

MUSEUM NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSEUM OF HOUNDS AND HUNTING N.A.

Volume 16 • Number 1

May 2006

George Washington: Foxhunter-In-Chief

Describing "Buffalo Bill" Cody in *The Colonel and Little Missie*, Larry McMurtry makes an adept observation: "...it is hard to overestimate how far a man can go in America if he looks good on a horse."

George Washington, in his lifetime, did not have the wide public audience made possible by Cody's celebrity and churning PR machine. But by all contemporary accounts, the man looked good on a horse. His impressive stature in the saddle, combined with his aggressive riding style and stamina for the long pursuit, may have contributed to his battlefield success. It is a plausible premise that the outcome of the American Revolution, and the founding principles embodied by the nation's first president, were influenced by Washington's passion for his sport of choice—foxhunting.

Washington first rode to hounds at the age of 16, introduced to the pastime by his neighbor Lord Fairfax. His association with the powerful Fairfax family also influenced his appreciation for the manners and proprieties of the aristocracy. The courtly demeanor he learned under Fairfax's tutelage, as well as his sense of stylish elegance, served him well in adulthood as leader of the Continental Army and subsequently as Commander-in-Chief of the newly formed nation.

In 1748 a young George Washington was part of a small group sent by Lord Fairfax to survey his holdings in Virginia's uncharted Shenandoah Valley. Some historians suspect these early surveying forays were really just thinly veiled excuses to go foxhunting.

For the next three decades Washington took every opportunity to practice the art of chasing foxes through the Virginia countryside. His kennels served as a focal point of life at Mount Vernon. He visited his hounds morning and night, developed his own selective breeding program, and maintained detailed records of kennel activity.

His journals reveal the perspective of a dedicated hound man, one who rode to hunt. Entries describe the work of his pack, the course of the foxes, and the outcome of the chase. Other elements of the sport—horses, fences, fellow hunters—are ignored or, at best, given scant mention.



"First Gentleman of Virginia," John Ward Dunsmore (1856-1945), before completion of the conservation work. (Courtesy Fraunces Tavern Museum, New York.)

Dunsmore's "Washington" Paintings Restored

It isn't often that the opportunity arises to share in the preservation of a piece of American history. When the call went out to help preserve 45 important historical paintings, including several that feature foxhunting enthusiast George Washington, the Advisory Committee of the Museum of Hounds and Hunting N.A. responded with equal enthusiasm.

The paintings are part of the John Ward Dunsmore Collection at the Fraunces Tavern Museum in New York City. Dunsmore (1856-1945) is best known for his realistic and historically accurate paintings. One of his works, depicting George Washington elegantly sailing over a snake fence on his horse Blueskin, hard on the heels of running hounds and his long-serving Huntsman Billy Lee, appeared in Alexander Mackay-Smith's 1968 work, *The American Foxhound, 1747-1967*.

New York's Fraunces Tavern, originally built as an elegant residence in 1719, became a tavern in 1762. In 1783 General Washington delivered his farewell address to the officers of the Continental Army in the tavern's Long Room. The room is preserved today as it would have looked then. The visitor can almost hear the emotional words of the General as he bade farewell to those who had, along with him, risked their lives and fortunes in the fight for independence.



Marion Maggiolo (l), Museum of Hounds and Hunting North America co-chair, and board member LTC (Ret.) Robert Ferrer, MFH (Caroline Hunt, Virginia), with the fully conserved "First Gentleman of Virginia" at the Fraunces Tavern Museum, New York City (January, 2006).

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York purchased the building in 1904, had it restored to its Colonial-era appearance, and opened the Fraunces Tavern Museum to the public in 1907. That same year, John Ward Dunsmore donated 45 of his paintings, depicting historically relevant scenes from the Colonial Period and Revolution, to the Fraunces Tavern Museum. Coincidentally, 1907 was also the year that saw the founding of the American Masters of Foxhounds Association.

(continued on page 2)

(George Washington, Continued from page 1)

Fortunately, others recorded the boldness, energy, and focus Washington demonstrated when on the chase. Riding close behind his long-serving Huntsman, Billy Lee, Washington allowed no obstacle to impede his progress when hounds were running. While others chose cleared trails or gentle fields, Master and Huntsman made their own way through dense woods, heavy brush, or swampy terrain. Wherever hounds could go, Lee and Washington followed.

The duo must have made an impressive, if contrasting, sight: Tall, upright, elegant Washington; small, dark-skinned Lee, laying almost flat across his horse; the two of them riding hard, some days for six hours or more.

The halcyon era of Washington's hunting activity came during the 1760s and early 1770s, before affairs of state and the spirit of rebellion called him away from his beloved Mount Vernon and his carefully bred pack of hounds. During the winter of 1768 Washington's journal reports 48 hunting days. A decade later those days, and hundreds of others, arguably influenced a turning point in world history.

Mr. Jorrocks, that passionate, if fictitious, follower of hounds created by Robert Surtees, described foxhunting as, "The image of war, without its guilt, and only half its danger." The British troops Washington faced, particularly the officers, were no less familiar with, and ardent about, the sport of foxhunting than was the leader of the Continental Army. The shared reference created a scenario rife with potential for metaphors.

In one early encounter (September, 1776), General Washington sent out a scouting party from the rebels' precarious position along New York's Harlem Heights. The scouts were confronted by British regulars and chased back toward their own fortifications. Washington and his men listened in humiliation as a bugler blew a foxhunting call to signal the Brits' enjoyment of chasing these upstart Colonials back to their hole.

A few months later, Washington returned the insult to none other than Lt. Gen. Charles Cornwallis.

On January 2, 1777, Lord Cornwallis led his men toward Trenton, seeking to retake the town lost in the famous Christmas surprise attack (immortalized in the Leutze painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware"). Slowed in their advance and then

repulsed three times by Washington's troops, the British camped for the night. Confident that he would flush Washington from his lair the next day, Cornwallis is said to have remarked, "We've got the old fox safe now. We'll go over and bag him in the morning."

But when morning came the Continental forces took the advantage and soon had the Redcoats falling back. The sound of the British bugler's derisive horn calls four months earlier may have still rung in Washington's ears. Or perhaps he was just recalling his many days of sport following Billy Lee when he led his troops forward into dangerous fire, calling out, "It's a fine foxhunt, boys!"

As the war continued over the next several years, Washington became famous for his endurance and stoic resolve no matter the obstacles he faced. Granted, the risks were far greater than the outcome of a day of sport, for both Washington personally and the struggling new nation as a whole. But the skills honed in the hunt field proved valuable assets in armed conflict. That he cut such an impressive figure on horseback no doubt helped stir his men when despair loomed and the Cause appeared lost. A weary soldier could not help but be inspired by the sight of the General—calmly, majestically, gracefully erect—as he rode past his troops.

The General's horses also benefited from their careers as foxhunters. To suit the Master of Mount Vernon, a horse had to be willing to go forward no matter the obstacles and fit enough to hold an aggressive pace for hours. Such traits translated well to the battlefield. Not all of Washington's mounts came from his hunting string and some that didn't died of exhaustion. But others, such as Nelson, one of Washington's favorite hunters, proved equal to the task. He carried the General steadily against enemy fire and always showed a reserve of energy when needed.

While the British surrender ended the armed fighting, Washington's role in crafting the new nation, and then serving as its first president, interfered with his desire to resume an active foxhunting life. His close friend Lafayette tried to help restock the Mount Vernon kennels by sending him a pack of French staghounds in 1785 (although they proved unsatisfactory for American-style foxhunting). By 1787 Washington found it necessary to break up his kennels and give away his remaining hounds. However,

because of the careful details Washington recorded in his hunting journals, the lineage of some hounds registered with the American Kennel Club today can be traced back to those bred at Mount Vernon.

Beside the battlefield banter exchanged by hunter-warriors on both sides of the Revolutionary War, it's not unreasonable to see elements of Washington's prowess as a foxhunter in his success as a military leader. His bold riding style, physical stamina, and focused ability to see a chase through to the end, no matter the dangers, undoubtedly contributed to the successful outcome of the war. That these traits mirror his days of sport riding to hounds is likely no mere coincidence.

Whether or not Washington's enthusiasm for foxhunting spelled the difference between victory and defeat at critical points in the conflict—and thus may have played a part in creating the United States of America as the nation exists today—can only be surmised. One conclusion does, though, stand out. McMurtry was right: A man can achieve much if he looks good on a horse.

JHA

When hunting fox, Washington dressed and accoutered himself for the part. He wore black boots and silver spurs, a pair of light-brown buckskin breeches, a scarlet waistcoat with gold lace and gilt buttons, a light-brown broadcloth riding coat with gilt buttons, buckskin gloves, and a black hunting cap covered with velvet and circled by a silk band with a silver buckle.

Washington was a superb horseman, perhaps the finest of his day, and foxhunting allowed him to ride amidst the excitement and pageantry of the hunt as well as providing exercise and an outlet for his pent-up energy. GW dressed for the part. His orders from his agent in Great Britain, Robert Cary and Sons, indicate that in his attire for foxhunting, as in virtually everything he ordered, GW wanted the best and the most fashionable. The sight of a large, graceful man, splendidly attired, riding a spirited horse and following specially selected and trained hounds bay after the fox through the Virginia countryside was an impressive sight indeed.

"The Amiable Washington: A Compleat Gentleman"

Peter R. Henriques, Ph. D.

George Mason University

(Dunsmore, continued from page 1)

After nearly 100 years of public display, the paintings were in dire need of thorough cleaning and conservation; the Fraunces Tavern Museum asked for help with this effort. Our Advisory Committee member LTC (Ret.) Robert Ferrer brought the matter to the attention of the Museum of Hounds & Hunting N.A. and the Advisory Committee offered to cover the cost of restoring three of these paintings. Each one features George Washington and relates to his foxhunting activities around Mount Vernon.

A commitment was made to raise the required \$10,500 and MHHNA members quickly showed

their support for this project. The meticulous cleaning and restoration work was begun and several of the 45 works in the Dunsmore Collection, including the three featuring George Washington in hunt-related scenes, have now been fully refurbished.

In January of 2006, Robert Ferrer, MFH (Caroline Hunt), the driving force behind this mission, and Museum Co-Chairman Marion Maggiolo visited the Fraunces Tavern Museum where they viewed the restored paintings. Given the happy confluence of centennial celebrations—both the Fraunces Tavern Museum and the Masters of Foxhounds Association—the refurb-

ished paintings will be presented on January 27, 2007, to coincide with that weekend's MFHA Centennial Celebrations in New York City. The MHHNA will provide a brunch and transportation will be arranged from the Grand Hyatt Hotel, at 42nd and Lexington, to the Fraunces Tavern Museum, located near Wall Street. The Museum of Hounds & Hunting N.A. will also enjoy the opportunity to display these three paintings at our site in Morven Park in the future.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this undertaking, a worthy extension of your Museum's efforts to preserve the art and artifacts of mounted hunting in North America.

JHA



A Centennial Celebration: The MFHA At 100

The Masters of Foxhound Association observes its centennial anniversary in 2007. Several celebratory activities and projects are already underway and will be culminated in '07. These include Hound Performance Trials and Field Hunter Championships, held at numerous locations throughout North America during 2006-07, an art project that offers the talent of a host of well-known painters and sculptors, a Centennial Masters Ball, merchandise with the Centennial logo, and a commemorative book accompanied by an archival CD.

The book and CD will mesh well with the Museum's mission. This publication—a full color, coffee table-style book—will represent a collaborative work on mounted hunting in North America, past and present; a perfect addition to the MHHNA library. The accompanying CD will provide all member hunts the opportunity to submit their own club-specific information—written text, photos, and even audio and video clips.

The MFHA's founding took place the same year that Fraunces Tavern in New York City became a museum dedicated to preserving the important Revolutionary-era history of this nearly 300 year old landmark. As noted on page 2, the MHHNA came to the aid of the Fraunces Tavern Museum in the effort to restore the John Ward Dunsmore collection of historically relevant paintings; specifically, three that depict George Washington in hunting-related scenes. The refurbished paintings will be presented on January 27, 2007, to coincide with that weekend's MFHA Centennial Celebrations in New York City. To support these two centennial observances, the MHHNA will host a brunch on Saturday, January 27, at Fraunces Tavern. Transportation will be provided from Manhattan's Grand Hyatt Hotel at 42nd and Lexington to the Fraunces Tavern Museum located near Wall Street. If you're planning to attend the Centennial Ball, please join us for the brunch and viewing of the Dunsmore paintings. All Museum members, whether attending the Centennial Ball or not, are welcome to participate in this event. Invitations will be mailed to the MHHNA membership well in advance of the January date.

JHA

If you'd like to help sponsor the Dunsmore paintings brunch, either as an individual or corporate supporter, we would appreciate hearing from you. All contributions will help defray expenses on the Museum's behalf and sponsors will receive full recognition for their efforts. To participate, please contact Marion Maggiolo, co-chairman, at 1-800-882-HUNT (4868) or Huntstuff@aol.com.

Brigadier General Harry D. Semmes: A Matter of Balance

Harry Semmes was not a warrior by nature. Although a friend and contemporary of George S. Patton, Semmes displayed none of the self-promotion nor love of armed conflict embodied by "Old Blood and Guts." He answered when his country called, in two World Wars, and emerged with an impressive array of medals and citations. After each war, he returned to his civilian law practice and his favorite sporting pastime—foxhunting.

Semmes came to hunting via an odd path: neurological therapy. He'd already been awarded his first Distinguished Service Cross, in 1918, for rescuing his tank driver from the middle of a swollen river under heavy enemy fire. (The DSC is America's second-highest battlefield award, ranking only behind the Medal of Honor.) Two weeks later, while leading an armored attack on foot through the nightmarish landscape of the Argonne, Capt. Semmes was struck

in the back of the head by a German bullet. His commanding officer, Col. George Patton, received a leg wound that same day.

The injury damaged the portion of the brain that controls balance, leaving Semmes reeling when he tried to walk. His doctor suggested some amount of recovery was possible with proper stimulation. Upon returning home to Maryland, he took up horseback riding. What better way to stimulate balance then falling off a horse every time you try to mount? This went on for six months. But Harry Semmes stuck with it and after just one year he was following hounds, and jumping stone walls and fences, with the Riding and Hunt Club of Washington (forerunner of today's Potomac Hunt Club).

Semmes answered the call again when World War II began in 1941, even though he was then fifty years old. Thanks to the influence of his good friend General Patton, the "permanently disabled" stamp on his WWI discharge papers was overlooked and now Lt. Col. Semmes was assigned to the Second Armored Division. He won his third DSC when American forces began action in North Africa, defending the landing effort in Morocco against fierce German resistance.

His heroism was also recognized by other appreciative nations including Great Britain ("For God and the Empire"), France (Merit of War), Italy (Croci di Guerra), and Brazil (Merito de Guerra).

Again, Harry Semmes returned to his Maryland farm, his family, his law practice, and the Potomac Hunt Club where he was Master of Foxhounds. Semmes continued to serve his country in peacetime, as an instrumental force in creating the Army Reserve Program and later as part of the effort to accelerate the full racial integration of the U.S. Army.



Brig. Gen. Harry D. Semmes, MFH, Potomac Hunt (1939-41 and 1945-47) on a favorite hunter.

Through the gracious generosity of General Semmes's sons—David, Harry, and J. Gibson Semmes—the Museum is pleased to report the gift of items from their father's distinguished career. These include a photograph from his hunting days with Potomac, his vintage 1920s dress scarlet with silver RHCW buttons, and miniaturized decorations worn with dress scarlet (three DSCs with two oak leaf clusters, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, European Campaign). The donation also includes the book *Lights Along the Way, Great Stories of American Faith*, by Thomas Fleming, which features a section (pp 185-192) titled "Harry Semmes and The Soul of America" (and from which much of the information for this article was drawn).

There is a wide range of reasons why people come to mounted hunting. A bullet to the head is not one of the more common inspirations. But the sport helped Harry Semmes recover his physical balance, sufficiently to serve his country yet again and face incredible dangers without regard for his own safety. That his sense of balance extended to all aspects of his life—public service, professional practice, family, and sport—is a testament to this man's determination and concern for the greater good.

We are honored to include a portion of his legacy in the Museum's collection.

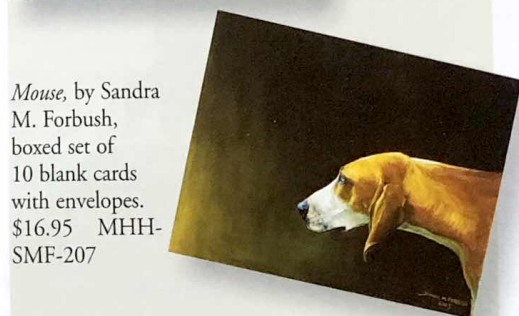
JHA

Museum Products

Our exclusive Museum note cards, MHHNA logo pins, posters and prints, exhibition brochures, MHHNA decals and caps can be ordered by calling 703.777.2414. Proceeds from the sale of these Museum products will benefit the Acquisition Fund and maintenance of the Museum.



Tom Seabright and Jasper, by Ben Marshall, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$16.95 MHH-BM-201



Mouse, by Sandra M. Forbush, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$16.95 MHH-SMF-207



Peeler, by Sandra M. Forbush, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$16.95 MHH-SMF-206

Baseball Cap, assorted colors \$20.00 for members, \$23.00 for non-members. MHH-BC



Other Museum Products not shown:
Museum Button \$13.00 for members only
Museum Car Decal \$4.00 for members, \$5.00 for non-members.

Posters: *Hound Show 1998*, \$20.00 MHH-P-1998. Just a few available.

The Museum's color posters make great gifts. Call 703.777.2414 for orders.

Virginia residents add 5% sales tax.

RICHARD NEWTON JR

AMERICAN SPORTING ARTIST SERIES

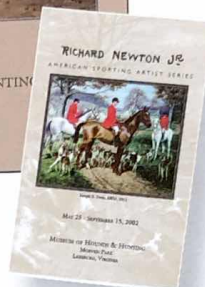


MAY 25 - SEPTEMBER 15, 2002

MUSEUM OF HOUNDS & HUNTING
MORVEN PARK
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA
INFORMATION: 703-777-2414

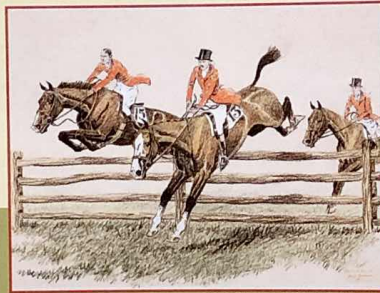
Richard Newton 2002, \$25.00 MHH-P-2002

Richard Newton 2002 Exhibition Brochure, \$8.00 MHH-NB-2002



Paul Brown

Artist and Illustrator

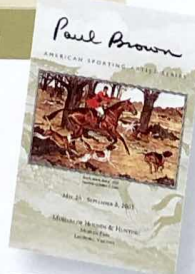


AMERICAN SPORTING ARTIST SERIES
May 26 - September 3, 2001

MUSEUM OF HOUNDS & HUNTING
Morven Park • Leesburg, Virginia • 703-777-2414 • www.morvenpark.org

Paul Brown 2001, \$20.00 MHH-P-2001

Paul Brown 2001 Exhibition Brochure, \$8.00 MHH-BB-2001



THE HUNTSMAN'S ALPHABET



For the Year 2002

A is for Airedale
B is for Basset
C is for Cocker
D is for Dalmatian
E is for English
F is for Fox
G is for Gordon
H is for Hound
I is for Irish
J is for Jack
K is for Kerry
L is for Labrador
M is for Mastiff
N is for New
O is for Otter
P is for Pointer
Q is for Quarter
R is for Rottweiler
S is for Spaniel
T is for Terrier
U is for Udd
V is for Vantard
W is for Weimaraner
X is for Xolo
Y is for Yorkie
Z is for Zorro



Huntsman's Alphabet 2002, \$25.00 MHH-P-THA

FRANKLIN B. VOSS

AMERICAN SPORTING ARTIST SERIES



MAY 29 - JULY 6, 1999

MUSEUM OF HOUNDS & HUNTING
MORVEN PARK
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA
INFORMATION: 703-777-2414

Franklin Voss 1999, \$20.00 MHH-P-1999

Franklin Voss 1999 Exhibition Brochure, \$8.00 MHH-VB-1999



MUSEUM OF HOUNDS & HUNTING



North American Hunt Country: A Photographic Portrait
MAY 28 - JULY 30, 2000 • MORVEN PARK • LEESBURG, VIRGINIA • 703-777-2414

Janet Hitchen 2000, \$20.00 MHH-P-2000

JEAN BOWMAN PRINTS AVAILABLE

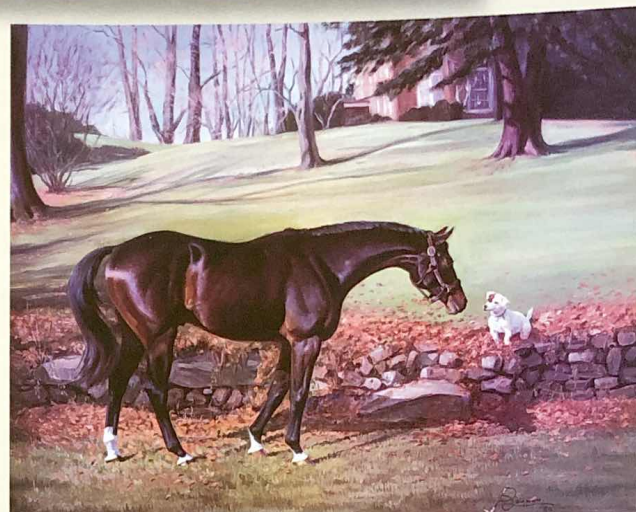
The Museum is pleased to be able to offer for sale several limited edition prints produced by Russell V. D. Janzen from the work of noted American sporting artist Jean Bowman. Two of the prints were originally signed and numbered by the artist. Until recently, the four prints have been safely in storage. We wish to thank Mr. Janzen's granddaughter, Melissa Chavez, for bringing these unique prints to our attention.



The Scurry, The Orange County Hunt, 1988, print, limited edition, signed by the artist, \$385.00 MHH-JB-501



Under Starters Orders at the Virginia Gold Cup, 67th Running, May 2, 1992, print \$45.00 MHH-JB-503



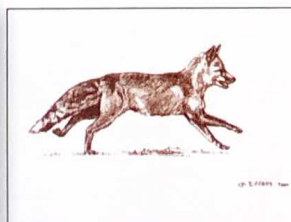
Horse and Terrier, 1980, print \$125.00 MHH-JB-504



Mares at Closeburn Stud, no date, print, limited edition, signed by the artist, \$185.00 MHH-JB-502



Orange County Foxhounds, by Gary Stinton, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$16.95 MHH-GS-208



Piedmont Charlie, by Anita Baarns, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$12.95 MHH-AB-204



Old Faithful, by Anita Baarns, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$12.95 MHH-AB-202

Red Rascal, by Anita Baarns, boxed set of 10 blank cards with envelopes. \$12.95 MHH-AB-203



Young Entry Birth Announcement, by Jean Bowman, boxed set of 10 cards with envelopes. \$12.95 MHH-JB-205



DONATIONS

2004 Donations

Watercolor of Mrs. Jill Fanning, *Essex Fox Hounds*, 1950, donated by the Fanning Estate • Sporting Book Collection, from the Fanning Estate • Metal Weathervane, donated by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Huberth • Caroline Hunt Button, donated by Lt. Col. R. Ferrer • Two Cast Concrete Foxes, donated by Janet Churchill • New England Hound Show Trophy, donated by Janet Churchill • Book "*History of the Norfolk Hunt*," donated by the Norfolk Hunt Club • Book "*History of the Deep Run Hunt*," donated by Mrs. Marsh Davis in memory of her father

Mrs. Grace Ritzenberg donated in memory of her husband, Milton Ritzenberg, the following items:

Untitled oil painting, *Gentleman on Grey Horse Jumping a Fence and Water*, John Frederick Herring, Sr. • Untitled oil painting, *Three Gentlemen Foxhunters Leaving a Pine Woods* • Watercolor, *Two English Foxhounds*, Lionel Edwards • Pen and Ink, *Huntsman and Hounds at the Kill*, initialed J.O.W. • Serving tray with fox mask, plastic with metal rim • Serving tray with huntsman and hounds, plastic with wooden rim • Picnic basket, plastic top depicting hunting scene • Hunt scene ashtray • Harness brass, running fox motif • Three bowler hats • Boot pulls, hunt boot handles • Bar set • Brass horseshoe dish • Boot pulls, running fox handles • Coat insignia, Blue Ridge Hunt cloth emblem

• Brush set, horseshoe motif • Horseshoe desk calendar, brass • Ink well, sterling silver, cut glass with standing jockey • Horseshoe corkscrew • Breakfast set china, Tally Ho pattern • Place card holders, three pairs of sterling silver fox mask, hallmarked

2005 Donations

Scrapbook of Millwood Hunt, 1962-1965, donated by Edie Overly • Photo Album of Millwood Hunt, 1948-1951, donated by Edie Overly • Four black and white photos of various hound and horse shows, donated by Mrs. Charles Becker • Oil painting, *Seven English Foxhounds* by John Alfred Wheeler, donated by Mr. Bruce McCashin • Cavalry uniform, WWII officer and US Cavalry Manual, donated by Col. David Longacre • Farrier's tool marked *Union*, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Moran

David, Harry, and J. Gibson Semmes donated in memory of their father, Brig. General Harry H. Semmes, the following items:
Photo of Harry Semmes, MFH Potomac Hunt (1939-41 and 1945-47), Potomac Hunt Point-To-Point, Bradley Farms, 1938 • Dress scarlet with R.H.C.W. (Riding and Hunt Club of Washington) silver buttons, from the 1920s



Untitled oil on canvas, *Gentleman on Grey Horse Jumping a Fence and Water*, John Frederick Herring, Sr., (1795-1865), MHHNA Collection. Herring was a prolific painter of English hunting action, famous racehorses, and bucolic farm and barnyard scenes during the early to middle part of the 1800s. Taught by Abraham Cooper, he progressed from life as a stable boy and coachman to the patriarch of an artistic family that included his brother and three sons. Under the patronage of Queen Victoria, engravings from his work appeared in illustrated magazines and today forms an essential part of English sporting artistry. Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Grace Ritzenberg, we are privileged to have this valuable piece included in the Museum collection.

Seven English Foxhounds, oil painting by John Alfred Wheeler (1821-1903), donated by Mr. Bruce McCashin. This artist produced many noteworthy works during the latter half of the 19th century, featuring both hunting scenes and leading racehorses of the day. He was particularly known for the sensitive touch he brought to horses and hounds, an ability clearly evident in this piece. Wheeler's patrons included the Dukes of Beaufort, Portland, Westminster, Rutland and Hamilton, the Earls Rosebery and Caithness and Baron Rothschild as well as many other titled gentry. The Museum is honored to include this lovely piece in its collection and a special word of appreciation is extended to the donor, Mr. Bruce McCashin.



Pamela Ohrstrom, Warren Pelton Friends Of The Museum

The establishment of the Museum of Hounds & Hunting North America would not have happened without the commitment and enthusiasm of a critical group of people, nor would it have continued for the past twenty years without the guidance and care of supporters like Mrs. Pamela B. Ohrstrom and Mr. Warren Pelton.

Pamela Ohrstrom served as the Museum's co-chair until her recent death. Throughout her life she valued the world of country sports and expressed a deep appreciation for the benefits careful stewardship of the land and our heritage brings to all. Those who knew her understand how much the Museum meant to her and the role she played in shepherding the project along over the past several years. The Museum would have been substantially diminished without her help and her absence will be sorely felt.

Warren Pelton was a true sportsman, a man who enjoyed hunting in its many forms, wherever practiced. Through his enthusiasm and generosity, the Museum is now the repository of an extensive collection of items related to the sport of stag hunting. A significant forerunner of the mounted hunting practiced in North America today, stag hunting boasts its own unique customs and vocabulary. Our "Tally ho" likely derived from the Norman French equivalent of "Il est haute" ("Taïaut" or "He is up") heard in the forest of France to alert hounds when the chase was on.

Mr. Pelton also wrote about his many and varied experiences, contributing insightful articles to such periodicals as the Chronicle of the Horse. His donations to the Museum of Hounds & Hunting include publications, prints, and personal memorabilia from his world travels. These valuable items expand the Museum's ability to present the history and modern practice of hunting with hounds in all its diversity. We are deeply appreciative of Mr. Pelton's friendship toward the Museum.

Tax Saving Tips— A 2006 Reminder

Please remember that your donations to the Collection, Membership fees and financial gifts to the Museum are fully deductible from taxable income in accordance with the provisions of Federal income tax law. The Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation is a private operating foundation as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, as amended, and to which donations are tax deductible under section 170 of the code.

In estate planning the Museum's tax-exempt status should be brought to the attention of your attorney. With your help, the MHHNA will continue to preserve the rich North American heritage of hunting with hounds for future generations.

Authors Needed

Museum News welcomes manuscripts and illustrations for publication. Historical material should pertain to hunting with hounds in North America. Guest curators and concepts for annual displays will also be needed when the Museum reopens. Here's your chance to share your material with fellow foxhunting enthusiasts. Call today! 703.777.2414

THE MUSEUM OF HOUNDS AND HUNTING N.A.

Morven Park
P.O. Box 6228
Leesburg, Virginia 20178
703.777.2414
www.mhhna.org



The Museum collection is currently not on display as the Mansion at Morven Park undergoes extensive conservation and restoration work. As we await completion of this project, highlights of the collection, along with a broad range of resources and information on your Museum, can be viewed at www.mhhna.org.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MUSEUM is to preserve the rich North American heritage of hunting with hounds, today and for the future; acquire important artifacts before they are lost; provide a repository for valuable artifacts; and, by developing educational exhibits, promote public understanding of hunting with hounds.

MUSEUM NEWS is published by
The Museum
of Hounds and Hunting N.A.

J. Harris Anderson, *Editor*

©2006 Museum of Hounds and Hunting N.A.
All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

email: ganderson@morvenpark.org

Printing courtesy of
Good Printers, Inc.
213 Dry River Road
Bridgewater, VA 22812
800-296-3731

MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ms. Marion Maggiolo, *Co-Chair*
Ms. Martha Ellis Kelley, *Treasurer*
Mrs. Christopher (Mary) Reed, *Secretary*
Ms. Nancy Bedford
Dr. Rita Mae Brown, MFH
Mr. John J. Carle, II, ex-MFH
Mr. Peyton S. Cochran, ex-MFH
Mrs. William G. (Joyce) Fendley, MFH
Mr. Robert N. Ferrer, Jr., MFH
Mr. Sherman P. Haight, Jr., ex-MFH
Mrs. Sherman P. Haight, Jr.
Dr. Joseph M. Rogers, MFH
Mrs. Joseph M. (Donna) Rogers
Mrs. Donald (Margaret) Van Schaak
Mr. Peter Winants
Mr. James L. Young, MFH
Mr. Will O'Keefe, *Executive Director*,
Morven Park

THE MUSEUM OF HOUNDS AND HUNTING N.A.

Morven Park • P.O. Box 6228 • Leesburg, Virginia 20178 • 703.777.2414

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
Address _____ Town _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Hunt Affiliation _____
Membership:
Individual \$50 _____ Patron \$250 _____
Family \$90 _____ Life Member \$750 _____
Hunt Club \$100 _____ Contributions \$ _____
Sponsor \$150 _____

Please make checks payable to: The Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation, Inc.

☐ MasterCard Card Number _____
☐ Visa Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Please consider donating or loaning important artifacts to the Museum. We appreciate your support!

Morven Park Renovation Project Update

The multi-year, and much-needed, conservation and preservation continues on the Mansion at Morven Park, the former residence of Gov. and Mrs. Westmoreland Davis and now home of the Museum of Hounds & Hunting. The renovation work on this historical landmark, originally built as a fieldstone farmhouse in 1781, includes removing the stucco exterior to determine the original types of construction materials used as the home was expanded several times over the 18th and 19th centuries. The project entails repairing and stabilizing the structure, replacing the roof, repairing the chimneys, and applying a new stucco surface.

The extent of this work has required the MHH to vacate the wing of the Mansion graciously provided to us by Morven Park. For now, a portion of the Museum's collection is held in the Carriage House adjacent to the main building, some pieces are on loan elsewhere, and the rest has been carefully stored away. The renovation project schedule calls for a sufficient amount of the work to be completed by 2007. In the meantime, you can interact with your Museum through our website: www.mhhna.org.



Photo courtesy of Morven Park

Morven Park is operated in the public interest by the Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization founded to protect and promote the historic and cultural resources of Morven Park.

MUSEUM OF HOUNDS AND HUNTING N.A.

The Westmoreland Davis
Memorial Foundation, Inc.
Morven Park
P.O. Box 6228
Leesburg, Virginia 20178

Address Correction Requested

One Year On The Web

A featured attraction at the 2005 Members Reception was the launch of the Museum's new website. One year later the site continues to attract a growing number of visitors. If you haven't seen it yet, and you have access to internet service, go to www.mhhna.org. You'll find beautifully designed pages detailing a wealth of information on the Museum and hunting with hounds in North America.

Visit the Huntsmen's Room where you can read about those who have been inducted into this select group since its inception in 1997. To date 31 notable huntsmen have been recognized for their significant contributions to the sport throughout their long and dedicated careers. There's also a piece on the famous Hound Match of 1906 that led to the formation of the Masters of Foxhounds Association the following year.

Representative pieces from the Museum's collection can be viewed, along with special exhibits. Prints, publications, note cards, and your own Museum of Hounds & Hunting baseball cap can be ordered. Other features include the Reading Room, Museum News, Calendar, and several other sections with informative and interesting insights into your Museum.

This technology represents the best blend of old and new—using modern electronic communications to preserve and promote the centuries old sport of hunting with hounds. This also allows us to post updates as new items are added to the collection, as new exhibits are arranged, and to keep the membership informed of upcoming events.

If you've not yet visited www.mhhna.org, we encourage you to give it a click and check it out.



Tool, stamped *Union*
Donated by
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Moran
What is it?

Sponsorship Opportunities in 2006

The Museum of Hounds and Hunting N.A. is interested in establishing sponsorships with businesses nationwide in 2006. Please contact Marion Maggiolo, co-chairman, at 1-800-882-HUNT (4868) or Huntstuff@aol.com to discuss current goals. Sponsorship areas include the development of the collection—conservation and acquisition, the Members Reception, new publications, web programs, and educational displays related to the care of hounds and hunt horses. We are pleased to announce that Good Printers, Inc., of Bridgewater, VA, has graciously printed this issue of *Museum News*.

Members Renewal

Your membership renewal form will arrive soon, if it hasn't already reached you. As you can see from this newsletter, the work of your Museum goes on. Much is being accomplished in our combined efforts to preserve the art and artifacts of hunting with hounds in North America. But this is only possible through the support of our valued members who recognize the importance of this mission. We thank you for demonstrating your support through your continued membership and look forward to another year of exciting, intriguing, and informative work on your behalf.



	NON PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 200