

PIEDMONT FOX HOUNDS HUNTER TRIALS TO BENEFIT NEW KENNELS



Piedmont Fox Hounds Hunter Trials on Sunday Sept. 28 at Salem Farm will be a fundraiser to build new kennels Photo by Crowell Hadden

13, juniors under 18, adult amateurs and non-jumping "hilltoppers." Additionally, other divisions open to all rider-horse combinations (junior, amateur or professional) will be offered.

Awards will include High Point Junior, Adult Amateur and Professional riders. A new award concept will be introduced distinguishing between Lightweight and Heavyweight Hunters. Horse Country of Warrenton is offering a perpetual Hunt Challenge trophy to the hunt whose subscribers accumulate the most points during the day. In the featured class, the Huntland Field Hunter Derby, local philanthropist Betsee Parker is sponsoring a perpetual trophy and cooler to be awarded to the winner. Judges will include Betty Oare and Barbara Batten for the over fences divisions, and Peter Walsh and Gail Wofford, ex-MFH, for the hilltopper and under saddle classes.

Those wishing to support this fundraising effort, including entering to compete or purchasing patron tickets for the hospitality tent sponsored by Middleburg Real Estate-Atoka Properties (with The Red Fox Inn providing light fare) can contact Barbara Riggs, 540-554-8676 or briggs@huntoverfarm.com. Prize lists are available at local tack shops.

The Piedmont Fox Hounds Hunter Trials, set for Sunday, Sept. 28 at Salem Farm in Upperville, will further the fundraising efforts for new kennels.

The design, preliminary site preparation and infrastructure development of the new kennel complex is well underway. And architect Leah Palmer, LEED AP, a lifelong

foxhunter and LEED accredited professional, has been hired to redo the facility on Newlin Mill Road, part of which dates back 100 years.

Originally established as a private pack in 1840 by Colonel Richard Henry Dulany of Welbourne in Upperville, the Piedmont Fox Hounds is the oldest pack of foxhounds in the U.S. In 1920, the Piedmont Fox Hounds merged with a private pack owned by J.B.

Norman and the hunt purchased one of Norman's farms, located on Beaverdam Creek near Unison, to serve as home of the hunt kennels and quarters for the huntsman. Organizers have developed divisions for riders of all levels. The course will be on a grass field consisting of 10-12 jumps, all simulating natural hunt country, such as coops, post and rails, stone walls, gates, brush and logs. There are divisions for children under