



THE BABBLER



Happy New Year!

January, 2005



Long Lake Hounds, checking in Moe's, on a glorious Fall day!

Colors Party and Silent Auction

The 2004 end-of-season Colors Party was held at B's on the River in Watertown on Saturday, November 20 with

tables overflowing with donated items to raise money through a silent auction.



Cindy Piper, J. MFH

The event raised \$6100 from sales of donations that included art-work, horse and rider services, riding lessons, tack, hunt wear, wine, jewelry

(Continued on page 4)

Save the date!

Long Lake Hounds Hunt

Ball

Saturday, March 5, 2005

6:30 P.M.

Lafayette Club

Lafayette On the Lake

2800 Northview Road

Minnetonka Beach, MN 55361



Guest rooms available starting at \$109 per night for LLH Members & Guests. Interested members call 952-472-8493

Inside The Babbler

Foxhunting Abroad	2
A Case for Hunting	2
Moinanga Joint Meet	3
Meet Bridgett Paradise	4
New LLH Logo	7
Meet the LLH	8
Photo Gallery	9
LLH Calendar	10
Western Challenge	10
Classifieds	11
Contact Information	11

Black and Blue Party

Those who did involuntary dismounts during a hunt this past season were recognized in all their bruised glory at a party held on Saturday, December 4 at the home of

Marty and Bridgett Paradise in Minnetrista.



Some of the walking wounded...

Cocktails—and talking about horses—were fol-

lowed by potluck buffet—and talking about hunting—followed by dessert buffet and more talking about horses and

(Continued on page 7)

LLH Master's Pace

October 16, 2004 — Hamel, MN

Organizers: Anne Donahoe & Cindy Piper/J. MFH

Thirty hearty souls braved the season's first cold weather by tuning out to compete in the LLH Master's Pace at the Dan & Jill Johnson farm on Willow Drive, in the heart of the Medina hunting country. Temperatures in the mid-thirties with wind chill temps in the low twenties encouraged riders to raid their winter closets for appropriate clothing and there was a run on hot packs for feet and fingers.

The four-plus mile course was carefully marked but riders still seemed to get lost, adding minutes to their times. But all riders remarked that even though it was cold, the trees

(Continued on page 4)



Foxhunting Abroad

HUNT BAN PASSES PARLIAMENT

TAKES EFFECT IN FEBRUARY

By Steve Hanges, *Babbler Intrepid Foreign Correspondent*

With a rarely invoked Parliamentary maneuver, Tony Blair and the Liberal Party have brought to an end the 300-year-old tradition of foxhunting in England.

The hunt ban, which has been passed by The House of Commons and blocked by the House of Lords several times in the past, was finally passed on November 18 by invoking the Parliament Act and overriding the Lords' veto. According to the law, the Lords can delay law plans for a year but if they reject an identical bill in two successive parliamentary sessions, the Parliament Act can be used to push the legislation onto the statute books. Before this, the Parliament Act had been used only three times.

In 1999, Prime Minister Tony Blair made a surprise announcement that he planned to make foxhunting illegal and that he would do so before the next general election if possible. He was responding to pressure from members of his own party said to be closely connected to animal rights groups in the UK.

Hunt enthusiasts say the pursuit is necessary to control foxes, hares, deer and mink and argue that the animals are killed quickly and without undue suffering. They also argue that the ban infringes their human rights and say it will be a bitter blow to the rural economy. Opponents have been campaigning for a ban for decades and say the practice is appallingly cruel and is unnecessary for pest control. Opponents of the ban accused Mr. Blair of bowing to pressure from the animal rights group The Political Animal Lobby (PAL), which donated an extra £100,000 to his campaign. PAL, an anti-hunt pressure group, had previously given £1,000,000 to the party before the 1997 election. Mr. Blair denied any connection and pointed out that PAL had also made donations to the Tories and the Liberal Democrats. A last-minute attempt in the House of Commons to substitute a bill that would allow licensed hunting of foxes was supported by Mr. Blair but rejected by the Commons. On Thursday, he told reporters action would now transfer to the courts. "But I think probably, despite the very passionate views on either side of this debate, the majority of people would have preferred to have seen a compromise accepted," he added.

The first section of the Act makes it absolutely clear what constitutes a criminal offence. There's no mention of cruelty. It says: "A person commits an offence if he hunts a wild animal with a dog, unless his hunting is exempt." Hunting is not defined and that might present a problem for police attempting to enforce the ban.

Four types of hunting are still allowed under the bill:

- Stalking a wild animal or flushing it out of cover to prevent damage to livestock
- Dogs can be used below ground (to flush out foxes) for stalking and shooting to protect wild or game birds
- Rats, rabbits, hares and birds may be hunted on one's own

(Continued on page 5)

A Case for Hunting

By Lionel Shriver—November 23, 2004

LONDON — With Britain's Black Watch regiment camped in harm's way outside of Baghdad, the spectacle of Labour MPs going rabid about banning foxhunting last week must have looked, at any distance, impenetrably quaint. Overriding the House of Lords by invoking the Parliament Act for only the fourth time since it was passed in 1911, anti-hunt MPs successfully closed down a centuries-old sport firmly fixed in the international imagination as quintessentially British.

But at issue is not merely the further erosion of the tourist's Britain, sad like the passing of the classic red phone box, and soon the double-decker bus. This ban is not about animal welfare but human warfare, and of the pettiest, ugliest sort.

A few basics from the git-go: They may look cuter than rats, but foxes are pests, and prey on livestock. Even Londoners must increasingly appreciate the destructive power of their furry friends, for proliferating foxes are now commonplace in the city, frequently killing pets and ravaging rubbish bins. Bottom line: foxes will be killed anyway. It is only a question of how. Despite their seeming savagery, hounds kill their quarry in an average of two to three seconds, far less time than it takes a fox to die when imperfectly shot. Hence even ban advocates focus on the "anxiety" a fox may experience when chased, rather than on its mercifully brief death throes.

Since anxiety is a less emotive matter than physical agony by a yard, how did antipathy toward foxhunting among Labour Party backbenchers grow so ferocious that as of next February any Briton who pursues a fox on a horse with a dog will now be put in jail?

Self-evidently, class antagonism plays a part. Decrying foxhunting as a decadent diversion of the aristocracy, Labour is now in the saddle, and will hound the toffs in their poney red outfits. The fact that latterly foxhunting bridges class barriers, bringing rural communities of varying incomes together, has failed to diminish this class bloodlust, since most ban advocates are proudly ignorant about the sport they would abolish, and have never been on a foxhunt.

Yet the deeper modern rift between the urban elite and the dis-

(Continued on page 5)

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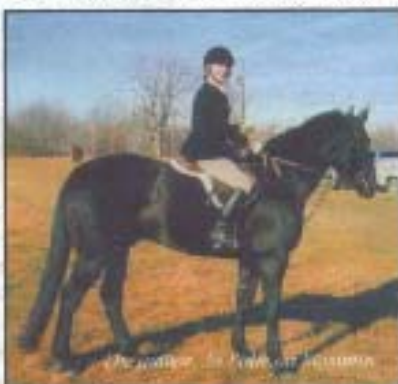
952-473-0546 2460 West Industrial Blvd Long Lake, MN

MOINGONA JOINT MEET November 6-7, 2004

By: Jo Simonton Bolte

Ten eager foxhunters from Minnesota transported horses to New Virginia, Iowa, for the joint meet. What a totally exhilarating experience two

days' hunting in Iowa proved to be. Saturday's hunt was in Moingona's South River country. It was a glorious day—70 degrees and sunny. The first two riders to greet me were Phil and Jean Giglio from Moingona. Two years ago I bought my horse, Maximus, from Phil. What an impres-



sive and colorful gathering. There were more than 100 riders from eight different hunts—our hosts from the Moingona Hunt, Mission Valley Hunt, Coal Valley Hounds, Fort Leavenworth Hunt, North Hills Hunt, Nodaway River Hounds and 10 of us from the Long Lake Hounds. Monte Antisdal, MFH of Moingona, greeted everyone while we enjoyed a stirrup cup, and announced that he would be hunting the hounds. Their pack is mainly crossbred with some American and a few English hounds. He introduced hunt staff from the guest hunts and invited them to ride forward and off we went. Whoever thought a live hunt would move off so quickly? What a fast and wild chase it was! Galloping and jumping fences among 100 horses isn't for the faint of heart. Helmuth Dahlke, the dapper MFH of Nodaway, took a nasty fall when his horse somersaulted, but he was back for the meet on Sunday. The country was beautiful—very hilly with deep ravines and streams. It reminded me of the Cornwall hunt country in Elizabeth, Illinois. Jumps were coops, post and rails and logs. Hounds gave tongue often and we enjoyed long, fast runs. In fact, we never had a check until the very end. The horses were tired and lathered up due to the fast pace and the unseasonably warm day. The Moingona members hosted a marvelous brunch following the hunt, and invited everyone to a reception that evening at the Lakeside Casino, where most of us were

staying. Gourmet food and libations were abundant, and all enjoyed an evening of good humor and camaraderie.

Sunday's meet was in Moingona's Grand River country, just a few miles north of the Missouri border. We were blessed with another beautiful day and a stirrup cup of mulled wine. Monte Antisdal announced that he would take the first field, Ted Grauer the second, and Ken George, Moingona's kennel huntsman, would take the hounds. The country's long views provided good viewing for all. We moved off quickly (if cantering qualifies for "quickly"), since the hounds were in full cry moments after we left. The country was panoramic, with acres and acres of prairies on softly rolling hills. Beautiful vistas with nary a building in sight for miles. The Grand River meanders through the countryside with its many tributaries, providing rock-strewn creeks and ditches to jump. It was thrilling to be able to watch the hounds work from either side of the river. After many good runs the huntsman called the hounds in and we headed back to the trailers. Lunch was



served at the Silver Spur in Grand River after the hunt. Our two days' hunting in Iowa provided not only good sport, but splendid hospitality as well. We loaded our horses and headed home - tired but glad that we'd made the trip.

Live hunting brought to mind Oscar Wilde's timeless description of the hunt scene ...
"The unspeakable in full pursuit of the uneatable." Oh, but what FUN it was!



LLH contingent at Moingona (from l to r): Jr. Lehman, Sue Mills, Jerry Brast, Jo Bolte, Marcia Brown, Dan Deikel, Emily Fischer, Lennie Williams, Briana Cedar, and Craig Robbins.

LLH Master's Pace (Continued from page 1) were a brilliant gold, red and yellow and the scenery was spectacular, making the day a glorious riding adventure.

Two of the three Jt. MFH's set the pace time early in the week. To no one's surprise the winners of the OVER FENCES Class were LLH professional huntswoman, Lennie Williams with Honorary Whipper-In Briana Cedar as her partner. Sam Nelson, age 12 and Susan Mills, aged, joined the team to make it a foursome. The trophy for this event has been in place for over forty years and is named the *STUART WELLS TROPHY* after one of the founders of the Long Lake Hounds.

The ON THE FLAT class was won by two adults shepherding three Pony Clubbers on medium ponies. There were smiles from ear to ear as the youngsters covered their faces in an attempt to warm themselves after dismounting.

All in all it was great fun and plans were being made to reunite teams for next year. Results:

HUNTER'S PACE OVER FENCES:

- 1) *Go Kart*, Lennie Williams; *Jazz*, Briana Cedar; *Randi*, Sam Nelson; *One Hundred Ways*, Susan Mills
- 2) *Casador*, David Stene; *Moonlight Valkyrie*, Joanie Stene; *Apollo*, Stevie Stene; & *Velvet*, Rachael Stene
- 3) *Billy*, Jim Koktavy; *Jose*, Emily Fischer
- 4) *Griffin*, Nina Rence; *Fanny*, Julie Krieger
- 5) *Eclectic*, Kary Holub; *Brown*, Mercedes Rhodes; *Gem*, Elizabeth Rivera
- 6) *Milton*, Laura Schacker; *Sunrise Merree*, Alexis Ness
- 7) *Derby*, Rachel Erickson; *Donotto*, Lauren Vezzosi
- 8) *Winston*, Becky Noy; *Colleen*, Marcia Brown; Liz Wortman

HUNTER'S PACE ON THE FLAT:

- 1) *Herschel*, Cathy Mueller; *Hey Joe*, Paula James; *Fenny Lane*, Emma James; *Promise*, Claire Johnson; *Popcorn*, Laurel Johnson
- 2) *Counting Coup*, Margaret Schrucker; *Pepsee*, Karla Ness
- 3) *Bubba*, Jeannie Lehman

Largest Family Award: *Casador*, *Valkyrie*, *Apollo* & *Velvet*, Dave, Joanie, Stevie and Rachael Stene

Longest Time: *Bubba*, Jeannie Lehman

Colors Party & Silent Auction (Continued from page 1)

and "dog sitting." Among the items of unusual provenance were antique hunting flasks, gentlemen's cologne kits and a sandwich kit—treasures contributed by ex-MFJ Peggy Steiner. More than 60 items were logged prior to the auction and members showed up bearing another 20 to contribute. Committee members Jane Flanders, Cindy Piper, Karin Winegar and Terry Rodriguez kept re-arranging, re-logging and pestering the wait staff for more banquet tables on which to display the booty.

Two darling and soon exhausted kittens provoked family controversies ("we already have too many animals" was the refrain as spouses, children and parents in turn fell in love with the pair). Rachel Paradise, having never seen a live kitten before, was particularly smitten. There was also a live rooster, a handsome Rhode Island red donated by Houle's Feed in Stillwater. The rooster raised \$185 in LLH's special brand of rooster insurance (closely related to extortion) and

an additional \$25 when one of the uninsured—Jerry Brost—took the rooster home and sold him for \$25 to a farmer. Enroute to his final destination, the rooster, nicknamed Pecker Houle, spent a night in Teri Nelson's townhouse and woke up residents as was his duty at dawn. He also made a memorable and slightly messy dash for freedom in the dining room of the B's banquet area, leaving feathers on the carpet and knocking down goblets and centerpieces as we chased him around the big room.

MFH Cindy Piper presented a slide show with archival photos and news



Rachel Paradise



Chairman of LLH,
Martha McPhee

Meet Bridgett Paradise

By Linda Murphy adapted by Jeanne Ahrenholz

Though we now claim her as ours, Bridgett Paradise, a Virginia transplant, arrived in Minnesota four years ago and has already made a splash in the Minnesota horse community. Who is Bridgett and how did she end up as one of our Joint Masters?

Bridgett grew up in a foxhunting family. Her father, Melvin Poe, is well respected internationally as a huntsman. He was Master of the Orange County Hunt in Middleburg, Virginia until age 73. The Washington Post wrote an article about him when he was asked to retire from the Orange County Hunt. However, he didn't retire and at 83 years old is still hunting as the current Master of the Bath County Hounds. Interestingly, a biography was written about his life titled "*Foxhunting with Melvin Poe*." Bridgett's mother worked as professional whip with her father.

Bridgett began hunting at age five. She and her sisters grew up learning the meaning of hard work. "I have great encouraging parents. They taught me that horses and riding are a privilege and so you work for it. We cleaned our own tack, took care of the horses and cleaned the barn." Bridgett worked in her dad's hunt in many capacities on the manual side, for example as a "kennel kid." During the 1970's, Orange County Hunt had approximately 40 hounds and 100 members. There was plenty of work to be done. Bridgett, along with her sisters assisted as "whip" and hunted along side her parents learning much about the hunt and life in general.

"Since becoming Joint Master of the Long Lake Hounds, I have learned more about myself. I have better instincts than I ever knew I had." Bridgett explained that during her younger years growing up in a foxhunting family, she learned about people. She learned from her parents, for example, the importance of common courtesy to landowners. These life lessons are very much a part of who she is today. If you want to know who Bridgett is, just watch her on her mount at sunrise address the hunt members prior to the hunt, as I had the opportunity to do at the junior hunt. It is apparent that Bridgett's instinct as Joint Hunt Master is the creation of growing up, watching her father address the members

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued on page 6)

land and rabbits may be hunted with falcons

- You are allowed to hunt an animal that has escaped, as long as it was not released for the purpose of hunting. It must be shot immediately.

Under the ban, landowners can be held liable if they give permission for live foxhunts on their land.

The penalty if found guilty is a fine of up to £5,000. The offense carries no sentence of imprisonment, but if you fail to pay a fine of £5,000 you must theoretically serve six months in jail. Also, on conviction, the court can order forfeiture of any dog or hunting article that was used in the commission of the offence or was in your possession at the time.

The ban takes effect in February 2005, putting at risk the jobs of between 6,000 and 8,000 full-time jobs linked to the sport, according to the Burns Inquiry, a government investigation into possible options for continuing foxhunting.

Foxhunting supporters have gone to court to try to overturn the ban on their more than 300-year-old sport and vowed a campaign of civil disobedience in the run-up to next year's general election. The Countryside Alliance (CA), the group that campaigns for the countryside, country sports and the rural way of life, is challenging the ban in both the British courts and in the European Court.

According to CA, over 250 packs of foxhounds, hare hounds, deer hounds and other hunts and clubs will meet as normal on Saturday 19th February, the day after the Hunting Act comes into force in England and Wales. The meets will be widely advertised and held at locations well placed to allow members and followers to support their local hunt. All hunts and clubs across the country will make it clear that they intend to hunt within the law, and will have gained permission from landowners to carry out legal hunting activities.

Foxhunting groups from the US are planning trips to England to participate both in protests and in the final meets in England and Wales.

Further information on the Countryside Alliance and its activities is at <http://www.countryside-alliance.org/>. If you would like to be in England for the final meets, Gone-Away Tours is planning a foxhunting tour for February 11-21 to Exmoor, Dartmoor, and Wiltshire.



Quotable quotes...

Kate Hoey MP (Labour)

"Foxes may be furrer and sexier than rats, but they are still vermin, and need to be controlled and killed. When I consider all the different methods of killing foxes, my view, backed up by Lord Burns, is that hunting with hounds is the most natural way to kill them ... We have to be honest about the fact that what really upsets some of my hon. Friends - and, perhaps, some Opposition Members too - is the idea that only toffs go hunting. If only hunters did not wear red coats, things might be different."
(Hoey 2002)

empowered countryside is more salient. The urban professionals backing the ban have ideas about themselves, very precious ideas. They are civilized. They recycle. They believe that meat grows in cellophaned packets. They abhor genetically modified foods and animal testing. They are good. Britain's country dwellers, who actually make things, grow things, raise things and yes, kill things, are too busy to worry about being good.

Foxhunting turned an unpleasant necessity, the eradication of livestock predators, into a ritual - an excuse for a frolic on horseback, fresh air, fellowship and a warming drink. And therein lies the nugget. For the virtuous, killing animals grimly is OK, but killing animals and enjoying it amounts to sadism and is therefore unacceptable. What was legislated last Thursday was not so much what rural sportsmen are allowed to do as what they are allowed to feel.

Alas, Europe in general is suffering under the tyranny of Goodness. The same impulse to legislate virtue drives the anti-smoking lobby. Hate-crime legislation levies additional jail time on criminals not for what they did, but why. And recycling is embraced as an intrinsically virtuous idea, whether or not its economics or even its environmental merits add up. Thus Goodness is not about doing good but affecting it, and about telling moral inferiors what they may or may not enjoy. In sum, the hunting ban is about vanity.

Urban Labourites are welcome to be as vain as they like so long as they do not employ the powerful arm of the state to squelch one of the few pleasures remaining to a beleaguered minority. Government should only constrict individual liberty when the case for interference is iron-clad. (Indeed, had the U.K. a written constitution, Thursday's law would probably be struck down by the courts. But parliamentary democracy allows for the triumph of unprincipled bullies, so long as they marshal the clout.) The case for banning foxhunting - vulpine anxiety, human emotions that are unattractive - is breathtakingly slight.

Whether this misconceived law results in widespread civil disobedience remains to be seen. Though opponents have threatened to foxhunt anyway, daunting police with the prospect of arresting thousands, Britain is lately less a nation of hunters than of sheep. But let's hope that the opposition declines to simply roll over - massacring their hounds, putting down their horses, learning to play Parcheesi on weekends. The British defeated Hitler. Surely they can triumph over the small-mindedness of their own government.

Ms. Shriver, a novelist, is the author of "We Need to Talk About Kevin" (Counterpoint, 2003).

Taken from the WSJ, November, 2004



Ann Winterton MP (Conservative)

"People are important too, however, and what a terrible impact a total ban on hunting would have on the rural economy, which is still reeling from the after-effects of foot and mouth disease. With average net farm income having fallen to £5,200 per farm in England and £4,100 in Wales, it seems an act of spiteful vandalism to destroy literally thousands of jobs in deeply rural areas, when it is simply not necessary to do so and where no meaningful alternative employment exists."

For more quotes, pro- and anti-hunting, go to <http://www.citizenshipfoundation.org.uk/main/page.php?100>

of the hunt at dawn prior to countless Orange County hunts. Even though she had never had a leading role with the hounds, the instinct came so naturally to her, she found herself taking a leadership role there as well. It is the pure essence of who she is. At the junior hunt, every detail was well thought out. The children came back on their mounts with big smiles after watching the hounds go to work.

Bridgett treasures her experiences growing up foxhunting and wishes to offer her children, and other juniors, the same opportunity. Bridgett and her husband Marty have a blended family with 6 children ranging in age from Jeff (18) to Rachael (4). Bridgett met Marty at Microsoft where they both work. While Bridgett admits she abandoned horses for a few years to go to college to earn her master's degree, she returned to horses with new enthusiasm and the motivation of sharing the hunt with her children. Her girls are the real horse enthusiasts while the boys prefer boating and water sports.



Bridgett, trying out a new hunt prospect in Virginia recently.

A couple of summers ago, Bridgett took a sabbatical from Microsoft to rebuild her family's 40-acre farm in Middleburg and to find horses for herself and her girls. While going through old hunt chronicles at the farm to discard, she stumbled upon a *Chronicle Of The Horse* that mentioned a drag hunt in Minnesota. She called Ellie Crosby and asked for an invitation to hunt with the Long Lake Hounds and so began Bridgett's transition into our hunt. It wasn't long before she was asked how she could help the Long Lake Hounds.

Bridgett originally shared the responsibility as Joint Master of the Hounds with Jennifer Shuck from Pine Meadow. Jennifer was experienced and knew the people. Bridgett knew the hunt. Together they made a great team. Now with the addition of Clady Piper as the third joint master there's even more experience and knowledge to draw from. "There is an enthusiastic crowd here... fan... very receptive. I like to build new things. With the Long Lake Hounds, I am able to take their best traditions and apply new ideas and have fun. There is such devotion to the heritage of the hunt here." Bridgett shared how Jennifer remembers as a kid hunting with Bob Scott, and in fact, Jennifer had hunted with Bridgett's brother-in-law in Virginia before Bridgett even knew Jennifer. Bridgett looks forward to offering more opportunities

From the print copy of the Fauquier Times Democrat, 11/30/04: Bridget Poe Paradise, joint master of the Long Lake Hounds in MN and daughter of legendary VA hunting professionals Melvin and Peggy Poe:

"As someone who grew up with [hunting] as a tradition, I think we must represent our sport in its true essence; to enjoy the community with nature. In America, foxhunting is not a blood sport - we don't want to catch and kill the fox, we want to enjoy the open spaces and our horses and the hounds unraveling a line. It is respectful in every sense of the word: of the land, of the horses, and especially of the foxes."

to new junior riders. She hopes that some day today's junior riders will grow up with great memories of people with whom they hunted.

Bridgett recalls her childhood memories at the picnic following one of her father's hunts. Jon Worner had been hunting that morning, and at the picnic Liz Taylor showed up. "That was the only time I ever saw my dad star struck, I grew up with famous people who had traveled from across the world to hunt with my father, and it didn't even occur to me at the time. My father treated everyone the same, whether it was Jackie Onassis or the stable manager." When asked if her father was proud of her accomplishments here in Minnesota, she said, "My dad is not a man of many words. He probably wouldn't tell me directly that he is proud, instead I hear about his comments from other people to whom he has talked."

Since becoming Joint Master, Bridgett has taken the hounds, along with our Huntsman Lennie, Jennifer, and herself to Virginia to take "full advantage of her father's experience and her mom's hospitality." "We learned to use consistent and repeatable processes to train the hounds." She recalls a recent event where the hounds were trained to follow the drag scent right over the top of a coop and every hound jumped the coop. She adds, "Now Dad seems to enjoy managing from afar." Though her father hadn't flown in a plane since WWII, both he and Bridgett's mother flew here to attend the 2003 Colors Party and returned again this summer to hunt with us and to present a hound-judging clinic along with Dr. Marvin Beeman from Colorado.

In addition to foxhunting, working for Microsoft, and raising six children, Bridgett also now owns Equestrian Paradise. How does owning the tack store play into all of this? Bridgett jokes that she blames Anne Donahoe for getting her into it. Seriously, Bridgett was working too hard and too much and was looking for other options. She considers herself community-minded and talked to many people about the tack store. Since purchasing the store, Bridgett has automated many functions and has stepped up customer service which she feels is key. "I want the equestrian community to find what they need easily. It is a challenge to get the inventory just right to service all clientele and not just be exclusive, but that is my goal. Customers have been very patient." I asked Bridgett why she changed the name,

(Continued on page 7)



New Logo for LLH

A new logo for the Long Lake Hounds was selected by a simple majority vote of the board of directors, at the November meeting.

The intention of the new logo is to honor the traditions of hunting, while providing us with an identity for people unfamiliar with our sport. Although the shape of the new logo may resemble a button, it will NOT be a replacement for our LOLA button.

Down the road, you will begin seeing the new logo used on stationery, on mailings, and adorning the pages of this publication. Furthermore, various clothing items and accessories will become available for purchase, including polo shirts and hats. A reminder: LLH buttons and colors are available for purchase. To do so, please contact Jon Martinson on 952.472.9197

(Logo artwork courtesy of Tina Finkemeyer, freelance artist and sister of Jon Martinson)

(Black & Blue Party Continued from page 1) hunting.

The Masters then awarded colors (with apologies for being a bit belated) to Emily Fischer. LLH button awards went to LLH juniors Jessica and Spencer Stanchfield, Sam Nelson, and Heather Oetjen. They also gave an award of thanks to Habbler editor Joanie Stene, and to Marcia Brown for her work on social events.

Discussion followed of ways to better the hunt in the coming seasons, with heavy emphasis on improving landowner relations, expanding territory or re-opening historic territory and recruiting new members. Masters and huntsman received lots of praise for inventive use of our territory this season and for the well behaved pack and improved hunting. —Karin Wöegor

Meet Bridgett Paradise (Continued from page 6) since Calamity Jeannes was such a fixture in the community. "This is a family business, my kids are working there, and Equestrian Paradise gives the family business a family identity. Plus, a fresh start was important." Though still trying to figure out all the details, the store's success has far exceeded business plans. The horse community has been terrifically supportive. Microsoft however wouldn't let Bridgett quit just yet, and in fact when she tried to resign they misunderstood this as a desire for more challenge and promoted her to Senior Director of International Staffing. In the past few months her job has included travel to Paris, Beijing, and India.

Bridgett is disappointed that she hasn't been able to have a more active role with the hunt because of her job demands, her family responsibilities, and her horse problems, but is proud of how far the hunt has come in the last two seasons. Through lack of time and horsepower she hasn't been actually out hunting as much as she'd like, but she's been behind the scenes working hard on our organizational management and especially overseeing the management, training, and breeding of the hounds. She also feels that due to land and weather constraints here in Minnesota, hunting is hard work. As a result, our members don't take the sport for granted, but participate out of love for hunting.

Bridgett's background in hunting, her hunting connections, business skills, and people skills have contributed significantly to the successful revitalization of the Long Lake Hounds. Bridgett's lifelong work ethic is, "You can't be around horses without work. They teach a lot of

discipline." Whatever keeps Bridgett going we are grateful for!

Thank you to Linda Murphy and Central States Dressage and Eventing Association for permission to edit and reprint this article.



Colors Party & Silent Auction (Continued from page 4)

and magazine articles about the background and history of the Long Lake Hounds, which has its roots in a riding club in the late 19th century. The social and sports pages of the Tribune used to cover our sport, which had to set a limit of 100 members in its earlier years, because it was so popular. John Daniels, Sr. a LLH member who now lives in South Carolina, is writing a history of this hunt.

Only 279 members of LLH have earned their colors in the history of the hunt. It is an honor that recognizes their service to the hunt and their horsemanship in the field. Those receiving their colors that night were: Carol Brooks, Jim Koktavy, Jaime Horner, Briana Cedar, Lennie Williams and Carmen Gardiner. Two jet-lagged MFH's, Cindy Piper (just in from Asia) and Bridgett Paradise (just in from India) joined MFH Jennifer Schuck for the presentation of the awards.

BDESIGN

Graphic Art & Design
Animal Portraits



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Custom Artwork
and lots of
"Foxy" things

Meet the LLH

Meet the LLH is a new feature in *The Babbler*. Thanks to Carmen Gardiner for putting the questions together and asking for responses! This is being done in an alphabetical format—be looking for Carmen's email!

Jeanne Ahrenholz

What do you do when you aren't hunting?

I am trying to become a Grand Prix dressage rider which requires much work and time! Or I am doing saddle fitting consultations. Or I am cleaning stalls, mowing pastures and trying to heal sick horses.

What is your first memory of a horse?

When I was about 5 years old my cousin took me to a pony farm while visiting her in Ladysmith, WI. That was the day that changed my life - focused it or messed it up depending on how you look at it.

Tell us about your first horse.

Miss Bonnie Belle was a saintly mare, Quarter Horse Thoroughbred cross who took great care of me and taught me to love horses. She was 16 hands which seemed huge to me and all my friends at the time. I got her for my 11th birthday.

How long have you been hunting?

As long as I can remember. At least 20 years though not so much recently.

How did you get into hunting?

I owned Calamity Jeanne's Saddle Shop and hunting customers would come in. It seemed intriguing to me. I was showing Morgans Western and Saddle Seat at the time but had become interested in dressage. The hunt was much snootier at that time and not being a pushy person it was not easy to get an invitation until I met Ted and Betty Kuller who took me under their wing.

What is your favorite hunting memory?

So many ... One day at Leck's the hounds got on a live fox and criss-crossed that awful creek many times. When the hounds finally lost scent only Anita and I (on Ned) were left.

—One late autumn day we met at Promise Hill. It was fairly warm but grey with a strange look in the sky. At the end we came back in 6 inches of fluffy snow and had cider, apples, and treats with the snow falling softly around us. We got a couple of feet that night and it was the last hunt of the season.

—One day at Wind Song we came upon a coop buried in weeds (need I mention that was before I took over country keeping for that area). No horse would jump the fence except mine (Ned) and then some followed him over. This was a horse who refused almost every jump in a ring. "Why would you jump something you could go around?" he was fond of asking.

If you could "steal" another member's horse, who would it be and why?

Most hunt members know I'm not hunting much because I'm too fussy to find a horse! So there is no horse I would steal without trying him out, but Jo Bolte's Max looks worth a try.

When can you go country keeping next year?

Whenever I can get my husband to help! I got a new golf cart for Christmas with a big box on the back—perfect for carting limbers and chain saws. Holds manure too.



Jeanne & Toyon, her Trakehner dressage horse

Nancy Bizzano

What do you do when you aren't hunting?



Nancy & Bonville (Bo), her Shire cross gelding

I take care of our numerous dogs, down hill and cross country ski, including, along with Ellie Crosby, co-direct a down hill ski school for young children. Clean my barn. Garden, both flowers and vegies. Try to spend time with children and grandchild (living in Oregon and Maryland). Judge figure skating. Try to keep track of the time, which flies by.

What is your first memory of a horse?

Pony riding near our home.

Tell us about your first horse.

The first horse I actually owned was a big TB named Palisade (Sadie). Bought from Lance Beaulieu. Who eventually got way too sore for hunting, but was always a dear thing. Kind eyes. I was lucky enough to ride and hunt several of Margaret Bradley's horses, her Bo, her daughter's Tim (Timbuktoo) and her husband's wonderful Mo. Mo looked as if she were put together by a committee having no knowledge of how a horse should look. But she was a great horse and like the others, one I will never forget.

How long have you been hunting?

Well over 30 years. Scary

How did you get into hunting?

Years ago, when I was supposed to be skating (figure) in Toronto.

What is your favorite hunting memory?

Too many to mention. Great friends, Ted Kuller coming close to killing me while cutting trails certainly comes to mind. Nights spent looking for hounds in swamps. Getting lost with Martha McPhee in a woods - a couple hundred feet from our old home.

If you could "steal" another member's horse, who would it be and why?

Have no idea.

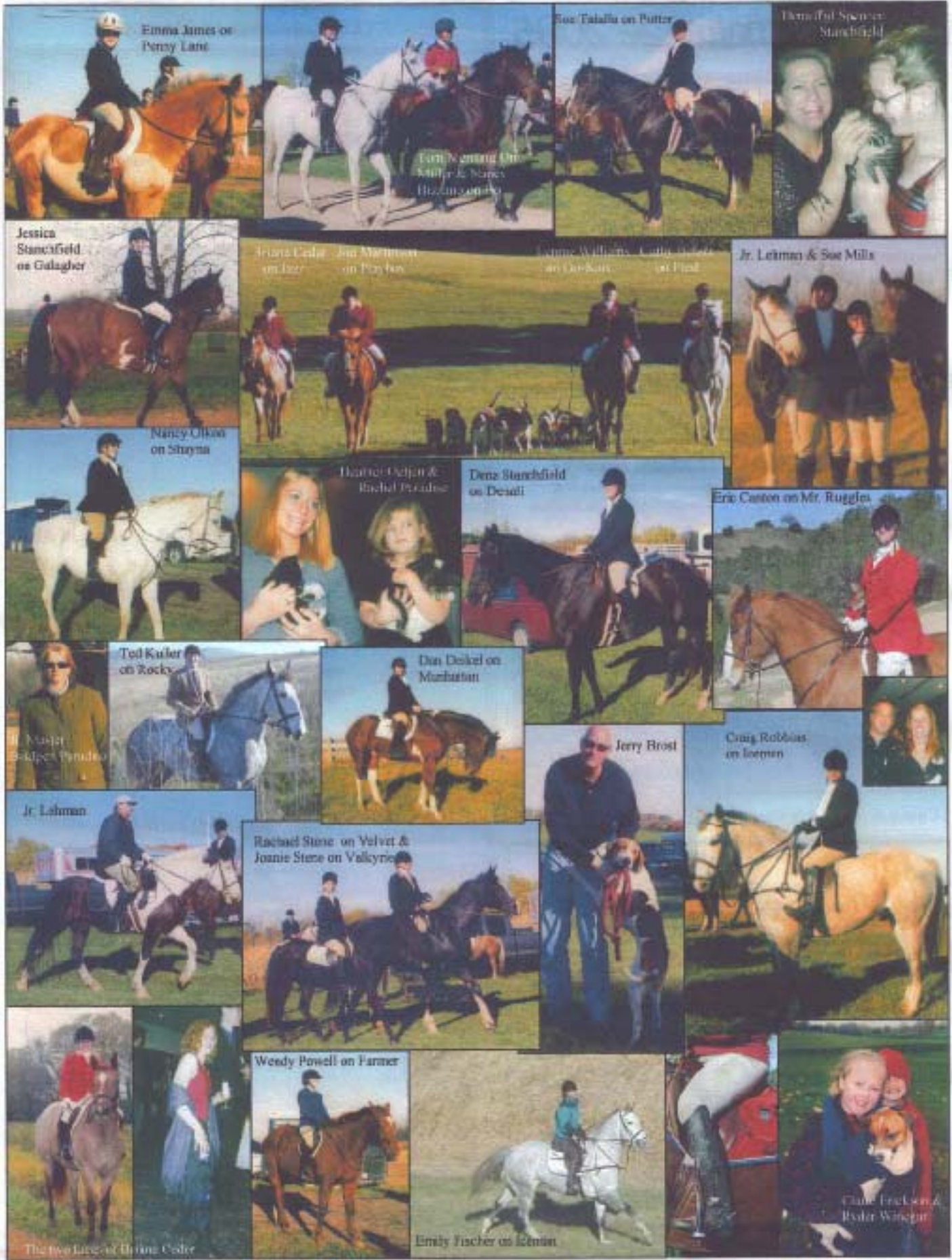
When can you go country keeping next year?

Don't ask.



HUNTERS!

Capture your Favorite
Hunting Horse or Hound -
or all Three of you !-
on Canvas Painted by Artist
William Ersland
651.430.1878



Western Challenge 2005

Tentative schedule for Western Challenge 2005

Friday, March 18, Red Rock (Nevada)
 Sunday, March 20, Los Altos (California)
 Tuesday, March 22, Kingsbury Harriers (California)
 Wednesday, March 23, Santa Ynez (California)
 Saturday, March 26, High Country (Arizona)
 Sunday, March 27, Grand Canyon (Arizona)
 Monday, March 28, Paradise Valley Beagles (Arizona)
 Wednesday, March 30, Bijou Springs (Colorado)
 Thursday, March 31, Arapahoe (Colorado)
 Saturday, April 2, North Hills (Nebraska)
 Monday, April 4 or Tuesday, April 5, Moingona (Iowa)

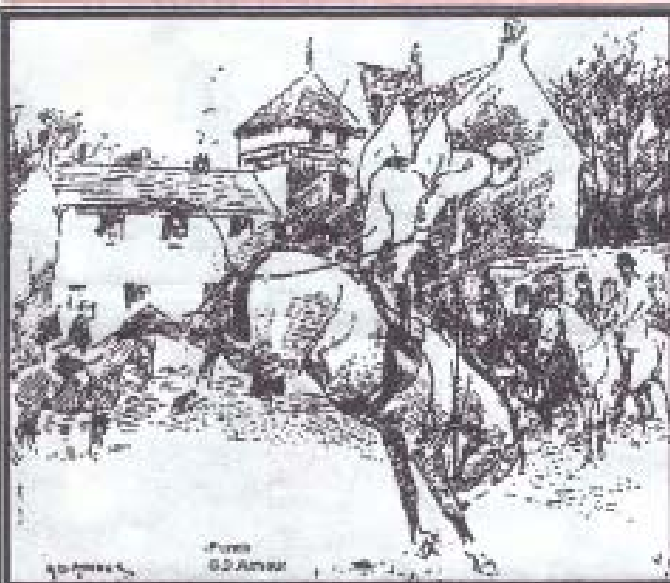
Additionally, the Waldingfield Beagles hope to make the trek from Virginia again and may be added in somewhere along the way.

Where have you hunted lately?

← Karin Winegar & Carmen Gardiner in Virginia



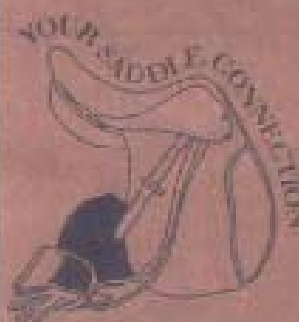
Carmen & Alley Cat in VA →



When your whip's thong is caught under your horse's tail, just try to pull it out.

LLH Calendar of Events

- March 5 Hunt Ball
Lafayette Club, Minnetonka, MN
- May 4 Hound Exercising on foot for members
Open to all members and perspective members
- June 1 Hound Exercising begins on horseback
Open to all members and perspective members
- June 4 Larking & Hunting School at Pine Meadow
11:30 Discussion
12:30 Mounted Session
- July —TBA Larking & Hunting School at Pine Meadow
5:00 Discussion
6:00 Mounted Session
- July 6 Cub Hunting begins Wed, & Sat. 7:30 AM
- August 7 Polo Classic
- August 13 Junior Hunt
- September 5 Opening Meet (Formal Hunting begins)
Blessing of the Hounds
- September 17 Junior Hunt
- September 24 Guest Day
- October 15 Master's Pace at Dan & Jill Johnson's
- October 22 Junior Hunt
- November 5-6 Travel Weekend
- November 19 Colors Party
B's on the River, Watertown, MN



JEANNE AHRENHOLZ

American Saddles - Dakota Bridles
Saddle Fitting

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 email: jahrenholz@earthlink.net

SOAKING YOUR HORSE'S FOOT

1. Get bucket or low tub, fill with warm water and Epsom salts until fully diluted. Get horse, place in cross ties, pick up foot, slide bucket or low tub into place, place horse's foot in tub.
2. Retrieve tub from corner of barn, get towel to dry off your face.
3. Refill tub with water and Epsom salts. Shorten cross ties. Pick up horse's foot and place in tub.
4. Retrieve tub from other horse's stall, retrieve horse from his own stall. Find baling twine to fix broken crosstie. Wrap towel around head to dry hair. Check rapidly bruising toe for signs of breakage.
5. Place rocks in bottom of tub to weigh it down. Snub horse to wall of stall, refill tub with water and Epsom salts. Pick up horse's foot and place in tub. Hold up other front leg.
6. Pick self up off of stall floor. Find place outside where tub has been flung. Retrieve horse from neighbor's garden, pull rocks out of horse's water bucket, call spouse for opinion on whether or not wrist may be broken. Explain multiple times to emergency room staff that you did not fall off the horse.
7. Return to home, enlist spouse to hold horse, hobble hind legs, tie up front leg, fill tub with water and salt, slide tub into place, while pinning horse against wall.
8. Apologize to spouse as you view hoof prints across favorite shirt. Wonder if water and Epsom salts is bad for new wrist cast. Check out burgeoning black eye from broken hobbles. Retrieve horse from cattle farm across the road. Share laugh with cattle farmer about how fast horse can move on only three legs.
9. Go to grocery store to purchase ice packs, ibuprofen, more Epsom salts, and scotch.
10. Call vet and ask them to come over and show you how to soak a foot. Pour self tall glass of scotch while waiting.



CALLING ALL JUNIORS!

We would like to see some input for *The Babblor* from our junior hunt members! Articles, artwork, photos, perhaps your hunt journal page from a particularly great hunt? Please send what you have for consideration to Joanie at jmastene@aol.com

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: TB/Percheron gelding, 9 yrs old, 17 h., dapple grey. Hunts first and second flight, trail rides, jumps anything. Hunted by teenage girls. Good home only! Joanie jmastene@aol.com

Classified Advertisements

- ◆ LLH Members no charge
 - ◆ Non-members — \$10.00 per issue
- #### Business Advertisements
- ◆ LLH Members—\$10 per business-card size ad per issue
 - ◆ LLH Members—\$30 per business-card size ad per year (4 issues)
 - ◆ Non-Members—\$20 per business-card size ad per issue
 - ◆ Non-Members—\$50 per business-card size ad per year (4 issues)

Send your ads to Joanie at jmastene@aol.com



Cathryn Andrews
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Remember!

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

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

THE LONG LAKE HOUNDS

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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. 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, please include SASE. We reserve the right to edit a 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.

Welcome to 2005!



LONG LAKE HOUNDS, Babbler
15150 South Diamond Lake Road
Dayton, MN 55827



The Long Lake Hounds with Huntsman, Lennie Williams