



North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association

Southern California Chapter

So Cal Chapter News

June 2011

Inside this issue:

TRAINING DAY	1
TRAINING DAY PHOTOS	2
RATTLE SNAKE AVOIDANCE	3
PRADO WORK DAY	4-7
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT	8

At our June training day we were coached on the techniques and importance of the Forced Fetch table training by our Chapter President and professional dog trainer Bob Worrell. This training is the foundation work in the development of a versatile hunting dog. Starting with the hold command and then moving on to fetch allows the trainer to segment the teaching. When problem areas such as “hard mouthing” of birds occurs, the handler can take a step back in the teaching to reinforce the “hold” command again. The Forced Fetch training is the first real step towards a finished dog. It develops the bond of trust between the handler and the dog and creates cooperation and obedience which is the backbone to a successful Utility Dog duck search.



Bob Worrell introducing *Shooter* to step one, the gloved hand and hold. With owner Richard Cook looking on.

TRAINING DAY PHOTOS



Announcing the Second So.Cal. NAVHDA Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic at the next Training Day on July 17th, 2011



We all recognize that Rattlesnakes are a big problem here in California for dog owners.

You have two ways that your dog can be bitten by a rattle snake:

No.1.: *Our hunting dogs with their high prey instinct will attack a rattlesnake attracted by the movement, the sound or the smell of it.*

No.2: *A dog running at full speed during hunting can step on a rattlesnake.*

You have two ways to fight this from happening:

No.1 is done by training the dog to avoid rattlers with a rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic

No.2 is to have your dog vaccinated for rattlesnakes.

For the First Time in our Chapter we are offering a Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic at the best price around.

DVM David Hinebaugh will also be at the clinic and you can have your dog vaccinated on the same day.

We strongly recommend having your dog exposed to this clinic at least two times.

We have looked into many Avoidance clinics and they all range between \$65 and \$75. We did not like the clinics that present the snakes in cages only.

We think we found the best method and the best rate at **\$50/dog.**

Bud Andrew (Andy) will be the Clinic Director. Andy is an experienced Dog Trainer and the Game keeper of the Etiwanda Game Association. Andy applies this technique: First he will train dogs to avoid rattlesnakes in cages; then he will take a rattler out of the cage and will walk the dogs past the rattler. This will teach your canine loved ones the vital importance of recognizing the different sensory cues put off by the venomous rattlesnakes of California.

Don't wait until your loved one comes into contact with the devastating and all too often costly effects of a rattlesnake bite. Call (562) 598-3285 or email us at: g.dei1@verizon.net to schedule your dog for July 17th.

PRADO WORK DAY



It was thumbs up for the Prado work day as members from both Southern California and San Diego Chapters of NAVHDA met for a training facility work day. With water training areas becoming harder to find the plan was to transplant local “Cattails” to the large pond at Prado. Organized by Jon Vesely with his horticulture experience volunteers were given instructions on the underwater planting. The cattails and their dense growth are needed to qualify an area of water for a NAVHDA utility test “Duck Search”. A testing dog needs to show the judging team its use of nose, cooperation, desire, perseverance, and stamina. This means a testing dog must penetrate this cattail growth in search of a downed duck.

It was all smiles from Guido Dei as members and work equipment took their places to start the transplanting. It is not long in the distant past that members remember the long trips to Calipatria California for this qualifying body of water. Its been just these past two years that Mike Raahauges has let us use his facilities for this testing.

The transplanting was well thought out, with the pond size and testing parameters taken into consideration. Planting was made on the Northern shore with the Southern shore left for test starting and blind work. This will give an open water area of about ninety yards for a swim before a dog reaches the cattail growth.

The work day quickly led to members enjoying their day in the sun. With water depths sometimes dropping off quickly and



some members finding their hip boots and waders quickly filling with water and were left with soggy socks and wet pants. One member even managed to keep his cigar out of the water and when questioned about it he said “he’d finished it”. Guido managed to keep the action flowing by jokingly asking for more work and less stories. As the planting started to finish up you could hear Jon Vesely with his chain saw clearing the wooded area near the Southern bank and Bob Worrell starting work with a weed eater. All and all it was a well spent day that we all felt good about, I even noticed an e-mail from Guido asking us to pray for the cattails to grow.



Like many who were at this work day I hope to one day train and improve my versatile hunting companion with the help of grown cattails. To send my dog with a fetch command and watch as it disappears in a thick growth of cattails in search of a duck. To remember that I was part of the team that helped make this happen, and maybe just maybe, the large pond will become known as the NAVHDA pond.



We want to thank the members that took the time to come out on Sunday to take part in this work day. An opportunity like this doesn't come along that often and these committed members helped make our training facility that much better for all of us. Thank you, Shawn Anderson, Paul Ash, Pat Beaver, Robert Dawson, Guido Dei, Jeff Derbes, Dan Disanto, Rodge Fradella, Ed Gebelein, Chris Gentner, Chris Larrison, Steven Loeffler, Jon Vesely, Steve Wall, Steve Woodard, Robert Worrell, Greg & Ruth Weiss, Gary Willhite, Bob Smith.

A special thank you to Chelsea Vesely for making the lunch, and to the Prado Dog Park management for giving us this opportunity and taking time out of their lives to provide help with the heavy equipment tractor, words of encouragement and wonderful "Tri-Tip Barbecue".





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



Reported in WON:

DFG has completed its 2011 waterfowl breeding population survey, and the resulting data show that the overall number of breeding Ducks has increased slightly, however, the number of Mallards, the most abundant Duck in the survey decreased 14 percent from last year.

“Although the survey indicated a decrease in Mallard abundance, habitat conditions were excellent in most of Northeastern California and good throughout the Central Valley, so we expect above –average production for all waterfowl species,” said DFG’s waterfowl Program Biologist Shaun Oldenburger.

Los Angeles Times
Monday June 6th. 2011

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF NAVHDA

Rodge Fradella, Newsletter Editor
360 Oakdale Dr.
Claremont, CA 91711
Email at:
DELTA@TSTONRAMP.COM



Visit NAVHDA International at:
www.navhda.org

Position	Officers
President	Robert Worrell
Vice President	Chris Gentner
Secretary	Guido Dei
Director of Publications	Rodge Fradella
Director of Promotions	Jon Vesely
Training Coordinator	Jon Auer
Treasurer	Guido Dei

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 and 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.



**Please support all of the NAVHDA
official
Sponsors**