



Virginia Foxhound Club--Legislative Information

I noted in the October newsletter the Legislative Committee of the Virginia Foxhound Club and their lobbyist, Williams and Hutton, were preparing for the 2010 Virginia General Assembly. Of the Bills submitted this year, there were 30 that involved issues of interest to the VFC, with ten of those of significant concern.

These concerns are immediate as well as on going, because those opposed to hunting with hounds are well financed and organized. The VFC is pleased to note that SB 648 and SB 698 were withdrawn, both of which would have had devastating affects on foxhunting. HB 884 was also defeated in committee. I want to thank all of you that wrote Delegates and Senators concerning these bills. HB 1056, concerning animal control officers, and HB 1143, concerning humane investigator appointment, are being held over.

Bills such as HB 1056 are introduced each year, and while the text may vary the intent is the same, to pave the way for a public/private animal rights police force. The most influential voices are groups like PETA, HSUS, and Va. Voters for Animal Welfare as they reinvent themselves as "animal protection "groups. The common misconceptions promoted with animal rights and animal welfare continues to be damaging to legitimate animal husbandry as well as hunting. It is a nation wide effort. Foxhunters are at a cross roads now in that we must keep a united stand to protect and preserve foxhunting or we will see its demise through legislation that while not a direct attack on foxhunting, will have damaging affects on the ability to maintain hounds and kennels to support foxhunting.

To financially support the VFC efforts this year, we set a goal of \$500 to be used for review and lobbying. Thanks to generous donations by some of our members we are well on the way to meeting that goal. Anyone wishing to contribute should do so by March 15th. by submitting their contribution to the Treasurer with a memo noting it is for the VFC Legislative Fund.

Dan

Annual Meeting and Election of Master(s) of Foxhounds, Officers, and Directors of Glenmore Hunt

The Annual Meeting and election of Master(s) of Foxhounds, Officers, and Directors of the Glenmore Hunt, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, April 6 at the Glenmore Hunt office in Staunton, Virginia.

The Nominating Committee, charged with identifying candidates for positions on the board, was announced at the February meeting of the membership. President **Chris Thompson** appointed **Hugh Brown, Linnette Coaker, Brenda Simmons**, and **Stacy Thompson** to facilitate the election of the board. The Nominating Committee will announce the slate of candidates via e-mail prior to the March membership meeting. Due to recent meeting postponements, the Nominating Committee has less than two weeks to identify members willing to run for positions on the board. Committee members have begun making calls to ascertain members' interest in serving on the board, but you can help facilitate this process by letting one of the Nominating Committee members know if you are interested in running for office, we would like to hear from you. Please consider running for office and helping Glenmore move forward in 2010-2011. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the April meeting.

Thank you!

Hugh, Linnette, Brenda & Stacy
Nominating Committee

Participate in the Process!
This is your Club

Secretary's Corner

The March 2 Glenmore meeting will be held at the Glenmore offices in Staunton. The BOD will meet at 7 p.m. The General Membership Meeting will follow at 8 p.m.

Membership Changes

New Member

Jacob Kiser, Jr. Member

Resigned:

Ginny & John Bauman
Dr. Pamela A. Conn

Diane Gibbs, Hon. Secretary

Events of Special Note

Looking Ahead—The Calendar

March

13th—Glenmore Hunt Ball, Fairfax Hall inc. Silent Auction,
20th—Closing Meet with breakfast social, Joint Meet with the Rockbridge Hunt

April

16th —Spring Hunter Pace (Rain date: Sunday, April 18)

July

24th –27th —Glenmore Pony Club Adult riding camp (save the date!)

Glenmore's 80th Anniversary Hunt Ball

Beautiful women in flowing gowns and handsome men in their tuxedos or formal scarlet will once again grace Fairfax Hall on Saturday, March 13, 2010. A gala night will celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the Glenmore Hunt. The evening begins with cocktails and music while you peruse the items at the silent auction (hopefully spending your last nickel to support the Glenmore hounds). Following this, a sumptuous dinner feast and dancing to the sounds of *Blue Suede*, arguably the most popular band in the area, back again this year to round out a gracious night to remember.

The Hunt Ball is THE most important fundraiser for our hounds and all members are encouraged to give their support to our four-legged friends by attending this event and/or becoming a hunt ball host. Donation of items to the silent auction is another way you can help our hounds.

Don't worry about having a dance partner – good conversation, drinks, music and the thrill of the auction will provide all the entertainment you need.

It isn't a good party unless—someone gets drunk, someone has a fight, someone dances on the table! Who will it be THIS year????

RSVP Now! Don't miss the best party of the year!

~Sandy

Closing Hunt March 20th 2010

Closing Hunt is scheduled for March 20th, 2010. This event will be a formal tailgate with the social committee requesting that each member bring a dish to share. If we are able to hunt, the tailgate will occur immediately following the meet. However, if ground conditions do not improve and hunting is canceled, we will still have a pot luck dinner that day (location and time to be determined). Please be on the look out for e-mail correspondence (s) and/or call the hunt line the date of our closing meet for further details.

~The Social Committee

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Glenmore Hunt Board of Directors 2009-2010

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Col Hugh B. Sproul, III,

Vice President

Diane Gibbs, *Honorary Secretary*

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Member at large (Non-hunt Status)

Robert C. Heitler,

Member of large (Non-hunt Status)

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Glenmore Hunt WebSite:
<http://www.glenmorehunt.org>

Jack Russells and Foxhunting*

The Reverend John Russell (1795-1883) of Devonshire, England (an avid foxhunter) developed one of the world's finest strains of working terriers. Many British hunt kennels kept their own strains of terriers that worked with their hounds.

Since the Jack Russell is a strain of the Fox Terrier, influences from other breeds may sometimes surface. For example, those terriers with bandy legs may have some dachshund or bull terrier in their distant lineage depending upon whether more earth-digging skills or courage were needed by a particular quarry and terrain.

The hounds would follow the fox in chase and put him to ground. The hounds and the field of riders following them would be moved back, and a terrier man or hunt staff member would enter a terrier after the fox. Quite often, just the presence of the baying little dog would suggest to the fox that he might wish to go elsewhere for refuge—and the chase would continue.

Why are their tails docked? The approximately 4 inch docked tail provides a good hand-hold for extracting a terrier from an earth tunnel. Undocked tails carry the risk of being broken when the dog backs up in tiny tunnels. Too short tails don't provide an adequate handle. Dewclaws are also removed so they don't catch and tear when digging in the tunnel.

Why is white the predominant color? So the hounds can distinguish the terrier from the quarry (the fox). So the handler would be able, when having to dig down for the dog, to distinguish the terrier from the fox when both were covered with dirt.

Why are there different sizes? The standard size is from 10"-15" at the withers, allowing scope and variety in the job. According to Catherine Brown, it is perhaps like a good selection of tools for a particular job—sometimes the terrier man needed "tweezers" and sometimes a "wrench".

*This information comes from *An Owners Guide to The Jack Russell Terrier* by Catherine Romaine Brown; Howell Book House, Simon and Schuster Macmillan Co.

~Sandy Cryder

Russell Rescue, Inc. Member Sandy Cryder is the Virginia contact person for Russell Rescue, Inc.—a tax exempt charitable organization that re-homes abandoned or unwanted Jack Russell Terriers. If you are interested in adopting a Jack Russell Terrier go to the following website: www.russellrescue.com

Host a Glenmore Meeting: A Few Opportunities Still Available

The website has the most updated meeting locations available 24/7 on the calendar page. There are still a few meetings available for 2010. Meeting at a member's home is more than just a meeting, it is also a time for fellowship. If you can accommodate a Sept. 7, Oct. 5 or Nov. 2, 2010 meeting at your home, please contact Angelika at: 540-249-4200 or a.angelika@att.net.

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New Parasite Control Recommendations From the Blue Ridge Equine Clinic

As primary care veterinarians, we are constantly evaluating our recommendations for your horses to make sure we are offering the most up to date information and treatment for their continued health. Recently, experts have noted a change in how parasites react to our efforts to control them and we are changing our deworming protocols to best reflect the newest information

Our new approach is based on information from leading veterinary parasitologists that suggest dewormers are becoming less effective due to parasites developing resistance. These experts recommend decreasing the frequency with which we de-worm, focusing primarily on horses that shed high numbers of parasite eggs. Treatment is targeted at these high shedders while periodically monitoring egg counts in horses that shed low numbers of parasite eggs. This minimizes the number of times parasites are exposed to a given de-wormer, actually reducing the development of resistance. In addition to concentrating our efforts on the high shedding individuals, we also need to deworm all horses when shedding is naturally at its highest. In our area, horses have the highest parasite egg release in spring and fall and it is at these times we will be certain to include the whole herd in our program.

We use Fecal Egg Counts (FEC) to determine which horses shed high numbers of parasite eggs and to assess how well a dewormer is working for your horses. Fecal egg counts consist of processing a small amount of manure and using a microscope to obtain an accurate count of the number of eggs. Results are given as Eggs per Gram (EPG) of feces. In our area, a high shedder is defined as having greater than 400 eggs per gram. Samples of manure should be less than 24 hours old and stored in an airtight bag or container (Preferably refrigerated until processed).

Young horses (birth through yearlings) require an intense deworming schedule primarily due to ascarid (roundworm) infestations. Recent studies have revealed an increase in ascarid resistance to certain dewormers (including ivermectin). Thus, the selection of the appropriate medication and monitoring results with fecal exams is especially important. After the first year of life, the horse's natural immunity limits ascarid infection. In contrast, in adult horses small strongyles are the primary parasite of concern.

Talk to your veterinarian to find out what their recommendations are regarding de-worming. Since the extent of resistance in our area is not fully known, we will continue to monitor all the information gained from the cumulative results of local fecal egg counts. As we collect information about your horses and the shedding patterns of horses in our region, we may need to adjust these recommendations. These changes should lead to reduced costs to you and decrease the amount of medicine each horse receives. Slowing the development of resistance is critical as there are no new deworming products expected to be available in the near future.

Continuing the Puzzle Series:

Who is this Glenmore Member?

One of my many dramatic roles in life was portraying a miner in a western gold rush town at a summer camp. My sole objective was to ride the ex-rodeo mule, Chelsea, through a camp yelling, "There's gold in them there hills! There's gold in them there hills!" The kids would then be sent off to find the hidden gold nuggets. Unfortunately, things did not go quite as planned as several darling children charged at the mule, spooking her and sending her running madly down a gravel drive. I stayed with her through the duck and spin, but the hill proved too much for my bareback ride. With each step, I slid a couple inches down Chelsea's mane, inch by inch, until I was sitting behind her ginormous ears. She finally just tucked her head. I fell, face first, into the gravel, and she ran right over me as she made her get away from the crazy kids. Eighteen stitches and two teeth later, I have a story to tell.
(See the back page for the answer!)

The information for our monthly Member Puzzle can be from your PAST or present. The goal is to share something that will help all of us get to know each other better. Email these to Sandy Cryder or to Anne Avery for the newsletter. We will try to do several each month or one longer Mini-profile. (ed)

Glenmore Beats the Winter Blues! (Despite snow and blizzard)

In spite of the weeks of snow, ice, and freezing temperatures, the Social Committee decided to go ahead with plans for our third annual Beat the Winter Blues party. Even though the snow was falling fast, 22 Glenmore members and a guest from the Middlebrook Hounds fought the urge to stay at home and gathered at the Irish Alley in downtown Staunton. The staff gave us a room to ourselves upstairs and we had a terrific time eating, drinking and trying to out-complain each other about the weather and our other winter woes.

Special thanks to **Joe Manning**, **Stacy Thompson** and the Social Committee for organizing a great night out on the town that really helped us beat those Winter Blues.



Above: Lee and Burk Pemberton

~Hugh Brown



New Members: The Stout family braved the weather to join the fun. We welcome Dr. Micheal Stout, Betty Stout, and daughters Lauren and Courtney.

Masters' Corner

It's nearly March and we haven't been able to hunt since the middle of December. How frustrating is that!!!! Mother Nature definitely has the upper hand this season. We've experienced what our northern hunts experience quite regularly, so I've been told.

In cancelling a hunt, we have to consider our landowners, parking of rigs, fairness of the chase, hound health and safety, and of course, horse and rider safety. In the Swoope territory, where I live, the ground has appeared once since the big December storm. The wind and additional storms have even discouraged our two retired Glenmore hounds from venturing out in the horse pasture to check on the passing through of various critters. The snow is still too deep for them.

One day, Skip, my appy, wanted to bypass his bossy pasture mate, Rocky, and found the going a bit heavy. The snow was up past his hocks. Valiant, Dwight's horse, is so bored that he keeps looking for ways to entertain himself, such as breaking electric fence, smashing gutters on the run in shed, or herding Skip around.

We can only hope that the weather will soon break. Then, we will be dealing with MUD!.

~Jewell

~Member Puzzle of the month answer: Carol Ann O'Connor~

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

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*In
This
Issue*

Legislative news, 80th Anniversary Hunt Ball, Winter Blues re-cap, Info on Parasite control
