



Steady On Point

North Central Wisconsin Chapter
Of NAVHDA



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NAVHDA is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to foster, promote, and improve the versatile hunting dog breeds in North America; to conserve game by using well trained reliable hunting dogs before and after the shot; and to aid in the prevention of cruelty to animals by discouraging nonselective and uncontrolled breeding, which produces unwanted and uncared for dogs.

Contents

P2 Julie & Dave Carlstrom are hosting the 3rd Annual Chicken Classic on August 6th. A flyer with all the

P3 Several updates from NAVHDA on Invitational workers, Invitational merchandise ordering and an NCW Raffle reminder.

P4 Calender of Events. John McKenzie writes an article about the upcoming Youth Hunt. We need your help -

P5 Remember the handlers clinic? Participants filled out a survey after attending. The results are

P6 Brags & Wags, Litter Ads and Announcements

From The Training Table of Brent Catura

Well our chapter had a large contingent of members at the recent Kettle Moraine chapter test near Dundee, WI. We did very well with all the dogs passing in both the NA & UT categories. Check out the results in the Brags & Wags column.

On Sunday, John McKenzie with Chucker and myself with Emma had the 90-degree plus weather to contend with at the test. Even with the heat they hunted hard, pointed with style, and did their duck searches, drags and retrieves. As the day progressed I knew Emma was doing well but I was unsure if the duck search was okay. She went out right away for her search and came back after 8 minutes. I knew she didn't have a duck, so I didn't look at her, just gazed across the pond. Then one of the judges said I could take it from her. Well here I look at her & she has a little wing sticking out of her mouth. I was puzzled as to what she had and thought maybe she had found a dead bird. Then I heard the chirping. She had a small baby bird in her mouth chirping for to be fed. I took that and set her up for the resend and off she went. After a bit they said I could call her back as they had seen enough. Well when the final scores were read at the end of the day, I was astounded at her scores. Emma is a 2 year, 2 month old Brittany and she got 204 points and a Prize 1.

Now John's, Chucker did an even better duck search I thought. But there were problems in the healing

part of the test and he ended up with a Prize 2, which is still an improvement over his last test.

Well I'm getting ready for the Invitational this Sept. in Minnesota with my Duke. Now I also have to plan next fall for Emma to run her Invitational, which I've heard will be held in Ohio. But next I have to make the big push to get Daisy up to speed to test in August. She's 6 weeks older than Emma.

I do need to mention that everyone has to remember to watch their dogs for heat stress. It has been unusually hot this summer and the heat can really drain a dog or person quickly.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next training day on July 24th.

PS. I'll bring the adult beverages to celebrate the prizes.

Brent Catura
NCW President



Steady On Point

Carlstrom's 3rd Annual



FUN DAY

**All NAVHDA members & fun “dog people” invited
Saturday, August 6th 2005**

August 6th marks the first Saturday that the state owned Prairie Chicken land can again be walked upon by our 4 legged hunting partners. Chicken numbers are good and if found should provide your dog with some excellent “wild bird” work. Although you can not shoot the chickens it can be a great experience for your dog and good exercise for you. You also can plant and shoot pigeons on state land without a dog training permit. So all you UT/VC training people should be able to easily run for hours with a brace mate if you so desire.

We are attempting to obtain pigeons but do not know if this is possible. We will keep you informed.

We will also have some fun water games for dogs and can set up the heal /remain water work area and Utility retrieves.

A “Mock” NA test will also be held starting at 8:00am. Cost will be \$25.00 Pheasants and quail will be supplied. Please pre-register and pay for the MOCK NA test by August 1st. Space will be limited. Make check payable to Julie Carlstrom.

Lunch will be available at noon. Carlstrom's will provide the MEAT, soda and Miller. Please bring a dish to pass and a Lawn Chair!! A no-host Dinner at a nearby restaurant @ 6:30pm and back to the Ranch to PARTY round the fire. If you want to camp overnight – we have plenty of space (but not much shade). Email dejac@wctc.net or call (715) 421-3227. Please RSVP – by August 1st.

Steady On Point

NAVHDA Updates

Invitational Workers Update

Thanks to the positive response to the call for Invitational workers, all the positions have been filled. The list of workers is on the Minnesota Chapter web site. Workers for each day and position are posted. We have several chapter members working. Thanks.

Invitational Merchandise

If you've attended one of the NAVHDA Invitational tests you may recall how quickly the merchandise has sold out. The Minnesota chapter has addressed this issue by taking orders prior to the test. You can either pick up the merchandise at the test or have it shipped to your home.

The order form is on the Minnesota chapter web site - we'll post it on ours for your convenience, as these items are very popular. The web site is <http://www.mnavhda.com/Invitational/Merchandise.htm>. The deadline for ordering before the test is August 1st.

NCW Raffle

Everyone is probable aware of the annual raffle currently underway. For the newer members the raffle is consistently one of our biggest sources of revenue for the year. Membership and test dues cover most of the basic chapter business. The raffle and pro trainer seminars provide many of the funds for equipment purchases and grounds improvements.

Please support the chapter by selling your fair share of tickets. Most of us find this very easy as the prizes are numerous and desirable by hunters. You can get additional tickets and return the stubs and money to any

raffle committee member. Their names and contact info are listed below. At least one committee member is at each chapter event.

Tim & Sally Peeters
E-mail: stoneyacres@centurytel.net
Phone: (715) 564-3196

Kathy Ruenger
E-mail: RuengerDK@aol.com
Phone: (715) 446-2153

Bob Van Meter
Phone: (715) 325-2208

John McKenzie
E-mail: MJTMcKenzie@aol.com
Phone: (715) 355-5675

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NCW Website

<http://www.ncwnavhda.com>

Steady On Point

N C W Youth Hunt '05

We need your help for a good cause!

The chapter is sponsoring a Youth Hunt on August 20th, the day before our August training day. The hunt will be held at the River Ranch Hunt Club in Marshfield, WI. This year we will sponsor fifteen kids from the DC Everest school district. To be eligible the youth will be from 12 to 15 years old.

Similar to past youth hunts the day will include a round of 25 sporting clays and a 2 pheasant hunt for each person. They will also be taught how to clean birds (complete with a couple of recipes). In addition, the kids will be treated to various

speakers and demonstrations from the following:

1. Hunter Safety Overview
2. Wisconsin Trappers Association
3. K-9 Unit from Marshfield
4. Police Department
5. A game warden
6. A Mead Wildlife Area representative

Lunch will be furnished as part of the program.

We are asking for club members to help in either of two ways. We need dogs for the pheasant hunt. They should be steady to pheasants in a launcher. Safety is always our first

priority so additional experienced hunters are needed to control the youth hunters while the handler works the dog. The hunts have worked very well in the past with this system. Everyone had fun and went home safe and sound.

We would like to have a few extra 20 gauge break open shotguns available in case some of the kids do not have access to a gun. Gander Mountain has donated the shotgun shells for the youth hunt.

You can volunteer for the youth hunt by signing up at the July training session or call John McKenzie at (715) 355-5675.

Calendar of Events

- June 26th Training Day (Last day to order birds is June 17th)**
 - July 24th Training Day (Last day to order birds is July 15th)**
 - Aug. 6th Chicken Fun Day - Julie & Dave Carlstrom's**
 - Aug. 20th Youth Hunt (River Ranch, Marshfield, WI)**
 - Aug. 21st Training Day (Last day to order birds is Aug. 12th)**
 - Aug. 27-28 Fall Test**
 - Sept. 2-4 Invitational Test - Hosted by the Minnesota Chapter**
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Steady On Point

Handlers Clinic Survey Results

Note: The following article is a shortened version of a more detailed article, including many charts. We are would like the thank everyone that took time to complete the survey. The information has been sent to the NAVHDA office. They sent their thanks, stating the feedback will be helpful to the handler clinic program. The complete article will be posted on the chapter web site if you are interested.

Like most chapters, The North Central Wisconsin Chapter is continually looking to improve our services to meet our members' needs. Yet, the entries came in slower than anticipated. We continued to promote the clinic, explaining how attending the clinic would benefit their training and testing. Clinic entries grew slowly until we had eighteen participants, so any difficulties in filling the clinic were quickly forgotten.

As part of the clinic presentation, Jim Moe, senior judge and a clinic leader, encouraged participants to send any feedback to the NAVHDA central office, stating this was the only feedback they get regarding the clinics. Our earlier concerns and Jim's request then prompted us to post an on-line survey on our chapter web site. Participants were asked fifteen questions covering all aspects of the clinic. The results, even though the responses are a very small sample size, provided some very interesting insights.

When questioned about the benefits to themselves, all participants felt they understood the NAVHDA philosophy better after attending the clinic as shown in the chart below. Every person ranked the clinic as very or extremely informative. Clearly, these two questions indicated the main goals of the clinic were accomplished.

When asked to indicate which area helped them the most, (choices included learning the scoring system, better test scores, judging a dog's performance and becoming an apprentice judge), two people indicated they understood the scoring system better, two more indicated they thought it would help their tests scores. More than half felt the clinic was most helpful in understanding or judging a dog's performance. Attending a handler's clinic does appear to increase interest in becoming an apprentice judge.

The member's experience level did seem to affect how they personally benefited from the clinic. Less experienced members indicated they gained the most from increased understanding of the scoring system. More experienced members, probably somewhat familiar with scoring, indicated they benefited most by the practical aspects, judging a dog's performance or better scores.

Clinic content, (quality and quantity) were rated with one question. In hindsight, this was one area that could be explored in future surveys. The clinic content met or exceeded everyone's expectations as shown in the chart.

When asked to rate the clinic leaders' knowledge of their topic, every participant rated them extremely knowledgeable, above an available response of "very knowledgeable". The clinic leaders were rated very high in their presentation skills as the participants indicated their presentation was very clear and informative.

Comparing the classroom discussions and field exercises, most people felt each was equally valuable. Only two people indicated they favored the field portion. The responses may indicate the

information presented in classroom setting is available through books and videos but the more personal, "hands on" field portion offers something more to the participants. Surprisingly, experience level did not impact the responses.

Attending the clinic obviously left the participant with a very favorable impression. When asked to rate the value of the clinic everyone rated it as fair or above. One enthusiastic person even rated it worth it at any price. For reference, the fee was \$75 with lunch included both days.

Over three fourths of the respondents felt they would consider attending another clinic after a period of two years had passed. The clinic clearly offered information of interest as everyone indicated they would consider attending another clinic at some time in the future. When asked if they would recommend a handlers clinic to another NAVHDA member, 100% of the respondents indicated they would. As we consider future handlers clinics, the feedback from this survey may help convince members to attend. Certainly, it will provide us with the motivation to put forth the effort to sponsor another clinic.

We would like to thank NAVHDA and the clinic leaders, John Bauman and Jim Moe, for their efforts in making this a very successful event.

Steady On Point

B r a g s a n d W a g s

Seven NCW chapter members tested at the Wisconsin Chapter, at Cadens Kennels, during the weekend of July 9-10 with very good results. They withstood the heat and kept their dogs focused! Unofficial results (that means gossip and hearsay):

Natural Ability

Abe Downs & Fischer	102 pts.	Prize III
TJ McKenzie & Bug	110 pts.,	Prize I
Mike Melotik & BB	110 pts.	Prize I
Dan/Kara Gannon & Hilde	112 pts.	Prize I
Clark Albers & Rocket	102 pts.	Prize II

Utility

John McKenzie & Chukar	184 pts.	Prize II
Brent Catura & Emma	204 pts.	Prize I

Congratulations to everyone!

Bob Britten & Gary Engebretson's Callie recently earned her AKC Senior Hunter. Congrats to Bob, Gary and Callie - UT Prize I and SH in the same year.

L i t t e r A n n o u n c e m e n t s a n d A d s

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Puppies

Uplands JC & Alibi's Montana Gold
To be whelped approx June 1st

See web site for pictures and details

www.fibernetcc.com/enge/

Firebird Kennels
Gary Engebretson
715-341-3330
enge@fibernetcc.com

German Shorthair Pointer Puppies

Chris & Ed Sapa have several GSP puppies available beginning Thursday, July 21st. You can contact them at 715-342-3770 or e-mail: csapa@noelgroup.com. They will have the pups at the July training day if you would like to see them in person.

As we get more information, an ad will be placed on the chapter web site.