

IMAGES

...THEN AND NOW

From the Indian Hill Historical Society



**Buckingham Lodge
1861**

Traditional Events of the Camargo Hunt, Part II

A highlight of each autumn is the Hunter Trials, a fancy day long affair at Clippinger Field. In the past, all riders were hunter/jumpers, but now eventers are welcome too. Contests are held all day in two rings (one big, one small). Qualified classes (in which the hunter has hunted at least 6 times) and races for juniors are exciting events. Numerous ribbons and trophies are presented, and monetary prizes are won. The Parade of Hounds is a highpoint of the day. Tailgating is very popular and competitive. There are many decorated tents surrounding the field, and there are copious culinary delights. Tailgaters are judged by local chefs and prominent citizens. The Hunter Trials are truly a fun day for both spectators and participants.



Ribbons and trophies to be awarded



Comfortable seating area ringside



Horses & riders awaiting their turn



Tailgating drink table



Ringside sponsor tent



Natalie Nesbitt

The Thanksgiving Day Hunt was held at Green Acres until Mrs. Nippert died. Her stirrup cup (refreshments and libations) was memorable for her mulled wine – perfect on a cold morning. Now it takes place at Clippinger Field. There is always a Christmas party for Camargo Hunt members – usually in a private home. A new tradition is hunting on Boxing Day, December 26, which is common in Great Britain. The Camargo Hunt has access to about 5,000 acres in Owen County, Kentucky, where the kennels have been relocated. Most of the land in Owen County is owned by Camargo Hunt members. Hunts occur there as well as in Indian Hill, the original territory of the Camargo Hunt, and a fixture in Clermont County.

The Puppy Auction, an annual event, formerly was held at an Indian Hill barn, but now happens on the same night as the Hunt Ball. When new hound puppies are born, the naming rights to them are auctioned off to members. This generates both funds and enthusiasm within the group. Usually 4-5 puppies are named annually. The huntsman decides whether the puppies will be named after the sire or the dam. The first two letters of the sire/dam are then passed along to each puppy that year. Very creative names have been chosen for the youngest newest hounds. Hunt members who win the right to name a pup take great pride in doing so, especially during later hunts, when a sponsor can say, “That’s my hound.” The Hunt Ball is a regal social celebration held at a local country club, though it was hosted at Peterloon decades ago. After the season concludes in March, there is an April business meeting at the University Club. Colors (grey and yellow) are handed out to be worn by members, and awards are presented to worthy individuals.

The Camargo Hunt has left an inspiring mark on Indian Hill history and has been a source of joy to many. Indeed it is a thrill to watch a hunt in progress. May the splendor of the Hunt continue to thrive!

Thanks to Natalie Nesbitt, Master of Fox Hounds, for assistance with this article.