



## Summer Report and Welcome to the Fall Season

Welcome to the start of our 68th season of hunting in Chester County. The young entry are very promising, and we are looking forward to good sport. Bring friends to see the pack as the season gets under way! As well as our Sunday meets, you are welcome to join us for the weekly training hunts Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Contact Jim Scharnberg for locations and times.

Our 2015-2016 season began well in June. Walking out and hunting three days a week has gotten the pack in fine shape. White Acres Farm, George Jefferis's, Bob Berry's, Harold Hallman's and Marsh Creek all have had game. Our thanks to them all for letting us use their land for training hunts this summer. Our hard-working summer crew—Lisa Booth, Gene Bolt, David Harshaw, Dick Gross, Phyllis Allen and James Overstreet—made this summer's training and exercise really work.

Wednesday June 10 was our first training hunt after Bryn Mawr—a nice morning at Marsh Creek with short runners and Yarrow accounted for one. The 13th Lisa and I walked the pack and swam them in the Brandywine. The 14th at Jefferis's started with an explosion of 4 rabbits. Hounds ran one of them to ground in the woods below kennels. They ran several more in the woods edge and to ground and one more to ground inside the tree stand. Scent deteriorated as it got hot. We swam them in the Brandywine back at kennels to get the mud off, and walked the rest. Laura and Lisa were a great help back at kennels as well. On the 17th we hunted Hallman's and Berry's blank. We hunted Silberman's on the 20th—only one rabbit found in thre hedgerow at the corner of the upper pasture in the corn, else blank in the heat. On the 21st at Jefferis's there were plenty of rabbits, though scent was poor. Sabine was stellar. Uwchlan went off on a fox to start, but came back to horn. Three rabbits were run fairly well after that, which Salsa got going. Gallion and Yeoman did very well. Wednesday the 24th at Marsh Creek we had 2 nice runs around the oval, and all hounds took a big mud bath in the standing water from the prior week's rains. They were plastered and had to be hosed off at kennels to end the morning! We walked the rest across the road at kennels and gave them a cooling dip in the Brandywine. The 27th and 28th we walked the pack in two groups and gave each a dip in the Brandywine.

July 4th was a good morning at Marsh Creek. Hounds accounted for one in the oval, then put a couple to ground in the bales. They ran a big one back out of the center strip to a loss, then accounted for a couple on the way back out. When they hunted a rabbit through the upper woods a deer broke out the far side, but all stayed in except for Larry who came back to horn. Lisa, Laura and Henry Booth and David Harshaw gave great coverage! Berry's on the 5th



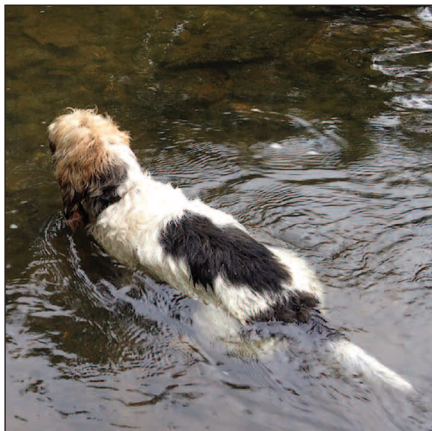
*A talk at the Andrews Bridge Foxhounds kennels about bassetting, landowner relations and conservation in Chester County*

was blank. Tuesday July 7th we were invited to talk with members and their children of the **Andrews Bridge Hunt** by their Joint Master, Betsy Harris, at their kennels in Christiana, PA. I took a 3 couple with me. Ginny Beards and I came in uniform and Marsha came with refreshments, along with Eli Silberman. I spoke about bassetting, fox hunting, landowner relations and the need to work together for conservation in Chester County. I kept it open for questions and discussion throughout the talk, and the children as well as the adults were full of good questions. They had a ball. The hounds made a big hit with the children afterwards. It was a great opportunity for us and all went very well indeed. We may have group visits to our kennels for hunts and walking with the pack. Wednesday July 8th we had a good hunting day at Marsh Creek. Scent was poor, but we got up two rabbits for runs along the east side of the hedgerow oval, putting the first to ground and the second out to cross the road. Yarrow and Tuppence were the stars. Back at kennels, we walked the rest of the pack across the road for a swim in the Brandywine to cool them off in the heat and humidity. Saturday 11 July at Berry's hounds got up a short runner in the upper hedgerow, then it was blank until they found rabbits in the first corn field. After circling runs they drove the first out and to ground in the center hedgerow, and then the second out near the road end to ground to finish the morning. Back at kennels we walked and trained the rest of the pack, and gave them their monthly tick medication. Sunday 12 July at Hallman's we had a fairly good morning: a run to ground in the trash pile at the far end of the upper hedgerow, then a long draw to the top and down to the woods and back. Finally they found in the left hedge line and drove to a mark in the far corner, digging at the earth, though three ran on, then came back to horn. The heat was getting tough at this point, so we called it a day. Wednesday July 15th we walked the pack. Saturday 18 July at Marsh Creek we had a good group—Gene Bolt and a friend from L.L. Bean, Oren Currie, Lisa and Henry Booth, and Kate and Ned Farnham. The rabbits were there too! We had a run to ground in the oval to start, and and two good runners for views out of the center to finish. Ned worked

well as a starting trainee. A swim in the Brandywine was needed to get the mud off, and cleanup was tough. Sunday was brutally hot, so we walked and swam the pack in the Brandywine. At Berry's on July 22nd we had a run on rabbit in the corn to start, then it was blank to end the morning. On the 25th, we walked the pack in the fields across the road. David Harshaw and Ned and Kate Farnham whipped in, giving excellent coverage. Lisa Booth joined us to work on



*Coolong off after hunting.*



*Salsa in the swim!*



*Jefferis's—fitting the camera.*

pack control in the kennel yard. Sunday at Jefferis's Gene Bolt experimented with a camera mount on Yarrow that she quickly shed in heavy cover. It will be fascinating to try again. The rabbits were quick to ground except for the first that gave hounds a run to the far end of the tree patch, then got to ground in heavy tangle after crossing back. Cleanup again was tough, as they were covered with burrs. On Wednesday, Lisa and I got the pack out and fed hounds before the heat hit.

The week of August 1-August 8, Gene Bolt, Lisa Booth, and David Harshaw exercised and fed hounds through the Saturday, and the Wiedorns got hounds out Saturday afternoon as well, while Marsha and I were away. On Sunday August 9th, David Harshaw, Ned and Kate Farnham and I walked the pack and trained two groups at kennels. Thanks to all for great coverage! Wednesday the 12th, Lisa Booth and I got the pack out. Saturday the 15th we hunted at Marsh Creek. Bone-dry ground and a rising thermometer meant no scent and a blank morning, and cleanup was burr-filled. Sunday August 16 we hunted in the heat and dust at Jefferis's. The 3 couple pack worked the tree plantings, speaking at holes and ran one to ground in the bottom hedgerow, ignoring a deer. They forced a rabbit out of the east side of the corn field. Lisa viewed it running up and back in and they worked it through to cross over toward the tree stand and to ground. Uwchlan, Yarrow and Quarry were super and Lis Booth and David Harshaw gave excellent coverage. We ended in the heat and returned to kennels to deburr the pack and got out the rest while cleaning up. Wednesday the 19th, Lisa Booth, Gary Sturts and I walked the pack and gave them a cooling dip in the Brandywine. Saturday the 22nd at Marsh Creek hounds pushed a big rabbit out of the triangular cover to the left of the trail and worked it up the right side of the oval and back twice to put it ground. The rest of the area hedgerows proved blank in the rising heat. Quarry and Souza were great, and young Yeoman worked really well. Hounds were green with burrs and cleanup was long. Sunday we walked the pack and did some grooming. David Harshaw and Dick Gross walked and fed hounds on August 26th at kennels. Saturday the 29th Lisa, David and I walked the pack. Sunday the 30th David, Ned and Kate Farnham and I walked the pack in two groups and trained each on pack control.

September 5, Saturday, we walked and finished grooming hounds for the **Ludwig's Corner Horse Show**, catching three hounds' coats on the blow just in time. I then went to the grounds to set up in our big tent for the conservation groups and hounds. We have given the tent for over 20 years to help get out the news about protecting open space, watersheds and farmland here in Chester County, and will continue to do so in the face of heavy development pressure. Let's all work to make sure that the last crop in the county is not an asphalt strip mall parking lot. What a great day we had at the show on Monday! We had



a crowd in the tent all day, with a big group from each of the hunts, and many visitors. Their children swarmed our fuzzies. The hound parade was a hit. We distributed the latest county info on agricultural easements, land grants, parks and trails and farmer's markets, and info for the US Sportsmen's Alliance and Brandywine Valley Association. Ryers's Farm for Aged Equines had three successful days at our 40'x40' Open Space Conservation Tent. All in all it was a very successful show with over 400 horses in the classes. September 9th we walked at kennels and the 12th was a training hunt at Marsh Creek. Scent was poor

in the heat—one rabbit at the start, then blank. Sunday the 13th we had a good morning at Jefferis's. A good run from the tree plantings to the far hedgerow, and a find and run to ground on the far edge to finish up. Cleanup was tough as hounds were pasted with burrs. Wednesday the 16th we hunted at Church Farm. Rabbits got quickly to ground in the thick cover—again cleaning hounds was tough. Saturday and Sunday were good hound walks and pack training at kennels. Wednesday the 23rd we hunted at Hallman's—one rabbit marked in at the start, then a long draw blank until the end when Salsa marked one in a huge weedy trash pile. Yuengling, back from his love affair, worked hard. He was covered with burrs!! On Sunday the 27th, we were invited to show our pack at the **Radnor Hunt's "Tea With The Hounds"**. This was an event that Radnor sponsors to acquaint landowners with fox hunting, beagling and bassetting, and the importance of land conservation. Our pack, the Radnor Hunt and the Ardrossan Beagles each paraded their hounds and gave people a chance to mingle—the kids had a ball and our hounds and staff put on a fine show. The Willistown chair spoke about the efforts and successes to preserve open space, and Collin McNeil, MFH, spoke about the local and national history and customs of foxhunting. It was a great afternoon.



It has been an interesting summer, with wild heat swings and a mini drought. We pray that the hunting season's weather will be kinder! This season should be a good one. November will be a "no cap fee" month, so bring out lots of guests to share the fun.

*We owe our sport to our wonderful landowners.*

## CONDUCT IN THE FIELD

We are all deeply indebted to farmers and landowners for permission to hunt on their properties, and for their cooperation in protecting game for our sport. We must be constantly alert to prevent damage to property and injury to livestock at all costs.

The following are a few common sense rules of behavior for people who hunt with our pack.

**1. FENCES.** Climb rail fences at the post where strongest, not in the middle. Slide under wire fences when possible. Don't stretch the wires. If a fence is broken, secure it if possible and immediately report it to staff.

**2. GATES.** If a gate is opened, make sure that the last person through closes it securely. If barways or rails are let down, make sure that they are put back up.

**3. GROUNDS.** Keep off lawns and gardens near houses, and winter wheat or other soft seeded ground, including golf greens, tees and traps.

**4. LIVESTOCK.** Keep well away from all livestock in fields and paddocks so as not to excite them. Move quietly around the enclosed area, rather than cross it, unless following the Field Master.

**5. SMOKING AND ALCOHOL.** No smoking or drinking permitted in the hunting field. One of our meets is at a school that asks that there be no alcohol on the property.

**6. PARKING AT THE MEET.** Don't park on driveway edges or where inconvenience will be caused to others. Be guided by the Field Master on arrival.

**7. HOUNDS.** Silence is golden when Hounds are drawing, or at a fault, or working a patchy line. And don't call to or urge on, lagging Hound. Hold up and notify the staff quietly.

**8. Finally, be guided by the Field Master.** Keep behind him unless Hounds are running. Keep at least 30 yards behind Hounds when running, and hold up for the Field Master as soon as they hesitate on the line. If no Field Master is present or appointed for the day, keep thirty yards between yourself and the Huntsman and Hounds when hunting so as not to turn rabbits back into cover, and a good twenty yards when moving off or going home.



## SKYCASTLE FRENCH HOUNDS 2015-2016 SEASON

AGE	ENTRY	SIRE	DAM
10	Quarry '06	Luron de Mounaidieres '96	Mireine des Ajoncs de l'Aulne '04+
	Ch. Gebeba Larry '06	Raven des Marais de la Dives	Rafale des Landes Medocaines
8	Salsa '08 Sousa '08	} Ch. Gebeba Larry '06	Mischief '01
7	Teasel '09 Trompette '09 Tuppence '09		} Ch. Riddle '06
6	Uwehlan '10	Ch. Gebeba Larry '06	
4	Ch. Gallion des Rocs du Plessis '12	D'Armor des Rocs du Plessis	Ukraine des Roccs du Plessis
2	Yeoman '13 Yuengling '13 Yarrow '13 Yvette '13	} Ch. Gallion des Rocs du Plessis '12	Souza '08
1	Zelda '15 Ziva '15 Zsa Zsa '15		} Ch. Gallion des Rocs du Plessis '12
9 mo.	Button '16	Yuengling '13	

**Important Date: October 21-25—NATIONAL BASSET PACK TRIALS, Aldie, Virginia**

# LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSE SHOW



**Ardrossan Beagles**

**Kimberton Hunt**



**Dr. Todd Addis's Warwick Village Hounds**



**Skycastle French Hounds**

# LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSE SHOW



## IN MEMORIAM

In memory of our lovely Sabine & the voice  
that thrilled us all,  
of our little chatterbox, Iris,  
Princess Artful & sweet, kind Daphne, Rambo,  
Gallop, Hoodwink, Chaser, Crescent, Badger,  
Dervish, Doubtful, Dalesman, Estelle, Gretchen,  
Garnish, Hustler, Helper, Ipine, Kestrel, Kingfish,  
Luron, Magic, Magpie, On-Line, Quince, Bill, Bramble, Rebel,  
Rawhide, Maggie, Mireine, & all those wonderful hounds  
we've known and loved.

### *Orion Be My Whipper-In*

*As I look up upon a night  
And see the skein of stars strung out,  
I know for sure where my old hounds  
Are running yet, are hunting still.  
I seem to hear to my delight  
Their hunting cries - O glorious din!  
My tired legs glow with new-found drive,  
My aching lungs draw deep again.  
The moon beams down in patches bright  
On grass, on road, among the trees,  
And seem to bring them back to me  
For yet a while as I run on.  
They dash in joyful headlong flight -  
Their shapes stretch on beyond my ken.  
I hunt a ghostly pack tonight -  
Orion be my whipper-in!  
JFS*

