



## Hunting Fall and Winter 2012

Wednesday 19 September the Wiedorns and I hunted a three couple at Marsh Creek where they got up one rabbit in the track oval cover, and stretched the rest afterwards. Saturday we got all hounds out for good walks on the property with Dick Gross's added help. Sunday 23 September Gene Bolt, Phyllis Allen, Ginny Beards, David Harshaw and I took a three couple to Jefferis's for a good workout. There was another hound man there hunting his beagles on the right side of the property, so I took hounds to the left below the house and George's hunt kennels. They weren't distracted by the sound of the other group, and thoroughly drew the corn patch and the lower pine stand, getting up a dodgy rabbit that they drove to ground in a thick pile. We then drew the upper area and had a run through the tree plantings, driving it to ground in one of the root holes after pushing it back up from the back edge to end the morning. Salsa and Maggie were spectacular keeping the pack on the two through dense high weeds, and young Gallion is beginning to go to cry and hunt with the pack.

We kicked off our 65th season with a super **Oktoberfest Party** at the **Harrisons'** Saturday 29 September, enjoyed by over 40 members. It was the perfect spot. We walked the pack at the farm Saturday morning. We hunted a 4 couple on Sunday 30 September for attendees at the East Nantmeal Picnic at Susan Kolhas's on a very dry and hot afternoon. Nary a sign of a rabbit in the upper area hedgerow, field and woodland cover, though a fox led some of the pack astray in the top of the hill woods. They came back to horn except for Larry, whom we recovered at the end of the draw thanks to the followers who brought him back from the lower parking area as we came in. Hounds, led by Salsa and Sabine, thoroughly worked the woods and upper field edges to no avail, and as deer were viewed twice at the top and bottom of the hill cover, we gathered the pack and headed back to end the hunt. When we have a scheduled meet there later this fall we'll try the lower field hedgerows and the cover toward Lyons Run. It is a beautiful property with good hedgerows, fields and walking trails, and should produce game as ground cover develops after the extensive work that Susan has done to restore it this year. **Opening Meet and Blessing of the Hounds at White Acres Farm** on Sunday October 7 was a solid bit of hound work with a good run to ground through right hand woods and another run



*Opening Meet—driving their rabbit at Kennels.*



*Jefferis's—tallyho rabbit 2—Trompette pushed it out!*

down the center hedgerow to ground to end the day. The tea afterward at the Kalmbachs' was spectacular. We hunted a 3 couple at Bob Berry's on Saturday 6th October, with puppies Gallion and Wagtail working well with the older hounds. Two rabbits got quickly to ground. The second one Larry did his best to flush out to no avail. **Marsh Creek** on Sunday the 14th was a warm dry day, with little game. We put a couple of rabbits quickly to ground along the hedgerow and woods edges on the way to the upper meadows, then hounds found and worked a rabbit from the top of the Chalfont woods down to a big brush pile to ground. A big buck was startled out into the meadow as they drove it to ground, which they ignored. After a blank draw out the center hedgerow, we ended the day and returned to a tailgate at kennels. Wednesday we took a training 3 couple to Marsh Creek again, and had a nice morning. Mischief got up our first rabbit for a working run along the oval cover, solidly run to ground by Salsa and Mischief. There were two more short runs to marks on the way to the top field hedgerow where hounds ended the day on a rabbit to ground back to the gap. Saturday October 20 at kennels we had nice work on two rabbits after they settled down, one in the upper right field hedgerow to ground, and one from the center cover patch up to the right. Teasel picked the line up in the open, then Sabine and Salsa joined in for the work to ground. On the 21st, we had a good day despite tough scenting conditions at **George Jefferis's** farm. Hounds got up and ran five rabbits to marks to ground, with two good long runs down to the back side of the property in and out of the woods. Deer got up at the start on our first rabbit and when we were drawing around the west side, but hounds did not break either time. Staff coverage was excellent. Everyone had a great time, and the tailgate afterwards was a groaning board of goodies.

Aldie was interesting, the first time without our wonderful Mischief in 11 years. Ginny Beards and Dick Gross whipped in for the 3 couple, and Phyllis Allen and Gene Bolt whipped in for the 5 couple. Holly Gross was a great help along with them to make the trip and the weekend easy and fun. Our 3 couple on Friday November the 26th at 7:30 am was a good workout, with a find and circling run to ground in the upper end of the enclosure and another find as time ran out. The 5 couple at 2 pm Saturday afternoon the 27th was a blank in the heat. We decided to leave Saturday as news of the approach of Hurricane Sandy threatened to hit Sunday. We had a nice trip home. The hounds raced for their kennel beds after we fed and tucked them in. Frustrating hunting, but a fine time regardless with a great bunch of people. Marsha

had done a great job with Trompette and the pups, which are in fine shape.

Wednesday October 31 and Saturday November 3 we walked out the the pack and fed hounds before cleaning up runs and ourselves and going home. The staff did a fine job Saturday while I slept in after Souza's litter was born on Friday. At Sunday's November 4 meet at **Bedwell's**, hounds worked the upper hedgerow, where the first two deer broke out to the left as they drew towards Parman's woods. They worked the woods edge and the corner covert as a fox ran through it and out the bottom. They ignored the fox line and thoroughly worked the covert. We then crossed to draw the power line strip area where they flushed out one, then ten more deer so we drew back toward the hill. Hounds worked through the field patches where a woodchuck ran to ground, then they drew the hedge and treeline strip to end a day full of everything but rabbit. The pack and alert whippers-in deserve much praise. Hot cider and soup at the tailgate afterwards was great. Sunday the 11th at **Silberman's** was a really nice day. We found a rabbit in the far end of the woods behind the Moores's which they drove to ground in heavy tangle, then worked the woods to a good run in Eli's lower hedgerow to ground. We then crossed Scott Road into the Plumbs'. They ran a fox out the south end of the right hand woods but quickly came back to horn with great staff work from Henry Booth, Ginny Beards, Jen Farnham, Holly Gross and David Harshaw. We then worked the drive cover toward Scott Road and got up another rabbit which they ran to ground in a doubling run. Salsa and Quarry and Uwchlan were terrific. After that, we drew down and past the tenant house to end the day. The tea at Eli's was super. Afterwards, David Harshaw, Dick Gross and I deburred hounds and fed the pack. We had a nice morning at kennels on Wednesday November 14. Gene Bolt and David Harshaw and I got the pack out for a good walk on the hill and did some grooming. Saturday the 17th Ginny and I walked hounds at kennels. Sunday the 18th at **Susan Kolhas's** Salsa almost caught a rabbit in the stone wall line hedgerow as the hounds worked up the far field, then we drew back tthrough the wooded cover to the pond and worked the swampy border of the lower field. It was very open with nary a rabbit. Hounds then worked over the whole upper woods patch and and the center field covert blank. We drew back along the briar covered bank to the meet area with no further action, and blew 'end of day.' Susan Butler's and Jim LeRoux's fine tea was a welcome end to this tough day. Wednesday November 21st Gene and I walked hounds at kennels. Saturday the 24th was clear and a nice morning at kennels—Ginny Beards and her amish friend and I walked the pack and treated them with the monthly Biospot and ivermectin. Sunday the 25th was very cold and dry at **Hallman's** with little scent, and no game of any kind. The hedgerows were blank, including the bottom woods line at Theurkauf's. Coming back up to the hedgerows on the field above Thayers, they worked the whole hedgerow and field, then worked down to the barn to end the day. It was frustrating to see hounds work so hard for so little. The tea afterwards at Julie and Tag Geers' Little Field Farm was super. Wednesday the 28th with the remains of the light snow and ice on the fields Gene Bolt and Dick Gross and I were able to get the pack out for a walk to the upper fields and back, and get the runs cleaned.

We had a good training day December 1st at Marsh Creek. Ginny Beards and I watched hounds scour the oval track area with short picking run to a mark, then the center field hedgerow where they accounted for a rabbit halfway up the line toward the top. We drew back and around the north side to finish, and returned to kennels to exercise the rest of the pack. Sunday December 2nd at **the Moores' "Marshlands"** was a tough workout for hounds and staff. We had rabbits. The first, in the cover along the farm lane beyond the Moores' house, got quickly to ground. The usually productive "Fox Hill" covert had game, but deer ran through and out the left toward the swamp. We got the errant hounds back fairly quickly, due to terrific work by Phyllis Allen. We covered the upper tree line, then the long hedgerow line toward the turnpike thoroughly to the end, where hounds accounted for a rabbit. Drawing back to the ridge line was blank, then I decided to work the "Fox Hill" covert on the way back. There we got a rabbit going, which ran out the bottom and looped back into the center to ground. Hounds then thoroughly worked the thick stuff from one end to the other to end the day. The Heths' grand tailgate in the warming room back at the meet was most welcome. Wednesday the 5th was a good hound walk after the torrential rains—again! Saturday December 8 was a fine hunting morning for Henry Booth, Ginny Beards, Dick Gross and me at CFS. We drew the left back pasture hedgerows and had two really



*Welkenweir—moving off.*



*Hounds worked a double and put it to ground.*



*End of Day.*

nice goes. After working all the upper hedgerows, hounds drove the first rabbit out of the corner stream briar tangle across the meadow, through the hedgerow and up over into the right field cover and to ground. Hounds worked back down to the center stream on the sides, and got up rabbit two, driving it out to the meadow patch and across to the long hedgerow toward Rte 30. They ran it out the right side and back in near the top end and put it to ground. Cry was great to hear—Salsa's and Quarry's steady chop, Sabine's deep bellow and Uwchlan's squeal were constant as they never overran. Wagtail and Larry were in the thick of it, too. December 9th at **Cheslen Preserve** was a fine day. Hounds found their first rabbit in the bank cover below the tracks, and ran it quickly to ground. Another was flushed out for a looping run the length of the bank as two others were viewed running above them. They got a run on one of those that they ran out into the left hand fields and back to ground in good cry in the corner tangles. We then drew the long cover to the right along the rail tracks and crossed to work the upper line and the big oval hillside cover. They worked to the top and spoke on two short running rabbits there and the left side as they drew to the bottom toward the tracks, where Quarry found the last one in heavy briars. Hounds couldn't get it out, so we drew back across the tracks and

they worked the bank again to end this action-packed day. At the Booths', Lisa's and Gillian's tea afterwards was grand. Hot soup, mince pies and sausage rolls, sandwiches and sweets, were super. We walked the pack Wednesday December 12th and Saturday the 15th hunted at Marsh Creek. Hounds worked thoroughly and marked two to ground in the oval covers. Sunday the 16th at **Welkenweir** was a fine joint meet with the Ardrossan Beagles. The rain held off, and the rabbits ran well! We drew the west end of the grounds first, and put one quickly to earth in a tangle on the hillside. Hounds worked through the cover below the pavillion where rabbit 2 ran for the top area and did a loop back down to the lower meadow cover to ground. Two had been viewed, so we drew back up around the shed area, then across the field into a large Forsythia patch. Hounds got a runner out that crossed the lawn area to the woodside tangle to ground, then flushed out another rabbit that they ran down toward the pond into a patch of cover, working back to a mark in the stone wall. We then drew the hillside own to the dam and crossed to work the far side of the pond. It ws blank so we crossed back at the far end and drew the hillside up to the left top where hounds ran a rabbit to ground in heavy briars and drew back to the pavillion area to end the day. The packs worked very well together. The tea afterwards at the Pasymowskis' was a gourmet feast! Sunday the 23rd at **Church Farm** was a wow! Hounds drew the cover line near the barn very quickly, then worked across the field at the far end of the pond and ran two rabbits in loops through the heavy briar field corner. Deer broke out back toward the school, but hounds ignored them. The first rabbit got to ground in the middle of the briar tangle, and the second one did three loops in an out around the cover with a final run up the hill to ground in a woodchuck hole in the open field. We drew back east along



*CFS far field rabbit.*



*Run in the swamp.*



*Hounds ran the rabbit across to the trail to put it to ground 100 yards on.*

the stream toward the lane, working it the length with a short runner to ground in the patch on the way. Crossing the lane, they drove one out toward the bridge end of the field. They ran two rabbits back and forth in the swampy corner, forcing them out one after the other across the field to the the track hedgerow border line. Hounds worked right, then left, where they pushed one out for a race along the hedgerow cover to ground in heavy tangle near the east road. Drawing back for rabbit two, hounds found halfway down, and drove their rabbit in and out of the hedgerow to the end of the cover again to ground. Hounds got up another for a doubling run to ground to end this great day. Our **Boxing Day Meet at Allerton Farm Gate** Wednesday December 26th was a good one. The hedgerow border at the meet was blank then they flushed a bunny out below Mose Cornwell's for a run up the woods edge to the upper field, driving it to ground on the far edge of the woods. Coming back, they got another going that they marked in halfway down the hill. We watched them work the west side hedge line down to the bend and to the stream, and on to the lower fields below the pond. Fresh deer tracks were all over, so we drew the bank back, getting a good runner up the stream. It got to ground, and a second one blew out the top and ran down the far side with hounds on. It doubled in the lower hedgerow tangle b ut they got it up again for a burst to the corner to ground with a great view for the field. We drew back to the woods and got our final rabbit up along the top field woods edge along Allerton Road to ground at the edge of the next property, then hunted back through to Mose's to end the day. Salsa, Souza and Quarry were outstanding. Josie Parnham's hunt breakfast afterward was wonderful. Saturday we walked hounds at kennels, and hunted at **Bob Berry's** on Sunday December 30. It was bitterly cold and windy, and the 4" deep snow powder showed no fresh tracks. Hounds scoured all the hedgerows and upper field cover patch, and right end of the swamp to Kling's, working every inch of cover. The pack came in with tails up, though covered with ice balls. We got them back to kennels for clean up and a feed before joining the field for a warm up tea at the Scharnbergs' to end the year. Our **New Year's Day Morning Hunt at CFS** started 2013 with a bang! Hounds worked down from the barns to the bottom of the little field , crossing to draw up toward Rte 30 and back before getting their first rabbit running at the stream corner. It crossed over to the middle of the running track, and they worked it down to the pond field. It doubled back as a second rabbit ran left toward the track and a deer ran west toward Ship Road. Walt Stewart was on the line and sent the errant hound back as the rest worked the second rabbit through the border and into the first field, where they got it going for a run east along the track cover and to ground. They got up another that ran back to the center stream cover, then doubled to run the track line east and to ground toward Church Farm Lane. We crossed and drew the track cover toward the east getting a rabbit going that crossed at the far end of the field right to the swampy cover below the Valley Creek Boulevard bridge. Hounds ran a doubling rabbit in there as one ran out across the field, and the other ran back almost under the bridge. It came out the other side, then jinked back in. They worked all through the reeds, then it burst out and crossed the field to the end of the track cover at the road edge. Hounds crossed on the line in cry and dug through the tangle, working down the hedgerow in and out on the rabbit to a mark. They then got rabbit 1 going for a drive along the line down near the lane and back to the center of the strip to a mark. Sabine spoke on another inside and after they worked the line toward the road and back almost to the lane into a big tangle, we packed up to end this fine morning.

Everyone is welcome to join us on bye days. Call Jim Scharnberg or Gillian Wiedorn Tuesday and Friday for times and locations. Our 64th season is going very well indeed so far. We will be exploring new locations on bye day hunts the second half of the season. Please let us know if you have any friends' properties in mind.

***We owe our sport to our wonderful landowners.***