Burch	Dandy	Experienced	Junior	2T	45
Libby Puchalla	Shenandoah	Experienced	Junior	3	42
Brooks Cushman	The Irish	Experienced	Adult	4	41
Wendy Orrison	JD's Harley Girl	Experienced	Adult	5	39
Anna Vest	Fox	Experienced	Junior	6	38
Mary Shriver	Dodge	Novice	Adult	1	50
Valerie Mann	Ginny	Novice	Adult	2	46
Tanner Price	Charitable Storme	Novice	Adult	3T	43
Waverly McDavid	Heidi	Novice	Junior	3T	43
Cora Martin	One White Rose	Novice	Junior	4	41
Mary Lee McDavid	Paris	Novice	Adult	5	40
David Robertson	King	Novice	Adult	6T	39
MJ Bowman	Sonata	Novice	Adult	6T	39

2. Gymnastics Clinic with Diane Long! We have another special event coming up soon – **Saturday, August 15**. 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 \$50 per horse/rider. For more details contact Liz Hall at ehhall1229@yahoo.com, 434-760-3784. Rain date: Sunday, August 16.

3. Work Days! It’s that time of year again! Our first work day is scheduled for **Saturday, August 8**. We plan to have additional work days on August 22, 29, and September 12. Please plan to help as much as you can. We have the usual summer jungle to tame in our hunting country, so it’s all hands on deck!

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!

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 or Hugh if you want to schedule an alternate work party.

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. No Virginia Hunt Week in 2020. One casualty of the COVID-19 disruption is Virginia Hunt Week 2020. While we are very disappointed not to be holding the popular event this year, we are postponing it to 2021 out of an abundance of caution. We are hoping to participate in an expanded renewal of the 4-Hunt Weekend we’ve done in alternating years with Virginia Hunt Week. This year, we are tentatively scheduled to host the **Central Virginia 5 Hunt Weekend** on Sunday, October 18 at Bolen. We will have the full schedule and details available soon for the other meets of the weekend of October 15-19 as we hunt with our friends in the Bedford County Hunt, Glenmore Hunt, Oak Ridge Fox Hunt, and Stonewall Hounds. Note – all of these meets will be held without food or drink being provided or shared. More caution!

5. No Kick-off Party. Yet another cancelation for 2020. The Executive Committee has decided that in the interest of safety for all, we will not have our traditional Kick-Off Party at the Tex Tilson Lodge in September. Here’s hoping that we can resume our traditions in 2021!

6. Hound Sponsorship. We traditionally focus a lot of our Kick-Off Party energy on our hound sponsorship program. Our hounds still need sponsors even though we won’t be gathering together to celebrate this year. 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. 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. Important Reminders: Insurance, waivers, and helmets! The new year has started for us – so that means *new waivers are needed for everyone*. For insurance purposes, it is *critical* that any member or guest riding at The Hunt, Inc. have a signed waiver on file. There is a box with new 2020-21 waivers on the mounting block in The Hunt, Inc. parking lot and another on the hunt barn. You can leave your signed waiver in the box and I will pick them up. If you prefer, you can print it out from the website and mail it to me or scan it and email it to me. (Hugh)

<http://rockbridgehunt.org/archive/2020/2021Waiver.pdf>

Thank you to everyone who has already filled out a new waiver!

We also *strongly encourage* everyone to wear approved helmets when riding.

8. Hunter Paces! The popular Hunter Pace Series with Oak Ridge and Glenmore hunts is back! Several of the events have been rescheduled due to the coronavirus shutdown. These events are either encouraging or requiring advance online registration, so be sure to check their websites carefully for details. The current schedule is:

Saturday, September 12	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> https://oakridgefoxhuntclub.com/
Sunday, September 27	Rockbridge Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> http://rockbridgehunt.org
Sunday, November 15	Glenmore Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> https://www.glenmorehunt.org/

9. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee . Hunting Terminology – **Drawing**

Drawing – 1) Looking for a fox in a covert. 2) Separating one hound from the rest of the pack.

*This covert was blank, and they soon moved on across country to the next. Billy jumped several fences without mishap, and some of the nervousness which had possessed him began to disappear. The next covert was also blank, and it was a long hack to their third **draw**.*

"Hope it's not going to be a blank day for your first shot, young feller-me-lad," Jig said as they jogged along. "It doesn't look too good."

Excerpt from *Mr. Merston's Money* by John Welcome

10. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your Calendar

Saturday, August 8	Work Day!
Saturday, August 15	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Jumping Clinic</i> with Diane Long, The Hunt, Inc.
Saturday, August 22	Work Day!
Saturday, August 29	Work Day!
Saturday, September 12	Work Day!
Wednesday, September 16	Hunting begins! First day of Autumn Hunting
Sunday, September 27	Rockbridge Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> <i>Hunter Pace Series</i>
Sunday, October 18	Rockbridge Hunt hosts Central Virginia 5 Hunt Weekend (tentative)
Saturday, November 7	Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds, Broadview (tentative)

11. Other Hunt-related Dates

Saturday, August 1	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Poker Ride</i>
Saturday, August 8	Bedford Co. Hunt <i>Hunter Pace & Judged Trail Ride</i> <i>Judged Trail Ride Series</i>
Saturday, August 8	Keswick Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, August 15	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Jumping Clinic</i> with Diane Long
Sat & Sun Aug. 15 & 16	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace Weekend</i>
Saturday, August 15	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic with Lynne Lloyd</i>
Sat & Sun, August 29 & 30	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i>
Saturday, September 12	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> <i>Hunter Pace Series</i>
Sat & Sun Sept. 19 & 20	Middlebrook Hounds <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Sunday, September 20	Bedford County Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> at Sweet Briar
Saturday, September 26	Bull Run Hunt <i>Ball</i> at the Pavilion on Lakeland Farm
Sunday, September 27	Rockbridge Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> <i>Hunter Pace Series</i>
Sunday, September 27	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Trials</i>
Mon-Sat, October 5-10	Theodora A. Randolph <i>Field Hunter Championship</i> Middleburg
October 15-19	Central Virginia 5 Hunt Weekend
Sunday, October 18	Virginia <i>Field Hunter Championship</i> , hosted by Bull Run Hunt
Saturday, October 24	Farmington Hunt <i>Fall Horse Show</i>
Saturday, October 24	Glenmore Hunt <i>Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds</i>
Sunday, November 1	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Opening Meet</i> at Oak Ridge Estate
Sunday, November 8	Farmington Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, November 14	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Turkey Trot</i>
Sunday, November 15	Glenmore Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i> <i>Hunter Pace Series</i>

12. 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 2020-2021

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Please Support the Sponsors of the Rockbridge Hunt

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