

Glenmore News



March 2022

Volume 33, Issue 3

Monthly Meeting

The Tuesday, March 2 meeting was held at the home of Mary Lee McDavid.

The board and membership discussed nominations for the slate of officers for 2022-2023, Hunt Ball preparations and events.

Minutes are available on the Glenmorehunt.org members portal. Please plan to attend next month and share your ideas!

Calendar

Be sure to join us for the following events!

- March 12—Re-Gift Party
- March 19—Closing Hunt
- April 2—Glenmore Hunt Ball
- April 23—Glenmore Hunter Pace (Series)
- May 31—Virginia Foxhound Show

Members can access the club calendar by logging in to the website at Glenmorehunt.org. Contact Carol Demeo for more information.

Officer Nominations for 2022-2023

Anne Brooks and the Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers for the 2022—2023 season. The election of officers will be held at the Glenmore Hunt Offices at 101 West Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24402. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

President	John Meyer
Vice President	Anne Brooks
Honorary Secretary	Carol Demeo
Treasurer	Meagan Ryan
Masters	Joe Manning
	Mary Lee McDavid
	Brenda Simmons
Members at Large (Riding)	Missy Burnett
	Jenner Brunk
	Hugh Sproul
Members at Large (Non-Riding)	Berk Pemberton

Hunt Ball Checklist

After a two year hiatus, Glenmore will celebrate the close of our 92nd season at the American Hotel in Staunton, Virginia. Please plan to join us for a splendid evening of fun and fellowship. Formal attire is encourage but not required, To prepare for this evening, consider the following:

- ⇒ Respond to the electronic RSVP on Facebook or the invitations mailed to landowners and other supporters.
- ⇒ Include in your RSVP request for a table for your friends who will be attending the Ball.
- ⇒ Bring donations for the Hunt Ball Silent Auction to our next hunt or contact Jake Arbaugh or Angelika O'Donnell to arrange a pickup.
- ⇒ Contribute your favorite libation to Joe Manning to help us stock the bar.
- ⇒ Come and have fun!

Juniors Lobby Legislators

On Friday February 11th I brought 2 juniors; Waverly McDavid and Abigail Kopcinski to the Virginia General Assembly for Junior Foxhunting Day. We started the day meeting with Mike Pearson who is the lobbyist for the MFH, along with members from Keswick, Old Dominion, Farmington, and Deep Run hunts.

Mike divided us into groups to meet with our delegates for our areas. We started at the top floor (where the most senior delegate's offices are) and worked our way down. Todd Gilbert was introducing us on the floor that day so Mike Pearson had us meet with him as Glenmore was the only one that had participants from his area. We spoke with his aide Jeffrey Walters, who gave the girls a little Va history lesson. From there we went to Delegate Chris Runion's office. We first met with his aide and spoke with him for a long time along with members from Old Dominion and Farmington Hunts. We walked down the hall to meet John Avoli (who used to be mayor of Staunton) and spoke with his aide Travis Smiley. When we first got there the delegates were all watching something going on in the Senate and once that was over we were able to meet with Mr. Avoli and Mr. Runion. When Mr. Avoli heard we were from Glenmore Hunt he said. "Well Hugh Sproul was just in here earlier this week!"

Mr. Runion invited all the kids into his office and spoke to them for a few minutes about Virginia's Legislative history and some important topics coming up that directly affects farmers and schools in our area. He spoke of his kids being in 4-H and riding horses, which prompted me to talk to him about our new junior member, Carrie, and her mom, Yvonne Miller. Yvonne was his kids 4-H leader! Chris Runion lives near Bridgewater and rides. I extended an invitation for him to join us on a hunt which he happily, and sincerely accepted.

One delegate we didn't get a chance to meet was Robert Bell. His district includes every hunt group that was there so when we divided up his office was mobbed with foxhunters. We'll catch him on the next go around.

We next moved to the Bell Tower which is near the General Assembly and Keswick's Huntsman brought several hounds to parade on the lawn. Our Lobbyist invited every person he saw earlier to come meet the hounds. They all said this was their favorite day because they loved seeing the hounds and of course what politician can refuse taking pictures with dogs and children.

The General Assembly was meeting at 12:00 so we climbed the stairs to the gallery and over 100 foxhunters took a seat. We were then introduced to the assembly by Robert Bell. After the introductions we were able to leave and the kids and I went with long time friend's of Glenmore Mary Shriver and her daughter Gabriel to grab lunch at a Waffle Bistro.

One funny anecdote to share: Just before going through the security check I realized I had a hoof knife in my purse and had to quickly think of a place to put it so it wouldn't get confiscated. I gave it to the valet at the Omni hotel for them to put in their desk. It does look like a strange weapon and I got a very inquisitive look. I invite each of you to check your purses/pocket etc to find what horsey item is lurking that the average person would find very odd.

Here are the delegates for our area include Del. Robert Bell (Rockingham), Del. Todd Gilbert (Rockingham, Shenandoah), Del John Avoli (Augusta, Staunton, Waynesboro) and Chris Runion (Augusta, Rockingham).

This experience was worth the trip. The kids enjoyed themselves and we all would like to do it again next year. Hopefully we can get a full group of juniors and any other members that would like to join as it was fun for adults as well!



Del. Chris Runion with Mary Lee, Waverly and Abigail



Del. Chris Runion with juniors from several hunts.



Travis Smiley aide to Del. Avoli, with Waverly and Abigail.

Hunting at Charlie's Back Gate—February 12, 2022

As we arrived at the back gate, I saw Missy pull in to the fixture. I pulled to the side of the road and confirmed with Missy that the ground had dried enough to allow our parking in the field. I walked through the gate and confirmed with Missy that we would be able to park in the pasture. We pulled in with plenty of time to greet the others as they began to pour in for the day's hunt.

Jess and the hound truck pulled in a little late six couple of hounds. The following names were on the list of hounds; Becca, Bracken, Kahlua, Oprah, Damsel, Julep, Ribbon, Doc, Tuesday, Versace, Yoplait, Tugboat, Warcry and Zoris. Staff on the day included Ida, T riding Meagan's horse Echo, Julie and Brie. Stacy and Solomon led first flight. Grayson and I fell in behind our leader with Julianne on her pony LeRoy and Anne on Gemma. I was delighted to see Carol Anne and her new mare join us for the mare's first hunt. Cindy and Pixie brought James and ? with Vlad and Mulberry.

Jenner and the ever reliable Django led Second Flight which included Megan and Crystal. Waverly also followed with her new horse.

Paris and Mary Lee were in charge of a Third Flight consisting of Abigail on Nibbles and Stephanie Aidan's Friesian. Evidently, Tux threw a shoe that morning.

Joe Manning greeted our guests on foot. Apparently, Joe had let his alarm clock down. Guests included James on Jackie and Vlad, who joined us for his first fox hunt on Cindy's Cleveland Bay, Mulberry.

After Missy's prayer, we headed northeast to the rail jump near the CREP. Stacy let me know that Missy asked First Flight to ride up to the east side of the fixture to keep an eye out for any game that might heat to the railroad tracks. Grayson took both jumps very nicely. As Stacy noted, Grayson is not throwing himself at the jumps. I'm able to get him back on his haunches a little better and squeeze him into the jump.

After clearing these jumps, we cantered up the hill and through the hourglass following the hounds down the CREP below. As we approached the double slinky gate, Joe appeared to ease our passage back into the vale.

As we passed over the culvert, the hounds opened somewhat tentatively in the covert. We trotted up the hill and passed on behind Third Flight to fall back behind Missy. We moved along the path. To the declivity the snakes west out of the CREP. The hounds moved up this rough area trailing something. The line seemed to fade and Missy asked Ida to whip the hounds back to her.

The pack returned to our huntsman and we continued southwards along the path and exited out the gate for our scramble up the hill towards the switchgrass field. Missy set a course for the south end of the CREP below Charlie's. To attain this goal, we moved down the farm road towards Charlie's shed. Grayson minced down the road staying to the verge to avoid the hardpan.

Once again, Joe eased our passage through the gate complex at the bottom of the hill and, after a check and double check to be sure there was no wire across the pasture, Stacy and Solomon led the flight on a delightful canter up the hill to the rail coop at the top of the hill. Grayson followed Solomon over the rail jump and we cantered over the hill and chopped down to the gate out to North Mountain Road.

Grayson again kept to the verge and we walked and trotted down the hill and into the CREP below Charlie's home. Missy drew the hounds through here and we heard the occasional baying but nothing developed. The cows in the pasture to the east took some interest in the proceedings.

We proceeded through the farmyard and into the CREP that runs roughly north. After we passed the Quonset hut, the hounds opened and worked their way down the hill towards Ida's Creek. Turkeys are known to live in this area, so the speculation was that the hounds were following the scent of this game. (Continued)



Stephanie and Abigail out for the day.

Hunting at Charlie's Back Gate (Continued)

As we approached the creek, Grayson stopped. At first I was confused as he rarely balks at crossing water but then I realized that he wanted to drink. I'm reluctant to let him drink creek water so I moved him on. Stacy had already moved on and jumped the rail jump just above the creek so I dodged the jump and we cantered on to catch up. We scrambled up the hill to just below the narrow coop.

Here we watched as the hounds opened again in the woods to the west. They seemed to seize the line with some conviction and began to work to the south and west. Stacy asked Anne to get the gate near the narrow coop. She and Gemma cantered down the hill and let Missy pass through. Grayson and I followed Stacy and Solomon over the narrow coop – our first time jumping this obstacle! We galloped up the hill to the line gate hitting our top speed for this day – 24 mph.

The trail came to an end in the wood. Missy speculated that the hounds may have been chasing Turkey again. She gathered them in and announced that we would avoid what was likely to be muddy mess at the bottom of the hill on the other side of the line gate. So she took the hounds through the gate where Anne had patiently waited. Stacy jumped Solomon over the narrow coop again with no problem. My confidence riding pretty high, I pointed Grayson at the jump as well, however, he decided that as he was getting tired, going through the gate would be a better idea.

I turned him to the right and watched as Juliane cleared the coop to follow Stacy. Several others refused the jump when I made another run at it with Grayson again dodging to the right. As I circled again, James suggested that Anne close the gate. I growled at Grayson as we approached the third time and, to my surprise, Grayson leapt over the coop. I tried to push him into a canter up the hill to catch up with Stacy, but as he seemed to be tiring. I waved Carol Anne on ahead to “give Grayson something to chase.” When the little mare passed Grayson he invested considerably more effort in the climb.

We chopped down picnic hill, jumped the rail jump and moved through the lower line gate and up towards Coyote Corner. We had a nice gallop around the wood and paused at the west side of the covert. We listened as Missy drew the hounds to the north but the warming day and the late hour meant that our hunting day was over. ~ John Meyer

New Junior Members Share Their Hunting Experiences

Kenzie “This is my second season foxhunting with Glenmore Hunt and I recently became a junior member. I believe fox hunting is the most pleasurable experience one could have. I hunt on my little chestnut pony, Firefly, and he enjoys it just as much as I do. My very first hunt I tally hoed - I was extremely lucky to experience this. Watching as the fox ran across the field with the hounds, all noses down behind it, was incredible.”

Julianne “On my first foxhunt I did not ride my pony. I rode a different pony named Firefly. I like foxhunting because it is very fun. I like that it is a cold sport. I had been waiting to go for a long time.

When we got there I was very excited. I could hear the hounds. Firefly was very good. It was very fun. I said I would come back and I did!”



Julianne and Firefly jump a coop.



Julianne and her pony, Leroy, follow the first flight field master.

MFHA Presentation on Tick Borne Diseases

The MFHA recently conducted their January MFHA meeting via Zoom. I tuned in as I wished to hear the presentation by Dr. Christine Petersen, veterinarian and scientist who has worked with the MFHA and thousands of hounds over the last 15 years. The MFHA has financially supported research of tick-borne diseases. Dr. Peterson discussed canine tick-borne diseases. Dr. Petersen's work focuses on the recognition and prevention of diseases spread between animals and people, including Lyme disease, leishmaniasis and since 2020 SARS coronavirus 2.

Tick-borne infections in dogs have been diagnosed in all 50 states. The most common tick-borne disease is Lyme disease caused by *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Other important tick-borne diseases include ehrlichiosis, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis. Virginia is in the East portion of U.S. Foxhounds with the percentage of hounds exposed to tick-borne infections to be greater than 70 percent.

Tick Season is considered April 1 through October 31. Tick prevention decreases the tick-borne diseases. Due to chewed off Soresto collars a couple of our hounds had been diagnosed with Lyme, and Anaplasmosis; both caused by the black leg deer tick. Our pack has also had anemia (Ehrlichia), caused by the lone star tick, also common in our area. This year our pack will be receiving monthly doses of Nexguard chewable tablets starting March 31st to help ensure our pack's health.

The Staunton Veterinary Clinic will be ordering Nexguard for our pack at their wholesale price, plus they have donated the first month supply as part of their sponsorship. Thank you, Staunton Vet Clinic. The MFHA will be contacting the makers of Simparica, another tick prevention product, to ascertain bulk pricing for hunts to order through the MFHA. Both Nexguard and Simparica help prevent fleas and ticks.

In addition to the chewable tables, we will be also spraying the kennel runs with a tick and flea prevention spray. The kennel outside runs will need to be kept mowed and weed whacked. We also need to get the downed trees pieces out of the kennel yards to be split for future firewood. Be on the lookout for workday announcements. Thank you in advance for all your work toward making Glenmore Hunt the best it can be! ~ Brenda Simmons, MFH

Re-Gift Party

Due to COVID our annual Re-gift party got postponed. Now that the numbers are coming down again, we feel confident we can have our event on March 12th. Since we have a lot of new members that may not have participated before, I will go over the rules. It's similar to a white elephant gift exchange. If you want to participate you bring a gift. If a couple is coming you can bring 2 gifts and get to pick twice or just bring one and play together, your choice. The gifts should be wrapped or in a bag where you can't see what's in it and unlabeled. Everyone picks a number and then starting with number 1 gets to choose a gift. Then the second person goes and gets to steal the gift from number 1 or choose a new gift. This repeats until all gifts are dispersed.

Prizes are awarded for Best re-gift, Worst re-gift and the Harry Brooks Good Sport award. We are honoring Harry because in the very first re-gift party his gifts were stolen over and over and he ended up with a really funny gift and he was such a good sport through the whole game. ~ Mary Lee McDavid, MFH



Dr. Harry Brooks with one of many gifts.



Best Sport: Harry Brooks, Best Gift: Ida Rademaker
Worst Gift: Sadie Stott

THE STUDY OF PEDIGREES

Altering Nature Too Much Seems Like Asking for Trouble

ISAAC BELL, M.F.H.



A Burst During a Day's Hunting with the Piedmont Fox Hounds, at Upperville, Va. Dr. A. C. Randolph Is Master of the Piedmont Hunt and Has Forty Couple of American Hounds in Kennels

WHEN one has delved into the pedigree of a foxhound for a number of generations and traced it back to good blood, even then one may not be satisfied with the result until one ascertains that the channels through which this good blood comes are good in themselves.

For even should one be fortunate enough to begin with first rate breeding stock, it is necessary continually to watch that one successively breeds from the best representatives.

Every animal must have had some very indifferent ancestor at one time or another, so however long your pedigree traces back there will be millions of ancestors behind it who were responsible, more or less, for the strain during its evolution.

No doubt if we could but know how incestuously bred some of the foundation stones of some breeds were it would cause us apprehension. Some of these ancestors which were so closely bred to were doubtless very moderate stuff, and throw-backs to them will occasionally appear as the "possibles" in a litter.

The "probables" in a litter, we know, are a blend of its eight immediate forbears. Professor Wriedt and others have taught us that litter-brothers are not necessarily full-brothers in blood germs.

Therefore it is not wise to breed from an indifferent specimen just because he is litter-brother to an "Admirable Crighton"; the inferior litter-brother doubtless carries more to some of his inferior ancestors than does the better specimen.

There is no doubt that with an established strain,

which has been rigorously bred from only the best, there will be less and less likelihood to evil throw-backs as time goes on.

Any "artificial" breed, that is, one which has been built up by very careful selection in order to emphasize certain points of conformation which are exaggerated to the original type, will return to its original if this feature is not continually bred for, since nature is always trying to return to the wild.

Therefore, if one wishes to establish a lasting strain it is questionable if it is advisable to alter nature too much, for it seems asking for trouble. When man tries to impress his hand too much on nature, she will usually in time produce some counterfault as a corrective. For instance, the breeding for excessive bone "carried down" in the foxhound, has doubtless been the cause of the deterioration of shoulder liberty in many kennels. And vice versa, it will be found that when a strain has been produced uniformly to breed the best of shoulders then the bone will have been diminished.

It is never advisable to breed from a sire who has a single *really* bad fault who may have some special feature you are anxious to gain. For it is far more likely that you will find that your youngsters have inherited the fault in a greater proportion than they have acquired the feature you are seeking.

There is no use mating opposites in the hope that you can forcibly correct a fault. Breed more patiently, making use of the best sires you can find which have no glaring fault, even if they have no outstanding feature.

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Save the Date!
Glenmore Hunt Ball
April 2, 2022

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