



*A Landowner's Guide
to Fox Hunting*



History of Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt

ROSE TREE-BLUE MOUNTAIN HUNT

Est. 2015

Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt is a newly merged hunt. The merger was approved by the MFHA in May 2015. This merger comes after the decision by Rose Tree's Master Mike Shupp and Huntsman Justin Shupp to take a break from fox hunting after leading RTH for nine years. Upon making this decision, The Shupp's asked Sean Cully, Master and Huntsman of Blue Mountain Hunt to take over. Sean, his wife Maryann and their children were honored by the opportunity to take over a hunt with such a long prestigious history. Sean's first task as the new Master of Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt was to appoint Dr. Edward Franco as Joint Master. Joint Master Franco was a long standing member, supporter and whipper-in with RTH as well as a member and whipper-in for BMH.

BLUE MOUNTAIN HUNT

Est. 1999

Blue Mountain Hunt was a farmer pack started in 1999 by Sean Cully. For 10 years Sean hunted his July and Walker hounds on foot. In 2009, he began hunting his pack on horseback. In 2011, BMH became a registered hunt with the MFHA. BMH was then recognized in 2014. As Master and Huntsman of his own pack of hounds for 16 years, Sean has developed a fast, hard driving hound that is also easy to control.

ROSE TREE HUNT

Est. 1859

Rose Tree Hunt is the oldest subscription hunt in America on record. Rose Tree began in 1859 and hunted in the vicinity of Media, Delaware County until 1960. In 1960 the hunt relocated to York County with Joint Masters John Richard and William Elliott. RTH has remained in York County since



History of Fox Hunting in the United States

Mounted Fox Hunting in the United States dates back to the time of the earliest English colonists.

George Washington was an avid fox hunter who kept his own pack of hounds.

The sport has grown ever since, but its formal organization, as with other sports, did not begin until some years after the Civil War.

On one occasion while congress was in session, hounds ran near the capital. Many congressmen ran outside to watch hounds and some jumped on their horses and joined the chase.

The earliest established foxhound club was the Montreal Hunt in Canada 1826. In the United States, the Piedmont Foxhounds were established in Virginia in 1840. Both packs continue very successfully to this day.

Through the years North American foxhunting has evolved its own distinct flavor which is noticeably different from the British. The most obvious difference is that in North America the emphasis is on the chase rather than the kill.

A successful hunt ends when the fox is accounted for by entering a hole in the ground, called an earth. Once there, hounds are rewarded with praise from their huntsman. The fox gets away and is chased another day. When hounds do not account for a fox by chasing him to an earth, the vast majority of times hounds lose the scent of the fox and that ends the hunt.





Hunting and the Hounds

The object of hunting a fox is to provide sport for the hounds and riders. The huntsman and riders follow the hounds during the pursuit of the fox providing sport for the hunters. The fox runs as long as it cares to run and goes in a hole when done. Our goal is not to kill the fox saving the fox for a future chase is our goal.

In the course of a day the hounds are moved through the desired sections of woods and brush in search of the fox in a very controlled manner. Once the fox is raised and the chase ensues, the fox is in control of where the hounds go. In the course of the day the hunt uses on average of 2,000 acres of land and travels around 20 miles. The hounds are the forefront and focus of the hunt. Therefore, a tremendous amount of time and training goes into each hound before they are able to go out for a hunt. About 10 new hounds are introduced to the hunt each season. They are carefully raised at the kennels and at members farms to ensure they are properly exposed to people, small pets, livestock, vehicles and in general all kinds of surprises. They are taught their names, how to walk on a leash and to come when called. When hounds turn 1 year of age they enter the kennels with the pack.

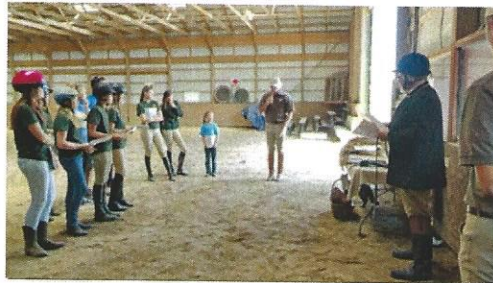
Out of respect for deer hunters, we never hunt on days when deer hunters are in the woods for either archery or rifle season.





Youth Participation

Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt is dedicated to encouraging young people to become involved in equine activities, especially having the opportunity to learn more about the traditional sport of fox hunting. The members of RT-BM Hunt come from all walks of life but, they all share the love of the outdoors, horses, hounds and the thrill of pursuing hounds in the chase! The club and our members work hard to try and share this love of foxhunting, preserving open lands, and being good stewards of nature with others, especially young people. RT-BMH helps support the Pony Clubs and 4-H Clubs throughout south central Pennsylvania by encouraging young members to become actively involved with the hunt and the hounds. We also host many activities throughout the year such as special children's hunts, summer camp, hound walks and educational seminars on fox hunting. The attendance is always good at these events and the parents learn just as much as the children.



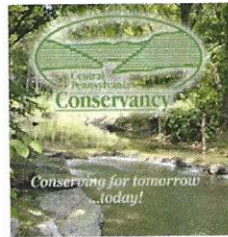


Masters of Foxhounds Association

**Supporting our Hunting Rights
and our Community**

Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt believes in order to be able to continue hunting in the United States we must work together with organizations that help protect our rights. We also feel it is important to support organizations that help to preserve open space, as well as, groups that help support the local farming community. Some of the organizations we support through donations and memberships are:

- Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
- York County Farm Bureau
- Perry County Farm Bureau
- The Chamber of Commerce
- Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Genesee Valley Conservancy
- Spring Valley Park (York County)
- Farm & Natural Land Trust of York County
- National Rifle Association (NRA)
- US Sportsman's Alliance



Pennsylvania Equine Council

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