

# Metamora Hunt Newsletter

April, 2011

[www.metamorahunt.com](http://www.metamorahunt.com)

## In This Issue:

[Hounds & Hunting](#)  
[Hunt Activities](#)  
[Calendar of Events](#)

### Tip of the Month:

by Joe Maday, MFH

**Always ride with the person behind you in mind. Whether out hunting or on a trail ride, when going through a trappy area, or down a bank, do not gallop away until the person behind is through and can wait for the next rider.**

### Foxhunting Terms:

by Bob Carden

Some of these you may know, some you may not. Enjoy!

- **HOUNDS:** Are always hounds, not dogs. However, correcting a non-foxhunter who calls a hound "dog" is in bad form. Hounds are counted in "couples". A male hound is known as a "dog hound." Likewise a female hound, no matter how exemplary, is known as a "bitch." A hound has a "stern" instead of a tail. When he moves same, he "feathers his stern." A hound never barks, he

## Hounds & Hunting

By Joe Kent, MFH

We are winding down the season, but nevertheless hoping for a bit more hunting. We abide by DNR regulations for using "dogs" to track game even though these regulations were not written with us in mind.

As a result, we cannot go past April 15. Interestingly, some hunts in Canada ramp up again each April for a spring season that carries well into May.

Next comes complete focus on training young hounds to the extent we can do that without hunting! This process is a rite of spring for foxhunters the world over. That is one of the delights of our sport. If you were to pay an April visit to a kennel in Tennessee, Maryland or England's Cotswolds; you would observe much the same process. Staff horses will have been "let down," most of the seasoned hounds will be napping; but school will be in session for young hounds. The emphasis is on what horsemen refer to as "ground manners." Hounds (both young and old) who are prospects for spring hound shows also have to build or maintain good muscle tone so that the judges do mark any of them down as a "couch potato."

Give some thought to whether you might enjoy cheering our hounds on at the Virginia Hound Show in Leesburg. The show is the Sunday of Memorial weekend, but social functions begin the day before. Shoppers enjoy the fine trade fair that is on the show grounds at historic Morven Park. Plus there is the nearby Middleburg Tack Exchange, which is always wall to wall with foxhunters the day before the show.

### Additional News:

#### Earth Day Change: Now May 7th.

Metamora Hunt will host a roadside clean up day, meeting at the Hunt Kennels on Barber Rd. at 9am. Please bring work gloves, garbage bags will be provided. Lunch to follow. Contact Ken Matheis: 248-

- "opens," "gives tongue," or "speaks."
- **THRUSTER:** An aggressive rider who may at times crowd his or her Field Master, or worse yet the Huntsman or hounds.
  - **ALL ON:** The expression used by the Huntsman or Staff to tell that every hound in the pack is present.
  - **BRUSH:** The fox's tail.
  - **LINE:** The scent trail of the fox.
  - **BABBLER:** A hound that speaks when it has not picked up the scent of a fox, thus misleading the Huntsman and the rest of the pack.
  - **VIEW:** To sight the fox.
  - **RIOT:** A foxhound riots when it hunts any game other than a fox. Hounds are strictly trained not to do so.
  - **CHEERING:** When the Huntsman encourages the hounds with his voice.

More later.

### Landowners Yearbook:

Each year we count on our Members and local businesses to place advertising in the Yearbook. For your convenience, we have placed the link to the advertising sales form below.

<http://www.metamora-hunt.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/2011-LANDOWNER-PROGRAM-AD-FORM.pdf>

Please note that Peter Gilles is now the Editor of the Yearbook and that all ads must be submitted to him. You can reach Peter at: 248-628-7203 or [www.metamoraphoto1@aol.com](mailto:www.metamoraphoto1@aol.com)

431-4093.

- **Metamora Hunt Subscriptions: Are due March 31st.** Late Fees do apply. The 2011-2012 Subscription forms may be downloaded from our website: <http://www.metamora-hunt.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Metamora-Hunt-2011-2012-Subscription-Form1.pdf>

There are some significant changes to our subscription form. Please take a moment to read carefully and explore your options:

- The age limit on the Young Adult category has been raised to make this option accessible to more people.
- The Associate category has been dropped; however, people who were Associate Members last season may renew as Associate Members this season at last season's rate.
- Payment terms have changed considerably and require at least half-payment by March 31 in order to take advantage of the most favorable rates. Please read the details carefully.
- Payment by credit card is welcome as a means of spreading your cost over whatever time frame is most convenient. Simply submit our credit card payment, which can be downloaded at <http://www.metamora-hunt.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Credit-Card-Payment-Forms.pdf>

Please mail your forms and payment to Honorary Secretary Cindy Dillon at: Metamora Hunt, P.O. Box 263, Metamora, MI 48455

Subscription forms and liability releases have been mailed to all of last season's Members. If you have not received yours, or if you are considering becoming a new Member, please contact our Honorary Secretary: Cindy Dillon: [cindy@dillonreo.com](mailto:cindy@dillonreo.com) (586-531-1859)

### Hunt Buttons:

- A good number of brand new Metamora Hunt buttons have been donated to the Hunt by Carol

The advertising copy deadline has been changed to May 20, 2011, so you have ample time to work on your ads. Please do not wait until the last few days to place your ads. It takes a great deal of work to prepare the Yearbook for printing, so please be respectful of Peter's time and efforts.

The 2011 Landowners Yearbook will be ready for distribution this summer at the Landowners Picnic.

### **Lots of links:**

Here are links to interesting activities in the Metamora countryside:

Metamora Hunt:

[www.metamurahunt.com](http://www.metamurahunt.com)

Masters of Fox Hunting Assoc:

[www.mfha.org](http://www.mfha.org)

Metamora II Pony Club:

[www.glrpc.org](http://www.glrpc.org)

Metamora Chamber of Commerce:

[www.metamorachamber.org](http://www.metamorachamber.org)

Metamora Carriage and Driving Association:

[www.metamoracarriagedriving.com](http://www.metamoracarriagedriving.com)

Banbury Cross Therapeutic Equestrian Center:

[www.banburycrosstec.com](http://www.banburycrosstec.com)

Crescent Ridge Farms:

[www.crescentridgefarms.com](http://www.crescentridgefarms.com)

Fair Play Farm:

<http://hstrial-dpace2.homestead.com/>

Hunters Run Farm:

[www.huntersrunfarm.com](http://www.huntersrunfarm.com)

Win-a-Gin Farm:

[www.winaginfarm.com](http://www.winaginfarm.com)

Seven Ponds Nature Center:

Yunkes of Equestrian Gatherings upon her retirement. Thank you Carol, and we wish you the best!

Members, if you need buttons, please contact our Honorary Secretary Cindy Dillon (586-531-1859). The prices are quite reasonable and the funds go to the care of our hounds.

### **Metamora Pony Club News:**

By Linda Short-Lowe

Our kids had a great time at Quiz Rally! Our C team, Sharlee and Dana, brought home the blue ribbons. Our Senior D team took third, with Leah earning the highest score of the division out of forty competitors. Our three Junior D teams earned lime green, hot pink, and lavender ribbons. These young ones thought their ribbons were much prettier than the blue!

All of the kids demonstrated excellent sportsmanship as well as knowledge. They represented their home community well.

### **Quiz Rally**

*Submitted by Sharlee Lowe and Dana Sullivan*

Last weekend we had the wonderful experience of Pony Club quiz rally. Part of this experience commences before the actual rally (show) begins. To start, we name our team. Last year we picked a foxhunting- themed team name and we wanted to continue the tradition this year, with our name 'Running Riot.' At this rally, we were leaving our traditional quarry of the fox and instead turning to chase the blue ribbon.

Once the rally was underway, our first undertaking was 'barn phase.' This is where we individually and as a team work hands-on with horses to accomplish tasks, such as bandaging a tail, or correctly fitting a bridle. Our second activity was a written test. This was an extensively comprehensive test that included many obscure rulebook regulations. After this came 'Megaroom,' which is compiled of multiple tables at which we have to work alone at matching items. Some topics this year were foxhunting, feeds, horse boots, blemishes, lamenesses, and jumps.

[www.sevenponds.org](http://www.sevenponds.org)

The Eventing Assn. of Michigan:  
[www.micheventing.org](http://www.micheventing.org)

If your organization has events or activities that may be of interest to the equestrian community near Metamora, please submit your information for consideration to: [bob.carden@jewellphoto.net](mailto:bob.carden@jewellphoto.net)

After Megaroom it was time for one of two 'Classroom' phases. During these sessions, we sat in a classroom type environment and were individually asked questions by the 'Quizmaster' who sat at the head of the room. These questions were of a broad variety including but not limited to horse anatomy (such as naming a particular muscle or vein), horse sports (i.e. the weight of a polocross ball, or if you can carry an item in your mouth during a games rally), horse care (like symptoms of various poisonous plants, or when certain parasites mature), and of course, lots of foxhunting questions.

After these lengthy and grueling sessions of verbal quizzing, we finished the day with 'Stations.' Stations are always fun because you can collaborate with your team. The arrangement of this final phase is quite similar to Megaroom, but the questions put forth by these tables are not matching, and many questions require a written response. Some topics covered this year were longing, parasites, farrier tools and last but in no way least, foxhunting.

This year we were proud to represent Metamora by winning and bringing home the blue. It was a marvelous experience in which we were able to learn a lot. Now we can return from 'running riot' to our correct quarry.

**Hunt Photos:** We are most fortunate to have some talented and devoted photographers that cover many of our hunts. To view the work of Photographer Peter Gilles just click on: [www.metamoraphoto.com](http://www.metamoraphoto.com) and then click on Recent Events. Additional photos may be viewed on the Metamora Hunt website: [www.metamorahunt.com](http://www.metamorahunt.com)

**Capping:** Guests may hunt with the prior consent of one of our Masters of Foxhounds: Joseph Kent: 248-628-2065; Joseph Maday: 248-628-7203. The capping fee for regular hunts is \$55 for adults and \$25 for juniors. To make your arrangements to cap, please contact our Honorary Secretary Cindy Dillon at: [cindy@dillonreo.com](mailto:cindy@dillonreo.com) 586.531.1859

**Hunt Activities:**

**Hunting: Weather permitting:**

Call the Hunt Kennels for updates: 810-678-2711

Hound exercising: including Members is available most non hunting mornings. Huntsman and Staff walk hounds at a brisk pace, please call the Kennels (810-678-2711) for updates.

## Calendar of Events:

### Mulligan Dressage Show: April 16th.

At Fair Play Farm. Contact Debby Pace: 810-678-8762

### Earth Day Celebration; May 7th.

We will celebrate Earth Day by getting together at the Kennels at 9am for a clean up effort of the Metamora area roadsides. Picnic to follow.

### Jonathan Holling Eventing Clinic: April 23rd.

At Hunters Run Farm. For info: 810-796-2588.

### Banbury Cross Derby Day: May 7th. from 4:30-8pm

Watch the race, see friends and neighbors, and support this very worthy cause. Tickets \$65, Sponsor tickets \$100. Call Banbury Cross for details or an invitation: 248-628-7433.

### Cross Country Schooling Days:

April 23-24, May 14-15, June 4th., July 2-4.

At Hunters Run Farm. For info: 810-441-6481.

### Metamora Hunt Horse Show:

Will be held on June 9-12, 2011. Details to follow.

### Hunt Weekend: July 16-17th.

Hosted by the Metamora Hunt: Intro to fox hunting clinics, both classroom and mounted. Contact Bob Carden: (586-907-8594)

### Metamora Hunt Hunter Pace: July 17th. Contact Bob

Carden: (586-907-8594)

### Metamora Hunt Youth Hunt: August 8th.

### Hunters Run USEA Horse Trial: August 12-14

For info: Susan Emmons: 810-796-2588.

### Hunt Country Stable Tour: August 21st.

### T.E.A.M Benefit Horse Trial: August 21st.

At Hunters Run Farm Info: [www.micheventing.org](http://www.micheventing.org)

### Metamora Days Parade: August 27th.

### Opening Day - Clare: Sept. 17th.

### Opening Day - Metamora: Sept. 24th.

### Metamora Hunt - Hunter Trials: October 9th.

**Gymkana: November 19th.**

If you have equine related events in Metamora Hunt Country that you would like us to consider posting in this Calendar of Events, please email them to: [bob.carden@jewellphoto.net](mailto:bob.carden@jewellphoto.net)