

Warrenton Hunt Night



BULL RUN BABBLINGS

August 2023

Warrenton hunt night is just around the corner! Petrina has done an amazing job organizing this year's team and coordinating practices. We can't thank you enough! Thank you as well to Davera making herself available for lessons and coaching. She's a great resource if you have any questions about tack, turnout, or other pre-show questions.

Don't hesitate to reach out and ask.

September 3rd is the big day (or night rather)!

There are still a few practices and horse shows offering hunt night classes that hunt night hopefuls are encouraged to attend.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Next Practice kindly hosted by Nancy Burnette at Oak View Farm 9014 Spotswood Trail, Gordonsville, VA 22942 on Sunday, August 6th starting around 5pm. *Thank you, Nancy!*

Saturday, August 19th Hunter Show at Oakland Heights with Hunt Night Classes.

[Facebook.com/oakheightsfarm/](https://www.facebook.com/oakheightsfarm/)

Last Hunter Show before Warrenton Horse Show and Hunt Night at Warrenton Show Grounds with be Sunday, July 30th.

<https://twahorseshows.yolasite.com/>

or

[Facebook.com/TWAHorseShows](https://www.facebook.com/TWAHorseShows)



REMEMBER

In order to compete, you must be an active BRH member and your horse must have "fairly hunted" to show. Current, negative coggins required.

Questions: Petrina Thomas (540)729-1040

petrinathomas@hotmail.com

From The Archives

We skipped hound walks and went straight to mounted hound walks this season. They continue through August 5th. From August 2002, tips for hound walks whether on foot or mounted!

Walking Hounds

by Gordon Smith

What a joy it is to be able to walk hounds on an early summer morning. They are so full of life and plainly enjoy getting out. The puppies chase birds, and the older hounds sniff.

We encourage all our subscribers to come out and walk hounds. When you get to know their names and what they look like, each hound becomes more interesting, which makes hunting much more fun.

Having said that, there are a few things you should realize about walking hounds. Number one is that it's a training session. The huntsman is training the hounds to do the things he wants them to do. It's serious business and is the basis for a responsive, obedient pack.

Here are a few dos and don'ts when you are walking hounds:

1. Do exactly what the huntsman tells you--no more, no less.
2. Bring a whip, but plan not to use it.
3. Don't let a hound jump on you. Gently use the butt of your whip on his nose.
4. Don't carry biscuits to give to the hounds; that's the huntsman's job.
5. Never give a hound a command you cannot enforce.
6. Don't constantly call hounds or talk to them. The huntsman trains the pack to follow his commands, not yours.
7. Find out what the huntsman wants you to do that morning by asking him. Our pack is far different than in past years. Even if you're needed just to follow along, we want you to come out anyway!

John walks hounds on foot or with horses six days a week. Call him to see what's going on.



Above: Fox attending the Skunk Parade. PC: Clay Chase

Check Your Hunting License

With the season just over a month away, it's time to make sure your Virginia Foxhunting License is still valid. Everyone hunting foxes from horseback is required to have a license in the state of Virginia (other states may vary). They can be bought at most sporting good stores, or directly from the VA Department of Wildlife's website.

To purchase online, visit GoOutdoorsVirginia.com and go through the following steps:

First Time Buyers -

- Click Licenses & Permits
- Create an Account
- Click Make a Purchase
- Under Recreational Licenses, under Hunting, choose #145 - Resident Special Fox Hunting (assuming you are a VA resident).



Returning Customers -

- Click Licenses & Permits
- Log in
- Licenses are listed at the bottom of the page. Click new, or set up Auto Renew at the top of the page. (Auto Renew Recommended!)

From there, either print the license or set up the app on your phone so that you'll always have access.



This is also a great time to double check that you have a current, negative coggins! And if you do have a current coggins, mark your calendar a few weeks before it expires to stay current all season long.

Bottle Report



The "no longer mounted" hound walk - Horse and rider jumped a big, no **HUGE**, log successfully. However, upon landing, the saintly mare stopped quickly due to a traffic build up in front of her. Her saintly rider took slightly longer to stop with help from the ground.

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Tech Talk @BullRunHunt

Have you ever thought of mapping or tracking your hunts? There are endless apps out there to choose from. Some will calculate stats about distance traveled, top speed, average speed, duration, etc. There are lots of apps out there, some free and some with a subscription. Mapping may be helpful for you to learn the territory. And the statistics are always fun to chat about over hunt breakfast. MapMyRun is free, and while for running, is still handy for riding. Compared to CrossCountry app, used by eventers to time courses and gather other data out on a course.

Whatever your goals, there's an app for that!

Fox FAQs

Domestic dogs and foxes - friend or foe? While foxes generally avoid contact with people, they may initiate play with pets on occasion. They also have been known to "tease" dogs, barking and racing around outside of their reach. Or, as I personally witnessed a few weeks ago, playfully stalk a domestic dog, stopping and sitting every time the dog checked over her shoulder.



This is in stark contrast to typical coyote behavior. They will send one of their own in as a decoy, playing and barking, in hopes of luring the dog back to the pack.

To keep foxes safe and away from people and pets, its best to chase them off and yell at them if approached.



If you have ever had a question about anything hunt related, please send it in to Miss. Appropriate.

Dear Ms. Appropriate: I am starting to get the hang of ensuring that my horse is turned out correctly at local horse shows, but how do I know if I am dressed correctly? Should I dress like I am going cubbing as I would on an informal day? My wool coat seems a little much for these hot summer days!

-Having a Fashion Crisis

Dear Fashionista-To-Be: I know what you mean! While show hunters have their foundation in foxhunting, the fashion has certainly evolved into its own. Coats should be short with three buttons. (Shadbelly's should only be worn in a money class, require your horse to be braided, and a stock tie). Most modern show coats are made of washable fabric (allowing you to avoid dry cleaners altogether - woohoo!) in muted colors, including hunter green, navy blue, or black. Coats are rarely waived, so anything you can do to help stay cool is a good idea.

Traditional show shirts (think ratcatcher) have also evolved, and most riders wear synthetic or mesh shirts today in hopes of staying a little bit cooler. Shirts must have a collar, either button up or in addition to the shirt. Collars can be embroidered or have a pin at the throat. Note, no stock tie is required. Again, think staying cool.

If you show up in your wool coat and a stock tie you WILL be noted as a foxhunter, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. But if you are trying to fly under the radar, you may want to opt for one of the newer, lighter weight coats. Remember, show hunters is about the horse. Nothing you wear should detract from your horse's turnout. "Bling" and shiny accessories are not welcome. You should also always wear gloves, especially in an equitation class. Black gloves are the most acceptable for a regular hunter show, save your brown ones for the hunt field and hunt night. You will find most riders are sporting black field boots, which certainly differs from the hunt field. Brown boots, while not illegal are certainly not the norm.

Britches are usually tan or buff. Never white! And while I do love my rust colored britches, they are not usually worn in the show ring (unless you really are trying to make a fashion statement and throw back to when they were popular in hunter ring the 1970-80s).

Remember to HAVE FUN! Local schooling shows are just that, for putting miles on your horse and getting experience. When in doubt phone a friend who shows a lot, and ask them for fashion advice.

-Ms. A.

P.S. Note that these apply strictly to showing. Stay tuned for an article on proper hunt turnout next month. Also, the BRH Handbook is available on the website and addresses proper hunting attire.

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			Mounted Hound Walk			Mounted Hound Walk
						Summer Party
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Hunt Night Practice						Trail Ride 9am - Preserve
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
			Moon Light Trail Ride			

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Warrenton Hunt Night		Autumn Hunt Begins!	First Responder's Dinner			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
27	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Fall Hunter Paces						

First Responders' Dinner

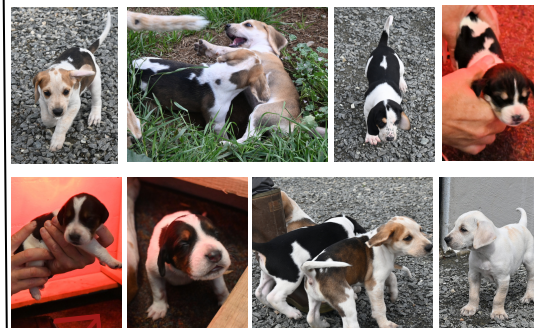
We will again host a thank you dinner for the local first responders (Culpeper, Orange, and Madison Counties) on September 6th, starting at 5pm, at Inskip Hall. All first responders and their families are welcome. No RSVP required.



If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Adrianna Waddy, MFH directly.

Special thanks to Community Bank of the Chesapeake for sponsoring!

Puppies! Just Because



BRH Bulletin Board

Hay rack feeder for sale. Very heavy construction. Good condition. Please contact Judy Allen for questions or if interested.

muskateer00@aol.com ~ (540)229-1420



Submissions?

If you have an article, bottle report, advertisement, photo, or question for Miss A that you'd like included in next month's newsletter, we'd love to hear from you!

Submissions are due by August 20th and can be submitted to Jessa at 603-479-6006 (text preferred) or bullrunhuntva@gmail.com.

The next newsletter will be released on September 1st.

Calendars Are In

The 2023/24 Calendars are in. Congratulations to POTUS for the cover and the honor of being this year's "Hound of the Year"! He was also first place in the performance class at the VA hound show, and is a new dad! Calendars run Sept 23 through Aug 24 to align with our hunting



season. They come pre-marked with club events and are filled with great photos of our members and hounds from last season.

They will be \$25 each; checks can be made out to Bull Run Hunt. If you want to reserve one, please check in with Jessa or Davera. They will both have some on hand for purchase.