

Full Cry



April/May, 2011

View From The President's Den

By Jay Young
President

I know I can sometimes sound like a broken record talking about how successful our events are and thanking those involved. However, it is repeatedly true and therefore needs to be said repeatedly. This time of year is the busiest season for our events. We have end of hunting festivities, a Hunter Pace, an Old Fashion, the Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point Races, the Manor Races, the hunt wrap up party, the Maryland Hound Show and the yard sale. I really for sorry for those of you who try to have lives outside of this. There are many other events and organizations of which many of our members are also members. The Manor Conservancy, Ladew Gardens, the Maryland Historical Society, etc., also have events and add to this frenzied time of year.

Frequent readers of this column are familiar with My Annual Apology. The dilemma is, I can thank those organizers, coordinators and chairpersons of the events and risk offending someone by omitting them, or I can simply take the safe route and throw out a generic thank you without naming names. I elect to go with the former and simply apologize in advance.

The Hunter Pace was exceptionally well organized this year and Bill Pearce and Jade Hubbard deserve kudos for their organizational skills in planning and executing that event. As with all of events this spring, the rain wreaked havoc on all planning. Cancellation was always a possibility up to the last moment. Special thanks to all land owners for all of our events for their understanding and for suffering through the inevitable damage suffered to their properties. In the case of the Hunter Pace, special thanks go to Charlie Noell. The Hunter Pace is especially important because it attracts those with a wide range of equestrian interests in addition to foxhunting. This allow us to stay in touch with like-minded folks we may not see on a regular basis. The non-jumping element was also a very attractive feature of this year's event.

The Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point Races were not exempt from the weather complications. Special thanks to the Vosses for enduring the damage to their property as a result of the day and night-long rain preceding the races. The race course was perfect. The going for the human attendees also cooperated. It was slippery in the morning when negotiating skills were keen. The footing for people improved as the day went on and as their negotiating skills diminished along with their capacities in general. Special thanks to Blake Curry for assuming the role of coordinating the set up and break down of tent, tables, chairs and the all important bar. Thanks to Sy Seiler and Jean Seiler for their day-long volunteer efforts behind the bar. Thanks to Orsia Young for coordinating the food at the tailgate and thanks to all of you who assisted Orsia and Blake as committee members on that effort. A special thank you also goes out to Carol Tanzola, who schleps the Elkridge-Harford logo ware all over the place and then spends the day selling!

As for weather challenges, there truly was none greater than the Manor Race. Garnet Anderson and Carl Kress, both of whom were attending their 66th Manor Race, agreed that it was the worst that they had ever seen. Once again, the course was magnificent for the horses, but challenging for pedestrians. Unlike the Elkridge-Harford race, the footing and

the capacity to negotiate the footing deteriorated rapidly and continually throughout the day. Judy Baldwin deserves great thanks for chairing the Elkridge-Harford tent. The fact that it was too miserable to be anywhere but inside that tent made things particularly challenging. I believe Judy's chief lieutenants were Peggy Smalley and Michelle Rosenkilde. Michelle also deserves thanks for coordinating all of the volunteers involved in parking, security and almost all aspects of the human support effort that goes on throughout the day. Turney McKnight is a virtual one-man machine when it comes to this race. I don't think he does anything else for a month before the race. Thank you Turney and congratulations for a successful event notwithstanding the conditions. Heather Wilhelm likewise deserves great credit for a tremendous effort organizing the logistics of the event from ticket sales to jumbo-trons, and corporate tent sponsorships. We owe an incredible debt of gratitude to all of the volunteers who worked that day. I counted 48 Hunt Club members involved in one way or another. On behalf of the Club I would also like to express my appreciation to our partners at Ladew Gardens for all of the efforts in making this race so successful. The evolution of the quality of the experience of this race over the last 10 years has been nothing short of amazing.

We now look forward to the Hounds Show, the wrap-up party and the yard sale. If you haven't had the opportunity to volunteer for something so far this spring, now's your chance.



"Not to be outdone by our presidents recent encounter with law enforcement, Masters ~ McKnight & Kinsley try to convince a Park Ranger that that we really didn't know the park trails were closed...."

ELKRIDGE-HARFORD HUNT CLUB TO HELP SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

*By Julie Smith and
Stacie Eggleton*

The first boxes have shipped! We should pat ourselves on our backs as we pulled together 7 boxes of treats and supplies for the troop below. The box will be back in the clubhouse on Wednesday and looking to be refilled. Our goal is to be able to send packages over once a month as we continue to show our support to these brave soldiers. Please send an email to viking48@earthlink.net if you would like to include a family member or friend to be a recipient of the future packages. If you want to donate a small amount to cover postage in lieu of supplies and treats, that would also be great.

We just picked up the second group of items for the troops, Thank you to all who have contributed. Packages will be put together and mailed this week and then the donation box will be returned to the club.

Hunter Pace 2011

By Bill Pearce

This years Hunter Pace held at Harford Hill was a great success. We have to thank Mother Nature for giving us one day of sunshine in what has been a very wet spring.

This years winners were ~

Fastest Jumping time ~ Geoff Hyde, Adam Townsend,
Booli Selmayr

Optimum Jumping time ~ Eileen Poole, Bob Kinsley

Optimum Non-Jumping ~ Courtney Atnas and Kimberly
Kupres

On behalf of Jade Hubbard and myself we would like to thank Charlie Noell for allowing us to use Harford Hill and all of you who helped make this years Hunter Pace run very smoothly. We had a awesome team !! Also many thanks and to all who contributed to the fantastic tailgate. See you next year at a new location.



"Sophie O'Brian collects her teams ribbons"

Photo credit ~ Bill Pearce

The Season's Over.....Now What?

By Chris Peddicord

Now that the season has come to a close, it's a perfect time to review how things went and what we can do to improve on our riding for next season. Why wait 'til September? By then it's simply too late.

While there are a lot of things we can work on, one of the more essential elements of hunting safely is the ability to stop our horses. This concept doesn't apply to those of us who are newer to the sport but to even the seasoned veteran. It is not acceptable to randomly use the horse in front of you as a means to stop your horse. Not only is that very poor manners, but it is without exception one of the more dangerous maneuvers you can allow to happen. Let's say that the first and maybe the only consequence is that you step on the horse in front of you and injure his hind foot. The end result could be anything from a minor injury to a catastrophic trauma sidelining that horse for the rest of the season. Let's take it one step further and your horse collides into the horse in front, gets kicked, rears up, you fall off and break a bone and are being rushed to the hospital while the vet is being called to euthanize your horse with a broken knee/ankle/etc. Not a very pretty picture when all it would have taken would have been a little schooling and forethought on your part.

So.... How are we gonna rectify this potentially disastrous scenario? The answer doesn't lie in testing it out in the hunt field. The solution is included in the effort you take in working on you and your horses' overall performance off season. Now I know that a lot of us don't take much stock in riding off season but if you have any desire to have more fun out hunting (and who doesn't?) then maybe this off season is the time to reconsider riding thru the spring and summer.

One of the first things to consider is whether or not your horse is properly bitted. Now that I've opened up this can of worms let me say that no two horses are alike and what works for me and my horse probably won't work for you and your horse and that in many cases it's a matter of trial and error. But keep in mind that there is no way you can pit your 100 to 200 lbs against a 12 or 1400lb animal. Unless you have a particularly kind and responsive horse and your hands are excellent, a rubber bit ain't gonna cut it. The most basic of concepts is that what you use on your horse out hunting generally shouldn't be the same as what you use on a Sunday trail ride with the Ladies' Auxiliary. By the same token, what works for you in the early part of the season while things are still relatively low key and your horse isn't at maximum fitness isn't gonna work for you in March when your sleepy-eyed packer turns into a wild-eyed two year old coming to his first rodeo. Keep in mind.....we've created this very fit athlete and it's no surprise that things have escalated! It's our job to adjust things accordingly.

OK, so we're at home and mindful of wanting to improve on this condition. Don't hop on your horse and gallop him cross country and ask him to stop on a dime. It begins at the walk. Walk your horse on a straight line and ask him to stop at a designated point. Don't accept 3 or 5 or 7 feet beyond your marker. He/she stops where you intend to. Boring I know, but it really does start there. Insist that he stand still until he is calm standing in that same spot. Once this is a regular pattern progress to the trot. Same thing. Indicate where you mean for him to stop and make it happen. Then the canter. If you really want to have some fun ask your significant other to stand on the spot where you want to stop and use him or her as your marker. (Depending on how fond you are of your s/o that may work to your detriment!) Include this concept in your schooling over fences, both before and after the jump and then go out cross country and apply what you've learned. Keep in mind that this is not just a tug of war between your hands and his mouth. Your whole body is used to effectuate a halt. Your hands stop their forward motion, you sit deeper in the saddle, brace your back, keep your leg on your horse and use your body language to convey that message to your horse. Sit a little straighter in the saddle. If you try all these nuances but are still forward in the saddle in a jumping or galloping position you are still telling your horse to go forward. Don't send him mixed signals. If you want him to stop, be sure you are telling him to stop.

So in addition to ruminated over the fun days we've had out in the hunt field this season, save a little grey matter to wonder if it could be better and even more fun. A little homework goes a long way to having a safe, fun-filled hunting season.



ELKRIDGE-HARFORD HUNT PONY CLUB

A message from Virginia Williams

Elkridge-Harford Hunt P.C. Open Horse Trials/Round Robin Saturday, May 14th 2011



Baby Novice/Beg. Novice/Novice/Training Div.
 (up to 2') (up to 2'7") (up to 2'11") (up to 3'3")
Elementary C.T. /'Dressage Only' / Interschool

At Elkridge-Harford Hunt Club, 3403 Pockock Road, Monkton, MD, 21111

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE ON SITE !!!!

Entry Form On Website: (queries Karen Bennett 443-617-1797)

www.elkridgeharfordponyclub.com

**Advertise or 'Good Luck wish' in Program – contact:
Erinbouchard@comcast.net**

EHHC SOCIAL CALENDAR 2010-2011

CHAIRMAN

Fri., May 22, 2011	Wrap Up Party	
	Manor Tavern	Annie Huber
Sat., June 11, 2011	EHHC Yard Sale	Eileen Poole

BOOTCAMP AT EHHC

Fit body by Sasha will host Bootcamp Tuesdays at 5pm at the Club through the spring/summer. Cost is \$20 per person per session. All are welcome. Call [443.798.8446](tel:443.798.8446) for more info or if interested in scheduling your own group exercise class.

HOUND AND PUPPY SHOW PHOTOGRAPHS

Courtesy of Dave and Joan Hagan



HOUND AND PUPPY SHOW COMES TO EHHC

By Jay Young

Sunday, May 8, 2011, was a proud day for the Elkridge Harford Hunt Club. It was our turn to host the Annual Maryland Hound Show. I want to congratulate and thank all those involved for raising the bar to an all time high. A tremendous effort was put into preparing the grounds for the Show, and I must say that the old girl looked spectacular. Ground preparations spanned from long-term capital projects to flower planting. As you well know, we have had a perennial problem with dirt and mud in the parking pad area outside of the Clubhouse entrance. This condition has always created a mess in the Clubhouse. This may be the only case where a pair of ruined shoes took a turn for the best. An anonymous donor picked up the check, and our own Bob Kinsley paved the parking area in front of the Clubhouse. Liz McKnight deserves great credit as the Commander in Chief of all Show operations. However, she insists that her role was minimal and that real credit belongs to the Lieutenants and Ground Troops. Special thanks go to Bob and Kerri Smyth and their crew of Allison White, C.M., and Louis (neither of whom, like Madonna, need last names), who erected show rings, which while temporary, certainly gave the appearance of being permanent. Actual gates, although now removed, were installed as fully as if permanent. Our own hard working staff of Geoff Hyde, Adam Townsend, Mary Lee Atkinson and Luke Schmitt worked tirelessly to prepare the grounds and spruce up all landscaping, shrubbery, etc. Ellie Russell is the constant keeper of the beds in the front of the Clubhouse, along with the pots and planters. Maryanna Skowronski led what turned out to be a massive planting and landscape effort. Maryanna enlisted the assistance of Anna Martin, who then turned to her employer, Moon Nurseries, and convinced them to donate seven rhododendrons, five rose bushes, five ornamental grasses, three deciduous shrubs, an eight-foot flowering dogwood, and an eight-foot magnolia tree. Maryanna then recruited her college roommate, Karen Van Dusen, to retrieve all of the donated materials from the eastern shore of Maryland. Upon returning to the Club with a truck full of donated landscape booty, Maryanna then enlisted the help of Jenny Pitts and L.B. Boyce to endure the pouring rain and develop a plan for the placement of the plants. Thereafter, Maryanna and Jenny somehow enlisted Henry Pitts, and his brother Jeffrey, to come out in the rain and dig the holes for the two eight-foot trees, and then along with Maryanna, planted the rest of the plants. That was an amazing amount of work, time and effort, and really helped transform the grounds. Maryanna deserves great credit for her own efforts, but also her efforts in enlisting everyone from her college roommate to Jeffrey Pitts, who are not otherwise involved in the Club, to assist in this tremendously successful effort.

The day of the Show could not have been more perfect. The weather was clear and sunny and the temperature perfect. The Club grounds have never looked this good. Carol and Jim Tanzolla organized the food and people to present a beautiful breakfast for our guests. Chafing dishes and china were set up in the Fox's Lair and, as always, the ever-reliable Tom and Pat Walton could be found behind the bar mixing up Bloody Mary's and Mimosas to the delight and amazement of our guests. Maryanna Skowronski (again) and Rick and Dottie Hyman helped with the breakfast setup.

Following breakfast, it was time for the Show to begin. Nancy Hale and Mary Schaeffer manned the upper ring. John Almond was the Announcer for the day. Millicent Jordan was the Ring Steward for the upper ring, and Erica Griffiths, ably supported by her son, Mark "Stix" Griffiths, was the Ring Steward for the lower ring. Govane McClees assisted as Ribbon Runner. As though they had not done enough, Bob and Kerri Smyth also put on a beautiful luncheon in the Clubhouse which, once again, amazed and delighted our grateful and impressed guests. In addition, Bob Smyth set up and then manned a hospitality tent with all of the appropriate snacks and libations served throughout the day.

As usual, the Elkridge Harford Hound Team put on a spectacular performance. Our Hound Handlers, headed by Huntsman Geoff, and capably assisted by Whipper-In Adam Townsend, were ably assisted by Ellie Williams, Maryanna Skowronski, Darby Hyde, Jim Tanzolla and Tony Shore. Tony not only took several turns showing hounds, but also alternated as event photographer with his wife, Andrea, and Dave Hagan. Darby had quite a successful day showing hounds and lurchers and landing a Blue Ribbon in the Junior Handler's Class. Darby handled hounds in every class with her Dad. I was lucky to have been standing at the right place at the right time to observe the proud ear-to-ear grin on Papa Geoff's face when Darby emerged with her Blue Ribbon.

The Show itself was a lot of fun. In addition to fox hounds, there were also classes for basset hounds, working terriers and coursing hounds, including deer hounds, irish wolf hounds and lurchers. We were even treated to a visit and exhibition by the 2011 Best in Show Winner at the Westminster Kennel Club Hound Show, the Scottish Deer Hound "Hickory."

In his remarks, Dr. Roger Scullin, President of the Maryland Foxhound Association and Master of the Howard County-Iron Bridge Hounds, complimented our Club for raising the bar to a whole new height. Guests at the Show included almost every Maryland Hunt and several guests from Virginia, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. We should all be very proud (I know I am) of the appearance of the property, and the success of the entire event. I, once again, congratulate and thank all of those involved.

A PHOTO ESSAY FOR THE HOUND AND PUPPY SHOW

By Andrea Shore



Kerri Smyth shows a Monkton Hall Basset



Geoff and Darby prep before class while Adam looks on



Liz McKnight & Monkton Hall Basset win 3rd place in class



Liz McKnight with Lady Gaga judged in Coursing Bitches Class



Darby Hyde, Liz McKnight show their lurcher bitches; EHC Hospitality Tent in background



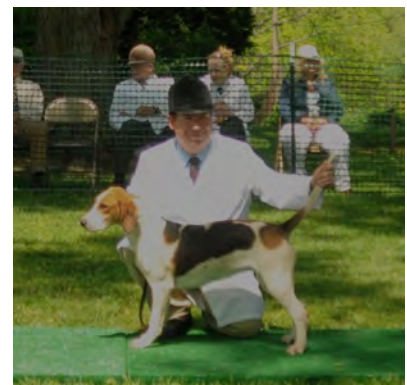
Jim Tanzola gets face time with celebrity deerhound



Huntsman Geoffrey Hyde showing EHC crossbred bitch off leash



Geoff showing another bitch off leash



First-time handler Tony Shore stands up cross-bred bitch puppy Maven



New Jersey Basset pack at rest before class

A PHOTO ESSAY FOR THE HOUND AND PUPPY SHOW
AND THE WINNER IS

By Andrea Shore



Huntsman Geoffrey Hyde shows Penn-Marydel dog hound, Arjay, off lease



PMD Arjay showing at Liberty



Huntsman Geoffrey Hyde accepts championship award for PMD dog hound, Arjay



Happy huntsman with Champion Arjay, Stix Griffih's mum looks on



Geoff stands up Arjay for photo ops



Open Skies: Plein air Painting of the North County Sunday, May 15, 2011

Hosted by St. James Church & the Elkridge Harford Hunt Club

**St. James Church
3100 Monkton Road
Monkton, Maryland**

Collector's Preview

3:00-4:00 pm Donation \$50.00*

Open to the Public

4:00-6:00 pm Free Admittance, Cash Bar

Gourmet Reception: Wine & Cheese

Featuring local wines from
Basignani Winery, Boordy Vineyard & Woodhall Wine Cellars

**\$50 donation will be applied to purchase.*

15% discount applied to two or more purchases during the private preview.