

Bull Run Hunt News

Summer 2007

*Hunting Culpeper, Orange, Madison, and
Spotsylvania Counties*



Hunt Monitor: 540-829-8353
Kennels: 540-829-6028
PO Box 14, Mitchells VA 22729
www.bullrunhunt.com

Upcoming Events

- **7/10: Board Meeting, Clubhouse, 7:00 p.m.**
- **7/14: Trail ride, Clubhouse, 9:00 a.m.**
- **7/21: Trail ride, The Preserve, 9:00 a.m.**
- **7/28: Work Day, Meet at Kennels, 8:00 a.m.**
(rain date: 7/29, same time & location)
- **8/18: Trail Ride, Maple Lawn, 9:00 a.m.**
- **9/1: BRH Cubbing Season officially begins**
- **9/2: Trail Ride, Birmingham, 9:00 a.m.**
- **9/16: Fun Hunter Pace at Peacock**
- **10/8-10: Hound Performance Trials**
- **10/13: BRH Opening Meet**
- **10/22: BRH hosts Virginia Hunt Week**

Notes from Joe

Time sure does fly. It is almost time to start hunting again. Dick Bickel has taken over jump building, which is a huge job. Please try to help. We're planning to have 3 afternoon hunts before September; anyone that helps to build jumps is welcome to ride, but if you don't have time to help, you probably don't have time to hunt in the summer. Unless you want to make a contribution for one jump which is approximately \$50, we would rather have you help.

Fantastic news—Mike Long has agreed to become a Joint master. Already on the 5600 acres that he owns, he has put in 150 jumps and opened up about 15 miles of trails. We're so fortunate to have the Longs in our Bull Run family. I hope everyone is having a great summer—keep smiling because we are going to have fun!

Joe

Mike Long, New Joint Master

Congratulations to Mike Long on his appointment as our newest Joint Master! Mike and his wife Betty are two of the friendliest faces in the Hunt field, always ready with a smile and a hello. Some of our most popular fixtures are on their properties, including Locust Hill, the Preserve, Spotswood, and Quiet Shade. Please congratulate Mike on his appointment the next time you see him.

Heather Hayes McBride

We sadly report the passing of one of our more recent members, Heather Hayes McBride. Heather, age 41, of Spotsylvania County, died Sunday, June 24, 2007. She was born in Santa Ana, CA and graduated from California State University in Fullerton with a BA in English. She was the beloved wife of Gerry McBride and devoted mother of Morgan and Ryan Schram, whom she loved above all accomplishments and life itself.

Heather was very involved in all facets of equestrian activities throughout her life. She was a sponsor of many recognized dressage shows, a major sponsor of the Eastern Region Andalusian Horse Club, and the Welsh Cob and Pony Society of America. Heather was a member of the Virginia Dressage Association of Fredericksburg and for many years the editor of the club's newsletter. She won numerous national championships throughout her life and studied with some of the elite trainers of Europe. Heather's newest equine pursuit, foxhunting, began when she became a member of the Bull Run Hunt. She progressed quickly to become a first flight rider and relished the friendships that she made. To honor her excellent riding ability, enthusiasm, and contributions to the hunt, Heather was awarded her colors by Bull Run Hunt.

All members of the Bull Run Hunt family express our heartfelt sympathies to Heather's family and friends for their loss.

New Officers Elected

The following officers were elected at the June Board meeting: Rosie Campbell, President; Sid Trimmer, Vice President; Carole Pivarnik, Honorary Secretary; Adrianna Waddy, Treasurer. New Board members include Kristen Ford and Dick Bickel, filling spots vacated by Mike Long and Karen Trimmer.

Point-to-Point Thank Yous

Submitted by Karen Trimmer

The Bull Run Hunt Point to Point races were held Sunday, May 6, at Brandywine Park. It was a cool, sunny day and a good time was had by all. The race card featured flat, hurdle, and timber races as well as some fun races, such as draft horse sprints and quarter milers. Returning this year were the Bouncing Around Amusements kid's park and the Just Right Bluegrass Band all the way from Charleston, South Carolina. Also featured on race day were Jack Russell Terrier races, a tailgate competition, and a nice selection of vendors, including a jeweler, bookseller, and winery.

Point-to-point races are a traditional feature of hunt clubs and are one of our major fund-raising events of the year.

Revenues from the races help feed the hounds, pay expenses, and keep dues at their current level. This year, attendance was low at the gate and in the number of entries; nevertheless, we still managed to take in over \$10,000—with ad sales and sponsorships making up most of this figure.

We had some very dedicated members who did a fantastic job of selling ads, preparing the course, putting the program together, pulling things together, and helping out race day. Please take the time to thank those members personally. Their spirit of generosity, willingness to be team players, many hours of personal time, and just plain hard work is greatly appreciated. It's the people like this who happily share their time and talent who make Bull Run Hunt the great club that it is. Let's give a big, sincere thank you to the committee chairmen and all the people who served with them on their committees:

Course prep—Walt Holloway
Ad sales, souvenirs—Cameron Toms
Reserve parking—Cathy Marco
Vendors—Mary Lanier
Tents—Peggy Pedersen
Photographer—Chris Allen
Outriders—Richard Harris
Programs—David Lynn-Overby, Nancy Braier
Publicity—Carole Pivarnik, Adrianna Cowan
Medical—Bennett Clinton
Parking—Kristin Ford
Hospitality—Susan Homan, Mary Potter
Officials—Travis White
Trophies—Caroline York
Front Gate—The Hamptons



Mike Bowman Benefit Ride

Submitted by Lindy Sanford; written by Phil Audibert

“I thought that this year built on last year’s,” commented organizer, Lindy Sanford. “Actually, it was better.”

Lindy is talking about the second annual benefit trail ride, silent auction and banquet for wheel chair-bound and respected Virginia horseman, Mike Bowman. Lindy says the event raised \$20,000, every penny of which goes to Mike. After last year’s event, Mike was able to buy a “stand up” wheel chair, which he can maneuver indoors at his home near Syria in Madison County.

This year’s benefit will go towards a Four Wheel Drive model that Mike can use outside his home.

It will come in handy when Mike, who was an experienced event rider before his accident, lends his expertise as a technical delegate and judge in dressage and show jumping competitions around the country. The weekend of June 23-24, he participated in a United States Eventing Association Licensed Officials training program for the handicapped. The idea is to qualify experienced riders who are confined to wheelchairs to be event judges, “so you can still use their expertise,” says Lindy Sanford.

The benefit trail ride, auction and banquet was held at Locust Hill Preserve in Culpeper County. Four hunt clubs participated in the joint effort: Keswick, Rappahannock, Bull Run and Farmington. About 200 people showed up despite the fact that it was held on a busy Sunday in June.

Groups of trail riders swung past the log cabin at Locust Hill to pay their respects to Mike Bowman who laughed and joked as they rode by. Once they rode off, Mike wheeled into his specially equipped van and met the riders at the halfway point on top of a hill with a spectacular view of the Piedmont.

Back at Locust Hill, Lindy Sanford noted that everything was donated: a tent from Gibson’s Auction and Rentals, tables and chairs from Bull Run Hunt (thanks to Cameron and Travis Toms); \$600 towards food from Rappahannock Hunt Club and members, wine from Joe Sullivan of Bottle Boy, beer, soft drinks and coolers from Kenny Wheeler, even porta-potties from Allied Concrete.

A gourmet banquet was prepared by Jeri Pitz and friends. Music was supplied by Phil Audibert and the silent auction was coordinated by Judy Allen. Lindy Sanford says a few auction items were sold twice: husband Bill’s offer of an airplane ride and a print of foxhounds by Evie Cowles.

Special thanks were also extended to J.B. & Mary Scott Birdsall; site donors, Mike and Betty Long; “gatekeeper” Diana Boehme; and to Lindy’s co-organizer, Donna Martin. Donna was able to keep everything running smoothly despite the fact that she had to deal with a medical crisis involving her father that same weekend. “She was my right hand person; she really helped,” says Lindy gratefully.

Already, plans are being made for next year.

The Bottle Report, Still Kicking!

It was slim pickens for the last bottle report of the season due to the virus outbreak and canceling of meets. As far as we know, no one came off their feet (or four-wheeler) while hunting on foot.

- 3-10-07, Cedar Mountain. Mike Long’s horse lost his medial traction on the left side and his lateral traction on the right side going around a frozen trail in the Preserve. Mike kissed the ground... thanks for the bottle, Mike!
- 3-15-07, Kennels. Kim Wilkins was testing her amphibious landing gear which malfunctioned during a creek crossing.

Updates: John Rhett claims our previous report of his involuntary dismount was inaccurate...but the story we gave came straight from Don Davis. Bear in mind—we can’t promise to give an accurate report but can always be counted on to report the most entertaining account of your fall!

From *Don’t Squat With Yer Spurs On II*: If your knees hurt too much, your stirrups are too short. If your tail end hurts too much, your stirrups are too long. If they both hurt, your stirrups are just right.