



North American Versatile
Hunting Dog Association

Southern California
Chapter

So Cal Chapter News

May 2013

President's Message

I was out training this weekend with a friend. We had a very successful day other than my dogs and I all came home with ticks. There were lots of foxtails and we also saw a couple of snakes. Just a reminder to take precautions when out training.

Our handlers clinic is coming up June 22nd & 23rd. I need to find some volunteers. I need at

least one gunner for Saturday. I need bird planter each day. I need someone to run the winger zinger. I also need someone to help set up serve lunch, etc. Since there are only 2 dogs each day we can double up on some of the jobs. Let me know if you would be able to help.

I have the following dogs and handlers to help out. Guido with Alba, Rodge with Falco, Ralph with Citori, and Shep with Dixie.

Hope to see all of you soon out training!

-Pat



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
New Members	1
Training Rules	2
Training	3
Training Photos	3-4
Consistency	5-7
Reward	7
Help Needed	8
Recipe	8
Dog Story	9
Quote	9
Closing	10



June
Dates to Remember

6/9/2013

Training Day - Prado @
7:30am

6/22-23/2013

Handlers Clinic - Prado @
7:30am

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome So Cal NAVHDA's newest members:

Michael Rizzo and Milo his 9 month old Small Munsterlander.

Mike Shepherd and his two GSPs, 3year-8 month old Daisy and 1year-4 month old Dixie.

Will Kaiser and Spaten his 7 month old GWP.

Twelve Golden Rules for Training



With training in full swing for many of our members, I thought a refresher on the 12 Golden Rules for Training was appropriate - Taken from Chapter 12 of the 'Green Book' - The Training and Care of the Versatile Hunting Dog.

1. Talk with a low voice. Only when your dog is disobedient on a task he has been taught correctly, should you raise your voice.
2. Be consistent and insistent. Let your dog know during training that you are the team boss.
3. Do not end a lesson with negative results, or an uncooperative dog.
4. Take every opportunity at home and afield to teach the young dog self control. If you keep him in the house he should be confined to his place several times a day and learn to stay their quietly.
5. When you are outside, busy with something other than your dog, put him on the leash or, if he has been taught, make him stay on a spot. Never permit the young dog to wonder around and look for his own excitement or exercise.
6. Wherever there is traffic; cars, trains, etc., keep your dog on a leash. Even the best trained dog can be tempted to cross the street.
7. Always be ready with praise when your dog cooperates and share with him the good feeling that results from cooperative teamwork.
8. If misbehavior calls for punishment, do not be lukewarm - be hot, but do not punish a dog in rage or temper.
9. After punishment, do not put the dog in his kennel immediately and walk away mad. Make him do what he was supposed to do, praise him, and then put him in the kennel. Always put the dog on a leash before you punish him.
10. If your dog does not want to come to you, do not chase him. Walk away in the opposite direction and, if necessary, hide. Never punish your dog when he finally decides to come to you.
11. Once your dog's natural abilities, such as pointing, love for game finding, and use of nose are established, his contact with game should cease until he can be controlled through training.
12. Do not spend your time on a dog that shows signs of shyness or lack of desire to work. Such dogs will let you down when the going is rough no matter how much training they have received.

A Whole Lot of Training...

Our May training day had a nice turnout with beautiful weather and several new members present. Enclosed you will find several pictures from the training day. A special thanks to Ana Dei for always providing such wonderful pictures of our members and their dogs in action! Take note at one particular picture that we are calling the 'backing jam' photo. Many members are training for the NAVHDA Invitational test in September. Backing is one of the required skills for this test. This photo attests to the fact that the So Cal Chapter has some of the best versatile hunting dogs in NAVHDA!

Our June training day is coming up soon. In June, our training day is always pushed up a week because of Fathers Day. Our June training day will be at Prado on Sunday, June 9th at 7:30. If you are in need of birds for the training day, please contact Ty Mitchell tylermitchel@sbcglobal.net. Ty has quail available for \$5 each. If you would like to purchase quail from Ty, please let him know how many you would like by Wednesday, June 5th.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 9th!

-Kristin



May Training Photos



Consistency

January 2nd, 2013 by Gun Dogs Unlimited admin

Chad Hines Of Willow Creek Kennels Presents:
Consistency

The single most important word in dog training is consistency.

It seems like it would be common sense, but so many dog owners don't realize they have to be consistent with their commands, and consistent in expecting their dog to comply with them. If a handler is not consistent, the dog will not be consistent.



We've all been in the hunting field with a dog owner who calls and calls his dog, and blows his whistle until it sounds like marching band practice. That kind of performance impacts everyone's day, and everyone's hunt, and causes birds to flush wild and sneak out of the field ahead of you.

You can avoid being that kind of dog owner, by first teaching your dog the commands, then instilling consistent obedience to them.

FIRST, YOU TEACH

You have to first teach a dog what you want it to know. Each owner and hunter has a personal style, and expects different things. Sit, 'here' (which is like 'come'), whoa—there is a list of traditional commands, and you decide what you want your dog to understand. You may also have a set of rules for the dog around the house, which you will have to teach him or her.

The point is, when you are in the teaching phase you have to be consistent, too, but you don't expect compliance. That comes when your training gets to the point that 'you know the dog knows what to do' when you give a command. It's important to understand that. I've seen dog owners who never teach their dog the commands, and then suddenly one day decide to enforce them—maybe because they're in front of their friends, and embarrassed because their dog doesn't obey.

If a dog does not know what you want, and you clamp down on it, the dog will probably get confused or frightened. In my mind, it's a form of abuse.

ONLY GIVE A COMMAND ONCE

For now, let's move forward, assuming your dog has been taught the commands. It knows what each command means, and what it's supposed to do.

When your dog doesn't listen to a command that it knows, you have to re-assert that it's not an option.

Consistency (cont.)

After your dog understands a command, you must not make the mistake of giving the command over and over. After calling once or twice, the dog has probably heard the command, and is choosing not to comply. This is the critical moment, the point at which many amateur dog handlers make a big mistake.

“Ginger, come here.”

“Ginger, heeere.”

“You... get over here... right now!”

“Ginger!!”

You are, in essence, training your dog to ignore you, unless you make the dog comply after the first time. No matter how loud and menacing you might sound, your dog figures out that you don't always mean it. If you let it slide, the dog learns it doesn't have to come every time. Maybe every third time... or whenever it fits into his schedule.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CRUEL

Dogs respond well to consistency. You want a dog that's happy, confident, and runs hard. I do not believe in pounding compliance into a dog with physical intimidation. When your dog decides not to comply with a command—and they all do, sooner or later—that's when you have to maintain consistency. Pull on the check cord (if you're using one), or go over to them, take them by the collar, or maybe pull on their ear a little bit (which they don't like), and they'll see that you meant it the first time.

A well trained, obedient dog has not had its civil rights violated. It would be much crueler to let a dog run loose and go out onto the highway and get hit by a car.

NON-VERBAL CUES ARE IMPORTANT

Consistency has to do with both verbal and non-verbal commands. When I say, 'Dixie... here,' I also show her the hand movement associated with that command. Even if she doesn't quite hear me right, she will know what I want.

If a dog can see and hear—even feel—the command, you have a better chance of your dog responding. For example, I like to touch the dog on the collar when I say 'OK,' which is a release command. Remember that dogs are individuals. If you call a dog, and also pat your leg and back away, it might come in right away, when the voice command by itself wouldn't get the same results. It all depends on the dog.

CONSISTENCY EXTENDS TO THE HUNTING FIELD

Some dog owners are quite good with their training consistency, expecting compliance in yard sessions and in the training fields near home. But once summer fades into fall and you hop in the truck and drive a ways and start hunting, the dog notices that you aren't quite the same stickler for detail.

Consistency (final)

If you're consistent in your training, but let things slide when wild bird hunting, the dog can easily pick up on that. The dog can figure out that it doesn't have to listen to you when you're out hunting, and it gradually becomes a bigger and bigger problem.

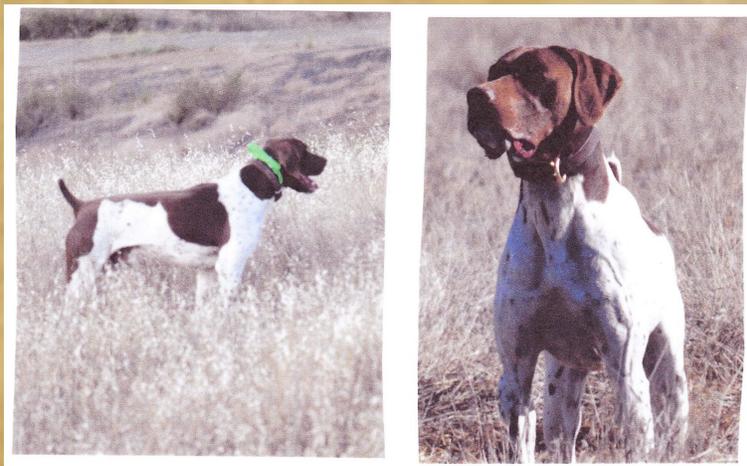
So you see, consistency is consistency, wherever you go, whatever you're doing.

Show your dog the out-of-bounds markers, and keep them the same all the time. Don't needle your dog by making it comply to command after command from sunrise to sunset. But when you give a command, expect the dog to obey. If your dog becomes confused as to when you expect compliance and when you don't, you're the one who needs work on consistency.

By Chad Hines of Willow Creek Kennels

REWARD

\$300 reward for safe return of DRAKE a German Shorthair Pointer lost on 5/29/2013.



If you have any information that may help Cliff with finding his beloved Drake please contact him at (951) 526-9311

2013 So Cal NAVHDA Fall Test - Help Needed!

Our annual Fall Test is coming up on October 11th - 13th. Please contact Pat Beaver at pabeaver2@aol.com to volunteer to help! This year we are not only running 3 full days of testing, but on Saturday we will also be running a second set of UT and NA tests - ensuring that we will all be very busy. We are in need of gunners, bird planters, breakfast and lunch crews, bird stewards, field marshalls, and a slew of other jobs. If you are able to help, it would be much appreciated!

Thanks!



Grilled Chukar

Provided by Guido Dei

Grilled Chukar

Ingredients:

- Three Chukar, halved and skinned
- 2 cups of extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup of red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup of teriyaki sauce
- 15 cloves of garlic, coarsely chopped (don't mince to finely)

Directions:

Soak the birds in salt water for 24 hours, changing water every eight hours. Whisk the marinade ingredients together in a glass bowl, mixing them well, and add the birds. Marinate for 12 to 24 hours, stirring and flipping the birds over twice. Preheat your barbecue grill or prepare coals. Drain the birds for 15 minutes, reserving the marinade for later basting. Grill the birds until juices run clear, turning and basting 2 or 3 times. Depending on the grill and the size of the birds, this is usually a little over 10 minutes. Birds should just start to brown on the breast side. Be sure not to overcook, as this will make the meat tougher and drier! Consider serving these delightful morsels with a fresh caesar salad, wild rice dish, and a glass of Chardonnay.



Dog Story...



A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town he planned to visit on his vacation. He wrote this short letter:

"I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well-groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"

An immediate reply came back from the hotel owner, who wrote:

"Dear Sir ...I've been operating this hotel for many years now, and in all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly, and I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill.

Yes indeed, your dog is very welcome at my hotel and if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too."

Do you have an article, story, or recipe that you would like to share?
Please send to kristinhcook@gmail.com to be featured in an upcoming newsletter!

Quote of the Month

"Dogs are not our whole life,
but they make our lives
whole"

- Roger Caras



North American Versatile
Hunting Dog Association

Southern California
Chapter

Kristin Cook
12851 Del Rey Drive
North Tustin, CA 92705

Thats All Folks...

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.
- (4) No alcohol on premises.
- (5) "Boat Safety", persons under 12 years of age must wear a life jacket when in the boat.

Please support all of the NAVHDA official
sponsors:



Officers

Pat Beaver
President

Kin Gentner
Vice-President

Guido Dei
Secretary and Treasurer

Jon Vesely
Director of Promotions

Kristin Cook
Director of Publications

Juan Hernandez
Training Coordinator

Questions/Comments/Concerns:

Please let me know your thoughts, or share your stories. Ideas are always welcome!

Thanks,
Kristin