Interested in foxhunting, but not sure where to start? Not sure your horse will be up to the job? Nervous about not knowing the ins & outs of the sport? We have the perfect answer for you! Come try our **Jumping Sundays!** 

We systematically progress through a series of cross country rides, to acclimate horses to hunting, over 2 Sundays. It is the time that our members usually bring out their new horses to introduce them to their upcoming careers, and the time we all start legging-up our horses for the fall Hunt season - as well as getting ourselves back into shape! Jumping is not required! Many come just to ride out on the property & see areas not on the Hunter Pace course.

We help teach both horses & riders to be calm & secure riding out in a group at various gaits, jumping as a group cross country, negotiating various XC obstacles, exposure to wildlife and assorted chaos, traversing woods, various footing and water, as well as smelling, seeing, and being around the hounds in a non-stressful setting. The second day, we take the hounds out with the horses and lay a short drag line, then go out XC schooling.

We begin at 8:30, end around 10:30 and ride as a group during that time. Casual riding attire, horses do not have to be well-groomed - nice easy-going pace, friendly faces.... opportunity to ask all the questions you want of our knowledgeable Staff. Bring something to eat & drink afterwards at the picnic tables under the trees. The price is \$35 per horse/rider combination - No additional grounds fee. No charge for MMH members or full-time MMH Boarders. We ask that any spectators make a \$10 contribution to the Hounds.

Be sure to check the Hunt Hotline (352) 374-1921 the night before and the morning of Jumping Sundays, as well as any Hunt Activity, just to make sure there haven't been any changes. We usually ride rain or shine ... or sometimes wait out the rain if it is passing through fairly quickly, but always a good idea to check the Hotline in case we do change time or cancel! It is best to come for the entire series, as this will build the horse's confidence in small increments, but it is ok to jump on in if you miss one of the series.

## **Dates are:**

<u>Sept 3</u>– Discuss Hunt Protocal and organization of a Hunt Day. Introduce horses to hounds in the kennels & a few out of kennels. Desensitize horses to horn, hunt whips, and other sounds that might be encountered in the course of the Hunt day, plus letting hounds out around the horses to practice making-way, and a brief hound walk. Afterwards, a XC trek in hunt groups. <u>Sept. 10</u> - Brief re-cap of Day 1. XC schooling, picking up the pace. Expose horses to wildlife, natural water, hills & tricky footing. Hunt Protocol, Desensitization + short drag line laid for hounds, XC schooling, moving horses into different positions.

We hope that you will consider becoming a member! Foxhunting is one of the most economical horse sports around. Memberships range between \$750 for a 1/2 season (either the 1st half or 2nd half of season) or Junior or Student membership, up to \$2250 for a Family membership. Individual Adult Full-season Riding Membership is \$1150. We will be hunting most Saturdays and Wednesdays, from Oct. 21 thru March 9. In addition, members enjoy other perks besides hunting - such as no charge for Jumping Sundays, not having to pay grounds fees at hunter paces, and a Subscribing Membership in the MFHA. (It does not include schooling at TPP). Visit our website at www.mistymorninghounds.com for more info on the sport.

Phone Alexis at (352) 258-0317 or Dana Moore at (352) 215-8514 with any questions. Tally ho!

