



Arapahoe Hunt

November 2009 - Newsletter

Arapahoe Hunt Rendezvous Week November 11-14, 2009

The annual Arapahoe Hunt Rendezvous Week, November 11-14 welcomes the Grand Canyon Hounds, Caza Ladron Hunt and Woody Creek Hounds for four days of hunting and celebration. Members should consult the fixture card and Mary Ewing's October Social Report for more detailed information about hunts and hospitality, but here is a brief summary of activities and accommodations. Please note that all hunts require formal attire and will take place at The Range. This year, we are honored to host distinguished Jim Meads, the hunting world's most popular and greatest hunting photographer

Wednesday, November 11, 2:00 PM, the Grand Canyon Hounds from Arizona will hunt their hounds and blue ribbon chef Eunie Beeman and friends will host the buffet following the hunt.

Thursday morn at 11 AM, the Woody Creek Hounds from Aspen, Colorado, led by MFH Pat Scanlan, will hunt the Range and invite the field afterwards to a catered lunch to celebrate the success of the hunt. Caza Ladron Hunt friends will join us.

Friday morn at 11 AM, our own MFH G. Marvin Beeman will hunt the Arapahoe Hounds. After the hunt, honorary member and esteemed local restaurateur Clyde Canino will host and cater the breakfast-a donation from the Caninos for which the hunt is very grateful.

Saturday at 11 AM, the Masters of the three hunts will combine their hounds for an exciting day. Light refreshments will follow the hunt to allow all to return horses to stables and change into party clothes for the annual Huntsman's Dinner and Silent and Live Auction at the Inverness Hotel.

The November 14 invitations to the Huntsman's Dinner at the Inverness Hotel, chaired by Mary Ewing, have been mailed; tickets are \$85 a person. Highlight of the gala evening is the Silent and Live Auction, chaired by Vivian Jenner- vjenner@earthlink.net 303-663-3830.

Directions to the Inverness Hotel-I-25 to County Line Road(Exit 195) Turn east on to County Line Road. Take first left onto Inverness Drive West. The Inverness Hotel and Conference Center will be on your right.

Photographer Jim Meads-To illustrate the extent of the honor our hunt receives by his presence and photography during Rendezvous Week, the following excerpts are from an article about Jim Meads, which originally appeared ***In and Around Horse Country***.

On the Legend: Jim Meads by Lauren Giannini



Jim with Marion Maggiolo

The legendary English photographer has spent his life on the run – after hounds, that is. Clad in his signature attire of running shoes with socks pulled over trouser legs to his knees, green waterproof jacket, and wool cap covering his cranium, he navigates hill and dale, moor and mountain as he pursues the chase around the world...

New Member Report from Fritzi Riahi

In the absence of Marie Phipps, Membership Chairman, as we go to press, we are still gathering new members. Several are pending and will be included in the next issue.

Two new membership categories have been established.

Pony Club Scholarship-Bill Wilbur and his committee have been in contact with several local Pony Clubs. Each club may nominate 2 scholarship members and 2 accompanying adults for the scholarship program. Pony Club scholarship junior riders hunt free and receive complimentary entry fees in hunt events. Their adult companions hunt without capping fees.

A Junior Student Membership has been established for fulltime students age 22-30 for unlimited hunting privileges but no voting rights for dues \$512. Junior Students 21 and under pay a one-time insurance fee of \$25 and then hunt free.

Here is the latest list:

Introductory

Dr. Dave and Katie Barton-Sponsor Lise Stevens

Mark Wierbilis-Sponsors Lawrence Phipps, Beth Richard

Cortni Ward – Sponsor Lawrence Phipps

Junior Student

Jennifer Fuller Sponsor-Dave and Katie Barton

Meredith McKee-Sponsor Lawrence Phipps

Junior

Andrea Zyzniewski-Boulder Valley Pony Club Scholarship-Sponsors Bill Wilbur, Sammy Rogers

Rachel Courtright-Don Shake

Amber Brasel-Returning

Molly Hunsinger-Grant and Annette Carey

Katie Neal-Grant and Annette Carey

Trainer

Albert Vasquez-Sponsor Sylvia McDonald

Hunt Website

The Arapahoe Hunt has a good website which is under-utilized by the membership. Go to www.arapahoehunt.com if you have not done so already. On the home page is general information about the hunt and hunt events-including services like the colors tailor and horse boarding. Inside the website, reached via your email address and the password "1933" is the data base on the membership used for the Directory and mailing labels, the 2009-2010 Membership Chart and the 2009-2010 Fixture Card. You can always look up a member's phone number there when you do not have the Directory handy.

Chris Towt, webmaster extraordinaire, Fritzi Riahi, honorary secretary, and Marie Phipps, membership chairman, try to keep hunt information as up to date as possible on the website. They are presently working on the new 2009-2010 Directory and email list and entering new information as it comes in.

IT WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED IF MEMBERS WOULD PLEASE CHECK THEIR ENTRY INFORMATION AT THIS TIME-name, address, home telephone, cell, fax, email address, names of spouses and children and membership category. If you have new information, please add your changes or notify Fritzi to enter the information. Anyone who has any difficulty entering the website should call Fritzi.(303-688-8167) Sometimes initial entry can be a little stiff.

Cold and wet with threat of snow was the forecast for the weekend of the 81st Opening Day of the Arapahoe Hunt. Calls flew about questioning whether there should be postponement. Other hunts cancelled meets. Play-off games between Rockies/Phillies were rearranged due to weather. Holding fast to the schedule and unmindful of pleas of no borium on horses' shoes, a decision was made to forge ahead.

No sun shown at dawn on Sunday morning. No matter; horses were loaded, and trailers headed down C-470, hoping that conditions were such that hounds would lock onto scent and give wild chase, thus providing the warmth that Mother Nature withheld.

Early arrivals at the kennels noticed faint streaks of blue sky. The clubhouse was ready for festivities, with blue tablecloths, red roses, the scent of roasting turkey, and a crackling fire in the stove, all thanks to Bonnie Grenney. It would have been easy to remain the clubhouse but reminders that coyotes are never caught there propelled members out the doors, to the trailers, to saddle up in time for the stirrup cup and hunt blessing.

Stirrup cups were passed as did the word certain trailers were delayed in route, leading Fieldmaster, Mike Wilfley, to recall the ancient words of the hapless York king on Bosworth Field, "my kingdom, my kingdom for a horse!" Insufficiency of horseflesh was not deemed sufficient reason for delay to the scheduled hound departure. Promptly at 11:00, Huntsman, Marvin Beeman, proudly presented the Arapahoe hounds, guided by professional and honorary whips, Bob Knox, Irvin Manuelito, Marshall Younglund, Ken Slyziuk, Grant Carey, and Lynn Robinson out the kennels, through the gates, past the trailers, to a field north of the 360 where the Rev. Bill Minnis awaited. With the historical words inspired by the story of St. Hubertus, hounds, horses, and members were suitably blessed with an exhortation to the success of the hunt. As the ceremony concluded, as though cajoled by the words of the blessing, the sun began to shine as Mike Wilfley, properly mounted at last, assumed leadership of the field.

As so the hunt began. And begin it did as hounds were put into cover to the Huntman's cries of "lieu into cover and try mi lads, lieu into cover and try." With the rest of the pack's noses searching for the elusive scent, wunderkin hound, Greystone, struck and spoke on a tally-ho'ed coyote. And we were off – across the fields - watching in amazement as the chase unfolded to the sounds of hoofbeats and labored breaths as members struggled to keep pace with the speed of the hounds. Those with horses fit and clipped viewed the chase to its conclusion with prompt dispatch. Hunt honors were granted and neophytes blooded, all within the first half hour or so of the start. While some might have thought this a suitable place to call the hunt a success and adjourn to the clubhouse for feast and libations, not so with the Arapahoe hounds.

After praise to the pack, hounds were again put into cover. Over the next several hours, the hounds worked various lines, giving chase and hope to a repeat performance with the field treated to views, chases, coops, and superb mastery of the hunt by the Huntsman and staff until a seven mile or so chase left less than a dozen hunters breathless and ready for flasks. The hunt was called and so ended the first hunt of the 81st season of the Arapahoe Hunt Club.

The success of the hunt warranted the celebration that ensued at the clubhouse. As hunters streamed in, voracious as the hunted prey, all descended on food laid out in largess across decorated tables. The sounds of happy people, enjoying food, drink and companionship suitably provided the backdrop for recanting the hunt, in its intricacies and perfections, by Dr. Beeman.

With recognition that the future of a hunt is in its hounds, members were introduced by auction chairman Joe Freeman to the newest hounds, born out of Huddle by Greystone, bred to be great but still sporting the gangling bodies, big feet, and endearing faces of the puppies they still are. First Opal, then Ollie, followed by Owl, Orca, Ode, and Oak were auctioned by Rick Rolph, auctioneer extraordinaire, to lively and competitive bids until the gravel struck and a lucky member was awarded the puppy, not to taken home, but given in spirit and love in hope for success in future Runs for the Noses.

Hound Name - Sex - Purchaser - Amount Paid-Total \$3325

Opal - female Fritz Riahhi \$500

Owl - male Danielle Heller \$550

Ollie - male Cathy Tourney and Dave Wedmore \$550

Orca - female Don Gonzales \$400

Oak - male Mary Ewing \$800

Ode - male Jim Cage \$525

Wyoming Weekend

Over forty people attended the annual gala Wyoming August weekend—a great opportunity for an end of summer reunion, hosted by Rob and Barbara Deline at their Flag Ranch near Laramie, Wyoming. Blessed with good weather, riders and guests enjoyed the Deline's superb hospitality and the scenic ranch. Saturday's trail ride in the hills afforded splendid views of vast plains and mountains and a few challenges such as the memorable creek crossing. In the Sunday opening cub hunt, the field enthusiastically followed hounds and staff through the wide open spaces and mowed hayfields in the ranch headquarters area.

Friday night a large crowd gathered in a private dining room at the old west Cavalryman Restaurant for dinner hosted by Rob Deline. (He asked guests to make a dinner donation to the Hound Fund. Anyone who forgot to leave an offering in the ranch bar coffee may still forward it to Rob.) On Saturday, the hungry horde of trail riders appreciated the fine lunch at the trailers, ably prepared and served by Barbara Deline, Eunie Beeman and Gail Adamson. The Deline's historic old Party Barn was the site of Saturday night's fancy dinner and Sunday's delicious brunch.

Everyone is grateful that the Delines re-instituted this extraordinary event after the devastating ranch fire forced cancellation last year. The smooth event organization, provided by Rob and Barbara, foreman Chip Adamson and his wife Gail, ranch staff and hunt volunteers made life easy for guests and their horses. This year's gathering drew two masters from across the Mississippi—Keith Grey, MFH, and his two daughters, from the Mill Creek Hunt near Chicago, guests of Jon Townes and Pam Hedges; and Dr. Ralph Reilly, MFH, Amwell Valley Hounds, New York-New Jersey, guest of Mike and Vivian Jenner. The fundraiser netted about \$2000 for the hunt.

2009 Auction Update

From Vivian Jenner

The Auction is rapidly approaching and the committee *seriously needs stuff!* Donation suggestions have been emailed to all members. Please take a moment to see what you can offer this important AHC fundraiser. Repeat items OK. Contact Vivian Jenner-303-663-3830; vjenner@earthlink.net

Some special items to look forward to:

Raffle 2009 – a case of the 2006 Sand Hill Chardonnay, rated by *The Wall Street Journal* as “one of the 12 best luxury wines to buy.” This much coveted wine is generously donated by Ellie Price-Phipps.

Bidder's Surprise – new this year. The highest silent bid wins a mystery item that promises to delight this holiday season. (Sponsor needed).

Do you have a piece of news for the newsletter? Contact Marc Patoile or Fritz Riahi

“Outright Buy” – for those who've just got to own it, this year we are offering an “outright buy” price – a guarantee purchase for buyer agreeing to pay full ticket value.

Live Auction – by our very talented and entertaining, Rick Rolph.

Cross Country Pace by Eve and Todd Bridges

The Arapahoe Hunt 2009 Cross Country Pace Event was a great success. A total of 247 riders enjoyed the course, and the weather was beautiful. In one of our most important measures of success, the ambulance did not have to go out once! Encouragingly, attendance was up over 20% from last year despite a continued economic downturn. We hope to have continued gains in attendance, and believe that our biggest draws 1) the beautiful Plum Creek Hollow Farm; 2) the Costume Contest; 3) the prizes, which were very well received this year.

The costume contest proved very popular once again, and with the absence of the Colorado Horse Park's “Halloween with Horses” this year, we had a tremendous costumed turnout. It was very difficult to choose the winners, and the judges, organizers and hosts all had input in the decisions. The

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winning team, “Saves the Princess” included a princess, a knight and a ghoul, in resplendent handmade costumes. The judges enjoyed all the costumed participants, especially the “Cops and Robbers”, the “Flames”, “Alice in Wonderland”, “Horse Flies”, and “Ketchup and Mustard”. We think we have as much fun viewing the costumes as the riders do creating them. More attendees waited on the grounds for the results of the costume contest this year than for the division prizes. Winners in the Pace included Vivian Voehl for Division A, the team of Nicole Jones-Taylor, Christopher Rosenberg and Sarah Richards for Division B, and the C prizes went to: Amanda Smith, Elaine Ptaskiewicz and Hayley Weir for C-1 and Shannon Daily and Cat Holtman for C-2.

A flushed and excited field returned from following the hounds, hunted in a demonstration at noon by Dr. Beeman, assisted by whips Irving Manuelito and Bob Knox. Grant Carey was our able Fieldmaster, who explained the basics of Hunt etiquette and answered questions from the field.

Between the Work Day and the Pace itself, it takes over 60 volunteers to make this day a fun and enjoyable event for the public; many of our volunteers are not Hunt members. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped out, including Pace Secretary Liz Andrews, the Larkspur Volunteer Fire Department, photographer Tricia Bernhardt, Littleton Equine Medical Center which provided on-site veterinary services, and our very busy vendors, Equine Oasis and The Slick Pig BBQ. The Volunteer Day, hosted by the Goodings, held this year on Saturday October 17th is a huge draw for recruiting our jump judges. Our deepest thanks go again to Nancy and Richard Gooding, for providing such a lovely venue for our fundraiser.



Photo by Karen McGee

A Thank You from Jill Miller...

Everyone has magic moments in their lives, the ones that stay with you forever, and this summer I experienced one thanks in part to the members of the Arapahoe Hunt. With your support, and that of people in the Elbert County community, I was able to travel to Lahti, Finland to compete in the World Masters Athletic Championships. Wearing the USA singlet I competed against women in my age group 50-54 in the 800M and 1500M races on the track. In the 800M preliminary I finished fourth in my heat, qualifying for the final the next day where I placed 7th. The 1500M preliminary was scratched as only 16 of the registered 21 athletes declared for the race. That gave us all a two day respite before the final. In the field was the current world record holder from Spain, as well as athletes from England, Australia, Germany, South Africa, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Ireland, Canada and the USA. I ran a good 1500, placing 6th with a new personal record of 5:35. Probably the most important lesson for me in this first international competition was there is always room for improvement! Now that I know I can compete on the track with that caliber of women, I will be working harder to improve my times and race strategy for the next opportunity. Thanks to everyone who supported me, especially Dr and Mrs. Beeman, and Rob and Barb Deline who hosted the hound walk and dinner at the Range in July.

New Member Clinic

Be an ante! Ante-hunt, not anti-hunt. As in "before the hunt." Come to the New Members Clinic scheduled for 8:30 A.M. on Sunday, November 22, 2009 before the regularly scheduled hunt starting at 11:00 A.M. (Get it now?)

What happens at the New Members Clinic and is it only for new members?

The clinic is offered as an introduction to the traditions of hunting and, in particular, as those traditions are followed by the Arapahoe Hunt Club. While it is offered as a guide to new members, regular members are encouraged to attend, particularly to provide their wisdom and guidance, and perhaps to still learn a bit about why we do what we do. Prospective members wishing to learn more before committing are welcome, too.

The tradition, etiquette and rules of hunting evolved over centuries past are purposeful and provide the framework for courtesy and sport. While some may question whether these are arcane, in actuality, virtually every "rule" has a well-grounded basis such that as experience in riding to hounds is gained, recognition grows that these rules are not simply social rituals. Some develop a fascination with the origin and practice of the lesser known rules of the sport.

Topics to be covered include the following: (1) the role of hunt master, huntsman, whippers-in, field master, first field and second field; (2) appropriate hunting attire (3) general care of the field hunter including nutrition, clipping, training/riding the field hunter; (4) hound work; and (5) volunteerism.

Arapahoe Hunt
C/O Marc & Rebecca
Patrole

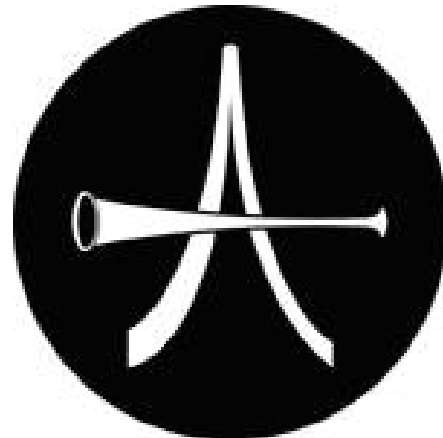
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