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Table of CONTENTS



- 04. Letter from the Masters
- 06. The Hunt Staff
- 10. Hunting is in Vince Paschal's Veins
- 13. A Riding Clinic for a Pure Foxhunter
- 16. Foxhunting Camp
- 20. Kurt Krucke
- 24. What Horses Teach Us
- 26. Palmetto Pony Club
- 29. A Junior Perspective
- 30. Recipe Round-Up
- 32. Riding Aside
- 34. The Story of Hobkirk Inn
- 44. George Washington
- 46. The Hunt Ball
- 50. Q&A Kitty Farnell
- 52. Horse Show
- 54. A View From Above
- 56. Pee Dee Land Trust
- 60. Hunt Cook
- 62. Old Traditions in a New Field
- 66. Second Chances
- 72. Glossary of Terms

Welcome to the second edition of Full Cry,

published and produced by Wateree Hounds of Camden, South Carolina. We are showcasing our love of foxhunting, hounds, the history of the sport and companionship with fellow admirers. Our ties and connection with the land are great, and we want to share our joy of riding to hounds with you!

Articles are informative of the sport and other equestrian events and local interests. We invite you to sit back, relax and enjoy the ride!

To keep up to date with our events, visit our website at www.watereehounds.com, or find your way to our Facebook page.

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For information on sponsorships of events or to place an advertisement in our next edition of Full Cry Magazine, email us at watereehounds@gmail.com.

2021-2022 Season:

Letter from the Founders

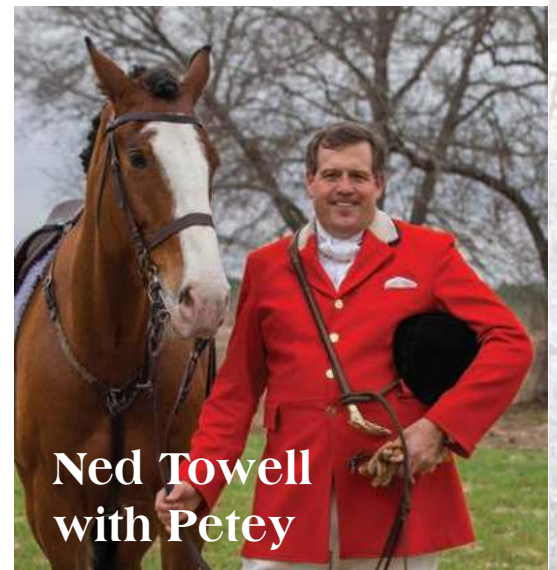
Second Season of Wateree Hounds



**Lea Edwards
with Straphanger**



**Vince Paschal
with Blue Henry**



**Ned Towell
with Petey**

Hark, all is quiet ahead!

Momentarily, briefly, we relax and reflect on the wonderful second season that was for the Wateree Hounds. We are so thankful and grateful for the enthusiasm and joy that our hunting family brings all year round. We are fortunate we are to share company with so many dedicated participants with whom we ride to horn and hound (including metaphorically).

We recognize the efforts and commitment of so many who are an integral part of a successful day hunting and the festivities surrounding these events. We share our love of nature, open land

and beautiful vistas; honor our steady hounds, trusty steeds and the wiley coyote; and most importantly, make known our gratitude to our landowners and the many dedicated members that make the wheels of our club turn. We are emboldened to bring a welcoming hunt club to the equestrian community of our town of Camden and the Midlands of South Carolina. With your help, we are succeeding - and have much more to accomplish in our mission.

As the pandemic held on, we took refuge on our fresh air hunting days and the growing accessibility of our social activities. Most centrally,

we enjoyed peaceful blue skies, vast open fields, fast gallops, deep hound voices and following the tracks of hounds and game. Throughout, it was clear the worries of the world could wait as we were blessed to revel in the peace nature brings.

Because of the unhesitated support from our landowners, we are ensured our hunting will continue. To the Clyburn-Ipock families and the Coxe family, we send a warm thank you for your generous hospitality, good cheer and amazing sport. Our hope is to continue our friendships and build on our bonds for years to come.

It takes dedicated staff to have a well cared for and trained pack of hounds. Our staff is frankly the best! With our veterinarians and doctors on staff, the care for our hounds and hunt fields is superb. We checked the box for biddable hounds; they were superstars of the show this season. We enjoyed many views of hounds in full cry with bold speaking. All loved seeing the hounds, after a long run, join in at the Tally Ho Wagon for a drink of water.

Impressive is the support we have received this season from our growing membership. But, more impressive were our parties! Lisa and Jack Towell's season opening oyster roast was outstanding and the Mrowoski's enchanting home, Hobkirk Inn, the setting for our Holiday celebration. The generosity of members makes our club feel like family; we are humbled. The Hunt Ball was beautifully decorated at the Steeplechase Museum. We celebrated and toasted our members, gave buttons to those who earned this appreciation and danced the night away! It was a momentous and memorable occasion.

We will continue to uphold our values of generous character, inclusivity, and good sport across all things we do. May your blessings be bountiful and we look forward to seeing you next season!

We are sincerely yours,

Lea, Ned and Vince

Stats of the season:

2021-2022 Season

Completed hunts: 36

Canceled hunts: 2

Typical hunt pack: 5-7 couple crossbred and PMD hounds

Daily hunt staff: 2-4

Members: 121

Average subscriber and guests on Tuesday: 12-15 participants

Average subscriber and guests on Saturday: 20-30 participants

Largest hunt field: Opening meet with 55 participants

Quarry: Grey and red fox and coyote

Epic stories: Told by firelight at late night bonfires





HUNT STAFF



Erin Trimmier, DVM
with Charleston



Sandy Cushman
with Checkers



Virigna Clyburn, MD
(whip in training)
with Willie



Meredith Somersett, DVM
with Rufus

Wateree Hounds Board:

Founders: Lea S. Edwards, Vince Paschal and Ned T. Towell

Advisory Board: Effie Ellis (Ex-MFH); Nick Ellis (Ex-MFH); Kitty Farnell, Sarah and Dan Floyd (Ex-MFH); EJ and Edgar "Vic" Paschal (Ex-MFH); Nancy Tans (Ex-MFH); Lisa and Jack Towell

Honorary Secretary: Lea S. Edwards

Honorary Treasurer: Caroline C. Coxe

Social:

Stirrup Cup Committee: EJ Paschal

Tally Ho Wagon: Greg Pearce, Bruce, Kimberlee and Kendall Neel

Social and Events Committee: Mary Reames, Kimberlee Neel, Deb Nottingham, Lisa Towell, Mary Katherine Towell and Becky Watkins.

Contact: Mary Katherine 803-427-5425 or Mary Reames 803-900-0799 to schedule your breakfast.

Construct It Crew: Elliott Schwartz, Mark Stewart and Ned T. Towell

Riding to Hounds:

Honorary Huntsman: Vince Paschal

Kennelsman: Fisher Rodgers

Honorary Whippers-In: Erin Trimmier, Sandy Cushman (Ex-MFH), Meredith Somersett, Sara Dill and Nicole Cunningham

Honorary First Fieldmaster: Ned T. Towell

Honorary Second Fieldmaster: Nancy Tans and Susan Oneil

Hilltoppers Fieldmaster: Lea S. Edwards

Honorary Wheel Whippers-In: Fisher Rodgers and Mark Stewart

HUNT STAFF



**Sara Dill
with Julie**



**Fisher Rodgers
with Ketchup**



**Nicole Cunningham, DVM
with Moonpie**



Staff members at Pokeberry Field during the 2022 closing meet.


OPENING MEET

PHOTOS BY
JANEL STRIETER





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A man in a red hunting jacket and dark helmet, sitting on a horse and smoking a pipe. The background is a blurred forest.

Hunting is in Vince Paschal's Veins

By Renee Standera-Sexton

If you trace human bloodlines, as one does those of horses and hounds, you'd find Wateree Hounds Huntsman Vince Paschal has foxhunting in his pedigree. His father, Edgar "Vic" Paschal, was MFH of the Lowcountry Hunt and before that was on the hunt committee at the Camden Hunt. His mother, Helen Crolley, hunted with the Camden Hunt, Deep Run and Cloverfields.

"My folks grew up hunting," he says. It was only natural that at 6 years old, he would be in the hunt field alongside his mother on a leadline - not on a pony - but on a quarter horse named Red.

"She didn't have a bridle, just a halter on a leadline. She'd drag me around," he recollected. "That's how we grew up . . . Me and my buddy Brooks DuBose, Di Dubose . . . with a neck strap. We held on."

Although he eventually graduated from following his mother on a leadline to whipping-in for the Camden

Hunt, never in that early hunting experience did Paschal think he would like to someday be a huntsman. But when Wateree Hounds Hunt Club was established in 2020 and didn't have a budget yet for a professional huntsman, Paschal accepted the responsibility.

"I guess I drew the short straw," he laughs. "I enjoy working with the hounds and I've had some good help."

While hunting in Colorado, Texas and throughout the West, Paschal made friends with former huntsmen who offered him help and encouraged him to accept the job. Friendships with professional huntsmen Randy Waterman and Tony Gammel put them just a phone call away. He also credits support during his rookie year from the Camden-area hunting veterans who comprise the Wateree Hounds hunt staff, board and members.

"We knew what to do," he says.

While founding a new hunt has been a challenge, there is a reward for the hard work and dedication of the staff, leadership and members.

"The passion's always been there so that helps out a lot," he says. "And we've got a great team, great landowners, and that's what it's all about. And the hounds, the hounds come number one for sure."

Just as Paschal and some members of Wateree Hounds who have hunted together in the past, so too have some of the hounds. About seven-couple pack came from a friend of Paschal's.

"The hounds kind of came naturally. We've got a good mix of some good old hounds, some right in the middle of the pack, and some that are just green as grass," he says.

Hound facilities were under construction at the beginning of the 2021 season, so Wateree Hounds have not started a breeding program, but plans are in the works. The current pack is a mixture of cross-bred American Foxhound and Penn-Marydel.

"We're going to steer more toward the American hound," Paschal explains. "I just feel that with the hounds that we have, for this coun-

try, with the pine trees and the sand, bigger, rangier hounds that come from up north just don't suit it here with our heat and humidity.

"We're looking more towards a little more compact, quicker hound that can deal with the heat – maybe something with a little longer ear, the good mix of Penn-Marydel, that sort of thing, we're going to try to breed to that. The heat can really, really be hard on them."

It's essential for a huntsman to have a good horse, and Paschal has "a pretty nice horse" in former steeplechaser Bugle Blue, whom he describes as "a dude."

"He puts up with a lot and goes on in and he gets the job done," Paschal says. "He's a really, really good horse."

Paschal was an exercise rider and rode in a few races, including on Cup days in Camden, as an amateur jump jockey. The New York-bred Blue won a \$95,000 maiden special race on the flat in his home state.

"I used to ride steeplechase, and that's where (he picked up) the familiarities of hunting and being around it and riding out in the countryside of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and he took right to it," Paschal says. "He started out as a whip horse, a little nervous early on with the hounds underneath and on top, in that proximity, but he's taken to it great. He's an amazing horse."

Paschal said Blue and the hounds have been able to develop a trust for each other because they live on the same property and see each other every day.

One of the challenges for a rookie huntsman is learning the nuances of a new hunt country, including legacy properties Skufful Farm and Macburn Plantation. Both fixtures provide open territory to see the hounds work and chase their quarry, which can be difficult in the wooded hunting territory in Aiken or Camden.

Paschal hopes to catch up with a "wonderful red" again who led the pack on a run all over and around the swamp one day in the 2020 season.

"There could never be enough

game," he says.

With two seasons of experience casting hounds in a new country, Paschal is confident the familiarity of the land and the hounds will enhance the seasons to come.

"Knowing the land and having a biddable pack helps," he says. "Fisher, my kennelman, helps out with road whips in knowing where the hounds are and what direction they are headed. I think I can go and venture into certain places but get a little nervous about the hardtop roads and the logging trucks, safety comes first, for hound and rider."

The Camden-area equestrian community is one where everyone knows everyone else. Paschal is right at the center of it as co-owner of Hunters Trace Farm Hay and Feed. His business career is an extension of his equestrian life.

"I might as well serve coffee here with everybody that comes in," he says. It does help in knowing the people that come in. Some of their names I can't remember, but their horses, I know what they eat. I know the horses more than the people."

Paschal reflects on his childhood hunting experience to encourage the new generation of hunters. He's not leading children on a pony with a leadline, but he's influencing them just the same.

"The juniors are very important and I try to help them out as much as possible because I knew what it felt like when I was a junior to have the huntsman call out your name and to be known," he says. "As a kid, I think that's very important, so we try to help them."

The Wateree Hounds Hunt Club has been welcoming to riders of all levels and ages, including those who have hunt experience and newbies trying it for the first time. Perhaps those who try it will find the lifetime of excitement Paschal has enjoyed.

"Don't feel intimidated. Come on out. Give it a shot," he says. "We're a little more laid back. We don't criticize. We're not going to yell. If you don't have a hair net on the first day that's fine, we'll get you one."



A RIDING CLINIC FOR A PURE FOXHUNTER

Thoughts from the third annual
Towell/Ellis Riding Clinic

By Dr. Nixon M. Ellis (Ex-MFH)

While driving back to Southern Pines from Camden on Sunday, Nov. 28, I had ample time to reflect on the Third Annual Towell/Ellis Riding Clinic.

It was hosted again at the Towell's beautiful Finally Farm and the weather was perfect. We enrolled five sections of riders with ages ranging from

8 to 18. The participants were competitors in hunter/jumper shows, in three-day events, and in steeplechase races.

Sadly, in the clinic the only rider group that was under-represented were pure foxhunters, and I wondered what we could do to encourage their participation in the future. I thought if we could convince them good

riding/horsemanship began in the hunt field, then we might get their attention, and might have a chance to include them.

Formal foxhunting began in 16th century England, but using scenthounds to track prey dates to Babylonian and Egyptian times. William the Conqueror is credited with bringing Norman hunting traditions to Britain. The first formal fox hunt was held in Norfolk, England, in 1534.

In the United States, Englishman Robert Brooke is credited with bringing the first foxhound pack to Maryland in 1650. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson both kept foxhounds. Foxhunting was well established in the U.S. by the time the early hunter horse shows began in 1853.

(Many of the other equestrian activities we enjoy today including point-to-point racing, eventing and show jumping owe their origins to foxhunting.)

Colonel Henry Dulany is credited with establishing the Upperville Colt & Horse Show in 1853. It is the oldest continuously running horse show in the United States. Dulaney also founded the Piedmont Fox Hounds. The show was designed to encourage better training of young horses, to improve local breeding stock, and to give riders the opportunity to show their young horses.

If you still doubt the connection between foxhunting and hunter shows, then consider these common horse show terms.

Riders in these events are said to be riding in the hunter seat versus saddle seat or western. The show hunter ideally exhibits qualities that were important in the hunt field, such as fluid movement, manners and correct jumping style. The pace of the round was supposed to be forward, as if following hounds. Most horse shows

in the 1960s and 1970s had at least one class per hunter division on an outside course. Lastly, the course was made up of obstacles found in the hunt field including: chicken coop, gate, post & rail, natural brush, stone wall, and board fence.

The basic training of a show hunter or foxhunter incorporates many of the same flat work and jumping exercises. However, very few horses today can show and fox hunt.

If I want to buy a show hunter, then I look for perfection, and hope it is within my price range. On the other hand, if I am looking for a foxhunter, then the qualities needed are quite different. Your mount for the hunt field needs a great brain because all sorts of things happen in the hunt field - it's not the controlled environment of the show ring. In choosing my hunting horse, ability tops looks, and efficiency plus durability is crucial.

Your mount will be asked to go a brisk gallop to keep up with running hounds, then asked to stand quietly at a check with 10 couple of hounds running behind or between his legs.

You can take hours to prepare your show hunter for a big class, and you may only ride competitively for 30 minutes. In contrast, you are going to be on your foxhunter for several hours, and if he is poorly conditioned or poorly trained you may have a long day. Hence, your training, and conditioning of your foxhunter is important because bad behavior in the hunt field can effect other hunt members and their horses.

The proper basic training of the hunt horse may be more important than the training of the show hunter because of the environment in which they operate in. The show hunter and rider need only contend with the design of the jumping course, the distances between the jumps, and the size/type of obstacles. The foot-



ing in the arena is usually perfect, the fences are well made, and the fences are not solid - they fall down.

In contrast, the footing in the hunt field is inconsistent with holes, rocks, lumpy cornfields, and macadam roads all part of a days hunting. Many of the fences are solid, and may not fall down. Lastly, your mount may be going brilliantly, but horses in front of you can stop, fall down or run out. The hunt rider has much less control over what happens in the hunt field than the show rider in the ring. Thus, solid basic training for the hunt rider and his/her mount are crucial.

In our clinic, we stress basic flatwork for the horse and hunter seat fundamentals for the rider. Reins that are too long or stirrups that are adjusted incorrectly make for a long day of hunting. We are going to look closely at the rider's tack and make suggestions as appropriate.

A standing martingale, if fitted correctly, is not an impediment to good jumping in the hunt field. Moreover, it provides the rider a yoke to hang on to if something bad happens. A saddle that slips back because of a loose girth is a minor annoyance in the show ring, but can cause real problems in the hunt field. A saddle that is not set properly can hurt your horse's back if it settles in the wrong place and remains there for several hours.

In our flat work, the goal is to have your mount lightly on the bit, round in their top line, and balanced on their hocks. Our objective is to use flat exercises to help the rider create the long,

low frame which is a pleasure to sit on for several hours in the hunt field. A U-necked horse with a flat back, and a trailing hind end is painful to sit on for a day of hunting. Hence, we are going to stress proper hunt seat fundamentals: use of hands, seat and legs to create a comfortable ride.

Jack and I have never seen a rider with poor fundamentals who could help their horse at the jumps.

Our jumping exercises include cavaletti to a single/multiple jumps, step rail to vertical, or lines of jumps used to help the horse and rider find their way to the proper spot (i.e. where the horse leaves the ground). Additionally, these exercises encourage the horse to jump in good form. In the hunt field the rider has to be able to manage the horse at the jumps. A horse who rushes a jump can get too close to the jump, perhaps hanging a leg, and some fences in the hunt field are unforgiving - they do not fall down!

I hope this article encourages some hunt members to reconsider their participation in a riding clinic. Despite the sophistication of our 21st century hunter shows, the sport we enjoy today did begin with the sport of foxhunting. In the hunt field, an educated rider with solid hunter seat fundamentals and a well trained horse are just as important as those attributes are for the rider in the show ring. For the hunt rider's efforts he/she will not win a blue ribbon, but the enhanced equestrian education will make foxhunting more fun and safer for the entire hunt field.



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WATEREE HOUNDS

Foxhunting Camp

2021 Review

Our young riders are the future of the hunt. We want to do our part to make sure they are properly educated to the traditions of the hunt.

By Ashley Crowley-Mooneyham

It was a packed house with 30 juniors, teeny tiny future juniors and D+ level pony clubbers, from all over the state. What a great turnout for the Wateree Hound's first junior camp!

We started early with an overview of the history of foxhunting in the United States and the fundamentals and rules of foxhunting. The group got to meet quarry up close (with the assistance of some borrowed taxidermy), learned how they differ, and hopefully how to tell them apart in the hunt field.

Mary Katherine Towell gave a great presentation on proper turn out during both cubbing and formal season, joined by Ned Towell (MFH), who gave a quick rundown for the boys in the group. Lea Edwards (MFH) gave an excellent talk on colors and buttons, what they mean and



how they are awarded. Both Lea and Ned gave the group insight on Wateree Hounds and what it means to be a Master.

Once our huntsman, Vince Paschal, arrived with the hounds, it was time to jump on our pool noodle ponies and mock hunt back to the kennels! Ned Towell led the first flight and I managed the second, with parents bringing up the third flight. At the kennels, juniors and parents got a tour of the facilities and a talk on our hounds and what a day at the kennels

looks like. The juniors learned the names of their favorite hounds and asked a lot of great questions to our whippers-ins and huntsman.

On the way back for a much-needed lunch break, the juniors practiced "hold hard," "reverse field," "ware" and "honoring staff" and we may have larked over a branch or two.

Liz Howard, a visiting whipper-in, was brilliant in her part as the worst foxhunter ever. She had the kids pointing out her naughty behavior (and that of her noodle pony) and kept us all well entertained!

During lunch, our huntsman, Vince, gave the kids a run-down on horn calls and their uses for hounds and staff in the hunt field. He answered some great questions from the group on training hounds, our quarry, and territory.

A few of our whippers-in,



Sandy Cushman and Virginia Ipock, with the help of Liz (no longer the worst fox hunter ever) fielded a Q&A about their very important jobs as staff and how they work with Vince to make our foxhunt successful. There were a lot of questions about the use of hunt whips, which was explained to their satisfaction. A few of the juniors practiced whip cracking and some were quite successful at it.

The campers took a break and released some energy by jumping the small jumps provided by Finally Farm. It gave all the adults a few minutes to grab a bite, and the parents asked questions of their own. We wrangled the students back into their seats, where they spent some time drawing their favorite hounds and completing a foxhunting crossword puzzle. Ice cream was served at just the right time and was a big hit! Meanwhile, the older juniors were instructed in the proper way to tie a stock tie.

Before heading home, the remaining campers got to meet the famous equine resident of Finally Farm, Brunello. What a day!

I think everyone in attendance came away with some extra knowledge while having fun, and hopefully the foxhunting seed was planted. Our young riders are the future of the hunt, and we want to do our part in making sure that they are properly educated on its traditions.





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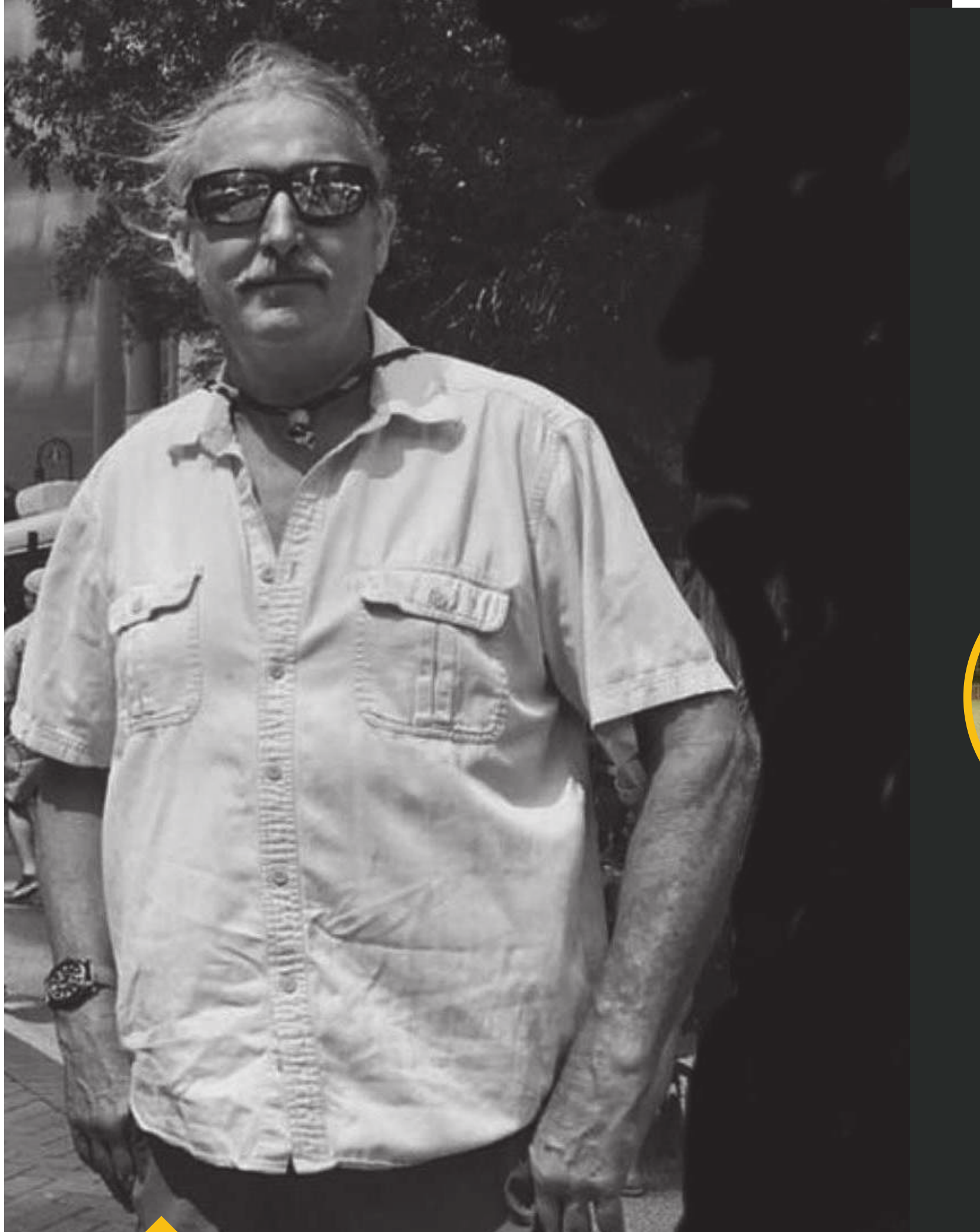
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PHOTOS BY
JANEL STRIETER





CARRY ON AND ENJOY THE RIDE

*A Tribute to Kurt Krucke
(1958 - 2021)*

Prolific reader, professorial conversationalist and passionate outdoorsman – each of these phrases aptly describe Kurt William Krucke, the sometimes-prickly huntsman who consistently developed a profound connection to his foxhounds.



BY SALLY KAY

Sadly, Kurt passed away unexpectedly at home on July 13, 2021. Born in Summit, New Jersey, on February 20, 1958, he moved with his family to Summerville, South Carolina, in 1974. Upon graduating from Summerville High School, Kurt attended Clemson University. He soon realized, however, that his preferred way of learning was to embrace his passion of living outdoors. Kurt's professional career began at the Middleton Place in Charleston, South Carolina, where he worked at a variety of jobs that led to his becoming stable manager.

While at Middleton, Kurt gained the skills of a professional huntsman. Subsequently, he was the huntsman at the Camden Hunt, the Aiken Hunt, Flat Branch Hounds, and the Tennessee Valley Hounds. His relationship with the hounds was both widely known and respected.

"Soon after Kurt came to Camden, he de-

veloped a strong rapport with the hounds, commented Dan Floyd, ex-master of the Camden Hunt and adviser to Wateree Hounds. "Kurt was their trusted leader who gave them sport, but also a firm disciplinarian whenever required."

"Kurt was a BIG man, with a lot of 'different compartments,'" shares Sandy Cushman, ex-master of the Camden Hunt and Wateree Hounds whipper-in. They met over 20 years ago when Sandy whipped-in for Kirk while he was huntsman for the Camden Hunt. "He could be gruff or terse, but also so kind. He could be quiet or reserved but had a 'laugh out loud' laugh that would make everybody laugh to hear it."

Fellow Wateree Hounds Whippers-In Meredith Somerset and Sara Dill met Kurt upon his return to Camden around 10 to 15 years ago. "

[Back then] Sara and I had been having lots of fun in the hunt field, so they asked us to whip in to separate us from each other and our flasks!" laughs Meredith.

"Kurt had a great plan to bring us along; we'd rotate the whipper-ins we would shad-

ow, so as to ride all positions and learn from everyone. Kurt also wanted us to take turns riding with him so we could experience the trails he rode, his timing, etc."

"'It depends' was probably the most frustrating reply Kurt could have said to us as we were 'whips in training,'" agree Meredith and Sara. "Particularly when we all wanted to be in the right place at the right time for him. Kurt was great at answering our questions thoughtfully and not making us feel silly for asking them, but he explained why the game would make certain choices or why he trusted a certain hound that day."

"I'll always remember the time Kurt took only two hounds to the Centennial Performance Trial in Southern Pines, NC," offers his life partner Clare Buchanan. "He was then Huntsman for Flat Branch Hounds."

Clare explained that during a performance trial, a guest huntsman hunts the hounds. Kurt rode in the field with everyone else. Falstaff and Finery, the two hounds Kurt brought, would seek Kurt out at every check, he would praise them and then instruct them to go back to the pack and hunt."

Not only did those two hounds win positions in every single category, but they also won the Pack Class.

"Kurt was so proud and told Covertside's creator Norman Fine that Falstaff was a hound of a lifetime."

Most agree that spending a day with Kurt as he trained his young hounds was a treasured experience for anyone who loves animals.

"It was, of course, wonderful to see Kurt out with Wateree Hounds before his passing," adds Sandy. "As a road whip, he knew instinctively where the pack was heading and he'd be there, waiting for them."

Kurt's years of experience made his advice and encouragement invaluable.

His philosophy and the advice that he leaves his legacy:

As a huntsman, learn from your mistakes and move on.

As an outdoorsman, you Wateree folks are so lucky to have this - carry on and enjoy it!

**Note: At the time of his passing, Kurt was the loving caretaker of the historic Harmony Hill Farm in Liberty Hill, SC.*



*Congratulations to the Wateree Hounds
for a terrific second season.*

— Well Done! —

-Joanne Schwartz

-Elliott Schwartz





HUNTING AT SKUFFUL FARM

PHOTOS BY MARK JUMP



WHAT HORSES Teach Us About *Faith, Hope and Love*

BY REV. DR. CATHY JAMIESON

You know the feeling, don't you? It's 37 degrees and windy, and you are about to mount your jittery horse for the hunt.

You haven't ridden all week because it rained several days, and your work schedule was also crazy. You feel the adrenaline kick in and butterflies in your stomach. A sip of port may have calmed your nerves a bit, but the horse didn't have his port. Not to mention that he's tossed you in the dirt a couple times already this season.

Why are you crazy enough to do this every week? Three simple reasons: faith, hope, and love.

In order to ride a thousand-pound animal of prey with a mind of his own, you must have faith - faith in yourself, faith in your horse and faith in the hunt staff. Foxhunting requires a deeper faith than an ordinary trail ride or a simple trot around the ring. There are no fences, fancy footing, dressage letters or simple straight paths to follow in a hunt.

Things are unpredictable. One minute you may be standing still, and the next minute, the huntsman goes flying by at breakneck speed with hounds in full cry. You can go from zero to full gallop if you're in first field. (That's where the deepest faith is required, along with an extra dose of crazy courage). You have to trust yourself, your riding ability. You have to trust your horse, even if you are a member of "The Involuntary Dismount Club." You have to trust the hunt staff, and that the field master will bring you back to the breakfast safe and sound.

Foxhunting is a life lesson in faith and trust, when you may not be in total control of the speed, the direction, or the outcome. Take a deep breath, dig those knees into the knee roll, grab mane, and sink those heels down. Hebrews 11:1 states, "Now faith is the assurance of



things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

The motto for South Carolina is "Dum Spiro Spero," meaning "While I Breathe I Hope." Given what's been going on in the world with the pandemic and now the war in Ukraine, who doesn't need a little extra hope? Horses teach us hope.

We hope for a better ride tomorrow than today. We hope the hounds pick up a scent. We hope to find that perfect horse. You know, the one that never bites, kicks, bucks, jigs, rears, spooks; has rhythmic gaits; is soft in the mouth; bends in the body; can jump 3'6"; does grand prix dressage, trail ride, fox hunt; loads on the trailer; and never colics. Oh, and he's very affordable.

That's vain hope in a miracle. But it's still vitally important to hope for a brighter day, full of

game, chase, hound music, a safe ride, and a delicious breakfast among friends.

Romans 8:25 states, "But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." Foxhunting requires hope and patience, which are useful in and out of the saddle.

Finally, horses teach us about love. I've loved horses since I was a little girl, begging every Christmas for a horse. There was one under the tree every year, a Breyer horse. My grandfather would pay for us to ride the carousel at the Jersey boardwalk, and I would go round, round and round until he ran out of tokens. I never gave up hope that one day, I would have a real horse.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is

love." While Paul was writing to encourage a church in conflict, these words are for all of us, riders and non-riders.

If you love horses, you learn how to nurture, how to give sacrificially (i.e., It's raining, 27 degrees, muddy, and you have 20 horses to feed). If you love foxhunting, you don't care that its 27 degrees, you simply layer your clothes and put hand-warmers in your gloves.

While we may love horses, they love us, too. Animals have a way of loving unconditionally, and they forgive a lot quicker than we do. Hank lays his head on my shoulder, and I can't help but give him yet another cookie.

Horses have faith, hope and love in us, as they depend upon us for their well-being. Perhaps we depend upon them for our well-being, too.

MEET

Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson

Cathy Jamieson is Senior Pastor of Grace United Methodist Church, N. Augusta. She completed eight years as the Columbia District Superintendent and Secretary to the Cabinet in June 2022. She is a graduate of Furman University (BA), Candler School of Theology (M.Div.) and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (D.Min). Cathy served Shiloh UMC (Marion), as Chaplain at Columbia College as associate pastor at Trenholm Road UMC, and for 13 years as senior pastor at Trinity UMC, Blythewood. She led Trinity to reach 878 new members, build a Habitat house, establish Christian Assistance Bridge (a nonprofit helping agency), and start a counseling center. Cathy has a passion for missions, evangelism, preaching and worship. She has completed Conflict Mediation through the Lombard Institute, completed Diversity Leaders training through the Furman University Riley Institute, and is currently enrolled in coach training with Pinnacle Leadership Associates. She was a founding Board member and secretary of Marion County Habitat for Humanity, and served as President of the Central SC Habitat for Humanity. She served on the Cooperative Ministry Board, Columbia College Board of Visitors, Candler School of Theology Alumni Board, and for eight years as chair of the SC Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. The joy of her life is her daughter, Hannah, and new grandbaby, Mary Blythe. Cathy's hobbies include poetry, yoga, swimming, and foxhunting, of course!





Photo by Ken Maginnis.

Members Back Row L-R: Kacey Hansen and Alex McAllister Members. Front Row L-R: Darby Waund, Riley Terrell, Belle DeVault, Mary Elwyne Kennedy, Aubrey Blackmon, Campbell Cromer, Christina Osgood, Grayce Osgood, Jules Finch and Leland Jones, Members Not Pictured: Raleigh Evans, Savannah Palm, Alexis Ryan, Alyssa Ryan Best Regards.

PALMETTO PONY CLUB

Officially, the club serves Kershaw, Sumter and Lee counties as well as the greater metropolitan area of Columbia.

By Patricia Palm,
District Commissioner
Palmetto Pony Club

WHAT IS PONY CLUB?

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. started in 1954 to teach riding and the proper care of horses. It is based on The British Pony Club, which was created in 1929 as a junior branch of the Institute of the Horse. Since then, Pony Club has expanded to many countries around the world, with the main goal being to promote sportsmanship, stewardship and leadership through horsemanship. Currently, there are over 600 U.S. Pony Clubs and approximately 10,000 members.

The mission statement of this

educational organization is to build the foundations of teamwork and sportsmanship through riding, mounted sports, care of horses and ponies, while developing and enhancing leadership, confidence, responsibility, and a sense of community in its youth and adult members. Pony Club provides instruction in many disciplines: eventing, show jumping, dressage, foxhunting, tetrathlon, games, gymkhana, polocrosse, Western dressage and Western trail.

The unmounted information-based program, better

known as horse management, is a major part of the educational instruction. There is a series of manuals that outline the unmounted program from the beginner to advanced level. Members are guided by the standards and tested on their proficiency in order to advance through the certifications. Pony Club is a 501(c)(3) organization, as well as a volunteer-based organization. From parents and local leaders to regional officers to the Board of Governors, volunteers make Pony Club happen. Palmetto Pony Club was founded in 1993 at Historic

Camden by a group interested in providing a higher level of horsemanship among the area youth. Officially, the club serves Kershaw, Sumter, and Lee counties as well as the greater metropolitan area of Columbia. However, we have members in the Upstate and from the Lowcountry.

We conduct mounted and unmounted meetings on a monthly basis and manage to schedule two social functions a year. Meetings are an event. We gather at a designated farm or facility, depending upon the type of instruction that is planned for that meeting. Mounted lessons are provided by a certified instructor that is knowledgeable with Pony Club standards. At each mounted lesson there is an unmounted educational proponent that is taught by an advanced member. Pony club members are required to instruct in order to test to the next certification level. We also invite professionals as guest speakers, such as veterinarians, farriers, nutritionists, just to name a few.

The majority of our instructors are former Pony Club members and are generous with their time and feedback, helping our members to further their riding, safety and horse management knowledge. We have a number of supporters in Columbia, Blythewood, Timmonsville, Aiken and St. Matthews that host our meetings at their amazing facilities. During unmounted meetings we focus on all things about the horse: feeding to types of feed and hay, veterinary care, trailer safety, stabling, farrier care, tack fit and cleaning, bits and their specific purpose and fit. The list goes on and on.

Certification is what separates Pony Club from other equine educational organizations. When you become a member of Pony Club you are an unrated member. Through the education process, the D-Levels (D1, D2, D3) offer an introduction to the fun and challenge of riding, establishing a foundation of safety habits and knowledge of the daily care of a mount and related equipment, as well as focuses on acquiring knowledge and skills related to care and ground handling of the mount. From here, the member advances through the levels C1, C2, C3, B and finally, A. Certification consists of two parts, a horse management test and a riding test. The higher the certification, the more difficult the horse

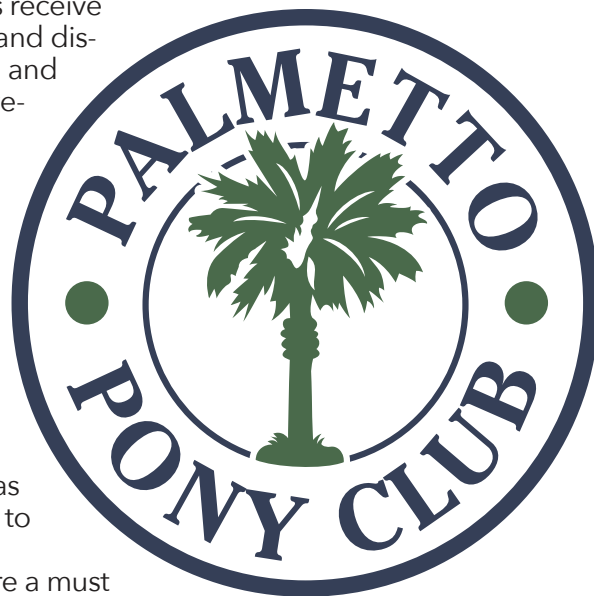
management questions and the more advanced your riding must be. You test at your own pace, there is no pressure to test. Palmetto Pony Club offers two tests per year, one in the spring and one in the fall. C level candidates are tested by National Examiners in order to better prepare our members to test at the National level (C3-A).

After the test, members receive feedback on their riding and discuss areas that are strong and areas which need improvement. As you advance in your certification you are required to teach as part of your advancement. It not only builds self-confidence through the responsibility of instructing but also allows for strong bonds to form between the members. You solidify your knowledge on a subject as you research and teach it to others.

Public speaking skills are a must in today's world, and Pony Club is a great platform for developing confidence.

One of the best aspects of Pony Club are the rallies. Rallies are a gathering of Pony Clubs within your region at a designated facility to host a specific mounted discipline. The Carolina Region hosts four mounted rallies a year (Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing and Tetrathlon) and one unmounted rally (Quiz). At rallies you compete as a team, instead of as an individual as you do at a horse show. Once you arrive at Rally and your horse and equipment are unloaded, you and your teammates rely on each other for the care of your mount and managing your ride time schedule. Parental interaction is known as "unauthorized assistance" and teams can receive negative points for this type of interference. Parents are allowed to interact with their children but only in the designated "neutral zones," which are established at the rally briefing.

From a parent's point of view, this is one of the best elements of rally. It allows their child to use the knowledge that they have gained during meetings and help their teammates during any given situation. If you are a Pony Clubber you are in good company.



Approximately fifty percent of the US Olympians got their start in Pony Club. Do you recognize any of these names? David O'Connor, 2000 Eventing Team Bronze and Individual Gold and former USEF President; Gina Miles, 2008 Eventing Individual Silver; Michael Matz, 1976, 1992, and 1996 Show Jumping and trainer of Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro, and the list continues.

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Pony Club is not just for Olympic hopefuls or Kentucky Derby trainers. Pony Club is for anyone that has a horse in their care. Pony Club does not take the place of your riding instructor. Many of our members ride on school or barn equestrian teams and attend horse shows independently.

Pony Club is here to enhance your knowledge in all areas of equine care, it allows you to ride with multiple instructors at various facilities and possibly introduce you to a riding discipline you haven't had a chance to try. If Pony Club sounds like it might be fun for you and your family, you are always welcome to attend a meeting and observe.

If you would like more information about Palmetto Pony Club, feel free to visit our Facebook page, or contact us at palmettoponyclub@aol.com.

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A JUNIOR'S PERSPECTIVE

| BY GUS CONDER

I have been Foxhunting for six years now. Ever since I moved to my farm (Conder Farm) I have been taking riding lessons and showing horses on the show circuit.

At the same time, I heard about foxhunting, so I decided to give it a try. Foxhunting called my name the first time I experience it and I was hooked right away. I had so much fun riding with my friends, family and being part of the social aspect with a wonderful group of people who have the same love I do: riding horses and being in nature. The excitement of a foxhunt is being able to chase a coyote or a fox throughout nature and hearing the hounds sing. It makes me smile every time I know the hounds are on a scent and ready to bring the fox or the coyote for us to be able to come and view them in nature.

I am filled with joy and happiness when I see a coyote or a fox on a hunt. I hope that one day I can say the magic phrase of "Tally Ho" and I am the first person to spot a coyote or a fox.

I am thankful to the Clyburns and the Coxes for letting us hunt on their properties.

My favorite hunt this past year was hunting at Skufful Farm in Darlington, SC. Skufful Farm has the most beautiful scenery and is a magical place of nature.

Wateree Hounds is a great community of foxhunters with lots of people enjoying nature with one another. The staff, members and hounds are all super nice and fun to hang out with. I earned my Wateree Hound Buttons this year, and I will wear them with pride on my new hunt coat.

I love being a member of Wateree Hounds, and it will be a hunt club that I enjoy being a member of forever.

Gus Conder is a Junior Member of Wateree Hounds.



THE JUNIOR HUNT

Juniors are the future of any hunt and the ones who will preserve the sport for generations. It is important that we encourage them and teach them the traditions that came before them. The Junior Hunt is a special day that allows our juniors to ride with our staff and to experience what roles they play. This gives them the opportunity to see hounds work up close and learn what's involved in putting on a foxhunt. We also want them to have fun because at the end of the day that is what we do.

CAROLINA PLANTATION

— *Recipe round-up*

The tradition of the hunt breakfast after a morning of fox chasing sustained us with good food, tales of the day and the opportunity to cultivate new friendships. Wateree Hounds hunt breakfast menus varied from week to week with our host and hostess putting on their best fare. Meredith Coxe, land owner, shares her Carolina Plantation Rice recipes for your enjoyment.



Southwestern Rice

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium green pepper, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 cup uncooked long grain rice
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/8 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1 can (14-1/2 ounces) reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 2 cups frozen corn (about 10 ounces), thawed
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (10 ounces) diced tomatoes and green chilies, undrained

RECIPE:

1. In a large nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat; saute pepper and onion 3 minutes. Add garlic; cook and stir 1 minute.
2. Stir in rice, spices and broth; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, until rice is tender, about 15 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients; cook, covered, until heated through.

Source: Taste of Homes



Festive Rice

INGREDIENTS:

- 2-1/4 cups water
- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 cup uncooked jasmine rice
- 1/4 cup salted pumpkin seeds or pepitus
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh mint
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries



Lemon Chicken & Rice Soup

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 5 cans (14-1/2 ounces each) reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 8 cups coarsely chopped Swiss chard, kale or spinach
- 2 large carrots, finely chopped
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 medium lemon, halved and thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup lemon juice or more to taste!
- 4 teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 4 cups cooked brown rice or cooked

RECIPE:

1. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium-high heat. Add half the chicken; cook and stir until browned. Transfer to a 6-qt. slow cooker. Repeat with remaining oil and chicken.
2. Stir broth, vegetables, lemon slices, lemon juice, lemon zest and pepper into slow cooker with chicken. Cook, covered, on low 4-5 hours or until chicken is tender. Stir in rice; heat through.

Source: Taste of Homes

RECIPE:

1. Preheat oven to 325°. In a small saucepan, bring first 5 ingredients to a boil. Remove from heat. Pour over rice in a greased 8-in. square baking dish. Bake, covered, until all liquid is absorbed, 30-35 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, in a small nonstick skillet over medium-high heat, cook pumpkin seeds, brown sugar and cayenne pepper, stirring constantly until sugar melts and cayenne coats pumpkin seeds, 4-5 minutes. Remove from heat; transfer to a plate, spreading out seeds to cool.
3. Sprinkle cooked rice with feta, mint, cranberries and spiced pumpkin seeds.

Source: Taste of Homes



Quail and Grits

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 quail
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 3/4 cup ground pecans
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 4 cups peanut oil
- 1 C Carolina Plantation Stone Ground grits (white or yellow)
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups water
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/4 cup heavy cream

RECIPE:

1. Clean and dry quail, then season with salt and pepper.
2. Combine pecans and flour in a large bowl and mix well. Make an egg wash and beat the egg into the milk. Dip one quail at a time first into egg wash then into pecan-flour mixture, coating it well.
3. Heat peanut oil in a large heavy frying pan to 350°. Cook quail until golden and tender, about 10 minutes. You may want to do this in two batches to avoid crowding the pan. Keep the first batch warm in a low oven.

To cook grits:

Bring water and stock to a boil, add salt and pepper to taste. Stir in grits, reduce heat and cover to simmer, stirring every 3-5 minutes to reduce sticking for at least an hour. If grits become too thick just add water and continue to stir. When ready to serve add cream and stir, simmer for 10 minutes. To serve, place the quail on grits add gravy.

Serves 4



RIDING ASIDE

By 1900 American women in the East still rode aside while Western women chose safety and rode astride.

By Carol Lueder

It might be elegant and ladylike, yet women assume a precarious position when riding sidesaddle. En vogue for many different reasons, it took a gutsy lady to be an accomplished aside rider.

It all started in the 1400s when Princess Anne of Bohemia went to England to marry Richard II. To be sure, she was a virgin and she was instructed to ride aside, not astride. Sounds farfetched, but it's a true story! She rode a padded chair strapped to her horse with her feet on a dangling board. Thus started a trend that virtuous women followed into the early 1900's.

While the saddles became more refined, it was a dangerous ride with the right thigh over the "leaping horn" and the left leg trapped underneath - you were sort of locked in. Add a flowing skirt that could easily get tangled, and you can imagine how a fall could result in serious injury. Yet the Victorian ladies pulled it off with great aplomb in stunning habits and top hats with veils.

During the Revolutionary War, Sybil Ludington, age 16, (often referred to as the female Paul Revere) rode 40 miles - sidesaddle! - at night through Carmel, Mahoppee and Stormville, Connecticut, to warn that the British were burning Danbury. A bronze statue outside of the Danbury Library celebrates her achievement.

Annie Oakley was not only a sharpshooter for the Buffalo Bill show but also performed sidesaddle tricks such as picking up a hat on the ground.

By 1900, American women in the East still rode aside while



Western women chose safety and rode astride. But sidesaddle still has several disadvantages. A woman is unable (without assistance) to mount, cannot use right leg cues, and because she sits further back, cannot drop her hands for more control. Additionally, as a companion rider you never approach a lady aside from the right as she cannot see you. Last but not least, there are many paintings of aside ladies but no one could capture the beauty of Mrs. Munnings who rode sidesaddle, as depicted by her world renowned artist husband, Alfred Munnings.

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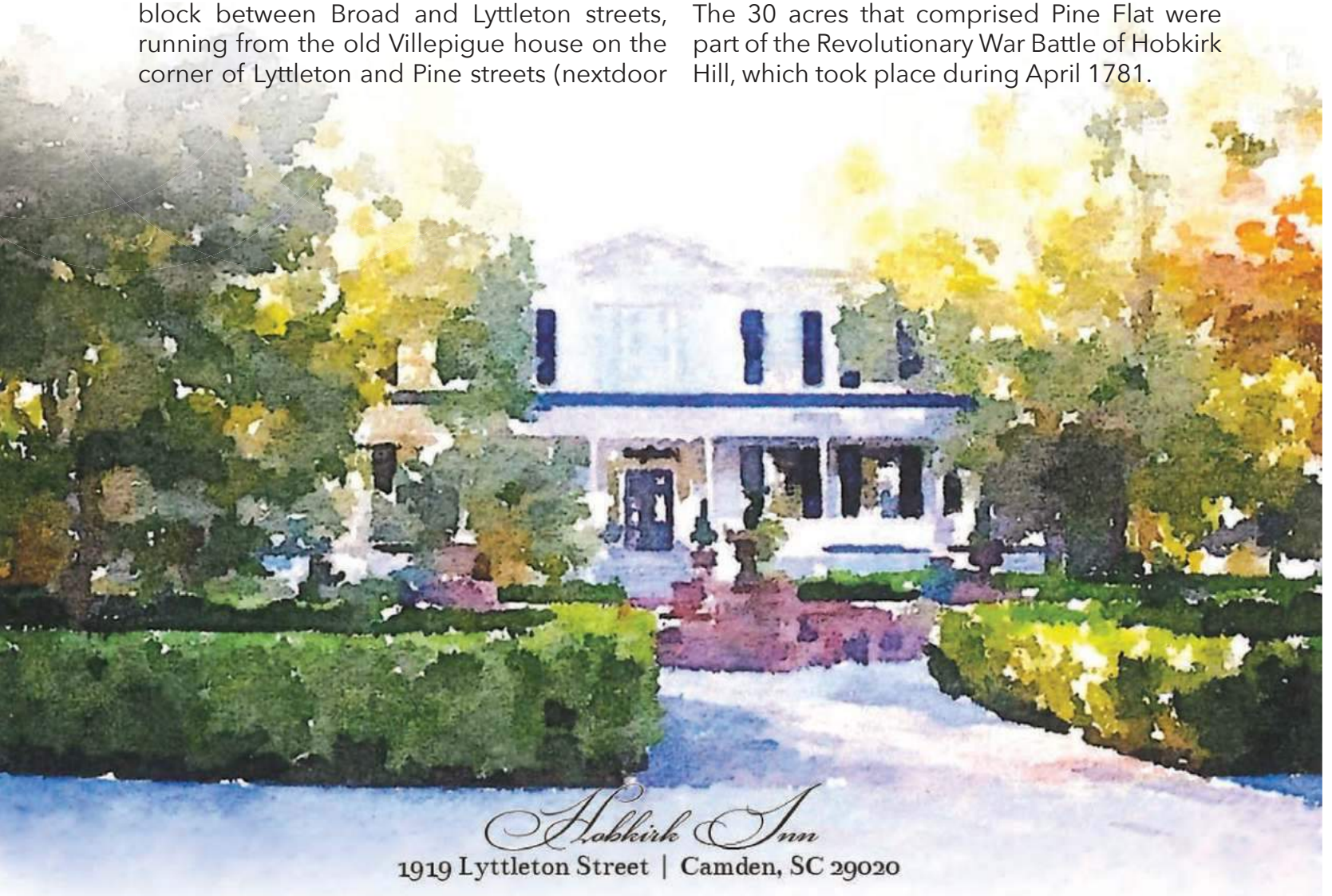
Hobkirk Inn

By Alicia Mrozowski

Camden's first link to its "Great Hotel Era" is the property known originally as Pine Flat. This storied house (The Hobkirk), legendary for its hospitality and entertaining, has a direct connection to many memorable events, a cast of interesting characters, and several significant links to Camden's past.

The story begins with the Feb. 25, 1857 purchase of the 30 acres occupying the double block between Broad and Lyttleton streets, running from the old Villepigue house on the corner of Lyttleton and Pine streets (nextdoor

to the Catholic Church) to what is now Greene Street. The land that encompassed this lot and beyond was originally granted by the British Crown to Thomas Hobkirk on September 8, 1769. Situated in the Sandhills and long leaf pine belt of South Carolina, the property lies on the southern side of a narrow sandy ridge called Hobkirk Hill. The grant listed the property as "Fredericksburg Township near Pine Tree." The 30 acres that comprised Pine Flat were part of the Revolutionary War Battle of Hobkirk Hill, which took place during April 1781.



Hobkirk Inn

1919 Lyttleton Street | Camden, SC 29020

Colonel William M. Shannon purchased this lot from J. B. Cureton for \$1,200 on February 25, 1857. Colonel Shannon was a well-respected Camden attorney, a member of the South Carolina General Assembly (1857-1862), the president of the Bank of Camden, and former commander of the Kershaw Rangers in the Confederate War. The original mansion house was completed in 1858, in the period preceding the Civil War, and was named Pine Flat after a nearby long-leaf pine grove.

The landscape plan maintained by the Camden Archive and Museum for the property indicates that Colonel Shannon based the plan upon the formal English garden.

Trees from all over the world were planted and the grounds kept in meticulous order. A description of the gardens in a promotional piece published after the mansion became an inn shows the degree of formal plantings done on the property."

Rare and costly trees and shrubs particular to the South were planted on the lawns surrounding the house. Some curiously trimmed shrubs, trained into topiaries afford charmingly pleasurable grounds of genuine merit and beauty."

The tall old magnolia and cunninghamias cypress trees, likely planted at the time the house was constructed, still grace its broad lawns and shade the wide porches of the Hobkirk House. Carolina cherry laurel, mulberry, dogwoods and a variety of oak trees also remain from by-gone days.

The grounds have undergone many changes and alterations by past owners. The exterior of the original house, however, remains largely unchanged. The structure combines Greek Revival and Italianate architectural styles prevalent in the late antebellum period in the South. The eight main rooms, four square on each floor (with a smaller room on both the north and south sides of the house) make up the original 10 rooms, each measuring approximately 21 feet square. Heart of longleaf pine floor boards extend from wall to wall in one piece. The walls are coated in thick plaster, bound with horse hair. Even the porch ceiling, which runs around three sides of the house today, despite its long exposure to outside weather, re-

mains in almost perfect condition, and the plaster is painted, in accordance with custom, haint blue. Heavy ceiling edge moldings of plaster of Paris were affixed to the downstairs ceilings. Windows on the main level are floor-length. Ceilings heights measure nearly 13 feet. The seven fireplace mantles are original to the house, as are the entrance double doors, sidelights and transom. Among of the house's most remarkable features are the pecky cypress corbels that serve as roof brackets and to this day show little signs of any decay. Further, the home features notch and peg construction that not require nails.

Colonel William M. Shannon, his wife Henrietta McWillie Shannon (daughter of the then Governor of Mississippi) and their family of 13 children resided in the house until 1880. One of the window panes in the Southwest upstairs bedroom window contained the words "Thou shalt be satisfied."

Legend has it that Mrs. Shannon scratched those words with her diamond ring on the glass pane the night of July 4, 1880. The glass pane now resides at the Camden Archives and Museum. Early the next morning at Dubose Bridge on the Lynches River, east of Bishopville, Colonel Shannon was mortally wounded in a duel with Colonel E.B.C. Cash.

Finding the large estate too difficult to maintain alone, Mrs. Shannon sold the property during 1883 to E.H. Eldredge for the sum of \$4,500, who in turn conveyed it to her husband, Frank W. Eldredge. Mr. Eldredge began operating the property as Camden's first tourist hotel, calling the place The Hobkirk Inn. The center bay windows, a second story facade featuring four vertical sections with diamond shaped window panes, were the result of the 1883 conversion of the front section of the upper central hallway into bathrooms and saw the addition of Kershaw County's first indoor shower. Initially the inn housed officers and engineers of the Haile Gold Mine in Lancaster County, which was owned by Frank's uncle, James Eldredge. Camden was considered a lovely place to winter. Guests would bring their entire families, including servants, nannies, bodyguards and polo ponies, down for the season. The Inn

Camden was considered a lovely place to winter. Guests would bring their entire families including servants, nannies, bodyguards and polo ponies down for the season.

was known for years as one of the finest "health resorts" in South Carolina. The Hobkirk Inn offered foxhunting, horseback riding, golf, tennis, amateur photography (it had a dark room), billiards and occasional dances for entertainment.

In 1897, Eldredge recognized the appeal of sports as a means to further Camden's growth as a winter resort. Roger L. Barstow, a wealthy winter resident, introduced polo to Camden in 1898, and the first polo field in Camden was built behind the Hobkirk Inn. Eldredge, along with David R. Williams and other investors, created Camden's first golf course behind the Hobkirk Inn, in a nine-hole layout following and crossing Broad Street.

Letters written by the Inn's guests rave about the comfortable accommodations, with large open hearths, and the good table food they enjoyed, which included "quail and poultry, waffles, griddle cakes, biscuits and eggs, ham and beef steak, along with numerous breads and cakes."

A description of the Hobkirk Inn can be found in a pamphlet entitled "Old Camden," published while the inn still prospered.

'The hotels of Camden are excellent. Foremost is the Hobkirk Inn, which is charmingly located, and is considered one of the best kept houses in the South...Situated in its own natural park of many acres, with an atmosphere laden with delicate scents, while scattered all around are rustic seats from which one can observe its unique and fantastically trimmed evergreens."

For nearly half a century, Camden was an exclusive winter resort destination for wealthy northerners. Camden's mild winter climate and booming social scene made it a premier winter getaway November-April. Camden was considered quintessential antebellum South, surrounded by old plantations and steeped in tradition and historical

lore. It was a horseman's heaven where bridle paths and sandy roads wind through tree stands of long-leaf pine and cotton fields. Camden established a jockey club in 1816, and its highly regarded stables housed blooded horses.

The Hobkirk property was foreclosed, sold and reacquired by the Eldredge family twice due to financial difficulties. In 1907, Frank Eldredge sold off 20 acres to satisfy his debtors and placed the mansion and remaining 10 acres in a corporation, The Eldredge Company. A list of buildings on the property done by a subsequent owner reveals that during the heyday of Camden's winter resort era, the Hobkirk Inn encompassed the original house, north and west wings, the main dining room, as well as a half-dozen cottage bungalows. These various additions to the Inn contained 65 guest rooms. During 1932, a completely separate three-story brick guest house was built adjacent to the original Inn.

In 1910, Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Marvin acquired the Eldredge Company's stock and took over the Inn and subsequently sold it Paul Meldenhauser in the mid-1930. But the days of the Camden grand winter resort hotel era were drawing to a close. After being the first resort hotel to open, the Hobkirk Inn was the first to close in 1939, during



World War II.

In 1940, the property was acquired by Edith Woodward, two of the wings were razed, another was moved in its entirety and relocated as a separate home, and Hobkirk Inn returned to its original structure as a private home. In 1944, Elizabeth Savage bought "the Hobkirk House" and modernized it in 1946 by adding a kitchen and breakfast room, a half-bath and laundry room, screened porch downstairs, two additional bedrooms and another bathroom upstairs on the northwest side of the house. Materials from the large dining building that was razed after the Hobkirk ceased operation as an inn were used to construct the additions, which explains why the addition looks like an original part of the house. Henry Savage, author and former Camden Mayor, and his wife Elizabeth resided at the Hobkirk for 14 years.

In 1959, the Savages "swapped" homes with R.W. Lloyd and moved to Bloomsbury, a few houses down on Lyttleton Street. Subsequently Richard Lloyd sold the Hobkirk to the C.S. Rowland family in 1963. The house and surrounding acreage remained the Rowland's for 27 years. Dr. Lou Sell, an Indy-style race car driver, purchased the house in January 1990 and undertook its restoration. The Hobkirk Inn saw further enhancement when it was prepared for public viewing in April 1993 as an ASID Showcase property to benefit the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County.

In 1995, Frank and Rikki Campbell bought the house and painstakingly renovated it to maintain the integrity of this historic home. The Campbells converted the old butler's



pantry between the dining room and kitchen into a state-of-the-art bar and updated the kitchen with commercial appliances. The kitchen food pantry was converted into a walk-in refrigerator, an old broom closet was adapted to house a sub-zero freezer and ice maker, and a commercial range with six burners and double ovens was installed and surrounded by a brick wall and hearth fashioned from bricks that were found on the property. The kitchen upgrades completed in 1998.

The Campbells also repaired the circa-1930 garden fountain and installed a crepe myrtle allee on the site of the original garden's rose and wisteria arbor, often referred to as "lovers lane." Legend has it that some of the Hobkirk's privileged guests elected to be married at the end of the fragrant arbor, in front of the old fountain.

In keeping with that tradition, one of the Campbell's children was married near that whispering water surrounded by magnolias and danced under the moonlight in the garden on their wedding night, as many other young lovers had undoubtedly done before them.

Frank also installed a new fountain at the entrance to the property and laid out the surrounding four flowerbeds in keeping with the designs found in the historic landscape plans. Frank's career with Eaton Corporation took him and Rikki abroad. The Hobkirk Inn sat quietly empty from 2008 until 2019, when Frank retired and the



Campbell's embarked on their next adventure as vigneronne at Chateau de Fayolle Saussignac. It was time to find a new caretaker for this grand and gracious old home.

Enter Alicia (Ally) and Michael Mrozowski, in Camden for a weekend trip and staying at Bloomsbury a few houses down from the Hobkirk Inn. They were preparing to retire from their decades-long careers in federal government and were looking for a small town in the South where they too could start their next chapter. Michael had always said that he wanted to move into a Norman Rockwell picture or perhaps to Mayberry when he retired. Ally, who was born in Valdosta, Georgia, wanted to step back in time and find an old Southern house in a small town where life moved at a more reasonable pace and people knew their neighbors.

When they drove down Broad Street for the first time Michael said, 'This might be the place now we just need to find a house.' When their realtor showed them 1919 Lytleton Street, Ally was home in her South in that instant. They returned for the auction and won this fabulous old estate.

Michael gave the former Hobkirk Inn to Ally for their 19th wedding anniversary. She loves this grand ol' house like it was a person. The garden as it once was, is something she hopes to restore. Ally says the wide front porch with its lovely ferns that sway like hoop shirts in the breeze, and house little wrens that build nests up under the eaves, is her favorite room in the house. Michael, who loves to cook and entertain, loves the chef's kitchen and the elegant bar.

Together they agree that they are just smitten with their new home in "Camden-Berry," which they have found to be the friendliest town in the South. While the former Hobkirk Inn is now a private home, it remains the last of the grand hotels standing and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, owned by the Mrozowski family.



Christmas Party at the Hobkirk Inn







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BOXING DAY

PHOTOS BY
JANEL STRIETER



GEORGE WASHINGTON

Horsemanship



The May 2022 reenactment of Washington's visit consisted of a meet-and-greet on Friday at Historic Camden's Kershaw Cornwallis House followed by a catered buffet dinner and dancing led by the Camden Assembly of English Country Dancer. The next morning, George Washington led a procession through the streets of downtown Camden along with over 25 mounted colonial dignitaries who were reenacted by members of the Wateree Hounds and the Camden Hunt. The parade began at the Kershaw Corn-

wallis House and proceeded to Hampton Park, where Washington reenacted a short speech dedicated to General DeKalb.

John Koopman III has been playing Washington since 2006 in National Parks, state parks and other historical sites along the East Coast. He is based in Connecticut. Koopman's extensive research of Washington reminds us that during the Revolutionary War, Washington was a man in his early 40s in the prime of his life and he plays him as such.



By John Koopman III

General George Washington being chased on horseback by British Dragoons (Redcoat Cavalry) in the American Revolution?

"Washington tore down the road at a full gallop, but once again, the young thoroughbreds, bred for racing, were gaining on him. He was very close to the American lines, but he was running out of time. Another pistol shot, then another. Loftus (British Dragoon Lieutenant) waived the other dragoons forward to fire their pistols, 'shoot the man, not the horse!' Washington made a hard left turn onto the Old Post Road. As the dragoons made the turn, they lined up four abreast. With eight shots among them, they couldn't miss."

This is an excerpt from my book, "George Washington at War - 1776." It is based on an actual eyewitness account of Washington being chased by British soldiers on horseback early in the

Revolution. He was most likely being chased by the 17th Dragoons, some of the finest horsemen from England. Dragoons were mounted soldiers who could arrive at battle and continue fighting on horse or dismount and fight on foot.

I have been a George Washington interpreter since 2006. Thomas Jefferson once referred to George Washington as "the best horseman of his age [time], and the most graceful figure that could be seen on horseback." What has always bothered me is that every time you see Washington on horseback in film or TV he is always plodding along at the walk. He is never depicted riding vigorously. The reason being that most actors can't ride.

During a time when it was common to see folks riding on horseback, people would stop and stare when Washington rode by. This was one of the motiva-

tions for writing the book, I wanted readers to experience Washington's riding skills. The man depicted in the book is not the senior statesman you see on the dollar bill, but a younger, vigorous man at the height of his powers.

Many know of George Washington's passion for foxhunting, his favorite pastime. But what can we know about Washington's riding abilities? In addition to the quote from Jefferson, there are other contemporary accounts. Here are observations of Washington as a young man by George Mercer, a fellow officer in the Virginia Regiment in 1758:

"In conversation he looks you full in the face, is deliberate, deferential, and engaging. His demeanor at all times composed and dignified. His movements and gestures are graceful, his walk majestic, and he is a splendid horseman."



Items were donated for silent auction.

The Hunt Ball

The Hunt Ball traditionally takes place near the close of the season. This year, Wateree Hounds had their Ball at the National Steeplechase Museum and it turned out to be a wonderful venue. The day of the ball, our decorating committee went to work arranging flowers for each table alongside twinkling votive candles. Seating charts were made and cards placed. Seating is an extremely thoughtful process, making sure everyone is happy with their table-mates. The Masters table is front and center, and the staff sits close by.



Most hunts have a silent auction as a fundraiser to feed the hounds. Auction items can include jewelry, art, lamps and furniture, anything that is desirable. The auction items were set up for display and bidding sheets were placed in front of each item with a full description. It can get quite competitive, but the one with the biggest pocket book usually wins.

Arriving at the ball is always exciting, looking at all the decorations, checking out the auction items and seeing your friends in their best attire.

Attire for the ball for men is black tie or evening scarlet. What is evening scarlet? Scarlet is the evening wear equivalent to a man's "pinks," which is the red riding jacket worn by a fox hunter who has been awarded his colors. This means a man has proven himself to be a good member of the hunt and is in good standing. Scarlet is the evening version of his formal hunt attire. Basically it is a red coat with tails. Where would one find such a coat? It must be specially ordered or custom made. It is quite the sight seeing all the men dressed in their scarlets and is part of what makes the evening so festive.

Attire for women traditionally has been black or white, but most formal wear is accepted these days.

Cocktail hour starts at 6 and dinner is served promptly at 7. Typically the dinner and hors d'oeuvres are catered with a menu of beef tenderloin with various side dishes.

As dinner winds down, the Masters take the stage for the opportunity to thank those

who have gone above and beyond. This year, the Wateree Hounds presented champagne along with their thanks, which were received with joy by the recipients. In most hunts, the Masters also award colors by presenting members buttons with the hunt's initials to distinguish which hunt you are a member of. Each hunt has a color that is representative of the club. These colors are sewn on the collar of the recipient's hunting jacket. You are now in good standing with the hunt, which comes with many advantages such as riding in the front of the field.

Now it is time for the band to crank up and dancing begins. It is always a good idea to be the first one on the dance floor to get the party going! It doesn't take long until the Ball is in full swing.

The Hunt Ball is great fun and a time for the members and their guests to enjoy one another along with an evening of good food, fun and dancing.





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Q & A

Board Advisor
Kitty Farnell
May 2022

How were you introduced to foxhunting?

During high school, I rode jumpers in France for two years with a retired cavalry officer. Then for two years, I rode in several mock hunts in Germany where it was a treat to ride outside rather than in the indoor arena mostly doing 10 to 20 meter circles at the sitting trot with no stirrups. I started real foxhunting at the Camden Hunt in 1964 while I attended the University of South Carolina. Sinkler Manning, the 900 acre Belle Grove Farm's owner, would take nine horses loaded head to tail in his big truck and their riders from Columbia to Camden on Wednesday afternoons. He took that same truck out west every summer to bring back wonderful \$300 ranch horses to become safe hunt horses for his riders. I helped to school some of them when they were a little too green for their young riders.

What have been some of the most memorable occasions you have experienced while foxhunting?

At those hunts with the Belle Grove Farm riders in 1964-66, our horses and tack had to be clean with all the bridle straps in their keepers to pass TCH Masters' inspections of the young riders. It was a "drag" hunt with hounds following a scent dragged behind a vehicle just before the hunt. The hounds were loud



and ran fast, and we followed going over a lot of fences trying to keep a safe distance from the riders in front of us. The checks were welcomed so we could catch our breaths and rest for the next run. When I hunted with The Tryon Hounds in 1967-69, they hunted live game, but many of them were very independent hounds, having hunted at night while their owners sat beside a fire in the valley listening to them. George Webster, the TH Huntsman, would ride up a hill and put his hand to his ear listening for the hounds. He would point, and we would follow him across the hills and valleys mostly listening for the hounds. It was beautiful and exciting to even see the hounds sometimes too!

Who have been some of the individuals who have influenced you most in sharing your passion for foxhunting?

Sinkler Manning introduced me to foxhunting and, gave me the booklet "Introduction to Hunting" by Alexander Maclay-Smith (MFH, DVM). That book was always given to Anderson Foothills and Pine Tree Pony Clubbers before they hunted. Dale and Judy Thiel (joint MFHs) started live hunting in Camden in the '70s and opened up a whole new set of experiences in Hunt Country I have enjoyed for almost 50 years. Hunting in second field with Nancy Tans (joint MFH) has always been a privilege as she maintains a reasonable pace to keep up with the hounds but not interfere with them or first field. And we have often seen game since she can predict where they might turn up. What a thrill to "tally ho" a beautiful red-sided gray or even a black coyote! Hunting in third

field with Lea Edwards as Field Master has been a joy. She keeps the pace just right to bring us near the hounds and the action with Vince Pascal, our enthusiastic huntsman, urging them on, but never too fast to risk an injury to my 24-year-old trusty hunter. Hunting with Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson has kept me getting up at 4:30 a.m. on cold winter mornings. Her wonderful sense of humor has lifted my spirits, and by the time we're in the saddle getting a stirrup cup, I'm convinced it was worth getting up! Of course, my dear daughter Mary Katherine and her fabulous husband, Ned Towell, just keep amazing me with their enthusiasm and motivation to keep this sport going in such a positive direction involving so many wonderful participants.

What are the most notable trends you have witnessed in foxhunting during the past several years, and what do you envision for the next several years?

I love the ladies' fashion trends with the fantastic variety of stock ties and tweed coats for informal hunts and hats with feathers that have become so popular at hunt breakfasts. The Clyburn family near Bishopville and the Coxe family near Darlington are being appreciated and recognized for their generosity in sharing their gorgeous properties. The Wateree Hounds staff members have demonstrated a keen appreciation for the importance of fostering comradeship and fellowship in the field and with social events for families during the year too. Many other forms of riding involve fierce competition which is stimulating and motivating.

Foxhunting, however, is a hugely cooperative effort with staff interacting to help each other successfully engage the hounds in hunting and the field members in witnessing the magic of the pack of hounds working as a unit following their instincts but still being subjected happily to human involvement. Add to that the strength, excitement and speed of the horses with passionate and exuberant riders going "hell-bent for leather" while still being considerate and caring about each other's safety and enjoyment. As the positive aspects of foxhunting are shared more effectively, especially on social media, I hope more riders will chose to become involved in foxhunting, experience the joys I have had over the past 60 years, and ensure the sport endures for many future generations.





Winners at the second annual Wateree Hounds Horse Show held in March
 1st Place: "This Zippo's a Gold Mine"
 Owned and ridden by Paige S. Harris Trained by Megan Russell



Horse Show

Returning to the shows of yesteryear

By Stephen Carroll

Horses have been part of human life for as long as anyone can remember. There are cave paintings of people riding horses that date back 12,000 years. The greatest two minutes in sports is a horse race. I heard a trainer say when he's in the barn it's not work. He's spending time with his best (non-human) friends. Being around horses is some people's therapy. There are horses that changed a nation like Seabiscuit. Famous TV horses like Mr. Ed. Horses are so intertwined in our lives we don't see it.

There is most likely not one person in the world that doesn't know what a horse is, and since the beginning, humans have competed using horses.

Equestrian competitions, or what we presently call horse

shows, date back to the 7th century when events were held at Olympia. The Romans held races and horse fairs were popular during medieval times. One of the first known competitions for show jumping was in England.

Fast forward to today, with local, national and international equestrian horse shows governed by associations of members with a common love of equestrian sports.

So what is a horse show? It could be said it's a competition between different rider and horse combinations in any number of equestrian disciplines. Like horse and chariot races in Roman times. Horse competitions have been part of humans riding horses for a very long time. Wateree Hounds horse show was born to highlight that

competition between equestrians and their horses.

Foxhunting is one of the disciplines that was highlighted at the show and is the framework upon which the hunter horse is based.

Foxhunting, which dates back to the 15th century in England, has its roots in hunting foxes with hounds and chasing the pack of hounds on horseback. A modern-day hunter/jumper horse show is based loosely on the sport of foxhunting. A horse and rider simulate jumping over a course of jumps in a show ring to resemble obstacles that might be encountered in a hunt field.

Non-horse people often ask me, "What do you do at a horse show, a hunter/jumper show specifically, and what do

people do at a hunter/jumper horse show?"

I usually ponder a minute and say, "Do you know that event in the in the Olympics where you see the horses jumping large things that look like fence sections with colorful poles and they are timed over a specific course?"

The short answer is I help design and set up those courses, and I arrange for the horse and riders to arrive and then warm-up and schedule them in prospective classes.

Sometimes they give me a weird look. Sometimes they give me an excited look. Typically, they either want to learn more about the job or say, "That's a different kind of job."

I have to admit it is a different kind of job, or maybe third or fourth. I have a real estate brokerage company, a real estate development company. I'm on a local city park committee, I am a husband and father of boys ages 6, 9 and 11, I coach the boys in baseball, soccer, sporting clays and life. On the weekends, I play horse show manager and somewhere in there a couple hours of sleep happens.

I don't know quite when it happened, I didn't grow up in the horse world, but after 30+ years of being in the horse world, the love of horses seeped in. This crazy sport of horse showing has become second nature. It started as a college job, just a way to help pay for college. One of my best friends asked if I wanted to work a horse show. I said yes, and 30+ years later it became fun at some point. I enjoyed working the shows, seeing friends and hanging out in a different city each weekend.

I did travel the A-rated show circuit for a couple years after attending Clemson University, traveling from show to show like a gypsy from Palm Beach in the winter to Michigan in the summer and everywhere in between. I have worked at probably a couple hundred facilities and worked for about as many show managers. I have seen so many different ways to set up a show and about as many ways not to set one up.

All those years of working shows and learning what to do I built the experience I bring to Camden and the Wateree Hounds horse show. The Wateree Hounds show reminds me of the old Camden Mini Prix that was held for decades on an outside course over Thanksgiving weekend every year. It has the same feel of the shows of yesteryear.

Wateree Hounds' horse show can bring that feel of showing in the woods on an outside course, similar to how horse competitions showed hundreds of years ago in a grassy area out in the country. Wateree Hounds is a show that everyone should put on their calendar every year.



Second Place: "Burn.Flicker.Die"
Owned and ridden by Rachel Morall | Trained by Megan Russell



Third Place: "Divero"
Owned and ridden by Joanna Rothell



Forth Place: "First Commander"
Owned and ridden by Kathryn Jenkins



Fifth Place: "Cody's Pepsi Bye Poco"
Owned and ridden by Paige Harris | Trained by Megan Russell



Sixth Place: "Red Menace"
Owned and ridden by Alene Harfmann | Trained by Megan Russell

A VIEW FROM ABOVE

**By Caroline Coxe and
Mike Burkott**

Hunting season has arrived, which means Saturday mornings with horses neighing, excited hounds and hunters anticipating the day's hunt. A faint buzzing sound fills the air. That would be Outlaw, Wateree Hounds' appropriately named Mavic 2 Pro drone which is flown by Mike Burkott, a retired 25-year Air Force veteran who with his wife, Collin (also a veteran), now call the Camden-area home.



Why would anyone want to fly a drone at the hunt when the fun is in the chase and listening to the hounds hit on game?

"I didn't know much about foxhunting other than what's been dramatized on TV and wanted to provide a view and perspective to others who may not have the benefit of seeing how the hounds and hunt field works, as well as provide some entertainment for those who were there," he says. "My wife is the equestrian and it's been her dream to be part of the fox hunt, but I also like being a part of the hunt and everyone seems to love the drone footage."

Mike's drone experience comes from his days in the military. "My Air Force career involved finding people and things using all kinds of airborne platforms and managing those platforms overseas," he says. "I had a natural affinity for finding things and now I find the best way to capture the thrill of the hunt through drone footage." Mike started playing around with being a recreational drone pilot during the first season of the Wateree Hounds and then progressed to earning his Federal Aviation Administration Part 107 pilot's license in February 2021. After the hunt, Mike immerses himself constructing edits and overlays of videos with accompanying music and then posting them to the Wateree Hounds Facebook page for all to enjoy.

When asked how far can the drone fly, Mike explains that it "depends on signal strength between the controller and

the drone as well as obstacles between the controller and the drone such as trees, wind, and other weather-related events. Given the spacious area of private land we hunt on, let's just say I can fly nearly the entire hunting area from a central location."

Mike further explains that each drone's battery allows for about 20 minutes of flight time, which includes transit to and from where the hunt field is located.

"I have a setup that allows me to recharge batteries in the field and can generally fly for as long as the hunt field is out," he says. "Flying a drone is not difficult. It just takes practice. Understanding winds and weather and how it affects your drone is important, ensuring I don't fly into trees, and I have enough battery to land from where I took off. If the hunt field rides under tree cover, I cannot see where they are and have to use cues from the whips to track the field."

Another concern is making sure you do not fly too close to the hunt field or the hounds.

"I do not want to spook a horse and throw a rider," he says. "When taking video or still images, I try to make sure the sun is behind the drone."

Mike also says that as a drone pilot it is his responsibility to ensure he is not a hazard to any manned aircraft flying in or around the Bethune and Monte Clare areas.

"I'm also limited by FAA rules to flying no more than 400 feet above ground level," he says.

MEET MIKE

WATEREE HOUNDS DRONE MASTER

Mike Burkott is a retired 25-year Air Force veteran with several deployments to Bosnia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He served in many assignments with Soldiers, Sailors and Marines. He and his wife, Collin made Camden their home in 2018 and have embraced the farm life with horses, chickens, goats, dogs and cats. Mike uses his talent and abilities to make the Wateree Hounds better each year.





MAKING CONNECTIONS

Pee Dee Land Trust

By Lyles Cooper
Executive Director

Today, over 600 acres is dedicated to equestrian riding and training.

Early in 2014, a call came into the Pee Dee Land Trust from a “horse guy from up north” wanting to talk about an easement on his property on the North and South Carolina state line. It was on the northern most part of our Land Trust’s focus area, and at that time we didn’t hold any conservation easements on equestrian properties. Was it simply a tax benefit that the caller was seeking? We weren’t sure, but we drove up to visit the “horse people” and listen to their request.

When we arrived in Chesterfield, SC, we met Brad Turley and

Pati Martin. They had purchased 77 acres a few years earlier and had increased it to about 350 acres by then. We found that Brad was an active Eventer (in his words, “A horse sport like no other - one based on the disciplines of Calvary training”) who had learned an important lesson while they were living in Connecticut: “No Land, No Horses.” In his quest to train for something he called the “Long Format” he found that he lacked the space to condition his horses properly. Other than a nearby state forest, there was no place that he could “get out of the



tack” and train and condition. The more he spoke to other horse owners around him, he realized that the Northeast had some serious land constraints that prevented many folks from enjoying their horses.

On the day of closing on the original 77 acres, they found they had a cemetery on the property dating back to 1818. Shortly thereafter, they discovered that the Burch family were horse breeders and supplied Wade Hampton’s Calvary. Six Burch sons and two grandsons went to war, with seven of the eight in Calvary. And because of their horses and horsemanship, and luck, all eight returned home safely. When Sherman’s troops crossed the Lynches River at Macburn and came across the Burch farm in March 1865, their farm was burned because Sherman considered them a war asset for supplying horses to the Confederacy. After the war, they

continued their horse breeding and training business and a Burch father, son and grandson are in the Racing Hall of Fame in Saratoga New York.

Pati had been on the board of a land trust in Connecticut and understood the benefits of preserving open land, especially the kind needed if one enjoys horses. During our visit, they showed us that they had created a large-scale horse facility with a 38-stall guest barn, indoor arena, multiple outdoor rings and a cross country course. This was done to support a long-format event called Heart of the Carolinas, where riders from Beginner Novice up through Preliminary levels could enjoy the nearly lost, original form of the sport.

“We created a training venue for the traditional Eventing format, and we are committed to preserving the tradition of the horse in perpetuity on the farm”, said Brad Turley. “Whether you

come to ride the trails or train your horse, we hope that you’ll be able to feel the rich history that we’re lucky enough to share and take time to enjoy the connection with nature.”

Today, over 600 acres is dedicated to equestrian riding and training, where clinicians rent Dressage and Show Jumping indoor and outdoor arenas for practice and training, and 10 miles of trails allow guest riders and their steeds to breathe in nature’s calming qualities.

As time went on, Brad and Pati found that they were just the next in the line of horsemen who called the land home - for over 200 years the farm has continually been home to the spirit of the horse without interruption across all its owners. Brad and Pati made it clear on our first visit, they wanted our help to preserve the land that is now called Southern 8ths.

Pati shares in Brad’s enthusiasm

for horses. She spends as much time as possible on the trails, riding, walking the dogs, journaling and photographing. Art and horses being her first passions, nature soon inspired her to learn more about what was around her. She has now completed two courses to become a master naturalist, a course in pond management and several advanced trainings in natural history, entomology and land management.

“Southern 8ths is our attempt at creating a permanent place for people to connect with nature and art,” said Pati Martin. “There is a story here, and artists, writers and scientists will be able to tell that story through their experiences at our farm. The work of this and future generations will emphasize the critical need for land preservation.”

Some of the stories of the land are displayed throughout the property in a series of wood carvings created from massive, fallen trees by international wood carver Randy Boni.

Over the years, the beauty and diversity of the property presented another revelation - that Nature’s gifts were abundant, and that the spirit of the horse was just one of the many gifts.

Situated just west of the fall line where the Piedmont slides into the Sandhills, the ancient geology of the Carolina Slate Belt has created gently rolling pastures and fields, diverse upland and bottom land hardwood forests, and multiple ponds and waterways. Here is where their wildlife plan and careful restoration story evolves, offering respite to birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and humans. The waters of approximately five preserved miles of Thompson Creek and its tributaries drop over shale formations to join the Great Pee Dee

River and flow to the Atlantic. This land is home to reclaimed grass prairies full of insects, animals and birds living in dappled sunlit woodlands that allow for wandering on foot or a relaxing hack.

During the planning stages for the conservation easement for Southern 8ths, Brad and Pati flushed out their vision to create a foundation to oversee the property after they are gone. They founded the Carolina Wildlands Foundation and are actively partnering with people knowledgeable about ecological habitats, and professors and students from

local universities to establish a biological field station for research on native flora and fauna, along with the geographic and hydrologic features on this amazingly diverse landscape. Eight

interns from Wingate University kicked off this evolving program with spring semester research and presentations on Earth Day this year.

As we see accelerated property segmentation in South Carolina, the Pee Dee Land Trust works diligently with private landowners to plan their land legacy and keep large lands intact. The end goal of land protection is to connect conservation resources to create greenways in uplands and blueways along streams and rivers. The story of Southern 8ths is truly a great win for conservation and for the spirit of the horse. This property, after being fragmented in smaller parcels held for generations by different families, has been pieced back together and is now permanently protected in partnership with Pee Dee Land Trust.

As Brad and Pati agree, “All horsemen need to step up and ensure that their steeds have a place to call home forever ... No Land, No Horses.”



*Congratulations Wateree Hounds,
for another wonderful year of hunting.*

Looking forward to another great season of hunting, friendships and fun!

-Morgan and Catherine Lee



IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

PHOTOS BY
JANEL STRIETER



HUNT COOK

Extraordinaire

By Caroline Coxe

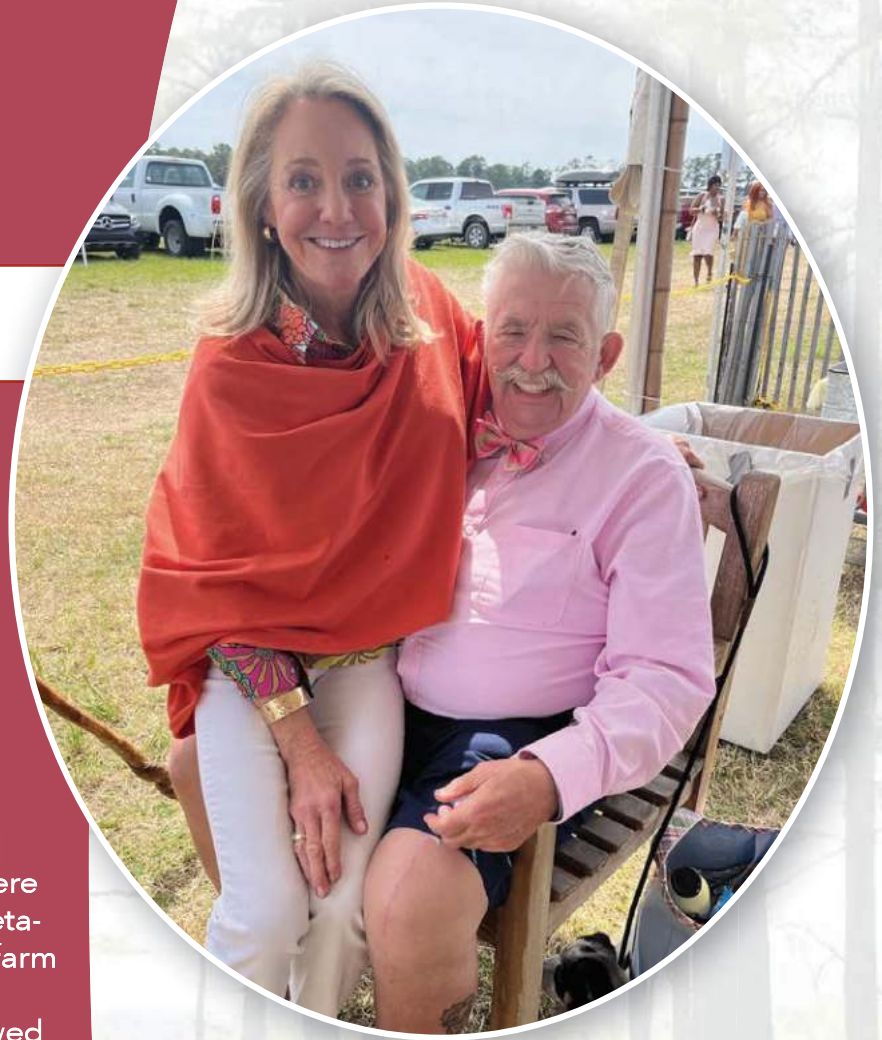
Leon Carr

started cooking when he was six. He came from a family of cooks, and in the kitchen everyone had a part to play no matter what age. Carr spent his summers at his grandparents' farm outside of Carandigua, NY. Along with his two brothers, he learned to gather fruits and vegetables for them all to prepare in his "Mama Grandma's" beloved kitchen. Some of his gathering techniques were quite unconventional. In those days, the vegetable trucks passed right by his grandparents' farm on the way to the local market. The dirt roads were bumpy and full of potholes, which allowed for little Leon and his brothers to harvest veggies as they bounced from the trucks onto the road. Carr said they would run as fast as they could, pick up the loot and hurry back to Mama Grandma's in time to prepare a scrumptious dinner for all to enjoy.

At 19 years old, he enlisted in the Army where he became a staff cook. While he was deployed to Vietnam, he and his staff would cook for up to 2,500 men and women. Later, he went into the Reserves and for 17 years he prepared meals for 120 honing his skills to become the cook he is today.

Carr showed up on Wateree Hounds' radar during the latter part of the first season.

He was friends with member Bet Tedford, who would bring him to the hunts and he would ride on the Tally Ho wagon, enjoy watching hounds work and then attend the breakfast afterwards. After one hunt, Masters Lea Edwards and Ned



Meredith Coxe, landowner, and Leon Carr, cook, enjoying the Carolina Cup races at the Wateree Hounds tent.

Towell were making announcements and asked for volunteers. Tedford jumped up and said, "Leon can cook!" Carr graciously volunteered to help with the Hunt breakfasts, informing us that he loved to cook. He told the crowd that he was happiest when on a tractor or in the kitchen cooking.

I asked Carr what he liked to cook most and he exclaimed, "Everything!"

We were thrilled!

Since then, our new friend has been wowing us with his many dishes. At Opening Meet this past season, he prepared a feast for all to enjoy. Amongst the fanfare was a corned beef which Billy Clyburn (landowner) loved; he raved over it saying it was the best he had ever had. It was a hit along with the shepherd's pie, meatloaf, potatoes gratin, onion soup and on and on. One morning, he even prepared French toast in Pokeberry field.

It has been a delight getting to know Leon, and the Wateree Hounds are so appreciative of his generosity and support. It is volunteers like Leon Carr that make our hunt what it is today.



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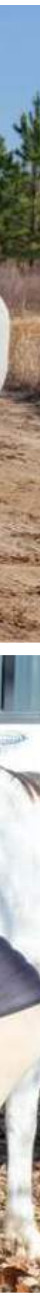


VISITING *old* TRADITIONS IN A *new* HUNT FIELD

By Lucy Dunbar

When I was a child, Christmas Dinner was always in the afternoon, before tea, to allow time for us to groom and braid the horses for the Boxing Day Meet. December 26 is a traditional fixture on the Foxhunting calendar of every pack in Great Britain and the U.S. Growing up in Southern England (I am from the South, just the other side of the pond) this was a highlight of our winter break.

Hours were spent coaxing the bushy and unruly manes of native ponies into a bobble of braids down their wooly necks, and later our slightly more tidy clipped horses were blanketed to keep them toasty, and in an effort to keep them clean for the big day ahead. The meet was always at a pub in the



town center, and as it was a day off for the whole community, the streets would be lined with locals making the meet and move-off of hounds and horses part of their own tradition.

Two decades later, and those cherished memories had me feeling very nostalgic and yearning to revisit those traditions. Polished boots, beautifully turned out horses and riders, excited hounds begging for attention from any of the children in the crowd. I saw a social media post from an old acquaintance about a new pack of hounds that had been formed in Kershaw County, South Carolina.

Over several weeks, I enjoyed following these posts. After moving to the States I had switched my English saddle for a Western and been on the Rodeo Trail for many years. However, having not had horses for several years I was yearning to be back in the saddle, and all the photos and shares of a big group of friends enjoying riding to hounds was so tempting.

As Christmas rolled around I asked my boyfriend, Jason, if we could please go to the Boxing Day meet and to watch them move off. It was such a huge part of our Christmas traditions growing up, I explained, it would really mean a lot to me.

On the morning of Boxing Day we headed down I-20 and pulled into a big field filled with trailers. Greeted at the gate by a very tall gentleman we were directed where to park and identified a table where the foot followers seemed to be congregating. Jason decided he rather liked this hunting lark when within moments of arriving a glass of port was thrust in his hand and we were eagerly welcomed by everyone surrounding us. I was delighted to reacquaint with a few familiar faces from when I first moved to the States - teenage girls at the time, they were now elegant ladies sporting some spit and polished hunting attire.

I was impressed with the size of the field that day and enjoyed the welcome from the master, the same tall gentleman that greeted us at the gate. As the field moved off we were offered a ride in a truck to follow, which

Jason, by this time swept up in the excitement of the day, gladly accepted. Within minutes of the first draw I wound down the window and listened - I could hear hounds, then the horn, heading our way! Moments later, we saw hounds burst from the wood line, followed by the Huntsman and the entire first field, galloping down the sandy road in front of us. It was a beautiful sight and so exciting, my Holiday was complete!

Later we were invited to the Hunt Breakfast, plied with casseroles and more drinks from the Tally Ho Wagon, which had magically appeared, we chatted and I made new friends. "Come and ride with me," offered Julie, who it turned out lives nearby.

A couple weeks later, after a quick evaluation ride to make sure I would be capable to take out her horse, we were loaded up and headed to another meet. My mother had insisted I leave my boots and helmet at home in England when I had given a horse to my sister a few years before - "So you can ride him any time you visit," she said. So I quickly purchased a schooling helmet to make do for now, and somehow squeezed myself into an old jacket hanging ignored and unused in the closet for years (decades). Apparently I had a "stupid grin" on my face all day, I could not stop smiling. Being out in the countryside, riding a plucky little red mare, surrounded by all the sights and sounds I had enjoyed so much growing up was such a joy! I had found my people!

As the weeks progressed I was a guest several more times and I could not be more grateful to Julie and the Towells for the opportunity to ride. As many people know, there is a lot more to a hunt than just riding. Growing up in a rural community, the Hunt and the attached Pony Club was the center of our world, it was our social circle, our support system as well as our recreation. To my delight, the Wateree Hounds, although a newly formed pack, was very active with all the traditions and social activity, as if it had been established for decades. There were scrumptious breakfasts at which to meet new friends, parties, trail rides, and even a

community tent at the Carolina Cup - laid on with plenty of table cloths and silver platters to make dressing up worth it!

Later that year, I waited excitedly for the neatly printed invitation on thick textured card stock to pop through my letterbox. It was an invitation to become a member of Wateree Hounds - to me it was more than an invitation to participate in the sport, it was an invitation to "officially" become a member of this community that had quickly become so dear to me. Having purchased a horse, tack and trailer in the previous months, I was ready for the upcoming season, and could not wait to fumble a row of bobbly braids down a certain gray neck for the opening meet!

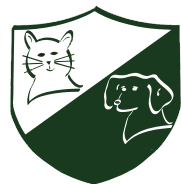
Shortly before Christmas, I made a trip home to visit my family, the first since the lockdowns of the pandemic had separated us for so long. My Mum, who had instilled my love of hunting as a child, was delighted

to see photos and hear about my new found friends and experiences. There was only one thing I wanted for Christmas that year, and I am delighted to say it travelled back to the States, carefully placed in my carry-on as it was much too precious to put in check-luggage.

Once again, I got to ride to a Boxing Day meet - boots polished after Christmas Day, lunch just as I had done decades ago - and proudly carrying my most treasured Christmas Present - my Mom's hunting whip, purchased by my grandparents when she was a teenager. A little piece of my family tradition rides with me across the Plantation, and in Wateree Hounds I have found access to a warm community of riders and followers, who welcomed me in and became an outlet for treasured traditions in a new Hunt Field.

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CLOSING MEET
PHOTOS BY
JANEL STRIETER





SECOND CHANCES

A RETIRED RACEHORSE PROJECT

By Dale Eldridge

In the fall of 2014, I took a break from the horse world. I had been working as a trainer, instructor and interscholastic equestrian team coach at large stables for decades. I was burned out. I took a job as a chef at a hunting lodge high in the remote Colorado mountains. There was no internet, no TV, no cell service. The scenery was amazing and I was in heaven. But after several weeks of this, I did get somewhat antsy. Luckily, I had several days off between bow hunting season and rifle season. I went to a hot springs and stayed at a nice Airbnb with internet.

Trudging through and deleting hundreds of boring emails, one from the Retired Racehorse Project

caught my eye. They were announcing their first Thoroughbred Makeover for 2015, at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. I was intrigued. They were offering \$100,000 in prize money to promote off-track Thoroughbreds in second careers. There were 10 different classes: Show Hunters, Jumpers, Dressage, Eventing, Foxhunting, Polo, Barrel Racing, Competitive Trail, Ranch Horse, and Freestyle. The article also talked about the growing concern about poor situations for retired racehorses, and how a group of horsemen rallied together to create the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance to raise the standard of racehorse aftercare.

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance, (TAA), is ded-

icated to promoting Thoroughbreds as versatile horses that thrive on having a career and a purpose. There is an accreditation process for Thoroughbred aftercare programs, and I became inspired to start Second Wind Thoroughbred Project, (SWTP). My break from the horse world turned out to be a very short one.

After the gig at the hunting lodge, I went back to Ocala, Florida, where I had three broodmares that my mother took care of. To be accredited by the TAA, you need to have at least five off-track Thoroughbreds. I only needed two more, that part was easy. I had zero experience with nonprofits, let alone how to start one. Google knows everything. Six weeks later, we were officially an IRS registered nonprofit. Then I applied for accreditation from the TAA. HA! Mountains of paperwork and hoops of fire to jump through. We were declined the first time, we really weren't quite there yet. We were accredited in 2018 and now we are also accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) and the ASPCA Right Horse. Initiative, are members of the United Horse Coalition, have Guardian status with the Equus

Foundation, and I am on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Horsemen's Council, am Vice Chairman of the United States Hunter/Jumper Association Horse & Rider Advocates Committee and a 30-year USEF licensed horse show judge.

Our Board of Directors currently consists of lifelong industry pro-



professionals, including two equine veterinarians, a horse show judge and steward, and a top amateur jumper rider. We encourage those interested in becoming board members to get in touch.

We provide quality care, rehabilitation, retraining, adoption/sales to qualified potential owners, or permanent retirement for OTTBs facing uncertain futures. We currently have 20 horses in the program, half are retired, a few on long-term rehab and six are in training.


A bit of background: My grandfather took my mother to the horse races in Miami, Florida, when she was a little girl, and so began her love affair with Thoroughbred horse racing. She learned about pedigrees, betting, conformation - but then then got married and had four kids and a "normal" job. After having four horse-crazy kids, she was now going to horse shows. My brother started making jumps and later got into managing horse shows, which he did for 20 years. My mom was his office manager, and also became a horse show steward, which she still does. When he retired from horse shows, my mom went to work for a large Thoroughbred breeding farm in Ocala. For 15 years she was their stallion coordinator, so she was very plugged into the world of Thoroughbreds. During this time, I became a horse show judge and had a small stable of ex-racehorses in training, teaching lessons and taking riders to shows. Between us, we were well-connected in the horse industry.

Once people found out that we had started SWTP, everyone wanted to give us an ex-racehorse, and we expanded quickly. Only problem was: How to pay



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to support all those horses? So I had to learn about grant writing and fundraising. At least I knew how to retrain them! It's been a very interesting journey. We went from Ocala, Florida, to Hilton Head, SC. The first year there we had to evacuate for a hurricane - with 19 horses. Then we went to Northern Virginia, four horses got anaplasmosis (tick fever) and we dealt with icy winters and rocky terrain, which are not great for Thoroughbreds' feet.

I was sitting in a coffee shop on a sleeting February afternoon, reading the Chronicle of the Horse magazine. There was an ad for a farm for lease in Bishopville, SC. It sounded a little too good to be true: 22-stall, state-of-the-art barn; indoor arena; 13 paddocks and pastures; and 10,000 acres of trails?!? We could NEVER afford a place like that. I thought the price had to be a misprint. Curiosity got the best of me. I called and spoke to Virginia Clyburn-Ipock, an oncologist and a rider. She is the reason we are here, because she was the most friendly, outgoing, welcoming lady I had ever spoken to on the phone. March 2020, we drove down for a visit, and the rest is history. Her father, William Clyburn, seventh generation farmer and owner of all this wonderful land, has spent the past

2-1/2 years continuing to make improvements to the once neglected Arabian breeding farm. We are so very grateful to them for leasing this fabulous facility to SWTP and for their support.

He and Virginia have welcomed Wateree Hounds to ride their land in pursuit of fox and coyote, and I have enjoyed being a member of this fun and welcoming group of horse people, riding to hounds with them and attending all of the functions, and they do a great job of throwing a party!

We are excited to announce the formation of Healing Through Horses, a nonprofit equine therapy program for cancer patients and survivors. Many of us have been impacted in some way by cancer, experiencing it personally or knowing a friend or loved one who has succumbed to it or survived it. My dear friend, Teresa Watterson, lost her battle with lymphoma when she was 21 years young and a pre-vet student. It is in her honor that I am doing this program.

Anyone interested in helping can volunteer at the barn or make a donation. Email secondwindtbs@yahoo.com or call 910-986-8725. We give tours and introduce the horses - they all have a story.



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GLOSSARY

of hunt terms



ACCOUNTING FOR THE QUARRY

Catching it or marking it to ground

ALL ON

All hounds are present

AS HOUNDS RAN

The total distance covered by hounds from the find (where the fox is found) to where the chase ends (not to be confused with the point)

BABBLER

A foxhound that speaks to a nonexistent line out of sheer excitement

BAY

The quarry is said to be at bay when it ceases to run and turns to face the pack.

BIDDABLE

A hound that honors the commands of the huntsman and staff

BILLET

Fox droppings (also scat)

BITCH

A female canine

BLANK

When a fox is not found in covert

BRACE OF FOXES

Two foxes

BREAKFAST

The meal following the hunt

BRUSH

Fox's tail

BURST

A short, fast run

BYE DAY

An extra, unscheduled hunting day

CAP OR CAPPING FEE

A contribution to the upkeep of hounds paid by visitors and nonmembers for a day's hunting (originally dropped into the outstretched cap of the field secretary)

CARRYING A GOOD HEAD

When front runners in the pack run tightly abreast to pick up changes in the fox's direction (also running with a good head)

CAST

A deployment of hounds trying to recover a lost line

CAT FOOT

The round shape of the foot of the English-type foxhound as compared to the hare foot (elongated shaped foot) of the American-type foxhound

CHECK

When hounds lose the line of the fox

CHOP

Hounds catch the fox quickly before it has a chance to run

CLICKETING

When foxes mate or pair up

CLOSED SEASON

Non-hunting season: late March through early August

COFFEE HOUSE

When members of the field chatter amongst themselves rather than pay attention to hounds

COLD LINE

An old, faint scent from line of the fox

COLD NOSE

Ability to detect very low levels of scent

COLORS

A club-specific colored collar worn by members only

COUPLES

Two leather collars joined by a chain

COURSE

When the hounds switch from hunting by scent to hunting by sight, they are said to course (or to be coursing) the quarry.

COVERT

An area of scrub, brush or woods where wild animals find protection

CRY

The voice of hounds giving tongue (speaking) to the line of the quarry

CUB

Young fox

CUR DOG

Any canine that is not a hound

DRAFT

A hound that is cut from the pack

DRAG

The line the fox has traveled and left its scent during its perambulations

DRAW

Deployment of hounds when searching for a fox

DWELL

An unwanted trait in a hound that is so enamored of the scent that it slows down to savor it, rather than driving forward after the quarry. Such a hound, as it speaks to the line, tends to pull the other hounds back to it and hurts the progress of the hunt.

EARTH

Underground hole (den or burrow) where foxes lie for protection

EARTHSTOPPING

Blocking entrances to fox earths at night while foxes are out hunting so they cannot take refuge the next day. This practice is not followed in North America, where foxes are not so numerous as to require culling.

ENTER

When a young hound is added to the pack. The hound is said to be entered when the cubhunting season is finished.

FAULT

Foxhounds are said to be at fault when they lose the scent and check.

FEATHER

When a hound finds scent and begins to wag its stern (tail)

FLAGS

Hounds are displayed on the flags (flat pieces of flagstone) at hound shows (or in kennels) so as to stand squarely, evenly and completely visibly for the judges (or visitors).

FLESH

The carcass of domestic animals (cattle, horses, sheep, fowl) used to feed hounds in kennel

FOIL

Any scent that masks the line of the quarry, such as manure, cattle, sheep, fertilizer or vehicle fumes

FULL CRY

When the entire pack is speaking on the line of the fox

GIVE TONGUE

When hounds speak to the line of the quarry

GONE AWAY

Hounds have left the covert and are running the line as a pack

GOSSAMER

Filmy cobwebs on the grass or bushes; more noticeable when there is a dew

HACK

A relaxed ride to or from the meet

HARE FOOT

The elongated shape of the foot of the American-type foxhound as compared to the cat foot (round shaped foot) of the English-type foxhound

HARK

When from the huntsman (usually pronounced "hike"), it is a command to hounds to honor (go and help) another hound that has found the line. When from the field master, it is a command to field members to be quiet and listen.

HEADED

When the been fox has turned from its direction of travel by a car, person or cur dog

HEADLAND

Usually a command from the field master ("Headland, please!") to stay to the edges of the field and off the crops or grass.

HEAVY VIXEN

A female fox with cubs before whelping

HEEL LINE

The line of the fox opposite to the direction it is traveling

HILL TOPPERS

A group of field members that follows the hunt from hilltop to hilltop. Usually a non-jumping field where green horses and riders are introduced to foxhunting and go at a much slower pace.

HIRELING

A rented horse for hunting

HOLD HARD

The command to stop and stand still

HOLLOA

Loud voice signal to huntsman and hounds that a fox has been viewed (pronounced "holler")

HONOR

When hounds respect another hound's find and rush to its assistance

HONORARY SECRETARY

A small house or cottage used for lodging during the hunting season

HUNT LIVERY

The unique attire proscribed by the master(s) for their hunt, including the color of the collar of the hunt coat, the color of the collar and facings of the formal tails and the distinctive hunt buttons

IN WHELP

Pregnant

KENNEL HUNTSMAN

The hunt staff member responsible for the care of hounds in kennel and who whips-in to an amateur huntsman

LARK

To gallop and jump for pleasure or diversion even though hounds are not running

LEASH OF FOXES

Three foxes

LIEU IN

Huntsman's command to hounds to enter the covert and search for the fox

LIFTING HOUNDS

When the huntsman calls hounds away from the line they are hunting and brings them forward to a view holloa or to where he believes the quarry to have gone

LOSS

Hounds are at a loss when they have lost the scent they were following

LOW SCENTING

Describes a hound that can detect very low levels of scent

MARKING

When hounds speak, dig and/or scratch at the earth where the fox has gone to ground

MASK

Fox's head

MUTE

When a hound runs the line of the quarry silently without giving tongue — an undesirable characteristic

NOSE

The ability to detect and follow the scent of the hunted quarry

OPEN

When a hound utters its initial cry upon finding (detecting) the scent of the quarry, he is said to have opened.

OWN

When hounds are together and running the line well and easily, they are said to own the line.

PAD

Fox's foot

POINT

(As in a 5-mile-point). The straight line distance between the find (where the fox is found) and the end of the chase (not to be confused with as hounds ran). Also, when a whipper-in stands watching the covert while the hounds are drawing, he or she is said to be on point.

PURE

Hound excrement

QUARRY

The hunted animal: legitimately fox, coyote, bobcat and sometimes wild pig or boar in North America

RATCATCHER

Informal hunting attire: customarily shirt, tie, tweed coat and field boots

RATE

When the huntsman or whipper-in scolds a hound

RIOT

When foxhounds hunt anything but acceptable quarry

ROADING

Exercising hounds on the road

RUNNING WITH A GOOD HEAD

When front runners in the pack spread out to pick up changes in the fox's direction (also carrying a good head)

SCAT

Fox droppings (also billet)

SING

When hounds hold their heads up and make a wonderful noise, often when they are happy. They should never be stopped from singing and should be allowed to finish their anthem.

SINK THE WIND

Heading downwind

SKIRTING

When a hound cuts corners to get ahead rather than follow the line of the fox, it is said to skirt or to be a skirter — an undesirable trait.

SMEUS

A path through a fence that may be used by fox, hare, rabbit or other small animals

SPEAK

When hounds give tongue to the line of the quarry

SPINNEY

A small covert

STEADY

Refers to a hound that hunts acceptable quarry only, does not speak to or follow the line of riot and ignores distractions and commotion.

STERN

Hound's tail

STRIKE HOUND

A hound that is often the first to find

STUB-BRED

Foxes born above ground

TAIL HOUNDS

Refers to hounds running behind the main pack.

TALLY-HO

A phrase indicating the quarry has been viewed

TALLY-HO, BACK

A phrase used when the quarry has been viewed going back into covert (pronounced "tall-ho, bike")

TALLY-HO, OVER

A phrase used when the quarry is viewed crossing a trail or ride

THROWN OUT

When the rider has missed the run due to any number of reasons, such as falling, getting lost, being unable to jump a fence or coming across a locked gate

THRUSTER

A member of the mounted field who is constantly crowding the field master and the hounds

TOP AND TAIL

Cull from the front and back of the pack to keep the pack together and not strung out.

TRACE

A track or path that deer use

UN-KENNELED

When the quarry is roused from where it is lying

VIEW HOLLOA

The screech shouted when the quarry is viewed to let the huntsman know the quarry is afoot and to provide an audible beacon to which hounds may hark

VISITING FOX

Refers to a dog fox (male) that has traveled away from its home country during the mating season in search of a vixen. If found by hounds, the visitor will often make for its familiar country, which can result in one of the longest runs of the season.

VIXEN

Female fox

WALK

In spring and summer, hound puppies sent out of the kennels to live at members' and supporters' farms for socializing are said to be at walk . When destruction to yard, garden, and shrubs stretches the limits of the good puppy walkers' tolerance, the hounds are returned to the kennels.

'WARE

A contraction of "beware," used

to alert riders to potential hazards, as in "'Ware hole!"

WHELP

(noun) A hound puppy
(verb) To give birth

WHIPPER-IN

Assists the huntsman (extra eyes and ears) with hounds during the hunting day by going on point, viewing the quarry away, watching and correcting (if necessary) hounds and bringing on the tail hounds. If an amateur, he or she is referred to as an honorary whipper-in.

Source: Foxhuntinglife.com

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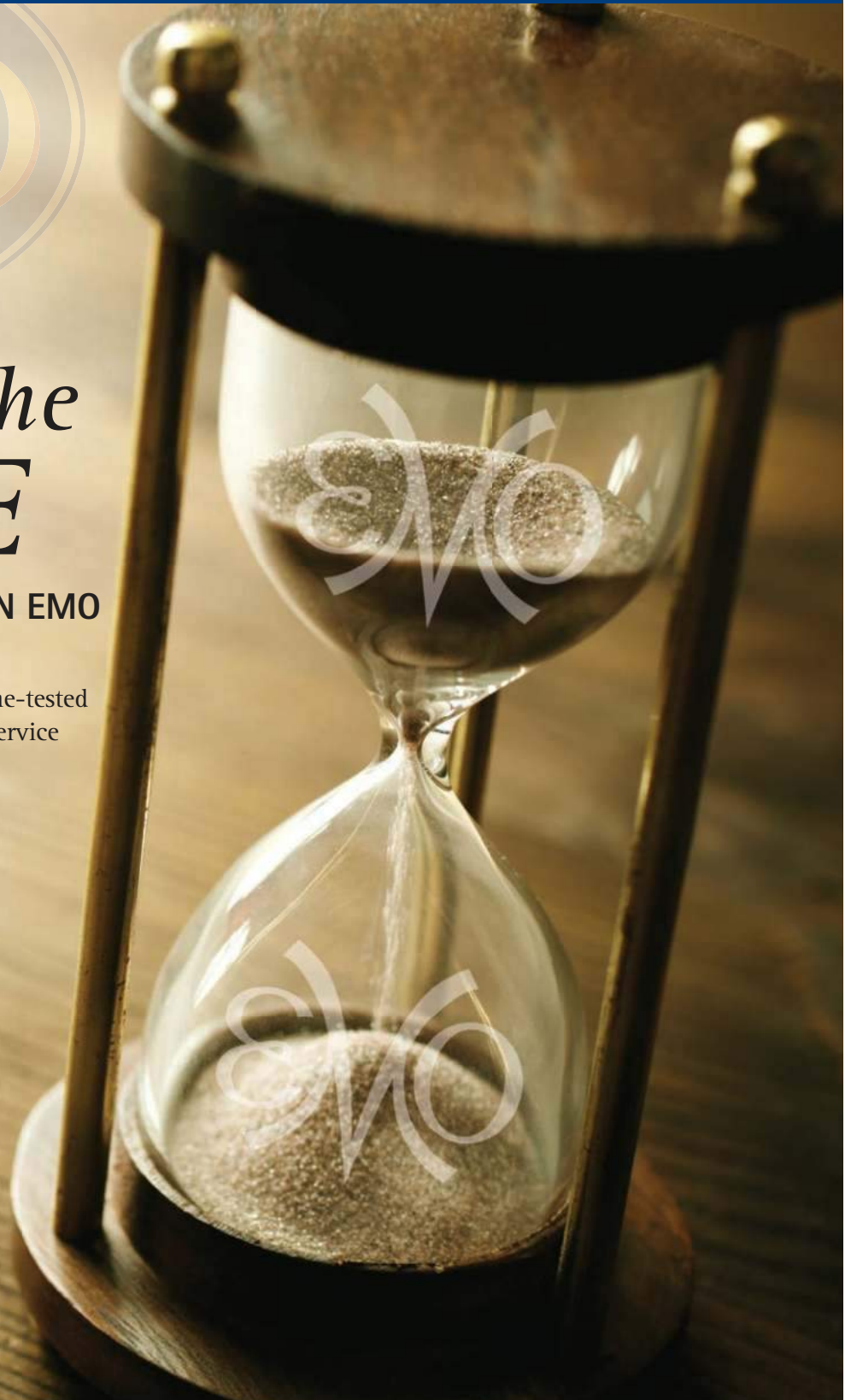




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