

THE BABBLER

Early Summer, 2011

WELCOME BACK TO THE BABBLER

It's been a while and Emily Brown has kept us all well informed but, a news letter is...well...newsy so, here goes. Bear in mind that all of you can submit all manner of interesting information and/or adventures to our next issue. Just Email the details to alorig@comcast.net and achieve cyber immortality until someone punches "delete".

THE CALENDAR AS WE NOW KNOW IT:

Early June - Renew your memberships!

July 16 – 17 - Work Party

August 20 – 21 First Aid, CPR and Triage Clinic

August 27 – 28th Beach Ride (tentative)

September 17 – 18 – Aiden O'Connell Clinic

October 1 – Hunter Trials 50th Anniversary Show (tentative)

October 2 – Opening Day (tentative)

All dates will be listed on our website at

<http://www.woodbrookhuntclub.com/activities>

HOUNDS ARE SPEAKING....TO YOU!

By now you have received your annual dues notice. Please consider paying it now. It's been a hard year for us financially and this will go far in helping your Club toward the coming season. Maintaining our pack of hounds is, by far, the greatest expense for us each year and their support is the most important thing we can give them.

Yes, Virginia, there is logo wear! Jackets, vests and hoodies are available on an order basis. Items available at the Club are

Hip flasks \$25

Baseball hats \$20

Knit hats \$20

Saddle pads \$50

Contact Amy Supple, aksupple@hotmail.com if you have questions or requests.



YOUR BOARD 2011 – 2012

President
Patty Stiemert

Vice President
Cathy Elledge

Secretary
Andrea Lorig

Treasurer
Deborah Giddings

Master of Foxhounds
Jean Brooks

Joint Masters
Michael Wager
Patty Stiemert
Melody Fleckenstein

Trustees
Melody Fleckenstein
Helen Greenwell
Amy Supple
R.J. West
Gail Magnuson
Joanna Herrigstad

The Woodbrook Hound Show was a resounding success. The hounds of both hearth and kennel showed off their exemplary manners while members and friends combined two of the most important goals of our community, supporting the hounds and having fun. Tanja Oliver wrote a charming account of the day that is too long to include in The Babblar but has been harvested for the highlights and placings. Contact her at tanjaoliver@gmail.com for the full text, it is an entertaining read!

HOUND SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Stacy Roderick

Small Canine Conformation

Lucy & Linda Hagerman
Phoebe & Debbie Niceley

Medium Canine Confirmation

Skeeter & Cathy Elledge
Catie & Connelly Klein
Gigi & Emily Brown

Large Canine Confirmation

Jasper & Vicki Smith
Waddles & Meggie Elledge
Gordie & Mike Wager, Jt. MFH

Hound Conformation

Best Bitch - Clover
Handled by Jean Brooks, MFH
Best Dog Hound - Gordie
Handled by Michael Wager, Jt. MFH

Best Brace

Guinevere & Gaylon
Handled by Jean Brooks, MFH
Dimple & Daphne
Handled by Melody Fleckenstein, Jt.
MFH
Gretchen & Galahad
Handled by Patty Stiemert, Jt. MFH

ARE WE FUNDING ANTI-HUNTING GROUPS?

This comes through the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America and many of you may have seen the full article. Please, DO NOT MAKE DONATIONS TO THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. They are not what they seem to be. The society funds no animal shelters or rescues! They are the nation's preeminent anti-hunting group with alliances to such others as PETA. Their agenda is Animal Rights...not Animal Welfare. Worse yet, our tax dollars are going to support them along with donations. For more information, please contact E-Covertside or the MFAA.

FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO ESCAPE THE RESERVATION

In the future, we will be featuring some of the rides you all have been taking to far away places with strange sounding names. We will also give contact information for some of the outfitters and equestrian travel companies who offer them.

One such is Wild & Exotic run by Adrian Dangar. He is our contact for what is going on in the U.K. and senior MFH of the Sinnington Hunt there. You may have seen some of his articles in "Chronicle of the Horse". Bruce and I have enjoyed a number of his rides in recent years. We've ridden through Exmoor two summers, Kenya twice, Botswana, India and Patagonia. Our son and his family just returned from a ride in Peru he designed. He can be contacted at adrian.dangar@virgin.net or through the web at www.wildandexotic.co.uk. Just remember...there is something in a name!

PASSAGES: Nancy Daugherty 1927 – 2011 Lifetime Member. This spring Woodbrook lost one of it's most beloved supporters. In recent years she was there with her trusty Rover to provide car caravan transport and snacks for all those who wished to follow the hunt without benefit (bother) of a horse. Nancy's knowledge of "The Res", it's history and everything that grew there was legendary. Small wonder since she grew up in the Tacoma area and rode every corner of the place while growing up. Moving to England in the early 1960s, she introduced her sons, Bob and Bill to "nasty" Anglican ponies who cured them of any fondness for riding. Returning to the Orting area, Nancy kept several horses and rode with us for many years. There, she taught dressage and general horsemanship. Her interests were many but, she had a special passion for oil painting and reading mysteries. To ride with her was a joy and an educational adventure. We will miss her!

COLORS AWARDED: Congratulations and a red collar are due! Karen Hensley, Connelly Klein, Karl Klein, Jenn Mecum, John Meriweather, Shandra Stiemert, and Mike Warford were all awarded their adult colors at the closing dinner. Shandra especially deserves congratulations as she first survived her tenure as a Woodbrook Junior.

NEWS FROM YOUR BOARD

These committees are at the ready to serve you and have you serve them.

Membership

– Cathy Elledge

Buidlings & Grounds

– Eric Stiemert, Mike Wager,
Melody Fleckenstein.

Breakfasts

– Helen Greenwell

Hunt Activities

– Helen Greenwell, Joanna Herrigstad,
Jean Brooks, Mike Wager

Finance

– Deborah Giddings, Jacqueline Fritz,
Eric Stiemert. Melody Fleckenstein.

Military Relations

– Jean Brooks, Melody Fleckenstein.

Cross Base Highway

– Jean Brooks, Melody Fleckenstein.

Logo Wear

– Amy Supple.

Housekeeping

– R.J. West

Social

– Eric Stiemert

Hunt Ball

– Patty Stiemert

Hunt Ball Auction

– Melody Fleckenstein, Gail Magnuson.

Babbler

– Andrea Lorig

Communications

– Emily Brown, Helen Greenwell.

THE SEVEN STAGES OF AGING ON HORSEBACK

Stage 1: Fall off pony. Bounce, Laugh, Climb back on. Repeat!

Stage 2: Fall off horse. Run after horse, cussing. Climb back on by shimmying up horse's neck. Ride until sundown.

Stage 3: Fall off horse. Use sleeve of shirt to stanch bleeding. Have friend help you get back on horse. Take two Advil and apply ice packs when you get home. Ride next day.

Stage 4: Fall off horse. Refuse advice to call ambulance. Drive self to urgent care clinic. Entertain nursing staff with tales of previous daredevil stunts on horseback. Back to riding before the cast is off.

Stage 5: Fall off horse. Temporarily forget name of horse and name of husband. Spend week in hospital while titanium pins are screwed in place. Start riding again before doctor gives official okay.

Stage 6: Fall off horse. Fail to see any humor when paramedic says. "You again?". Gain first hand knowledge of advanced technology thanks to stint in ICU. Convince self that permanent limp isn't that noticeable. Promise husband that you'll give up riding. One week later, purchase older, slower, shorter horse.

Stage 7: Slip off horse...relieved when artificial joints and implanted medical devices seem unaffected. Tell husband that scrapes and bruises are due to gardening accident. Pretend you don't see husband roll his eyes and mutter as he walks away. Give apple to horse!

Stage 8: Some of us are working on that one!

HOLLYWOOD COMES TO ELLEDGE AND LORIG: Well, we'll never become the darlings of the red carpet but, through sordid...and I do mean sordid...contacts, Cathy and I find ourselves involved in a low budget thriller called "Serenity Farm". Our place at Sequim Bay was used as one of the scenes in which a dying and horribly disfigured gentleman explains to a young couple the source of aliens who are bumping off people (8 or 9 at last count) on the Olympic Peninsula. It was a learning experience that will forever change how we look at a film. Loving the décor and the view, the crew proceeded to put most of our furniture out on the deck and cover all the windows with 4 mil. Makeup artists took over the laundry room and dressing room....30 crew crammed in to the place and it was a hoot! Cathy will be horse wrangler for scenes at an equestrian facility so, watch for certain juniors you might know and a few familiar equines to boot. That shoot is scheduled for July 2 and we plan to be there to root for all of them.

BY-LAW CHANGES: Various and sundry changes were made to the by-laws at the Annual Meeting. They are included below for your perusal. Riveting reading. If you prefer the Cliff's Notes version, WHC has redefined the family, fully recognized students, realized that we all ought to pay our dues, (literal and figurative), understood that new members are only prospective until the board votes, made the fee schedule a little more enticing for those prospective new members, and finally hammered out the details of capping and who to pay. Good fun eh?

Italics indicate changes.

Article II: MEMBERSHIP Section 1. Classes of Membership – Family Membership re-worded.

a. Hunting Members:

1. Family Members: *An adult or couple* and any minor children of which one or more persons are an acceptable horseman and considered hunting members. Family membership shall also include children who are pursuing higher education up to age 23.

Article II, Section 3 – Reworded to include Student membership.

Approved wording:

The duties of all members including Family, Single, Social, *Student*, Junior (or their parents or guardians), Non-resident (when available) and Inactive and excluding only Honorary and Life shall be:

Article III, Section 1 – Remove 1st line which reads:

All dues paying members of the Woodbrook Hunt Club shall be liable for annual dues payment on the commencement of the fiscal period (hunt season) June 1.

Approved wording:

All members shall pay dues in accord with the dues schedule of the bylaws except Honorary Members and Life Members, which are relieved of dues.

Article III, Section 1a – reword and change initiation fee to \$50.00.

Approved wording:

a. Initiation Fee: All *prospective* members shall pay an initiation fee of \$50.00, which shall accompany their application for membership.

Article III, Section 1 – Change section 1b to 1c. Insert new section b.

Approved wording:

b. *If a prospective member applies for membership on the day of their first cap, the initiation fee will be waived.*

Article III, Section 2 – Reword to clarify capping expectations.

Approved wording:

2. Capping Fee: A *non-member* shall be allowed to cap *twice* during the same season *and is* responsible for a capping fee payable *prior to mounting* to the *Field* Secretary or such other officer as the M.F.H. may designate.



COVERTSIDE: The Woodbrook Pony Club Hunt made national foxhunting news. Check out your E-Covertside to read a great recap by our own Linda Hagerman. If you don't receive Covertside go to mfha.org to sign up. The Master of Foxhounds Association of America is our national governing body. Besides putting out a great publication they keep all of us foxhunting rabble in line, manage the registry of hunt territory and represent the interests of hunts on a national level.