



# barking dog express

Yankee Chapter of NAVHDA

may/june 2020

## from our president...

Hope this message finds you well and able to get outside with your dog(s) and enjoy some Spring Training. Restrictions are slowly relaxing which allows us more abilities to train with the help of others. Blaine and I always say how blessed we are to walk out the door and feel safe. So many are struggling every day. I find it so hard, personally, when I cannot share my smile. Friends, hang in there, give us a call and let's talk about dogs training and hunting this fall. We will get through this....

Our bird trailer pick-ups have worked great not only to give chapter members a chance to buy birds but for us to continue to support Foggy Ridge as well, honoring our contract for birds this season. The next delivery for the bird trailer will be June 19th. Please call or email to reserve, [mmkennels@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mmkennels@myfairpoint.net) / 207-725-8229.

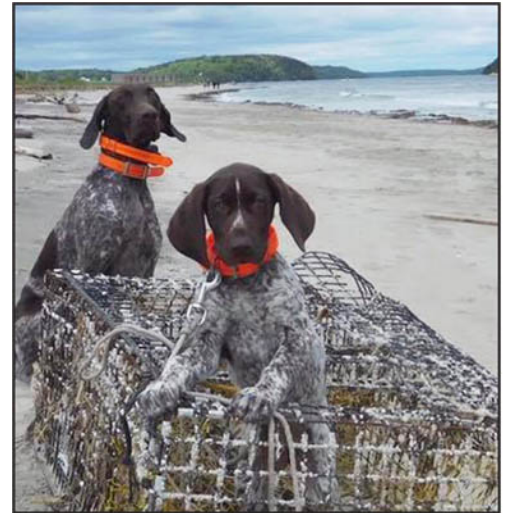
Our Yankee Chapter Zoom Training has also been a huge success and will continue. Now that you are getting outside to train, how about a video training question to share? It's so much easier for us all when we can see the issue being discussed. Judie will keep you posted on the days and times of the next Zoom Training sessions.

We are moving forward with our NA and UT test scheduled for July 31/ August 1 and 2. Rich Gay, our Director of Testing, is finalizing the Judges, and Sandy, our Test Secretary, is finalizing handlers and dogs. At this point, because of Maine's COVID-19 plan, our out-of-state judges and handlers from states other than Vermont and New Hampshire need to be tested within 72 hours of arriving in Maine. We will continue to monitor these restrictions and hope to see the restrictions lifted before the test.

Semi-Annual Meeting: July 11th. We will again hold this meeting during the lunch break of our Water Clinic at Sugarfoot Kennels in Burnham, Maine. More details will follow. Last year's clinic looked more like a family picnic than a training session. We will need to spread out our parking and social distancing, but really looking forward to getting this crew together again. If there is any item you would like discussed, please let me know. It's how we grow!

Thanks to so many for their dedication to our Yankee Chapter. It is hard not to see your faces and share a laugh. That time is coming, see ya real soon!

-- Patti



## attention please!

For those of you who train or run your dogs at the Bowdoinham site, please remember **no cars, trucks, ATVs or UTVs are allowed**. We have special permission to drive in and to use ATVs on our chapter clinic and test days, but otherwise **motorized vehicles are prohibited**. There are signs posted saying so, but people may not notice them.

The Yankee Chapter has an excellent -- and reciprocal -- relationship with the State. (Special thanks to Dick Dillely for all his work with the state and to Bob Brey for the endless hours he spends mowing state fields.) It would be a shame to lose our priority pick of weekends to train and test there if it was evident that chapter members were ignoring State regulations.

Many thanks to everyone for respectfully keeping this in mind.

## bulletin board

### Upcoming Events

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| July 11 | Water Clinic<br>Sugarfoot Kennels<br>Burnham, Maine |
| July 25 | Pre-test Clinic<br>Bowdoinham, Maine                |
- Keep your eyes and scrolling fingers on upcoming emails for more details about procedures for these events.

### YankeeNAVHDA.org

Visit the Yankee Chapter website for training info and videos, newsletters, forms, photos, and more. Follow the Yankee Chapter on Facebook and Instagram, too!

### Thank You, Kayla!

The Yankee Chapter would like to say a big THANK YOU to Kayla Quesnel for serving as the Barking Dog Express editor for the past several months. Volunteers are what make our chapter great -- their time and support are forever appreciated!

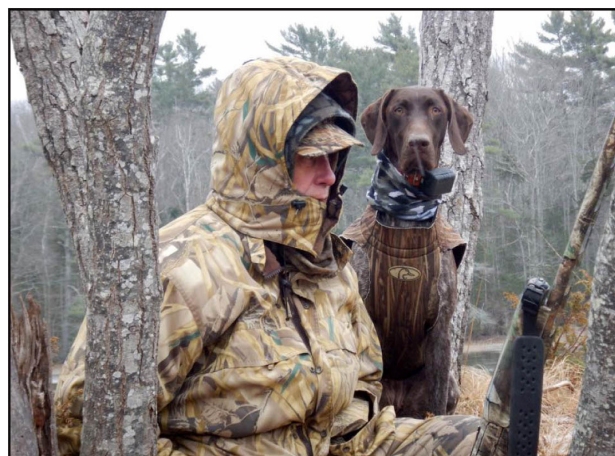
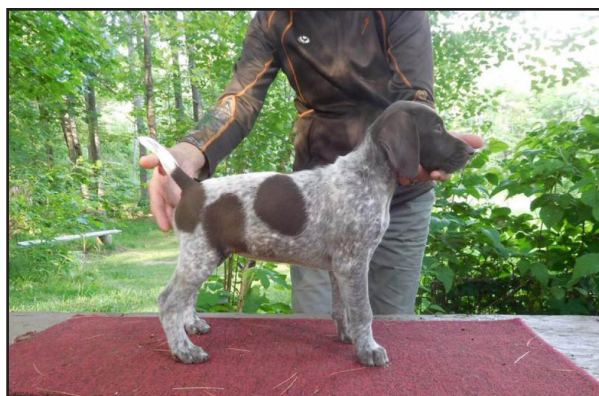
from our director of training...

## Developing a Training Plan for Your Dog's Disposition

After the last few Zoom meetings, I recognized a few common problems with some of your training. Mostly because not all dogs train alike and every dog comes with their own set of tools. The most important tool is their disposition, their nervous system. Each trainer MUST develop a training plan that reflects their dog's disposition. Once this is done, be aware, you will need to modify your plan constantly as you run into bumps or even road blocks. Believe me, that's what makes you a good trainer.

Keep consistency in your training for your dog's benefit. You will, of course, be making small changes, and that's okay, as you head down the road to your finished gun dog. You need to learn to read your dog and progress at the speed that works for him. Constant flipping of plans will only add confusion, and a lack of performance will result. If you have reached this point, you may want to back up and get some assistance from someone who has been down the road before. The Yankee Chapter has a great number of quality trainers always willing to listen and suggest solutions. Good luck with your training and have a great time with your dog.

-- Blaine Carter



For more training tips and Zoom training session announcements, check the Yankee NAVHDA FB page.

from our treasurer ...

Latest stats from our treasurer, Mike Rinaldi:

### Equity

Kenny King/Bob Bisson Fund	\$9,643.08
NAVHDA Apprentice Hunter Program	\$688.64
Yankee Chapter General Funds	\$26,960.93
Net Income	\$2,531.36

### Membership

We have 143 chapter members for the 2020 season so far; renewals and memberships continue to roll in. There are 31 new Yankee members, 107 renewed members, and 5 youth members. 61 people donated to the KK/BB fund.



### NAVHDA International Annual Meeting Postponed

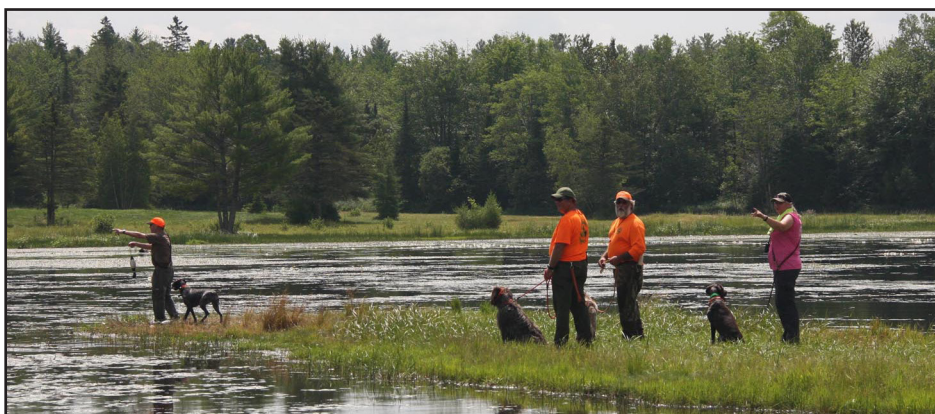
At the request of the host chapter, the 2021 Annual Meeting in California has been postponed to 2022. There is still considerable uncertainty regarding the permissible size of gatherings and whether people will be willing or able to fly in order to attend. The Annual Meeting requires a tremendous amount of planning to make it a success; postponement will ensure that the 2022 meeting will live up to the standards to which we have become accustomed.



## water clinic july 11

Our Water Clinic will take place on schedule at Sugarfoot Kennels in Burnham, Maine. We'll do all levels of water training from puppy swims to duck retrieves (hear that Zinger noise!) and Invitational double marks. There will be plenty of space to also do obedience work, retrieving drills, marking practice, tracks and drags. Last year's clinic at Sugarfoot was a terrific success due to the wonderful water set-up and fields Dave Mosher has established.

We will spread out, keep our social distancing in mind, and have a great time training. Bring your own lunch, beverages, and water for your dogs. Don't forget the shade tent, bug spray and sunscreen, too!



As with all our clinics, please remember to keep your dog on a leash or staked at all times when he or she isn't in the water or field for training. Poop scooping is always appreciated.

Upon arrival at Sugarfoot, look for signs and directions -- we'll be sending out more details on the clinic's logistics soon.

Needless to say, we are all excited to get back to training, Yankee Clinic style!

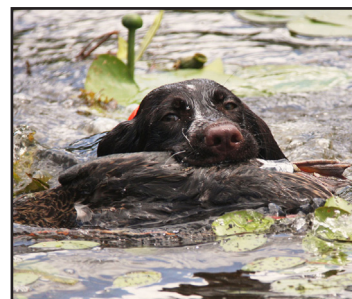
The clinic starts at 9:00 a.m. Google or GPS directions to 444 Troy Road, Burnham, Maine 04922



### Garmin Alpha Raffle

Raffle tickets are still available for the Garmin Alpha 100 collar generously donated by Jared Gordon. Thank you, Jared!

The winning ticket will be pulled at our Water Clinic on July 11th. Tickets will be available to purchase at the event for \$5.00 each. Proceeds to benefit Yankee Chapter Youth. For info or tics, see Patti.



## pre-test clinic july 25

The Pre-Test Clinic for the rescheduled Spring Test (July 31 - Aug 2) will be held July 25th at our training site in Bowdoinham, ME. The clinic starts at 9 a.m. Dogs that are testing the following week will get preference on the sign-up list, but all dogs are welcome. There will be plenty of training opportunities for everyone! With a fully packed test roster of both NA and UT dogs, we'll have a lot of dogs working throughout the site. We'll do our best to keep things organized, but be sure to pay attention to where you are on the lists.

Bring your lunch and beverages, plenty of drinking water for your dog(s); a shade tent would be a good idea. Don't

forget the bug spray and sunblock, too. As with the water clinic, we'll be social distancing and making sure all shared training equipment is sanitized as much as possible.

Directions:

From I-295, take exit 37 for ME-125/ME138 toward Bowdoinham.

Turn right onto ME-125/ME-138 N/ Main Street.

When Maine Street intersects River Road, turn left onto River Road.

Turn right onto Browns Point Road.

Take the first right onto Wildes Road. Follow the paved road past the houses to the end, then follow the dirt road until you see the training fields.

### CHECKLIST

WATER  
BUG SPRAY  
SHADE TARP  
WATER  
CHAIR  
WATER  
LEASH  
STAKE OR CRATE  
WATER  
SUNSCREEN  
WATER  
RAIN GEAR  
WATER  
DOG

# PUPPIES, PUPPIES EVERYWHERE!

by Patti Carter

Did you notice a cute puppy on Facebook? Did it make you smile? Did their cuteness (while sleeping) make you want another? I can't tell you how many phone calls we took about puppies this Spring. Messages like, "I've got plenty of time right now with this virus thing, do you have any puppies available?" "I just saw your post on FB of your bunch of puppies, thinking it's time for another." None of those phone conversations convinced me they really needed a puppy at this time. Dogs are a 12 to 14 year commitment in my book. The toughest years are the first and the last. Planning ahead and researching Breeders should be a huge part of the process.

So, for you lucky few new puppy owners that have a flat surface piddler, crate screamer, boot chewer or middle of the night alarm clock, congratulations. Your journey ahead will resemble a roller coaster, hang on tight as some or those turns may be sharp. Speaking of sharp..... how about those teeth!

Anyway, here are a few nuggets of wisdom I have learned over the decades.

If your breeders have done their homework, your 8-week-old pup's brain has been wired to learn. It is time to start your basic skill training...come, sit, stay, whoa, get it, fetch, give, drop, kennel, place and finally, night, night, thank goodness, night night! Pick the words that work best for you and get started. Whatever word you choose for a particular task, remember, most likely your puppy already knows what you want while you are still contemplating your game plan. So, when training the basics, use your body English and rewards to shape a behavior prior to giving it a name. Our language (talking too much, blah, blah, blah) can interfere with the pups understanding the task. Place boards and a training table are amazing tools; use them!

Did you notice I didn't ask you to select a word of correction? Please focus and reward the behaviors that will lead towards your final goal. Disregard the wrong actions at this point in training,

and they will go away. I promise. Happy working puppies are the best. Watch that tail!

Months 4 to 6 are for play based learning. During this period, pup should be exposed to anything and everything that will be a part of his hunting lifestyle.

Your pup needs to become accustomed to car rides, game birds, kids, noises of all kinds, different environments, other puppies and lots of people, I mean lots of people. As far as gunfire exposure, be careful, and ask for professionals' assistance in this introduction if you are at all concerned.

Beanie Babies, I love Beanie Babies for fun retrieves indoors as they are soft and fun to carry objects with a little weight. They make an attention getting noise when they hit the floor as does Blaine when they start leaking beans all over the place. Hey, the pain is worth the gain.

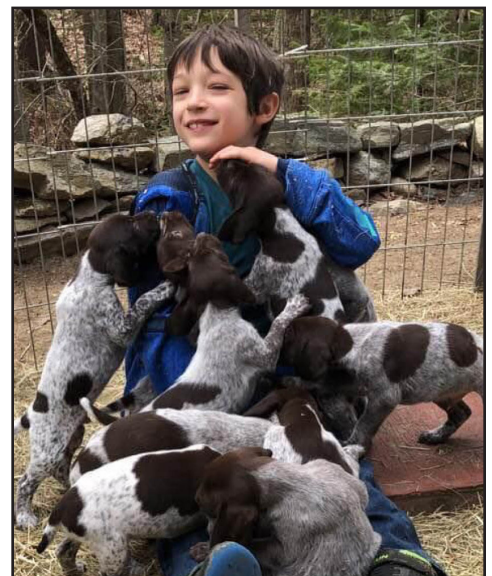
They need okay objects to chew, like antlers or Nylabones. They need to chew and they will, so direct the energy towards something other than next season's leaky leather boots. No, not even LL Bean will accept that return. I have a basket full of appropriate toys, soft and hard available at all times for their busy moments.

Most likely your kids will become a human squeaky toy, one that screams in pain as your pup enjoys the negative attention. Have the kids layer up the clothes and do not react to pup's planned attack. If it's no fun, the behavior will go away. Biting. If a puppy tries to nibble on me, I react as the pup's mom would with a sharp verbal growl and a dominant fast movement to the nose. This MUST be immediately followed by nurturing to release the pressure and gain the pup's understanding. See photo.

Months 7 thru 9, introduce birds, gunfire and water. Pups are still too young for hard driving searches or long repetitive retrieving sessions. Once they love

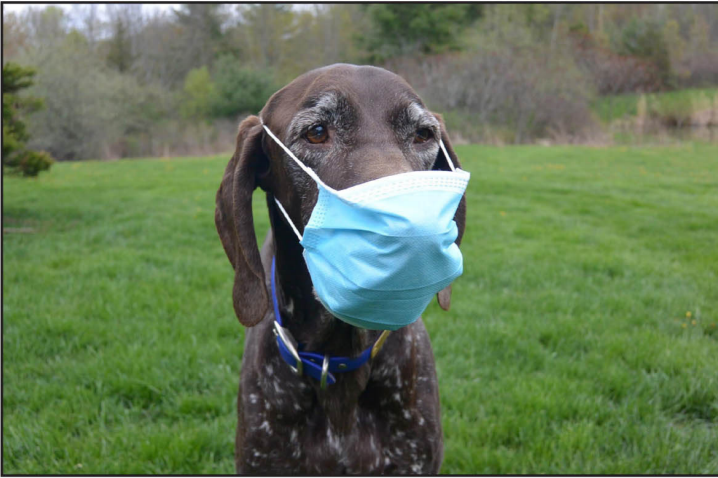
the water, duck chases can be muscle building and aerobic activities. Continue to expose the pup to new activities and adventures. The key is everything in moderation. Watch that tail, it will let you know if your game plan is off track! These new exposures are introduced at this point in the pup's development because their nervous system is maturing and capable of dealing with more challenging things.

Go easy if needed, not all pups learn at the same speed. Study your pup's attitude while working. The correct way to train your pup is what you decide works for you both. If you both are having fun... most of the time, set your goals and go for it.





## yankee chapter showcase



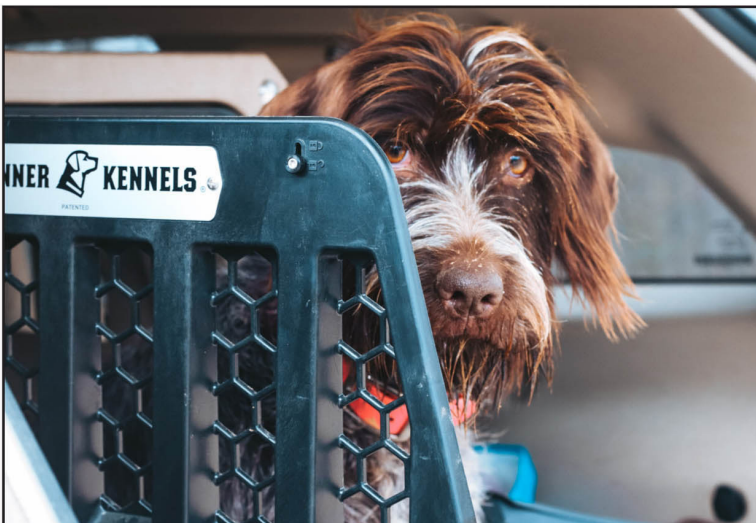
Nancy Anisfield



Camille Noldan



Sarah Turner



Kayla Quesnel



Betty Blackman

*Be sure to visit the Yankee Chapter website  
and click on Gallery for photos from chapter  
clinics, test, and events!*

from our conservation partners...

## Habitat Conservation in the time of COVID-19.

*Excerpts from Messages from the Executive Directors*

“We are in an unprecedented situation that has the potential to also dramatically handcuff our ability to deliver our wildlife habitat conservation mission. Despite these challenging circumstances, we know we can count on the Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever community to remain steadfast in their commitment to a healthy upland landscape filled with wild birds, happy bird dogs, and wild places to enjoy. Stay healthy and thank you for the continued support.”

-- Howard Vincent, Pheasants Forever / Quail Forever

“When facing human hardship, it can be difficult to remember that our own health is inseparable from the health of our natural world. Forests included! Even during good times, many folks don’t get it. But we do. That is why our voices are so important during the days ahead. Conservation is not cancelled, my friends. Like everyone, we are feeling the disruptions.... Nonetheless, we are pushing forward with clear objectives. We will: Keep working, being proactive in conservation – we can’t sit and wait for the smoke to clear. Make sure RGS/AWS emerges a more impactful force for conservation than we entered – we need to be strengthened, not weakened by the challenges.”

– Ben Jones, Ruffed Grouse Society / American Woodcock Society



## Summer Hazards

*From the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine DOGWatch newsletter.*

### Sunburn.

Dogs can get sunburn, especially dogs with short, light coats or any of the hairless breeds. There is an FDA-approved sunscreen for dogs made by Epi Pet. If needed, you can find sunglasses goggles for dogs, too.

### Hot Ground.

Hot pavement and hot sand can give your dog blistered, sore paws. If it is too hot for you to walk barefoot or the surface is hot to the touch, it is too warm for your dog to walk there, too.



### Water Toxicity.

Yes! While your dog needs plenty of clean drinking water available, you can run into water toxicity if your dog is swimming, retrieving and playing in the water. Dogs can inadvertently gulp a lot of water while playing and overhydrate. Playing with a hose should be monitored, too.

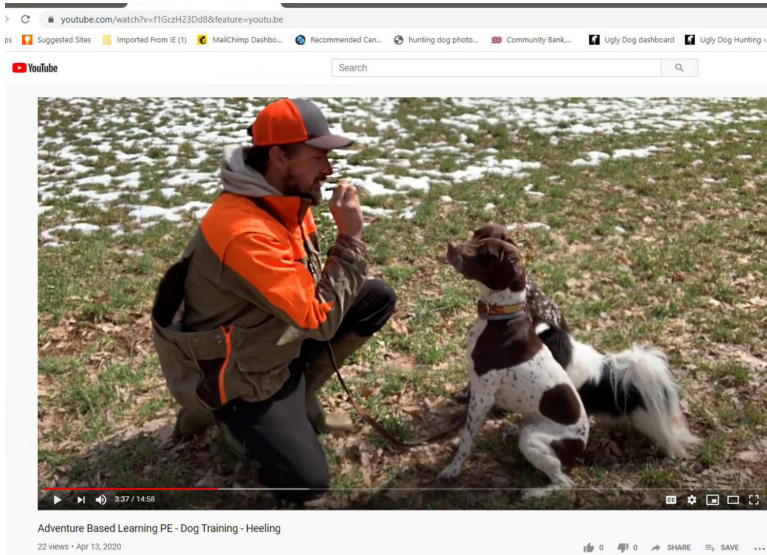
### Barbeque Burns.

Barbeques smell great, especially to your dog! But remember that a grill-sniffing dog could get burned or end up eating something he shouldn’t, like cooked bones.



# yankee YOUTH!

from our director of youth development...



## Making Exercising with your Dog Fun

Watch this lively video in which pro dog trainer and teacher of human students Jason Carter shows us how to make exercising with our dogs fun by teaching them how to focus, sit, and heel.

<https://youtu.be/f1GczH23Dd8>

## WORD SEARCH

Up, down, across or on a diagonal. Find the hidden words.  
Answers on page 8.

M	B	A	F	X	B	W	R	G	N	N	D	B	Z	D
A	N	T	P	Z	H	U	P	L	A	N	D	W	X	J
I	E	I	M	U	T	I	L	I	T	Y	L	Y	G	G
N	T	M	X	B	P	W	U	H	C	H	B	G	L	H
E	Q	B	P	N	O	L	N	V	N	F	X	B	D	E
Y	W	E	X	Q	I	W	C	W	N	W	E	K	C	E
W	O	R	Z	C	N	O	M	H	U	A	Q	T	Q	L
M	O	H	D	L	T	S	M	O	M	I	V	G	C	R
P	U	E	P	B	E	F	F	A	J	E	O	H	N	H
U	F	U	R	Z	R	Q	T	Q	I	D	P	N	D	J
P	G	X	S	H	U	N	T	I	N	G	K	A	F	A
P	N	A	T	U	R	A	L	A	B	I	L	I	T	Y
Y	Q	N	R	Y	Z	Y	Z	U	E	F	L	P	J	
G	R	O	U	S	E	Z	H	V	Y	D	D	E	A	Z
H	P	P	B	B	D	Q	A	Q	M	Y	V	Z	D	O

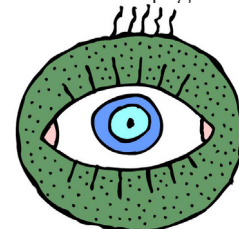
NATURALABILITY  
GROUSE  
TIMBER  
WHOA  
HUNTING  
NAVHDA  
UPLAND  
POINTER  
FETCH  
PUPPY  
UTILITY  
MAINE  
HEEL

## QUIZ

### Which One Doesn't Belong?

1. Brittany, Springer, Vizsla, Irish Setter
2. Stock, Trigger, Chamber, Bridge
3. Teal, Eider, Sharptail, Wigeon
4. Ash, Cedar, Larch, Hemlock
5. Chocolate, Beans, Pecans, Dog Poop

Answers on page 8.



**What do you get when you cross a frog and a dog?**

A Croaker Spaniel!

**Why aren't dogs good dancers?**

Because they have two left feet!

**Why can't dogs work the TV remote?**

Because they always hit the paws button!

## bee stings... ouch!

Did you know there are things around the house you can use to relieve some of a bee sting's awful burning sensation? Try one of these, keeping the remedy in place for at least 15 minutes.

1. Aspirin. Moisten an aspirin tablet and use a bandaid to hold it on the sting.
2. Baking soda. Make a thick paste of baking soda and water then glob it onto the sting.
3. Toothpaste. Dab it right on top of the sting.



## SPEED WORK FOR BETTER RETRIEVING

By Blaine Carter

**Goal: produce a fast efficient retrieve with the correct presentation to the handler.**

Teaching a dog to retrieve as fast as he can with a proper delivery is not an easy task. One of the side effects when we try to train a good tight retrieve is the dog's unwillingness to come in and sit properly. Slow returns, sitting too far away and not sitting at all are attributed to a poor foundation. This is when I teach the dog a two bumper high energy exercise that will excite and add fun to the dog's retrieving. Be patient as it sometimes takes a while to teach this exercise.

You will need two bumpers to start, one to excite the dog and the second to show him to entice his return. Excite the dog to the point where he is jumping in anticipation of you tossing the bumper. At this point, toss the bumper and command fetch. The dog should be very excited when released. Don't be concerned if he plays or drops the bumper at this point. This will improve as the dog understands the two bumper game.

When he has the first bumper in his mouth, say "come" and wave the second bumper with the same excitement as before. The dog should be thinking of the fun from the first bumper and come to you in anticipation of the second. While the dog is learning the two bumper game, don't ask for proper deliveries but do require the dog to hold until commanded to release. It is very important for the trainer to build the dog's attitude and desire to play the game in these early lessons.

When the dog comes to you with the bumper, demonstrating he understands this new game, you may use body posture to show him where he should be sitting, saying "sit" if necessary (foundation). When the dog sits and looks up, take the bumper and throw the second. The repetition of the two bumper game is where the learning and confidence occurs. Remember: It is very important to end the game while the dog is still wanting more.

Attitude is critical. If the two bumper game is played properly, you should see an improved willingness in your dog's attitude to work for you.

*This article first appeared in the Barking Dog Express in July 2015.*



### WILD FOOD TIPS

- Roots and tubers have more food value than leaves.
- Most blue and black berries are edible; some red berries are edible; white berries are rarely edible.
- Avoid eating mushrooms unless you really know what you're eating -- some are truly deadly.
- Rose hips, wild strawberry leaves and violet leaves are an excellent source of vitamin C.
- Avoid plants resembling dill or parsley.
- The inner bark of cottonwood, aspen, willow, birch and conifers is edible.
- Avoid all plants having milky sap unless you know the few exceptions such as dandelions and wild figs.

### Answers to Which One Doesn't Belong?

1. A Springer is a flushing dog. The rest are pointing dogs.
2. A Bridge is not a part of a shotgun.
3. A Sharptail Grouse is an upland bird. The rest are ducks.
4. An Ash is a Maine native leaf tree. The rest are Maine conifers.
5. All are brown, but only the first three are good to eat!





## Dog Gear... Perfection?

by Nancy Anisfield

Frustrated by hunting gear that always seems to have most of the features we want but never all the features we want, I like to play “If I were to design a ----.”

Training collars always generate great debate. If I were to design an e-collar, it would have a decent range of stimulation adjusted on a rheostat, different beeper sounds and volumes, vibrate, locator, small ergonomic size, a tiny receiver, buttons with numbers or collar color letters big enough to read without my glasses, some blaze orange on the transmitter so I can find it when I drop it in the woods, a fixed antenna that’s not too long, a simple on-off button that doesn’t get squishy with age, and a reliable loop to attach it to a lanyard or carabineer without interfering with the transmitter knobs or needing crafting wire to attach.

Ask the next dog handler, and he or she will come up with a different set of priorities for sure.

*This article was first published by Pheasants Forever in July, 2013.*

How about the perfect rain hat? Mine would be 100% waterproof, 100% breathable, blaze orange, never shrink or wrinkle, allow no water to drip down my neck, and would look great on me. (That last part is the kicker.) We analyze game vests, hunting pants and guns. Boots are very personal, so we’ve given up trying to design the perfect pair. I wonder, though, what we’d come up with if we were to design the perfect bird dog.

I’d start with a dense coat to protect from thorns and brambles. It’d have to be heavy enough for cold weather but not too heavy for early season. The dog would have to be so biddable I’d think he or she had read the training manual the night before we start backyard drills. A sensational nose goes without saying, love for swimming, and the ability to know exactly how far out to range in the woods. My perfect dog would come pre-wired steady to wing, shot and drop, and would retrieve with the style and

grace of the head waiter in a gourmet restaurant serving filet mignon in a delicate burgundy mushroom sauce while popping the cork on a bottle of Dom Perignon.

Needless to say, the dog must have a sense of humor for those slow days in the field when I need diversion, and he or she would have to be forgiving, knowing that when I miss it’s because the sun was in my eyes, the trees were in the way, or my jacket pulled the gunstock away from my shoulder. As far as personality goes, my perfect dog would adore me and understand that we’re a team – that if he or she finds the bird, I can shoot the bird; and if he or she retrieves the bird, I’ll cook it up for dinner, for us both.

Did I forget anything?



### Send Us Your Stories

We are always looking for fun articles and stories for the Yankee newsletter. Put some pen to paper (or more likely, fingers to keyboard) and write down your adventure, training challenge, hunting discovery, dog insights, or best game recipe. Please send your stories or story ideas to the Barking Dog Express at: [anisfield@gmavt.net](mailto:anisfield@gmavt.net).

### Send Us Your Photos

We love to share members’ photos with everyone via Facebook and Instagram. Please send your favorite pics to Camille Noldan at [NoldanPhoto@aol.com](mailto:NoldanPhoto@aol.com). Camille is our photo editor and will be posting photos on social media and helping to select a few for the newsletter “Showcase.”



## NAVHDA INTERNATIONAL SPONSORS AND CONSERVATION PARTNERS



### yankee chapter contacts

#### Yankee Chapter Officers


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 season.

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 online.  
 www.DogNotGone.com  
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### barking dog advertising

Litter Ads - 1/4 page max size  
 free for members  
 \$15 / month non-members

Business Card Ads -  
 \$25 /year members  
 \$35 / year non-members

Display Ads - 1/4 page max size  
 \$35 / year members

### barking dog schedule

The Barking Dog Express will be published five times a year:

**Oct/Nov/Dec  
 Jan/Feb  
 Mar/Apr  
 May/June  
 July/Aug/Sept**

Fall Test Recap & Upcoming Hunting Season  
 Hunting Recap & Upcoming Winter Events  
 Annual Meetings Reports & Winter Recap  
 Training Season Issue  
 Spring Test Recap & Summer Issue

Be sure to keep an eye on Facebook for member news, on the Yankee web-site galleries for event photos, and on chapter emails for announcements.