

**Annual Meeting, Hound Show & Junior Judging Competition**

**Sunday, May 7, 2-5 pm**

**Upper Shirley Plantation, Home of Suzy Dameron**

1. President’s Welcome-Katherine Mitchell
   1. We approved a Mission Statement and Core Values this year in order to work toward attaining our 501 c 3 approval
   2. Marcy Molinaro began this great effort and Eric Strom is going to work with a group this summer to help us decide if we want to continue to pursue this.
   3. One of the things we are focusing on is landowner involvement and leaning into the relationships that we have with them, helping them to feel supported and appreciated.
   4. We had twice as many junior members this year as we have had before! We had a Junior Committee as well as Angie really getting our Juniors ready and hunting. We had three juniors earn their Fairly Hunted certificate this year! This is the first year of the Junior Hound Judging Competition as well ☺
   5. We had record attendance at our events this year and a huge thank you to those who were involved. 140 volunteer spots were filled by most in the membership
   6. We had a record year in attendance and fundraising for our Hunt Ball
   7. Master Dee Dee Mausteller decided to retire this year
   8. Merri Musso was appointed as our new Master and we are so excited to welcome her on board!!
2. May 2022 Minute Approval Vote\* —Elaine Honeycutt, Secretary-Minutes were approved.
3. Hounds and Hunting 2022-2023 Season--Edward D. Mitchell, MFH
   1. Hunting Report
      1. 38 hunts fixtured
      2. Hounds Met 29
      3. Canceled 9
      4. 72 members rode at least once
      5. 6 junior riders
      6. Avg Wed attendance was 11 (mounted)
      7. Avg Weekend attendance was 21 (mounted)
   2. Fixtures
      1. Holly Bluff - Eastern Shore of VA
      2. Hampstead - New Kent
      3. Chickahominy WMA
   3. Hounds
      1. 12 couple dog hounds
      2. 14 couple bitch hounds
   4. Hound Shows
      1. Competed in Sedgefield Hound Performance Trials
      2. Registered for Carolina Hound show, but show was canceled
   5. Kennels
      1. Following tour of Hillsboro Kennels during the MFHA Biennial Staff Seminar, we brought back some ideas:
      2. We added raised concrete beds in our kennels and concrete walls for our hounds
   6. Shoutout to Staff – Thank you to all of our tireless and committed staff and flight leaders who were a huge help in the field
   7. Member Recognition
      1. Masters awarded Colors to Steve Musso and Kris G
      2. MFHA Fairly Hunted certificates awarded to John Savage, Ali Corbett, and Keira Courtney
4. Membership Report—Christine Sweet
   1. Members
      1. 126 Memberships
      2. $98,300 from memberships
5. Treasurer’s Report—Tim Watson
   1. We had budgeted to break even with a slight deficit for this fiscal year
   2. We have a net income of -$5000 but have outstanding money coming in from the hunt ball
   3. $168,000 income and $186,000 expenses (some were paid for with the Hunt Preservation fund)
      1. We had major repairs to the hunt truck and trailer which were one-time expenses which will hopefully not be repeated
   4. Our costs are all going up due to inflation
      1. In order to make our budget, we are going to moderate a dues increase. We are going to increase our dues by 6% for all membership levels
      2. While dues increases are not ideal, in order to continue to be on solid footing, we cannot keep up with increased expenses on fundraising alone.
      3. The 6% increase will go into effect with the next round of invoices.
      4. With the dues increase and our history of strong fundraising, we anticipate being on solid footing going into the future.
6. Trail Ride Series
   1. We have had rides at Westover, Fort Pocahontas, and Airville. They were wonderful with an average of 20+ riders and we had a great time
      1. May 13 – Hampstead Plantation
      2. May 20 – Aspen Grove
      3. June 4 – Cumberland Estate
      4. June 17 – Dogham
   2. These are great opportunities to get yourself and your horse out for a great time with PAH members
7. New Board Officers’ Vote\* —Merri Musso, MFH
   1. President—Katherine Mitchell (2-year term)
   2. Vice President and Membership Chair-Robin Somers-Strom (one-yr term)
   3. Secretary – Rachel Toquothty (2-yr term)
   4. Director—Jim Daniels (2-yr term)
      1. Motion to approve the new board members: Elaine Honeycutt
      2. Motion seconded by: Theresa Burton
      3. All in favor. Motion passes
8. Meeting Conclusion –Katherine Mitchell
   1. Thank you all for all your hard work this year and we look forward to another great year for the 2023-2024 season. She asked that everyone sign up for an event team and e-mail her feedback for Board member summer planning.
9. PAH Hound Show & Junior Judging Contest-Travis Gibson, MFH
   1. The Junior Judging Contest is an MFHA program that is geared toward Junior members learning about hounds and their confirmation. The goal is to get junior members involved in at the ground level of hunting: hounds.
   2. We plan to continue the program for the juniors in the year to come.
   3. The juniors will judge the hounds that Martyn brings out, the hounds will then be judged by a professional judge. The junior who comes closest to the professional judge’s scoring is the winner and will be invited show a hound in the Junior Class at the Virginia Hound Show
   4. Professional: Matt Cook from Farmington Hunt