



# The Bridlespur Hunt

July 2009

## 2009 Bridlespur Horseshow May 30-31st

The annual Bridlespur Horse Show was a great success. We were sold out!! and all the boxes were sold.

The weather gods smiled on us not only during the show weekend but also in the day's prior when we were setting up the rings and getting everything ready. The temperature was comfortable and except for some brief rain on Saturday morning it couldn't have been better.

The competitors were happy, footing in the ring was great, and the additional improvements Billy Busch has made to the grounds; brand new boxes and secretary tower and in the lower barn-adding stall gates and a second hosing off area, made the accommodations very nice.

Everyone that answered the call to volunteer worked hard, pitched in wherever needed and did a great job. Thanks to: Jill Wagenknecht, Robert Muhlbaugh, Diane Begemann, Jean Mutrux, Mike Murphy, Tess Fleischli and Abri for their hard work on Thursday getting the rings set up. Over the weekend we had: Mary Hensel, Ron Ausman, Marilyn Carney, Jane Walters, Jane Leismann, Gigi Harrow and Sabrina, Dr. Bob Wilmott, Sue Hamilton, Roger Smith, Janelle Allton, Lee Deutsch and Lil Lewis, doing Gate, Jump Crew, Ribbons and tearing down on Sunday night. Gene even managed to rope Gary (his son in law) into coming out to help on Sunday night. Thank you Gary.



**Beverly Stevens on Courtney  
"Most Improved" - photo courtesy of  
Donald Granger**

Our own member Beverly Stevens received a "Most Improved Award" at the show.

The photographer was member Donald Granger (Hoof Pics) <http://www.hoof-pics.com/> It's not too late to check out the website and order photos

John and Beth Korenak did their usual great job as show managers and providing additional help for all areas.

Thank you to everyone who supported the club in buying a box, showing and working the show.

## New Member

Kevin Parentin is pleased to be hunting with the members of The Bridlespur hunt. He attended a meet this past season as a guest of Ron Ausman, and attended meets with River to River Hounds in Southern IL. Kevin is an avid sportsman who grew up hunting with Beagles and Brittany Spaniels. He now looks forward to watching the work of the Bridlespur foxhounds from the back of his favorite horse Isabelle (or Izzy, if you prefer).

Isabelle is a 6 year old Percheron Thoroughbred Cross who resides at the Wagenknecht's Horseplay Farm. While her size makes her somewhat uncomfortable in the trailer, she is at home in the field and on the trail. Still both novices at the sport, Isabelle and Kevin look forward to observing and learning from the collective wisdom of The Bridlespur Hunt staff and members.

Many of you had the opportunity to meet Kevin on the Mushroom trail ride. We look forward to seeing him in the hunt field.



**Kevin Parentin and Izzy**

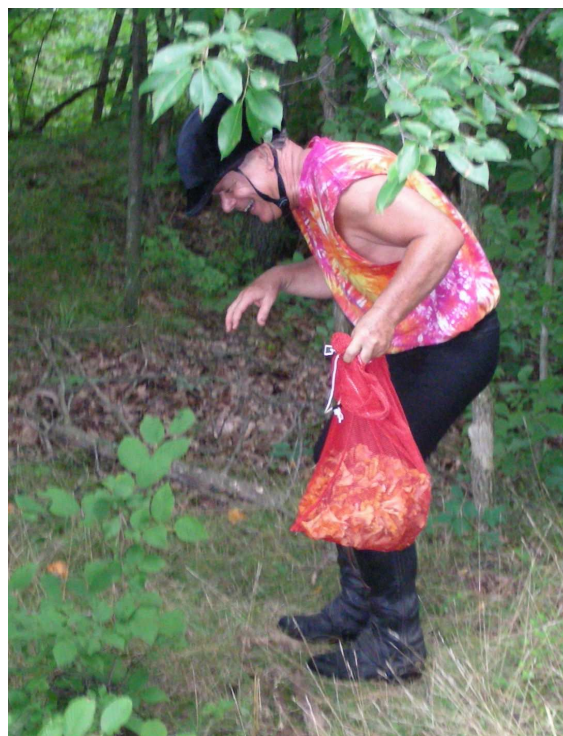
## June 21<sup>st</sup> – Bridlespur Hunter Pace

We had 36 riders, a delicious Mexican Fiesta lunch, and a fabulous course laid out by Eleanor. Thanks to those that helped. The September Hunter Pace Flier will be coming out soon. Be sure to tell your friends.

## July 11<sup>th</sup> – Mounted Mushroom Hunting Commences at Valley Green

or "Michael Murphy's Magical Mushroom Tour"

By Michael Murphy



**Michael Murphy with a bag full of Mushrooms and finding more**

The ancient sport of riding to mushrooms, Chanterelles specifically, got a glorious weather start this past Saturday 11th July at a very green Valley Green Farm in full summer splendor. As a field of approximately 25 met at the Clubhouse a brief educational prepping was heard, "there

Are old mushroom hunters and there are bold mushroom hunters but there are no old bold mushroom hunters!" so manuals and booklets by MO DEPT Con and others were used along with vivid descriptions by Michael Murphy, based on years of experience, to elucidate most clearly this beautiful Golden trumpet Chanterelle we would be addressing on this hunt. 'L.B.M's, that is, little brown mushrooms are a poor way to leave the planet! So though the quarry be small and stationary there was respect for LBM's and such that was bettered by the group enthusiasm upon us riding Into a 'find'....as the chanterelle is unmistakable and easy to identify...all joy was shared like an Easter Egg Hunt for adults. Apprentice Mushroom Huntsman Madeleine Hartwell, who began chanterelling the previous week, used her 'excellent nose' to point out some enormous golden trumpets of which we closed the day with a whopping 12 pounds.



**Guest Jeannine Como and Madeline Hartwell display their finds**

Practically speaking, a great advantage lies in riding a horse whilst schrooming as you are visually advantaged to look down thru brush plus you are physically Isolated from many a small and annoying insect looking to catch a ride. Conservationally speaking, Valley Greens flora has much to commend and we haven't even touched on morels or ginseng. Financially speaking, respect for

our mushrooms grew when people found out these were selling in our area for Between \$25-49 per pound making it easier for many to dismount.

And the end of the hunt was the beginning of the Breakfast where two dishes showcasing the culinary value of picking these rascals lay: Eleanor's Artisan quality 'ho-made' fettuccini and Michael's vegan curry and saffron rice chanterelle kedgerree. Our desert 'cup raneth over' as 7 or 8 desserts availed themselves to the greater benefit of our waistlines! Traditional shroom attire of tie dye and music of Grateful Dead provided suitable ambience to the feast.

We who ride horses across country are natural conservationists so it in and of itself is worthwhile but it is also most complimentary to showcase another great Feature of our Hunt country and with a great group of folks.



**Vegan Curry and saffron rice Chanterelle kedgerree**

**Heart Talk**

Two of our beloved members have recently had heart work done.

Armand Hoffstetter had stints put in on a Tuesday and was at the club collecting liabilities on Saturday at The Mushroom ride. Claiming he feels better already. Donald Granger, our spectacular photographer (who can forget the picture of lben flying over the post and rail), underwent open heart surgery. He has 6 new venues for the blood to flow! We wish him a speedy recovery.

## Don't forget the release forms

It's summer trail ride time and we encourage members to come up and enjoy the many miles of trails. Remember if you bring guests you need to have them sign a release form.

It is VITAL to get releases signed by every member/rider/guest, etc at the club.

As all members of the hunt are required to sign this each year, they need to be aware of this part of their responsibility for a guest.

"I also agree to defend THE BRIDLESPUR HUNT and the above listed persons and entities against all causes of action brought by my guests who have not signed a waiver."

This should be an incentive to have all guests sign the waiver immediately upon setting foot on the grounds.

There are blank release forms on the website and on the bar in the clubhouse. Leave the signed release in the clubhouse for Armand.

## Roading

We will start roading hounds on Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 9AM and will go every Wednesday and Saturday throughout the month of August. Don't forget to check the clubhouse phone recording for changes.

## Condolences

We are sad to hear that Leslie Ayers has lost two of her trusty steeds Gabe and Major within two months of each other.

She lost Gabe in May. Gabe has been one of her main hunt horses since Leslie bought him four seasons ago. Leslie also had great results with him at local horse trials.



**Major and Gabe**

Major started hunting with Marilyn Carney, MFH in the late 1980s. Leslie bought him from Marilyn and he continued to hunt well into his late 20s. He hunted over 20 seasons. He provided many years of service to Leslie and Marilyn and had well earned his retirement.

## HARK! OLD HORSE

Hark! Old horse.  
Please meet me at the gate.  
Hounds are leaving kennels soon,  
And we will not be late.  
Step up. Old horse.  
Carry me to the meet.  
Our years together count for much,  
Though you're no longer fleet.  
Trot on. Old horse.  
I know you hear the horn.  
The hounds are in the valley now;  
The fox is in the corn!  
Kick on. Old horse,  
My soul mate and my friend.  
Our years together hunting are  
The best that's ever been.  
Leap up. Old horse.  
Take the bit and fly!  
I still trust you like a brother,  
Even though the fence is high.  
Walk on. Old horse.  
We'll soon be hacking in.  
Your nicker rests beside my heart.  
Our souls entwine within.  
Hark! Old horse.  
The years reveal our fate.  
If we should part before we wish. Please meet  
me at the gate.

Carla Hawkinson AKA "Fluffy"  
Tennessee Valley Hunt

## Jean Mutrux wins USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Finals in Lexington, KY

Jean Mutrux whom we usually see in the field in a hunt seat saddle won the USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur finals in Lexington Kentucky on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Jean was coached by daughter Abigail to the win. "Coach" Abigail took home the silver "trainer's trophy" tray.



**Jean Mutrux and Blackboard**

As Champion, Jean was honored with many awards including a beautiful cast resin sculpture created for this event by artist Patricia Crane, a hand-crafted USEF Leather Cabin Bag made by Freedman Harness, a bouquet of red roses, a blue Moxie cooler, a halter, and the traditional "Gold Medal" and Junior League Trophy. Jean Qualified with her home trained horse Victory and rode Abby's equitation horse "Blackboard" in the finals.

Abby Mutrux also won both of her classes at Lexington making them the first mother/daughter team to clean up at any major show. Jean is the oldest winner of the Medal Finals, and probably the only adult winner who also foxhunts.

## More Show Brags

Many of our members have been hitting the eventing and hunter circuit in the off season.

At Queeny Park Horse Trials one of our Young Foxhunters Diane Begemann won the Jr. Novice Division. Social Member Sharon Null won her division of Beginner Novice. Maria Brazil took a third at Training level which Roger Smith and Stephanie Muhlbaugh also competed. One Novice division had four hunt members. Geri Washausen took second, Jill Wagenknecht was fourth, Anne Weber was fifth, and Leslie Granger was 8<sup>th</sup>. Lee Deutsch, Jane Walters, Maria Brazil and Richard Jenson also competed at Beginner Novice. Mackenzie Bussard and Cissy Calvrid took 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Starter Novice division.

Jill Wagenknecht also got a 3<sup>rd</sup> at Mill Creek Pony Club Horse Trials and a 4<sup>th</sup> at Fox River Valley Horse Trials. Geri Washausen and Darth won their division of Beginner Novice at Fox River Valley Horse trials. Stephanie Muhlbaugh was 3<sup>rd</sup> and Mill Creek Pony Club horse trials in the Training division and 5<sup>th</sup> at Maui Jim.

Mackenzie Bussard was Short Stirrup Champion at the Robert Murphy Horse Show in Lexington, KY.

## Bridlespur Hunt Ball Save the Date!

Saturday November 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Meadowbrook Country Club, Ballwin, MO**

## Puppies!

Bridlespur puppies are often fostered by various members so they can have more individualized training and get better socialized. John and Joan Wagenknecht have three puppies at their farm right now. I'd say they are doing quite well at getting socialized!



**Roman, Rolex, and Radish out of Nike, by Isaac**

## Use Your Club

Remember, you are welcome to use the club grounds during the summer. There are several jumps around the clubhouse that have been weed whipped and are ready for action. The swimmin' hole just below the Natural Bridge is full, thanks to all the recent rains. And the trails are always open. Eleanor has mowed for hunter paces, so you can get through everywhere.

## Medical Committee report

A medical card has been created for members to carry while hunting. It will keep track of your vital information so anyone helping you in an emergency can act quickly.

It will be included with your September Hunting Subscription and Liability Release.

## Upcoming Events

**July 26<sup>th</sup>** – Tin Cup at Three Creek Farm  
more info here:  
[http://threecreekbassets.com/TC\\_files/Tin\\_Cup\\_2009.pdf](http://threecreekbassets.com/TC_files/Tin_Cup_2009.pdf)

**August 30<sup>th</sup>** – Bridlespur Neighbor Party at the clubhouse

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** – Bridlespur Hunter Pace

**November 14<sup>th</sup>** – Bridlespur Hunt Ball – Meadowbrook Country Club

**Don't forget to check the hotline for any changes in hunt schedule 573-485-4942.**

## Classifieds

**Electro-Groom horse vacuum** - New they are \$599.00. This one is about 10 years old. Lightly used. Works great. (has a little rust from sitting in barn) . Asking \$200.00. Contact Leslie Ayers [layers@centurytel.net](mailto:layers@centurytel.net) 636-398-8099



**Hunt Horse** – 7 year old paint horse gelding 16H, has hunted two seasons and evented, great on trails. Contact Leslie Granger 314-306-0341 [Lesliegra@aol.com](mailto:Lesliegra@aol.com)

**Ladies sandwich case and hunt crop** - Contact Janet Metzger for more information 314-795-1134

## Newsletter articles

Please send any of your thoughts, accomplishments, or any other suggestions for articles to:

[LeslieGra@aol.com](mailto:LeslieGra@aol.com)

You may also send Hunt related classifieds.