



The

Red Rock Rioteer

Publication of the
**RED ROCK
HOUNDS**

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SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE MASTERS

Dear friends,

Season's greetings! At this special time of year, we want to send our best to all of our wonderful friends and family at Red Rock Hounds.

May your season be blessed with prosperity and grace, and plenty of time to spend with the ones you love!

Whatever is beautiful, whatever is meaningful, whatever may bring you happiness... May it be yours this Holiday Season and throughout the coming year!

We are so thankful to have each and every one of you in our lives, and look forward to a fabulous 2015! Let's go huntin'!

- Lynn and Angela



JOINT MEET WITH BIG SKY HOUNDS

April 17, 18, 19, 2015 Three Forks, Montana

Mark your calendar for three days of amazing hunting, great people, and Big Sky's First Annual Hunt Ball!!! Livery available through www.montanahorses.com - numbers are tight, reserve your horse now! Host hotel is www.sacajaweahotel.com so make your room reservations as well.



TEJON HOUNDS INAUGURAL HUNT WEEK

January 18-25, 2015 You are cordially invited to join us for a week of English foxhunting at the exclusive Tejon Ranch.

We are hosting five different hunts—Paradise Valley Beagles, Grand Canyon Hounds, Red Rock Hounds, Santa Fe Hunt, and Tejon Hounds—each featuring their own hounds.

This week will include a combination of hunting and leisure activities that you are sure to enjoy. The ranch offers various activities outside of foxhunting that will satisfy every outdoor enthusiast.

Detailed information on all daily and evening activities will be provided at a later date. Accommodations for participants and horses are available. For more information <http://www.redrockhounds.com/events.html>.

PERSPECTIVES ON COTTONWOOD by Lisa Smith

As with many of the Red Rock Hound adventures this one started at 6:00AM at the Alamo truck stop. Seven trucks and horse trailers stuffed to the gills with horses, hounds, liquor and hay....what could be better? We headed out after fueling up with road dogs, coffee, donuts and other foods that had little or no nutritional value. Destination: the northeast corner of Nevada, close to the Idaho border and the promise of hunting our hounds in the wide open ranges of the Jarbidge Wilderness.

I had heard from the folks that went on this trip last year that the accommodations at Cottonwood Ranch were 4 Star, and those of us who had not been there before were not disappointed. It is a working cattle ranch passed down through six generations of the Smith family who were our hosts. The main lodge is huge and well appointed. There is a game room with a pool table, Sunday we had the first annual ranch hand vs. Red Rock Pool tournament. There is a professional grade kitchen, bar and ample area for socializing. We enjoyed excellent food and hospitality and had three incredible days of hunting on the ranch in the foothills of the Jarbidge Wilderness.

Day one we got on a coyote out in the dry grass pasture and



we were led on a very long and merry chase. We were escorted by two ranch hands, Nick and Hunter. The second and

third days, cowboy Teagen, joined the crew. They opened gates, showed us the river crossings and generally expedited our travels through the area. The country is big and the hounds had ample room to run and find game. The high plains and the diverse terrain were spectacular and liberating. Every



once in a while we would meet up with a group of Elk hunters who would look at us and wonder where the hell did we come from? Every afternoon we came in dirty and tired and were met with cocktails, Jacuzzi, appetizers, and then a spectacular meal prepared by Amber. Our evening entertainment was provided by cowgirl Hunter who sang and played the piano and guitar. Most of the crew stayed in the lodge and had nice private rooms but Paulette and I stayed in our living quarters and had first rate bathrooms and showers available to us, only a few steps from the horse trailer. As always it was another great weekend making new friends, reconnecting with old friends, and following the hounds on our favorite steeds. All-in-all it's a wonderful place for the Red Rock Hounds to hunt, don't miss out on the next trip. I heard a rumor that the Big Sky Hunt is going to meet us there next year. I am making my reservations early!

COTTONWOOD NEWBIE contributed by Kate Doyle

As the Red Rock Hounds newbie, all I can say is that Cottonwood is not to be missed in 2015. The RR Hounds Bar amassed 6 bottles from various forms of horse/rider acrobatics from creeks to man made obstacles.

The chance to hang out in a beautiful setting with a fabulous chef waiting on our every need was really over the top. I arrived as a simple wine consumer and left with a few new cocktail ideas up my sleeve. Most important for me was the chance to get to know my Red Rock Hounds Hunt team better. All that I can so is that I feel so lucky to be among such an amazing collection of people~~



A TRIBUTE TO BILL BROWN from Nancy Brown

On November 20th Red Rock Hounds lost a true friend and supporter, Bill Brown.

Bill and his wife Nancy moved here just over a year ago, but what a year it was for them! They both quickly fell completely in love with Red Rock, and more especially in love with the hunt and the hounds.

Bill hailed from Nashville, Tennessee, where he grew up quite familiar with hounds and mules. His extended families were country folk and raised winning mules and working coon-hounds. Famed author Marguerite Henry wrote a book about Brown Sunshine, a champion mule that gained fame in the South. That Sunshine was bred and raised by a relative of Bill's! So, when Bill moved to Red Rock his enthusiasm for the neighbors and their hounds knew no limits. They say in the South folks do go "ON AND ON!" and Bill was no exception when it came to his expressed love of his new home.

Bill was no stranger to the equestrian world either. He was a licensed FEI and USEF Vaulting Steward and had served as such at the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Kentucky. Because of his love of horses Bill would always stop whatever he was doing around his home if he heard the hounds and horns, then happily watched as the hunt passed by.

Bill was a kind and generous man who had a quick smile and friendly greeting for anyone he met. He loved volunteering



and soon enjoyed doing his part for the hunt club during the Hunter Pace and regional rally. Bill will always be missed by those who knew him. Bill's ashes were scattered on the hill behind his home with the formal escort by the Red Rock Hunt. He will now rest forever above Ross Creek listening still to the haunting songs of the hounds and the distant sounds of the galloping hoof beats echoing from the hills beyond. No better final resting place could be found for this country boy from Tennessee.

Thank you Red Rock for being such a great friend to my Bill.

Yours in sport,
Nancy Brown



SADDLE MADNESS contributed by Robin Keith

I MEAN SERIOUSLY...WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS?

Really? REALLY? Can anyone tell me why it is so freakin' hard to buy horse stuff?

I decided it's time to change saddles. I could buy a new one or a used one, which only doubles the difficulty. Actually, I'd prefer to buy a used one partly because I'd escape the "break-in" period which, I hear, is worse than getting remarried, and I'd likely save some money if I could find a good one at a fair price. That's all I'm asking....a good quality, comfortable saddle at a fair price. Is that so hard? Well....yes it is.



So I start down the slippery road. As with all things horse, I set a budget based in Fantasyland - no relationship to reality. I begin the process of finding out what, exactly, IS a good saddle and how in the hell does a person find the right one? I haven't been riding that long. I don't have years of experience from which to draw. I start asking around. Everyone is very willing to help. Everyone is supportive. Everyone has an opinion – some are willing to share and some hold back, not wanting to exert undue influence that might lead me to a mistake. I appreciate every single person who offered anything to help me get out of saddle hell. But I can't seem to get down to the some sort of objective way to evaluate one saddle versus another – never mind actually

locating one. I go online to research saddles. I spend hours looking at major saddle makers, saddle fitting, trees, twists, sizing, what the hell lined leather is, the difference between forward flaps and not so forward flaps, deep seats, half-deep seats, and flat seats. Judging from most of their websites I'm wondering how these people stay in business. Soon I have way too much information and the inside of my head sounds like a mother-in-law session on Dr. Phil or one of those yelling programs on Sunday morning TV. I want criteria! I want objective comparison! I WANT A FREAKIN' SPREADSHEET FOR PETE'S SAKE! I WANT SADDLE-MACY'S AND I WANT IT JUST DOWN THE STREET FROM ME. AND NOW WOULD BE GOOD. Is that too much to ask? **Seriously, what did I do to deserve this?**

Lots of generous people let me ride in their saddles and I borrow more from the used tack stores in Reno, Carson City, Lincoln, and even Del Mar. This one feels like a bag of bricks with a bunch of nails mixed in. This one pushes my leg too far forward. That one doesn't fit my horse. This one sets my lady bits on fire – I mean chaffed to the flash point baby. Wisps of smoke and scorch marks. A couple feel pretty good and it seems like their particular style of tree and gullet construction might work for my horse, but of course they stopped making them in 1984 there is only one size 17 left in the world and it's in northern Cambodia. Seriously, it's 20 freakin' 14 – it's the digital age – we've gone way past the moon. Why is this so hard? Really? I have to work this hard to give somebody my money? **Seriously, what did I do to deserve this?**

Here comes the good part. Lynn Lloyd, Master, and our beloved huntsman, bestows a huge favor on me. She lets me try her Butet Sellier Saumur – the one that used to belong to Master Gayle Horn. I ride in it. (I



hope some of Lynn's seat rubs off on my seat, and some of Gayle's too.) It is a beautiful thing. I get off and return it; now I know what I'm looking for. It's way comfortable and the quality is beyond the beyond. I thank Lynn deeply for the honor of riding in this saddle and for showing me that such a thing exists. I start hunting for something similar because I can't imagine that Lynn would sell that saddle. I'm so sure I don't even ask her. I keep looking and trying. And what does Lynn do? One day out of the blue she just pops out with a way to make it happen. And it did! So now that beautiful saddle, with all its fabulous mojo, with Gayle's spirit and Lynn's embedded in it, is mine. **And seriously....what did I do to deserve this?**



INAUGURAL HUNTER TRIALS contribute by Joy Smith

Five hours in the saddle isn't all that unusual for a Red Rock day of exhilarating hunting. When the hounds are cast it's anyone's guess as to whether it will be a fast day, a slow day, a combination or even a complete bust that ends up being a nice trail ride. Whatever the day brings it surely is made better if you're sitting on a horse that adjusts to the theme of the day and provides you with a fun, comfortable and, very importantly, a safe ride.

The First Annual Red Rock Hounds Hunter Trials were held September 27th at Ross Creek Ranch. The objective of the trials is to present our best field hunters and show off their talents and adaptability as a field mount. A mock hunt is played out over a specified area that is set up to simulate our hunting terrain and obstacles we typically encounter, including jumps and panels. There are no hounds at a field hunter trial. All the focus is on the horses.

At the Red Rock Trials 3 divisions were presented; Third Field (aka the Leisure Field), Second Field and First Field. The trials are held in the valley meadows in front of the ranch house. MFH Angela Murray was the Field Master for each division. Cmor (Carol) Dirksen was judge. And MFH Lynn Lloyd called the movement of the virtual hounds and quarry. Spectators tailgated with an array of food and libations with a heavy emphasis on the latter. Riders were turned out in their best hunting apparel and appointments with their trusty hunters clipped, clean and polished. We were ready for a brilliant "run"!

Each section was first judged similar to a flat or under-saddle class with the horses walk/trot/cantering, halting, hand gallop and a few other maneuvers typical to a hunt field.

The working hunter part of the competition started with Angela leading off the field off across the meadow. Lynn blew the horn to change the pace as the Field Master and field went through a variety of paces over the terrain, navigating ditches, hills, water and for the first field competitors, coops and over jumps. In true Red Rock style passing the flask at a staged check was part of the judging.

The Third Field Champion went to Shaker, a Rocky Mountain Gaited Horse owned and ridden by Robin Keith. Robin began riding and hunting shortly before retiring from a career in health care administration. She has been an inspiration to many as she delved into her new sport with passion and guts. Shaker is a true blue partner with Robin as he treks along with his I-can-sit-trot-for-five-hours gait. Shaker was purchased from American Trail Horses in Las Vegas, NV. Long time Red Rock member Liz Kelly and her beautiful grey mare Dolce Maria were the clear winners of the Second Field Division. Liz, a lifelong "city girl" traded her corporate heels for barn boots when she retired and moved to the wild west of Red Rock. Having hunted with Red Rock for many seasons, she knew where she wanted to spend her retirement. Are we seeing a trend here? Dolce is of undetermined breeding

but we all agree there's some draft, quarter horse or other bulky bloodline. Her ample rump and broad back would win the "Best Horse To Sit On At A Check" division if we had one. Maybe next year? Liz purchased Dolce from Lora Dahl, a popular supplier of mounts to Red Rock members. First Field Honors went to Kindred, a 9 year old OTTB also known as the Million Dollar Cribber. I purchased Kindred 5 years ago after he passed through the barns of Virginia Field-Hunters, Grand Canyon Hounds and Angela Murray before coming into my stable. Kindred earned his nickname because, well, he cribs. The million dollar part comes from the fact that he was sold as a yearling in 2006 for a million dollars into the racing stable of the Prime Minister of Dubai. It's pretty apparent that he never showed the expected



speed. The Sheik's loss was most definitely my gain. There was some excitement during the First Field section when Whipper-In Jann Flanagan (my sister) had a fall from her horse and was injured. As protocol dictates First Field held hard while the Field Master went to assist the downed rider. As I realized the downed rider was my sister I broke from the field to rush to her. She appeared very injured with a badly fractured arm. I went into rescue mode as I jumped off Kindred, frustrated by the lack of action on the part of other people standing around doing nothing to assist her. My frustration turned to confusion when they started giggling. The adrenaline rush was quickly squelched when I slowly came to understand that we were presented with a mock fall and rider injury as part of the test! All in good fun and I did get some practice using my stock tie and whip as a bandage and splint.

After all the field champions were awarded an overall award was presented for Best Turned Out. Kindred and I were flattered to receive the award even though by this time I was bit disheveled with my coat flapping open and stock tie and whip serving alternate duty on my "injured" sister! The day was a great hit and a superb way to kick off the hunt season!



FOR SALE

Saddles for Sale. Please contact Joy Smith at joy@fieldhaven.com for further information

Prix de Nations 17" for \$650

Irish Berney Bros 17.5" for \$700 (photo included)

Antares 17" for \$1300

In addition Joy has a used hunt coat for sale.



Saddle for Sale. Please contact Bonnie Lind bonlind@gmail.com

Devoucoux Chibirta monoflap 18.5" black. Used only for 1 year before horse was sold. Long flap for longer leg. Extremely comfortable. \$2800.

Submittals for Sale Items

The Rioteer welcomes opportunities to help move great items for sale. A few guidelines for submitting:

- 1) Please keep it succinct so we can fit everyone's items.
- 2) Pictures are worth 1,000 words – it's true! Please include a photo if possible.
- 3) Please include the appropriate contact details for the item.
- 4) Please submit your items to Bonnie Lind bonlind@gmail.com by the 1st day of March for the next newsletter.



E-mail: lynnlloyd@redrockhounds.com
angela@redrockhounds.com

A cartoon illustration titled "DOG CHRISTMASSES" showing six dogs in a living room. On the left is a decorated Christmas tree with a star on top. A dog stands next to it, asking, "DID ANYONE WATER THE TREE?". Five other dogs respond with "I DID". One dog is sitting on a green sofa reading a newspaper, another is sitting on the sofa holding a yellow gift box, one is sitting in a red armchair holding a blue cup, and one is lying on the floor with a book. The scene is set on a blue rug over a wooden floor. The title "DOG CHRISTMASSES" is written in a yellow box at the bottom, and the website "Crazy-Jokes.com" is visible in the bottom right corner.



A large black and white dog with a brown head and ears is lying down on a green blanket, surrounded by several small black and white puppies. The dog is looking down at the puppies, which are clustered around its head and front paws. The background is a wooden wall.

- 1) Keep it short! Articles should be no more than 150-200 words (and even then, we may have to edit to fit.)
- 2) Pictures are worth 1,000 words – it's true! We'd like 2-3 pictures submitted with articles if possible.
- 3) Hit the highlights and mention names – everyone enjoys a little who's who.
- 4) **Just do it!** If you're asked to write an article about a specific event, do it ASAP—it's fresher in your mind and there's no chance to procrastinate.
- 5) If you don't want to write the article yourself, simply send us the main points. We'll draft something and check back with you to 'flesh out' the article.
- 6) We have deadlines: we try to have each newsletter in final form 15 days prior to the end of the quarter, i.e. March 15, June 15, Sept. 15 and Dec. 15. After that, there's still final proofing and printing before it can be addressed and mailed, so you don't want to hold things up!