



# MERRIMACK VALLEY NAVHDA NEWS



**APRIL 2013**

[www.mvnavhda.com](http://www.mvnavhda.com)



Well it is that time of year again spring is here although you cannot tell by my yard with all the snow.

Our friends the little Timberdoodle's from the south are here. They like hanging out on those river bottoms. It's a great time to get your four legged friends on wild birds.

Our spring clinic is coming soon on April 27th. We also have spring clean up at our training site Sharpe's Farm. Look at our calendar of events on the website for the dates.

A couple of things to remember...

Merrimack Valley & Yankee Chapters have a shotgun raffle going on so make sure you sell all your tickets.

Merrimack Valley will be hosting the 2014 NAVHDA annual meeting. It is up to all of us to help find prizes for the fund raisers that weekend. So if you have any contacts ask them for donations for these events. The chapter ad for the 2014 annual meeting has been posted on the NAVHDA Facebook page and will appear in the VHD.

I am preparing for Turkey season hope the snow is gone by then.

Carol T.

## 2014 NAVHDA Annual Meeting

Hosted by the Merrimack Valley Chapter of NAVHDA

**February 7-9, 2014**

**Radisson Hotel/Center of NH  
Manchester, NH 03101**

À nos amis Canadiens Français, les membres du Chapitre de Merrimack vous invitent à participer à L'assemblée Générale Annuelle de NAVHDA en Février 2014. Votre présence serait énormément appréciée.

Visit <http://mvnavhda.com> for more info



## The Puppy's Book of Techniques'

~Dennis Swett~

Not long ago, I was cleaning and preparing for the upcoming holiday season and my thoughts wandered as they always do during such chores. I began to wonder "If puppies were given an instruction book to help them in their mischief, how would it read?" I envisioned that it would probably be hidden under my puppy's bed and would be a "How To" manual.

Here are a few of what I imagine would be "excerpts" taken from its leaves:

**NOTE TO PUP: Be Affectionate!** This is rule number one! Be sure that the humans are hopelessly fond of you. This requires sleeping on the lap, cuddling, lapping the face at the right moment, and convincing them think that you are cute, loving, and affectionate. It is important that they have a strong attachment to you. This is the foundation of your emotional control over them and allows you to exercise the following techniques:

### **INDOORS**

#### **101: Toilet Paper:**

This is an essential skill of puppyhood. It requires stealth and agility. Do not try this until at least 3 months old. Quickly move into the bathroom, and grab the last section of paper in your teeth. Turn and run as fast as you can down the corridor, around the kitchen table and back down the hall. (Optional: Run the paper into the living room.) The most recent record was 58 feet.

#### **102: You can't trust me yet!**

This technique requires some self-control. It is important to go pee outside at least a week and a half without fail. Then, while the boss is looking directly at you, bark once and then immediately pee on the floor. The boss will think that you had been trying to tell him that you had to go, and he missed the cue. You'll be able to get away with this at least three times if properly executed.

#### **103: Shredding:**

Identify a piece of paper or Kleenex. When everyone is looking at something else, deftly pull it from its place and disappear with it into another room. If you have been successful with the "theft", shred the paper. Scatter the pieces in a large area—this makes clean-up more difficult. When discovered, give the "happy look". This technique also works with gloves, hats, socks, pillows, and insoles.

(Note to pup: The most expensive things are the best targets.)

#### **103.4 Dog Beds:**

This is best begun at about four to eight months of age. Quietly lie on the dog bed after an active period (running, swimming, training, or whatever...). Once you awake, quietly start to chew at the seams and zipper until a hole is created. Pull the stuffing from the hole, chew it thoroughly, then spit it out and go for another mouthful. Properly done, a dog bed can be ruined in 18-24 minutes.

(Note: Don't be discouraged, inexperienced pups take a little longer.)

#### **104: Wet kitchen floor:**

Drink from your water bowl, carefully submersing your lower jaw into the water. Then, with wild abandon, lift your head and flick the water on your beard like a child would do with a paintbrush. The objective is to create a glistening arc of flying water that leaves a long trail across the floor. Done correctly, this will excite your female human for hours. (The males are generally less responsive.)

#### **105: "Mr. Myagi":**

Similar to "wax-on, wax-off" in the Karate Kid, the Mr. Myagi technique is performed after the boss has learned to recognize your signs for "needing to go" outside but hasn't gauged how long you can "hold it". Make noises and motions that you have to go out to do your business. Once successfully outside, go through a few motions of elimination, then bark to come in. Actual success in "doing your business" is not necessary. Repeat the process.

*The "Mr. Myagi" technique can best be described as "dog-in/dog-out, dog-in/ dog-out" repeated incessantly.*

## The Puppy's Book of Techniques' (cont.)

~Dennis Swett~

### 106.8 "I have a dream":

This is especially good if you sleep in the same room as the boss. This technique works best if the human is completely tired out before retiring. (A person that hasn't learned to sleep when you sleep is especially vulnerable to the "I have a dream" technique.) . In the wee hours of the morning, make "I have to go out now!" noises and yip once or twice. When the boss turns on the light, pretend that you are asleep and dreaming—that you are totally unaware that you just barked. Greatest effect is obtained when the boss has an important meeting the next morning.

### OUTDOORS:

#### 203: "Body Slamming" Flower beds:

This requires a suitable flower bed. A daylily or Iris bed would do just fine. Form is important in this effort and high scores are given for originality. Velocity must be as high as possible. First take a 30 foot run, and with absolute abandon, leap into the air and body slam the plants. The result will be a satisfying landing amidst the greenery. Important: After doing this properly, the puppy should look the human in the eyes with an extremely happy and satisfied expression, vigorously wagging the tail. (This usually gets you off.) Building nests in the flower bed is optional.



"K-Lee" "Body Slamming"

#### 203a Flowers:

Flowers are particularly fun to chew because they not only have fragrance, but color. When the color disappears prematurely, the people in the house go "ballistic". It's fun to watch. Care must be taken however, to look absolutely innocent when the loss is discovered. This may take practice.

#### 206: Rose Bushes:

Most owners think that because rose bushes have thorns, that you will not be interested in doing damage to them. Care must be exercised, but rose bush excavation is very possible. This method works best when a human hitches you outside and gets distracted by the phone or other "things".

## The Puppy's Book of Techniques' (cont.)

~Dennis Swett~

Imitating an excavator, start with a small hole near the bush, and silently proceed to throw as much dirt all over the immediate area. If you are successful in this endeavor, they will never find enough dirt to fill the hole again. The last recorded hole exceeded two feet wide by two feet deep.

### 207: Hitching post:

This technique requires a great deal of self-control. When the boss hitches you out on the chain gang—or on a stake, wait until everything looks like it is going the way the boss wants. When he/she drops his/her guard, immediately dig a hole at least 1 foot by 1 foot and two feet deep in the lawn. This is guaranteed produce new words which are not part of the training vocabulary. They sound like Chinese.

### 212: Woodpiles:

Size of the pile is not important, but as you physically develop, you may want to increase the size of your "stick". This technique almost resembles work—except that it is done in reverse of the actual human work. Steal a piece of wood and run across the lawn for about 50 feet. Chew on it for a moment or two, then leave it, go and steal another piece. Don't rush! An average of 30 pieces within 1 hour is a good "ratio". Be sure to spread the sticks far and wide. Above all, do NOT return any to the pile. Doing so is considered "bad form" for pups.

### 213.5 Gardens:

This is a technique that is very exciting. When just out of reach of your humans, charge through a newly planted garden as fast as possible, throwing a rooster-tail of dirt behind. (Vegetable gardens seem to provide the most fun because of their size.)

### 213.5a Green Gardens:

A later version of 213.5, this requires the pup to run into the garden when produce is green and between 4-12 inches high. The technique requires the pup to pull up stakes or green growth. Scatter said objects upon the lawn. (This is best done just after a good rain because the humans won't want to send you into the house for "time-out" because you are covered with mud.)

### 216: I'm So Happy You're Here!

When your humans receive company that you sense is too "high strung", the "I'm So Happy You're Here" technique is warranted. Run gleefully to the ("high strung") people and firmly place at least one paw on a newly laundered shirt or blouse. Good definition of the paw-print is desired. This shows your proper preparation. Be sure to wag your tail (or what's left of it) for effect.

### 219: "Help! I've Gone Deaf!"

The "Help! I've Gone Deaf" technique should be mastered as soon as possible. It is best used occasionally and discriminately. Randomly using this technique will keep your humans off-guard. Simply pretend that you can't hear the boss when he gives a command. (You will notice that the pitch of their voice will rise dramatically. This is normal.) *Caution: Use this technique only at times when you want to disobey and your humans have not prepared for this contingency.* Judiciously used, this technique is useful throughout life.

**Note to Pup:** Keeping your owner "wound up" and occasionally frustrated is truly an art form. If you don't succeed on your first try, be patient. New opportunities will present themselves. Be sure to try variations on these techniques. *Be sure to sleep when the boss is awake so you can be awake when he wants to sleep.* Once you have mastered these techniques, please destroy and bury this handbook.

Well, there you have it. These are but a few of the techniques that I believe could be found in a puppy's instruction book. There may have been a handbook here by my computer, but all I see is just a pile of shredded paper on the floor. ... I wonder what next year will be like.

The Trailer Logo is now complete!



Hi All,

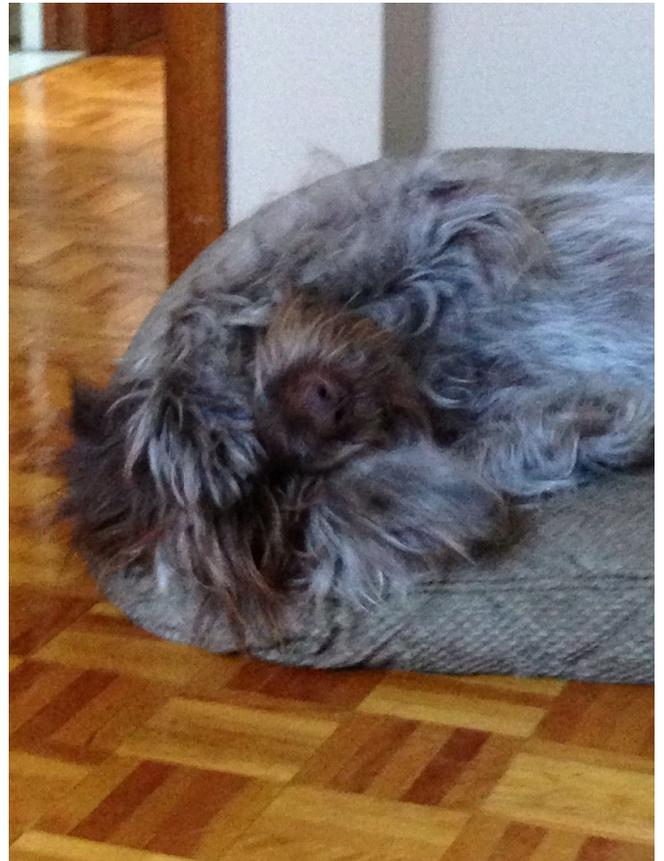
It's been a long winter with more than our average share of snow. I bet that most of you like me are looking forward to getting out and training your dog more often. We will be having our first training clinic at Sharpe's Farm in Hopkinton on Saturday April 27th at 9am.

As I did last year, I will continue to refine the quantity of birds needed for our training clinics. I think that there are still too many leftover birds, and the chapter ends up paying for the overage, so I will be keeping the numbers tight for training. For the first clinic this year I am planning on using only chukar for the NA tracking and mostly chukar for field work. In the past, the spring pheasants have been less than optimal quality and coming in with a high price, and the quail weren't much better. Using chukar for tracking will have the same training effect as using pheasant and the chukar will handle better than quail in the field.

The lunches will be like last year with grilled burgers, hotdogs, and accompaniments and as always bringing a side dish is welcomed. We need volunteers to set up for lunch and to run the grill. If you would like to help please let me know. It will be much appreciated.

If you plan on coming to the Training Day, please let me know so that I may have a better estimate for bird count.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again,  
Chris Doherty, Director of Training  
[landlubber30@icloud.com](mailto:landlubber30@icloud.com)



**FRIT**



**KAISER**

From the Test Secretary:

For those planning to test their dog at either the Spring or Fall Merrimack Valley tests, please submit your test entry and fee as soon as possible. Both the Spring and the Fall tests are filling up fast. Don't delay!

Thanks, Joanna

### Future Chapter Members....



Hunter William and Zachary Blake were born 2/24, 6lb 8oz and 5lb 11oz both about 19 in long. Everyone is home and doing well.  
-Kevin & Krystl Bouck-

### New Chapter Members....



Mark Beckerman and Ali on the Hudson River during Hurricane Sandy

\*\*\*\*\***A Holistic Point of View**\*\*\*\*\*

Susan M. Gregory

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Dear Fellow Members,

In this issue we will review information on Rabies Vaccines, over vaccinating our dogs, along with the symptoms & side effects of “Rabies Vaccinosis”.

The purpose of a vaccine is to stimulate the immune system to set up a defense against a particular disease.

### DID YOU KNOW??

There are two types of Rabies vaccines.

#1) Live (MLV) modified live vaccine.

#2) Killed Vaccines.

The “MLV” does take a shorter time to produce immunity in your dog’s body. And the duration of the immunity is usually long, sometimes for the life of the dog. The down side to the “MLV” is that it can be stressful to our dog’s system & can cause a vaccine induced disease called “RABIES VACCINOSUS”. We will review some of these symptoms further in this article.

The “KILLED” vaccine is much safer and gentler to our dogs system. However, it may take a longer amount of time to produce immunity in our dog’s body.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN VACCINATING

- The number of vaccines given at the same time (try to avoid combo vaccines)
- The frequencies of the vaccinations
- The age of the dog when vaccines are introduced
- The health of your dog (especially elderly dogs)

To this day, I cannot understand why our children receive **ONE** vaccine (for a particular disease) that is believed to offer them immunity for Life! Why then, are we encouraged to vaccinate our four legged kids over & over again????

**The following are just some of the side effects caused by “Vaccinosis”.**

*This list was obtained from Dr. Pitcairn’s complete guide to natural health for dogs.*

**The most common disturbances following Rabies Vaccines are:**

- Aggressiveness, suspicion, unfriendly behavior, fear of being alone, hysteria
- Destructiveness (blankets & towels), howling/barking at imaginary objects

**Other side effects that can be seen even weeks later:**

- Malaise (fever, muscle aches, bone& joint inflammation)
- Encephalitis – from Rabies vaccine, especially if the animal is too young
- Auto-immune disease, skin changes & allergies, lameness, hemolytic anemia
- Bloat, stiffness, depression, lack of appetite, “IBD” (inflammatory bowel disease)
- Long term chronic diseases, adrenal disorders (endocrine/hormonal)
- Personality changes, lowered immune system, bleeding disorders, seizures
- Gastrointestinal upset, thyroid disease, tumors in cats (at injection site)
- Eye & nose inflammation (in cats)

\*\*\*\*\***A Holistic Point of View**\*\*\*\*\*

Susan M. Gregory

[sherunswithpointers@aol.com](mailto:sherunswithpointers@aol.com)



If you have ever notice your dog experiencing any of the above symptoms after receiving a vaccine, I would suggest informing your Veterinarian immediately. A dog who has experienced symptoms of “Vaccinosis” should be a **RED FLAG** to owners, as this could indicate that your dog may be too sensitive to receive any further Vaccines. In fact, future vaccinations could cause more severe symptoms. And in some cases, could cause death.

So, how do we protect our beloved hunting partners without adding such insults to their body & immune systems?

### TITERS

- Titers are blood tests that check the level of your dog’s immunity for a particular disease.
- Titers are acceptable in most town halls & kennels.
- Titers should be done yearly. They are more expensive than giving the Vaccine, but I personally prefer to take blood from my dogs as opposed to injecting them with the Rabies Vaccine.
- Titers are options for pet owners who do not wish to vaccinate their dogs.

Vaccinating, like any other choices we make for the well-being of our dogs are personal & individual choices. Should you decide to continue with regular vaccinations, I would highly recommend investigating “NOZODES”. These are homeopathic remedies that are given to your dog after being vaccinated. “NOZODES” help to counter-act symptoms of Vaccinosis.

### A FINAL WORD ON TITERS

Before you can Titer your dog, they must have received an initial Rabies vaccine in order for the Titer (blood test) to have an immunity level to compare to.

Some of you may cringe when I state that my dogs receive only one Rabies vaccine, and only when they are one year of age. This is followed by a “NOZODE”. And after their first vaccine they are titered yearly for life. All my dogs, including my oldest (10 Years), have always titered well above the acceptable and safe immunity levels, and have never required additional Rabies vaccines. I personally feel that my decision not to over vaccinate my dogs has been instrumental in keeping them in optimal health. As our only vet visits are for maintenance such as chiropractic adjustments (due to their physical life styles).

I hope you have enjoyed this information. REMEMBER..... The more informed we are in regards to the wellbeing of our dogs, the more we help to keep them in optimal health.

Until next Time,  
Dog BLESS,  
Susan & the Boys

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On Point Kennel has openings for training opportunities for the 2013 season. We offer private lessons and long term arrangements for training your hunting dog. If you plan to run your dog in a NAVHDA test we can prepare you both for it.

Planning on taking a vacation? Send your dog to us and we will work him/her while you play. On Point has water and woods to work your dog. Now is the time to get started.

Call for further information.  
**On Point Kennel**  
 101 Coffeetown Rd.  
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