



MERRIMACK VALLEY NAVHDA NEWS

www.mvnavhda.com



FEBRUARY 2013



In just a few short months our training & testing season will begin. I can only hope that we will have some nice weather. The dogs in my household are chomping at the bit to get out and run in the fields.

Our 2013 Chapter Annual meeting was very well attended with a great pot luck assortment of delicious food. No one left hungry. I would like to thank all who attended and brought a dish.

Several topics were discussed during the meeting you can find this information in the Members Only section on the web site - Annual meeting minutes; Treasurer's report and Board Meeting minutes.

Last weekend I had the pleasure of attending the 2013 NAVHDA Annual Meeting in Illinois with 6 other Merrimack Valley Chapter Members. We all observed the festivities with anticipation for planning the 2014 NAVHDA Annual Meeting hosted by Merrimack Valley in Manchester, NH. Many ideas will be brought up to make the 2014 Annual Meeting fun and enjoyable for all. These meetings are a great venue to meet with people who all have a common interest "OUR DOGS". Many stories are shared!

Committees (Prize; Food; Hospitality; Seminars; Advertising) will be setup under the direction of David Trahan. Please call him or email him if you would like to help to make 2014 Annual Meeting the one to remember!

Carol T.

**Please plan on attending the 2014 NAVHDA Annual Meeting in NH!
Save the Date
Feb. 7-9, 2014 NAVHDA**

To Collars Well Worn

~ Susan M. Gregory ~

There is something nostalgic about a well-worn hunting collar. The one that embraces the neck of our favorite hunting companion. The one that has endured the many miles of running the earth while wrapped around our four legged friend.

It has seen sun, wind, rain, and snow. It is forever being scratched by the back paws of it's owner, along with the back covers in the deepest of woods, where the finest of wild game birds are found.

It has bared the heat of many summers, fading it to a lighter shade of color that indicates the maturity and experience of it's owner. For underneath it lives a true, "seasoned soul".

It is this well worn collar that we are left with when our beloved friend departs from us and ascends to heaven's eternal meadows and fields.

It is this well worn collar that offers us the gift of reflection. It holds the memories of sacred experiences that are only obtained through the gift of time.

Holding a well worn collar brings us a sense of comfort when our hearts are missing the one who has left it vacant.

It can also bring to us an "abrupt awareness" in that we too, are becoming seasoned and matured, - like the tanned leather of a collar that has been worn to an agreeable and appealing softness that only time can produce.

As we hold these well worn collars, perhaps we ponder on our own life accomplishments, wondering if we have been as true and kind in our hearts as was our beloved dog. One can only hope.

To Collars Well Worn.
In Loving Memory
of
Roman
"Gum-pah"



THE 2013 YANKEE & MERRIMACK CHAPTERS GUN RAFFLE!

PROCEEDS TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN THE TWO CHAPTERS

	YANKEE and MERRIMACK CHAPTERS GUN RAFFLE	YANKEE & MERRIMACK GUN RAFFLE 150
	Beretta AL 390 Semi-Auto 12 gauge, 26" barrel Ducks Unlimited Gun of the Year 2011 never fired -- choke tubes and case included donated by Terry Wilson	Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____
150	\$10 per ticket -- only 300 tickets to be sold	

Tickets will be sold at the following 2013 MVNAVHDA Events:



- April 27th - Training Day
- May 18th - Pretest Clinic
- May 24th-26th - Spring Test Weekend

Contact David Trahan for tickets to sell - Thank You!

WINNER TO BE DRAWN AT YANKEE CHAPTER SPRING TEST - Sat, June 9th



Pheasant w/White Wine - Served at our Chapter Annual Meeting ~Chris Doherty~

Ingredients - Pheasant breasts, white wine, butter & veg oil, sliced mushrooms, chopped shallots, lemon juice, fresh savory, flat leaf parsley, salt & papper - *Amounts are up to your discretion depending on how many pheasant breasts you are cooking.*

Directions - Coat pheasant with salt, pepper, oil & lemon juice. Brown in a fry-pan on medium heat w/oil. Remove from pan & set aside. Add butter to pan; be careful to keep from burning. Add shallots and sauté till translucent. Add sliced mushrooms and wine... Cook down. Add herbs adjust salt & pepper. Return pheasant to pan. Heat on low for 20 min; watch to keep from over cooking.....

Delicious with angel hair pasta or mashed potatoes.

~ APRIL ~



The late snow up here has extended our hunting season far beyond what it usually is. April and I have been taking full advantage of it and have been chasing all the Partridge we can around Franconia and Sugar Hill. She has turned into a very well mannered Grouse dog and we have been having a blast. I took this beautiful picture on Tuesday and wanted to send it too you. Hope you like it. Sometimes you just get lucky and the framing and colors just work out right.

~Ben Merrill - Sugar Hill, NH ~

JANUARY REFLECTIONS ~Dennis Swett~

New Year has come,
The skies are gray,
The season's over,
We're all sad to say.

"Stir crazy" you think?
Well it's not really so,
'Cause our pups are ready
To go run in the snow!

Wind's from the North,
And snow devils dance.
We clean out the vest,
Put up our brush pants.

"Mud Season"'s coming
In just 90 days.
Black flies and "skeeters",
Then summer's haze.

Lost a slipper,
Pup chewed up for 'fun',
Sweet smell of Hoppe's,
Then put up the gun.

Some say we're crazy,
That we don't really "hav'ta"
But who would "miss out"
To see friends in NAVHDA?

Great time for training,
No schedule to meet.
Wishing the wood stove
Threw a little more heat.

With dogs at the heel
Right by our side,
The chapter will gather,
Like a lion's pride.

Fruits of our hunts
Are under our belt,
And New Year's diets
Will make us all "svelte"

Summer is coming,
We know that it's true,
Then follows a season,
For me and for you.

Report on 2013 NAVHDA Annual Meeting - Illinois

The International Meeting was held in Illinois. Three chapters from New England attended the meeting. We arrived Thursday afternoon looking at the local sites. The first of two days of the meeting started Friday afternoon. We had an open meeting with members and the board. Really no big news, other than what is happening in today's world. Late afternoon the delegates met to discuss the motions; we talked about having a representative at the meeting for every motion made. The reason that is we have no way to question anyone why they came with it.

NAVHDA will be using e-invoices to save approximately \$3,000 yearly in postal costs. Payments would be by credit card to the NAVHDA store. It was asked from the present members what was being charged for the NA, UPT and UT tests. We were all within a few dollars of each other average about \$110.00. It was discussed how many chapters had website, most chapters do.

Finger Lake Chapter Motion

MOTION failed. Duck search - it was told they should have a clinic at the chapter.

Montana Sharptail Chapter Motion

MOTION failed. This was the Handling for Safety.

Minnesota Chapter Motion

MOTION failed. The NA track is a test of a young dog's ability to concentrate on a live bird.

Saturday membership meeting

Marilyn Vetter (President) stated NAVHDA members should be proud of their Organization and talk about gun ownership rights whenever they can and also how she grew up with firearms in the home and never had problems. Dues increase starting July 1st an increase of \$5.00 and life member will be \$1,200.00, dog registration increase. Reports were given by all the officers. One thing - we lost Cabela's as a sponsor but we picked up Brownell's. The dinner along with awards started Saturday night, people received awards, if they were present. Next year's annual meeting will be in Manchester, NH and dates will be February 7-9, 2014 - Hosted by the Merrimack Valley Chapter.

Thank you,
Dave



NA Breeders Award who were in attendance at 2013 Annual Meeting



Tess and I had a fantastic Allagash grouse hunt. Here she proudly presents me with another beautiful bird.
~Paul Bruk - Andover, MA ~



Mike Trull and Spenser are feeling pretty good about taking this mallard in a Newburyport, MA marsh. Good job!



Opening Day - Gene Sartini & Brady



Meghan (daughter) first pheasant & Brady

Hey Jessica,

Long time no see!!! Hope all is well with everyone and hello to all the new members. My little one who just turned 2 and I are starting to find a little time to get out and let Bandit find some birds!!! In the meantime, I have been keeping him on his toes and he is doing very well!!! Here are some pictures from the few times we have gotten out, share them please!!!

~ Steve Marulli & Bandit - Stoneham, MA ~



Mario, Ava, Brian & Bandit



Bandit and his birds



Me (Steve) & Cosimo with all 4 dogs

Officers/Board of Directors

Member	Position/Term	Email
Carol Trahan	President 2011-2014	carolt@onpointkennel.com
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facebook

Name:
Navhda
International



Fans:
1068

~ Helpful tip from Member Kathy Duffy ~

“When chipping frozen poop in your yard, remember to keep your mouth closed!”



Cartoon Snipped from Local Paper shared by Kathy Duffy

Thank you to our Sponsors & Conservation Partners

