



# THE BABBLER

Winter 2015

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## Masters

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## Huntsman

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## Important Dates

**April 24th - 26th**  
**MFHA Drag**  
**Seminar**  
**Gainesville, FL**

**May 9th - Annual**  
**Meeting**

**May 16th -**  
**Foxhunting Clinic**

## Activities/News

Winter is upon us and that means there is not much activity with LLH, though your Board and Masters are busy planning the upcoming season with the addition of some lively new social activities including an enhanced annual meeting, with a power point presentation of the history of The Long Lake Hounds, and a celebratory party the evening of our first cub hunt. Square dance, soiree, or other we don't know yet. The tack sale has been moved to spring - May 30th, so get your donations clean and ready.

A good time was had by all at our successful Hunt Ball in November. We moved to November to increase attendance since so many members are out of town during the winter. We also moved to Wayzata Country Club to accommodate our hoped for larger numbers. And they came! 100 plus. Thanks to all who contributed to our auction and who purchased the wonderful items. We saw the return of some alumni members and met new members and friends.

This winter issue and the spring issue will feature the 2014 end of season trophy winners. Of course there's been no hunting around here to talk about lately so for the "Hunting" section we'll reminisce with our members who traveled to Moingona and share in the next issue with those who hunt in warmer locations. In South Carolina we are currently experiencing 100 year record low temperatures, cancelled hunts and social activities, and I have no running water in the barn or house. Better than gushing water from burst pipes I suppose, but that might still be to come.

Let me know how you're spending the winter and as always let me know if you have anything to share.

Jeanne Ahrenholz, Editor

**May 25th -  
Houndwalking on  
Horseback Begins**

**May 30th  
Tack Sale**

**June 6th - Trail  
Ride**

**June 14th - Spring  
Hunter Pace**

**June 20th - Trail  
Ride**

**June 27th - Trail  
ride**

**July 11th - Cub  
Hunting Starts**

**Evening Party**

**August 29th -  
Blessing and  
Opening Meet**

**October 11th - Fall  
Hunter Pace**

**November 14th -  
Hunt Ball**

Complete fixture list  
is emailed to all  
members

Check the Hot Line  
[952-473-1303](tel:952-473-1303)  
for updates

## Featured Hound - H Hounds



This picture was just too cute to pass up and I knew you all had to see it, so instead of featuring one hound we feature all four of the H hounds from Montana. Left to right they are Hermes, Hebe, Hera, unknown, and Helios. Their former Master at Treasure State is Greek so they were all named after Greek gods. All have adapted well to Minnesota, to drag hunting, and to the LLH pack. Both Hermes and Helios are front runners. Hermes ranges out but comes directly back when called. Helios stays at the front when walked with the ATV. Hebe and Hera both hunt with the pack. Hebe is the one with the yippy voice and is sponsored by Nancy Bizzano who calls her Hebe-Jebe. Hermes is sponsored by Lisa Foster who shared with Nancy in the adventure of procuring them from their former home.

## Featured Person - Advult "Junior" Lehman

2014 winner of the Birch Shildrout Trophy is our huntsman, Junior Lehman. This award is given to the person who shows "pluck" defined as one who shows passion for the sport and character when faced with hunting challenges. Your Masters couldn't think of anyone facing more challenges during our season than Junior. His pack consisted of four new drafted hounds from Montana who had no idea about drag hunting. Added to that were 3 puppies who had no idea about any kind of hunting at all. Junior, with great pluck, brought them all together working as a pack.



Growing up as an army brat, Junior rode horses whenever and wherever he got the opportunity. He exercised broodmares, polo ponies, foxhunters, and settled into Saddlebreds. Coming to Minnesota for a job with Gene Beaulieu he learned to jump. He had a pack of terriers with which he hunted groundhog and coon as well as pheasants.

After training some horses for Cindy Piper, he inevitably found his way to foxhunting as do most of the riders who Cindy influences. He got his colors in 1993. He likens hunting to motocross on horseback. What he likes best is galloping cross country and realizes that some might call his style reckless. We do know he has hit the ground with some regularity thus requiring yet another dose of pluck. What he likes least about hunting is that it is disappointing when the season ends and the hounds are at their best. The greatest influence on him as a huntsman was the time he spent in Virginia with Melvin Poe.

We appreciate Junior's dedication to our hounds. He skipped Christmas with his relatives to stay and take care of the hounds, his LLH family.

## Hunting - Moingona

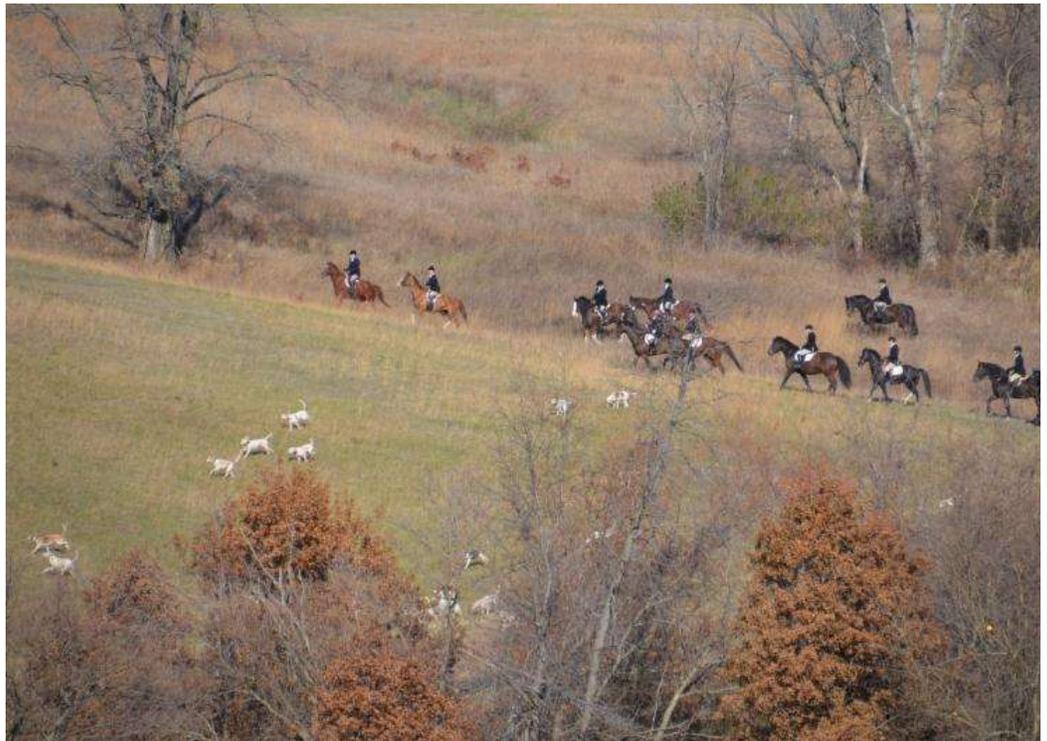
For the last several years a group of our members has traveled over 300 miles to Iowa to live hunt with Moingona for a November weekend filled with hunting and fellowship. Everyone from the first field riders, to the walk-trot hill toppers has had a great experience hunting with Moingona. The Iowa group is very welcoming and our members have become friends with their members over the years. Their hunt has gone through many changes in the last five years, going from a large membership down to a private pack. Since it's a very small group now, riders are able to ride close to the front, just behind the hounds.

Tommy Ghrist and his wife Jessica are our welcoming hosts. Tommy is the sole Master and now the Huntsman. His crossbred hounds chase red and grey fox, coyote, and bobcat.

The terrain is challenging - beautiful with very large hills and small ravines at the bottom, and it is well paneled. You need to have a very fit horse because it is taxing.

Karl Lieder who is a regular participant and brings the whole family, in Minnesota and to Iowa, describes LLH drag hunting as going where our country is, knowing where we will ride, grooming the trails and choosing the most desirable path for safety and viewing. Moingona on the other hand, necessarily follows the query wherever they go. Ask Karl about the river crossing that provided his baptism into live hunting. Suzie Anderson, another regular, says "It's fun to push yourself to the next level of riding and it's a boost to your confidence. Love live hunting - it's the ultimate."

Live hunting can vary a lot from day to day. There can be great runs or blank days, yet our members keep going back year after year for more.



## Featured Horse - Bacchus



This issue's featured horse was chosen because he received the LLH "One Horse Trophy" for the 2014 season. This honors a horse and rider who show an enduring partnership.

Bacchus (known to his close friends as Baba) and his rider, Lisa Foster, have been together a long time. Now 17, he was bought at age 3 as a event prospect for Lisa's daughter Tory. Sometimes, despite our best plans for a horse, if they are lucky, their owner discovers a better plan for the horse and they end up in a job they prefer and are perfect for. Tory had mixed success with Baba in eventing and after she left for college, he became Lisa's hunt horse in 2005. Lisa thinks that he never had very good vision in his right eye which is why he had a problem with water jumps and ditches, and has a shying problem. Never the less, he is a great jumper and took to hunting like a duck to water and loves following the hounds. He's very steady, laid-back

and pretty easy to hunt. You can whip off him one day and ride in the field the next - the quality of a very special horse.

Though he looks like an Appaloosa, he is actually a registered half Canadian Sport Horse with 1/8 Appaloosa, Hanoverian, Trakehner, and Canadian TB mixed in. His sire was Bonaparte H and he was born in Canada. He's independent, a little stand-offish and a loner around the farm. He has a very sturdy build that helps him hold up to his hard work.

We don't see a lot of him out hunting since he is off in the distance somewhere as a whip horse and when we see him he is usually galloping at warp speed doing his job proficiently. He's a great horse for Lisa and an asset for LLH. Now if we could find another 10 like him we would have quite a well mounted hunt.



#### In Memory - Kurnel

Junior's good friend (and ours), LLH Kurnel, was humanely euthanized due to the infirmities of age. He was one of our best hounds ever. This past season it was difficult to watch him hound walking. He went at his own pace and often fell way behind. Junior in his kind way would just allow him to participate in the walks at whatever level he was comfortable on a particular day. But when it came to a hunt day, Kurnel perked right up and came enthusiastically to the party. He truly had the soul of a hunter.

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