

The Road to Belle Meade

Performance Trials

Turn left at the peach orchard, go past the pecan grove, and watch out for the armadillo holes along the way. Welcome to Georgia, and Belle Meade Hunt! Belle Meade has the third largest territory east of the Mississippi and has been hosting performance trials for over 20 years. The experience shows during this whirlwind weekend. They put on a fabulous three day event with two mornings of intense hunting, breakfasts, dinners and award ceremonies. If you haven't made the trip, you should!



BULL RUN BABBLINGS

February 2023



Above: Joint Meet with Middleburg Hounds, January 14th, 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

The long awaited return of the bottle report, Miss. Appropriate, and other archive inspirations...Status report from Belle Meade Performance Trials...Know your Fixture...Updates for the Horse Show Series & Kennel Construction...Tech Talk...Fox FAQs...And more!

Bottle Report

It was an unseasonably warm day for January in Virginia, eventually reaching 66F. Hunting from Bushy Mountain had the added challenge of a few laps up and down the mountain.

While most were enjoying the sun, no less than three horses decided to lay down for an afternoon sun bath – all still carrying a rider. Technically speaking, the riders of these nap seeking horse managed to stay mounted and convince their horses there was more hunting to be done that day.

Fast forward an hour - Third flight was headed down the mountain, toward the green gate when a riderless horse galloped past the field. The owner's instructional critiques echoed throughout the valley louder than hounds in full cry, while the maundering rider attempted to catch her willful mount. The horse stepped on his reins, breaking them, and ending the day's hunt for all involved in the heated escapade.

Know Your Fixture

Quonset or Kwanzaa Hut?

If you've ever hunted from Hawfield or Bushy Mountain, you've probably heard mention of the Kwanzaa Hut, which is a misnomer. There are no secret, cultural celebrations happening on the mountain side. It's actually named for a quonset hut, a half round metal structure, that once sat on the green lawn about halfway up Moormont.



Horse Show Series

It's never too early to start planning for summer horse shows! Bull Run is pleased to announce a *brand new* show series this year featuring both hunter and jumper competitions!



Save the Dates:

BRH Jumper Shows: April 22 & June 3
BRH Hunter Shows: May 20 & June 25

The organizers are looking for Horse Show Sponsors for the 2023 Bull Run Hunter & Jumper show series to be held at beautiful Locust Hill Stables. Your sponsorship will help the club offset show costs such as ribbons, jumps and judges. Sponsorships start at \$100 and will be featured in our online advertising as well as on ringside banners. Anyone interested in sponsoring should contact Samantha at schiffse@gmail.com or (804)761-6182.

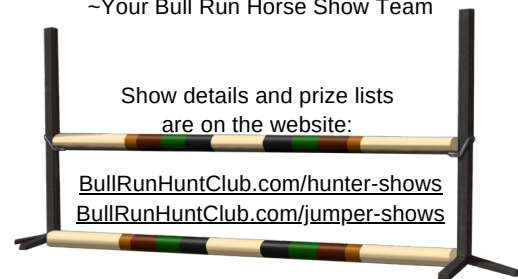
We appreciate your help and hope you'll also join us for some fun horse shows to raise money for our club. Classes will be available for all levels of horse and rider!

~Your Bull Run Horse Show Team

Show details and prize lists are on the website:

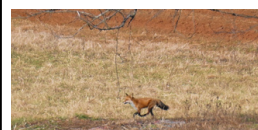
BullRunHuntClub.com/hunter-shows

BullRunHuntClub.com/jumper-shows



Fox FAQs

Love is in the air! It's officially mating season for the foxes, which runs January through March. During this time, it's not uncommon to see foxes paired up, or to hear their many calls as they search for a mate.



They will often den up closer to houses to avoid coyotes and other predators in preparation for kits.



A mix of photo credit owed to a few people, including Jill Marshall, Jessa McCartney, & Adrianna Waddy



If you're not familiar with the program, the performance trials are an MFHA backed competition for entered hounds. Hunts bring 5-6 hounds to compete. A guest huntsman is invited to hunt the mixed pack over two days. Multiple judges ride with the hounds and score them in hunting, trailing, marking, and full cry. Judges record the time, hound number, and action to be scored later by independent scorers. Hounds may be removed for "rioting" (chasing deer), babbling, or otherwise being disruptive.

This year, Steven Thomas, huntsman at Fort Leavenworth Hunt, was the guest huntsman.

Competing clubs included Belle Meade, Bridlespur, Bull Run, Goshen Hounds, Goodwin Hounds, Midland, Millcreek, Rolling Rock, and Tennessee Valley. The pack gave tremendous sport over the two days. After a very active first day, Bull Run earned the number two pack slot, and our Nelson was the number one hound for the day. If you've been to a performance trial, you know day two can change everything.

The second day was a little less active, but covered far more territory. Day two ended with Nelson maintaining his #1 slot and our dear POTUS earning the #3 slot out of 49 entered hounds. Bull Run ended the weekend with the #1 placing in overall pack!!!

Continued on page 2

From The Archives

Firstly, I'd like to send a **HUGE** thank you to Cathy Marco, pictured below in the April 1999 Newsletter, for sharing her collection of newsletters from the late 90s and early 00s.



photo by Ed Harvey
A muddy Cathy Inskip on a muddy Bouncer at the muddy Keswick-Farmington Hunt-Team Relay Race at Montpelier.
APRIL 1999

It was educational and inspirational. Going forward, the newsletters will include an archived article, as well as the return of Ms. Appropriate, and the option for Classifieds. If anyone else has some of the older newsletters around that they'd be willing to share, I'd love to see them. I will scan them for future members to enjoy, and promptly return them.
Much Appreciated, Jessa

Kennel Update

Progress on the kennels continues, and we are in the home stretch. Shout out to our President, Mark Mitchell, and Huntsman, Tim Michel, for overcoming any fear of heights they may harbor and installing the weathervanes. Shutters, lights, and the BRH sign have also been installed and the dreaded insulation is in progress.



Bull Run Closes on Kennel Purchase

As of 8:30AM Monday, January 13th, Bull Run Hunt officially purchased the kennels at the foot of Cedar Mountain.

Thanks to the generosity of and below-market sale price offered by the Inskip family, the hunt's dream of one day owning the kennels, 60 surrounding acres, as well as the buildings on the property is now a reality.

"This is just great!" says MFH Joe Kincheloe, "Bull Run Hunt has arrived. We have our own kennels with a house and 60 acres, a new clubhouse, fantastic membership, and great hunting."

Since we're on the topic of historical news letters, a clip from January of 2003. Ironic that exactly 20 years later, we are nearing completion of the new Kennels!

February 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 Breakfast Hosted by The Strawthers
5	6 Full (Snow) Moon	7	8	9	10 Travel to GSV	11 Joint Meet Away Greenspring Valley
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Stock The Bar Party	18 Breakfast Hosted by Jessa McCartney
19	20 President's Day Junior Meet	21	22	23	24	25 Breakfast Hosted by TBD
26	27					

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Rappahannock Hunt Point to Point (Hunting, No breakfast)
5	6	7 Full (Worm) Moon	8	9	10	11 Breakfast Hosted by TBD
12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Breakfast Hosted by Kelly, Karen, Amy
19 March Madness Oyster Roast At Locust Hill	20 March Madness Hunt Breakfast By TBD	21 March Madness Cocktail Party at Inskip Hall	22 March Madness Hunt Breakfast By TBD	23 March Madness Cocktail Party at Pinnacle Hill	24 March Madness Hunt Breakfast By TBD	25 March Madness Hunt Ball & Kennel Gala
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Mix up 1 part Dear Abby, 1 Part Emily Post, a splash of port, and a lifetime of hunting, and you have Miss Appropriate (*another archive inspiration*). If you have ever had a question about anything hunt related, this is your chance to anonymously ask your question to Miss. Appropriate. If you have a question, it's safe to assume ten others are wondering the same thing.

Ask away!

Dear Ms. Appropriate: I know you should never wear your colors when capping as a guest at another hunt. But what about a joint meet? Who, if anyone, should wear their colors in that situation? And what about scarlet coats if colors are worn?

-Tina Turn-Out

Dear Ms. Turn-Out: Traditionally, members of the hosting hunt wear their colors (or scarlets in the case of male members who have earned their colors). You can think of it as the landowners would expect to see the local hunt's colors. However, it is not uncommon for the masters of the hosting hunt to invite the guest club to wear their colors as well. I suggest that you keep an eye out for an announcement either way the next time a joint meet is approaching. And remember that you can always reach out to a master from your own club if you're unsure.

-Ms. A.

Tech Talk @BullRunHunt

It's common knowledge that the hunt monitor is updated three hours prior to the meet - but did you know that it can't be updated while the phone is ringing? Please don't be that person calling three hours and five minutes before the meet. Someone is probably trying to update the message and can't, and you're receiving outdated information!

The Road to Belle Meade (cont'd)

You would be remiss to mention Belle Meade without thinking of Jean Derrick, and it was bitter sweet to be there without her. Jean passed away in a riding accident, doing what she loved, a week prior to the trials.

A long time member of Bull Run and Belle Meade, tremendous supporter of performance trials, leader in the foxhunting community, and a friend and mentor to many of us, she will be forever missed.

KICK ON!



BRH Bulletin Board

Have something to sell, looking for something to buy? Send in your postings to be included in the next newsletter, which reaches about 150 subscribers.

Submissions?

If you have an article, bottle report, advertisement, photo, or question for Miss A that you'd like included in next month's newsletter, we'd love to hear from you!

Submissions are due by February 20th and can be submitted to Jessa at 603-479-6006 (text preferred) or bullrunhuntva@gmail.com.

The next newsletter will be released on March 1st.