



THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE

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2020 Live Oak Hounds USPC Foxhunting Challenge Award

August 20, 2020 (Lexington, KY) – The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. is pleased to announce the results of the annual Live Oak Hounds USPC Foxhunting Challenge. The Live Oak Challenge is designed to encourage Pony Club members to try the sport, and to reward members who hunt on a regular basis for mentoring the newcomers. For their achievements, cash prizes were awarded to the top participating Pony Clubs. This award is made possible through the generous support of Mr. and Mrs. C. Martin Wood III, Joint Masters of the Live Oak Hounds in Monticello, Florida, and Past Presidents of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America (MFHA).

“Marty and I have so enjoyed being able to sponsor the Live Oak Hounds Foxhunting Challenge Awards for the last 14 years,” said Daphne Flowers Wood, Joint Master, Live Oak Hounds. “We are delighted that as a result, hundreds of children have gotten out hunting for the first time, to discover the bliss, freedom and camaraderie of following a pack of foxhounds. Foxhunting is a marvelous sport enjoyed by people from 8 to 80 years old.”

A total of seven Pony Clubs competed this year, accounting for more than 420 days in the hunt fields. Thanks to the following hunts for their hospitality in welcoming Pony Club members throughout the hunt season: Cedar Knob Hounds (TN), De La Brooke Foxhounds (MD), Live Oak Hounds (FL), Marlborough Hunt (MD), Old Dominion Hounds (VA), Red Rock Hounds (NV), and Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt (PA).

Congratulations to the 2020 Challenge winners:

1st Place: **De La Brooke Pony Club** (hunting with De La Brooke Foxhounds)

2nd Place: **St. Margaret’s Pony Club** (hunting with the Marlborough Hunt)

3rd Place: **Ochlockonee River Pony Club** (hunting with Live Oak Hounds)

4th Place: **Blue Mountain Pony Club** (hunting with Rose Tree-Blue Mountain Hunt)

5th Place: **Old Dominion Hounds Pony Club** (hunting with Old Dominion Hounds)

6th Place: **Cedar Knob Pony Club** (hunting with Cedar Knob Hounds)

7th Place: **Portneuf Valley Pony Club** (hunting with Red Rock Hounds)

USPC was founded in 1954 by a group of avid foxhunters. A knowledgeable rider on a happy pony (or horse) is the goal of Pony Club, and the hunt field is a great place to find many of these pairs. Pony Club offers several opportunities for members to explore Foxhunting as a group or individually through club or center activities. Visit ponyclub.org for more information and to get involved.

About MFHA – Founded in 1907, the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America (MFHA) works to promote and preserve the sport of foxhunting. The organization serves as a governing body responsible for establishing and maintaining standards of conduct; managing the Foxhound Stud Book; recording countries and boundaries for organized hunting establishments, and recognizing organized hunts.

About Pony Club – The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (Pony Club) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1954. Pony Club is the largest equine education organization in the world, with more than 10,000 members in the US, and over 500 clubs and riding centers nationwide. USPC is proud to provide education to youth and equestrians of all ages, with instruction and competitive opportunities in more than nine English and Western riding disciplines. Pony Club's educational standards continue to be instrumental in curriculum development for schools, universities, equestrian professionals and organizations across the United States. Many of the nation's top equestrians, including Olympic team members, as well as successful business professionals and government leaders, have roots in Pony Club.

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