

# Foxhound Conformation Clinic



**First: Blue Ridge Grizzle '06**  
(Mid-Devon Grocer '00 – Blue Ridge Lavender '02)

Grizzle is a young dog we will use this year, and he is very good in his work. He was Champion English Unentered Dog and Champion English Dog at Virginia 2006 and Champion English Dog at the Bryn Mawr Hound Show 2008. Grizzle is a well-balanced dog who is a good mover with an excellent shoulder and good elbows. He has a much more elegant neck than the other two. His back is strong with a well-set straight stern. He has a strong second thigh and good tight feet, as they all do.



**Second: Heythrop Gangster '00**  
(Berkeley Denmark '95 – Their Gallery '99)

Gangster won the Stallion Hound class at Virginia in 2006, the Stallion Hound class at Bryn Mawr 2007, and Stallion Hound with Get both at Virginia and Bryn Mawr this year. He is an outstanding dog in his work and has hunted for seven seasons with little sign of wear, which proves that good conformation lasts. He is a different type compared to Grizzle as he goes back to Limerick Seaman, an Old English hound. Gangster lacks the elegant neck and has a straighter hind leg.



**Third: Crawley and Horsham Morpeth '05**  
(Exmoor Marcus '00 – Their Measure '02)

I brought Morpeth back from England late last summer, and he is an excellent dog in his work. We have used him this season, and his get are out at walk. Although he has no major faults, he is a slightly coarser dog than Grizzle and heavier in the shoulder. He has a real dog hound head and a strong back.



American-born Linda Armbrust, MFH spent nine years as a Master in England before returning to the U.S. Her breeding philosophy at Blue Ridge is to maintain proven bitch lines in her kennel, and to continue to look outside for excellent dog hounds with complementary bloodlines that nick with her bitches.

His get are all of the same type and hunt well. One of the best hounds in the pack is Heythrop Gangster '02 (Berkeley Denmark '95 – Their Gallery '99), who we got at the same time from Richard Sumner, MFH. He is fantastic in his work and hunts almost every time we go out. Dick Webb, MFH, Moore County Hounds (NC) very generously gave us a Beaufort dog last season, and we have just recently used him. My latest acquisition is Crawley & Horsham Morpeth '05 (Exmoor Marcus '00 – Their Measure '02) whose dam won at Peterborough three years in a row. These hounds are attractive, very good in their work, and have the blood lines I want to use in the breeding program.

I have used dogs from other packs, but getting the bitches to them often becomes a transportation nightmare. To use Toronto & North York Crackshot '00 my husband (who has no interest in hounds whatsoever) drove ten hours each way in snow; Iroquois Grundy '98, a proven stallion hound, entailed two round trips of sixteen hours each with no results; and the hopeful mating of two bitches to Live Oak dogs will require airplane tickets. Breeding a good pack of hounds to your requirements is no easy task, and, as many of you may know, what looks good on paper doesn't always turn out as expected. However, I think the hounds are the best part of being a Master, and I am fortunate to have the support of my two Joint-Masters, Doris Stimpson and Anne McIntosh, along with my huntsman.

## CALENDAR 2008...

### The Voss Family: Artists of American Sporting Life

August 29, 2008 through February 28, 2009  
National Sporting Library  
Middleburg, Virginia  
Contact: Elizabeth Tobey, 540-687-6542  
www.nsl.org

### Junior Field Hunter Championship Southern Division:

September 13	Middleburg
October 5	Rappahannock
October 11	Orange County
October 13	Keswick
October 19	Snickersville

### Northern Division:

September 20	Radnor
September 21	Mr. Stewart's Cheshire
October 4	Green Spring Valley
October 13	Elkridge-Harford

### Finals:

November 11	Orange County (Old Whitewood)
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**Contact:** Iona Pillion, 540-837-1714 or Douglas Hytla, MFH, 540-364-4573

### Blue Ridge Fall Races

September 20  
Woodley Farm, Berryville, Virginia  
**Contact:** Melanie Marks, 540-722-6403  
www.blueridgefallraces.com

### Virginia Field Hunter Championship

November 9  
Hosted by the Farmington Hunt  
**Contact:** W. Patrick Butterfield, MFH, 434-823-5698; Mark Thompson, 434-977-0305

An up-to-date Calendar of Events is maintained on the MFHA website: [www.mfha.com](http://www.mfha.com). Event organizers that wish to be included in the Calendar may send details via e-mail to [office@mfha.com](mailto:office@mfha.com). Be sure to include the name of the event, dates, and contact. Organizers may also include a link to their website. Or, mail details to MFHA, PO Box 363, Millwood, VA 22646, Attn: Calendar.