



Stacy Thompson Finalist in 2008 Virginia Field Hunter Championship

Glenmore's "First Lady **Stacy Thompson** represented Glenmore Hunt on her Cleveland Bay-Thoroughbred cross, "Sam" in the 2008 Virginia Field Hunter Championship held November 9th at the Farmington Hunt Club Kennels in Free Union, Virginia. Thirteen hunts competed with twenty-three riders vying for the coveted Championship. Stacy and "Sam" earned a place with the top finalists.

This traditional Championship has been held annually since shortly after World War II. The day began with an optional, separately judged Best Turned Out competition. The riders and horses in this class were judged solely on their turn out, with everyone in their proper best, including cutaway coats and top hats with the horses' manes and tails braided. Every one of the competitors in this class looked spectacular.

The actual Championship competition began with an under saddle phase, similar to one held at a show, but this was held in a large field with the judges standing on a small hill and the riders in a large circle around the hill. The riders were dressed in formal hunting attire and encouraged to wear safety head gear. All were well prepared for this class as the horses went through their paces of walk, trot and canter.

Next was a mock hunt, which is traditionally led by the previous year's winner. Mark Thompson and "Gaelic" of Farmington Hunt Club led the field over a course that tested both horse and rider. The hunt lasted over an hour and took in varying terrain with more than twenty jumps.

The final phase was an individual test. Twelve of the riders were called back for this test and Stacy was among those chosen. There were ten fences to be negotiated, again up and down hill, with a gallop then a stop to drop a rail. This really began to sort the field out as there were refusals and run-outs at several fences.

At the end of the day Piedmont Hunt was declared the winner and they will host the Championship next year. Stacy said that nerves aside, the competition was awesome and she would love to do it again. All the Glenmore members there agreed that she and "Sam" were an awesome team. Glenmore is very proud of them.



Congratulations!!!

The complete version *of the article on the 4 Day Hunt Weekend Extravaganza, written by Hugh Brown (with the help of Joe Manning), is now published on-line at the Fox Hunt Virginia website <www.foxhuntva.com/web/>

It's a wonderfully written and presented article on the front page, which includes photographs.

Kudos to Hugh and Joe! (*A slightly shorter version appeared in last month's newsletter)

Also, look for a detailed write up on another Glenmore success story from Bedford's Championship Foxhunter competition in the January issue!

Secretary's Corner

The meeting of the Glenmore Hunt Club will be held on Tuesday Dec. 2nd at the home of Graham & Jeanne Pitsenberger. The Board meets at 7:00 and the membership meets at 8:00. For directions call the Secretary, Dwight Phelps, at 337-6659.

Membership Changes:

Delete:

Polly Moore (deceased)
Marianne Smith (resigned)

Add:

Berk & Lee Pemberton
208 Hill Haven Lane
Staunton, VA 24401
(540) 886-5571

Address Change:

Karen Evans
Eastfield Farm
PO Box 124
Brownsburg, VA 24415
(540)348-6913
Dwight Phelps, Hon.
Secretary

Events of Special Note

December 13th—Junior Hunt at Walnut Grove
16th—Christmas Party at *Checkertree Farm*, 6 PM
20th—Joint Meet and Breakfast hosting Stonewall Hunt



2008 Christmas Party!

Get in the Holiday Spirit early by coming to the Glenmore Christmas Party, Saturday, December 13th from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Jenner Brunk has kindly offered to open her home at Checkertree Farm in Weyers Cave to host the event. Those of us who participated in the 4-day hunt in October will remember Jenner who provided such a beautiful hunt breakfast at Walnut Grove.

Traditionally, our members have brought food to share for the party and the Glenmore Hunt will provide the bar.

Contact **Joanne VanSiclen** to RSVP by Tuesday, Dec. 9th. Phone: 885-2696 Email: joannecv@comcast.net. For directions, call Jenner Brunk, 540 421-5053 or email her at jennerbrunk@gmail.com. Directions will also be posted on the Glenmore website.

Glenmore News® is published by Glenmore Hunt, Inc. for distribution to members and friends of Glenmore.™

Postmaster: Send address changes to:

Glenmore News, Glenmore Hunt, Inc., P.O. Box 396, Staunton, VA 24402-0396.

Publication Date: 25th of each month.

Contribution Deadline: 20th of the month.

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2007-2008

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Glenmore Hunt WebSite:

<http://www.glenmorehunt.org>

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, November 19 to help the Treasurer develop the annual budget for 2009. The proposed budget will be presented to the membership for approval after the Board has approved it at the December 2nd meeting. Attending the meeting were **Graham Pitsenberger** (Finance Chair), **Dan Jones** (hounds and facilities), **Dwight Phelps** (office), **Hugh Brown** (horse activities and calendar), **Joe Manning** (Green Pages), **Sandy Cryder**, **Jewell Phelps** (hunt country), **Bebe Wills** (membership), **Brenda Simmons** (social), and **Chris Thompson** (administration).

Jakki Avery (newsletter), **Hugh Sproul** (insurance and hunt country), and **Diane Gibbs** (merchandise) were unable to attend, but sent their input prior to the meeting.

No increase in dues or fees will be proposed.

Graham

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Lost & Found

A piece of jewelry was found at the Hunt Ball. It appears to be a very nice sparkling ladies shoe clasp/accessory. Let me know if it belongs to you.

-Angelika

Glenmore Foundation Shareholder Meeting

Proxies to elect the Board of Directors for the Glenmore Foundation were mailed November 12, 2008. Participate in the election! Return your proxy via mail or attend the meeting to vote your shares in person. The meeting will be held November 30th at the Glenmore offices, 7 pm. If you are unable to attend the meeting and need a new proxy, please contact **Hugh Brown**.

-Jakki

COMING DOWN

With that resounding above the sound of the saw, six of the trees overhanging the stable and the kennel fence were felled with precision by **John Croker**, Lynnette's husband and his friend Jason Wehri. With precise cuts to account for lean, wind and a little tug by Jason, dead and dying trees that were threatening the kennel fence and stable building, some up to 80 ft. high were dropped within precisely as planned. Jason operates Quality Lawn and Pasture, and joins up with John for the challenging tree jobs. Seeing them operate, they come with good recommendation. If you want to warm up your chainsaw I am sure Mike and "D.J." would welcome some help bucking up the wood. Get in touch with Mike so he can schedule and move the hounds out of harms way.

-Dan

Horse For Sale

Winsome: Beautiful 6 year old Han/TB mare, 15.3 hands. Quiet and sweet temperament. I bred and raised her. Sensible and willing and a nice mover. Excellent hunter/jumper, event or fox hunt prospect. Recently went on Glenmore Hunter pace and will also be at Middlebrook Hunter pace. Good alone or with others, comes when called, loads well, goes through water. Not spooky, pretty unflappable. Has had two fillies and is an excellent mother. \$4500obo 540-294-0432, Christy Robson



GLENMORE GREEN PAGES

Published By
 Glenmore Hunt, Inc.,
 P.O. Box 396, Staunton, VA 24402-0396
 www.glenmorehunt.org

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 2008 Opening Hunt & Hunt Ball

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Keeping a Watchful Eye

In early September about twenty Glenmore hunt members attended the local “Hunting with Hounds Study” hearing with several presenting views from the mounted foxhunting community. Since that time five additional meetings were held State wide with over 2,000 people in attendance. During the second comment period, there were over 2,300 foxhunters who responded via letter or e-mail. I am sure this type of response helped to keep our concerns in the forefront of those formulating the proposed “Strategies” that were developed for presentation to the VDGIF Board on October 23rd. I want to thank each of you that supported the effort by attending the meeting and/or sending in a response to the study team.

The Virginia Fox Hound Club’s Legislative Committee has formed a coalition with the MFHA and the United States Sportsmen’s Alliance and continued to follow this Study as it moved through the VDGIF Board. Additionally, they have engaged the services of Hunton & Williams, a lobby firm, to help with their efforts to ensure that actions taken out of this study do not adversely impact mounted foxhunting. There is very little doubt that at least portions of this study will be brought to the Legislature the next time it convenes. Most notably, this will be the right to retrieve law.

In support of these efforts, at the September membership meeting, Glenmore Hunt set a goal to raise \$1,000 through contributions to support the lobby efforts. At that meeting several of the members gave the club a good start toward meeting that goal. For those of you who enjoy riding to or hunting with hounds, or wish to contribute to keeping the tradition going, we request your support. Contributions should go to the Treasurer and clearly indicate that they are for the “Hunting with Hounds Fund” so it can be kept as a separate account from the budget.

Also, Va. Fox Hound Club is developing a legislative response group of foxhunters. I would like at least five more people to volunteer to make Legislative contact as needed to communicate, as needed, our perspectives on any proposed hunting legislation at the next session of the Legislature. If you would be willing to do this please let me know. While we alone may not be in total control of our future, without being heard, I can assure you that there will be no foxhunting for future generations.

-Dan



Photo credit: Pam Talley Stoneburner

Opening Day 2008

Glenmore’s Opening Hunt was held on November 1st at **Margaret and Frank Henderson’s** lovely *Cottage Hill*. Friends from Rockbridge Hunt joined us to celebrate the day.

The weather was warm (vests were left in trailers), thus, scenting was difficult, but our hounds made a great effort to provide good sport.

A delightful hunt breakfast complete with pumpkin pie greeted returning riders. Many thanks to all those whose hard work created a wonderful day!

Veteran's Day Hunt

Glenmore hunt boasts some of the most beautiful territory in Virginia. Nestled between mountain ranges in the Shenandoah Valley, the Fall color is spectacular. Sadly, during rifle season, we suspend mounted foxhunting so that the deer hunters may find deer unimpaired (and also for our own safety). Veteran's Day was our last hunt prior to this hiatus.

We met at Deer Run on a crisp, clear morning. Scenery from the parking area was breathtaking as the oaks and hickory still blazed yellow, orange and burnt orange on the mountains. **MFH, Dan Jones** asked for a moment to remember our Veterans and **Hon. MFH, Hugh Sproul** said a few words and requested a moment of silence to consider those who so bravely fought for our freedom.

As we hacked over to the **Kier's** property line to the draw, spirits were high and the horses were keen. Dan set the hounds into a small copse of trees and brush near the stream and within a minute the hounds jumped two gray foxes. One ran toward the Kiers woods and one ran the opposite direction toward Doc Miller's woods. The field was enthralled as a big gray ran within 20 yards of us and everyone had a great view. "Reynard" sped boldly under Dan's horse and into Kier's woods. Virginia (the hound I'm sponsoring I'm proud to say) was quick to find the line and we were thrilled to watch the pack run tightly on the line a few yards in front of us.

Dan blasted over the coop into the woods immediately followed by the first flight. We raced down the woodland path and over the field above Kier's stream onto the paved road where we eventually stopped to hear what the hounds were doing.

REVERSE! (Our gray was giving the hounds a merry chase—doubling back to try to throw them off the line). Virginia was still hot on his scent and refused to give it up! Galloping back along the road, field and onto the "Beagle trail" in Kier's woods our horses rumbled over the fallen leaves and leapt over fallen trees and branches. They came screeching to a halt momentarily to "hark" to the hounds. Then we were off again, back over the coop, and into Deer Run.

Suddenly, we heard "tally ho" as we watched the gray from a distance trotting through the sheep pen toward the sheep shed. It stopped momentarily as if to say – "hey, are you coming or not!?!?" – and then trotted on. Whipper-in **Chris Thompson** viewed him running from the Deer Run coop toward **Doc Miller's** farm and woods and imparted the information to Dan.

The field trotted down an imposing hill, over the stream and passed slowly and quietly through the sheep field into Doc Miller's field. Dan set the hounds on the line and soon we watched some magnificent hound work. Packed tight and true, the hounds sped on the line toward "Doc's Woods". Voices ringing across the valley rivaled the Tabernacle Choir and brought chills down my spine.

Again we galloped across the field and into Doc's woods. By now we had been galloping on and off for nearly an hour. The horses were showing signs of tiring but the hounds were still working hard. The fox led the pack briefly out of territory but they came back to Dan's horn.

As we waited for the hounds to gather, some of the hounds started to speak once again in the field below us. Dan quickly set the hounds on the line and we rode gently through the cattle toward Doc's hay field. Within a short time the fox had gone to ground and the hounds were enthusiastically marking his safe hole. Dan blew "gone to ground" and we called it a day.

Just as we boast about our beautiful hunt territory – we now boast about our incredible pack of hounds! While Virginia and Sultan were often in front, Tulip, Jealous, Voodoo, Flipflop, Frogman, Hobo, and Leia all had a lead part and contributed greatly to this amazing day. Thank you – MFH, Dan Jones and our whippers-in, **Jan Jones**, Chris Thompson and "**T**" **Stewart** for all your hard work in training a hard-hunting, highly disciplined pack.

Sandy Cryder and Dan Jones



Returning Home

This beautiful photo was captured by Pam Talley Stoneburner at Glenmore's 2008 Opening Hunt. For more information about Pam Talley Stoneburner Photography, watch for our feature article next month.

Visit Pam's website at pamtalleystoneburner.com.

**The Newsletter Photos (in fact everything) look so much better on the Internet!
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GLENMORE HUNT, INC.
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*In
This
Issue*

Christmas Party + Veteran's Day Hunt + Field Hunter Championships
