



# THE BABBLE

April 1, 2004

## AUNTIES PROTEST HUNT

What has sadly become commonplace at hunts throughout Britain, finally came to the Long Lake Hounds at a recent meet as aunties were out in protest of our hunt. Cheryl Keenan and Nancy Stene, aunts of Stevie, Erica and Rachael Stene, carried signs and shouted as the riders and staff gathered last Saturday morning.

“This is just ridiculous” said Keenan. “We came all the way from Moorhead today to take the girls shopping at Albertville and to have lunch at Culver’s. Instead, they’re chasing all over the country after those silly dogs.”

“It’s much too cold this morning,” added Nancy Stene. “Put some gloves on!” she shouted at her youngest niece.



“This is just ridiculous,” Cheryl Keenan, one of the Protesting Aunties said.

While the protesters were generally well behaved, they threatened to seek a ruling from Grandma as to whether a ban should be imposed. A ruling is expected later this fall. (*Aunties Protest Hunt- continued on page 73.*)

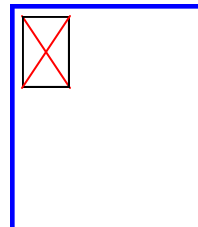
### Hound Heartbreak

Missing for two weeks, Violet, one of the hunt’s best hounds, was found to have recently eloped and married an area coyote. Hunt staff had thought Violet had been lost, although suspicions had been growing when it was noticed the hound would frequently open and then disappear for several hours at a time during recent hunts. Violet finally spoke with Lennie, LLH huntsman on Tuesday. “Brad and I are in love,” she said. “I know we’re different, but he makes me very happy.” Lennie was reportedly devastated. “There are so many nice boys in the kennel. Not that I’m prejudiced mind you, but a coyote, really!” The couple plans to make their home in rural Wright County, where Brad is involved in wildlife management.



## Jim Meads visits Long Lake Hounds

Jim Meads, the fabled British hunt photographer, recently visited Long Lake Hounds. Joint Master Bridget Paradise welcomed Meads as he followed our hunt during a wonderful day in the West Country. A special hunt breakfast was held in his honor at Pine Meadow Farms, where he shared many stories of his travels with hunts throughout the world.



Meads sheepishly apologized when he discovered that none of the pictures he had taken during the day had turned out. “It’s bloody embarrassing,” said Meads. Apparently, he had mistakenly sent his film canisters through the airport x-ray scanner on his way back to London. The scanner was using its highest power during the pinque level alert and may have damaged the negatives. “I was hoping to include the Long Lake Hounds in my next book,” he added.



## New Hunt Country Opens in MOA

“It may be the best of both worlds for some of our members,” announced Nancy Bizanno, chair of landowner relations. “They will be able to both hunt and shop during the same outing.” The details of the arrangements with the Mall of America to allow indoor fox hunting twice a season was greeted with delight by some LLH members and skepticism by others. “It’s nice to be able to count on a full day of hunting without the risk of inclem-

ent weather, after all the preparation and trailering as far as I do,” says Karen Winegar. Member Ben Jaffray disagrees. “I can’t believe the scenting will be very good through the food court and trying to keep the pack together in Camp Snoopy will be a disaster.”

Mall coordinator of special events, Norris Strom, hopes the Hunt will be a unique attraction for shoppers. “We have to keep things fresh for our guests at the Mall,” he said. “The Backstreet Boys aren’t much of draw anymore in the Mall’s rotunda.” The first hunt in Mall Country will be Saturday, September 17. Members should park in the west ramp on level 4, and were reminded to be sure to bring your pooper  
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In The



# Masters' Pocket

The days are beginning to get longer and the snow is starting to disappear. Both are sure signs that spring and summer cubbing is just around the corner. Through the winter months, Lennie has continued to work with the hounds on voice control and has acclimated them to their new surrounding in Buffalo. Despite the cold temperatures, she, Jon Martinson and Brianna Ceder have maintained a rigorous schedule of walking the hounds and ongoing training of voice controls. This ongoing activity in the off months is critical to the pack working together and remaining agile.

As a leadership team, we have continued to discuss our aspirations in terms of "attribute of our pack" and have made some decisions about future investments in new hounds and the culling of some that no longer meet our requirements. These can sometimes be tough decisions as we all have our personal favorites and yet we believe in the long run these trade-offs will result in greater sport and more consistent confirmation for the LLH.

The process for redefining a pack requires ongoing training and discipline. Lennie and Brianna will be going to Virginia in late April to continue training with Melvin Poe. During their time there, Lennie and Melvin will work on culling the pack and replacing older hounds with younger more skilled hounds from the Piedmont and Old Dominion Hunts. If you have not had a chance to read the March Covertside, I would encourage you to do so as there is a great article about hound attributes and features both hunts that are supplying us with new hounds. Lennie and the LLH hounds will spend 10 days hunting the Virginia Countryside both drag and live hunting in order to continue to advance her skills as a huntsman and the bidability of our pack. In mid-April, the staff and several Board Members will be

traveling to Lexington Kentucky for the MFHA Biennial Hunt Staff Seminar. The topics will include: scent, traditions of hunting attire and tack, selecting and training your hunter and hound nutrition. We will be sure to bring back as much information as possible to share with our membership as we all continue to want to learn more about our great sport.

We continue to be encouraged with the progress that we are making as an organization. We have just compiled all of the feedback from the surveys and will be completing some analysis on the data so that we can continue to make enhancements that better the LLH.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey. Once the information is analyzed, we will be sharing the results with the membership. In the next 30 days, we will start working on a walking calendar for mid-May and June. We intend to offer both mounted and unmounted opportunities for members and prospective members to participate. We will also have some work days scheduled so that we can move into our new location and continue to create greater community in our new home.

Things are really coming together and we look forward to another great season with the LLH!!!

Bridgett and Jennifer



## A TROPICAL VENUE


Orange groves, palmettos, oaks dripping Spanish moss - not the setting one would expect for fox hunting. Yet curiosity led me to check out any possibilities of hunting in Florida while vacationing in Siesta Key, Sarasota. I was surprised to learn Florida has six hunts, with the South Creek Foxhounds only two hours from where my husband, Jerry, and I would be staying. I contacted the MFHs of South Creek and they invited me to hunt with them and arranged for a hireling. I chose to hunt on a Saturday and needed to arrive at the fixture at 6:30 a.m., which meant we'd need to find a room nearby for Friday night. It was January, three years ago, and it happened to be Super Bowl weekend in Tampa. There wasn't a room available within 50 miles. Jack Phethean, MFH, graciously offered the hunt's clubhouse. Our bedroom overlooked a beautiful lake, next to an orange grove. We were awakened early the next morning when Robert Douglas, South Creek's second-generation huntsman, went to the kennels to select his pack. I rode to the meet with him and the hounds and enjoyed exchanging contrasting hunt stories from the far North and deep South. Staff and hunt members made me feel very welcome, although I was kidded about Minnesota weather

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**REALLY!**

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# Tailgating!

As your Social Chair ...I would like to emphasize the importance of camaraderie amongst our members. One way to do this is to take turns having a little tailgate after each hunt. I would ask that each of you be thinking of when you could do it. Later, after the calendar for the year is completed, I will send around a sign-up sheet for you to choose when you could be responsible for bringing a "simple something" to eat and drink to each of our scheduled hunts. Those days that have breakfasts, brunches or lunches will be exempt days.

If you would like to join with another few people, that would be good too. Anything at all will be great. You can bring crackers and cheese, fruit, water, sodas, cup cakes, bagels. Whatever you can bring will suffice. As our hunt fields are getting bigger, you will just have to bring what you can....and first come first serve. The idea here is to keep it as simple as you wish or if you want to go all out, that is fine too, but everybody **shares** taking turns with the snacks and drinks. I feel certain this will add to our already happily successful new hunt, and besides sharing joys of the day, it will give us a chance to meet our new members, and vice versa.

Thank you very much.

Marcia Brown

*(A Tropical Venue—Continued from page 2)*

and our then Guv - Jesse Ventura. There were four other guests from Canada that morning. They had brought their elegant hunt horses with them to Florida for the winter. My hireling was a joy - a TB/Percheron cross who knew his job well. The country was fascinating - wide, sandy trails through woods and palmettos - lots of open pastures with coops to jump. The cattle ignored us. After a couple of good runs on a grey fox, Robert called it a day and we returned for a marvelous hunt breakfast along with the camaraderie so often shared by hunt people. Apparently a lot of Midwesterners move to Florida to hunt for the good footing (sandy).

January 2004 found Jerry and me in Siesta Key again, and I enjoyed my third hunt with SCF. My hireling was a nice draft-cross mare. The meet began at 4 p.m., and Robert set out with his pack, followed by Jack Phethean, MFH, and a small field. The fixture was dense with palmettos, and very different from my past two experiences. It was wet and swampy in places, with ditches filled with water. I kept a wary eye out for alliga-

tors, but I'm told they're not fond of hounds or humans. It was interesting watching the hounds work through the palmettos with only the tips of their tails showing. Things were pretty quiet for some time, when suddenly the pack was screaming. The hounds had gotten off on a bobcat. Their voices were magnificent - mostly deep baritone with one high-pitched coloratura named Claire in front. The field tried to catch up, but some of us in the back were slowed down by inch-thick green vines, hanging from trees in a dense forest, and coiled ominously on the ground. A couple of horses got hung up in them, whereupon rider dismounts and cuts their horse free. I asked what kind of vines they were.

They call them "Waitaminute" vines. Robert called the hounds in after a couple of hours, since it was beginning to get dark. Apparently hunting a bobcat is



very frustrating to the pack, since it just runs circles. We returned to the trailers, where we were greeted by a glowing fire, liquid refreshments, and a hot supper. Each member is required to put on a "tea," as they call it, once a year, so each hunt has a nice meal to look forward to, even if there were no barn-burner runs. January in Florida is a nice treat with snow up to our stirrups here in Minnesota. Hunting in the far North and deep South is a contrast I'll look forward to next year.



## WHERE HAVE YOU HUNTED LATELY?



Karin Winegar and Lt. Col. Dennis F. Foster, Executive Director MHH 1-17-04

Estate Hound Performance Trials— Karin Winegar on Mr. Ruggles 1-17-04



# TWO VIEWS ON CONDITIONING

## Conditioning the Field Hunter

By Anne Donahoe

We all have a passion for riding and foxhunting, and it is even more rewarding when our horse shares our passion. To ensure that your partner remains sound for the entire season – and for seasons to come – it is imperative that you take the time to correctly condition him.

Conditioning is a very slow, steady, methodical process. There are no amazing shortcuts or tricks; the secret is tenacity. You literally start at a walk and learn to run. Obviously, a commitment of time and effort is necessary. The program I will be outlining is a 6 or 7 day-a-week commitment for the unconditioned horse and the amateur rider who can find about an hour a day to ride.

The ideal end point of a conditioning program is a horse that is strong, enduring and will stay that way a long time. A conditioned horse is capable of doing the work asked of it without damage. The conditioning procedure will either make or break a prospective field hunter. To do it properly it is necessary to forget about developing muscle and adopt a philosophy based on conditioning bones, ligaments and tendons. The true end point of physical conditioning is bone and associated structures that can stand the continued stress of distance work. Aim at bone and everything else, including muscle and wind, will follow.

Conditioning entails changes in the body's physiology. The cardiovascular system becomes more efficient; muscles learn to function using less energy and oxygen; and bone, ligaments and tendons become more durable. The problem is that muscle is the fastest thing to gain strength, while bones, ligaments and tendons are slower. Muscles are used by many riders as the yardstick of conditioning. That is wrong.

Bone is more important because it is most prone to permanent failure. Horse lameness data indicates that the vast majority of breakdown lameness is related to bones (arthritis, fractures), tendons (bows), and ligaments (suspensory pulls). Muscles very seldom go lame. This alone speaks volumes about the need for proper conditioning. Low dose, controlled, sustained concussion will strengthen your horse's bones by changing the mineral content in the bones. But beware because concussion is indeed a double-edged sword. Too much of it on unconditioned bone will damage it unmercifully. Bone must be mature before it can attain its full strength and durability. Please remember that although a horse may reach full height by the age of 4 or 5, his skeleton does not mature until it is somewhere around 7 – 8 years old.

Before you start your conditioning program, have your veterinarian check him for overall health and soundness. Also work with your farrier, monitoring the wear on his shoes and the type of terrain you are riding on. (He may need pads.)

First Week: The first week of this program is the walk, walk,

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Conditioning for Competition

By Jennifer L. Schuck, MFH

Hello fellow fox hunters! Another season is rapidly approaching and our equine partners will need to be put back into work. One of the best ways to get motivated about heading to the barn is to have a goal on which to focus: the first day of hound exercise, how's that! Then you work backwards. If I've lost you that's OK. I've learned to organize my conditioning schedule for my horses by competing in horse trials and working with great teachers like Ralph Hill, Peter Green, Bruce Davidson, and Becky Douglas.

When conditioning for competition you take your calendar, note the date of your competition and count the weeks backward. The level of your event determines how many gallops you'll need to be prepared for your competition. Something else to be aware of is to put a good base on your horse before you begin your gallops. If you don't have the luxury of an indoor arena, your horse most likely had the winter off of work and will need to be gradually brought back into condition.

To begin putting a base on your horse, determine when he was last worked. If it was two months or more, you will need to start from the beginning. Your horse is an athlete just like you and will experience muscle soreness and possible injury if not brought along properly. Your horse will need six to eight weeks of slow, gradual work before he begins hound exercise. Slow, gradual work could be defined as a week of just walking. If your horse is anything like mine, a week of walking sounds like a joke because I'll be lucky to just stay on after that much time off.

So . . . . the purchase of a good lunge line might come in handy before the maiden ride. Then I would recommend going for a nice, long walk. Become familiar with your horse's respirations and pulse at rest. A horse's normal respiration rate is eight to twelve breaths per minute; normal pulse is thirty –two to forty-two beats per minute. After walking fifteen to twenty minutes, stop and count his respiration rate by watching his sides or nostrils. If he is breathing rapidly with nostrils flaring, keep the walk routines going a few more days to increase his tolerance for activity. If he seems comfortable, start to add some short trot sets. If you have done any interval training, sets should be familiar to you. If not, a set is a timed duration of an activity; for example begin with two minutes trotting, two minutes walking. If your horse is breathing rapidly, he may just need to continue walking. If he seems comfortable do an additional two minutes trotting, two minutes walking and check him again.

Over the next six weeks increase the trot sets gradually. By the sixth week, your horse is capable of doing three sets of four-minute trots and two sets of two-minute canters with two minute breaks between each set. Begin and end each set with a ten to fifteen minute walk. If your horse is not recovering between sets, you may need to give them a longer walk break.

Remember that your main goal is to be ready for the first hound exercise around mid-May. The maximum duration of that activ-

*(Continued on page 5)*



**YOUR SADDLE CONNECTION**

**JEANNE AHRENHOLZ**  
 Albion Saddles Doberst Bridles  
 Saddle Fitting

9255 County Road 6  
 Maple Plain, MN 55359  
 Tel. 952-955-1961  
 Fax. 952-955-1944  
 email. jmahrenholz@yahoo.com

## Congratulations!

Tom Mensing's three-year-old gelding, Impact PSY (Padron Psyche x WA Marlaina Lee), won Reserve champion Arabian in-Hand 3-Year-old Geldings with Keith Kriche handling. Tom showed the same horse to Top Ten in Arabian In-hand 3-& -Year-Old Geldings Adult Amateur Owner to Handle. The horse is also owned by Suzanne Bates.

Tom Mensing was also the amateur handler for a Top Ten Win in the class SCOTTSDALE SIGNATURE STALLION CHAMPIONSHIP YEARLING COLTS, ATH at the Scottsdale All Arabian Horse Show on February 22. The colt was PSEQUEL (Padrons Psyche x Ynazia HCF) owned by Robert & Dixie North of North Arabians of Ramona California.

# Live Hunts - Other Venues

## Western Hunt Challenge Tour 2004 General Information

Nine hunts in the western United States will participate in this year's Challenge Tour. Six packs of foxhounds, one pack of harriers, and two packs of beagles will be judged as to who can provide the best day's sport, with a cash prize going to the charity designated by the winning hunt. The judges are Charles Montgomery, professional huntsman for the Live Oak Hounds, Monticello, Florida, and Clive Rose, retired huntsman of the Moore County Hounds, Southern Pines, North Carolina.

### The schedule is as follows:

March 30: Coal Valley Hounds, McCune, KS	April 12: Red Rock Hounds, Reno, NV
April 1: Wabash Hounds, Imogene, IA	April 13: Waldingfield Beagles @ Red Rock
April 3: North Hills Hunt, Burwell, NE	April 13: Kingsbury Harriers @ Red Rock
April 4: Extra day of hunting with North Hills	NOTE LAST TWO MEETS ON SAME DAY
April 6: Bijou Springs Hunt, Castle Rock, CO	AT SAME LOCATION, BREAK IN BETWEEN
April 9: High Country Hounds, Flagstaff, AZ	
April 10: Paradise Valley Beagles @ High Country	

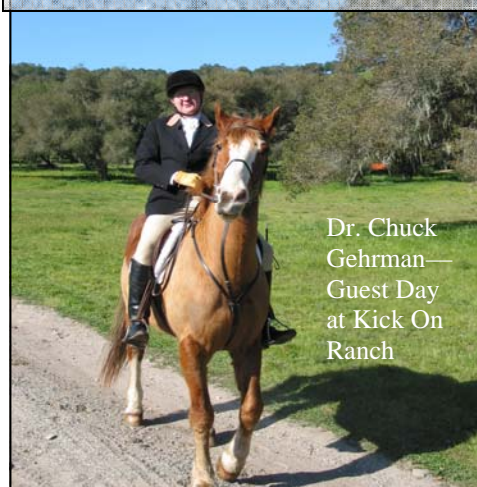
Individual participants are welcome to join all or part of the Tour, but need to obtain permission from the specific hunts and arrange for their own lodging, stabling, and/or horse rental. Please refer to each hunt's information sheet for details. Please keep in contact with the respective hunts during the Tour as meet times, fixtures, and other details are subject to change depending on the weather. The participating hunts will be collecting donations in lieu of cap fees to go into the charity prize fund. Checks made payable to "The Hound Fund, Inc." are tax deductible and may be paid for each hunt. Contributions over and above donations for hunting are welcome also, contact Beverly Heffernan as indicated below for further details.

Participants who are hauling horses across state lines should contact their veterinarians to ensure that they have the appropriate documentation for the states to which they will be traveling. At a minimum, this will include a health certificate (usually required to have been issued within 30 days of travel) including proof of negative EIA; some states also require a brand card. All horses, even traveling intrastate, must have proof of negative EIA testing within the past year. Human participants must be sure to sign a liability release for each hunt before mounting.

Sue Slocum (952 240-3721)  
[susan.slocum@childrenshc.org](mailto:susan.slocum@childrenshc.org)

The owner of all the horses is Outlaw Equestrians. This was the Forty Ninth Annual Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show. The Scottsdale show was founded in 1955 and is the largest Arabian show in North America.

## WHERE HAVE YOU HUNTED LATELY?



Dr. Chuck Gehrman—  
 Guest Day  
 at Kick On  
 Ranch

(Conditioning for Competition -Cont. from page 4)  
 ity varies from twenty to forty minutes, which in the beginning are mostly walking and some trotting. Now our goal is going to change. We now need to get our horses galloping-fit for cub-hunting which begins mid-July. If you are able to attend hound exercise days for members regularly you will be able to increase your horse's condition with the hounds as they increase their condition. This is also a great opportunity for introducing new members and inexperienced horses to the hounds.

If hound exercise does not work into your schedule, a basic interval conditioning

(Continued on page 6)

(Conditioning the Field Hunter—Continued from page 4)

walk stage. This is not wasted time, for while walking you should be exposing your horse to trail obstacles, teaching him to walk at a good rate, to operate on a loose rein and, if you are riding with someone else, to lead and follow.

**Pre-Ride and Post-Ride Habits:** The first week is also the time to establish your pre- and post-ride habits. These are the little things that help to insure your success later. If you establish a routine, it can be done in just a few minutes with minimal effort: 1) while grooming, check for girth sores and leg swelling; 2) check the condition of his shoes; and 3) check for a sore back. Do the same after you ride.

**Second Week:** The second week is more walking and a little easy trotting. Trot for a minute at first, gradually working up to 3-minute trots. Always walk for the first 15 minutes, and walk for 5 minutes after each trot. Watch your pony's breathing to know when he needs a break. At first, he may breathe hard when he trots even a little. He should return to normal breathing when you walk for 5 minutes.

**Third Week:** The third week consists of more walking and trotting. You should maintain the one-hour training period, doing an easy trot about half the time. Some changes in your horse should be noticeable at this time — his sweat should be starting to thin out, differing from the foamy, sticky sweat you may have initially observed. His lower legs should have started to tighten up, and his body should be starting to firm up.

**Fourth and Fifth Weeks:** Next, begin walking up gentle hills. As he gets fitter and doesn't breathe as hard going uphill, start trotting slowly up gentle hills. You can now add short canters. At this point, your horse is ready for regular riding lessons and to start cavaletti work and jumping. Remember that he is now burning more energy so his grain should be increased gradually, a little each week.

**Sixth – Eighth Weeks:** Your horse will now be ready to prepare for the more strenuous work he will do while foxhunting. Gradually increase the length of your trots from 5 minutes to 8 minutes, then 10 minutes. Always walk for at least 5 minutes after each trot. Trot up longer and steeper hills, remembering to walk downhill. To develop his wind and fitness, add slow galloping once or twice a week. You must warm him up for 20 – 30 minutes at the walk and trot before you gallop. (Think about this when you show up at a hunt meet. Arrive early enough so that you may warm up your horse properly.) When you start, your gallops should be fairly short and not too fast. Slow down gradually, and walk until his breathing returns to normal. Then do a second slow gallop at the same distance and speed. A fit horse should recover his normal breathing in 5 minutes or less.

In all your conditioning work you must increase the level of work gradually, and use good judgment about how much work is best for your horse. Keep track of how he is feeling and acting. If he is lively, eager and strong, you may increase his work, but don't gallop so much or so fast that you make him hot and excitable. If he shows signs of being overworked (acting cranky or tired; having stiff, sore muscles; showing swelling in his legs; or not eating well), you must slow down and give him less work. Don't follow any conditioning program too rigidly — pay attention to how your horse is doing — and use your horse sense!



(Conditioning for Competition—Continued from page 5)

program will work as well. An ideal program would involve six days a week, one day off. Because I do eventing most of my horses follow a schedule similar to this, suggested by Ralph Hill's Rider Development Program:

Day 1: Long and low dressage

Day 2: Gallop

Day 3: Dressage

Day 4: Grid work (Jumping)

Day 5: Dressage

Day 6: Gallop

Day 7: Rest (no work)

My gallop schedule follows a specific progressive interval series that I learned from the Rider Development Program. It is designed to gradually increase my horse's cardiovascular condition



Jennifer Schuck, MFH, on Ben Jaffray's horse, Ballyhale.  
Photo by Steve Gardiner.

to be able to comfortably and safely compete at all levels of eventing. It has specific interval timing of trot sets, canter sets, and rest periods. Some things to think about when conditioning are never to gallop after a day off; always start back to work with some light dressage or go for a long hack. Walking is the best way to loosen up stiff muscles after a day of hard work or a day off. You do not want to do two strenuous days of work in a row. For example, don't gallop one day and do a hard jump school the next day.

Gallop days are not only to condition the horse, they condition the rider also. As your gallop sets increase, you may begin to experience fatigue. One way to increase rider stamina is by doing two-point at the walk,

trot, canter, and gallop. Another way is to work without stirrups (posting and sitting trot) on dressage days.

Rider fitness off the horse is important. At a minimum, walking briskly three times a week for twenty to thirty minutes will increase your rider fitness. A simple abdominal routine can strengthen and prevent low back soreness.

The terrain on which you are working is a factor. In the beginning of your fitness program you can reduce the stress on your horse by working on more level terrain. You can add hill work gradually after you have obtained a good base on your horse.

Remember to always use common sense; know your own horse and his limits and potential. Start slow and build up good conditioning in the horse and good stamina in yourself. Your enjoyment and safety will be greatly increased if you reduce the chance for injury as you plan ahead and allow yourself enough time to get ready for the season. Don't expect to bring your horse out a week before the first cub hunt. Take the time early in the season to strengthen muscles and condition properly. Proper conditioning makes your horse less prone to injury and gives him endurance, extends his useful life and makes him easier and safer to ride in the hunt field. Happy Hunting!



Many thanks to Dave Stene for the creative front page of our April issue!



# Thank you

I would like to thank the Hunt Ball Committee, the Wayzata Country Club, and especially the members and guests who attended the LLH Hunt Ball this year. The ball was a great success and happily we have some profit to turn over to the Hunt.

Marcia Brown

## NEW RULES FOR HORSES ENTERING ILLINOIS

From the Illinois Department of Agriculture

The Coggins test and health certificate previously were the only required documents to enter Illinois with horses. The entry permit is a new requirement.

### Illinois Entry Requirements for Equines

Effective February 1, 2004

All equines entering Illinois for any reason other than slaughter must be accompanied by a negative test for EIA conducted within a year if the animal is more than one year of age, certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of entry, and an entry permit issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Entry permits are available by calling the Illinois Department of Agriculture (217.782.4944) and are issued 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR OBTAINING AN ENTRY PERMIT FROM THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

The following information will be required for the entry permit:

1. Name and mailing address of owner of the animal
2. Date of the EIA test
3. Location where the animal is going

Permit numbers are also available online at <http://www.agr.state.il.us/>

A password to access the permit program is required and will be issued to veterinarians by calling the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health (217.782.4944) week-days, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For equine only: The entry permit is good for 30 days (the life of the health certificate). It is requested that if the health certificate is used for multiple entries (i.e. trail rides or shows on several weekends) that all events during the 30-day period be included on the health certificate. If an event is not listed on the health certificate, the owner is asked to call the Department, provide the permit number and provide the location of the additional event(s).

For equine sales: A blanket permit is available for out-of-state equine sales and auctions. For more information, please call the Bureau of Animal Health (217.782.4944).

In accordance with the Illinois Diseased Animals Act (510 ILCS 50/1 and the regulations pertaining thereto 8 Ill. Adm. Code 85), violators are guilty of a business offense and shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,000.

### Buttons and Colours

A quick word about buttons and colours. If you will need LLH buttons and colours added to your coat(s) this year, please contact me. At the request of the button manufacturer, we are going to do one spring button order, for fall hunting, and then another order in the fall for the later part of the season. We do have stock for replacement buttons.

Please contact Jon prior to 01 May 2004 for the spring order and mark your calendar for 01 September 2004 for the fall order. Feel free to call with any questions.

Jon Martinson on 763.473.7615  
[jmartinson1@earthlink.net](mailto:jmartinson1@earthlink.net)

### **WHERE HAVE YOU HUNTED LATELY?**



Ruggles and Eric drive husbands to drink SYVH 1-24-04

Eric says: "This photo is mindful of the old days with a field largely or only with women at Long Lake Hounds, as you will see in the caption! My kind of field!"

### **THE LONG LAKE HOUNDS HUNT HOTLINE**

Are the LLH Hounds going out? Information available on inclement weather, location and times during walking, country keeping, cubbing and regular season. This is an unmonitored number so please do not leave messages.

**(952) 472-2743**

# Greater Magic

## A SPECIAL FIELDHUNTER

By Jeanne Ahrenholz

I've loved and cherished all the horses I've had, but recalling a special hunt horse was easy--I thought. It just had to be High Tide, the Cadillac of field hunters. Then Jo Bolte reminded me, "Well of course you'll write about Ned." The decision is not so easy after all. It makes me terribly sad to leave out Gusto, Crescendo, Justinian, and especially Tide. I was blessed with each of them, but it was Ned (show name Greater Magic) who introduced me to foxhunting and taught me to love it.

I purchased Ned (around 1978?) to teach me to jump. An elegant dapple grey Thoroughbred, he'd been a children's show hunter, was quiet and jumped with great form. My veterinarian, Dr. Van Patten, had doubts about a lump on Ned's fetlock, but he flexed okay, was sound, and I knew he'd been in this area and sound for many years. I had previously shown Morgans but had been bitten by the jumping/dressage bug. I thought this horse was really too fancy to hunt but had always been fascinated with the idea of hunting.

I owned Calamity Jeanne's Saddle Shop at the time and many of my customers would come into the shop after hunting. I'd ask them how one could get involved, and Betty Kuller and Ted enthusiastically invited me as their guest. Ned and I arrived at the Polo Grounds well before the time of the meet, but we were the only ones there for a long time. I was amazed when trailers pulled up and horses were unloaded already tacked up just moments before the meet. There was no second field at the time, and Ted hunted right up front with Ned and me in his pocket.

I had no idea horses could run that fast, that long, through that kind of footing. Ned pranced most of the way, throwing his head occasionally and jumped magnificently. I was overwhelmed but hooked. Ned, however, was the one who had really

found his calling.

Ned was a quitter in the ring: he had the attitude that there was no reason to jump when you could go around. Out hunting however, he understood the purpose and nothing was going to separate him from hounds. If they followed coons into the swamp, he got very angry. When they spoiled his sport, he would stomp and snort and throw his head until they returned. He was almost impossible to load in the trailer if the pack was still out. If horses in front of him stopped at a fence he was totally disgusted. Often we ended



Jeanne and Ned

up leading the field for part of a line. Other horses would quit, he'd jump over, and then they'd follow.

On one of those magical Fall days, Anita was hunting the hounds and they went off on a live fox in Leck's woods. The trails are wide and manicured throughout the woods, but that fox didn't stick to the trails and didn't cross the creek in the "safe" places. More and more of the field got bogged down, stuck in mud or underbrush, or their horses refused to go any further. When the hounds finally lost that fox and Anita gathered them up, only she and I were left. We were covered with mud and sweat but also wore big grins. None of the four of us was more satisfied than Ned.

I remember with fondness being up in the front with regulars--Ted Kuller and RC, Lyman Wakefield and Omar, Jo (Simonton) Bolte and Icy. Once in awhile I dropped back just to be polite. Ned loved especially the long gallops in the Maple Plain and McCann country. Both those areas were wide open at the time,

and he had one of those ground-covering-Thoroughbred gallops and catty natural balance.


The more Ned hunted the better he liked it and the better he was. He was always up but under total control and never caused a problem. Ned cantered all the time. When other horses walked he would do a very collected canter. At the checks he would often canter in place. I got a reputation for being a great rider, able to handle such a hot horse. In reality he was easy and could have been ridden with reins of thread.

Eventually the lump on Ned's leg got the better of him and he started having soundness problems. A vet at the University explained that the bump was classic for a horse that had broken a seamoid on the track, and he showed me the scars where it had been surgically repaired. I placed Ned with a friend who rode him lightly occasionally and mostly had him as a pet. When it came time for him to pass on I went there and picked him up. He's buried on our hill.

Ned was a horse who truly loved hunting. Most horses like it, but his passion went beyond that. Ned was never a generous horse in the schooling arena or at shows, and was not particularly affectionate, but he gave his all in the hunt field. I thank him for teaching me to love hunting and sharing with me the "greater magic" of riding a special horse. 🐕

# BDESIGN

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Custom Artwork  
and lots of  
"Foxy" things

## Greetings From the Kennels!

It has been a good winter for all the hounds here. Lennie, Jon, Nancy and Brianna have been taking us for walks at least twice a week, but recently we have been going out 4-6 times a week. We love it, especially now it has gotten warmer—the smells are delicious! The snow has been good too. Jon likes to do snow angels and we all join in.



Nancy has been bringing some of her dogs over—they are a funny-looking bunch of hounds. Lennie tells us that they are Jack Russells not Beagles, but I don't know if I believe her—she also talks about Labradors and Retrievers. All we know is that they are different from us!

We are all getting along. Lennie tells us that is good. We all like to play and sniff. Oh, and of course, the boys like to do their marking thing, too. My siblings, Goliath and Georgia, have been on a diet and have managed to lose some weight. I suppose not everyone is lucky to have a body like mine! With the exercise, we are all starting to look a little trimmer.

Lennie has promised us that we will be moving soon. All the hounds agree that the new place sounds great! We can't wait to move and see it for ourselves. It will be sad to leave these kennels, but we are also ready for a new adventure and we hope that all the members will come and visit us in our new place.

Well, I have to sign off now, as my friends are playing without me and I do not want to miss any of the fun. Hope to see you soon.

-Gretchen the hound (with a little help from Lennie)



Jon Martinson walking hounds Winter 04

Remember!

You can access, read and download *The Babblor* at <http://members.aol.com/jmastene/Babblor.pdf>

## Horse Buying Scam?

People selling horses are receiving buyer inquiries from a third party regarding the purchase of a horse from a potential buyer in Nigeria or Africa. This inquiry commonly attempts to arrange the purchase of the horse with a cashier's check covering the price of the horse and shipping. After the horse has been shipped, they commonly ask you to refund the shipping charges as part of a "finder's fee arrangement."

Unfortunately, the cashier's check that is sent is counterfeit. This fact is not uncovered until the horse and the finder's fee have been forwarded to the scam artists.

Things to look out for .....

- **Big Promises.** Claims such as offering more money than the asking price without an initial conversation regarding the horse are almost always a sure sign of a scam. Be careful of any individual who wants to send you more money than you are asking for.
- **High Pressure Tactics.** Be wary of individuals asking you to speed up the transaction beyond your comfort range. Again, a legitimate deal probably isn't going to move as fast as your money. Don't let yourself be pressured -- think things through.
- **Requests for financial information.** Don't give out any bank information without establishing a comfort level with the buyer or seller.
- **Always get something in writing.** You should never complete a transaction without first writing down the terms of the deal and have each party sign it. If you can't afford a lawyer to draft up a contract, you still should write down the terms of the deal in plain English and get it signed. Any buyer or seller that is hesitant or resists is usually a sure sign of a potential problem.
- **Remember the old saying, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."**

(A portion of an article taken from *HorsesMidwest.com*)

*Editor's Note: I have had personal experience with this scam when trying to sell an antique car—offers came from all over the world for the price stated. All I had to do was send my bank information.*



Hello Friends — I have 3 new listings to share with you. 66 acres on Nelson Road, both wooded and open for pasture. 21.5 acres on Turner Road. 36 acres with direct Lake Minnetonka access, new stable, Country French style home, subdivision potential. Call me with any questions.

**Cathryn Andrews 612-306-4800**

**MINNETONKA REALTY, INC.**

4154 Shoreline Drive  
Phone: 952.471.0033

Spring Park, MN 55384  
Fax: 952.471.9670





## The Hunt Ball 2004 A Full Cry Success

*By Gerry Brost*

The 2004 Hunt Ball was a terrific success this year. Everyone had a great time and the positive energy was felt by all. The band had virtually everyone on the dance floor most of the night until people had to go home and feed the horses. Rod Stanchfield and David Stene never left the dance floor so we hope their horses were fed. The girls with their beautiful gowns tantalized the gents and kept the chase alive the entire evening. From an ol' experienced hound's perspective, the viewing and scenting was fantastic! Smiles were ubiquitous and all were jolly good fellows.



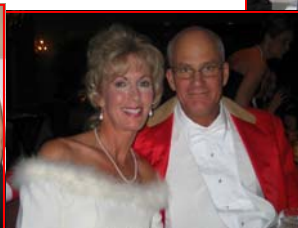
We nearly filled the Wayzata Country Club's main dining room with over 100 people, including our Joint Masters and Huntsman, Bridgett, Jennifer and Lennie. The evening started with our traditional stirrup cup and the opportunity for professional portraits. It was nice to touch base and share happenings since our last meeting at the Colours Party. Dinner was chicken Oscar with a savory sauce and enjoyed by all except the chickens (and vegetarians). The tables were festively decorated for Valentine's Day with bouquets of red roses. During dessert there was a screen picture presentation with the last season's happenings presented with good humor and a few aahs... The Hunt Ball Committee will be happy to write a check to the Long lake Hounds Board of Directors reflecting the financial success of this year's Ball.



The Hunt Ball 2005 will be held at the Wayzata Country Club again. All that have not attended The Ball in recent years are greatly encouraged to come out next year and share in the festivities and happiness that pervades our Hunt Ball. The Hunt Ball Committee wishes you all an early and short mud season as it is time to start legging up for the coming season. Godspeed and tallyho!



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## Horses Are a Billion Dollar Industry in Minnesota

University of Minnesota Study  
2/16/2004

Minnesota's horse industry generates nearly \$1 billion in economic activity every year in Minnesota, according to a new analysis conducted by a University of Minnesota applied economics professor.

Associate professor Brian Buhr found that Minnesota ranks 9th in the country in number of horses, which results in \$930 million in direct and indirect economic benefit.

Minnesota has a thriving horse population, with 155,000 horses currently being raised here, said Buhr. We have significant horse activity in every county, which means lots of work for horse trainers, veterinarians and farmers throughout the state.

Although Minnesota has a large number of horses, the report found that the value of the state's horses ranks significantly behind comparable states. Minnesota is ranked 45th among states in sales value per horse, with an average value of \$1,200. The national average for horse value is \$3,145, with Kentucky leading the county with an average horse value of more than \$23,000.

There is still a limited amount of research about the potential impact Minnesota's horse industry may have, said Buhr. But if we want to increase the total value and economic impact of horses, the best investments would be in stronger horse racing and horse shows. Show horses generate twice the economic value of pleasure horses, and race horses generate nearly five times the economic impact.

The analysis released was a follow-up to a University of Minnesota report released last year examining the value of livestock in Minnesota. The equine report can be downloaded at [www.apec.umn.edu/faculty/bbuhr/mnhorse.pdf](http://www.apec.umn.edu/faculty/bbuhr/mnhorse.pdf).

Contacts: Brian Buhr, associate professor of applied economics 612.625.1273

Paul Moore, University News Service 612.624.0214

### CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale:** Two Smartmedia 128MB Memory Cards, SanDisk Reader and SanDisk driver cd. \$150.00 value — Sell for \$75.00 Joanie 763.576.9608 or [jmastene@aol.com](mailto:jmastene@aol.com)

**For Sale:** Pair of Rossignol Bandit X skis 177cm w/Rossi bindings - \$150.00. Pair of K2 Merlin skis with Solomon bindings—\$50.00 Joanie 763.576.9608

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Notify Lonna Mosow of your listing  
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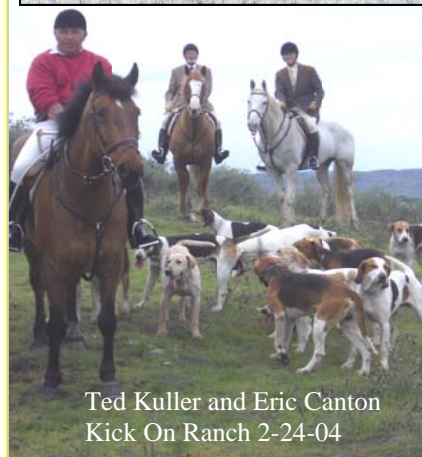
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### HORSEY TIPS

Handy Leg Bandages-  
Save all your old socks! They make effective bandages for hard-to-dress areas on horses' (and dogs') legs.  
A Clever Gate Latch  
Discarded seatbelts make great latches. Just nail one strap to the post and the other to the gate, and buckle up! Even the smartest horse won't figure out how to open it!

### WHERE HAVE YOU HUNTED LATELY?



### WANTED HORSES

The St. Paul Mounted Patrol has been authorized to get more new geldings. They are looking for 16h minimum, solid color dark geldings of any breed. The horses must have calm dispositions and able to pass a soundness and health exam. They will pay up to \$2500 a horse or, if the horse is donated to the force through its Foundation, the donor can receive a significant tax deduction. Call Sgt. Eric Anderson at (651) 266-5632.

### THE LONG LAKE HOUNDS

#### JOINT MASTERS OF FOXHOUNDS

Bridgett Paradise 952.472.2726 [bparadise@microsoft.com](mailto:bparadise@microsoft.com)  
Jennifer Schuck 763.972.9116

#### HUNT SECRETARY

Ellie Crosby 763.473.1141 [ecrosby@att.net](mailto:ecrosby@att.net)

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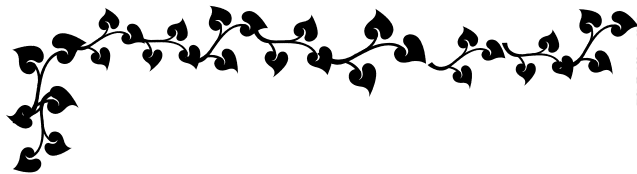
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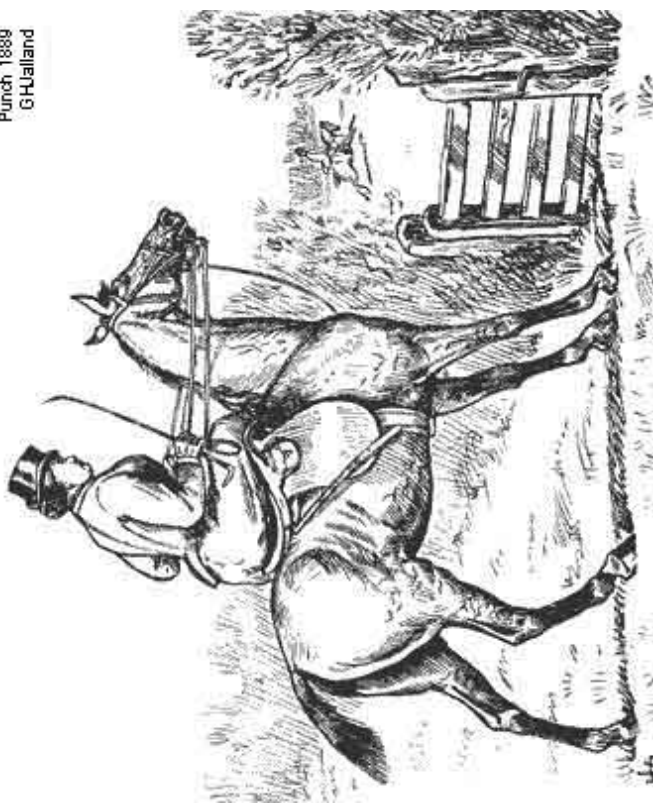
*The Babblor* will be published quarterly (October, January, April, July). All submissions should be sent to Joanie Stene at [jmastene@aol.com](mailto:jmastene@aol.com). If you wish to have your photos and work credited to your name, please state so. If photos are not sent electronically, and you wish them returned, your name and address must be included on the back of the photo, and a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) included. We reserve the right to edit all copy received for typographical and grammatical error and to shorten pieces as necessary. We also reserve the right to decline to use or to hold an item for publication in a later issue. For items to be considered for publication, they MUST be submitted at least one month prior to the publication date.



Punch, 1889  
G.H. Lalland

### THE LONG LAKE HUNT

April 30	LLH Annual Meeting Place and time TBA
May 1	Hounds return from Virginia (approximate date)
May 10	Hound Walking Begins (Tentative) Times and Dates TBA
June 1	Deadline for submissions to <i>The Babblers</i> for July '04 issue



"Now, if I jump it, I shall certainly fall off; and if I dismount to open it, I shall never get on again."



LONG LAKE HOUNDS *Babblers*  
15120 South Diamond Lake  
Road

**April 30, 2004**  
**LLH Annual Meeting!**