



So Cal Chapter News March 2014



*North American Versatile
Hunting Dog Association*

*Southern California
Chapter*

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**April
Dates to Remember**

4/13/2014

**Training Day - Prado @
7:30am**

President's Message

It is unbelievable that the 1st quarter of 2014 is almost past. It has started out pretty tough for me. I have had lots and lots of things happening these last couple of months and in the end I lost my mother. I came to the March training day with a pretty heavy heart. I visited with many

friends, played with new puppies, helped several people with their training and best of all played with my own dogs. As I drove home I realized how my spirits had been lifted. There is nothing like friends and dogs to make you laugh and smile.

I just wanted to thank all of you for the conversation, emails, messages, etc. It meant a lot to me.

I am looking forward to April's training day for it is now it's time to correct all the bad habits I allowed my little brown mutts to acquire during hunting season. It is also time to decide if I want to add one of Ava's & Walter's pups to my family. Have fun training and see you all soon!!!

Pat



2014 So Cal NAVHDA Membership

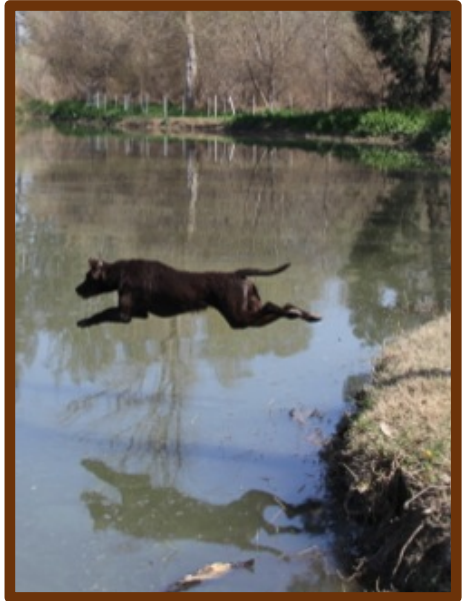
If you have not already paid your dues for the 2014 calendar year, and you would like to continue to receive our monthly newsletter, along with all of the other benefits of membership, please do so by April 1st. After April 1st, unpaid members will be dropped from the So Cal NAVHDA roster. Please contact Guido Dei with any questions or concerns g.dei1@verizon.net.

Training



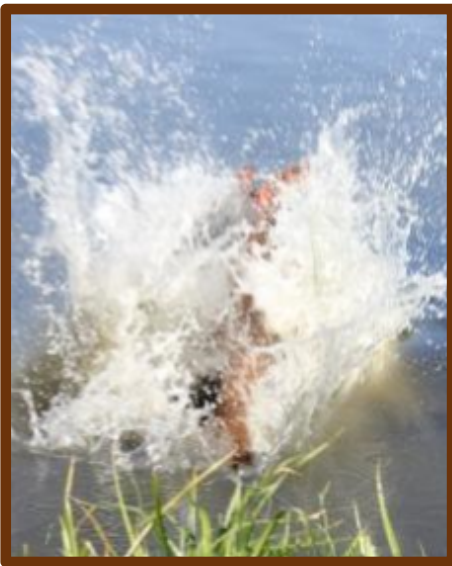
The 2014 training season has begun! Our first two training days of the year were very successful with very impressive turnouts. It was great to see everyone refreshed and excited to start training again. Below are some pictures from both training days – a special thanks to Silvia Hansen for supplying the March photos. Our next training day is scheduled for Sunday April 13th at 7:30 a.m. at Prado – I hope that everyone can make it. I unfortunately will not be able to make it due to a prior commitment, so if anyone takes pictures, please send them to me for the April newsletter! kristinhcook@gmail.com.





March Training Day Pics





Training Reminders

(by Pat Beaver)

- 1.) Ticks & Mosquitoes are out in force. Make sure you spray yourself with a deterrent for they carry lots of disease.
- 2.) While returning home from training Sunday, Walter threw up in the crate. It looked like some kind of bean, green in color, kinda like a lima bean. When we got home he threw up green colored beans 3 or 4 more times. After that he was fine and hungry. The only time he was out of my site was just a minute down by the trees in the front field. If you are down there training, have a look around because whatever it was that he ate is obviously not good for dogs.

Dog Sterilization

(by Guido Dei)

Nowadays it's very common to hear that to prevent unwanted litters we need or must spay or castrate our dogs. Most veterinarians, Animal Controls, bunch of different animal societies are in favor of castrating dogs. One bill was proposed to make it mandatory to spay or neuter dogs before 6 months of age.

The first and most "well known" reason to spay and neuter is of course to save lives by preventing unwanted pregnancies and thus unwanted litters. Every year in the United States, 13% to 20% of owned dogs and cats have litters. Of those, 50% are "accidents". The vast majority of those animals who have accidental litters are spayed later. The proposal is to spay them before they have a litter. Ten million dogs and cats are in shelters every year. Of that ten million, 3 to 4 million are killed.

I need to express my opinion on the castration subject.

I'm totally against castrating dogs to prevent unwanted litters. I have owned dogs since I was five years old:

males and females. Not once have I had problems with my dogs in regards to an unwanted litter of puppies or other bad habits.

We castrate dogs so they cannot produce puppies!! This to me is obscene.

I would like to propose to castrate the owner of those dogs that produce unwanted litters.

Animal controls are another scum; nobody is proposing a system to verify the ownership of an abandoned dog and a law to govern this system. Animal controls charge taxes for dog owners and use the money to kill million of abandoned dogs.

Microchipping of dogs should be mandatory and a database of owners of dogs should be generated.

An owner should be charged with heavy fines if a dog is lost or abandoned.

I love nature and castration is totally against it.

Modern ways to fix problems are terrible: remove weapons from people so murderers cannot commit murders, castrate animals so they cannot produce litter. Why don't we remove vehicles so drunk drivers won't be able to kill people?

There are some situations when dogs need to be spayed or neuter to save their life such in the case of Pyometra in female dogs. Pyometra is an infection of the uterus; it develops when there is a bacterial invasion of the uterine lining. The most common bacteria that invade the uterus are E.coli. This is a life threatening disease for female dog. When a female has Pyometra, she needs to be spayed to save her life.



Dog Sterilization

(cont.)

Spayed or neutered dogs are deprived of sex hormones such as estrogen, progesterone and testosterone, the metabolic requirement really changes after castration. You need to feed your dog with much less food, some dogs develop urinary incontinence. This problem is an inconvenience, and not usually life-threatening, but nonetheless one that requires the dog to be medicated for life. Modern studies are showing that sterilization increases the lifespan of 13.8% in males and 26.3% in female, but is also showing an increase risk of death from some cancer such as lymphoma, osteosarcoma and hemangiosarcoma.

A recent report of the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation reported significantly more behavioral problems in spayed and neutered bitches and dogs. The most commonly observed behavioral problem in spayed females was fearful behavior and the most common problem in males was aggression. Yet another study showed that unneutered males were significantly less likely than neutered males to suffer cognitive impairment when they were older. Females were not evaluated in that study. The study that identified a higher incidence of cranial cruciate ligament rupture in spayed or neutered dogs also identified an increased incidence of sexual behaviors in males and females that were neutered early. Further,

the study that identified a higher incidence of hip dysplasia in dogs neutered or spayed before 5 1/2 months also showed that early age gonadectomy was associated with an increased incidence of noise phobias and undesirable sexual behaviors. A health survey of several thousand Golden Retrievers showed that spayed or neutered dogs were more likely to develop hypothyroidism. This study is consistent with the results of another study in which neutering and spaying was determined to be the most significant gender-associated risk factor for development of hypothyroidism. Infectious diseases were more common in dogs that were spayed or neutered at 24 weeks or less as opposed to those undergoing gonadectomy at more than 24 weeks. Finally, the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation report demonstrated a higher incidence of adverse reactions to vaccines in neutered dogs as compared to intact.

So there is no real health reason to sterilize dogs. It's only the idea to save million dogs to be killed by animal shelters.

Like I said earlier this is an obscene idea made by the same sick minded modern people that instead to cure the real problem (Bad Owners) make dogs suffer through sterilization.

Twice Frozen Meat ... Still Good to Eat?

IS TWICE-FROZEN GAME MEAT STILL GOOD TO EAT?

For years, Jeff Johnston has heard that allowing venison to thaw and then re-freezing it renders the meat inedible. Is it true? He decided to find out.

By Jeff Johnston (RSS)

February 24, 2014

The Myth

Once you freeze venison (or other meat) it can't be thawed and then refrozen. I've heard this theory for years, so when I get a deer steak out of the freezer, defrost it, then for some reason decide not to cook it, I usually throw it away. But then I started thinking: What could be wrong with it? Does re-freezing take away from the flavor, or does it somehow make it unsafe? So first, I called the experts for clarification. Then I gave it a blind taste test.



Two identical pieces of venison steak were harvested. One was frozen, thawed and cooked while the other was frozen, thawed, re-frozen and re-thawed before cooking. Then the taste test was given.

Twice Frozen Meat ... Still Good to Eat?

(cont.)

The Expert Deferral

The USDA says the following: "If raw or cooked food is thawed in the refrigerator, it is safe to refreeze it without cooking or heating, although there may be a loss of quality due to the moisture lost through thawing."

OK, so it's safe, but does it taste like Fonzi's jacket?

The Blind Taste Test

I thawed a package of two, thick-cut steaks taken from a whitetail doe. The two filets were taken from the exact same deer at the same time. They were handled exactly the same, and even packaged and frozen together immediately after they were sliced from the same backstrap. After thoroughly defrosting, I put one in the refrigerator, and one back in the freezer. After it froze solid again, I took it out and defrosted it. Then I cooked the two filets at the same time, in the exact same way. I marked one with a secret grill pattern. Then I had two people eat the filets and record exactly how they tasted.

The Results

One taster could not tell a difference in taste but believed the twice-frozen piece was slightly less tender than the once-frozen piece. The second taster believed that the twice-frozen piece was slightly less flavorful and not as tender. In an attempt to quantify this perception, the second taster said that if the first piece was a 9 on a scale of 1-to-10 in tenderness, the twice-frozen piece was a 7.5.

The Conclusion

While it is perfectly safe to refreeze meat again and again, each time you re-freeze it will probably degrade the flavor and tenderness of the meat slightly. This doesn't mean that you should throw it away—it is still edible and even delicious—but it may not be as good as it could have been had it been eaten after the first thaw.

Grins and Giggles





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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.

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Questions/Comments/Concerns:

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

Thanks,
Kristin