

North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association

> Southern California Chapter

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So Cal Chapter News

November 2013

President's Message

Hope everyone is having a good hunting season. I have not heard of many birds out there this year. My hope is just that everyone is at least having fun.

I have talked to several of you. Looks like we won't be having a Christmas Party this year. We can't seem to find a date that



works for more that 1 or 2 people. Is everyone OK with that? Let me know your thoughts. It is not too late to decide to do a party if anyone has an idea!!

What do you think about a Spring Test. We could do a 1 or 2 day using local judges. Guido & I have had a request from a few people that want us to run our own test. San Diego & Inland are both doing a Spring test. We can run our dogs in their test or if we have enough interest we can run our own. If you have a NA, UPT or UT dog could you let Guido or I know if you would like us to run our own test. Please take a minute to respond to this soon as I will have to start ordering birds, fields, etc.

Everyone take care, be careful and get out and hunt as often as possible for the remainder of the hunting season. Pat



A special thanks to Richard Cook for designing (with lots of input from club members) the new logo for the Southern California Chapter of NAVHDA. The board approved the final logo in tan & brown; and black & white at the last board meeting held at Prado on October 12th. We will be selling merchandise (hats, shirts, etc.) with the new logo soon.

So. Cal. NAVHDA Fall Test

It's hard to believe that it has been over a month since our Fall test out at Prado. This year we pushed the dates of the test out a couple of weeks, and into October, and what a difference it made. Rather than deal with 100+ degree days, we were blessed with mild, beautiful fall weather. I would like to take this time to thank all of the handlers, judges as well as the MANY volunteers for once again making our test so successful. Our permanent test secretary, Pat Beaver, once again did an outstanding job coordinating and managing all aspects of the test, including a dual judging team on Saturday. A special thanks to senior judge Lisa Pehur for traveling all the way from Michigan to judge our test! In addition to Lisa, Jim Carpenter from Arizona, as well as local judges Herb Schoderer, Gabby Awbrey, and Ruth and Greg Weiss dedicated their time and expertise in evaluating our dogs - THANK YOU! There were so many people that came out and helped. Without you, a test would not be possible - thank you for the time that you donated - Bird Stewards - Ty Mitchell and Pat Beaver, Test/Field Marshalls - Rodge and Irene Fradella, Guido Dei and Chris Gentner, Gunners - Jeff Derbes, Greg Weiss, Richard Cook, Mark Miller, and George, Distraction Shooter -Kristin Cook and Bird Planters - Ruth Weiss, Jon Auer, Kristin Cook, Kim Gentner, Adam Salazar, Scot Douglas, Michael Rizzo, Jim McDonald and Troy Lyon. A special thanks to Linda Mitchell and Ana Maria Dei for providing lunch for everyone! Congratulations to all of the handlers and their dogs - I think the test results below speak for themselves!



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	7	10/11/2013	20	2013-0285							
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<u>Utility Test</u> DARK SIDES CHASER	Sex	Breed Reg #	<u>Yr-Mo</u> 2-4	WATER 2 33 41	FIELD 44320	T/OUT 43422	Pts 145	Prz None		<u>Owner</u> JON AUER	<u>Handler</u> JON AUER
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	7	10/12/2013	20	2013-0286							
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<u>Utility lest</u> FLEMING'S JASMINE	Sex	Breed Reg # GS-012085	Yr-Mo 4-2	WAIEK 4 44 44	FIELD 44344	44444	201 201	P ₁₂	징딩	Owner CLIFFORD J FLEMING	Handler CLIFFORD J FLEMING
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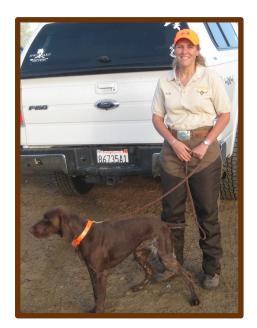
















Ryder's Saga Continues

by Jim McDonald

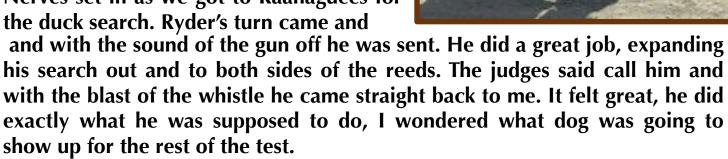
It had been just over year since Ryder and I joined SoCal NAVHDA. We had come a long way, a rookie dog handler with his first dog getting ready for San Diego's Spring Utility Test. When the test was over, he had done well, just not as well as we had hoped, earning a prize 2. We made the decision to try one

more time in our fall test.

With the help of many club members we continued on our training, then disaster strikes, he just shuts down. No desire to track, in the field all he wanted to do was go for a walk. After some soul searching and talking with several club members we decided he needed to go on double secret probation. At home he was going for runs, walks and to the dog park with my daughter's friends. All these activities had to stop. Also, we decided he needed to be going to different training areas.

After a couple of months he started working again and we resumed training. On any given day he could be perfect in one area and on his own agenda in another. I began to wonder if I should go through with the test. He had the skill but would he put it together on test day.

Nerves set in as we got to Raahaguees for



Now to the field, this is where he had his problem last time, Ryder can have a bit of a soft point. Again the nerves set in as we walked up to start our turn in the field. From what I was told afterward my nerves may have showed just a little bit. I sent him with a little extra enthusiasm. OK, I pretty much yelled



Ryder's Saga Continues

(final)

and had spectators wandering if they should get up and start hunting. What happened next was a dream; he searched with desire and energy. When he went on point it was solid, steady all through the fall. I sent him for the retrieve, on his way back he decides to take the scenic route around the judges before coming to me. Then as I reach for the bird he looks away, you never know what dog is going to show up or when it will arrive. We had running birds and a point where we could not find the bird and had him move up. He showed us the bird and did not go in on it, one judge made a comment "nice foot work". As we came out of the field he was still hunting, I was so proud.

Now the steady by blind, he had never had a problem here and it remained the case. Walk at heel, steady by blind and retrieve all went well. Now I really get nervous, we may actually be able to get that elusive prize one. I felt and was being told by others how good things had gone to this point.

Now the duck drag. My mind was racing, thinking about reading my dog and proper release so I did not screw him up. We walked up to the judges, and then off he went nothing I could do but stand there and wait. Back he came with the duck from over the ridge, what a feeling.

I did not have time to celebrate; I needed to get home for my son's homecoming football game. I had many people work me over until I agreed to stay for the reading of the scores. It was a great feeling to hear that score read 201 Prize 1, I was glad I stayed. Now I needed to get to my son's game. If it was not for a series of fortunate events and the generosity of Kristin Cook I never would have made it to the game, thank you Kristin.

This test taught me a lot. Dogs can get bored just like us. Changing things up like different training areas is important; it can be as simple as going to a different field. If the dog gets everything it needs at home it may not feel like it needs to work in the field. The habits you have at home, good and bad will transfer over to the field. Ryder turning his head on delivery came from him playing with my granddaughter. It is cute watching them play keep away but I needed to re-enforce proper behavior in the field.

I wish to thank all the members of the club that assisted Ryder and me in our training and especially Guido Dei, Pat Beaver, and Chris and Kim Gentner who sacrificed much of their own time to help these rookies get to this point.

Pat's Pics





Breeding Announcement

(by Vom Dei-Haus)

Vom Dei-Haus kennel is proud to ANNOUNCE A DEUTSCHE KURZHAAR (GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER) BREEDING:

VC ALBA VOM DEI-HAUS VC MIRACLE MIO VOM BEAVER CREEKS

Anticipated Whelping Date: January 12th, 2014

This is a cross breeding with Pöttseipen and Hege-Haus blood lines. This is the second breeding of our kennel. The first breeding of 5 puppies has produced 4 NA Prize I, 4 UT Prize 1 and two Versatile Champions. Alba is the best of the five puppies in conformation receiving a "V" excellent in the German system Breedshow. Alba has a beautiful pointing style with very high intensity: she received twice a "4H"in pointing "H" means Exceptional in the German System. At age of 4 she has very wide hunting experiences from ducks to pheasant to sharptail to Huns to quails and chukar. Mio is a proved stud that has generated a lot of very nice and talented puppies. Mio received

Breeding Announcement

(continued)

a "4H" in nose and was awarded with the highest score in the 2011 AZP in North America. Both of the dogs paired in this breeding have outstanding qualities we want in our hunting companions. This litter should produce a great blend of traits, strong conformation, and all around working abilities with an emphasis on excellent nose and desire.

Puppies from this litter will get a German Pedigree which requires that both parents pass a numerous hunting tests, conformation test, hip dysplasia test. They will be tattooed and micro chipped according the Deutsch German Club system.



VC Alba vom Dei-Haus.

NAVHDA Scores: Versatile Champion 2012; Utility Prize 1, Natural Ability Prize 1

NADKC (German System Testing) Scores: AZP Prize 1 4H (Exceptional) pointing x2: Derby Prize 2

German Conformation Breedshow: V (Excellent)

Hips: A2 (Excellent)



VC Miracle Mio Vom Beavercreeks

NAVHDA scores: Versatile Champion 2011; Utility Prize 1, Natural Ability Prize 1

NADKC (German System Testing) Scores: AZP Prize 1 4H (Exceptional) nose (highest scoring AZP dog in North America 2011); Derby Prize 1; German Conformation Breedshow: SG (Very Good)

OFA Excellent Hips

Holiday Dangers - Pet Poisoning Tips

The holidays are stressful enough without having to worry about a potentially poisoned pet. Below is a list of holiday-related decorations, plants and food items that the veterinarians at Pet Poison Helpline recommend keeping away from pets.

Holiday Ornaments:

When decorating for the season, consider your pets. Holiday decorations such as snow globes or bubble lights may contain poisonous chemicals. If your pet chews on them the liquid inside could be could be dangerous to their health. Methylene chloride, the chemical in bubble lights, can result in depression, aspiration pneumonia and irritation to the eyes, skin and gastrointestinal tract.

Tinsel

If you own a cat, forgo the tinsel. What looks like a shiny toy to your cat can prove deadly if ingested. Tinsel does not pose a poisoning risk but can cause severe damage to a cat's intestinal tract if swallowed. Ultimately, cats run the risk of severe injury to, or rupture of their intestines and treatment involves expensive abdominal surgery.





Plants

Though they have a bad rap, poinsettia plants are only mildly toxic. Far more worrisome are holiday bouquets containing lilies, holly or mistletoe. "Lilies, including tiger, Asiatic, stargazer, Easter and day lilies, are the most dangerous plants for cats," said Dr. Ahna Brutlag, assistant director of Pet Poison Helpline. "The ingestion of one to two leaves or flower petals is enough to cause sudden kidney failure in cats." Other yuletide pants such as holly berries and mistletoe can also be toxic to pets and can cause gastrointestinal upset and even heart arrhythmias if ingested.

Holiday Dangers - Pet Poisoning Tips

(continued)

Alcohol

Because alcohol is rapidly absorbed into the bloodstream, it affects pets quickly. Ingestion of alcohol can cause dangerous drops in blood sugar, blood pressure and body temperature. Intoxicated animals can experience seizures and respiratory failure. Additionally, foods such as desserts containing alcohol and unbaked dough that contains yeast should be kept away from pets as they may result in alcohol toxicity, vomiting, disorientation and stomach bloat.



Holiday Foods

With the holiday season comes a delightful variety of baked goods, chocolate confections and other rich, fattening foods. However, it is not wise (and in some cases is quite dangerous) to share these treats with your pets. Keep your pet on his or her regular diet over the holidays and do not let family and friends sneak in treats. Foods that can present problems:

- Foods containing grapes, raisins and currants (such as fruitcakes) can result in kidney failure in dogs.
- Chocolate and cocoa contain theobromine, a chemical highly toxic to dogs and cats. Ingestion in small amounts can cause vomiting and diarrhea but large amounts can cause seizures and heart arrhythmias.
- Many sugarless gums and candies contain xylitol, a sweetener which is toxic to dogs. It causes a lifethreatening drop in blood sugar and liver failure.
- Leftover, fatty meat scraps can produce severe inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) leading to abdominal pain, vomiting and bloody diarrhea.

Holiday Dangers - Pet Poisoning Tips

(the grand finale)

Snow Globes

Recently, imported snow globes were found to contain antifreeze (ethylene glycol.) As little as one teaspoon of antifreeze when ingested by a cat or a tablespoon or two for a dog (depending on their size), can be fatal. Signs of early poisoning include acting drunk or uncoordinated, excessive thirst, and lethargy. While signs may seem to improve after eight to twelve hours, internal damage is actually worsening, and crystals develop in the kidneys resulting in acute kidney failure. Immediate treatment with an antidote is vital.



Liquid Potpourri

Filling your house with the smell of nutmeg or pine for the holidays may seem inviting—but if you're partial to heating your scented oils in a simmer pot, know that they can cause serious harm to your cat; even a few licks can result in severe chemical burns in the mouth, fever, difficulty breathing, and tremors. Dogs aren't as sensitive, but it's still better to be safe than sorry—so scent your home with a non-toxic candle kept safely out of kitty's reach.

When it comes to the holidays, the best thing a pet owner can do is get educated on common household toxins and pet-proof your home accordingly. If you think your pet has been poisoned, contact your veterinarian or Pet Poison Helpline at 1-800-213-6680 with any questions or concerns.

A California Pheasant Hunt and

The Big One That Got Away

(By: SoCal member Rodge Fradella)

With the California Upland Bird hunting season in full swing and so few birds even seen this year much less shots taken, the urge to take part in the upcoming pheasant season opener was too much to pass up. My problem was, the only pheasant hunting I had ever done was the annual Lions Club sponsored hunts in Pixley California, so finding another area was the start of

my hunting challenge.

In past years our NAVHDA chapter had held tests in Calipatria California, a farming community south of the Salton Sea. The area is dotted with fields that are dedicated to the public for hunting. I checked with some chapter members that had hunted the area before and was given some good advice on the do's and don'ts of the area. One sound piece of advice was to make a call to the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area of the California Department of Fish and Game. They actually answered the phone and told me to stop by and pick up a map of the "Upland Game Fields of Imperial County". The very nice person at the



office then said "you might want to call Leon and find what fields pheasants were going to be released into for this year's hunt", and gave me his number. You know who I called next? That's right Leon. The four fields used were just South of Niland with the two largest on Hazard Road. Hazard Road!! Now did that bring back memories! It was on this road that Guido and I found ourselves a few years back at around four in the morning with rain coming down in buckets. The road got so muddy we had to stop the truck and hike a mile to his blind, but got some of the best duck hunting you could imagine. Just to make sure I covered all possibilities, I made a call to the Coachella

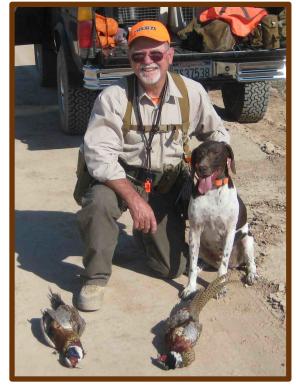
A California Pheasant Hunt

(cont)

Valley National Wildlife Refuge. There I spoke with a biologist that stirred my interest in adding a visit to their office on our trip. A left turn off Highway 111 onto Sinclair road and just stay straight when the road turns to the left to go over the Alamo River and you will find yourself in their parking lot. The unit's office is a small museum of plants and animals of the area. My wife Irene picked up a must have pocket size book for duck hunters called "Ducks at a Distance" a waterfowl identification guide. After a call to the Calipatria

Inn for a two night stay our trip was set.

We decided a stop at the hunting fields the day before would be a good idea. It was then that we saw the small "California Bird Heritage Program" signs that marked our hunting fields. This state program has three parts and one is to "Provide additional public hunting opportunities for upland game birds on public and private lands", our hunting license tax at work. All the fields had good cover and good size to make for a safe hunt. We chose to add a blaze cape to Irene's dog Falco along with his bell to let other hunters know he was there. My dog Heidi was using her new "Beeper" collar that I've grown to



like, to add safety for her in the field. It was easy to locate both dogs and I felt the other hunters respected their safety. I think they were also hoping our dogs would bump a bird their way.

Saturday opening morning and an 8:00 AM starting rule for pheasant hunting gave us time to enjoy the complimentary breakfast at the Calipatria Inn. Then off to the hunting fields where I was a bit apprehensive about how many hunters might be there, but was surprised once we all started hunting and everyone spread out. With shots being heard from the close by duck hunting area, dove hunters and the other pheasant fields, I was getting anxious to find a bird. Our hunting slowly through the thick cover gave way to ground covered with green bushes spread far apart and it was then that Heidi went on point. And just like that, two points in close proximity after an hour and a half and I was done, my two roosters and my opening day limit.

A California Pheasant Hunt (final)

It was the "Big One" that got away that we are still talking and laughing about! Irene and Falco never did get on a bird that morning and we thought returning in the afternoon could be productive. We thought we would try one of the other fields for this hunt. This field was not new to me I had been here before. Our chapter had used this field for testing and I was a bird planter on that day. It seems the farmer years ago had plowed the field in furrows, probably to plant his crop, which left a very uneven ground for walking. With the furrows came a wide variety of cover, from bushes to hedge like growth. It was this hedge line growth that Heidi was working back towards me when her head swung to the left and stopped as if she was chiseled in stone. Her beeper collar's next timed sequenced then changed to the Hawk scream indicating she was on point. The screaming seemed to go on forever before I could get Irene's attention that she had her bird to work. This bird was not going anywhere until she flushed it. This was going to be her first pheasant, and we had talked about what it's like when these big birds take off. Irene said she could see the bird berried down in the thicket. I told her "you need to kick it up with your foot" and then it happened! The burst of wings and noise that bird created when lifting out of the growth sent Irene's adrenalin flowing. My wife's newly acquired "Annie Oakley" shoot from the hip with both barrels was not going to make it. The bird was gone and what a hoot that attempt was. With a promise to work on her gun mount in the future we are still talking and laughing about the "Big One" that got away.





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:



















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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