

Old Dominion Hounds News and Notes

Sunday, February 6, 2022

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**\*\*\*\*HUNTING THIS WEEK:**

\*Tuesday, Feb. 8 – 10 a.m. Colline, Orlean

\*Thursday, Feb. 10 – 10 a.m. Running Fields, Orlean

\*Saturday, Feb. 12 – 10 a.m. Fixture to be determined.

Call the hunt monitor - 540.364.7457 – to confirm for **\*\*every\*\*** hunting day in case of last-minute changes.

**\*\*\*\*PLANNING CALENDAR:**

- Feb. 13 – Virginia Foxhound Club meeting
- Feb. 20 – Chili cookoff and tack/yard sale. 1 p.m. High Meadow.
- March 6 – Kennel cleanup party. 12 p.m.
- April 9 – ODH Point-to-Point. 12 p.m. Ben Venue.
- April 10 – ODH hunter pace. Hunter trial field, Orlean.
- Late April, May, early June – ODH spring training trail ride series.
- May – Themed trail ride. Location TBD.
- May 29 – Virginia Foxhound Club show. Morven Park, Leesburg.
- June – Hunt ball. Hertneky's, Orlean.
- June – Puppy party. Kennels.
- August – Schooling days. Hunter trial field, Orlean.
- September – Landowners' picnic.
- October – ODH fall hunter pace. Hunter trial field, Orlean.
- November – ODH opening meet. High Meadow, Flint Hill.
- November 27 – Photos with Santa. ODH kennels, Orlean.

**\*\*\*\*JUNIORS INVITED TO VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE:** Old Dominion's own hunting-with-hounds lobbyist (and a major landowner on Keyser Road and lifelong sportsman and horseman and part of the Pearson-Poe clan), Mike Pearson has organized a "Foxhunting Youth Day" at Virginia's General Assembly in Richmond on Friday, February 11.

Virginia hunt clubs, especially junior hunters, are invited to be recognized in the chamber of the legislature and meet with delegates that represent their hunt territory.

Participants will (likely) ride down, caravan style, very early Friday morning, then meet with the state delegates in their offices before the day's legislative session begins.

Keswick Hunt is being recognized by the legislature for their 125th anniversary that day.

At 11 a.m., at the Bell Tower Park next door to the state house, Keswick huntsman Paul Wilson will have some Keswick hounds to meet-and-greet the legislators.

There will be discussions about the importance of foxhunting in our state's history and land conservation.

Andrew Barclay, director of hunting at the Masters of Foxhounds Association, and Ryan Brown, director of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, will speak.

Bills come to the floor every year that could – intentionally or inadvertently – impede or even shut down all forms of hunting, with and without hounds.

\*Juniors are reminded that \*\*eye contact and a firm, confident handshake\*\* go a long way towards building strong delegate support when anti-hunting bills appear, since many state officials have no experience with foxhunting, some with no experience with hunting of any kind.

Enthusiastic and educated support from “the next generation” of land conservators is an excellent reminder that foxhunting is a very real part of Virginia's economy.

The event is an opportunity to see government in action and give juniors an opportunity to have a voice in protecting the sport and open spaces it protects.

Call joint-master Dawn Colgan at 540-222-7395 if you plan to attend. She'll help organize carpooling for everybody. Attire is neat and well-fitting, normal non-riding attire. ODH logo-wear is encouraged.

**\*\*\*\*FOXHOUND CLUB LUNCH AND MEETING:** The Virginia Foxhound Club meeting is Feb. 13 at the Fauquier Springs Country Club west of Warrenton. New and prospective members (and non-members) are invited.

There's a lunch and silent auction, and Tad Coffin Performance Saddles will be our guest speaker.

You can sign up to be a member and RSVP for the meeting and lunch online.

[virginiafoxhoundclub.org/annual-meeting](http://virginiafoxhoundclub.org/annual-meeting)

**\*\*\*\*THE WELL-READ RIDER:** Bits and pieces of literary vengery, an ongoing compilation of favorite short (and long) sporting quotes. Please plan to contribute – send your favorite – new or old – selection, or your own hunting stories are encouraged.

*“Hunting is our music, it is our poetry, it is our art, it is our pleasure. It is where many of our best friendships are made, it is our community. It is our whole way of life.”*

~~ Will Ogilvie

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

We've noticed lots of newly-excavated fox dens over the last few days. Keep your eyes open if adult fox pairs are scouting a safe spot to raise their young so you can help support their efforts

Foxes dig out dens to provide a snug underground space for raising cubs (also called kits.)

In the mid-Atlantic, foxes often re-purpose abandoned groundhog holes, digging them out to create a more horizontal “entrance” than preferred by the groundhogs.

That's how you'll be able to tell if an earth is “active” – notice if there is dirt dug out and strewn away from a hole approximately 1-foot diameter.

Foxes also burrow under sheds and around tree roots.

Here's a photo of a local earth.



## (sticky-notes)

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\*\*\***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=1pb\\_IoihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX3ltzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oLX-RUDkC\\_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDLIUNQ-xvmZW10Yp8](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=38.77660207373195%2C-78.068409834375&z=12&mid=1pb_IoihkWji63lNqRTsHMnfFOJX3ltzn&fbclid=IwAR0oy2JsI8oLX-RUDkC_HO5m6q2qQG-7J1nBcwMYdoDLIUNQ-xvmZW10Yp8)

\*\*\***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](mailto: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](http://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.