



HUNTING WITH HOUNDS IN VIRGINIA: A WAY FORWARD

Animal rights groups have been active during the *Hunting with Hounds: A Way Forward* study process being conducted by the Department of Game & Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) in Virginia. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) asked its members to inundate the Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) with emails & letters demanding that hunting with hounds (this includes foxhunting) be restricted or eliminated.

- ? Now is the time for foxhunters to express support for our sport, our hounds, & our wonderful landowners. **Voice your opinion today.**
- ? We have fair & reasonable laws already in place; encourage VDGIF to enforce these laws & prosecute those that do not abide by the law.

Virginia's Right to Retrieve Law is important for the safety and welfare of hounds. This law provides a huntsman & whipper-in the legal right to go onto posted land in order to retrieve the hounds. If hounds chase a fox onto posted land & put it to ground hounds will stay there until someone they know retrieves them. The huntsman and whipper-in need to be able to legally go onto posted land in order to retrieve the hounds. This is currently in the law, & needs to stay there. Mounted foxhunters as well as many other legitimate hound hunters have worked diligently to demonstrate respect & appreciation for landowners & their property. Unfortunately, some unethical hunters have misused this law to deliberately hunt hounds on posted land. Rather than lose the Right to retrieve our Hounds, we need to work with VDGIF to ensure that all hunters understand & comply with the existing law & show their respect for Virginia's landowners.

Improve law enforcement by increasing the number of VDGIF Conservation Police Officers (CPO's) & coordinate with local Sheriff's Department to providing better training for all enforcement personnel. Again, *we have the existing laws* and regulations to control illegal hunting we need better enforcement. Consideration and compensation should also be provided to local Sheriff's Departments for their participation in enforcing game laws and these funds should be allotted from the VDGIF budget.

Increase penalties and fines for game law and regulation violations to increase compliance with existing laws and regulations, especially those related to high priority issues like trespassing, violations of the right-to-retrieve law, road hunting, and hunting out of season. Repeat offenders should be dealt with harshly. These fines should go directly to VDGIF. With increased penalties & fines, those that break the law will suffer the consequences, not those that are hunting with hounds responsibly.

Improve record keeping on violations and complaints received by VDGIF their (CPOs), VDGIF staff, dispatchers, local law enforcement agencies, & local animal control. The SAC recommends that more comprehensive, consistent, & standardized records be kept in order to better understand where & why there are conflicts between hunters and landowners. With better record keeping VDGIF in corporation with local Sheriff's Departments can effectively apply additional law enforcement to areas where hunters are not complying with the law & where landowners are experiencing problems. This could be much more effective than passing more state laws that punish responsible hound hunters & will not correct problems with hunters who violate the law.

Email your support to: HoundHuntingSAC@vt.edu. **today.** If you choose, you may also send a letter in writing to: Hound Hunting SAC, co/Sarah Kozlowski, 111 Cheatham Hall, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24060-0321. **Make sure to include your name and address.**

More information available on the DGIF website: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/hounds/>

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WILL END ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th

All comments, whether written, spoken, or sent via email, shall be considered part of the public record.

See page three for the latest update

Secretary's Corner

The Glenmore Board and Membership meetings scheduled for September 2nd will be held at the Glenmore Office in Staunton, Virginia (this is a change from the scheduled location).

The Board will meet at 7:00 PM followed at 8:00 PM by the membership meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. As usual, snacks are welcomed.

No membership changes this month.

Dwight Phelps, Hon.
Secretary

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Events of Special Note

Looking Ahead—The Calendar

September

6th—Fall Horse Show (SWVHJA) Mill Creek, Port Republic

13th—Cubbing Season Breakfast/Tailgate

27th—Pony Club's annual fundraiser, horse show at Stone Bridge Farm.

October

11th —Glenmore Hunt Ball at Fairfax Hall

25th —Open Invitation/Western Hunt

November

1st— Glenmore Hunt Opening Meet with Breakfast Social, J. meet with the Rockbridge Hunt

16th—Fall Hunter Pace (Rain date: Sunday, November 23)

Committee Reports

By-Laws: The By-Laws Committee met in July to consider a couple of changes to the Glenmore By-Laws. A second meeting will be scheduled in September to review the wording of the proposed changes. A recommendation will then be made to the membership.

Dwight Phelps, Chair

Horse Events: The Glenmore Fall Horse Show is Saturday, September 6 at Mill Creek Farm. Show Manager Hugh Brown could still use a few volunteers for this important fundraiser. Indoor and outdoor jobs are available! Call him at 540-886-6359 (home), 540-568-3501 (work) or email at brownhh@jmu.edu. Not available for the Horse Show? Please consider volunteering for the Fall Hunter Pace on November 16. More information will be forthcoming.

Hugh Brown, Chair

Pony Club: The pony club has been busy this summer competing in various events and activities. We started the summer off with Pony Club Camp held in June at Penmerryl Farm in Greenville. We also had our regional show jumping rally in June at the VA Horse Center. The USPC Nationals were held the week of July 23rd, in Lexington, VA at the VA Horse Center. We had two competitors from the Glenmore Hunt Pony Club represent us in Show Jumping, **Allie Farley** and **Lucy Gordon**. We also had **Katie Etter** represent GHPC in Dressage. Both teams finished in the top ten of their divisions! In addition, Kaye Benner represented GHPC in Eventing.

The week of July 28th, **Marjorie Hays** hosted the GHPC Adult Camp at her farm in Staunton! We appreciate the support of hunt club members who attended our Adult Camp this year.

At this point the pony club is looking forward to gearing up for it's annual fund raiser. The weekend of Sept. 27th, the pony club will be hosting a horse show at Stone Bridge Farm in Natural Bridge, VA.

Emily Guyer, Chair

Breaking News on the Hunting with Hounds Study

On Sunday August 25th there was Virginia Masters meeting to discuss the “Hunting with Hounds” study and developments to date. Robert Duncan, Exec. Director of VDGIF gave a background of the impetus that lead up to the Div. initiating the study. He noted that Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina have all recently had major revisions in their hound hunting regulations, often to the detriment being able to continue to use hounds for hunting. Much of this was the result of large landholders not wanting to be the target of complaints of any type. While he wanted to leave no doubt that the VDGIF wanted to preserve hound hunting, he acknowledged that once the study was presented to the VDGIF Board of Directors there many way that the result could go.

While he reiterated that in order to be on the SAC the individual had to back the objective of the study . . .” Provide diverse opportunities for hunting with hounds . . .” he noted that they have received numerous e-mails, letters, and comments from the anti- hunting groups. It is important to note that all of these comments, while they are not necessarily “weighted in by the SAC, are being picked up by the content analysis information being compiled by VT and are part of the record.

In a subsequent session three issues consumed the balance of the evening.

- ? The need for everyone to weigh during the final public comment period. NUMBERS COUNT. Several of the anti/animal rights groups want to make an example of Va. particularly in that Va. is one of the most noted hound hunting states.
- ? The importance to have efficient and timely communication to be able to let Board Members and State legislators know our concerns and desires.
- ? The need to have a strong lobby effort that will keep track of proposed legislation that would be detrimental to the continuation of the sport. More about this at our upcoming meeting.

Dan

Masters’ Corner

Glenmore members and all supporters of hound hunting, this is a critical time. You have been informed by various venues, about the Hound Hunting in VA study. The necessary information is in this newsletter.

It is CRITICAL that you voice your support of hound hunting by September the 12th. Do not delay. You may write a letter, use e-mail, attend the August 27th meeting at Spottswood High School. Hound Hunting in VA is being attacked by various organizations that want it abolished. Give your reasons for supporting hound hunting and be short and to the point.

Hound Sponsors—do write the hound hunting study committee! Also, the hounds are in need of biscuits for training. Donations would be welcome.

Jewell

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Trail Riding in West Virginia

A wall of thunderstorms rolled over the Alleghenies, dropping streaks of lightning and shards of rain on our equine rigs bound for West Virginia. Yet by the time we arrived at Brandywine, the clouds had nearly disappeared, the sun was shining, and the air was sweet and bright. The trail ride began with the pitter patter of horses' hooves on creek stone as the long line of sixteen riders crossed the river and meandered down a 200 ~~year old wagon trail~~. **Roger and Joan Ashley**, our gracious hosts, narrated a bit of history of the area, explaining the stories behind the weathered and abandoned homesteads. Stopping to admire a quintessential but dilapidated American farm house, they told us that a man had lived there who raised three sons. When he became too old to take care of the property, he was taken in by a couple who taught him to write his name. This name appeared on the will that gave the couple the property upon the old man's death.

The land we rode across was Joan's childhood summer play ground where she romped the hills and dells and visited with her Great Aunt Etta. Swadley Farm now belongs to Rob Propst, who generously allowed us passage.

After a few hours of woodland paths, nearly half the party chose to canter and gallop their horses across a small field, through a open gate beside the barn, and up an incline to the orchard. Several of the horses stayed in this excited state for the remainder of the ride thinking, I suppose, that they should be chasing young fox cubs in preparation for the big season.

As usual, the after-ride -cookout was a great reward. Everyone filled their plates and cups with wholesome food and drink. Folks spoke of hay, horses, and hallowed places. The time came too soon to pack up and head for the valley. As we climbed Shenandoah Mountain, I looked back at the red vermilion sky above the blue vista in anticipation of our next foray into the wild, wild, West Virginian landscape.

Marianne Allen Smith

2008 Masters' Landowners' Appreciation Party

A gorgeous summer evening awaited Glenmore members as they arrived at the home of Cindy Kiser to celebrate our landowners at the Master's Party. White draped tables adorned with fox and horse decorations were scattered on the lawn adjacent to the Middle River. A balmy breeze kissed our faces and lent itself to comfortable conversation as dusk settled in. We, as per a Glenmore's tradition, "hung out" at the bar and shared stories and I had the opportunity to meet some new landowners. In particular, I was astounded to learn that the Obenshain's son played in my touring group's band while he was at JMU! Small world! (Their property is across the road from Cedarfield.)

My story of the week was an ill-fated decision to have one of my horses put down. She had been very lame for a long time (and probably foundering) and I felt perhaps she was no longer rideable or comfortable at her age of mid-twenties. I arranged for Eddie's Excavating to come dig a humongous hole in preparation and called Dr. Julie Bullock to come do the deed. Feeling she deserved one last meal, we led her out to the grassy lawn to eat to her heart's content. Her thing had been stall-bound for nearly a month! As we watched her move, Dr. Julie said, "Hmmm. She's walking really well - walk her around a little and let me look!" Sure enough - just seeing the big hole must have instigated an immediate recovery as mare was suddenly was doing a perfect fast walk with no lameness apparent. I called all of my friends and told them I had the perfect place for troublesome mates! I hate to waste anything!

It's always a pleasure gathering with Glenmore friends. Soon hunt season will be upon us. I can hardly wait!

Sandy Cryder

October Hunt Ball - Only 45 Days!

Get ready to party! The Hunt Ball Committee has been very busy attending to all the details involved in putting together a fabulous evening for our Glenmore members in particular, as well as, our friends and guests. We have much to celebrate and look forward to with the launching of our upcoming 2008-2009 Hunt Season and Glenmore's MOST IMPORTANT FUNDRAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR. What a celebration it will be. We are expecting quite a good turn out including many Rockbridge and Oak Ridge Members plus 100% of the Glenmore Members and their many guests.

Invitations will begin to arrive next week. To guarantee a great event and successful fundraiser for the sport and club we love, we are kindly asking that each and every Glenmore Member do as many (preferably all) of the 7 things listed below. We are counting on each of you to please:

1. Attend the Hunt Ball (without you, each and every one of you, there is no Glenmore party)
2. If you absolutely can not attend, please make a generous contribution and continue to contribute in the following ways:
3. Invite at least 2 guests or more (friends, neighbors or co-workers). Remember to tell guests they may create table/s and groupings of their own friends. The more the merrier!
4. RSVP in a timely fashion preferably before but no later than Sept 13th. This courtesy is most considerate and important for event planning of any size.
5. Become a "Host" contributor of \$100 or more and have your name listed and recognized as a special "Host" of the 2008 Hunt Ball. This helps to finance the event as a whole and allows us to have the event in beautiful ballrooms, etc. We would like to be adding some new names to this years list, so please notify Angelika a.s.a.p. that you would like to be a Host and send your check to the GH office.
6. Donate Auction items. We would be happy to help you with ideas by sending out a list of items donated at other auctions.
- 7.. Volunteer to help. We will especially need help with the Auction items on the day of the Ball, October 11th. As we will be hosting Day 2 of the "4 Day Hunt Weekend" that very morning, we will really need our non-riding members help.

Numbers 5 and 6 and 7 need to be addressed a.s.a.p. for printing and planning purposes. Please contact Angelika by e-mail or cell# for any of the above or if you have questions. Again, we really need your support and are counting on you—but first and foremost, we want the pleasure of your company at the Ball!

Angelika O'Donnell, Hunt Ball Chair

Boeing Jet Delivers New Member

Glenmore has once again received a new member via jetliner. On August 2, 2008 **Noah Clem Avery** kept everyone traveling coach from Seoul to Washington, DC wide awake during their journey, using his very healthy vocal chords. Noah was born on October 7, 2007 and joins the Avery family, which includes big brother **Ethan** (now 4 ½), and parents **Jakki & Alex Avery**. Proud grandparents are **Anne & Dennis Avery** and **Jerry Lynn & Roller Shipplett**.

The adjustment to a four-person family has been rather abrupt. Little Noah's travel clearance came much earlier than expected. Grandparents and Glenmore members jumped in to help! Ethan spent part of the week with each set of grandparents, and junior member **Sarah Emily Lyman** took excellent care of the horses at *Echo Hill Farm* while Jakki was gone and then adjusting to caring for two children rather than one. The family looks forward to introducing Noah to Glenmore's membership at an upcoming social event.



Horses for Sale:

Ed Note: These horses are located in Gordonsville, VA. For more information, please contact Debbie McWilliams at 540-308-3346

Forest Fire turns heads wherever he goes with his majestic presence, solid muscles, feathers and one blue eye. He is a 7 year old 16.2H Shire/TB and a seasoned foxhunter, hunting second flight with BRH last season. It was his first season as well as mine and I had no worries or concerns while on his back. He was calm and controlled in the field, he'll be able to carry any level rider safely. He is also a great horse on the trails, you can rely on him whether you're in a group or alone. He is started over fences and doing spectacular. He has a wonderful sweet gentle temperament and is wants to please. We like to call him the gentle giant and are so sad to have to sell him. He has excellent ground manners, loads, clips, stands for farrier. \$10,000 negotiable to a good home.

McGruder is a 17.2H, 6 year old extremely athletic Belgian/TB, he is a natural over fences. Very willing. He hunted second flight with BRH last season. He was a natural in the field and extremely calm natured. He can carry any rider safely. He will make an amazing first flight horse. He has a naturally balanced canter and is very responsive to commands and would be a great event horse. This horse has great potential. Such a sweet disposition! Amazing feet! Great hacking out alone or in company. He is still green and needs a confident rider. Clips, loads, travels well. \$7,500. Negotiable to a good home.

The Newsletter Photos (in fact everything) look so much better on the Internet!
Try It: <http://www.glenmorehunt.org>

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This
Issue*
