

Old Dominion Hounds News and Notes

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Written and digested by HonSec Betsy Burke Parker (betsyburkeparker@gmail.com); distributed by Sheila Quinn DeHart (quinndehart@msn.com)

*****ODH FIXTURE MAP:** With helpful navigation and parking information for all current ODH fixtures. **Please understand some of our fixtures have no actual 'address' since a lot of them are just random hayfields or back gates, and maps and GPS doesn't properly 'see' some of the addresses, so READ THE NOTES for each fixture.

[google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=38.77660207373195%2C-78.068409834375&z=12&mid=Ipb_loihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX3Itzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oIX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDL1UNQ-xvmZW10Yp8](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=38.77660207373195%2C-78.068409834375&z=12&mid=Ipb_loihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX3Itzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oIX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDL1UNQ-xvmZW10Yp8)

******THAT'S OUR TERRITORY BACKDROP:** New foxhunter Jennifer Bardsley captured the essence of the Old Dominion Hounds in this shot from Rucker on Tuesday – handsome hounds, pristine open territory full of wild woodlands, lots of coverts and fox hidey-holes, galloping farmland and a Blue Ridge backdrop.



****IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- **Hunting this week**
- **Lure coursing practice trials slated Sunday**
- **The Well-Read Rider: Bits and pieces of literary venery**
- **Fun Fox Facts: All about *vulpes vulpes***
- **The regular stuff (Attire requirements, food pantry, find out more, etc.)**

****HUNTING THIS WEEK:

- * **TUESDAY Jan. 4.** Hungry Run, Amissville. 10 a.m.
- * **THURSDAY Jan. 6.** Texas, Hume. 10 a.m.

* **SATURDAY Jan. 8.** Siena Hills, Hume. 10 a.m.

***ALWAYS double check the hunt monitor as the above is always fluid due to weather, footing, parking, etc. 540.364.7457.

******ALL-CALL FOR SIGHTHOUNDS:** The annual Foxcliffe lure coursing practice trials is slated for Sunday, Jan. 9 in the Poe's Run riverbottom field (one of ODH's main fixtures) near Flint Hill. The practice "competition" begins at 12 p.m. and features a half-mile course with an artificial lure for sighthounds and eager dogs of any breed.

The event is free for dogs and free to attend. Bring a hot beverage, a chair, a lap blanket or warm clothes (and your leashed dog if you have one to try it out) and spend the afternoon on the banks of the Jordan River watching some great sighthound lure coursing (and some fun backyard pups trying it out.) No RSVP is required, but watch the ODH Facebook page for updates if the weather is questionable.

******THE WELL-READ RIDER: Bits and pieces of literary venery:** An ongoing compilation of our favorite short (and long) sporting quotes. Foxhuntinglife.com's Norman Fine offers this ode to the bold first flight thrusters from writer Will Ogilvie:

While there's one on his feet with a tale to repeat
And another is sampling a drink,
The eager First Flight have a girth to pull tight
Or a chain to let out by a link;
While the boisterous laugh in that circle of chaff
The opening music has drowned,
You will hear the First Flight as they whisper "That's right!"
To the note of a favorite hound.

When a holloa makes sure that his start is secure
And dispels every doubt of a run,
When the crowd gallops straight to the obvious gate
With the latch that is never undone,
You will see the First Flight cram a topper on tight,
Catch a willing old nag by the head,
And clapping on sail at the blackthorn or rail,
Take the line of the robber in red.

They thunder away over stubble and clay,
Over roots or the level o' lea,
The gallant First Flight that are soon out of sight
While the slow ones are sadly at sea
The crash of a rail in the cream of the vale
Is to them but a matter of mirth,
And the avalanche fall of a hoof-rattled wall
But the merriest music on earth.

Now the men who ride first may be frequently cursed
As they press on the faltering pack,
But we're all of us loath to pull up for an oath
When it comes from a field or two back;

And the Master may blame and the jealous declaim,
But the weakest must go to the wall,
And it's plain the First Flight have the premier right
If the hounds may be hustled at all.

Come drink with me, then, to the big-hearted men
Who have pluck to sit down and go straight!
Whether farmer or squire, may they keep out of wire
And be spared a lift home on a gate!
Fill your glass tonight to the gallant First Flight,
Let us wish them the luck of the line
And tomorrow recall to the best game of all,
And the wind that is better than wine!

– The First Flight, by Will Ogilvie

Please plan to contribute – send the honsec any favorite – new or old – selection from your readings.

*****FUN FOX FACTS:** (Subscribers and friends are encouraged to send their favorite fox facts, general or specific.)

→ What does the fox say? Here ya' go: [youtube.com/watch?v=iPFTEuT3d4I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPFTEuT3d4I)



(sticky-notes)

*****ATTIRE REMINDER:** ODH is formal on Tuesdays, Saturdays and holidays. Ratcatcher is welcome on Thursdays (though formal is always correct.)

Ratcatcher is always correct for juniors (formal is also acceptable for juniors.)

Subscribers with their colors **wearing** their colors, **MUST** wear rust breeches. Regular subscribers are welcome to wear rust breeches (or tan.)

******OLD DOMINION FOOD PANTRY:** The Old Dominion Self Serve Food Pantry is located behind the post office in Orlean. The easy-access assistance system is for families who need a little help to get through the next meal.

ODFP partners with Fauquier For Immediate Sympathetic Help (FISH) to get the word out about the pantry. FISH is located in Warrenton near the Salvation Army and is a privately funded food bank. FISH arranges for needy children to take home backpacks of food every week through the elementary schools.

Here's how you can help:

1. Place donations directly in the white shed behind the pantry.
2. Go by the pantry any time to check on it. If it's empty or needs attention, e-mail ODFoodpantry@gmail.com

******PLEASE SEND** any news, or notes, photos, interesting items or upcoming events to be included in this ODH online newsletter.

Feel free to forward this to friends and family and anyone you think might be interested in ODH happenings.

Send current/updated email addresses if you'd like to be included on our direct newsletter list.

******WANT MORE? THERE ARE THREE WAYS:** If you can't get enough ODH news, check out the regularly-updated and ongoing newsfeed on our Facebook page.

Or dive deep into club history, photo galleries and more on our newly-refreshed website – theolddominionhounds.com (*don't forget the 'the' at the beginning of that website address.)

Or call the hunt monitor for up-to-the-minute hunting information and changes – 540.364-7457.