

Old Dominion Hounds News and Notes

Thursday, April 7, 2022

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******IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

- **Point-to-point – 2.5 day countdown: Get a pre-view of our race program!**
- **All-call for volunteers – help plant trees at Volgeneau farm**
- **RIP ODH friend and landowner (and much, much more) Sally Cunningham**
- **Planning calendar**
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******ODH POINT-TO-POINT – Save your Saturday:**

- * Exclusive race program preview:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qW3WI8o754knTbLWZ_ismETpLW0uwHZW/view?usp=sharing

- * Spectators: The forecast is great for Saturday, April 9. Bring an extra layer!
General admission tickets available at the gate – \$40 includes a race program.
Gates open at 10 a.m.

* Horsemen: The turf is perfect – the well-drained Rappahannock County soil handled an inch of rain midweek (*today is just showers), and the going should be forgiving, **not** soft, **not** inconsistent and **not** overly testing. The hurdles are set (*local horsemen are invited to walk the course anytime – Thursday, Friday, Saturday morning) and the timber jumps are refreshed and ready to go.

- * Horsemen, part 2:

>> Rob Banner and Kevin Ramundo will handle van parking and race pre-paddock rally area (marked by cones).

Horseman's gate will be manned at 8 a.m.

>> Betsy Parker will run a shuttle from the paddock to the vans – riders and horsemen are asked to rally near the pre-paddock cones for most efficient pickup and dropoff.

>> The jocks' tent will have ham and cheese sandwiches, snacks, fruit, candies, drinks, and a cooler of beer for ***after*** the racing day.

* IMPORTANT – There is a lengthy detour on Crest Hill Road/Route 647 if you come from Marshall – horsemen are encouraged to go to Warrenton via US 17 or US 29 and pick up Rt. 211 west from there.)

* Questions, concerns, directions, etc. - call Betsy Burke Parker 540.229.2048.

April 20 @ 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Join The Piedmont Environmental Council for a volunteer tree planting at the Volgenau property in Fauquier County on Wednesday, April 20 – Friday, April 22! Volunteers are needed to help plant around 400 native trees and shrubs to enhance water quality and wildlife habitat. We are seeking 15 planting volunteers per shift on April 20, 21 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094aaea62ba6fb6-tree2>

This volunteer planting event is open to adults 18+ who are comfortable walking through a small stream and a half-mile to the planting site. The terrain is described as rolling to steep hills, however the planting area is relatively flat. No porta-john will be available on site. Cell phone reception is spotty. While you're welcome to stay as long as you'd like, please arrive at the start of one of the two shifts so we can escort you to the planting site.

Volunteer activities include tree planting, which involves scalping (removing grass with a hoe), digging holes, planting, and pounding wooden stakes.

This event is rain or shine. In the event of dangerous weather, we will reschedule the day's planting. We will provide all of the necessary tools for planting, extra water, and snacks (no lunch will be provided – please pack your own). Volunteers are encouraged to wear boots or closed-toe shoes and clothing that they're comfortable getting dirty. Please bring bottled water, sunscreen, bug spray if needed. The terrain is described as rolling to steep hills, however the planting area is relatively flat. No porta-john will be available on site.

Property is located in Hume, Virginia. The property does not have an address, so please paste these coordinates into Google Maps, 38.79107, -77.97655. PEC signage will be present. Park at the barn. Flavors are: Vanilla, pistachio, lemon, butterscotch, raspberry and chocolate raspberry.

Email muskateer00@aol.com or call/text 540.229.1420 to put in your order.

→Box lunches from the Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill – they're taking orders for box lunches on race day. Plan your railside picnic but don't worry about the cooking. Choices are: chicken wing sandwich, Italian Stallion sub or ham biscuits – each boxed lunch comes with sides, chips and dessert. You can also order a box of one item – more ham biscuits, for instance, or a box full of cookies.

Pre-orders are being taken over the phone.

The Griffin will have a tent at the entrance of the racecourse where pre-purchased, pre-paid lunches can be picked up.

Call 540.675.3227 to order.

*****RIP Sally Cunningham:** Staff and subscribers of the Old Dominion Hounds are sad to hear of the passing of Sally Cunningham (02/09/1950 – 03/20/2022). Sally lived on North Poes Road, in the famously fabulous “tiny house” across from Clorevia.

Sally died March 20 of lung cancer.

(The following – part obituary, part loving tribute, was written by friends and neighbors)

Sally was bird-like in stature, but her presence was grand. She leaned her tiny shoulders into everything she did, from rescuing dogs and cats, riding and caring for horses, and expounding on the latest scientific literature about species conservation, to fashioning whimsical floral centerpieces.

Sally was a master of transformation - as the head of the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute once wrote to her, “give me a half-dozen Sallys and I’ll change the world.”

For years, Sally worked with horses and riders in many disciplines - point-to-point racing, foxhunting, dressage, show jumping, trail riding and more. She was a horsewoman of great skill and bravery who enjoyed tending to the details of horse care as much as she enjoyed the sport’s grander exploits.

Sally earned the “colors” of three area foxhunts – Warrenton, Rappahannock and Old Dominion.

Sally became chair of the Rappahannock Animal Welfare League in 1999, upgrading the shelter’s operations and spear-heading fundraising efforts that ranged from elegant dinners to “Dog Days” where dogs and owners competed in musical hay bales, obstacle courses and other tests of skill and dog patience.

Sally’s commitment to RAWL included the staff, whose hard work in caring for 20-40 dogs every day she genuinely appreciated.

Sally was an enthusiastic volunteer for Virginia Working Landscapes from its inception in 2009, where she helped pioneer the plant surveys. On many a sweltering summer day, Sally could be seen emerging from someone’s bramble patch, only to head home to take care of her own menagerie or to move rocks in the magical landscape she carved out of a hillside next to her beloved frog pond behind the magical home she’d built on North Poes.

Sally was a force of nature as a tour guide at SCBI. She regaled heads of state, senators, mayors and prospective donors with her narratives about the animals and the people who worked with them. She made it her business to know everything going on at SCBI, reading the institute’s research papers, attending training and workshops and learning everything she could from the staff about the endangered populations they managed on and off the 3200-acre property.

Sally recruited and nurtured other SCBI volunteers and helped to create and run a successful summer ecology camp with the Shenandoah Children’s Museum, which operated successfully at SCBI for several years.

The community also enjoyed Sally’s flower arrangements at many a gathering: most notably the legendary Summer Safari, which for years supported the work of the Piedmont Environmental Council, Shenandoah National Park Trust and SCBI. Sally brought artistry and dramatic flair to her displays, honed as a professional set designer at the Arena Stage Theater, to bear on the 50-plus delicate bouquets she designed and donated each year.

Sally greeted friends and neighbors as if they were the most important person in the world. Throughout her illness, it was easy to believe that her big heart and “can do” spirit would prevail against all odds.

She leaves behind a legacy of love for this corner of the world and a hole in the hearts of its inhabitants. A celebration of Sally’s life is being planned for Sunday, April 24, from 2-4 p.m. at Frog Pond.

******PLANNING CALENDAR:**

→ April 9 – ODH Point-to-Point. 12 p.m. Ben Venue.

→ April 10 – ODH hunter pace. 1 p.m. Hunter trial field, Orlean.

→ April 30 – ODH spring trail ride, 9 a.m., fixture TBD. \$30 for adults, \$10 for riders 18 and younger. Possible jump schooling and hunt skill drill practice. Potluck lunch afterwards.

→ May 14 – ODH spring trail ride – 9 a.m. Hunter’s Rest, Flint Hill. \$30 for adults, \$10 for riders 18 and younger. Possible jump schooling and hunt skill drill practice. Potluck lunch afterwards.

→ May 22 – ODH spring trail ride – Poker ride. 12 p.m. Destinaire, Hume. Refreshments and prizes

- May 29 – Virginia Foxhound Club show. Morven Park, Leesburg.
- June 4 – Hunt ball. Hertneky's, Orlean.
- June 5 – ODH spring trail ride – hangover trail ride. 2 p.m. Running Fields, Orlean.
- June – Puppy party. Kennels.
- June 24 – Old Dominion Conservation Educational Foundation benefit golf tournament.
- August – Schooling days. Hunter trial field, Orlean.
- September – Landowners' picnic.
- October – ODH fall hunter pace. Hunter trial field, Orlean.
- October 29 – ODH opening meet. High Meadow, Flint Hill.
- November 27 – Photos with Santa. ODH kennels, Orlean.

******THE WELL-READ RIDER:** Bits and pieces of literary vengery, an ongoing compilation of favorite sporting quotes. Send your favorite selection, or your own hunting stories.

“The early bird gets the worm, and the early fox gets the bird.”

– *Matshona Dhliwayo, Canadian philosopher*

******FUN FOX FACTS:** (Subscribers and friends are encouraged to send fun facts.)

According to lifescience.com, female foxes are usually monogamous – one mate for life. They also take on nannies to help with their pups. The nannies are female foxes that are not having a litter that year. Sometimes, one male fox will have several female mates. Females that have the same male mate are known to live in the same den together.

(sticky-notes)

*****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-](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=38.77660207373195%2C-78.068409834375&z=12&mid=1pb_IoihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX31tzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oIX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDLIUNQ-xvmZW10Yp8)

[78.068409834375&z=12&mid=1pb_IoihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX31tzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oIX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDLIUNQ-xvmZW10Yp8](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=38.77660207373195%2C-78.068409834375&z=12&mid=1pb_IoihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX31tzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oIX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDLIUNQ-xvmZW10Yp8)

******DOG-PALOOZA WEEKEND:** The Virginia Foxhound Club show at Morven Park is Memorial Day Sunday, May 29, on the lawn of historic Morven Park in Leesburg.

And, new this year, add Saturday, May 28 to your calendar – plan to attend the fabulous Dog Daze at historic Glenwood Park in Middleburg.

Host: Masters of Foxhounds Association of North America

A full day of demos and competition by working dogs and hounds.

Retrievers – Labs, Pointers, Spaniels

K9 Demonstration

Beagles and Basset Hounds

Sheep Dogs

Search and Rescue

Terrier Races

Lurcher Races

Agility

Guide & Companion Canines

Foxhound Parade

Plus, shopping, food-trucks and canine-focused activities and presentations.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Billie-Jo Pearl at (540) 883-0883 or office@mfha.com

******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

******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?** 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.