

Green Creek Halloween Hunter Pace and Trail Ride

October 22nd, 2017

What a spectacular Sunday for the Green Creek Hounds Hunter Pace and Trail Ride! The morning started off just a little cool but warmed up very nicely. The sun was shining and mystery filled the air with the Halloweeners popping up everywhere. There were Witches, Astronauts, Indians, Heavy Metal Singers, and many more! Robin Hood even made an appearance. The Green Creek Hounds always have a wonderful Halloween Hunter Pace and Trail Ride and this year they didn't disappoint.

Many thanks to the private land owners. They are very gracious to allow passage onto their property and what beautiful property it is!

Marion Connor was the Chairman for this event.

The signage for this Hunter Pace was top notch. White signs with green lettering were seen from all points leading to the property. Thanks go to Janet Cummings for setting the signs. Drivers were met at the gate to the property and parked by the illustrious team of Christiaan Barendon, Ken Feagin, Chris Hendrix, and Ian McDonald. The parking area was packed from early on. One could tell that the attendance was high just looking at the rigs in the field.

Riders were greeted at the Registration Table by Robin Julian, Holly Mitchell, Ginny Sullivan, and Lenore Threlkeld. These ladies make sure that all paperwork and releases are signed. They check the Coggins, and give riders their numbers. Kathy Nebel was right next to Registration showing off the Green Creek Hounds Merchandise. There were some very nice Koozies available in addition to the shirts and other merchandise.

The Starter for the day was the beloved Joey Cabaniss. Folks, the timer job isn't as easy as it looks. There is more going on at that tent than people realize. He has to be very aware of who's coming and going. Carol Parker was there to assist. She was in charge of pointing out the color ribbons to follow. This time out it was white with green polka dots, not the orange! Joey makes sure that riders know where to start and finish and then sends riders out with his usual humor.

Riders were met at the check point by Skip Leck, Betsy McCray, and Ann and Jim Troppman. Here the horses rest for the mandatory three minutes. Riders were offered a cool beverage or a nice Port. Riders can dismount and stretch their legs at the Check Point if they so desire. After the mandatory time of rest has been met, riders are on their way again.

Let's get to that Food! Grill Master Jim Sumrell was hard at work over the grill. The hotdogs were perfect. There were a few veggie burgers as well. The Chili and beans were outstanding. Ann Fratcher outdid herself with the food! Not only did she make the Chili, she made the Pasta Salad, Cole Slaw, and Potato Salad. Well done, Ann, well done! There were plenty of soft drinks and water available as well. Carrots were on hand for the 4-legged palates.

The course designer was Christie Fowler. Good Job!

Joan MacIntyre was the Costume Judge this year. She definitely had her job cut out for her. After much deliberation, the winners were:

First Place winners were DJ Jeffries and Catherine Mooneyham as Chief Sitting Bull and General Custer, while Second Place Honors went to Harold Pfeiffer who was dressed as a Game of Thrones character, The Night King.

The attendance was extraordinary! There was a grand total of 130 riders in 62 teams. The trail was 8.5 miles long.

Now, let's get to those results:

There was a total of 56 riders in 26 teams in the Field Hunter Division. The Optimum Time set by Christie Fowler and Erin O'Dwyer was one hour, 19 minutes, 54 seconds.

First Place Honors went to Susan Haslam from Asheville with a time of one hour, 18 minutes, 37 seconds. Second Place Honors go to the team of Mary Livesay from Tryon and J. Rutledge from Ellenboro with the time of one hour, 23 minutes, 18 seconds. The Third Place Yellow Ribbon was awarded to Mike Bass and Shannon Jackson from Ellenboro with a time of one hour, 15 minutes, 39 seconds. Amy Christensen nabbed the Fourth Place Ribbon with a time of one hour, 15 minutes, 33 seconds, a mere six seconds out of Third Place. The duo of

Anita Crouse from Marion and Danielle Lamb from Morganton placed Fifth with a time of one hour, 10 minutes, 44 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Field Hunter Division for Sixth Place was the trio of Amanda Aiello from Ellenboro, Nicola Deines from Landrum, and Linda Plummer from Clover with the time of one hour, ten minutes, 19 seconds.

Other Field Hunters out taking in the great weather were Bertie and Mike Axelrod, Irene Backer, Lisa Baugh, Jarred Beasley, Karen Brockway, Pam Burrows, Lisa Clements, Caroline Coates, Lydia Cox, Debbie Croft, Anna Dalton, Ann Fratcher, Caprice and Carla Fullam, Jennifer Gruhn, Marcia Headrick, Molly Hunt, Donald Jeffers, Carol Land, Elizabeth Love, Sadie Mann, Nancy Mason, Karen Merrill, Catherine Mooneyham, Rich Neel, Cheryl and Stagg Newman, Stephanie O'Neill, Harold Pfeiffer, Monique Ravesloot, Maddie and Elise Rogers, Trinnity Ross, Bailey Sheehan-Watson, Daniel Short, Sara Sinno, Emma Skelton, Teresa Snyder, Rebecca Tolson, Tom Trull, TJ Vore, Jari Walther, Faith and Stephanie Wanicka.

In the Trail Rider Division there were 74 riders in 36 teams. The Calculated Optimum Time was two hours, ten minutes, 41 seconds.

Here are the results:

Valaria Devine from Tryon brought home the First Place Blue Ribbon with a time of two hours, ten minutes, ten seconds. So very close to the Calculated Optimum Time! In second place there were two teams that tied! Ciara DeNardo from Sylva and Connie Moore from Waynesville had a time of two hours, 12 minutes, seven seconds. Chloe Bosshard from Hendersonville and Paula Moore from Landrum had a time of two hours, nine minutes, 15 seconds. Both teams had a time difference from the Optimum of one minute, 26 seconds. Fourth Place Honors were awarded to Sharon Capps from Rutherfordton and Sandra Hyder from Landrum with a time of two hours, 12 minutes, 19 seconds. Fifth Place was awarded to another duo, Suess Fraser from Tryon and Gena Meredith from Landrum with the time of two hours, 12 minutes, 52 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Trail Rider Division for Sixth Place was the quartet from Asheville, Susannah Birch, Grace Karegeannes, Lacy Westle, and Diane Wilson. Their time was two hours, 13 minutes, 55 seconds.

Other Trail Riders out on the Green Creek Hounds Trails were Kristin Ahlum, Kori Albright, Brittany and Zane Annis, Gail Bolt, Marcia Bowen, Tara Boyce, Darleen Bullock, Kathy Davis, Kat Dooley, Michelle Drum, Lynn Fitch, Erin Fletcher, Julie Frederick, Rita Garrison, Susan Haldeman, Lucy Hooper, Nikki Hynes, Patricia Iacomini, Kinsey Jameson, Ginny Jennings, Ann Jordan, Debra Kennerly, Nancy Klouda, Debbie Knebel, Lydia Kolbas, Lori Kunkel, Lara LaPointe, Arlene Lulavage, Geraldine Mark, Lin Martin, Kristen McAuster, Amanda McDonald, Marianne Moore, DeAnna Norton, Rachel O'Brien, Erin O'Dwyer, Barbara Okloson, Neil Parnes, Elizabeth Peacock, Sally Rock, Diane Roemer, Forrest Samuels, Johnna Sharp, Hyland Sheffron, Jennifer Smith, Kayla Stacy, Paula Stathokis, Shelby Stewart, Kristi Suber, Lisa Trojan, Heidi Trull, Bobby Turner, Melissa VanDoren, Joseph Vasquez, Tracie Williams, Jennifer Wilson, Glenda Wolf, Sherry Wyatt, and Kriss Wynne.

Up next for 2017-2018 Hunter Place Series is the FENCE Fall Hunter Pace and Trail Ride on Sunday November 5th, 2017, followed by the River Valley Pony Club Hunter Pace and Trail Ride on Sunday November 19th, 2017. Rounding out the year will be the Windridge Fall Hunter Place and Trail Ride on December 3rd, 2017.

To save some time and crowds at the Registration Tables, download the Registration Forms from the Western Carolina Hunter Pace website for the specific event and slap a return address label on it including your emergency contact and email to insure you can be contacted.

Check the website at www.wchpace.org for upcoming events, changes, and to view your photos taken by Photographers Lou Smith and Jan Smith With the weather being so unpredictable here of late, rain dates are in place in case of a postponement.

See you on the trails next time!