

25-Jul-10

Redtail Ridge Farm

### Scores Hattrick

Redtail Ridge Farm scored a major hattrick at the Cobblestone Horse Trials in Michigan July 18, with wins in the Preliminary, Open Novice and Beginner Novice Rider divisions.

Ellie MacPhail and her seven-year-old Selle Francais, Parador Mail, aka "Avie," won the Open Preliminary division; Ellie and her five-year-old Irish sporthorse, Goodnight Moon, won an Open Novice division; and Anna Robinson and her new ride, Woodstock II, won Beginner Novice Rider.

It was Ellie and Avie's first competition since a traumatic outing at The Fork Easter weekend, when Ellie ended up in the emergency room with a ruptured appendix midway through the competition on Avie. A long recovery ensued for Ellie, during which Avie underwent tie-back surgery and he, too, went through months of recovery.



But he was back better than ever at Cobblestone, when he rocked around the cross-country course and sailed around the stadium-jumping course.

Goodnight Moon, barn name "Sterling," stepped up like a big boy at this, his second-ever competition. His first show, at South Farm Horse Trials two weeks earlier, was an exercise in trial-and-error, as he fumbled his way around the Novice course, but completed the competition.



And also running in her second horse trial on her current mount was Anna, who nailed the competition. Anna and Woody paired up last winter, when it was agreed that Woody, Ellie's 16-year-old, former two-star horse, would not be able to compete at the upper levels again. Anna and Woody were second after dressage, then pulled ahead with double-clear rounds on the cross-country and stadium courses.

### Flying Cross Big Mini Trial

Ellie and Redtail rider Kalista Miller traveled to Louisville this past weekend for the Flying Cross Big Mini Trial and each came home with a red ribbon for her Beginner Novice ride. Kalista rode Ellie's sport pony, Teddy, while Ellie competed on Kalista's green pony, Epona.

## In loving memory of John Nance

Our farm family is mourning the death March 9 of John Nance, Sally Crane's husband and loving stepfather of Cameron, Alastair and Ellie MacPhail.



A renowned photojournalist and author, John was an incredibly patient volunteer photographer of all things horsey, whether tirelessly trailing the hunt at Rocky Fork (and foxhunting in Virginia, left) or shooting riders and events at Redtail Ridge Farm.



Although he is gone from us physically, his incredible spirit, energy and enthusiasm are a legacy that continue to live on.

## Consider foxhunting with Rocky Fork Headley Hunt

One of my favorite pasttimes is foxhunting. There is nothing like riding to hounds and then enjoying the company of friends who share my love of horses, dogs and nature. If you are interested in knowing more about foxhunting, consider joining us at Rocky Fork, either as a rider or a social member.

Foxhunting with RFHH:

- An exhilarating way to enjoy riding the woods and fields during the fall and winter months.
- Following on horseback and observing our hounds chasing the scent of fox and coyote (no animals are killed in our hunt).
- Options for riding at whatever pace you are comfortable with, whether galloping across fields, through the woods and over jumps, or walking and trotting at a more moderate pace with no jumping.
- Many occasions for fun and friendship at post-hunt "teas," hunt suppers, the annual hunt ball, summer trail rides, and other events.



## **Elinor MacPhail Eventing**

If you are interested in having Ellie work with you or your horse, contact her at 614-256-9547 or ebellie@gmail.com. Ellie will be at Redtail Ridge Farm through September before she travels to Kentucky to work at the World Equestrian Games. She then heads south for the winter to train with Karen and David O'Connor.

### **REDTAIL RIDGE FARM 2010 RATES AND FEES**

Redtail Ridge Farm Membership (free schooling January 1-September 30; free haul-in)	\$150/9 months
Schooling cross-country course/arena Haul-in fee (RRF members exempt)	\$30/rider; \$10/junior rider \$10/trailer
Trailer parking (when available)	\$25/month
Temporary stabling (when available)	\$35/night
Boarding (varies in stall size)	\$600/month; \$450/month
Training	Email or call for information

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