

MID OHIO NAVHDA MARCH 2011 NEWSLETTER



The first training day is nearing. With any activity that has some seasonality to it, the passage of time is ever present. Yes, it has been five months since the last we met as a group to host our fall tests. Amazing how time flies! That seems to be a common theme to the introductions of the newsletters, but I don't think I am the only one that feels its quick passage!

We will meet at 8 on Saturday, March 5th. Jeff George has sent out an email for bird orders. If you were omitted, email either Jeff or me and I'll forward on what he had sent. I am not sure of Ron Behnke's plan for a training tip, but that is always worth being on time.

Bill Revercomb will start our meeting as usual and I'm sure will mention the tests in April that have been approved. Andrew Hopkins had sent out an earlier email about the tests, but let me address some of the 'tasks' for the tests. The spring NAVHDA tests are April 16 and April 17. As of the acknowledgement of the test approval, Andrew had 4 NA and 1 UT. It is suggested to get your entries in if you are wishing to run in our spring tests. I will send out a volunteer list for positions to help with and during the tests and for the volunteering of food and drink items. The positions are the following for each day:

- o Gunners
- o Field marshal
- o Judge's marshal
- o Bird planters
- o Lunch workers, clean up
- o Duck slingers
- o Help with setting up tent and tearing it down

As of the writing of this newsletter, I am not sure of the format of the tests. Last fall there were enough entries to have UT one day and NA the other. Andrew will keep all of us posted. With Stu not in our chapter this year, there will be a void of a gunner and all around helper. Stu did a lot. We will most likely need to replenish some of our paper products that are used for the breakfast and lunch meals. The trailer and supplies will need checking.

Plan on attending the first training day and don't forget to renew and bring your new 2011 hunting license and to order birds from Jeff if that's in your plan.



Training tips:

From the Upland Almanac-summer 2007:

E-Collars as a Tool, Not Torture by John McGonigle:

- Dogs enjoy hunting or training as much as we do because it makes them the center of our attention.
- Another point worth repeating is that training dogs requires repetition; repetition helps avoid one of the biggest faults dog trainers have when training: nagging. Here's where the e-collar comes

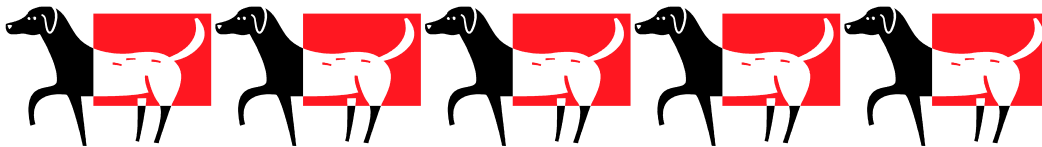
in...the dog knows what is expected and compliance is needed. A quick correction is much better than constant nagging.

- As long as the pup has been introduced properly to the 'come' command in conjunction with the collar, keeping pup close should be fairly easy. If there are birds in the field, anticipate pup's downward burst before he picks up the scent. Give the 'come' command or whistle before he makes a move
- Job number one when hunting with a flushing dog is to watch pup all the time. An early command, whistle or hand signal can make all the difference between pup flushing a bird in range or out of range. If the flush is out of range, it is often the owner's fault.
- More often than not, an e-collar is used as a small reminder to pup to watch his manners, which he knows because he has been taught properly.
- Sometimes more than a nick is needed...deer, snakes or other incidences that would potentially harm your dog or even losing them.

An e-collar is not the total answer; it is just another tool in our repertoire. Used correctly, e-collars provide good results.

From the July/August Pointing Dog Journal 2007:
My Kind of Dog, Part II: My Early Training Program:

- Early socialization with other canines is important.
- Age is not a factor; my philosophy of early socialization also applies to an older dog. I never support the old adage about old dogs and new tricks. A dog can learn at any age, and every dog that has never been trained can still be taught. Learning is an ongoing process throughout a dog's life.



From the March/April 2007 Shooting Sportsman magazine:

Training Tips—A Baker's Dozen by George Hickox:

- i. Start teaching a pup to learn early. Learning should begin when a pup is six weeks old and certainly no later than when it is 12 weeks. "Kennel" is a great way to instill accountability. Make early training fun.
- ii. Properly expose the dog to live birds when it is between 10 and 16 weeks of age. Introduce a dog to birds with a locked-wing pigeon. A locked-wing cannot flap or flush and imprint a negative association.
- iii. No more effective training program than one includes a proper electronic-collar curriculum. Correctly incorporating an electronic collar will help teach the dog avoidance concepts, result in less pressure being put on the dog, and ultimately develop an enthusiastic companion that responds with excellence and style. Teach the basic yard commands of "Kennel", "Sit", or "Whoa" (depending on the breed) before employing the electronic collar. A dog should know what a command means and make an effort to comply in the yard before an electronic collar is used.
- iv. When traveling with your dog, hydrate it with bottled water.
- v. A dog does not benefit from a "he man" breakfast on the morning of a hunt. Dogs receive the nutritional benefits of a balanced meal 8 to 16 hours after ingestion. Feeding the morning of a hunt will dehydrate the dog, raise its body temperature and possibly lead to bloat. A sound rule is to not feed within two hours before exercise or one hour after. Glycogen supplements can be very effective in helping a dog recover more quickly after a strenuous workout. Glycogen

replenishment should be administered within 15 minutes to maximize the benefit; there is no benefit pre-exercise.

- vi. Carry a couple of heavy-duty rubber bands while hunting. If your dog were to run into a barbed-wire fence and cut the artery in its tongue, for example, it could bleed to death.
- vii. Bark collars are a good investment. A dog howling away in your vehicle is burning glycogen as rapidly as when hunting. The glycogen is the dog's major energy source.
- viii. With a pointing breed, the time to take the dog off of birds and start yard training is when the pup begins pointing game. Once the dog has been properly exposed to birds and the gun and demonstrates genetic talent, it's time to complete the yard work and move to training manners around game.
- ix. With a pointing breed, the more a dog retrieves before being taught to remain steady to wing and shot, the more difficult it will be to teach the dog to be steady to wing and shot. If a dog doesn't come to expect/anticipate a retrieve, it will remain staunch more reliably. I recommend the conditioned retrieve after the dog holds point and is steady to wind and shot.
- x. Remote bird launchers are great tools for training both pointing and flushing breeds.
- xi. When teaching a pointing dog to back and honor the point of its brace mate, start with a dog silhouette.
- xii. A pigeon pole is a great tool for teaching line steadiness to a duck dog or a retriever used in the dove field. (PVC pipe with string attached and pigeon at the end)
- xiii. Before taking a dog out of the kennel, have a game plan. Review what we are trying to accomplish in training, how are we going to set up the drills. If you are prepared, the training will go better for both you and your dog.



For the health of your dog:

From the June 2007 issue of the AKC Gazette:

Removing the Skunk Smell by Jeff Grognet, DVM:

Mix: 4 cups of hydrogen peroxide

4 tbsp. baking soda

1 tsp. dishwashing soap

- ✓ Wear rubber gloves. Go outside with your dog.
- ✓ Place cotton balls in your dog's ear canals so the mixture does not get into his ears.
- ✓ Apply the solution, starting on your dog's head and working backward. Do not let the solution get into your dog's eyes.
- ✓ Rub the solution into the dog's coat.
- ✓ Rinse off well.
- ✓ Repeat the procedure if your dog still smells skunky.

From the Your Dog magazine, May 2007:

The basis of feces eating may remain unknowable by Lexiann Grant:

This behavior is known as coprophagia...“phagia” refers to eating and “copro” is the Greek term for feces. When pups are young, the mother dog licks their posteriors to stimulate urination and defecation, and consumes their feces to prevent unsanitary conditions. “This biological drive serves as a survival instinct,” Dr. Dodman says, “so there may be a genetic component, or it could be a learned behavior.

Possible causes:

- Mimicking the mother dog, other coprophagic adult dogs or the owner cleaning up pet feces

- A diet inadequate in quantity or quality, too high in protein, too low in fiber
- Food provided on an unreliable schedule or too infrequently
- Boredom or attention seeking
- Dirty environment that provides a plentiful supply
- Submission of a lower-status dog to an alpha or dominant dog
- Scavenger behavior
- Self-reinforcing or compulsive behavior that relieves stress

Possible remedies:

- Deny access
- Use a leash when taking the dog out to eliminate
- Divert and reward
- Teach your dog to “leave it”
- Engage and enrich
- Changing the feeding schedule and diet----A diet that contains lots of fiber changes the consistency and lessens the appeal of the stool—not a highly digestible, highly palatable, high-protein food



Recipe of the month: Savory Parmesan Bites

1 pkg. (8oz.) cream cheese, softened
 1 cup grated parmesan cheese, divided
 2 cans (8 oz. each) refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
 1 red pepper, chopped
 ¼ cup chopped parsley

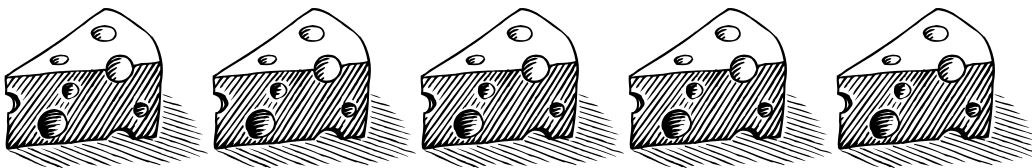
Heat oven to 350*.

Beat cream cheese and ¾ cup Parmesan with mixer until well blended.

Separate dough into 8 rectangles; seal seams. Spread with cream cheese mixture; top with peppers and parsley. Fold each rectangle lengthwise into thirds to enclose filling; cut into 4 squares. Place, seam-sides down, on baking sheet; top with remaining Parmesan.

Bake 13 to 15 minutes, or until golden brown.

Serves: 32 servings



City Scene December 2010

Delicious Stuffed Mushrooms...Gianna Barret

12 stuffer mushrooms
1 cup chopped green onion
½ cup bread crumbs
2 cloves fresh garlic, chopped
2 ¼ cup shredded cheddar cheese
¼ cup shredded cheddar cheese (for topping)
½ cup chopped mushrooms
3 tbsp. butter
Sea salt to taste
Olive oil

Preheat oven to 350*. In a skillet over medium heat, combine butter, chopped mushrooms, green onions and garlic; cook until tender. Grease a rectangular baking dish with ½ tbsp. olive oil. Sprinkle a teaspoon of sea salt on olive oil bottom of baking dish. Turn off skillet and add bread crumbs and shredded cheese, then stir. With a teaspoon, spread mixture evenly into each mushroom cap and place in baking dish. Bake for 25 minutes, sprinkle tops of mushroom caps with the remaining cheddar cheese. Continue baking for 5 minutes. Serve.

