



THE BABBLER

July 2014

Hotline [952-473-1303](tel:952-473-1303)

Masters

Cindy Piper
[612-868-2190](tel:612-868-2190)
cindypiper46@gmail.com

Lisa Foster
[612-202-4492](tel:612-202-4492)
lisafoster@gmail.com

Nancy Bizzano
[612-859-1160](tel:612-859-1160)
nbizzano@gmail.com

Jeanne Ahrenholz
[612-599-7071](tel:612-599-7071)
jmahrenholz@yahoo.com

Huntsman

Junior Lehman
[612-354-9472](tel:612-354-9472)
avult54@hotmail.com

This issue is the resurrection of The Babbler. Our mission is to increase communication among members and help us get to know each other and our hounds better. I'd like to include member news so contact me if you have any horse show wins, new horses, graduations, etc. Also welcome are articles or letters to the editor. In each issue I plan to feature a hound, a horse, a person, and hunting news.

We've sent this to you because you are a member or we think you are our friend. Let me know if you wish to unsubscribe or if you have someone to add to the email subscription list.

Jeanne Ahrenholz, editor

Activities/News

2014 activities started off with Pazzaz. The band Pazzaz that is, who had us all kicking up our heels (acceptable for us at the Ball, but not for our horses on a hunt day). We gathered for the Hunt Ball on February 8th at Woodhill Country Club. Despite the horrid winter that had many members escaping to warmer climes, we had 90 partiers in attendance and a successful silent auction. We celebrated the wiley fox, so the band started out with what else but "What Does The Fox Say". Our thanks to Lisa Lieder & Dena Stanchfield who organized the festivities and auction.

Important Dates

Saturday, July 12th -

Cub Hunting begins

Sunday, August 3rd

Polo Classic

Saturday, August 9th

- Junior Hunt

Saturday, September

6th - Blessing

Thursday, October

16th - Junior Hunt

Saturday, October

25th - Tack Sale

Saturday, November

15th - Color's Ball

Complete fixture list is
emailed to all members

Check the Hot Line

[952-473-1303](tel:952-473-1303) for
updates

Next on the calendar was the Derby Party at Tad & Cindy Piper's, attended by over 50 members and guests, many in festive Derby attire. Full of good food and drink, including mint juleps of course, we cheered as California Chrome easily took the victory. The event was a great way to connect after the long cold winter.

The Foxhunting Clinic and Annual Meeting were held at the kennels on Saturday May 17th. Several nonmembers attended and several members brought horses. A short lecture was followed by riding - practicing keeping distances and an introduction to terms like hold hard, ware staff, and cross. Some riders played over the jumps. New people toured the kennels. Sandwiches and goodies were enjoyed by all. The annual meeting announced new positions: Emily Fischer as chair and Karl Lieder as board member. Outgoing chair Bob McCrea was thanked along with outgoing board members Kitty Crosby, Susan Bowers, and Carol Brooks. Dena Stanchfield will take over secretary duties and Tory Ackermann will continue as treasurer.

WHAT WE DO IN THE WINTER WHEN THE LONG LAKE HOUNDS ARE SNUG IN THEIR KENNELS

Master Cindy Piper has an itinerary that will make you dizzy. Let's see - Panama Canal, Africa, Florida, Tucson, Vail, Sun Valley. She also spent a lot of effort searching for a pony for her granddaughter.

Master Nancy Bizzano traveled to many destinations to judge figure skating and teach clinics to make future champions. She & Joe also spent time skiing at their place in Telluride Colorado. With Ellie Crosby she also ran Ski School (Emily Fischer teaches there too.)

Master Lisa Foster worked as usual at Stoneridge Equestrian and went on two ski trips with Zeke to Colorado & Utah. She was, and still is, busy planning and preparing for daughter Tory's August wedding.

Master Jeanne Ahrenholz spent her 6th winter in Landrum, South Carolina hunting with Tryon Hounds & Green Creek Hounds, trail riding in the foothills, taking lessons on her dressage horse, and building a house there. Dave spent his first winter there to supervise the building.

ADOPT A HOUND

The Rich family recently adopted Micha, one of our retired hounds - not their first, they are repeat customers. Dryden has gone to a young lady from Buffalo, a relative of Cory's, who fell in love with him while visiting and needs a running companion. A select few are still available to anyone who will give a retired hound a home. Contact Junior or a Master for availability. Many members have found that our hounds make loving pets and cherished family members.

Featured Hound - Kernel



Trying to decide which of our hounds to feature in this first issue, I asked Junior who his favorite hound is. He quickly came up with Kernel. Why I asked? Junior said that the hound is just a friend to him - a friend who never makes a mistake. He is always on the line. Born in 05 and entered in 06, he is 9 now. He is out of Long Lake Festive by Thorton Hill Steve. Festive was bred in Virginia when Junior was there training with hunt legend and mentor Melvin Poe. Kernel was a little slow at the end of last season but Junior says he is healthier now and will hunt this season.

Junior isn't his only fan though. Judges like him too. He is our champion! He has won top ribbons in the Cornwall Trials and even in the MFHA Centennial Trials in Aiken, SC. These awards were for hunting hounds in performance events, not bench conformation classes.

Junior finished by saying that Kernel is "just special". Give our special hound some extra attention the next time you are at the kennels.

UPDATE ON MONTANA HOUNDS

Our four drafted hounds have assimilated nicely into the pack. Helio is coupling Prince. The only idiosyncrasy they have is that they are used to exercising on gravel and so prefer to walk in the crop field rather than in the grass where we think they should be. Nancy Bizzano & Lisa Foster, who traveled to Montana to bring them to us, have become quite attached to them and have each become sponsors of a Montana hound. Two are still available for sponsorship as are several other hounds. Contact a Master for this opportunity.

Featured People - Steve & Carmen Gardiner



Steve and Carmen were jointly awarded the LLH Master's Trophy for 2013 so these valuable members are the obvious choice to be featured in this issue.

You can see them on their Arabians hunting in the second field. The horses, Dancer and Echo, are $\frac{3}{4}$ sisters, both homebred. Carmen serves as Field master when needed and Steve usually brings up the rear watching for riders

who might need extra assistance. Carmen is especially good at taking new members and guests under her wing to explain and promote our sport. They are also country keepers in the Polo Club area, have opened up relatively new country near their farm, are landowners on Game Farm Road, and host a meet and breakfast each year. Great quiche!

Carmen grew up in Sauk Center where she was interested in the neighbor's work horses. Her girlfriend had an Arabian so Carmen followed suit with her first horse. After losing that horse to lightning, she next got a Thoroughbred that she evented. The horse is now 30 years old and still residing on their farm. She next purchased a bargain Arabian mare from the owners of the boarding barn where she kept her Thoroughbred, and thus began the breeding operation, once they had their own farm. Gardiners have raised six purebred Arabian foals including Second Tsultan, a stallion who went on to become a two time National Champion in Western Side Saddle and also has to his credit two Western Pleasure Championships at the prestigious Scottsdale show.

Steve began riding in Des Moines where he took riding lessons to meet girls. The plan worked so well it was no surprise that Steve & Carmen's first date was to go see Carmen's horse.

When not riding, Steve is a data base analyst for Digi-key in Eden Prairie and Carmen runs computers for Super Value. Carmen also has an interest in genealogy and takes dressage lessons. (Your dressage queen editor's comment: perhaps that is why the Gardiner horses always are well behaved and well trained.)

Carmen went through successful cancer treatment last winter but is doing well now and sporting a cute short hairstyle.

Hunting



We thought the first hunts this year might be rather "interesting" with three slightly wild P puppies and four Montana hounds who knew nothing about drag hunting. The operative word is "knew" because they know now. It was decided that Wednesday, July 9th would be a dress rehearsal at Kitty Crosby's field. Drag layers laid 3 short lines in the open where we could see and hopefully control the hounds. They were all brilliant and in full cry. Mitch & Orono led the pack. Our fears were put to rest and the hounds are ready to be seen in public. Junior and staff have done a great job preparing our hounds for the season.

Featured Horse - Liam



The featured horse for this issue is Liam, beloved horse of Dr. Susan Bowers, chosen because he won the 2013 award for Ladies Hunter. Liam is a Percheron Thoroughbred cross who has carried Susan in the hunt field for several years. He is not a horse that everyone would ride or enjoy but with Susan it is a match made in heaven.

Cindy Piper brought him up along with Seamus from South Creek Hounds in Florida where they had been staff horses. When the previous owner fell on hard times, they became neglected. Cindy sent daughter Betsy, a Florida resident, to see the horses. Betsy thought they were nice horses who deserved a better life, so in stepped Cindy, never one to turn down a new horse or two, and they found their way to Minnesota. Susan had recently lost her horse and Cindy graciously mounted Susan for several hunts. It was clear to Cindy that she and Liam were not a match. He was available for Susan to hunt. When Cindy asked her what she thought she said "I love him". Cindy told Susan that if she did not buy him he would be sent to Aiken for sale. After much intense negotiation they finally agreed on a price of \$10. Susan has grown to love him more and more and appreciates his handiness and surefootedness cross country. Though they are sitting out hunting this year as Susan's work load has increased, they are still enjoying the trails. Another happy girl meets horse story.

Breakfasts/Tailgates - Hosts Requested

In keeping with tradition, after a vigorous hunt, we gather for revelry, boisterous merriment - a highlight to 'savor' for each hunt. Some dates have been spoken for but many are still open. Contact Dena Stanchfield to reserve your hour of tradition!. Consider joining together with others to host. drhstanchfield@earthlink.net 612-518-1294 Cheers!

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Long Lake Hounds | 9255 County Rd 6 | Maple Plain | MN | 55359