

MID OHIO NAVHDA MAY 2010 NEWSLETTER



Busted!!! In the production of the newsletters, I have also assumed the role of editor, copywriter, reviewer, etc. As of this newsletter and those forthcoming and with specific instructions, all the "Off The Top Of My Head" briefs will be exactly as they were given to me and without edits or changes. And yes, I will have twitches not editing this, but.....

Off The Top Of My Head May....by Bill Revercomb

Off The Top Of My Head May

As always it was good to see all of you who braved the weather last Saturday. It held of pretty well for our meeting, clinic and some training. There was an important discussion regarding the usage of the dog training area. There will much more discussion about it as we here back of the committee that is looking further into it.

There was something that came up after training day that I would like to share with everyone. The simplest way I can think to put it is that we lost a friend. Truthfully I did not know this person. We were bound as friends by our love of the land, hunting, our dogs all the things that seem to hold this group together. I learned of his death in the form of a short note and a monetary gift in his name to the Chapter. I don't know the circumstances of his death or when he passed. I only know someone cared about him enough to share a little of them selves with us because of our like interests. When I sent a thank you note to his parents and his wife I was sure to invite them to join us any time to share our friendship our fellowship and we interne there grief.

Next time you stop to think off all the good reasons we get together please include Maurice Seiple in your list of friends.

If your looking for someone to train with don't forget your good friends in the Chapter.

See You Soon
Bill



Mid-Ohio Chapter of NAVHDA***

For all those who were not able to attend last week's training day in May, you missed some vital information that potentially affects all of us. If we are not able to appeal or modify the changes made by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), the Delaware Dog Training designated areas are changed; some of the fields and water we had been using are off limits. Without going into specifics here, please check your email this coming week. The committee (Matt Krejci, Sheri O'Donogh, and Andrew Hopkins), assigned to drafting a letter to ODNR, will be presenting this letter to our chapter before submitting it. You will remember during this past week, I sent out an inquiry for private grounds. I haven't heard from many, but please keep on trying. If you know someone or they know someone that would consider allowing our chapter to train once a month and to hold our one or two day spring and fall tests, let Matt, Andrew, Sheri, or myself know. The most difficult issue is finding water that is suitable for puppy work and water suitable for the Utility dogs. I realize finding a raffle item is difficult, but this is REALLY important for our chapter and the convenience provided to all of us by having 'local' training grounds and water.



Miscellaneous information

From the July 2007 issue of Your Dog Magazine:

Rolling in smelly substances is only one reason for odor (Holly Ocasio Rizzo):

- Doggy odor arises from natural causes. Dr. Ackerman says that, "atypical odor deserves a closer sniff from a veterinarian. In humans, most body odor is associated with the secretions of eccrine sweat glands, and dogs primarily have these glands in their footpads, not their body surface, so the causes of body odor are not the same. Anytime there is an odor not typical for the animal."
- Why do dogs roll in smelly substances.... "Most theories are based on wolf behavior that has been retained in the domestic dog even though the behavior no longer fulfills an adaptive advantage."
- Some researchers believe dogs roll in scent because their canine ancestors (wolves) used scent to disguise themselves as they approached their prey. Another camp theorizes that dogs cover themselves in stinky substances to attract other dogs. Other scientist say dogs roll to leave their scent over the scent of a previous animal.
- Another theory is that scent rolling represents a canine celebration of abundance, much like us winning the lottery and rolling in the money. Anyone observing a dog rolling in a smelly substance can see the pure joy on his or her dog's face.
- Whether or not owners allow this behavior depends how frequently they are willing to bathe their dog. It's normal dog behavior, so they shouldn't be concerned.
- The most common cause of odor is bacterial or yeast overgrowth on inflamed skin, and the most common causes of this are allergies and seborrhea, both of which cause scales and oils to collect on the skin surface.
- Good nutrition, exercise and regular veterinary visits are the best way to keep a dog's skin in top shape.

For the health of your dog

From the Your Dog magazine, May 2007:

Ocean, lakes and rivers beckon and so do hazards by C.C. Holland:

- Parasites and bacteria lurk in standing water
- Don't let your dog drink sea water-the salt content can make him ill

- Never leave your puppy unattended in water-always be close enough to help him exit
- Rinse your dog with clear water to remove salt-water residue from his coat. It can cause skin dryness and itchiness

From the Your Dog magazine, May 2007:

- A dog in abdominal pain may crouch as if in a play bow
- Use mouth-to-nose resuscitation to restart a dog's breathing
- Excess calories and calcium can cause bone problems in puppies
- Dogs are acutely aware of your body language and tone of voice
- Jump rope record: 63 skips in 60 seconds by a Wolfhound

From the Upland Almanac-summer 2007:

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Your Dog: 5 Hot Weather Reminders:

A dog's temperature is around 101°F. Three or four degrees higher, the dog's ability to regulate internal temperature is impaired. At 107*-108°F, the internal organs begin to fail.

1. Be mindful of the obvious: no running on hot pavement, no trying to stake out in the sun, no leaving your dog inside a vehicle on a warm day and no over-exercising (even in water) in extreme heat.
2. While training in the field, be sure to carry an ample supply of water with you. Consider tarps, cool-down crate mats and/or kennel fans to reduce heat.
3. Heat stress symptoms include aggravated panting, heavy salivation, dark red gums and poor coordination.
4. You can check your dog for dehydration by pinching a roll of skin on the back of his lower neck. If it 'sticks', the dog probably needs hydration.
5. Treatments for canine heatstroke include flushing the mouth with cool water, removing saliva, giving tiny drinks of water, applying alcohol to the footpads, immersing in cool water, and applying cool wet towels to the dog's underside, ears and pads.

Training tips

From the July/August Pointing Dog Journal 2007

When to Call a Pro...Training our own pointing dogs is rewarding-but sometimes we need professional help by Tom Carpenter:

- Lessons are forgotten; behaviors change; bad habits develop

Know When: Evaluate Yourself

Time-your time-is the biggest factor. You must take time and be patient. A pro has this time and patience. If you are rushed and anxious, you may create more issues than you solve. Repetition is what teaches dogs their lessons, and that takes time.

Rick and Ronnie Smith echoes that thought, "A dog is a reflection of its owner. If you are confused and indecisive that is how your dog is going to react to the training you attempt. Time is so precious and that's what a dog needs."

The desire for fast results can get you into trouble. "The worst thing you can do is lose your temper with a dog," says Dan Hendrickson of Phantom Kennels in Abilene, Texas.

Know your dog and what intensity of training it is capable of understanding. "Just as with people, some dogs are mentally tough and some are not." The latter can and do make great hunting dogs-if you recognize their personality and train them with their sweet dispositions in mind.

Know When: Consider the Situation

If the dog isn't helping you get birds but is costing you birds, it's time to make the call to a professional. Any good pointing dog hunts for you, not for itself. The "big three" basic training factors are: coming, whoaing, and retrieving. If you start having problems with these, don't let the issue fester.

You really have two windows of opportunity when training a young dog. "One is that four to six months age range. You have to get them exposed to game, give them that drive for prey. The first hunting season is critical, too. "That dog has to see an adequate amount of game during that first season.

Know What

A training issue can emerge around just about any aspect of hunting with a pointing dog. Here are some of the more common problems:

- Whoa. This command is essential for any pointing dog. "Whoa keeps a dog under your control."
- Heal. Healing has everything to do with good hunting and being a well-disciplined dog.
- Come. "Come" or "here" need to be continually reinforced.
- Gunshy.
- Blinking.
- Retrieving.
- Range.



Recipe of the month

From the Wild Game Gourmet, a recipe from Sally Biancone:

Walleye Fillets in Key Lime Marinade:

1 lb. walleye filets

Marinade:

2 cups brown sugar

½ cup butter (one stick)

1 cup fresh lime juice

½ cup soy sauce

Heat marinade ingredients to melt; let cool. Place walleye fillets in medium bowl. Pour marinade over fillets and marinate one hour. Place fillets on broiler sprayed with cooking oil or place on grill. Heat remaining marinade and use to baste fillets while cooking. Amount of cooking time will vary with thickness of fillets. Once fish flakes easily, it's done. Do not over bake.