

## JENNY'S PICKS

We have a new book on foxhunting for you, hot off the press! You'll recognize a number of those featured from being mentioned in the pages of *In and Around Horse Country*

Kalergis, Mary Motley. **Foxhunters Speak.** In this new book from Derrydale Press, who have produced or reproduced so many well-loved foxhunting books, readers are treated to the words of noted foxhunters from the late 20th-early 21st century, many of whom are still alive and hunting today. Foxhunters interviewed include such notables as Melvin and Albert Poe, Ben Hardaway, Jake Carle, Rita Mae Brown, Tommy Lee Jones, Barclay Rives, and Andrew Barclay—and many, many others, for a total of fifty, including several who are the old-fashioned night hunters. Each gets 5-6 pages of their recollections and several b&w photos. It's fun to read and an excellent way to familiarize yourself with some of the most notable in the field. Hardcover, 269pp. plus introduction. \$30.00 [See full review on page 3.]

A number of years ago we carried a book by Michael Sinclair-Smith, entitled **Lure of the Chase**, which was actually the first in a proposed series. Michael has now completed two more of the books. In the first book, we meet the protagonist, an American named Glenn O'Brien, and Caitlin O'Neil, the Irish girl who befriends him when he is lost in a storm while out hunting in Ireland. They discover they have something in common: matching gold pendants that have been handed down from their respective families generations ago. Together they begin to research the history of these families, and we are introduced to two "blood brothers," friends who went their separate ways: Tom Smith the blacksmith's son to Canada, and Guy d'Arcy, son of one of the local gentry, who remained home in England. Tom, who was in love with Guy's sister Elizabeth, left under a cloud of dishonor, having been drugged and accused of drunkenly attempting to molest one of the guests at a party given by the D'Arcy's. After he had left for London, the treacherous plot was revealed, but it was too late to make amends.

**Start of the Chase.** Glenn sells his engineering company and makes plans to have Caitlin visit him in Boston. Sud-

denly he gets a letter from her calling it all off and telling him not to try to find her. Of course it has the opposite effect; he's a gentleman and in love. When they do get together, they continue reading the diary of Tom Smith and his adventures in the New World. In this book, Tom gets a chance to go to Virginia to pick up a few foxhounds to establish a military hunt back in Canada, for which he has agreed to be huntsman, and he sees what plantation life is like. He likes the idea of the gracious plantation house, but the slavery issue just doesn't set well with him. Softcover, 488pp. \$20.00

**Cost of the Chase.** Just when he thinks everything is going to turn out nicely, Glenn's new business arrangement runs into a problem, suggesting that his engineering statistics were flawed and that the process would not work. He also receives a letter from a woman who believes that they may be distantly related through Tom Smith and wants to get together with him about ancestry records. On the other side of the Atlantic, Caitlin receives another installment of the Tom Smith diary, which tells more of Tom's exploits in Canada and his rise to prosperity. Softcover, 295pp. \$20.00

Do you have a horse business, think you might qualify for one, or want to start one? If so, you may be aware that horse businesses are a magnet for IRS auditors, who tend to suspect that anyone trying to take deductions for one actually just has a hobby. We just got a new book in to help you prove you're really a business!

McCarthy, Cindy; with Michael Farnam. **Horse Hobby or Equine Business.** I was privileged to be able to proof-read an advance copy of this before it went to press, and



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I was very impressed by the author's attention to detail and the enormous amount of work that obviously went into her tables and information. No, it isn't "summer reading" material—if you're serious about a horse business, she's serious about telling you how to survive the IRS audit you're likely to have. She's been through eight so far, and came out with flying colors each time! Granted, if you're a big racing stable, you probably have an accountant to do all this digging for you, but boarding stables, small riding stables, even breeding farms can only benefit from understanding what McCarthy has to say. For instance, you can't just say, "I bought 500 bales of hay at \$5.00 per bale this summer." What if you have a couple of retired school horses that don't contribute to the economy? What if you have a trail horse you just use for pleasure? You can't count those as business expenses, so how do you figure their upkeep and deduct it from IRS-approved expenses? Read this and find out! Highly recommended—and take the time to read it thoroughly! (You might even want to get one for your accountant!) Softcover, 199pp. \$29.99

We've all been anxiously awaiting more of Rita Mae's mysteries. While the next Sister Jane has to wait until fall, we do have Mrs. Murphy and her cohorts appearing this spring.

Brown, Rita Mae. **A Hiss Before Dying.** The next in the Sneaky Pie series finds "Harry" Haristeen and her pets once again on the trail of a murderer when rabbit-hunting beaglers find a human body; and once again, she links action in this century to an injustice in the American Revolution. Orders taken now; due out May 30. 384pp. \$27.00