



Versatile Companion

North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association, Inland Empire Chapter

Website : www.inlandempirenavhda.org

NAVHDA International : www.navhda.org

President's Message

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Dues

Membership dues for year 2016 are currently due.

Click [here](#) to download the membership application, fill out and print or contact Steve Directly
spengelgau@gmail.com

All,

We have a very busy few months coming up. We need volunteers for our events. This Saturday we had quite a few new handlers with puppies and quite a few UT dogs. If you are experienced and can lend a hand helping out our new Handlers please let myself or Kraig know. We also need a couple more people to step up and help out in UT fields.

Our training Clinic/Chili cook off is on March 12th and this event is going to be awesome. We have added additional seminars including Kirsten Clark a raw foods expert who will be discussing nutrition. Dr. Runde (My Vet) is sending his staff over at 1:00pm and they will be covering canine first aid and Dr. Runde will be by at 3:00 PM and he will have rattlesnake vaccines and will be answering any questions you may have. We haven't gotten the full itinerary figured out just yet, but we anticipate it will be a very full day. I believe no matter how experienced a Handler you believe you are, you will still gain knowledge from attending this training clinic event. I need some volunteers for this event especially in early A.M. getting everything setup. Please let me know if you can help out.

April 22 thru 24th we are conducting a Test in conjunction with the San Diego Chapter. Test will be at Prado and we need several volunteers for what I am sure is going to be a very full Test.

Remember our Club is only as strong as our Members make it. Lets rock these events with your participation!

Thank you,

Cliff Fleming
President
Inland Empire NAVHDA

Inland Empire NAVHDA Schedule

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Training Day @ San Jacinto Wildlife Area
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 GSP Club San Diego AKC Hunt Test @ San Jacinto
6 GSP Club San Diego AKC Hunt Test @ San Jacinto	7	8	9	10	11	12 Training Day & Chili Cook off @ Fleming Ranch
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NAVHDA Annual Meeting 2016

Reported by Steve Engelgau

Inland Empire Delegate

NAVHDA Annual Meeting in Sioux Falls, SD on Jan 29th-Jan 31st

I want to thank the Inland Empire Board of Directors and members for the opportunity to represent our group at the National Convention. This was a learning experience for me and I did my best to represent our Charter and our interests. In lieu of the rough notes below, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about this event. Please remember that these are my notes and not official communication from NAVHDA. My notes are as follow:

Hall of Delegates Meeting subjects discussed

The VC sites will not change based on long term agreements of hosting chapters through the year 2019. Site agreements were made with host Charters because of the investment and resources required of the event. There was considerable money spent on equipment and facilities for this event.

There was a lively discussion concerning allowing a handler carry a load gun during the tests.

There was an issue where the shooters were not "dropping the bird" and frustrated handler fired a shot that endangered one of the judges. The discussion resulted in an opinion the actions should have been controlled by the judges and a policy will not be suggested. Other conditions that were discussed are as follows:

Take away ammo

Provide shot gun with no firing pins (Chapter provided)

Only allow blanks

Do not allow the handler to have a gun.

To my knowledge, it was announced that they are not going to add a "rule" to fix this, common sense should prevail-this seems to be an isolated situation.

Invitational Test discuss resulted:

Alternative sites should be concerned based on support facilities (Lodging, food and airport access.) Available of necessary equipment, volunteer support (55-60 people needed.) and recognizing that this event takes considerable prep. work to run this event. Discusses as to contingency plans and sites was suggested. Although these discussions were acknowledged, the Council did not commit to taking action on this issue.

The Bird Flu issue was discussed:

It is highly likely this will happen again (there was 50 Million chickens killing because of this flu last year, huge economic consequences.)

Getting ducks and other bird on short notice is not possible. (using certified bird providers is difficult for the volume of bird required.)

Use of plastic ducks-it was suggested the a "game bird" be used instead of a plastic

duck during the test. It was suggested that because there will be no guarantees. Testing handler should train with game birds and plastic ducks in case this situation happens again. Biologists suggest that this will probably happen again and probably soon.

Membership stats:

75% of membership is >46 years old

Focus on youth activities with hunting is the only way to stop the declining hunting population.

A suggested possible solution is partnering with Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever (PF/QF), they are sister organizations. PF/QF has offered to help and partner with youth events. They have vast resources; their mission of conservation of habitat parallel with preserving hunting in our American culture is their goal. It was stated many times, if we don't get the youth involved, hunting will continue to erode and possibly go away. It was strongly suggested that chapters contact our local chapters for support from PF/QF. NAVHDA members bring the dogs, PF/QF brings everything else.

General Information from my meeting notes:

43% of membership test 3-4 times annually

37% test every year

There are 77 Chapters and <6K members, this number represents slight growth.

Western Region will host the 2018 Annual Meeting, no one has applied yet, but it is our areas turn.

Do we want to do support or lead in this activity?

Membership has shown slight growth and we are healthy financially. I have the financial report for anyone to review; this should be available on the website soon but our funds have been managed well and the forecast looks good.

There is scholarship money available and seed money for a youth event that our Chapter cares to consider. (Ideas are welcome, \$10K for 2016)

Membership growth, best practices discussed:

Welcome Person to "welcome" new members and interested guests, without this happening, chapter population will erode.

Then there is youth involvement, parents must get involved because the kids need to get to events usually with their parents. They should be targeted for future possible members.

Possible future growth included could be Youth Scholarships, dog therapy vs video games, TV and drugs.

Handler's clinics for kids, within these activities, our average age will continue to age and decline at the same time.

Facebook activity is a valuable tool of Chapters growth and particular to the younger members. This is important to move the average member age to a younger average.

April 22-24 NA/UPT/UT Test

As we all know running a test is a huge project that is only accomplished with the collaborative efforts of many working as a team, doing their part. The Inland Empire and the San Diego Chapters have joined forces to make the Apr. 22– 24 test a successful one. I encourage all who have not taken part in a test to do so. If you do not run a dog then come out to volunteer, it will be an experience you won't soon forget. This is slated to be a 3 day test and we will need many volunteers.

To volunteer email Bob Kendall Robert.kendall99@yahoo.com

JOB	TEST	JOB DESCRIPTION		Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		Edited from NAVHDA Test Packet Job Descriptions*	SD NAVHDA	22-Apr	23-Apr	24-Apr
Test Secretary	All	Responsible for all the paper work. Responsible for overall preparation. Makes electronic application to Director of Testing for Test Dates and for Judges. Assigns test coordinator. Handles test correspondence, Test entries, score cards, etc. Schedule apprentice judges (see notes in Judge and Chapter Obligations section.) Should read all of the "Test Information" section of the Test Packet	Must be present all weekend	Bob Kendall	Bob Kendall	Bob Kendall
Test Coordinator	All	Responsible for management of the Test. Sees to arrangement for grounds and birds; assigns tasks and stays updated on progress. Should also read all of the "Test Information" section of the Test Packet.	Must be present all weekend	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer
Field Marshal*	All	(1) have the next handler /dog ready when/where the Judges want them, Having dogs in place according to the final running order, and taking instructions from the Senior Judge to facilitate the testing process. (2) <i>have the next event set up and ready, (3) keep the gallery from interfering.</i>		1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer
Grounds Arrangement	All	Call and reserve the hunt grounds with owner. Arrange to see fields and ponds a few weeks before test to be sure they are sufficient. Mark fields as reserved prior to weekend. Arrange for gates to be opened and coordinate with judges about meeting place.	Prado dog Training facility and Rahaguees owners for SD NAVHDA tests.	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer	Bob Kendall/1 Volunteer
Property Person	All	Sees to direction signs to grounds, retrieving dummies, blank shells, blinds, decoys, duck boat, heeling stakes, and any other necessary equipment for the site. All equipment should be set up in accordance with the Senior Judge's directions before it is needed.	(Set Up Crew) Water portion of test, provide NA bumpers and rocks; set up UT walk at heel stakes, duck blind, winger-zinger & six decoys	2 Volunteers	2 Volunteers	2 Volunteers
Judge Coordinator	All	Sees to arrangements for travel, meeting, housing and feeding Judges. Arrangements should be discussed with individual judges well before the test. Contact person for judge(s).	Can be combined with Judge Steward and/or Chauffeur	2 Volunteers	2 Volunteers	2 Volunteers
Judge Steward	All	Provides hot or cold (depending on weather) beverages (including cold water) available for judges in the field. Keeps rain or other weather dependent gear close by. Manages transportation in the field if necessary. Sees that the judges' lunch is ready when they are and generally keeps the judges as comfortable as possible during the day.	(Judge Hostess) Provides snacks & drinks in between activities. Can be combined with Food Coordinator	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer
Food Coordinator	All	<i>Makes arrangements for a Test dinner if there is to be one,</i> coordinates plans for lunch on the grounds.	(Lunch Crew) Set up lunch for chapter & clean up area. (Breakfast Crew) Set up morning drinks/donuts.	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers
Gunners Field	UPT/UT	Required to read the sections on gun safety in the NAVHDA Aims, Programs, Test Rules book and the sheet On Being a NAVHDA Gunner. Safety and intelligent, accurate shooting are primary concerns.	Read NAVHDA Aims booklet (mandatory for live field), Distraction and NA shoot only when instructed	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers
Gunners UT Water	UPT/UT	For UT water Blank Ammo is Used		1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer
Gunner NA Field	NA	For NA, Blank Ammo is Used		1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer
Bird Steward	All	Responsible for care of the birds from point of delivery to the field. (May also be responsible for ordering birds). Sees that birds are where they are needed when they are needed. Birds must be kept fed and watered and protected from the elements. Birds must not be weak or fail to fly. Dead birds for drags and water work should be kept cool, dry and covered to avoid attracting flies.	Water, feed & care for birds, dispatch birds for UT drags & retrieve of duck (fresh, chilled)	1-2 Volunteers	1-2 Volunteers	1-2 Volunteers
Bird Planters (Minimum 2)	All	They should be carefully instructed in the proper way to plant the birds. Birds must be planted in such a manner they will be alert and ready to fly when a dog approaches. Bird Planters take direction from the Senior Judge on where to put birds and must watch/listen for Judge's signal indicating they need an extra bird.	Plant field between dogs, 1st dog plant six birds, every dog afterwards receives four birds	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers	2-3 Volunteers
Bird Dresser	All	All shot birds should be dressed and chilled as soon as they are brought from the field. If birds cannot be dressed, they should be put in a cooler on ice to be dressed later.	Prepare birds for lunch/dinner as appetizer-BBQ	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer	1 Volunteer

Recent Membership Training Pics

We had a great turn out on the 6th for our February training day. A few new members came out with their pups. In the future we will make sure there are more pics of members and their dogs. On that note if there is any material you would like to see in the newsletter please email it to honda140@cox.net.

Below: Rody backing Yoli



Above : Cliff's GSP Max

Below: Cliff puppy Sam



Above and below: Cliff Flemings Red



Above: Rody backing Belle



Above: Rody coming back from a retrieve



This is what it's all about. Juan, Gabby and Brett with their haul of Pheasant



Brett Marek on a recent El Nino inspired Yellowfin fishing trip.



The Backpage

Board of Directors

President: **Cliff Fleming**

Vice President: **Mike Shepherd**

Treasurer: **Steve Engalgau**

Secretary & Social Media: **Shelley Oliver**

Training Coordinator & Web Master: **Kraig Dix**

Media Coordinator: **Gabriel Awbrey**

Newsletter Editor: **Matt Moore**

Equipment Officer: **John O'Donnel**

Training Days RULES

Guidelines & Procedures Dogs are to be under control at all times (leash rule is in effect)

Everyone in the field must wear **BLAZE ORANGE** hat, t-shirt or vest.

Must have completed a hunter safety class or have a hunting license

Children are to be supervised and remain within the designated parking area at all times

No Alcohol on premises

Shotguns must be break action only

Must have active NAVHDA International Membership

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