



# THE RAPP SHEET



April, 2021

Rappahannock Hunt ended the 2020– 2021 season in great style at Larry Levy's The Hill on March 27, 2021. The turnout of riders and car toppers was phenomenal. The breakfast after was delicious and plentiful. Thank you all for following Covid protocol.

Thank you to all our members and followers for a memorable season. Covid changed a lot of traditions and practices at the Rappahannock Hunt meets. Our well known repasts after hunting were limited and served with all caution in mind. Even though the fellowship was not the same, everyone visited from a distance.

## Thank you Landowners

Our landowners have graciously shared their land with us. If any members would like to write a thank you note to any particular landowner, please contact Mandi Dillon, secretary, for their address. A personal thank you is always appreciated.

Without the kindness of our landowners, our hunting would not be possible.

## Thank you Photographers

Thank you to all of you who took pictures and videos and shared them on Facebook. We all can relive a day's sport through the pictures posted. The photos are greatly appreciated by all.

Inquire through facebook if you would like to purchase or make prints of any pictures.



Thank you to hounds and staff for providing sport. We all appreciate the work the hounds and staff do. Please do not hesitate to ask any of the staff any questions you might have about foxhunting.

TALLY HO

## Rappahannock Hunt Summer activities

The Rappahannock Hunt doesn't take the summers off, even though we are not foxhunting as such.



Hunter Pace Events—Spring and Fall  
Trail Rides—throughout the summer  
Foxhunter Clinic—usually in August  
Walking out hounds—weekly  
Warrenton Horse Show—Foxhunters night  
Landowners Party

Jump building and repair

Trail clearing

These are good opportunities to get to know  
our hunting territory

Barton Hitchcock and Carol Quaintence are  
working on mapping out our territory—  
anyone interested please let Barton know at  
540-222-9887 or [bartonhitchcock@gmail.com](mailto:bartonhitchcock@gmail.com)



Visit the Rappahannock Hunt webpage

[www.rappahannockhunt.com](http://www.rappahannockhunt.com)



# TAKING A LOOK BACK

With Janet Payne O'Keefe, Ex-MFH (RH)



As you prepare for the Hunter Pace this month, let's look back at some of RH's history of those races formerly known as pair races.

Did you know that each hunt that hosted pair races in the past held them on the morning of their Point-to-Point races and not on a separate day? They were held at the same location as the races, but run in the morning starting early so as to be finished before the races started around 12 or 1 in the afternoon. Often, the actual race course would be part of the pair course! There were not the number of divisions as there are now and it normally went off without a hitch and never interfered with the afternoon races. As popularity grew and entries and divisions increased, land around the courses changed, etc. the pair races moved to different locations and days. Not only are they fun and popular, but a very nice fundraiser for each hunt. Depending on weather, some meets hosted 50+ pairs.

Over the years, divisions have changed quite a bit. Way back, the pair that finished first was the pair race winner. Oliver and Dutchy Fannon raced many years ago and were winners so often that others felt no need to enter because they didn't think they had much chance. So Oliver and Dutchy would race against each other to see who would cross the line first! Michael and Joe Kincheloe would revive this tactic in later years in the fast time division. Later, the Optimum time division was added, then split into Adult Optimum and Junior Optimum, then came Hilltopping. If you wanted to go for points to accumulate toward the year end championships, you entered through the Central Entry office and were listed in the race day program along with the other races. Then came open divisions so people could enter last minute and just go for the ride or prize, but no points. Not much has changed in recent years—except it is still a lot to coordinate and execute. Kudos to all those that help and race each year! It is an important activity for each hunt that offers these races.

Now for the fun stuff! Did you know Rappahannock Hunt members dominated all of the pair race divisions in the mid-late nineties??!! RH members won the Virginia Championships in Fast Time, Optimum, Junior Optimum AND the Old Fashioned Point-to-Point FOUR years in a row. PLUS—Michael and Joe Kincheloe\* won the Fast Time Championship 8 years in a row! (\*Joe rode with Rappahannock a number of years as Bull Run was establishing itself in Culpeper after its relocation from Manassas and before he became Bull Run's MFH).

I must give a shout out to the Central Entry Office where you can find a wealth of information! If you would like to see past years' of Virginia Point-to-Point champions, go to:

[centralityoffice.com](http://centralityoffice.com)/choose VA Pt-to-Pt Foundation/select reports/select organizations then enter the year you wish to view.

What a robust database of the history of Virginia Point-to-Point racing information. It was a delight to read the names of individuals and horses who were so familiar in years past - as well as the ability to see up to date information.



**Janet O'Keefe  
angled  
Reasonable View  
over the final  
jump to win  
Rappahannock's  
old-fashioned.**

*(Julie Reardon Photo)*



Above: Reasonable View (Cricket) and JPO won 3 VA Optimum Time championships and competed in a couple Old Fashioned Point-to-Point races as well.

Below: 1996 - Rappahannock riders won all 3 divisions and the Old Fashioned Point-to-Point championships.



*Times-Democrat Staff Photo/Betsy Branson*

**Rappahannock Hunt members Joe Kincheloe, left, Michael Brown, Julie Huff, Wanda Ryder and Janet O'Keefe dominated hunter pace divisions.**



I thought you might be interested in who these riders/horses were that had such success in the 90s and a bit beyond. You might be surprised to see names of those you hunt with right now! I know members are still having fun and winning paces and hope that continues for many years!

### Virginia Point-to-Point Foundation Championships

The database goes back to 1982 so right there we find a couple champions from RH:

1982	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Eva Dahlgren/High Tea
1982	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Janet Quaintance/Fiddledee and Colleen Murray/Fiddlestix
1993	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Michael Brown/Oliver's Tiger and Joyce Sims/Major Nuisance
1993	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Ginny McCarty/Formal Attire and Janet O'Keefe/Study War No More
1994	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Michael Brown/Jolly Boo
1995	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Janet O'Keefe/Garth of Birmingham (tie w/Dawn Dugan/Is a Pro)
1995	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Alexis and Michael Brown/Onemoretry
1995	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Janet O'Keefe/Reasonable View and Carol Quaintance/Trump Card
1995	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Julie Huff/Aim to Please and Ashley Settle (Brown)/The Black Imp
1996	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham
1996	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham and Michael Brown/Grey Fox
1996	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Janet O'Keefe/Reasonable View and Jennifer Bly/Nick of Time
1996	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Julie Huff/Symbol and Wanda Ryder/The Conqueror
1997	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham
1997	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham and Michael Brown/Finish N Style
1997	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Janet O'Keefe/Reasonable View and Jennifer Bly/Nick of Time
1997	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Laura Hitchcock/Woodstock and Darby Kirby/Sparkling Burgundy
1998	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham
1998	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Chainsaw and Michael Brown/Aye There
1998	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Janet O'Keefe/Flathatter and Carole Boniface/High Cotton
1998	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Laura Hitchcock/On My Honor and Darby Kirby/Sparkling Burgundy
1999	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham
1999	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Chainsaw and Michael Brown/Black Forest
2000	Old Fashioned Point to Point Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Garth of Birmingham
2000	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Joe Kincheloe/Chainsaw and Michael Brown/Pseuaminator
2000	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Julie Williamson/Summertime and Bob Williamson/Josh
2000	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Linda Brown/Red River and Lindsey Williamson/Copper Dart
2004	Junior Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Alyssa Kaufman/Prince Charming and Janet O'Keefe/Noggin
2004	Jr. Field Masters Chase Champion (small pony)	Ashley Kaufman/Milkey Way
2006, 2007, 2008	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Gene Gartner/Boomer and Mary Potter/Ghost
2009	Adult Optimum Time Pairs Champion	Gene Gartner/Boomer and Kris Deal/Rocky
2009	Fast Time Pairs Champion	Laura Hitchcock/Johnny and Virginia Rushing/Elway

As you look through this list, you will see Michael Brown's name year after year winning the Fast Time division. If you look closely, he won with a different horse EVERY year!!!!

Ride on! Rough-shod if need be, smooth-shod if that will do, but ride on! Ride on over all obstacles, and win the race!"

- Charles Dickens (1812-1870)





### **Garth of Birmingham**

As you read the race results, you could not have missed seeing one horse who won over and over and over, Garth of Birmingham. Garth was purchased by Ken Alphin (Big Kenny of country music's Big and Rich fame) for his then girlfriend who was learning to hunt. Ken was a local and used to hunt with RH before moving to Nashville. Garth was not a good match for his friend and she was not thrilled about hunting and eventually wanted to move on and sell Garth. He was boarded with me and we had used him to school other horses being raced. We came up with the idea to sell him to Joe Kincheloe and he bought him not really knowing he would run, but knew he was a good foxhunter and had good manners. Garth always was game, would go out front and jump anything. I got the bright idea I would like to take him in the RH Old Fashioned Point-to-Point race. I had never even ridden in one of those races before. It was held at one of our fixtures that I knew really well so off we went. After running up and down a mountain, jumping a gate and anything else we came to, we finished for a win. There was a series so we then went to the Orange County Hounds race. In these types of races, you have several beacons to run by, but you figure the way to get to them all and then to the finish. There is no mapped course. In the photo above, we started off jumping a downhill rock wall. At the next fence, a rider cut in front of me, Garth had to come to an abrupt halt and I fell off. He happily trotted away down the dirt road. He stopped and I was able to catch him and get back on, but then had to run the course by myself as the other riders were long gone. He went right along jumping and running alone. At one point I could see the riders not too far ahead and decided to take a shortcut through a barnyard. Unfortunately, it was fenced with barbed wire. It was just one strand 3 feet high. Too late to go around so I pointed him and no problem, over the barbed wire he flew. An outrider, who was positioned nearby, radioed in that some nut just jumped barbed wire!! Later, we ended up at the bottom of the hill not far from the others as they finished, but being able to come in 3rd got Garth tied for the championship that year.

After that, Joe raced Garth in every Old Fashioned race and won the championship 6 years in a row. He was an amazing foxhunter and everyone knew him. In the year 2000, Joe decided he would retire him after the last race in the series which was at Orange County. They did indeed win and as he was being walked out to cool down, Garth dropped dead. Tears flowed. The property owners graciously offered and he was buried right there where he fell. He was 12 years old.

In short, there are not only interesting people in the Rappahannock Hunt, but interesting horses as well!!

