

# SOCAL NAVHDA

## ON POINT

NEWSLETTER AUGUST - 2014



### Dog Injuries— What might help you until you can get to a vet

- Tweezers
- Forceps
- Saline Solution
- Surgical Stapler—the type designed to replace stitches, can purchase at vet supply stores
- Styptic pencil
- Muzzle—dog in pain can be dangerous and difficult to handle
- Scissors
- Bandages

- Superglue
- Quickclot
- Benadryl
- Vet wrap
- Gauze
- Antibacterial ointment
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Headlamp—if you can't see it you can't fix it
- Splint—possibly foam pipe wrap about 12 inches—wrap tightly with tape
- Books on dog injuries there are several and the info is overwhelming but it could make a difference when a mishap occurs



GORDON SETTER

### Training your Dog—Treadmill

During the dead of winter and the heat of summer it can be a difficult task to get your dog adequate exercise. For a number of years I would recommend to clients with obese dogs, or dogs with orthopedic problems, to utilize a treadmill

when they were unable to walk their dogs outside. This was often met with an incredulous response and many people thought I was joking. Over and over I heard the same response, “you can't train a dog to use a treadmill.” One very

hot summer a few years ago, with hunting season fast approaching, I found myself with two dogs very much out of condition and weather that was incompatible to training. So, I decided to kill two birds with one stone, I would use my own advice about the treadmill, and I could now respond to those doubting-clients that you could indeed very easily train a dog to the treadmill. When I started the process Belle wasn't even a twinkle in her mother's eye, and so Emma and Maggie were my very unwilling test subjects. They would represent the extremes of the training spectrum as well, with Maggie the small, agile and very easy-going dog, while Emma is bigger, not as graceful and very neurotic about unfamiliar situations.

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# Training Your Dog on the Treadmill

*The biggest thing to remember is that the common theory is that dogs "think in pictures," meaning they draw on previous experiences, or pictures in their mind, to evaluate a situation. It is for this reason that the first time on the treadmill needs to be very enjoyable. On the first day I don't even plug the machine in for the exercise. I merely entice the dogs to stand on the belt with a lot of praise and multiple treat rewards. Once I get them to stand calmly and accept the treat while on the treadmill I'll call it a day. The second session we will progress more rapidly with the same praise and treats, but I'll get them on the treadmill much quicker while they are still happy. At this point I'll turn the treadmill on and stand next to them encouraging them to walk. While in the learning stage, I would use the same equipment you would use to take them on a walk, either a leash/collar system, or a harness. The key is to keep them at heel moving forward as you gradually increase the speed of the treadmill to a comfortable walk. This is a crucial session, because you do not want to make them so anxious that they don't want to proceed. In my "test subjects," Emma wanted to bail quickly and Maggie was very content to walk at heel. With both dogs I stopped the session while they were walking comfortably on the treadmill and again used the treat rewards. By session three I was able to essentially start with them walking on the treadmill and gradually worked up to workout speeds. I maintain control of the lead the entire time, as you will need to help them adjust to speeds, and during the first few workouts I always have my other hand on the controls ready to hit the stop switch as quickly as possible. In just a few sessions I was able to progress to no collar or harness and simply use voice encouragement to keep the dog running. Emma was definitely the tougher dog to work with, due to her neurotic quirks in uncomfortable situations, as well as her size. While not a big dog she would occasionally kick the side of the track with her foot which would scare her and she would want to bail off. It is important with this type of dog to go slow and steady so that they do not become too uncomfortable around the machine. I also have since learned that the process can be accelerated with some dogs. With Belle I literally had her go from standing on the treadmill to a run in about 15 minutes in one session.*

## A few key points to remember through the process:

- **NEVER leave the dog unattended** on the treadmill.
- **Be ready at all times to disengage the treadmill** during the workout.
- **Make sure your dog has urinated and defecated prior to starting** the workout, or after a few minutes on the treadmill, let them outside to relieve themselves before continuing. You don't want to know how I know this one.
- **Make sure the first few experiences are fun and rewarding,** as they will lay the ground work for the training.
- **Don't overdo the workouts.** You can always gradually increase the duration and intensity after the dog is accustomed to the workout. Remember SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY.  
Make it an enjoyable experience for you and your dog. In most households this will also be the most use the treadmill has gotten since it was purchased. For those without a treadmill keep an eye on garage sales and newspapers, as many can be had for a very low price. This is a great way to keep your dog in shape year round, and takes away the weather excuses when your dog is suffering from cabin fever

Written by Joe Spoo DVM—Gundogdoc.com

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## **PRADO, SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2011 AT 7:30AM CATTAILS WORKDAY**

After we have lost Raahauges ponds because the roads and the dikes have been washed away by this winter heavy rain, we do not have a pond with enough cattails cover to be suitable for the UT Duck Search.

We are asking the members of San Diego and our Chapter to help to transplant cattails from Raahauges or other sites and to plant them in the big pond at Prado.



The above was the message that I sent to our chapter and San Diego Chapter members when the first idea to transform the big pond at Prado into a duck search pond came to my mind.

I've been a member of NAVHDA for 29 years. For a long period of time we were doing our tests very far from our Southern California home, either in the South by Imperial Valley or in the north by Mendocino. **To organize a test so far from home had a lot of costs and strategic problems.** We had our last test in Calipatria (Imperial Valley) on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 we ran our first test at Prado. At Prado we did field work, heeling course, and steadiness by blind and duck retrieve. We had to move to Raahauges to do the duck search. **We were losing a very good chunk of the morning to perform this test.** We had to caravan back and forth to move judges, dogs, handler and...ducks.

**That was when I start dreaming of creating a NAVHDA pond at Prado.** After talking with Ruben Llamas the owner of Prado, I thought the project was feasible. So on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 we start transplanting cattails from nearby areas and plant them at the biggest pond in Prado. We had volunteers from Southern California NAVHDA and From San Diego NAVHDA.

I don't remember all the names of the volunteers but they did a great job.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> of this year the San Diego Chapter of NAVHD held the first duck search at our pond, judges were satisfied that the pond had enough cover, some handlers were not so satisfied. **As the dogs needed to spend a minimum of 10 minutes on a duck search more cover was needed.**

So I talked with Ruben again convincing him that we needed to work on the pond again.

**There were two major objectives:**

- 1). The pond needed more depth.**
- 2). The pond needed more cover of cattails.**



We were planning two months to get the pond bottom dry enough to run heavy equipment on it, however, hot weather helped a lot. So on August 6th I asked for volunteers to come to the pond with waders and a shovel to plant cattails on the four new islands. **On Sunday Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>, 11 Southern California NAVHDA members came forward** plus Bob Smith from San Diego and Mike Shepherd from the Inland Empire:

**Guido Dei, Tim Shepard, Vladimir Litvin, Jon Vesely, Raffi Barbarian, Pat Beaver, Mike Shepherd (Inland Empire Chapter), Steven Loeffler, Chris Gentner, Jim McDonald, Bob Smith (San Diego Chapter), Ty Mitchel, Michael Rizzo.** It did not take more than two hours to complete the job.

The pond is now an average of 4 ft. deep and has 4 more islands and two peninsulas were made into islands.

*My dream to have a pond suitable for a NAVHDA duck search right in our training yard is now a reality.*

Thanks to PRADO owner Ruben and all the members for help.

*Guido Dei*





**NAVHDA  
POND  
REBUILD**



Lunch provided by  
Michael Rizzo



# August Training Day – August 17 – Prado

Approximately 20 people attended with many people getting ready for the upcoming SOCAL Test. Some were prepping for tests at other chapters. Juan Hernandez was helping people with puppies and Ty Mitchel was at the pond with the “zinger winger” helping people with the Utility test. A seminar for the people who will be participating in the Natural Ability test was conducted by Guido Dei. Gary Wilhite brought his kayak to help plant birds in the pond.



**NICE MUSTACHE**



**READY TO ROLL!**

**WHERE ARE THE  
BIRDS?**

**CHAIN GANG?!**

**ISN'T THAT ILLEGAL?**



**MORE AUGUST TRAINING DAY NEWS** - Sylvia Hansen displayed a “duck sock” she made. This device helps keep the duck safe while training and prevents the bird from flying off. It was 97 degrees out and the dogs were happy to work in the water. Speaking of the water the Prado owners, with some pointers from Guido, did outstanding work in reconfiguring the pond. It is now deeper with more islands and cover for the dogs to search. Some of the dogs that have worked the pond splendidly in the past were having some difficulty conducting a thorough systematic search with many of the islands looking very similar. Thanks to all who helped with the pond, it turned out great! Hopefully you can make it to a training day in the near future. It is a great opportunity to work your dog and network with other members. Learning one new thing can change your dog forever. If you cannot attend a training day many members would happily train with you on another day.



# THE LARGE MUNSTERLANDER

The Large Munsterlander is a breed of versatile hunting dog that originated in the area of Münster in northwestern Germany. Originally a black-and-white color variation of the German Longhaired Pointer, the LM gained official recognition as a separate breed in 1919 when the German Longhaired Pointer club chose to no longer recognize the black color variation.

**The LM is a black-and-medium length. In its some other countries, bred for over a century not the show is highly variable, ranging from white to pre-Markings occur as solid patches, or ticked or head remains primarily**

The Large Munsterlander is gentle and intelligent, and a family dog as well as a versatile and cooperative hunting partner. It provides a reliable foundation for all facets of hunting. It is well suited for a variety of game, including the track-

LMs are adept at adjusting their search pattern relative to the cover conditions at hand, performing well outside of gun range in open country and reducing their range in dense cover. Under all circumstances, they remain responsive to the handler and not independent. **LMs excel as bird finders before and after the shot due to their excellent noses, and a purposeful searching style emphasizing thoughtful coverage rather than speed. Many LMs point with intensity from early puppyhood, and many also honor naturally. Given their passion for retrieving, steadiness needs to be encouraged through training.**

Large Munsterlanders are strong in the water, their long thick coat affords protection from the cold and allows them to search dense cover thoroughly. Even so, their coat is a compromise well-suited for temperate climates. Shorthaired breeds may be better suited for upland hunting in the hot South, while the oily and dense coats of retrieving specialists make them better suited for prolonged water work late-season in the far North.

**The Large Munsterlander was introduced to North America by Kurt von Kleist of the United States in 1966. To date, over 80 dogs have been imported from Europe and over 2,000 puppies have been registered in North America. Since its introduction to North America, the LM breeding program and registry have been carefully administered as described above. The Large Munsterlander Club of North America was revised in 2012, bringing rise to the Large Munsterlander Association of America (LMAA) in the U.S.**

## *BREED OF THE MONTH*



**white dog with hair of German homeland and this dog has been for hunting and ring. Hence coat coloring from predominantly black. black and white roan regions. The black.**

is characteristically calm, is therefore valued as a hunting companion. The diverse nature of the LM provides a reliable foundation for all facets of hunting. LMs are well-suited for a variety of game, including the track-

# JIM MCDONALD - RYDER

## NAVHDA INVITATIONAL

Growing up my family target shot with bows and rifles, never hunting other than shooting a few birds with my BB-gun. I had a good friend at work that was constantly talking about deer hunting. When I hit 50 and had my mid life crisis, **I told my wife; “ I can get a girl friend, sports car or take up hunting. “** I already owned a bow and several guns . . . . so hunting it was. At the time I thought this would be the cheaper way to go . . . . but boy did I have a lot to learn.

I started out deer hunting and wanted to share the experience with my son. After his hunter safety course I heard of a Junior Pheasant Hunt in San Diego so we applied and he was accepted, so when the date came, off we went. Watching those dogs work the field and *seeing my son get a couple of birds I was hooked*, I wanted to get a dog.

I talked with my wife about it, she had been saying she wanted another dog and I told her about the GSP's that I had seen. She looked them up and in the processes found the Long Hair Pointer, she has a soft spot for long hair. **Then by accident she found the Large Munsterlander.** Seeing the picture online and reading about them, we talked it over and decided this was going to be our next dog. The only breeder we could find at the time was in Oregon. When contacted he was a little apprehensive, these dogs were only sold to hunters and I had yet to take a shot at a bird. With a little persistence, this being the kennel's last litter, them having 13 puppies to place, and **agreeing to run him in a NA test I won him over.** So, I bought my first working/hunting dog. I think most people that get a bird dog have hunted or been exposed to them before getting one, *I was in for an eye opening ride.*

Again my wife went online and **found a trainer near us, Guido Dei. I gave Guido a call** and asked, “ How much to train my dog?”. Guido replied “ nothing”. I just had to join the club and show up at Prado. The next month is all a blur; **I had help from so many members of the club**, every time I showed up. We went from a dog with no manners, who did not point or track and in just over a month, Ryder was doing it all. Then Thursday before the test we go for a run and he gets a foxtail up the nose and needs surgery. Despite the time line and surgery Ryder managed to get a 112 prize 1. What a feeling to go from a clueless rookie team to a clueless prize 1 team in a month. This never could have happened without the support of so many of our club members.

Our training continued, and eventually passed the UTILITY TEST with a prize 1!

Now we had the question of going to the Invitational , or not. This test is hundreds of miles away and the commitment to more training is large. We finally made the commitment and on September 13<sup>th</sup> in Searsboro IA, we will attend the INVITATIONAL TEST. Ryder and I will see how prepared we are. **It is hard to believe in 2 ½ years the clueless dog handler and his oddball black and white dog have made it to the Invitational.** I wish to thank everyone who helped Ryder and me get to this point and hope to make you all proud and come home with that elusive VC title.



# What is a Checkcord

One of the simpler and more effective tools you can use to train your dog. Most are 10-25 feet long. They have many uses.

One of the primary purposes is to give the dog room to move and yet be able to control him. You can have your dog sit and as you command "here" or "come" reel him in as if you had caught a fish. It is a great tool to teach your dog to run a pattern in the field, weaving back and forth in a big S pattern and giving a little snap to the checkcord to teach your dog to turn or "quarter" in front. Work on keeping the rope from getting under the dogs legs by keeping it on his inside as he quarters. It

helps to have his collar loose for this. Later when he is off the checkcord and hunting, when he finds a bird you can attach the checkcord to his collar to prevent a "chase". Once this is developed you may have a similar situation and put a half hitch around his belly and attach to his collar to try and "steady" him. How do you carry the excess rope? Some coil it as they go while some prefer to let the excess drag. If you coil it, wrap your clasp end tightly around the middle 3 times and run this through both loops you can attach the clasp to your belt and easily carry the checkcord with you attached to a belt loop.



Checkcord in hand  
Ready to train

## NAVHDA TESTING

In 1969, NAVHDA established a system of comprehensive tests that truly measure all aspects of work for the versatile hunting dog breeds. The NAVHDA system provides for testing at various stages of maturity. Performance records are kept and made available on the NAVHDA website since they provide invaluable information for both breeder and buyer alike.

NAVHDA chapters sponsor four kinds of tests:

The **Natural Ability Test** is designed to evaluate the inherent abilities of young dogs and gain insight into their possible usefulness as versatile gun dogs. It rates seven important inherited abilities: nose, search, tracking, pointing, water, desire and cooperation.

The **Utility Preparatory Test** measures the dogs' development midway through their training toward the Utility Test. The **Utility Test** evaluates trained dogs in water and field, before and after the shot, as finished versatile hunting companions as well as many other specific tasks.

The **Invitational Test** is our highest level of testing. Only those dogs that have achieved a Prize I in Utility are eligible. This limits the entry to exceptional animals who have demonstrated a high level of training and tests their skills in the

advanced work. In order to eliminate direct competition between dogs, entrants in a NAVHDA test are judged one at a time, by three judges, with their performance scored against a standard. The only exception to this is the Invitational Test, in which dogs are braced in the field so each dog can demonstrate his willingness to back and work effectively with another dog. Prizes are awarded on the basis of numerical scores achieved in the test. Each dog that meets or exceeds minimum standards in all areas of work is placed in one of three categories:

**Prize I, II or III.** Prize I being the highest classification. All dogs can receive a prize.

### NAVHDA TESTS

- ◆ NATURAL ABILITY
- ◆ UTILITY PREP
- ◆ UTILITY
- ◆ INVITATIONAL

**ALL DOGS  
CAN PRIZE**



**PICARDY SPANIEL**

# NEW MEMBERS!

## **SOCAL NAVHDA**

TIMOTHY SHEPARD –  
 BEAU FRENCH BRITTANY  
 MIKE BRIDGES FAMILY –  
 RYDER GSP  
 STEVE AND SUE CARTER  
 DAISY GSP  
 MARK MILLER  
 TASHA GWP  
 RICHARD BALLINGER  
 NIXIE GSP  
 DAVID HAN  
 OTTO GSP  
 ROBERT FERNAN  
 TREV GSP  
 STEVE GREANIAS  
 DIXIE DEUTSCH KURZHAAR

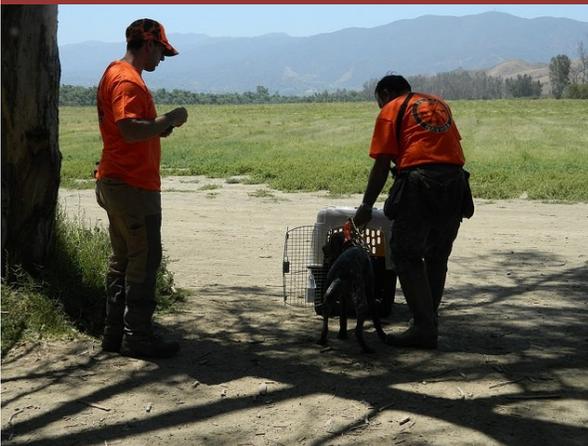


*“I don’t regard nature as a spectator sport.”*

**Ed Zern**

## **What your dog can learn with NAVHDA**

- Sit
- Down
- Stay
- Here
- Heel
- No
- Kennel
- Impulse control
- Walking on leash
- Birdiness
- Steadiness
- Swimming
- Not Gunshy



# NAVHDA INVITATIONAL JUAN HERNANDEZ



My father introduced my brother, Carlos and I to hunting at an early age. The first few years, we served as his bird dogs, until we were old enough to shoot guns of our own. Every year, we looked forward to the season openers and spending quality time afield.

On one of our hunts, Carlos noticed a hunter and his dog in an adjacent field. The dog was not trained all that well, however it was enough to get Carlos interested in searching for a hunting dog of his own. After several hours of researching breeds, he decided on a German Shorthaired Pointer.

In 2006 Carlos purchased his first dog Miles, an all black GSP. For the first few months Carlos read a few books on training and worked on obedience. As time went on, he was interested in getting Miles trained in time for the upcoming hunting season. His original plan was to send him off to a professional trainer. While seeking out different trainers, Carlos found San Diego NAVHDA's website and got in touch with Gabriel Awbrey.

Gabby convinced Carlos that he should train his own dog and encouraged him to attend a training day. We attended our first training day and we were impressed with what we saw. From that point on Carlos and I were hooked on the NAVHDA system. We eventually found a chapter closer to home and became members of So. Cal. NAVHDA

After hunting behind Miles for a few years, I realized the joys of hunting behind a well-trained dog. Each season brought new excitement to our hunts and greatly increased our bird counts. At that point, I decided that I also needed a GSP.

In April of 2008, I received Cora. Later that year Carlos added two more puppies to the family, Star and Mio. We tested our three puppies in the Natural Ability test and began training for the Utility test. After a few attempts, we earned three Prize 1's titles and set our sights on attending the 2011 Invitational in Ohio.

The journey to the Invitational was exciting, we spent several days preparing for and traveling to the event. Fortunately, all of our hard work finally paid off, we received passing scores on all three dogs, and earned Versatile Champion titles.

Now in 2014 I have the opportunity to attend the 2014 Invitational with Vida. This year's Invitational will be held in Iowa. Preparation for this year's test has been challenging, training birds have been scarce and finding access to different bodies of water has been difficult. Fortunately, the NAVHDA network has greatly assisted me in locating both.

I will be leaving within the next few days, my pit crew and fellow NAVHDA members Carlos Hernandez and Rafael Aguilar will be there cheering me on. I look forward to this year's test and representing our chapter.

I owe a lot of thanks to our great chapter for all of your assistance, resources and for keeping a well-stocked trailer. Access to all of the training equipment has made preparation a much smoother process. I am truly grateful to be apart of such a great chapter and I hope to make our chapter proud.



**JUAN HERNANDEZ  
AND VIDA**

**JIM MCDONALD  
AND RYDER**



# SOCAL NAVHDA



**WHERE MEMBERS  
TEACH OTHERS HOW  
TO TRAIN THEIR  
BIRDDOG**

## SOCAL NAVHDA MEMBER BENEFITS

1. Receive Monthly newsletter from February to October.
2. Have your unlimited webpage site within the [www.Socalnavhda.com](http://www.Socalnavhda.com) website for 10.00\$/year.
3. Access to the Members Forum in the Chapter Website Password: "best dogs" with a space between the two words.
4. Choose a trainer mentor out of a list of professional and very experienced trainers.
5. Participate in a monthly training day.
6. Be first in line to enroll your dog in the Chapter's NAVHDA Tests before all other NAVHDA national members.
7. Have access to the So.Cal. NAVHDA Trailer packed with versatile hunting dog training supplies for \$20.00 key deposit, refundable if you'll leave the chapter.
8. So.Cal. NAVHDA members are covered by NAVHDA liability insurance at the Chapter's sanctioned events.

## NAVHDA SPONSORS

