



The

# Red Rock Rioteer

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**RED ROCK  
HOUNDS**

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## RRH's 33rd Season—Opening Day

Contributed by Carrie Barrett

**Wow, wow, wow!** First experiences are always exciting. And this first experience turned out to be more exciting than I ever thought it would. First experiences are steeped with the unknown. Although I had hunted a few times before, I was really wondering about Opening Day! What was the blessing of the hounds going to be like? How would my horse handle being in a crowd of horses? What it would be like to be out there with so many of us? How would my new fancy get up work out, including my new black Melton hunt coat and my canary vest custom made for me by Jane Amazing Cozart? Would my new velvet helmet feel like a tacked vise grip like my old one did after two hours? I did not know a lot.

What I did know is that I was very excited and that my horse (Iron Wyll) had been going like a gentleman in a small field and that his new found jumping ability could be relied on. Now add lots of other horses to the mix and Wyll was just going to have to deal. Lynn advised me not to worry about it. I had also invited a guest (Joe Parker) to the Opening Hunt, so I

was hoping for a good experience for him – I didn't really know how well he could ride, but he sure was game and Lynn and Angela had a good horse for him.

The happy report is that everything was super fabulous! To start, the Blessing of the Hounds was one of the best theatrical events I have attended. First, with hilarity as Pope Pete and Acolyte Cindy negotiate the Rolls Royce around the ditches and ruts in the pasture where all 50 of us or so were gathered on our mounts under the big trees. Then out steps the most well dressed, tallest hatted Pope I have ever seen. With the sage burning and Crown dripping, the words that blessed our hounds (and us) were awesome and comforting. A fantastic send off!

And off we go; through the pasture, up over the first coop, across the road and up, up, up that really, really long hill. Lickity split the hounds are off after a coyote, speaking and baying hot on its tail. Then straight down the hill like a kid on a wet slide, fast, as hounds got their quarry.

After several more sightings and some great cross country runs, we are

in at Michelle, Darin and Melinda's for watering of hounds / horses and for fabulous people refreshments! We had been out for so long that we were all parched, hot, dirty and quite knocked. The stop came just in time to revive us all.

Back at Ross Creek, after a fantastic day, there was a lovely hunt breakfast as well as mimosas and even home-made peach pie to enjoy. There was exhaustion and happiness as the satisfied members of RRH commended and traded stories about the day.

We have an awesome hunt and how thankful I am that Lynn and Angela run such a fantastic sport. I am happy to be part of it – thank you to every-one for making me feel so welcome. I hope you mean it, as I intend to be here a while!



"Pope" Pete Lazetich blesses the hounds and hunt on Opening Day.



Carrie Barrett is a new RRH member from Pilot Hill, California.

## McDermitt—Where Away by John Kirch

McDermitt was great! Nevada rancher John Fallen and family invited the RRH to hunt the "Home Place" again this year. The ranch is a classic central Nevada cattle operation - old cottonwoods around the house and barns, grass meadows with willows, all of this surrounded by sagebrush flats.

The hunting was a GO from the start. First day the hounds went after a coyote that had some Greyhound in his breeding and the chase went into the hills for miles to the west. Coyote went to ground in the rocky hillside and MFH Lloyd called the hounds to her and roaded them back to the east. The road whip was in 4WD going cross country with hound water and thirst-aid and met them half way back. On the loop back to the corrals, 4 hounds picked on a porcupine and got a few quills for their effort. Upon return, the group was met by Rodger & Marianne Merriam with cold drinks and a cheese plate. Rodger said something about "being in the neighborhood." 50 miles north of Winnemucca??!

Day 2 started good: coyotes away to the south, pheasants flying up from the ditches, deer and antelope playing. Preston and Jerry saw a monster mule

deer as they whipped-in on the left flank while Audrey made a wide swing in the sage as she whipped on the right. Hounds caught up with a coyote and our respects were paid over Mr. Wily, then back to the ranch for cold drinks. Thanks Again to the "Home Place" for allowing the hunt to continue...

### NOTES TO READERS:

Montana riders - did it all: Whipped, Field and Food (mmm good carrot cake)

Food - standard casino chow

Motel - clean, with sign "Don't clean birds in sink" in bathroom (if you have fancy pants, keep an eye on them)

2nd Ranch - we met a cowboy and his boss and have been invited to hunt a second ranch, so sound the hunters' horn and ask "Where Away?"



Audrey Norrell (left) and Sydney Lessinger (right) get ready to ride in McDermitt, Nevada.

# Nevada Day

Red Rock Hounds Hunt participated in the 148th birthday celebration of Nevada's statehood by riding in the Nevada Day Parade on October 27, 2012, in Carson City. The theme of the parade was 'Honoring Our Military and Families, Past, Present and Future.' RRH tied their entry to this theme through George Washington, who was not only the first President of the United States, but also a veteran and a fox hunter!

Bill Adams, of Fallon, Nevada, led the group with his team of matched Belgian draft mules pulling a hitch wagon. Hounds and horses followed and the 'honey wagon' brought up the rear.

Many thanks to club members participating in the event: **Lynn Lloyd, Angela Murray, Preston Smith, Liz Kelley, Catherine Mee, Jane Cozart, Jann Flanagan, John Kirch, Marie Griffis, Liz Gibson and Joan Shad.**



Masters Lynn Lloyd and Angela Murray lead the RRH Nevada Day parade entry.

The festivities started a little early for Liz Kelley's taste—here she is 'getting ready' for the start of the parade!



## Those Montana Gals

As she has for the past several years, Catherine Mee of Dillon, MT, traveled to Reno to ride with the Red Rock Hounds. Catherine is a member of RRH and also a member of the newly recognized Treasure State Hunt in Montana.

Accompanying Catherine this year were two other fox hunting enthusiasts from the hunt in Montana, Marie Griffis and Liz Gibson. All three women spent several weeks at Red Rock during October and November, riding as often as possible and squeezing in some area sightseeing during their free hours.

Marie, who was able to arrange a sabbatical from

her job as a professional chef, said she was thrilled to ride with RRH because of the passion they had for fox hunting and because

**'Any day on a horse is a good day!'**



Above left to right: Liz Gibson, Catherine Mee and Marie Griffis.

## The Story of Jack and Ken by MFH Lynn Lloyd

The V puppies were born in June 2011, to RR Seal by Blackie, a mating I was very anxious to have. Seal gave birth to 10 healthy, beautiful pups. Katherine Abatti picked 2 at weaning because she drafted me Blackie. I owed a debt to Walter Epps from 21 years back, as he started me with Walker hounds, so Walter picked 2 pups to repay a debt to his friend, Sam, who was hunting bear in California.

In September of 2012, the unthinkable happened! The great PETA state of California outlawed bear hunting with hounds. Poor Sam! His entire way of life was shattered. He loved taking his 2 pups into the woods and putting bears up trees – and he never shot one. Like us, he just wanted to watch the hounds work and he loved his 2 pups!

I got a call from Sam, who was crying so hard he could hardly talk – men hate to cry in public or on the phone and God forbid to a woman! Between sobs, he asked if I would take Jack and Ken back? And, by the way, they had already treed 4 bears, so they were good hounds . . .

Jack and Ken stayed in the kennel for a month getting to know their new way of life and all their new friends. Then it was time to hunt. I thought they would figure the game out soon enough.

RRH Road Whip John Kirch drives a pickup following the hunt and bear hunters use a pickup with dog boxes and only let the hounds out when a fresh track is located. Ken and Jack are keen and obedient, so they followed John every hunt, wondering why he wouldn't stop and pick them up? And, what the hell were all those other 50 hounds scouring the desert floor for? Hunt after hunt, Jack and Ken only had eyes for John. He was the bomb! A guy with a truck! And that Lynn woman (wrong sex for starters) only fed them – BIG DEAL!

I was beginning to think they would never learn this new way of hunting. It took 2 months for the powers in the universe to align and send help in the form of Dan Burrell. Dan is a neighbor and a chiropractor who came out to adjust my horse. While working on my horse, he told me he just lost his best bear hound to old age. There were tears in his eyes. I felt like I'd been hit

over the head by a hammer – the 'Power' was speaking to me! "Dan, would you like a proven bear dog?" He looked at his wife, Chris, with pleading in his eyes. Now, really, what could a loving wife do but say, "Yes"? I added, "There are two . . ." Dan looked at Chris again and Chris said, "I think we need 2." My horse is now forgotten as a new light shines in Dan's eyes. The following day, Dan showed up in his pickup – complete with dog boxes. I turned Jack and Ken loose and you never saw such happy hounds as they leapt into the boxes!

**Side bar:** Using hounds to hunt bear, cat or any game works to their advantage. When game is treed or bayed up, it gives the hunter time to assess the sex, age and size of the hunted. He/she can then decide whether or not to bag the game. With a gun at 300 yards or whatever, you don't have that option.





## Bits and Pieces

- **MFH Lynn Lloyd and Angela Murray** traveled to Burwell, NE, in early October to help celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the North Hills Hunt.
- **Belle Barkman** finished the horse show season with a very successful final weekend. In the Pony Division at the Franktown Meadows, Belle and her pony, Honey, won 3 firsts and a second. Belle will be riding a new hunt horse this season: America (aka Meadow).



Belle Barkman at Franktown Meadows, Oct. 2012.

- RRH's own 'woman of steel', **Paulette Schneider**, celebrated her 65th birthday by riding a bicycle across the state of Nevada! Paulette reports: "The ride was awesome. 414 miles, 11 mt. passes and plenty of scenery and NV history for me. My training paid off, not tired, sore

or sick of my bike. Very restful vacation, only rode for 3-4 hours and 50 miles daily with lots of down time for camping and sleeping. Got home just in time weatherwise."

- "Polo anyone?" **Marianne and Roger Merriam** appeared for the Halloween Ride ready for the polo field!



- **Dr. Pat Hodges** has a new weekend residence in Red Rock—11 feet of coziness affectionately dubbed 'the tin can.'



- It was no surprise when **MFH John Schafer** agreed to entertain the guests at **John and Susie Kirch's** cocktail party November 23. But, after John's witty ditty, **Georges Schneider** surprised the crowd with a naughty number of her own!



Do  
NOT  
lick my  
toes!!!

- November 26, one of our best young bitches, Ruby (Gayle x Frankie) gave birth to 13 (yes, that's right) healthy pups by the great young stallion, Ulysses. Mother and children are all doing great. These are the Y's, so please come up with lots of names and contact Liz Kelley at [lizkelley515@gmail.com](mailto:lizkelley515@gmail.com) to name your pup!

## Traveling Back in Time—RRH Hunts Belmont, NV

Visiting Belmont, Nevada, is like traveling back in time. Located "4 hours from everywhere" according to one of Belmont's 9 permanent residents, Belmont is the classic 'boom and bust' mining town typical in the west. The boom lasted only about 20 years following a silver strike in 1865, but the town lives on thanks to those hardy folks willing to brave the cold winters, hot summers and frontier-like living conditions.

Hosts at the Belmont Inn, Bertie and Henry Berg, have welcomed RRH for many years (and we hope many more). This year, they once again contributed so much to the weekend—everything from roadside assistance to fabulous food!

Grand Canyon Hounds from Flagstaff, Arizona, also joined the hunt. Paul Delaney, Peter and Amanda Wilson, Jimmy Boyle and their great pack of hounds were on board for the weekend and led the hunt on Day #2.

This Belmont trip was especially poignant for RRH members and everyone in Belmont who knew former Master Gayle Horn. A memorial service was held for Gayle at the Belmont Church Saturday morning. Surrounded by mounted riders and the hounds, Gayle was remembered with laughter and

tears by those who knew her. MFH Lynn Lloyd, Amy Lessinger, Mary Tiscornia, Ex MFH Los Altos Hunt, and Cathy Evans, Amwell Valley (NJ) Hunt contributed their memories of Master Horn. MFH John Schafer made the long journey from Virginia City to provide champagne and photos of Gayle for after the day's ride. Gayle's ashes were spread from horseback by MFH Lynn Lloyd in the hills of the area she loved so well, a fitting tribute.

The weekend was cold. Snow was falling when RRH arrived in Belmont and temperatures remained below freezing with overnight temps dipping as low as 6°. The daily hunts took the riders through spectacular hills, valleys, pinon forests, amazing rock formations—and the town—but the coyotes were apparently hunkered down to avoid the cold winds. Riders, bundled in all the cold weather gear they could don, gamely headed out each morning looking for their prey, and gratefully returned to the fire-warmed bar and hot food each evening.

See pictures on the following page for more about this fantastic trip!



# A Picture's Worth a 1,000 Words

A 15,000 Word Essay on the 2012 Trip to Belmont, Nevada



Still smiling in spite of it all Angela Murray and Audrey Norrell pose for a photo on Manhattan Pass.



Lesson #1: Never trust the guy at the bar who tells you to take the shortcut!



Above: MFH Dave Keffeler, North Hills Hunt, Burwell, NE. Below: Ex MFH Mary Tiscornia, Los Altos (CA) Hunt.

Cathy Evans from Amwell Valley Hunt in New Jersey just needed a little warm up, as did RRH road whip John Kirch.



Preston Smith and his horses had just one thing to say: Brrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr! Georges Schneider said, 'Martini, anyone?'



A fitting tribute: Horses, humans and hounds gathered to remember former MFH Gayle Horn at the Belmont Church.



'This isn't a white elephant. This is great!' says inn-keeper Bertie Berg at the Sat. evening holiday party. Sydney Lessinger became a reindeer for ring toss.



Amanda Wilson, Jimmy Boyle, MFH Peter Wilson and Paul Delaney of the Grand Canyon Hounds (Flagstaff, AZ) led the hunt on Day #2



Duct tape is like the force: it has a light side, a dark side and it holds the world (and my boots) together! Joy Smith



(Left) Lisa Smith and Amy Lessinger thaw by the woodstove.

(Right) Beware! These people have Dirty Minds! Dave Keffeler, Peter and Amanda Wilson, Amy Lessinger and John Auburn playing games.



# From the Huntsman

Well, another holiday season and we are on to a great 2013! The hounds are hunting well, and our newest litter, the "Y's" have arrived - all 13 of them. We are super excited about the breeding, they are out of a great hound, Ruby, who is by Gayle and out of Frankie and by Ulysses, a young incredible stallion. Get your \$100 ready and name one or two, we need lots!

Gayle's party was a hit, Heather Beaupre outdid herself once again with the food, and Bobbie and Shawn did great on the outdoor lights for the ranch. Thanks to Robin Keith for decorating the clubhouse inside to make the party a huge success! Our landowners really love it, and we feel very blessed to be able to continue such a tradition.

Belmont, well, what can I say??? Another ROAD TRIP!!! All started well until the Manhattan Pass... and then a 5 truck sliding

jackknifing fiasco began.... 7 hours later in a blizzard in the dark, all animals, people, and vehicles were safely rescued. Gayle was with me, who caused the initial, back slide, and I think she just wanted one more last gallop!

We had 23 people, 80 hounds, 29 horses, and a ton of great hunting, fellowship and fun. The food was stellar (thanks to Bertie and Jann), the drinks incredible (thanks to Henry), the hunting fantastic, and the company over the top!!!!

On to the new year, and I sure feel lucky to share my life with all of you, whom I feel so fortunate to call friends! We are blessed in so many ways and I thank all of you for bringing so much love and grace to me every day. Best to all of you for an amazing 2013!

Let's go hunting!!

Love, Lynn

## 2013 SPRING SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars for these important dates!

- January 18-20 Ridgecrest Joint Meet
- February 14-16 North Hills Hunt Comes to RRH - Joint Meet ( details to follow)
- March 23 Hunter Pace Time TBD, Ross Creek Ranch  
March 23 Hunt Ball 7pm  
Cocktails, 8 pm Dinner  
March 24 Closing Hunt 1 pm
- April 12-14 Montana ( we will add either the weekend before or weekend after as well to hunt)
- June 2 RRH Horse Show



## ONE FOR THE BAR by Amy Lessinger

You know the times when you're riding like mad,  
You take a zig and your horse takes a zag?  
That time when in the blink of an eye,  
You're on your ass and want to cry?

And up rides the huntsman, no sympathy to be found,  
She yells, 'Ha! A bottle you owe, I've got to get my hounds!'  
Yes it's true, when you're battered and bruised,  
What you must consider is the type of booze.

So let me give you some great advice,  
For helping stock our bar with something nice,  
For the Master and Huntsman, only Cazadores or Petron will do.  
Save the Jose Cuervo for a night you wake up wondering who's who.

To please the youngest Master and whip extraordinaire,  
Crown Royal is good and Black Label will have her floating on air.  
For Preston and the feisty Fieldmaster and Whip with Red Hair,  
They too like Crown - good to know as you're flying through air.

For Paulette and Jann, they are in their own class,  
Surprisingly enough, consider veggies in a glass!  
Of course you can always stock the clubhouse bar,  
With a quality choice which will make you a star.

So the next time you and your horse part ways,  
And your arse is smarting, and you're cursing this day,  
And you look at your horse and say, "You've got to be kidding,"  
Just think...you could be home knitting!

## SUPPORT THE HUNT!

*There are many ways to help support the hunt. Here are a few:*

- *Sponsor a puppy*
- *Name a coop*
- *Encourage new members*
- *Donate food for the hounds*
- *Bring your used sheets and blankets to Carol and Cormac Devine at our 'Healing Hounds' facility*
- *Volunteer to help with projects*

If you want a stable  
friendship, get a horse.

~Author Unknown~





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## Gayle's Party—A Continuing Tradition

Continuing the holiday tradition started many years ago by Gayle Horn, **MFH Lynn Lloyd and Angela Murray** hosted a festive gathering of friends, neighbors and RRH members December 7 at the Ross Creek Ranch. Colorful holiday lights lit up the clubhouse and the food and drink were plentiful—always a recipe for a great gathering!



Carol Lloyd showed sister, Lynn Lloyd, her newly designed 'redneck stemware' - the latest crafty creation dreamed up by Carol and her craft partner,



Left: Audrey Norrell and Mary Johnson. Above: Joy Smith and Jackie Gullihier. Above right: Guests enjoy the lavish buffet. Right: The new campfire area was a popular area to enjoy the lights and crisp December night.

