



Editorial Opinion:

Can we join the Battle for Our Sport, Our Animals, Our Farming?

We have seen a surge of activity across the legal, political and PR spectrum of activists claiming to be on the side of “natural farming” for the environment and equal rights to benefit animals, both livestock and pets. If implemented, do not doubt that their demands would ultimately destroy the environment, destroy our ability to produce food, destroy the right of pet ownership and right to recreational hunting.

I recently appeared on a program for DuPont worldwide environmental award winners with Dr. Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Fund. We agreed that the world would need more than twice as much food per year in 2050 as today. Human numbers will peak at 8-9 billion, up from less than 7 billion today. Increased food demand will also be driven by a massive five-fold increase in “affluent” consumers, as technology and trade drive up wealth. That guarantees that organic farming and free-range animals cannot be the future of world food production. They take twice much land per ton of food produced. Doubling food production by plowing 150 percent more land would destroy any hope of preserving wild species and room for wildlife to roam.

I have estimated that it would take the land area of Pennsylvania to put all of our hogs outdoors, at four hogs per acre. We’d need the land area of New Jersey to put our chickens out on free range. Beyond the land requirements, confinement birds and animals take about 15 percent less food per pound of protein, mainly because they’re protected from the harsh cold of winter, and the searing heat of summers.

A decade ago, I estimated that high-yield farming had saved about 7 million square miles of wildlife habitat from being plowed for low-yield crops. That’s equal to the land area of South America. A new Stanford study has essentially confirmed my estimate. But, Stanford went further. The land not plowed preserved its soil carbon. Otherwise, said the researchers, plowing the soils would have released enough soil carbon to equal one-third of all the greenhouse emissions of the world’s industries since 1850!

There we have it in a nutshell. That won’t turn urban minds around quickly. However, high-yield support from the World Wildlife Fund is enormously important. In hearings and other formal discussions of the rural future, we should heavily emphasize the unrealistic nature of the animal rights movement, and its potential negative impacts on human hunger, biodiversity, and greenhouse gases

Keep in mind also, that both the American Farm Bureau Federation and the World Wildlife Fund/US are partners in a broader alliance (The Keystone Alliance) with food manufacturers like General Mills, Kellogg, the Fertilizer Institute, Croplife (pesticides), plus enlightened environmental groups: Conservation International, the National Association of Conservation Districts, NRCS/USDA, The Nature Conservancy and the World Resources Institute.

It might be well for foxhunters to build a bridge to the Keystone Alliance, and help amplify its message of high-yield conservation because it underscores the legitimacy of modern farming, good animal welfare practices, and even fears of global warming.

~Dennis Avery

I hope this will be one of several articles on this very important and complex subject. This is our opinion and I invite you to join in with yours. Anne

Secretary's Corner

The September 7th meeting of the Glenmore Membership and Board of Directors will be held at the home of John & Diana Hicks in Waynesboro.

The Board will meet at 7:00 P.M., followed at 8:00 P.M. by the Membership meeting. For directions call Diana at (540) 292-1195. As always, please feel free to bring snacks.

No Membership Changes

Dwight Phelps, Hon. Secretary

Events of Special Note

Looking Ahead—The Calendar September

4th—Fall Horse Show at Mill Creek Farm

7th—Glenmore meeting

11th—First day of Cubbing w/social

October

30th — Opening Meet with breakfast social, Joint Meet with the Rockbridge Hunt

November

7th —Joint Meet at the Rockbridge Hunt Opening Meet

21st — Fall Hunter Pace (Rain date: Sunday, November 28)

Fall Horse Show

The Fall Horse Show is scheduled for Saturday, September 4th at Mill Creek Farm. It's not too late to volunteer to help with this important fundraising event. Volunteers will be needed for all sorts of jobs on the day of the show –greeting, ring crew, gatekeeper, jump order, clean-up, and more. We'll also need volunteers for a couple of hours on Thursday, September 2 in the late afternoon/early evening to help set up and decorate the jumps.

Don't think you have any horse show skills? Never fear, we'll find a job for you! This is a very important fund-raiser for Glenmore, so please consider volunteering. Half day? Whole day? We'll take you any way we can get you!

To volunteer, contact me at brownhh@jmu.edu, 540-568-3501 daytime, or 540-886-6359 evenings. I hope to see you at Mill Creek!

Thanks!

~Hugh Brown

Red Fox Tidbits [September]

During September the male pups begin to mature sexually, leave the den and establish their own territory. This is when we begin our "cubbing" season. Female kits frequently remain in the family territory until December.

In the course of six short months, tiny, helpless creatures have matured into self-sufficient, graceful, flame-colored predators, taking on the ways and manners of their parents as they have for over two million years.

[I write these little articles, believing that foxhunting knowledge of our crafty quarry is directly related to the enjoyment and appreciation of the sport . Graham , h-MFH]

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Message from Dr. Rita Mae Brown, MFH-Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Club

Dog Days got you panting? Me, too. I find myself dreaming of crisp fall mornings, meadows silvered with a light frost and hounds in full cry. We have to wait for that but if you want to keep up your spirits by visiting our past, go to www.mhhna.org. This is the website for the Museum of Hounds and Hunting. Put the address on your list of favorite websites so when you are longing for hunting, you could enjoy the artifacts, photographs, biographies of those who have gone before.

Hope all is well in your territory.

~Rita Mae Brown, MFH, Oak Ridge Fox Hunt Club

Masters' Corner - September

Blink an eye and cubbing will be here (September 11th) First and foremost, cubbing is for the hounds. The regular season, Opening Hunt, and beyond, are geared for the field.

Some timely reminders.

- ? Remember you need to have a current negative coggins for your horse.
- ? You need an up-to-date Va hunting license.
- ? You need to have a signed waiver.
- ? Check to see if reservations are needed for hunt breakfasts, etc.
- ? Be sure to always check your fixture card for time and place; And, call the hunt line (885-7004), in case there are changes due to weather or other unforeseen events.
- ? No smoking in the field. It creates a fire hazard and interferes with scent.

It's always helpful to have your attire and tack and horse ready the night before so you can allow enough time to get to the meet with plenty of time to tack up and be ready to ride at the appointed time.

Glenmore generally has three flights. Decide which you wish to ride with: hilltoppers, second, or first flight. Never leave the field without first checking with the fieldmaster. Always report any problems or mishaps to a Master. Never pass or over ride the field master, hounds, or huntsman. If your horse refuses a jump, go to the back of the line. Don't use this time to school a horse.

NEVER SPEAK TO OR INTERFERE WITH the hounds except in an emergency. Hounds always have the right of way. As a member of the field, be alert to the position of other horses and field hazards (holes, wire, poor footing, etc.). Refrain from lots of chatter. This can interfere with the hunting. The huntsman and fieldmaster need to be able to hear the hounds when they are working. Be safe and have fun!

~Jewell

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From the President

Our Southwest Virginia Hunter/Jumper Association sponsored Fall Horse Show is just around the corner. The Glenmore Hunt Club offers the hunter/jumper community the opportunity to compete for SWVHJA points in this sanctioned event. Please help spread the word that once again Glenmore will host at Mill Creek Farm on Saturday, September 4th beginning at 8:30 A.M..

The Glenmore Hunt Club and our guests headed to western Augusta County for our Summer Trail Ride and Social Picnic. After a three hour trail ride, which started from the hunting camp of Harrison May, our members and guests appreciated the feast that awaited them back at camp. Mother Nature introduced the riders and spectators to the true meaning of summertime forecast of scattered afternoon showers. However, no amount of rain could dampened the spirits of the thirty riders and guests who celebrated the summertime season in Deerfield. Special thanks to our landowners and organizers: Harrison May, **Hugh Sproul, Dan and Jan Jones, Joe Manning, and Stacy Thompson.**

In preparation of the first day of cubbing, our members are now clearing the trails necessary for our safe and comfortable sport. Our team of volunteers descended on the late Anne Harden's Farm affectionately known as the Briar Patch on Saturday, August 14th to clear the growth of briars from the trails we share with the elusive foxes and coyotes who call the briars home. A huge Glenmore Thank You to Rob Martlock, friend of the Glenmore Hunt, who volunteered his Saturday morning and brush hog for the job!

The Glenmore hounds look forward to showing our members and guests many days of good sport beginning on Saturday, September 11th at Bellevue Farm. **Charlie and Vicki Drumheller** continue to be great land owners of the Glenmore Hunt Club and have once again opened their Bellevue Farm to begin this year's cubbing season. Thank you again Charlie and Vicki!

~Chris Thompson, President

Trail Ride & Picnic

For the past two or three years **JMFH Dan Jones** has been exploring the possibility of fox hunting in the Deerfield Valley and the adjoining portion of the George Washington National Forest. The club has conducted two trail rides in the National Forest from **Lee and Allison Hereford's** farm near Benson Run. I suggested we explore the possibility of entering the relatively flat area of the National Forest from Judge Harrison May's camp property. Last year we explored the route and did some trail work. This month we followed up and opened a path from Harrison's camp to the network of beautiful trails in the "flats" of the National Forest.

Fruition of this effort occurred last Sunday with 21 riders enjoying beautiful forest trails followed by a delightful picnic in the yard of the May Camp. The ride lasted about 2 ½ hours punctuated by about an hour of steady rain. The warm air kept us all warm and no spirits were dampened by wet clothing. As we came out of the woods into the open valley area, Mother Nature welcomed us with a magnificent rainbow.

~Hugh Sproul

"The subject of foxhunting embraces a complex four-way relationship among four different living creatures—ourselves, our horses, our hounds, and the quarry—with lines of communication running and crisscrossing among all four parties. Add to that the inanimate variables of terrain, weather, and scent, and you have a subject worthy of a lifetime of study."

-Norman Fine, *Foxhunting Adventures: Chasing the Story*, 2010

Thanks to Hugh Brown, (as always we appreciate and invite good quotes, keep the NL in mind, ed.)

Congratulations!

Emily VanAssendelft, a member of Glenmore Hunt Pony Club, recently won an essay contest held by *Young Rider Magazine*. Anyone who knows Emily won't be that surprised to hear of her win. She is an extremely bright girl. However, what makes her extra special for Glenmore is the subject. Emily nominated a pony rescued and rehabilitated by members and friends of our club for the title of "*Young Rider Magazine's* 2010 Rescue Horse of the Year". Who is this special pony? Mini Cooper, owned by Jerry Lynn Shipplett, and trained by Luanne Leonard (course designer of our horseshows), **Jakki Avery**, **Sarah Emily Lyman** (shown below hunting Mini at Glenmore's Opening Day), Emily VanAssendelft, and Mini's current rider, **Ethan Avery**. Emily's winning essay and a picture of her with Mini was printed in *Young Rider Magazine*. We are printing our favorite pictures of Mini below.



Sarah Emily Lyman
aboard "Mini, the Fox
Hunting Pony"



Next, Ethan Avery, with
his Grandpa, Dennis
Avery, and patient Mini
Cooper "the tractor".
(Winning a blue ribbon to
commemorate the day)

Thanks to Jakki Avery
for these photos.

Anatomy in Motion Clinic

Old Dominion Region Pony Clubs is hosting an Anatomy in Motion Clinic to be held at the Virginia Horse Center on September 25-26, 2010. This is a very special clinic. Susan Harris (author and illustrator of popular books, including *Grooming to Win* and the *U.S. Pony Club Manuals of Horsemanship*) and Peggy Brown (2005 American Riding Instructor Association's Riding Instructor of the Year) will teach the clinic. It contains several sessions.

The Visible Horse is a unique demonstration where Susan Harris paints the muscles and skeletal system on a living horse to show how the anatomy works in motion at all gaits. The horse is then worked on the longe line so clinic participants can better understand the function of bones and muscles, and consequently, good and poor movement.

The Visible Rider is a similar demonstration, but this time focusing on the rider. Peggy Brown wears a "skeleton suit" while riding to show how the rider's body works when riding in dynamic balance. This will be demonstrated in English, Western, and over fences.

In addition, there will be an opportunity for mounted instruction in small group sessions. This is truly a unique clinic opportunity and is being opened to the public. Cost for adults is \$40 for the unmounted sessions and \$45 for the mounted session. ~~Print off a clinic registration form~~ at www.odr.ponyclub.org or contact Lori Pickett at Lpickett@hughes.net for more informatio

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*In
This
Issue*

Editorial, Trail Ride re-cap, Pony Club Honor, Horse Show coming!
