



## MERRIMACK VALLEY NAVHDA NEWS

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July 2018

### Upcoming Events

Please make sure you mark your calendars for the following:

- ♦ **July 28—Training Day at Sharpe's 9am.** - Make sure you bring water for your dog and also a sport bottle to give your dog water in the field.
- ♦ **July 28th—Youth Upland Hunt** This event is limited to 12 youth hunters ages 13 and older and will be held at the New England Upland Sporting Club in Hillsborough. This is an amazing event that pairs a youth hunter with a trained bird dog to introduce them to upland hunting and NAVHDA. Please [email me](#) if you need a copy of the flyer and permission form.

**Did you know?** There are other chapters nearby that also run clinics that you can attend if you choose? The Seacoast Chapter does Clinics in Kennebunk, Maine and are not far off the highway.

## Picture of the Month



Just chillin

## Important!!

The residents of Little Frost Road (road leading into Sharpe's farm) and Cressy Brook Rd (leading to the dam site) are very sensitive about cars speeding past their houses. It kicks up dust and kids and dogs are frequently close by. There was a complaint made to Hopkinton Police 2 years ago (turned out it was a different club responsible) and we responded by reminding all club members to keep speed below 15 MPH once you turn off 202 or when departing. This is much appreciated. Thank you!

## Test Secretary Joanna Korte



Hello Again,

We had 16 dogs run in the Spring Test. Thanks to all of you who were able to come and help out.

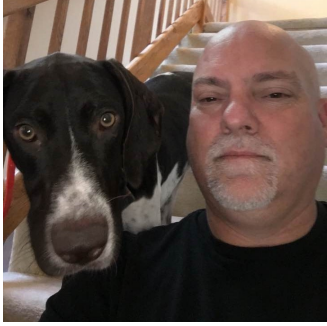
The Fall Test will be even busier, so we will need even more help with running the tests and with food donations for lunches and dinner.

The Fall Test is full with a waiting list. We will have a single test on Friday, August 24th, a double test on Saturday, Aug. 25th, and another single test on Sunday August 26. Plan to

come and join the gang to cheer on and support those testing. We will have additional information on dinner activities for the Fall Test as it gets closer. Happy Training Everyone!

Joanna Korte

## From the Editor



### Volunteering

An organization like ours does not succeed without incredible efforts by members who volunteer. There are no paid positions, so when we have an event we rely heavily on volunteers. You may not even notice all that goes on but just think about the clinics that we run. Even before it starts there are members who work out with other organizations what days we'll have the training grounds. There are people who do the mowing and some other maintenance there as well. There's the job of collecting bird orders and trying to make sure we keep it all straight. Then there's the delivery of birds, transferring them to the bird trailer, towing the trailer to Hopkinton, distributing the birds and dealing with those who may have forgot to order birds or who thought they ordered birds but they weren't ordered. There are those who check us in, those who organize and run the fields, those who go out with handlers, gunners, someone who gets the trailer there, sets up... The list goes on and on. And it continues at the end of the clinic when there are left over birds to deal with, supplies to pack up, cleanup of the grounds etc. It's really a massive undertaking and that's just a clinic.

I recently attended the spring test held by our chapter and it was truly amazing how well things went. The volunteers were organized, the judges were well cared for, the testing went like a well oiled machine in my opinion.

Now we all know the old standby volunteers. The Korte's, the Longs, the Trahans, the 3 Amigos to name only a very few. You all know who you are. But there are those who have stepped up who are new this year as well and they tend to get that lovely job we all love. Planting Birds. Ugh! This year I was talking to Jeff and Shari Bishop at the first outdoor clinic and telling them that the best way to learn what was going on was to volunteer. Not 10 minutes later I saw Jeff talking to Terry Long to see what help was needed and for the rest of the day I saw Jeff planting birds in the NA field. Without this fresh influx of volunteers things would get difficult. So thank you to all volunteers whether planting birds or giving great training advice in the field. You're why we have such a great organization!

With that said, I will be looking for a volunteer to continue doing this newsletter for next year. If you're interested please [email me](#). Though I'd love to continue as editor, Crystal and I are in the process of moving to Kentucky. (Stop to visit us on you way out west to hunt!)

# Submitted Articles

## Montana For the First Time: Post-Test Decompression

### A photo essay

- By John and Joanna Korte

Our first trip out west followed a humbling time at the NAVHDA Invitational (Oh no Oli!). Time to put our hard training to work on wild sharp tail grouse in Montana. There were new sights, sounds, and smells. The country was bigger than we had ever seen. Stars so bright you could almost touch them. Bugling elk were larger than life. Wild sage brought olfactory memories that tied it all together.



Photos by Al Gadoury, 6X Outfitters

Dogs on point! Somewhere they lie in the grass or hang in the sagebrush.



Photos by Al Gadoury, 6X Outfitters

Don't dawdle up to these birds. No time to think. "Get moving guys!" Walk firm and fast and get ready.



And then it all comes together. Redemption.  
A steady dog and retrieve to hand.  
The hard work pays off when it really counts.  
**(Photos by Al Gadoury, 6X Outfitters)**

The hunt is the whole experience with wildlife being the centerpiece. Bull elk guarding their harems. Gophers by the thousands with some just peaking. Buffalo herds reminding us of the past and giving us hope for the future.











**Photo by Al Gadoury, 6X Outfitters**

And in the end, tired happy dogs, rich rewards, and wonderful memories.

## Useful Links

**The Pudelpointer Chronicles**— <http://swettdl.blogspot.com> is a great blog written by none other than our former editor Dennis Swett.

**Bird Dogs Afield with Paul Fuller**—<http://birddogsafield.com> is one of our sponsors and done by members Paul and Susan Fuller. Lots of videos and articles! If you're looking for some training tips then this site is a must see.

**The NAVHDA Website**—<https://www.navhda.org/> Most already know this site but make sure you look here for info on testing, other chapters, youth programs etc.

**NH Fish and Game**—<http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/>

**ME Fisheries and Wildlife**—<http://www.maine.gov/ifw/index.html>

**MA Fish and Game**—<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/departement-of-fish-and-game>

**VT Fish and Wildlife**—<http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/>

**Granite State Dog Recovery**—<http://www.granitestatedogrecovery.com/> - Hopefully you never need them but you should have their info stored in your phone.

# Membership at Large

MVNAVHDA member Amy Caswell is chairing the American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association (AWPGA) Regional Specialty in July. As part of this event there will be a Korthals Series field event at New England Upland on July 12. You do not have to be a member of the AWPGA to enter. This event is open to all AKC, NAVHDA, CKC, or SCC/FCI registered Wirehaired Pointing Griffons.

There are two field events:

**Derby** is for beginning to intermediate level dogs that are 6 to 24 months of age as of the date of the competition. Dogs in the Derby Class should be steady to wing.

**Derby - Water Retrieve:** All Derby dogs will participate (unless major faults in the field led to elimination). They must complete a single marked water retrieve. Derby dogs are expected to retrieve out of the water to within reasonable distance of the handler.

**Gun Dog** is for intermediate level dogs that are six months of age and older as of the date of the competition. Gun Dog level dogs are expected to be steady to wing and shot. A Gun Dog must honor (i.e., back) its brace mate's point(s), either spontaneously or on command, and remain steady during the flush, shot and retrieve. Once the honor has been demonstrated the handler may gently collar the honoring dog to prevent interference to the pointing dog. Handlers may caution their dogs on point and on honor. A quiet presentation shall be highly valued and scored.

**Gun Dog - Water Retrieve:** Only Gun Dogs that are in contention for placement, as determined by the judges after the field scores have been tabulated, will participate. Gun Dogs are required to retrieve two single marked retrieves in water of about 20-40 yards from the water's edge.

The judges for this event are all very familiar with the working standard for Wirehaired Pointing Griffons. One of the judges is chapter member Bob Fee. Bob is a NAVHDA Senior Judge. The Senior Judge for this event is Steve Brodeur from Quebec. Steve is also a NAVHDA Senior Judge.

If you have a Griffon that is going to the invitational or testing UT this is a good opportunity for some practice running with a brace mate.

The Derby is a good opportunity for a dog getting ready for its NA test or getting ready to go to the next level.

If you would like more information on the standard of performance or a copy of the entry form (premium) please contact Rob Marcotte (trial Secretary) at [hermitrob@fairpoint.net](mailto:hermitrob@fairpoint.net)

# One more thing

## New Bird Order Form

As many of you may have seen, there is a new process for ordering birds for clinic. Brian Silva has been working diligently with Crystal Randall to create the process. Before an event where birds will be used, an email will be sent to the membership from the [mvnavhda.birdorder@gmail.com](mailto:mvnavhda.birdorder@gmail.com) email address. Within that email is a link to order your birds. When you click on the link it will take you to the bird order form. Please CAREFULLY fill in the required fields and then click the next button then fill out the second part of the form and click Submit. You should be taken to a confirmation page. In addition you will receive a confirmation email that shows the information you entered. If you do not get the confirmation email or there is a problem with your order you'll need to reach out to [mvnavhda.birdorder@gmail.com](mailto:mvnavhda.birdorder@gmail.com)! **Do not reach out to this email to order your birds!!!!**

When you click on submit there is some magic that goes on in the background where your information is added to a spreadsheet. That spreadsheet is then printed the day of the event and used at check in as well as at the bird trailer.

Great job Brian and Crystal!

# Merrimack Valley chapter Officers and Appointees

## Contact List

Member	CHAPTER OFFICERS	Email
Carol Trahan	President	<a href="mailto:carolt@onpointkennel.com">carolt@onpointkennel.com</a>
Terry Long	Vice President	<a href="mailto:longdrivered@yahoo.com">longdrivered@yahoo.com</a>
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Wayne Randall	Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:mvnavhda.editor@gmail.com">mvnavhda.editor@gmail.com</a>
TBD	Merchandise Coordinator	<a href="mailto:mvnavhda.membership@gmail.com">mvnavhda.membership@gmail.com</a>
Terry Long	NH Wildlife Federation Representative	<a href="mailto:longdrivered@yahoo.com">longdrivered@yahoo.com</a>

# Thanks to Our Sponsors and Our Partners





# Pictures from the Spring

Thank you to Moishe for these amazing pictures! There are just too many beautiful pictures to choose from so I grabbed a few for here but you can see them all at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/155111363@N05/>. If you use any of these please give Moishe Ragieme the photo credits.



# Pictures from the Spring



# Pictures from the Spring



# Pictures from the Spring

And one from Crystal of Meadow at her test in Maine.

