

# ***SOCAL NAVHDA***



# ***ON POINT***

**NEWSLETTER JUNE- 2015**

**Matt Moore & Rody**

**U.T. Prize 1**



**The 3 D's    German Longhair Pointers    Test Results**

**So You Bought a Puppy    Training's Building Blocks**

# So You Bought a Puppy

by Gary Johnson

**How does it feel to be a pack leader?** What? Your not a pack leader? Being a pack leader is not something you aspire to, yet you recently got a new puppy. That puppy is coming to you at 7-10 weeks of age and is eagerly looking for a “new pack” with a new “pack leader”. **Congratulations. You have been selected.** Your pup is looking to find a pack leader that is strong, consistent and authoritative. You want to gush with love and joy towards your pup and treat them as little royalty. I’m sorry but that is not strong, consistent or authoritative. Puppies, all puppies, are programmed to look for and follow a pack leader. They will give you unconditional love and forgive your many deficiencies. Unfortunately it is also in your dog’s nature to continually challenge your authority and your status as pack leader. This is nature’s way of ensuring all packs will have a leader. Your consistent, strong leadership is key. Your dog is eager to find this leader. Do not wait until the dog is 6– 8 months old This is like not disciplining a child until they are 10—12 years old. It’s too late. **Establish your position from the beginning . You are the pack leader. Lead.**

## Set the parameters and boundaries of your relationship.

It does not have to be all business. **Play is important.** It helps develop coordination and muscle development. This play needs to be on your terms not your pups. You will dictate where and when play occurs. Take your pup to where you want this to occur and invite them to begin interacting with you. This could be chasing a bouncing ball, follow the leader around the yard or through the woods. It could be 2 people playing “keep away” with the pup chasing the ball person to person. Avoid playing tug of war, this will give him a “hard mouth”. **Let him win sometimes. This will build confidence.** Stop the game before they lose interest. **Leave them wanting more.** Be aware of space. **Insist that the pup respect your “space”.** Stand your ground, use the word “NO” and if the pup continues to invade your space move towards the pup until it becomes submissive and moves away from you. Watch the mother dog. She will walk towards the

pups and if necessary growl or nudge them away. This reminds your pup that you are the leader. **The pecking order is being established and you are the leader. Enjoy your position.**

← Moxie

Dixie →



## Inside this issue:

So You Bought A Puppy	2 3
Training Day Photos	4
Building Blocks Of Training	5
Test Day Photos	6 7
Training Day Guidelines Officers	8
Test Day Photos	9 10 11
Utility Field Test Explained	
Breed of the Month German Longhaired Pointers	12 13

## SO YOU BOUGHT A PUPPY

*continued from previous page*

Your position as pack leader can be further established with your pup by doing a few minutes of training at feeding time. First you need a release word for them to eat. I use the word “release” to tell the dog he is now free to go but you may use a word like “get it” to simply refer to food or water. The puppy is strongly motivated by food. You should probably begin inside, with the pup, a 5 gallon bucket and some food.



## Teach with Food

Your pup should probably have a lead on so you can have some physical control. Place the pup against the wall while you sit in front on the bucket. Place the food on the floor behind you. Hold the lead and command the pup to “sit” you may have to lightly push on their rear and put some kibble above their nose to get this to happen. As soon as their rear hits the floor say “release” or “get it” and let them run to the food. Each day make them wait a little longer. Shortly your pup will quickly sit and eagerly wait for your release. **This is the beginning of steadiness.** As sit is mastered you can establish “whoa”, i.e. standing without movement, the same way. After mastering sit and whoa you may progress to “down”. **Keep grinding.**

Some other things for you to consider. Try and get off the bucket and create some distance between you and the pup. **If your pup breaks for the food, you also must break and not let them get to the food. Your command is not a “suggestion”.** Can you get your pup to stop after releasing, as they run to the food. Use your “whoa” or “sit”. Make sure you can get between them and the food to stop them. You may also consider having a pole or tree behind them and run a checkcord around the tree and have a flank-hitch on your pup. If they break while you are standing in front just tighten up the checkcord so they cannot get to the food. This daily drill is also great for teaching “leave it”. As they get to the food, pull up on the checkcord and say “leave it” and walk them past the food. Have them do this once or twice and then release them to the food. Can you do this outside in the backyard? Can you do your feeding routine in a city park with people active around you? Give it a try. **You have mastered the commands in a controlled setting.** Your pup has proven they can hold for a period of time (duration). **It is now time to throw in some distractions.** Your pup will learn to focus on you and you alone while other things are going on around you. **You are becoming a team.** Your pup is probably the most loyal eager teammate you could have. Congratulations. **You are now the pack leader!**

WHERE  
**MEMBERS**  
TEACH OTHERS  
**HOW**  
TO TRAIN  
THEIR  
**BIRDDOG**

### *Inside this issue:*

Test Day	14
Photos	15 16
Test Results	17
Test and Training Day	18
Photos	19 20 21
Three D's of Dog Training	22
Test and Training Day	23 24 25
SPONSORS	26

# TRAINING DAY

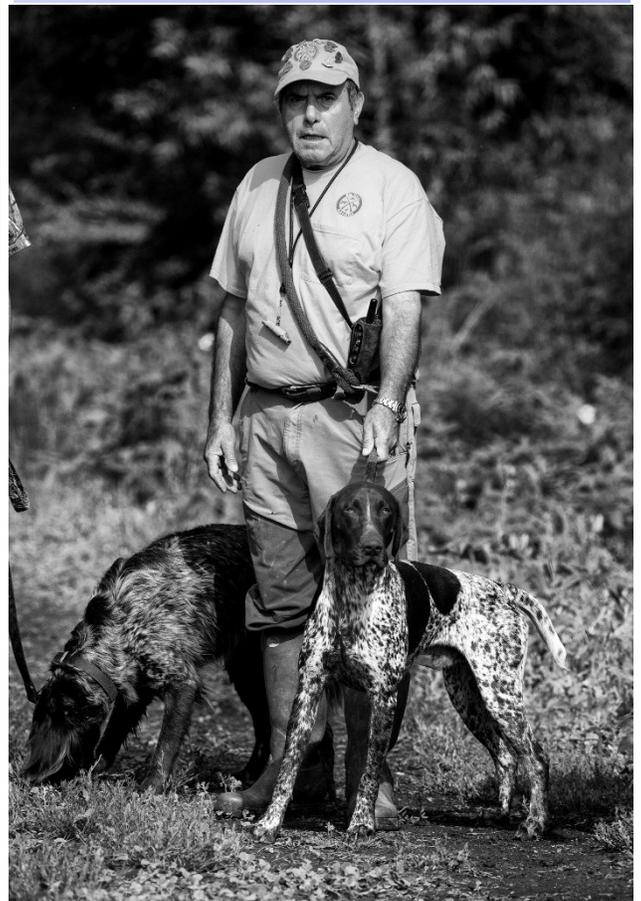


The Dog Whisperer, Cesar Millan, shares that a dog responds to stimulus in 4 basic ways.

1. **Fight**
2. **Flight**
3. **Avoidance**
4. **Submission**

When training a new skill expect your dog to hit at least a couple of the earlier steps before reaching the desired **submission**. You may see your dog frantically try and pull away—**flight**. Or, you may see your dog lay down and refuse to move—**avoidance**.

**Be encouraged. Submission and accomplishment is just around the corner. Be patient and persistent. Your calm energy will win the day!**



# BUILDING BLOCKS OF DOG TRAINING

**AN E-COLLAR IS NOT USED TO TEACH A DOG A COMMAND BUT FOR WHEN A DOG CHOOSES NOT TO DO A COMMAND THAT IT KNOWS. THE E-COLLAR IS USED TO REINFORCE A KNOWN COMMAND ONLY.**

**DON'T TEACH WHOA AROUND BIRDS WHOA HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BIRDS**

**THE DOG MUST KNOW WHAT YOUR COMMAND MEANS BEFORE HE CAN BE CORRECTED FOR MISTAKES**

**GIVE THE COMMAND ONCE . . DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE, AND ALWAYS USE A RELEASE COMMAND**

**WHEN WORKING BIRDS, YOUR DOG HAS NOT MADE A MISTAKE UNTIL HE PUTS A BIRD IN THE AIR**

**IT TAKES BIRDS TO TRAIN A BIRD DOG**

**BE PATIENT & CONSISTENT**



**find a mentor**

**STOP TALKING**

**LET YOUR DOG LEARN TO MANAGE THE BIRD**

Look for  
SOCALNAVHDA  
PHOTOS  
On IMGUR.COM  
And FACEBOOK  
Once there search  
socalnavhda.

**DOGS ARE PACK ANIMALS BE THE LEADER**



**3 D's of Dog Training  
Distance  
Duration  
Distraction**

**DO NOT  
GIVE A  
COMMAND  
YOU WILL NOT  
ENFORCE**

**WHERE  
MEMBERS  
TEACH OTHERS  
HOW TO TRAIN  
THEIR BIRDDOG**



# TEST DAY

TRAINING is simply the process of decreasing uncertainty in any given situation



Dixie tracks and retrieves pheasant



## Training Days Guidelines & Procedures

- (1) Please keep your dog under control at all times, particularly when he/she is not working on a drill.
- (2) Everyone in the field must wear blaze orange hat, t-shirt or vest. **Members holding a gun in the field must have completed a hunter safety class or have a hunting license.**
- (3) Children are to be supervised and remain in the designated parking area at all times.
- (4) No alcohol on premises.
- (5) "Boat Safety", persons under 12 years of age must wear a life jacket when in the boat.

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**“If your dog doesn’t Like someone you probably Shouldn’t either.” Unknown**



**Tim and Ranger** came all the way from Northern Ca. to test. **Ranger** was one of the youngest dogs in the country to get a perfect N.A. score last year. **Steve & Dixie** track a pheasant and retrieve to hand.





# WHERE MEMBERS TEACH OTHERS HOW TO TRAIN THEIR BIRDDOG

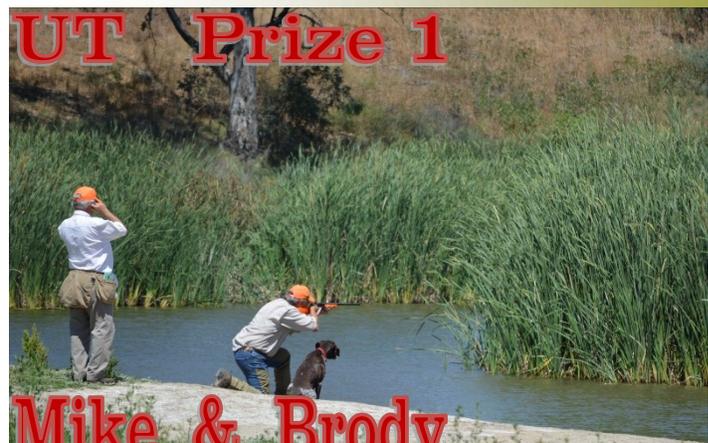
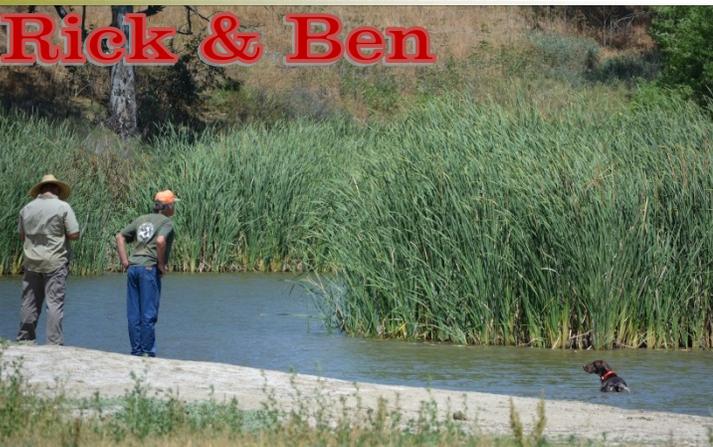
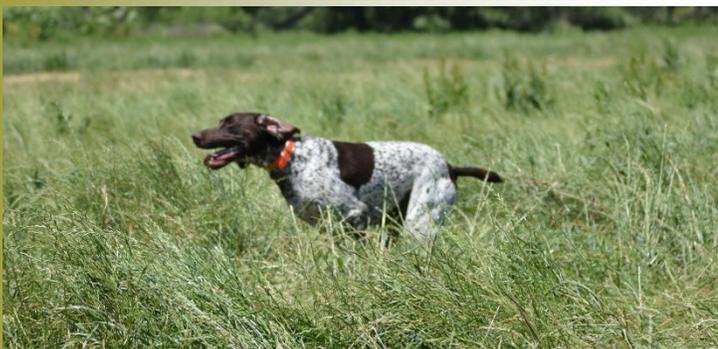


## The Utility Field Test

This is one of the four parts of the Utility Test. It is typically the first test as the judges try and avoid the dogs having to run in the heat of the day. The dogs will hunt for 30 minutes in the field. The judges will take field conditions into consideration. Typically you should hope to have about 3 good bird contacts with no negative contacts. You are looking for a solid point. The dog holds the point until you walk in front and find the bird. You will then position the two gunners and flush the bird, raise your gun and the gunners will shoot the bird. Your dog must remain steady to flush, shot and fall. Then your dog needs to retrieve the bird to your hand. Frequently you will reward your dog with a drink of water after a good retrieve. **Matt Moore** and **Rody** (at left) performed flawlessly in the field. **Rody** (below) shakes his head in disgust after an unnamed gunner misses a shot!



**Dogs can sense the energy on test day.** Other dogs, lots of birds and lots of people and people with clipboards following them around! **Try and be calm. Some things will not go well. It's OK.** The judges look at the totality of the day not just one moment. If you enjoy the day so will your dog. If you are not happy with your score. Take the test again. It gives you an excuse to keep practicing and spend more time with your dog! As you prepare for the test try to occasionally practice with other dogs and people around. Try and simulate some things that can go wrong to help train your dog through that moment.



**Rick & Ben**

**UT Prize 1**

**Mike & Brody**

If you have any unique, memorable moments while training, hunting or when you are in the midst of a local adventure please snap a photo and email it to us. We would love to share that memory with your fellow members. Email these memories to [gary\\_johnson@busdk12.com](mailto:gary_johnson@busdk12.com).

# Breed of the Month

## German Longhaired Pointers



Poaching was rife in the Germanic principalities from the Middle Ages so Rangers were employed to protect game in dense forests which were very dangerous. "Ranger murder" was so common it became part of criminal terminology. For protection Rangers carried a gun patented in Munich which included a barrel for cartridge shot and another for bullets. This was a sophisticated "Swiss Army Knife " type of gun which could fire a variety of caliber but for added protection they used dogs. **A long haired type was considered to be the best forest dog**, one who could protect in any emergency and hunt within range of any shot. **It had to have determination and perseverance for entering the thickest of cover, swim for diving ducks, retrieve both fur and feather, track wounded deer and safeguard its owner from poachers and wild boar. These longhairs became known as "the do everything dog "**, not a specialist, but an excellent all rounder, versatility was in its gene's. During the 1800's Germanic dogs were all shapes and sizes and were described by the naturalist Louis Zeigler in 1840 as being a colorful group of short, tall, spotted, one colored, mostly longhaired, large and small headed dogs unlike the specialized French and Italian dogs who were elegant and beautiful. Their owners were not concerned with their looks but at the ending of the 19th Century an intense German nationalism developed. One became proud to be German! The Germans wanted a breed of their own to be published in the first canine magazine "The Dog " printed in 1876 so in Berlin a dog club called 'Hector " was founded. So what would this new "national" dog look like?

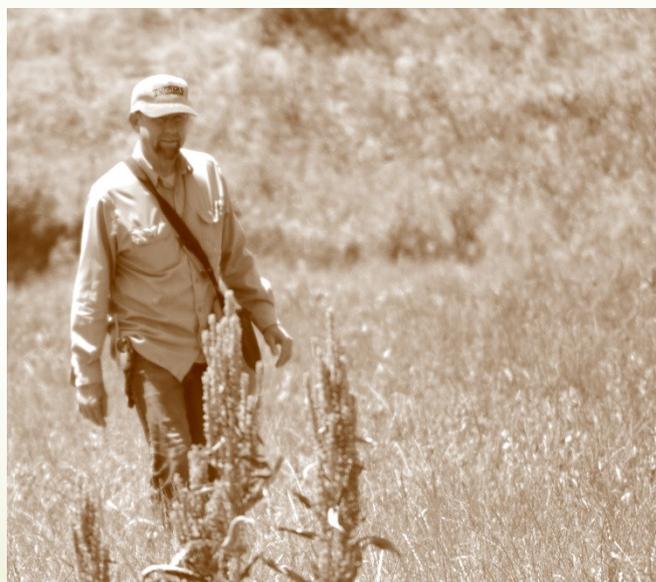


For entry in the new Deutsch Langhaar Stud Book excellent hunting performance, a beautiful head, well – fringed ears, sturdy build and medium length body hair were required. **Those dogs suspected of having English setter blood were not included**, only German blood was allowed. Five genealogical lines were chosen but the breed standard was based on Mylord 1. Black dogs were excluded in the 1920's so these owners formed their own breed The Large Munsterlander. There is a misconception in the UK the GLP was founded with English pointer and Setter blood in its heritage. Coat definitions of short, long and wire were clearly defined by the 16th Century, a short coat is always dominant over long , so adding pointer blood would not produce long hair. Any infusions of English or Irish Setter blood were declared highly undesirable and any long haired line which was thought to contain it were excluded from the first Stud Book. **This was a time of intense German nationalism so foundation dogs had to be 100% German. There has been no outcrossing to Setters in Germany since 1879.** Is the GLP related to the Large Muensterlander? Yes, through the Kalckstein line which is one of the 5 Genealogical lines. This line also introduced the ticking gene to the GLP's. Before 1922 the German stud book included the colors brown, brown and white and black and white. Their new breed club declared that the color black was introduced through English setter blood and as only Germanic blood was allowed, the color black was banned. So what is a German Longhair pointer like?

**A Longhair puppy is a quick learner but needs basic obedience installed before being allowed free exercise.** Even at this age a puppy will be hooked on game scent so the first few months should include basic obedience and retrieve training in the yard and exercise walks while on the lead .When the puppy is 100% obedient to the stop whistle, free exercise can begin. **If time and commitment are not high priorities this really isn't the breed for you.** An adult GLP does require regular exercise daily and mental stimulation is important too. They are deer dogs and will track ground scent so **its not in your interest to skimp on the recall command otherwise you may spend hours looking for your dog.** **The Longhair was bred as a forester's dog who lived with the family so is especially good with children .** Many of today's versatile dogs have been developed using the German Longhair Pointer as breed stock. Currently SOCAL NAVHDA has no GLP's.

# TEST DAY

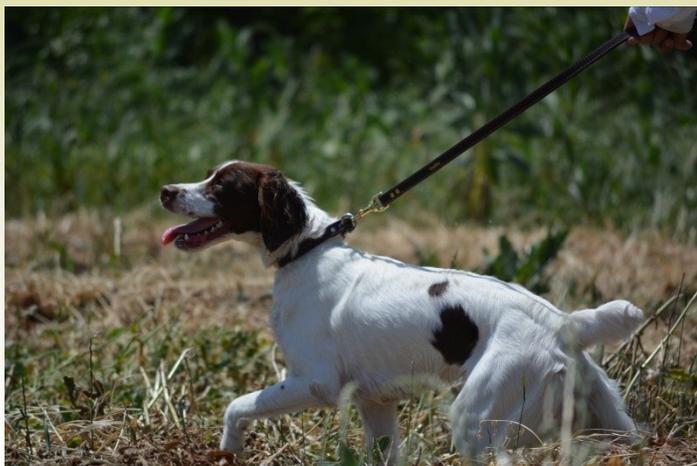
“Dogs are our link to paradise. They don’t know evil or jealousy or discontent. To sit with a dog on a hillside on a glorious afternoon is to be back in Eden, where doing nothing was not boring — it was peace.” **Milan Kundera**



# TEST DAY

“I think we are drawn to dogs because they are the uninhibited creatures we might be if we weren’t certain we knew better.”

George Evans “Troubles with Bird Dogs”



# SOCAL NAVHDA TEST

“Whoever said you can’t buy happiness forgot little puppies.” Gene Hill



# SPRING TEST RESULTS

<u>Utility Test</u>	Sex	Yr-Mo	WATER	FIELD	T/OUT	Pts	Prz	<u>Owner</u>
GRIFFIN BLUES COLTRANE	M	2-4	2 44 44	44334	43433	179	III	GARY JOHNSON
<i>TEETH: BUTT BITE 101&amp;401</i>								
DARK SIDES CHASER	M	3-10	3 14 32	44323	43433	163	III	JON AUER
HUNT MOUNTAIN'S GOODTHUNDER	M	4-0	4 44 44	44444	44444	204	I	JAMES MCDONALD
MONTANA MOJO VON PRETTY PRAIRIE	F	2-3	1 44 44	44323	43333	166	None	GARY JOHNSON

<u>Utility Test</u>	Sex	Yr-Mo	WATER	FIELD	T/OUT	Pts	Prz	<u>Owner</u>
PATRON'S RYDER	M	3-5	4 44 44	44444	44444	204	I	MIKE BRIDGES
<i>TESTES: NEUTERED -- BITE OVERSHOT ALL INCISORS</i>								
MISTER VOM TROCKEN BACH	M	1-5	2 32 21	34140	42322	126	None	TIM KALLAS
EHRENOGEL BEAUSOLEIL	M	3-7	4 24 41	44323	43433	168	III	KIM JAMESON
JJ'Z HOTWIREZ BERLIN	F	4-0	3 44 42	43342	43433	170	II	VLADIMIR LITVIN
BAELOR VON DER BEN	M	2-0	2 34 42	44113	43422	150	None	ERIC B BOWERMAN
RODY	M	5-9	4 44 44	44444	44444	204	I	MATT MOORE

<u>Natural Ability</u>	Sex	Yr- Mo	N	S	W	P	T	D	C	Pts	Prz	<u>Owner</u>
REMCHESTER'S MOXIE MACIAS	F	0-10	4	4	4	3	1	3	3	96	III	MICHAEL MACIAS
BRUNO VON DEI-HAUS	M	1-3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	107	II	GEORGE ZOUMBERAKIS
GREAT OAK'S SKYLAR	M	0-9	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	108	I	IRENE FRADELLA
<i>TEETH: MISSING 406</i>												
WINDJAMMER'S BUSTIN BLUES ROY	M	0-9	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	110	I	TYLER MITCHEL
FIRESTORM PACIFIC DUKE	M	0-10	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	106	I	CLINT LAGER
<i>TEETH: UNDERSHOT ALL INCISORS</i>												
BONNIE VOM DEI-HAUS	F	1-3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	112	I	STEVE GREANIAS
FLATBROOK'S NITTY-GRITTY	F	0-11	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	108	I	LAURA GONZALEZ
BOE DOG'S LA LUNA MACCHIATA	F	1-1	4	4	4	4	2	4	4	108	II	ELAINE TANASSY
FLATBROOK OUTLAW HOODOO BROWN	M	0-8	4	3	1	4	4	3	4	88	None	MAC WEST
<i>TEETH: MISALIGNES 305 USED BIRD AT WATER</i>												

<u>Natural Ability</u>	Sex	Yr-Mo	N	S	W	P	T	D	C	Pts	Prz	<u>Owner</u>
PATRON'S BOLD DAISY	F	1-1	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	110	I	STEVE CARTER
BLITZGENT'S DELIGHTFUL ABBY	F	0-6	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	112	I	PATRICIA BEAVER

# TEST DAY

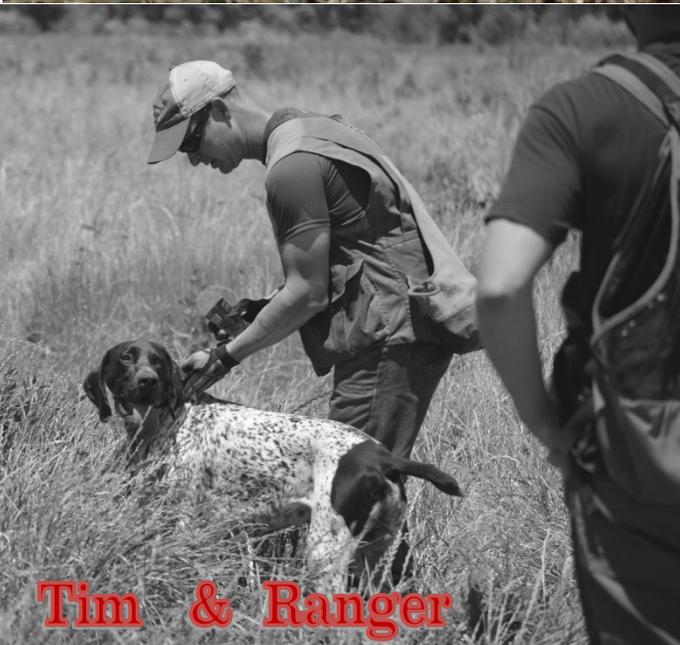
"Do not make the mistake of treating your dogs like humans or they will treat you like dogs." Martha Scott





We love to share your hunting moments or dog outings with our fellow **SOCAL NAVHDA** members. Please email your photos or stories to **gary\_johnson @ busdk12.com**

Thank you to **Dan Mick, Rodge Fradella** and **Kevin Billy** for the terrific photos this month



# SPRING TEST MAY 2-4



## Utility Test: The Duck Search

**Matt Moore & Rody** on the left are taking the **Duck Search**. The judges hand you the test gun and you fire a blank. Generally you will then give a direction for the dog to swim with a hand or arm signal followed by “fetch” or “dead bird”. If all goes well your dog will leave and not return to you for 10 minutes and search a wide area of the pond. At 10 minutes the judges will tell you to recall your dog and you will walk away the proud recipient of a “4” on the Duck Search. Hopefully. The dog on the right side is Mojo who is closely watching Rody and Matt to try and learn what it takes to be “excellent” in the **Duck Search**. **You must receive a “4” in Duck Search to receive a Prize 1.** This part of the test can be challenging.



# SPRING TEST MAY 2-5



# Three D's of Dog Training Distance Duration Distraction

by Gary Johnson



The 3 D's of Dog Training is a short little phrase to help us remember what we need to pay attention to when helping our dog's perfect a new skill. Once you have the basic behavior learned and can get consistent performance from your dog it's time to think about the 3 D's. Consistent performance might be defined as 5 repetitions without failure. It is then time to start working on improving the skill or "proofing" it. Trying to improve the skill to the point you can count on the performance anytime, anywhere. To do this start working through the 3 D's. Try working them in the order listed although you could alter the order if you want. **Also, it is very important to have a "release" word.** This will signal to the dog the command is over and they can return to doing whatever they want to.

**Distance** : Each day move slightly farther away from your dog as you give your command. How far can you be until your dog will no longer listen? Think of the field testing many of you just finished. How long does it take for your dog to get 100 feet away? 200 feet? 300 feet? Can you still get your dog to "Whoa" or "Sit"? Your dog is definitely capable and so are you. Simply move a few feet further away each day. You will soon amaze your friends with how well your dog listens from a distance. **Your whistle, hand signals and e-collar can be a big help here.**

**Duration** : The process is similar to above only simpler. Simply pull out your watch and each day **gradually increase how long your dog needs to hold** "sit", "down" or "whoa". If your dog breaks too early simply pick him up and return him to the spot and re-give the command. **Your dog will soon learn to wait for your release command.**

**Distraction:** **Get ready for the fun.** Your dog now completely understands your command and you can start to challenge their concentration by asking him to perform in challenging situations. Begin simply with another person nearby . . .movement and noise is good. Then look for multiple people and movement. My favorite is an active puppy running to try and distract them or a youth athletic practice. **If your dog can perform in these environments AND with distance and duration you may want to buy them a diploma** as they have now graduated and will be ready to learn a new skill soon. Pat yourself on the back as most people will have no idea how many little steps you and your partner took to get to this point. **Congratulations!!**

# SPRING TEST

## Great Egret



**Kevin Billy** took this photo at Prado while on a recent dog training session. Keep your eyes open while training at Prado. There is an abundance of birds and wildlife that regularly migrate through. If you take a photo you like we would love to share that with other SOCAL NAVHDA members.



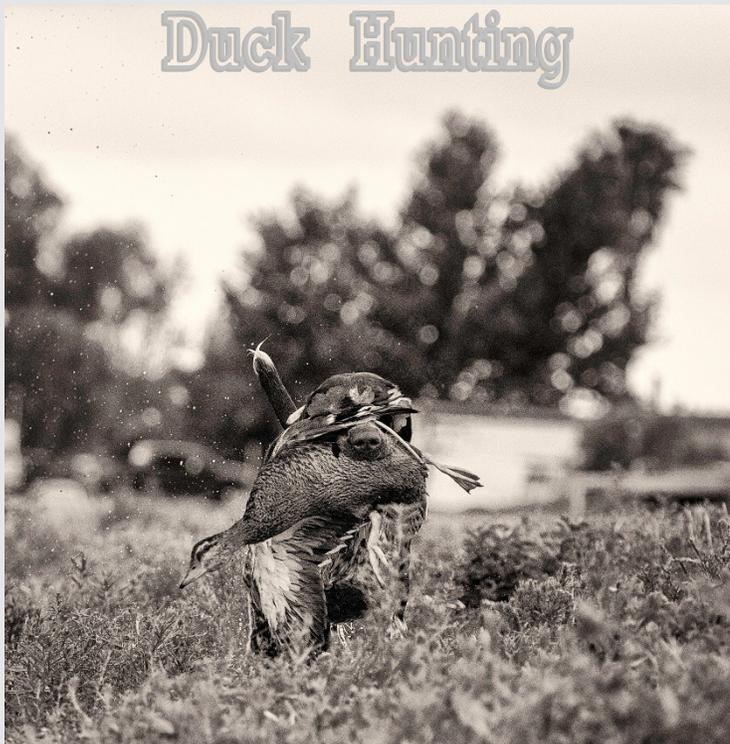
## Great Egret





**Thanks to Kevin Billy for taking the photos on this page while training recently.** Kevin is pictured above and below with his Vizsla Mikka. They will be taking the UPT test in the fall. **Mikka is making her first attempt at a duck search in these photos.** She was looking on the left side of the pond near some frozen (thawed) pigeons that were planted but showed little interest in these and bee lined across the pond to pick out “Henrietta” the one live pigeon for the retrieve. Mikka is shown swimming behind Kevin, with Henrietta, the unlucky pigeon. Mikka recently won her AKC show championship. At future training days, **Kevin has offered to take pictures of each SOCAL NAVHDA member with their dog. So Bring your Smile and your Dog!** We would like to publish some of these photos each month in the newsletter and possibly on the website. This would enable us to become more familiar with each of our members and their dogs.

# Duck Hunting



**SOCAL NAVHDA has about 100 members. Most of you have a multitude of talents. If you would like to volunteer your “skills” to help others it would be much appreciated. An all volunteer organization like NAVHDA is only as dynamic as the people involved. It is up to us to create the training and test days that we desire. It is the old question of who gets more when there is a gift - the one giving or the one getting? Thanks for being part of the tribe!**

# Some days your the dog, some days your the hydrant.



May 17 was our monthly training day. Many were relaxed as their test was just completed whereas others eagerly began working on preparing for the next test or skill. **Snake Avoidance Training dominated the day.** Over 30 dogs went through the training and most dogs had no interest getting close to the snake as seen in the photo above. Regardless of whether you went through the training, one should consider getting the vaccine at your vet. Having a dog bitten by a rattlesnake is not only expensive and life threatening but also very painful. Your rattlesnake booster vaccine and snake avoidance training is very inexpensive insurance against this event.



# SOCAL NAVHDA



**WHERE MEMBERS  
TEACH OTHERS  
HOW TO TRAIN  
THEIR BIRDDOG**

## SOCAL NAVHDA MEMBER BENEFITS

1. Receive Monthly newsletter from February to October.
2. Have your unlimited webpage site within the [www.Socalnavhda.com](http://www.Socalnavhda.com) website for 10.00\$/year.
3. Access to the Members Forum in the Chapter Website Password: "best dogs" with a space between the two words.
4. Choose a trainer mentor out of a list of professional and very experienced trainers.
5. Participate in a monthly training day.
6. Be first in line to enroll your dog in the Chapter's NAVHDA Tests before all other NAVHDA national members.
7. Have access to the So.Cal. NAVHDA Trailer packed with versatile hunting dog training supplies for \$20.00 key deposit, refundable if you'll leave the chapter.
8. So.Cal. NAVHDA members are covered by NAVHDA liability insurance at the Chapter's sanctioned events.

# ***NAVHDA SPONSORS***

