

# barking dog express

Yankee Chapter of NAVHDA

jan/feb 2021

# from our president...

Again, I hope this finds you all well and dealing with this strange and very scary world we are living in. The key word here is "living"! Every day we make choices, but today's choice could be life changing to others. Again, please, be careful.

With those words of reality behind us, there is so much to look forward to in 2021. We obviously won't be gathering at Cabelas for our Yankee Chapter Annual Meeting on January 3; however, we will be gathering virtually that same day. Like every year, there will be a Meet and Greet at 9:30, with the business meeting starting promptly at 10:00. See you soon.

As discussed in my last message to our members, Nick Racioppi and I will be in attendance at the virtual NAVHDA International Meeting the end of January. Sadly, only the President and a delegate from each chapter will be represented. Nick and I will be sure to take good notes to share with you all. We have not heard how NAVHDA plans to share this meeting with its membership but I am sure those plans are in the works. Nothing is easy!

Our Director of Testing, Rich Gay, has ordered the chukar, ducks and pheasant for the 2021 season of training and testing. Thanks to Foggy Ridge Gamebird Farm for all they do to keep us training. What they do is not magic; it's all very hard and devoted work. We'll be setting the dates for 2021 at our January meeting so have your calendars handy.

I apologize if I am repeating info, but wanted to be sure everyone hears about this event that we are holding May 1 and 2. The Yankee Chapter will be hosting a NAVHDA Aims

and Rules Clinic (formally known as Handlers Clinic), an educational tool developed by NAVHDA to help dog owners and handlers understand the testing system. Again, read up on this event on NAVHDA's website, watch for the details and sign up early as spaces are limited.

2021 Schedule of Events will be reviewed and set at the chapter's virtual annual meeting on January 3. These dates will be published on our Website, Barking Dog Express, Judie's Email blast and Facebook. Don't miss any of the fun and get outside!

Speaking of getting outside, Maine's Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Judy Camuso, held a Coffee with the Commissioner Zoom this past week. It was a great event! Her current mission, during Covid, is to get more Mainers outside, for physical health as well as mental health. She states, "If Mainers want to be outdoors, they will want to protect the outdoors." You can watch her entire event on the departments website. Her energy is contagious!

Please stay safe this Holiday Season as we want to see you in the field training this spring. We will continue to share info on our social media sites. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns going into 2021.

Lastly, have you paid your 2021 dues? It's for real, you now can pay with the much discussed button, PayPal. I am going to do that right now.

As this message brings 2020 to a close, thanks for being part of our Yankee Chapter family. Stay well and I'll see you on January 3.

-- Patti

# bulletin board

January 3 - virtual meeting Yankee Annual Meeting 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

EHUNTING DOG

February 16
Test entry opening postmark date

# Welcome New Yankee Chapter Members!

Kathleen & Mathew St. Pierre Rick Simonds Bob Pasquale



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!

# from our director of training...

### **Now What?**

by Blaine Carter

Now that hunted season has ended, what next?

I have always thought that I should make a list of what my dog does well and what my dog does not. What better time than now while your hunting season is fresh in your mind? After the holidays, we all need a break. Look at your list and create a plan. The training knowledge here in the Yankee Chapter is a great resource, and I want you to have access to it.

Yankee Chapters offers:

-- A website with a membership list and contact info. Find a training partner!

-- Educational events: Rules and Aims Clinic May 2021

-- Training clinics, trainers, equipment and birds

-- Educational videos on our website; don't miss this resource!

A few thoughts to help you formulate your training program: First, you need to look for someone working towards the same goals. Finding a partner with similar goals will help you both motivate and head towards your goal.

Second, recognizing what is good about your dog as well as the things your dog does not understand will greatly help in your plan when talking to trainers. Third, we've all made mistakes in training. Recognize them and regroup.

A fresh set of eyes can help you get through.

Often during hunting season, exposure to wild game drives up your dog's desire which often shows itself in the chase of a flushed bird. As a result of the chase, your dog's willingness to point may diminish. Fast forward to December: who had the most fun this season, you or your dog? So what would you do? As I listed above, now you can put a training plan together that will make sense and help put some much needed obedience back in the hunt. So, set your goals. The Yankee Chapter will help you achieve them in 2021.

Check our training videos on the chapter's website. If they do not address your needs, please call and let's talk. I am always looking for useful topics to discuss in the Barking Dog Express. I may even be looking for a train-

ing partner!



Some Yankee dogs at their pre-hunt briefing.

Mark your calendars for May 1-2, 2021 -- We will be holding an Aims & Rules Clinic. This is an educational tool developed by NAVHDA to help dog owners and handlers understand the testing system. The clinics are conducted by designated NAVHDA Senior Judges and Clinic Leaders. Aims & Rules Clinics cover a variety of topics over two days, including informal classroom style instruction on the NAVHDA philosophy, test mechanics, and the scoring system for each test. More info and details coming soon.

#### tentative yankee chapter 2021 schedule

Here is the proposed training and testing schedule for 2021. We will go over it at the chapter annual meeting.

February 16 - Test Entries may be postmarked.

April 17 - Training Clinic, Dresden

May 1-2 - Aims and Rules Clinic

May 8 - Vermont Clinic

May 22 - Training Clinic, Dresden

June 5 - Pre-Test Clinic, Dresden June 11-13 - Spring Test, Dresden July 11- Water Clinic, Burnham Aug 28 - Pre-Test Clinic, Bowdoinham Sep 10-12 - Fall Test, Bowdoinham

# yankee updates and info

#### **PAYPAL Comes to Yankee**

Yankee members now have two easy ways to pay for memberships, donations, and test entries:

Pay online at the Yankee Chapter website via PayPal. Scroll down the Membership page for all the PayPal payment options.

Pay by check. Membership checks, membership renewals, and donations can be mailed to our Treasurer, Mike Rinaldi, at 876 Litchfield Rd, Bowdoin, ME 04827. Test fees can be sent to our Test Secretary, Sandy Runyon, at 973 Intervale Rd., New Gloucester, ME 04260.

Don't forget that new members still need to mail their application form to Mike.

Test entry forms still need to be mailed to Sandy. Don't forget that our tests usually fill up quickly and Sandy needs your entry form before he can sign you up for a test. That, and preference for running days, is on a first come, first serve basis.



# NAVHDA International Annual Meeting January 23-24, 2021

With a 500 person maximum available for the virtual meeting, NAVHDA has asked each chapter to just have their President attend along with one delegate. Patti Carter will be attending as your President and Yankee Chapter Vice President, Nick Racioppi, will be our Delegate. Following the meeting, they will inform everyone of the details.



Check out the new gallery on the Yankee website: Members Fall 2020 for some great pics of hunting season. If you'd like your autumn or winter adventures added, send the photos to Camille Noldan at NoldanPhoto@aol. com.



Thank you to Dani Friend for her time and great work as the Yankee Chapter Secretary! Dani has decided to step down (gee, you think having three young'uns has anything to do with it?), and Kathleen Weller has agreed to finish Dani's term. We join the Board in welcoming Kathleen aboard!

### Stay in Touch!

We love to share members' photos with everyone via Facebook and Instagram. Please send your favorite pics to Camille Noldan at NoldanPhoto@aol.com.

We are always also looking for fun articles and stories for the Yankee newsletter. Send short pieces on your adventures hunting and training, dog insights, or best game recipe to the Barking Dog Express at: anisfield@gmavt.net.

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### Yankee Chapter Annual Meeting

Social Meet and Greet - 9:30 - 10:00 Meeting Starts - 10:00 until finished

Meeting guidelines - Please mute yourself on entry, use messenger to make comments, to ask questions or to vote.

Jason Carter has sent an invitation to all chapter members to join the meeting via Google Meet. If you haven't received this email with the link, contact Jason at jcarter@rsu1. org.

Along with year-end reports from the Yankee Chapter officers and Board, the meeting will cover upcoming event scheduling, new payment methods, communications, NAVHDA International business and much more.

We will be giving away three great door prizes ("screen prizes?") at the Annual Meeting: A Pheasants Forever Duffel/Backpack, Set of 4 Etched Pheasants Forever Stemless Wine Glasses, and a Dog Bundle: PF leash, PF collar, Blaze Survival Bracelet, Mendota Checkcord. Winners' prizes will be shipped to them after the meeting.

### NAVHDA Invitational -September 15-29, 2021

The Invitational will be held near Searsboro, Iowa, co-hosted by the Hawkeye Chapter and NAVH-DA International. Dogs that qualified in 2020 are eligible to run then or in New Mexico in 2022.

Several Yankee Chapter handlers and their dogs have quailified and will be training for the Invitational this summer. If you're new to NAVHDA, be sure to ask them about this exciting event.

It takes a tremendous amount of work to run this test, and NAVH-DA is always looking for volunteers to help. Ask anyone who's tested or volunteered at the Invitational -- it's more than worth the trip! If you're interested in learning about how to vounteer, Annie Nuss via email: invitevolunteer-coordinator@gmail.com.

# yankee chapter showcase

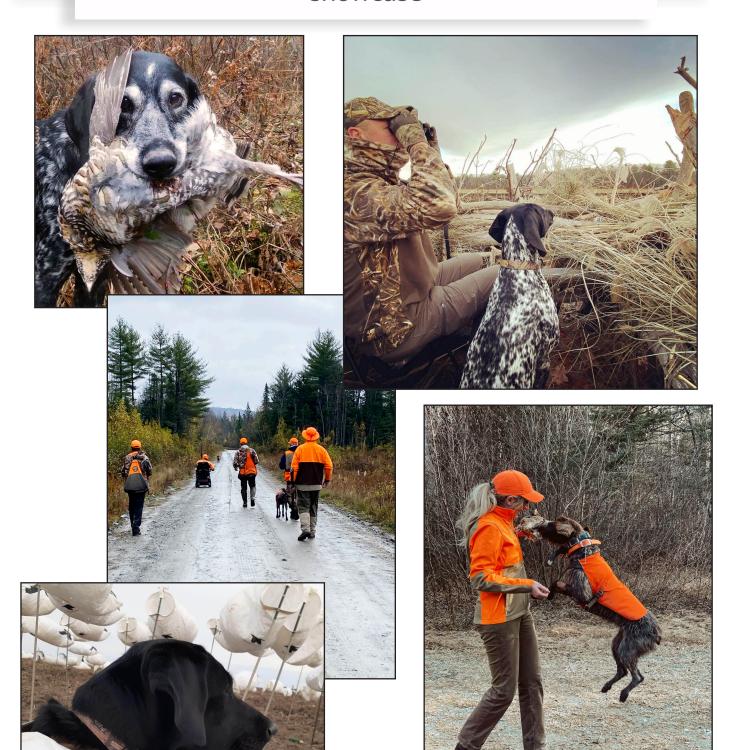


Photo Credits clockwise from top left:

-Patti Carter, Camille Noldan, Matt Maloney, Russell Estes, Cindy Patton

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#### from the Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

#### Maine: Time for 2021 Licenses



The 2021 hunting and fishing licenses are now available for purchase online or at any of the more than 800 licensing agents statewide.

The state of Maine offers a wide range of hunting and fishing opportunities. Maine is nearly as large as all the other New England states combined, with over 17 million acres of forested land, 6,000 lakes and ponds and 32,000 miles of rivers and streams.

By purchasing a license each year, you are supporting Maine's fish and wildlife management efforts and we thank you for that!

To make your annual license purchase even easier, you can opt into EZ Renew when you purchase your 2021 license online. You will be able to select a convenient date to receive an email reminder, which will contain a link that will allow you to quickly verify the license to be purchased, your personal info, and your payment details. Opting into EZ Renew will allow you to complete your annual license purchase in less than a minute!

To get started, go to: mefishwildlife.com.

### **Get to know your Commissioner!**

A Remedy for Everything: Getting People Outside with Judy Camuso — WildFed Podcast #057 Judy Camuso is the first woman ever to lead MDIFW. A wildlife biologist, avid birder, hunter and outdoor enthusiast, Judy's world is rooted in the outdoors, and she's ardent about preserving access to hunting and fishing for all. In this podcast, Judy talks about some of our most pressing questions regarding state management of wildlife and wild places. They also chat about getting women involved in hunting, Maine's unique access laws, and so much more!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeXzEpWk0rM

# from our conservation partners...

# **Ruffed Grouse Society / American Woodcock Society**

Don't forget to renew your membership to the Ruffed Grouse Society, and if you aren't already a member, now is a great time to join. Many people renew at an annual banquet, and with so many events cancelled this year because of the pandemic, lots of folks simply forgot. RGS/AWS offers a dozen different types of memberships: https://www.uplandstore.org/category-s/157.htm.

Remember, RGS/AWS mem-

bers are mainly grouse and woodcock hunters like us who support national scientific conservation and management efforts to ensure the future of these species.

## **Pheasants Forever / Quail Forever**

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) and Pheasants Forever Inc., and Quail Forever (PF & QF) are pleased to announce the formal continuation of their successful partnership through a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed

this month.

Both CSF and PF / QF possess resources designed to advance conservation goals benefitting sportsmen and women. Defining and establishing a recognized partnership between CSF and PF /QF - primarily within each

state, but also at the national level - will allow each organization to continue to leverage the other's abilities and become increasingly effective at promoting science-based wildlife management and protecting our hunting heritage for future generations.









# yankee YOUTH!

# from director of youth development jason carter



WOOD DUCK

### Wood Duck Box Project

We once again serviced our nesting boxes last spring with the help of Patti Carter, Casey Mowers, Rick Madden, and his son in tow. The third week in February will again be our targeted nesting box project date depending on weather and ice conditions. We hope to get more participation this year. Please get the word out as I'm sure everyone will be eager to get outside for a great project.

### TRIVIA

What is Maine's State....

Mammal Fish Tree Insect Flower Capital

Answers on page 9

Joke: Vegan Lady and a Butcher

A vegan lady went on a blind date with a man. She asked him what he did for a living. He said he is a butcher. The lady said, "Eww that's grouse."

The butcher replied, "A person who sells vegetables is grocer!" **ha!** 

# Shotgun Parts - Break Action Action Release Chamber Upper Barrel Rib Bead Front Sight Safety Comb Grip Trigger Trigger Guard Butt

# Let's talk about guns...

Here are some great questions to ask about gun safety. Answer them yourselves or quiz your parents and friends.

- 1. When upland hunting, when do you take your safety off?
- 2. How high should the bird be before pulling the trigger?
- 3. Why should you wear orange in the field bird-hunting if it's not required?
- 4. What is a break-open action and why is it considered the safest action?
- 5. True or False All shotgun's safety automatically go to safe when opening the action?
- 6. When carrying a shotgun, why is it preferred to hold your gun towards the sky versus towards the ground with upland dogs?

# NAME THE BREED!

Unscramble these words to name the dog breeds pictured below. fofgrin paenisl dracipi

hiwerria zavlis trundlepeponi gramen ailonrhg manger hirraiwe ponnies





Answers on page 9

### **Conservation -- Fact or Fairy Tale**

#### By Matt Soberg Editor, Covey Rise Magazine

This excerpt is from a conservation column that appeared in **Covey Rise Magazine**, December 1, 2020, reprinted by permission of the author. To read the full piece and many other excellent articles on upland hunting, wild game cooking, shotguns, and other aspects of our wingshooting lifestyle, check out www.coveyrisemagazine.com and also get a subscription to the print publication.

#### HOW WE USE THE WORD "CONSERVATION" MATTERS MORE THAN WE REALIZE.

... Conservation is quite the buzzword these days. The hashtag—#conservation—is trending nationwide. You see the term peppered throughout social media feeds in posts about protecting public lands. "Hunters are conservationists" is rhetoric heard anytime we discuss the need for hunter recruitment and funding.

I truly love to see how many people are carrying the flag for conservation and think we can all agree that protecting public lands, habitat, and wildlife is necessary. Good intentions notwithstanding, I wonder if the term is often misunderstood or used too flippantly—as it was during the time Aldo Leopold published A Sand County Almanac in 1949. ...

What does "conservation" really mean? You might be surprised, because the word and the way we use it matter to what happens—in terms of policy, funding, and real solutions—to the lands and the habitat that support the wildlife we pursue.

Basic classes in science or natural resources teach students about the three theories of land use: exploitation, preservation, and conservation. Let's do a quick test to see whether you passed your class:

1. It's opening day of the grouse-hunting season. You are on public land, and you are appreciative for the access and the opportunity. The rising sun shines clearly for hundreds of yards through the mature stand of aspens as you follow your dogs through the forest. You stand for a second in awe of the nature around you. The moment is just as it should be, and you want to maintain it—everything from the trees to the land—in this pristine manner, unchanged forever. Is this conservation, preservation, or exploitation?

2. It's opening day of the grouse-hunting season. You are on public land, and you are appreciative for the access and the opportunity. The rising sun shines clearly for hundreds of yards across a clearcut, where the mature aspens had been harvested the previous winter by a timber company that was contracted by the government. The acres you once hunted look barren—everything from the trees to the land—and you wonder why the landscape has been disturbed like this by humans. Is this conservation, preservation, or exploitation?

For example number one, did you answer "conservation"? It includes public land, access, hunting, trees, and wildlife. It must be conservation. Well, actually no. It's a clear example of "preservation," which is defined as the philosophy of leaving our natural resources completely undisturbed by humans—maintaining the landscape the way it has always been through time.

For example number two, did you answer "exploitation"? It includes clearcut trees, a barren landscape, significant disturbance, timber companies, and the government. It must be exploitation. Well, actually no. It's a clear example of conservation.

Conservation is management of the lands where we use the extra natural resources (i.e., timber in this example) in a responsible and sustainable way to ensure they are available for the future. This is fundamentally different than exploitation, which is the use of natural resources to depletion (i.e., market hunting or deforestation). For conservation here, there is more to the story of this clearcut and its sustainable effect on habitat and wildlife for the future. ...

Sometimes preservation is a good thing. Do we want to preserve the access and use of our public lands? Yes, of course. Our National Parks and designated wilderness areas, such as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota, are great examples of public lands preserved in their natural form for future generations. Humans are not allowed to disturb these areas in any way, and the only disturbance is through natural causes such as wind, fire, or flood.

However, preservation is sometimes bad because it fails to allow humans to create habitat for wildlife when it is necessary. Take the ruffed grouse, one of our beloved gamebirds, for example. These birds require young forest habitat to survive. This habitat is created through disturbances in the forest that cause regrowth and regeneration. Because humans intervene in natural disturbances, through practices like fire suppression, our forests are growing too old to support populations of ruffed grouse and other species, such as American woodcock and golden-winged warblers, whose populations are significantly threatened because of lack of habitat.

The solution is through reasonable and sustainable human-made disturbances—scientific forest management, of which timber harvests are an example—to create the necessary habitat. These practices also have an economic benefit. Back to question number two above: Not only does the described clearcut economically support the local community, the ecosystem regenerates to create the necessary young-forest habitat to benefit wildlife.

It's a win-win. This is conservation. ...

### **A Modest Proposal**

### by Chad Love Quail Forever Journal Editor

This excerpt is from a piece that appeared in **Quail Forever Journal**, Winter, 2020, reprinted by permission of the author.

One morning earlier this year, I was running my dogs on a local state wildlife management area a week or so after the September dove opener. It was a fine, glorious morning for being outside, and I decided to make a big looping circuit from one windmill and stock tank to the next, just enjoying the unseasonably cool weather while the dogs stretched their legs.

At the first stock tank we came to, I noticed a purple slash of color in the grass on the far side of the the stock tank and walked over to investigate. What I found was a big pile of 16-gauge hulls that someone hadn't bothered to pack out after a dove hunt. ...

As I picked up hulls, I decided it was a good example of how a person can have good taste in shotguns, yet still be a littering slob.

At the next windmill, I discovered yet another fine representation of the hunting community. And by fine I mean horrible. Dozens of hulls littered the ground around the windmill, and I counted four shotgun-blasted plastic water and sports drink bottles scattered about, plus a few assorted candy wrappers. They all went in the increasingly crowded game bag as I muttered any number of variations on George Carlin's Seven Dirty Words.

But the third windmill provided

the *slob de resistance*. Yet another bunch of lower lifeform troglodytes with shotguns had not only left a bunch of hulls and empty shell boxes scattered about, they apparently couldn't hit any dove so they focused their frustration by blasting the hell out of a couple mineral blocks that had been put out by the rancher who leased the WMA's grazing rights. ...

Why, I pondered, are there still people in this world who give not one damn for the public lands they own, but obviously don't deserve?

I didn't have an answer to that question, and I guess I never will, but if you're anything like me, you've probably seen your share of absolutely mind-boggling displays of disrespect, vandalism, and outright destruction of our public lands; from the ubiquity of bullet-riddled signs, bullet-riddled gates, bullet-riddled windmill vanes... basically bullet-riddled everything; to the litterbugs, the "let's tear up the road with our mud tires" crowd, and-- of course -- the special kind of SOB who views parking areas as their own personal open-air toilet.

I expect that kind of behavior from the littering, drunken slobs who throw their beer cans and fast-food containers out the window as they drive around looking for road signs and wildlife to shoot up.

But I don't expect it from my people, fellow hunters, who should have the greatest respect for the land from which we derive our greatest pleasure, our sustenance, and indeed, our very meaning.

Most of us have been taught to venerate our public lands, treat them like they're our own, because, of course, they are. They are treasures, and why some people treat them like a dump is beyond me.

I don't know how these people were raised, don't know what kind of role models they may or may not have had, don't know if they're simply congenital jackasses or if their behavior was a product of upbringing or environment, but here's a modest proposal for the slobs out there: Don't be. Instead, make a concerted effort to cultivate a minimum level of class, dignity and ethics in the field. Try to refrain from being an obvious disgrace to your sport and your culture.

And if that's too much effort for you, too much work, sacrifice or consideration, then please, just go away and be an embarrassment to some other demographic. Take up some other sport; parachute-less skydiving maybe, or perhaps nude shark-chumming. Anything, really, but hunting, fishing, or any other activity requiring a small modicum of respect for the wild places we all own.



### 3 Obvious but Overlooked Solutions to 3 Common Problems

Problem: Fumbling to get your dog's collar buckle in the right setting.

Solution: Using a permanent marker, draw a thick dark ring around the correct buckle hole on the inside of the collar. When you hold the strap out with the buckle sliding on, you can easily see the right hole.

### 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

### by Patti Carter & Nancy Anisfield

Problem: Your dog gets an abrasion on his or her front leg from the dangling bell while running.

Solution: Use a cable tie to afix the bell right up on the collar. That way, it won't hang down low enough to hit the dog's leg as it lifts during running.



Answers from page 6 -Moose Landlock Salmon White Pine Honey Bee White Pine Cone and Tassel Augusta

Pudelpointer German Wirehair Wirehair Vizsla Spinone Picardi Spaniel Griffon German Longhair Problem: Socks that bunch up around the toes or above the ankle inside heavy hunting boots.

Solution: Slide your boots on then walk around for a couple of minutes before lacing them tight. Once the inner boot material and the sock pack down just a bit, you can pull the socks smooth and they'll stay in place once the boot is tightened.

# track2wing

Track2wing Project Applications Opening January 1

All terrain access for wingshooters with bird dogs! Once again, NAVHDA is helping spread the word about the Track2wing Project - a program to grant Action trackchairs to individuals with mobility challenges who want to train and hunt with bird dogs. Applications are open to non-members as well as NAVHDA members, January 1 to March 31, 2021. For info email track2wing@gmavt.net or call Terry Wilson at 802-482-2561.

Do you have favorite game recipes? Share them with us! Send to the Barking Dog Express c/o anisfield@gmavt.net. Yum.

# barking dog schedule

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

Oct/Nov/Dec Fall Test Recap & Upcoming Hunting Season Jan/Feb Hunting Recap & Upcoming Winter Events Mar/Apr Annual Meetings Reports & Winter Recap May/June Training Season Issue

July/Aug/Sept Spring Test Recap & Summer Issue

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

#### send us your stories!

We are always looking for fun articles and stories for the Yankee newsletter. Send us short pieces on your adventures hunting and training, dog insights, or best game recipe. Please send your stories or story ideas to the Barking Dog Express at: 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 Noldan-Photo@aol.com.

# NAVHDA INTERNATIONAL SPONSORS AND CONSERVATION PARTNERS

















# yankee chapter contacts

# **Yankee Chapter Officers**

President	Patti Carter	mmkennels@myfairpoint.net	207-725-8229
Vice President	Nick Racioppi	feathersfins@comcast.net	207-751-3133
Secretary	Kathleen Weller	katred07@gmail.com	865-274-6843
Treasurer	Mike Rinaldi	mrinaldi81@gmail.com	207-200-4963

# **Yankee Chapter Board of Directors**

Testing	Rich Gay	rich0807@hotmail.com	207-890-9386
Test Secretary	Sandy Runyon	runyon@maine.rr.com	207-841-0630
Training	Blaine Carter	mmkennels@myfairpoint.net	207-725-8229
Youth Development	Jason Carter	jcarter@rsu1.org	207-721-0557
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Gunning	Matt Lorello	0 0,	207-415-6667
Delegate at Large	Bill Tracy	trac4fam@comcast.net	207-725-4562

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### Casey Mowers

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