

Metamora Hunt Newsletter

October 2018

www.metamorahunt.com

Contact Information:

Honorary Secretary:

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michelle1mortier@gmail.com

Masters of Fox Hounds

Mr. Joe Maday: 586-381-8834

Mr. Ken Matheis: 248.431.4093

Mrs. Deborah Bates Pace:

810.678.8762

Hunts go out every Wednesday,
and Saturday mid- August to
mid-April, weather permitting.
Please contact

michelle1mortier@gmail.com for a
complete list of locations, dates
and times.

Metamora Hunt Website:

www.metamorahunt.com

Always call the Hunt Hotline:

810.678.2711

for weather or information
updates on any Hunt related
event.

Rescheduled!

Hounds & Hunting

By Joe Maday, MFH



As the roads in Hunt Country have seen greater traffic in recent years, the Hunt has been lucky to have volunteers with many years of hunt experience to act as "Road Whips."



Their role is crucial to the safety and success of our sport. In their vehicles, they follow the movement of the pack as it hunts across country. They alert

Fall Hunter Pace now October 14th

Starting at 9am



Due to very wet turf conditions the Fall Hunter Pace has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 14th.

The location and Rider times have not changed. Entry forms and liability releases are available on the Metamora Hunt website.

Always call the Hunt Hotline: 810.678.2711
for weather or information updates on any Hunt related event.

Gather your friends! Ride English or Western. Come ride with us at your own pace. Whether walking, trotting, or competing for a fastest time ribbon, you will enjoy the beauty of the Metamora Hunt Country on a clearly marked trail. Snacks and beverages are provided to riders on the Pace course. Adults and junior riders are welcome! No jumping required. **Helmets must be worn by all riders.**

The location for the Fall Hunter Pace: The Metamora Hunt: 5614 Barber Rd., Metamora, MI 48455. We will start from the Hunter Trials Field. Parking on site or on the roads.

Riders will be started after registration in teams of 2-4. If you do not have a team, we will be happy to help you find one to join. Teams that want to ride in the Fastest time division

traffic when hounds may follow game across a road or will attempt to turn the pack if a dangerous situation arises. They also faithfully show up daily to exercise hounds.

Our thanks to Helena and John Baker, Tom Bird, Jim Thomas, and Anthony Orlando. It would be difficult to survive without them.



must start their rides between 9:00am and 9:15am. All teams that start after 9:15am are automatically in the Optimum time division. The last teams permitted on the course must start by 12:30pm. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st. through 6th. place teams in both the Fastest time and the Optimum time divisions.

The cost to ride in the Hunter Pace is \$45 per adult, \$35 per junior (17 and under). **An approved helmet, with chin strap fastened, must be worn at all times while mounted.**

Entry Forms and Hold Harmless releases are available on the Hunt website: www.metamorahunt.com

For additional information contact:

Bob Carden: 586-907-8594
rrrcarden@gmail.com

Michigan Foxhunters Weekend

By Bob Carden

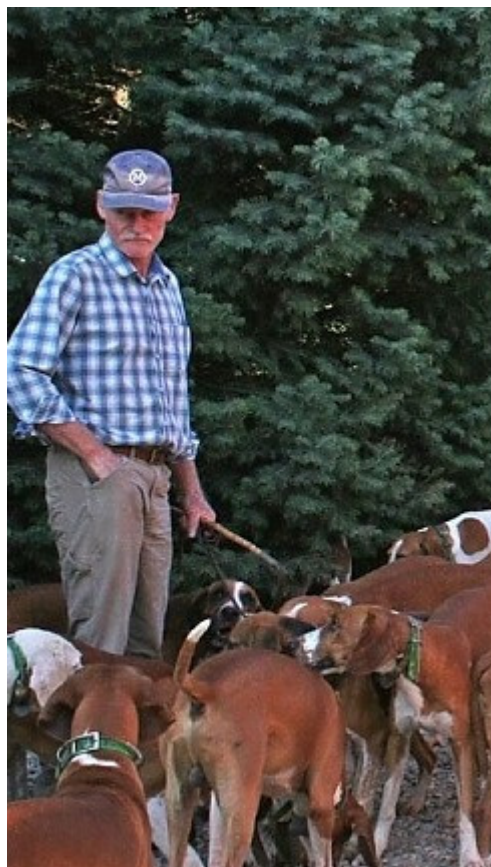
The Metamora Hunt hosted the Battle Creek Hunt and the Waterloo Hunt for a fun filled weekend on September 28-29th that included a party on Friday evening, a joint meet on Saturday morning, and a hunt breakfast on Saturday afternoon.

The party on Friday evening was held at the home of Diane Kangas and Don Reinholm. Helping to host were Marcia Turner and Monique Molnar-Bates. The food, companionship, and entertainment were excellent.

For our joint meet, all three Hunts had a good turn out of riders as we met at the home of Diane and Ken Matheis, MFH. Horses were fresh with the cool morning and riders were trying to settle their nerves as we set out to what would be a very memorable morning. Here is my report:

Wicket Wins the Day

Leaving the Meet our Huntsman Adrian Smith took our pack of hounds northwest to draw a piece of ground that was brushy and filled with thick grass. They seemed to find nothing of interest there and were collected by Adrian who brought them to the south to try in the woods. A few minutes later Metamora Hunt Whipper In Sara Smith, while



riding through the brushy area of the first draw, noticed a single hound who was walking along with her nose close to the ground and her tail raised. She had not followed the Huntsman and pack as they moved to the woods.

This single hound was Wicket, and older and very experienced hound who was known to often explore on her own. Sara called to her in a kind but firm voice "Wicket, hark to him, hark to him now.", a reminder that she should listen for her Huntsman and go toward his voice and horn. Wicket looked Sara in the eye, gave a little wimper, then turning away, put her nose back to work and spoke with a cry and bark that could only mean that there was game close by. Sara then lifted her gaze and saw a large coyote staring at her from 50 yards away. The instant that the coyote felt Sara's eyes upon him, he bolted away and out of sight. Wicket stayed on his scent giving voice with her squeaky barks. Sara follow behind Wicket knowing that our pack and Huntsman were now hundreds of yards away.

Leading the second flight of riders, I stepped into a large and brilliantly green hayfield with Debbie Pace, MFH and her Hilltoppers close behind. I looked south, to my left, to see Adrian, our pack of hounds, and the first flight riders lead by Ken Matheis entering the woods a quarter of a mile away. As I looked back to my right I saw a large coyote, Wicket's coyote, streaking across the hayfield in full flight and in sight of the many riders with Debbie and myself.

A bit suprised because the sound of our horses had kept me from hearing Wicket's soft, squeakly cry, I quietly said 'tally ho' to our riders. Turing back to my left I stood in the stirrups and have a 'view hallo" at the top of my lungs to announce to our Huntsman that we had viewed game. "WHOOO WEEEEEE!!!" I looked back toward the hayfield just in time to see a second coyote burst into view, crossing in the tracks of his leader.

All of the riders present were amazed at the speed put on by our quarry. As I gave a second hallo I could see Adrian pick up a canter heading toward us with the hounds at his stirrups. When they passed in front of us Adrian saw me standing in the irons pointing my hunt whip at the place that both coyotes had crossed the hayfield and entered the woods. With the first flight riders close behind they cantered on. Just as they came to the line of the coyotes scent they were met by Wicket, announcing her find with her squeaky cry. Striking the scent, the rest of the pack opened with a roar of voices and were off into the woods.

Wicket's find was the key to a glorious day. Our hounds followed the scent of the coyotes for over an hour making the woods ring with their voices. The horses and riders were



thrilled with their part in the chase. After the coyotes used their bag of tricks to make their getaway, we gathered for a lovely hunt breakfast at the home of Diane and Ken Mathies. Thank you to our hosts, to our guests from Battle Creek and Waterloo, to our faithful horses who showed us their joy in the chase and kept us all safe that day, to Adrian and Sara Smith for their talent and hard work, to the Metamora hounds, and especially to Wicket.

Photos by Peter Gilles from the morning hunt:



[Additional News:](#)

Opening Day

The Opening Day of formal hunting in the Metamora countryside had a large turnout of both riders and spectators. Riders were in their best attire and horses were gleaming. We thought that you would enjoy some of Peter Gilles' photos from that fine day.





For more photos of the Joint Meet click [HERE](#)

Pony Club News

By Lisa McCormack

Our first September meeting was a mounted one held at charming Haven Valley Farm. Owner Marian Hutchins taught pony clubbers Galina, Ella, Chelsea and Olivia G. in private dressage lessons. All of the girls appreciated Marian's experienced instruction!

On the same weekend we had two other members; Moriah and Olivia R. competed on the west side of the state at the Pony Club tetrathlon. Tetrathlon includes riding, running, swimming and shooting phases. Moriah's team received 1st in HM and 4th overall. Olivia's team was awarded 2nd for HM and 3rd overall. Great job!!

The 22nd was a busy day with Alexis and Moriah riding in the Opening Day of formal hunting. We also had a club testing that day at beautiful Orchard Hill Farm with Nicole Bodmer as the examiner. Olivia R. passed her C1 Horse Management and new member Savannah obtained her D1 traditional certification. Congratulations girls!!

Our club met at Oxford library on September 25 where we finished up planning for our Hunter Trials tailgate. The clubbers put together a trifold board with photographs of their activities over the year. The board was brought along to the Horse Trials and exhibited at the club's tailgate.



For more photos of Opening Day click [HERE](#)

Hunter Trials Fun



Soggy weather greeted the Metamora Hunt Hunter Trials, held on September 30th but Debbie Pace and her crew of volunteers did a fabulous job of show management. We offer a very special thank you to David and Susan Emmons of Hunters Run Farm for hosting the Trials on their beautiful show grounds again this year. Congratulations to all of the riders, tailgaters and spectators who braved wet the conditions.



Speaking of the Hunt's Hunter Trials, we had many of our club families show up at Hunters Run for it, including 3 clubbers who rode. Moriah had a great time riding in her first Hunter Trial! Chelsea was awarded grand champion of the junior division and Ella was reserve champion. Everyone had a wonderful time and it was the perfect weather for the 3 kinds of soup we offered at our tailgate!

[Metamora Hunt Photos](#)

We are most fortunate to have Mr. Peter Gilles photograph many of our hunts and activities. Many of the photos in our monthly newsletters were taken by Peter. To view more of Peter's photos just click

on: <http://www.metamoraphoto.com/gallery/index.php?cat=13>

Lots of links:

Here are links to interesting activities and equine services in the Metamora countryside:



The tailgate competition was strong this year with an increase in spectators and exhibitors. Tailgate competitors were judged for their delicious food and the beauty of their presentation. Congratulations to Marcia Turner who had the winning tailgate presentation again this year.

Metamora Hunt:
www.metamorahunt.com

Metamora Photo:
www.metamoraphoto.com

Masters of Fox Hounds Assoc:
www.mfha.org

Metamora II Pony Club:
www.glrpc.org

Metamora Chamber of Commerce:
www.metamorachamber.org

Metamora Carriage and Driving Association:
www.metamoracarriagedriving.com

Banbury Cross Therapeutic Equestrian Center:
www.banburycrosstec.org

Bedrock Stable B&B:
www.bedrockstablees.com

Crooked House B&B

www.crookedhousefarm.com

Crescent Ridge Farms:
Crescentridgefarmsllc@gmail.com

Fair Play Farm:
www.fairplayfarm.com

Hunters Run Farm:
www.huntersrunfarm.com

Matador Farm:
www.matadorfarmllc.com

Win-a-Gin Farm:
www.winaginfarm.com

Red House Farm:

susiestroh@aol.com



The Follow the Hounds classes captivated the crowd as the riders galloped and jumped behind Huntsman Adrian Smith and the Metamora hounds. Adrian (a two time National Horn Blowing Champion) treated the spectators and riders with the "Going Home" call as they left the showgrounds. For more photos of the Hunter Trials just click [HERE](#)

Calendar of Events

Hunt Sponsored Events:

Metamora Hunt - Fall Hunter Pace
Sunday, October 14th.
Bob Carden 586-907-8594

Non - Hunt Sponsored Events:

NBHA Barrel Racing Show
Saturday, October 13th.
At Crescent Ridge Farm, Metamora
Contact: Julie Strawn: 586-457-1375

If you have equine related events in the Metamora Hunt Countryside that you would like us to consider posting in this Calendar of Events, please email them to:
rrrcarden@gmail.com

Seven Ponds Nature Center:

www.sevenponds.org

The Eventing Assn. of Michigan:

www.eventingmichigan.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:**

rrrcarden@gmail.com