



Rockbridge Hunt *NewsHound* March 29, 2022

“Country things are the necessary root of our life – and that remains true even of a rootless and tragically urban civilization. To live permanently away from the country is a form of slow death.”

- Esther Meynell

1. Closing Meet. Our hunting season officially came to a close on Saturday, March 26. After a cold and breezy hunt, we were rewarded with a fantastic traditional Rockbridge Hunt breakfast in the Tex Tilson Lodge! It’s been two years since we used the lodge for social occasions and it was so great to be back together in our beloved hunt lodge. Huge thanks to Hillery and Matthew Lester who coordinated the breakfast. They cleaned the lodge, repaired the grill, lit fires in the grill and the lodge fireplace, and decorated the lodge for spring. Thanks also to Lauren Keating for post-event lodge cleanup! Thank you to everyone who brought food to share. It was a wonderful end to the hunting season. Very special thanks to our staff in the field – David Conner, Cindy Morton MFH, Katharine Conner, Susan Conner, Bob Richardson, Rebecca Tilson Thacker, and Jake Wilson and our road whips Nancy Conner and Joe Conner for another great hunting season!

2. Annual Meeting! Please mark your calendar for Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00 PM, Tex Tilson Lodge at The Hunt, Inc. We will be electing new officers for the year ahead, voting on the proposed budget for the 2022-23 year, and attending to other matters important to our organization. The nominating committee – Terry Whitmore, Lu Dooley and Bob Richardson – are busy putting together a slate of candidates for the officer positions. Members whose dues have been paid in full by the time of the meeting are eligible to vote. Each single hunting membership, each family membership, and each landowner membership has one vote. In order for the Hunt to conduct business, there must be a quorum at the meeting of 20 members present. Family and landowner memberships may have more than one member, and the numbers matter. Our president, Lauren Keating, runs a very efficient meeting and we always have an enjoyable evening discussing the past year and laying the groundwork for the new year. *Please plan to attend!*

3. Hunter Pace! Our very important Derby-Day Hunter Pace is fast approaching – Saturday, May 7 at The Hunt, Inc. You can help in a number of different ways. We’ll be scheduling a couple of work days to get the trails cleared from the winter and spring snow, ice and winds. We’ll need help flagging the course and we’ll need volunteers on the day for start/finish, gate watching, etc. Please consider saying “yes!” when the requests for help start coming out.

4. Supporting the Hunt. The double-whammy of COVID and a long, cold, dreary winter have left us all a bit bedraggled. The Hunt’s finances are in remarkably good standing in spite of it all. However, a new year is going to start for us with the Annual Meeting in May and we all need to pull together to keep things moving forward smoothly. Spring and summer are heavy on hunt fundraising events and for good reasons – they help keep dues at a reasonable level and also encourage potential members. Work days to maintain the trails year-round makes the work more manageable. Volunteering at fundraising events helps make the event successful and so does riding in them. There are so many ways to have a positive impact on our Hunt! We hope you’ll answer the calls for help when they come.

5. Trail Riding Reminder - Summer Trail Riding at The Hunt, Inc. Rockbridge Hunt members have permission from many generous landowners to *hunt* on their property. This does not entitle any individuals to *trail ride* on private property. Rockbridge Hunt members can ride on much of the property at The Hunt, Inc. but you must know where the boundaries are and respect them. Many of our landowners do allow trail riding but not all of them do. When individuals ride on private property without permission, landowners are (justifiably) displeased. These situations are one of the main causes of permission to hunt being withdrawn. If you don't absolutely know for certain where you can ride and where you can't, please make arrangements to ride with someone who knows the territory. Most of the Executive Committee and the Hunt Staff know the property and will be happy to meet you and ride with you.

Also, please be very certain that any dogs you have with you are under your control at *all times* and kept off private property. Thank you!!

6. Virginia Foxhound Show. The Glenmore Hunt and Rockbridge Hunt are teaming up again for a joint reception at the Virginia Foxhound Show at Morven Park in Leesburg on Sunday, May 29. This is a very informal event. There will be a tent set up ring-side at the show from 9AM to 4 PM for members and friends to hang out and socialize during the show. A light lunch will be served at noon and the organizers welcome contributions of food – light tailgate items are the order of the day. The Virginia Foxhound Show is a great place to learn about foxhounds. There are separate rings for showing American, English, Crossbred, and Penn-Marydel hounds. This is the largest show of foxhounds in the world and it's right here in Virginia! Hunts from all over the country show their hounds singly and in groups. At noon, there are special junior handlers' classes which are always fun to watch. There are a number of vendors at the show selling hunt clothing, antiques, books and more.

In conjunction with the hound show, The Museum of Hounds and Hunting North America which is housed in the Morven Park mansion will be open and free on the day of the show. There is a large collection of foxhunting memorabilia and art in the museum.

It's a great day out, so please consider joining us in Leesburg on the 29th of May. Bring a chair and a hat for the sun and enjoy a day celebrating our beloved foxhounds.

7. Dog Daze. Among the many hunting related events happening in the northern Virginia hunt country over Memorial Day weekend is a new event that looks like lots of fun. On Saturday, May 28, the Masters of Foxhounds Association is hosting "Dog Daze" at Genwood Park in Middleburg. This new event will feature a gathering of working dogs and hounds as they display their unique skills. You can watch a variety of talented canines demonstrate their prowess, from retrieving and herding to agility and military maneuvers. For spectators, there will be shopping, food-truck cuisine and canine-focused activities and presentations for all ages! More information here: <https://mfha.com/dog-daze/>

8. Educational Bits – courtesy of the Education Committee. Hunting terminology: **By-laws**

By-laws

The By-laws of any corporation or organization detail how it is organized. By-laws usually include: member or shareholder rights; board member and officer elections, terms, and duties; along with details about the operation of the corporation. Our by-laws set the date for the annual meeting, designate our fiscal year, and much more. The by-laws for the Rockbridge Hunt are located on our website under "About RH."

"The Treasurer should observe a fiscal year of June first to May thirty-first."
From the Rockbridge Hunt By-laws (Amended 1994)

9. Rockbridge Hunt Dates for your Calendar

Wednesday, May 11, 2022	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Annual Meeting</i> , 7:00 PM, Tex Tilson Lodge
Sunday, May 29	Rockbridge Hunt & Glenmore Hunt <i>Reception</i> at the Virginia Foxhound Show
Saturday, June 11	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Anniversary Cocktail Party</i> (tentative)
Saturday, June 25	Rockbridge Hunt TBD fundraising event
Saturday, July 16	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Judged Trail Ride</i> at Broadview
Saturday, August 20	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Gymnastics/Jumping Clinic</i>
Saturday, September 17	Rockbridge Hunt begins <i>Autumn Hunting</i>
Fri, Oct. 14 - Mon. Oct 17	<i>Hunting Weekend</i> with Bedford County Hunt, Glenmore Hunt, Oak Ridge Fox Hunt, and Rockbridge Hunt. (tentative)
Saturday, October 29	Glenmore Hunt <i>Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds – joint meet with Rockbridge Hunt</i>
Saturday, November 5	Rockbridge Hunt <i>Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds – joint meet with Glenmore Hunt</i>

10. Other Hunt-related Dates

Saturday, April 2	Glenmore Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Saturday, April 9	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Poker Ride</i>
Saturday, April 16	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Trials</i>
Saturday, April 23	Glenmore Hunt Spring <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, April 23	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, May 7	Carolina <i>Hound Show</i> , Southern Pines NC
Saturday, May 21	Farmington Hunt <i>Puppy Show</i>
Saturday, May 28	MFHA <i>Dog Daze</i> at Glenwood Park, Middleburg
Saturday, May 28	Museum of Hounds & Hunting <i>Reception</i> at Morven Park
Saturday, May 28	Virginia Foxhound Club <i>dinner</i> at Morven Park
Sunday, May 29	Virginia <i>Foxhound Show</i> at Morven Park
Saturday, June 1	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Club <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, June 1	Bryn Mawr <i>Hound Show</i>
Saturday, June 11	Glenmore Hunt <i>Murder Mystery Ride</i>
Saturday, June 11	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Fri, June 17-Sun. June 19	MFHA <i>Biennial Seminar</i> in Nashville
Saturday, July 9	Glenmore Hunt <i>Midsummer Carnival Ride</i>
Saturday, July 23	Farmington Hunt <i>Poker Ride-Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, July 23	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Safari Hunt</i>
Saturday, August 13	Glenmore Hunt <i>Moonlight & Fireflies Ride</i>
Saturday, August 13	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Judged Trail Ride</i>
Fri, Aug 19-Sat. Aug 20	Farmington Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i>
Saturday, August 27	Glenmore Hunt <i>Foxhunting Clinic</i>
Saturday, September 17	Glenmore Hunt begins <i>Autumn Hunting</i>
Saturday, September 17	Oak Ridge Fox Hunt <i>Ball</i>
Sunday, September 18	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Saturday, October 29	Glenmore Hunt <i>Opening Meet & Blessing of the Hounds</i>
Sunday, November 6	Farmington Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Sunday, November 6	Bedford County Hunt <i>Hunter Pace</i>
Sunday, November 13	Glenmore Hunt Fall <i>Hunter Pace</i>

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
2021-2022**

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, C 540-290-9868
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

Liz Hall, Steward 2019-2023

434-760-3784
ehhall1229@yahoo.com

Diane Long, Steward 2019-2023

540-473-3151
dglongacres@yahoo.com

Laura Arnold, Steward, 2021-2025

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

Susan Richardson, Steward 2021-2025

804-212-6194
ten9tilson@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

Grey Horse Saddlery

Ms Mary Ann Jacobsen
490 Swope Lane
Fairfield, VA 24435
301-305-2832
www.greyhorsesaddlery.com greyhorsesaddlery@gmail.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