

2005 Training Dates

Below are the remaining training dates for the 2005 season. Please order birds on-line at:

<http://delvalnavhda.com/form.html>

6/5 – Colliers Mills

6/11&12 – Spring Test – Colliers Mills

6/26 - Colliers Mills

7/9 – Saturday – Colliers Mills

7/24 – Colliers Mills

8/14 – Mock Test (for members only in our fall test) – Colliers Mills 2 groups

8/28 - Colliers Mills

9/10&9/11 – Fall test – Colliers Mills

Elections

Please keep your eyes open for the nomination ballots for Chapter Officers & Directors.

The Board of Directors shall hold their offices for a period of two (2) calendar years commencing on January 1, following their election, and ending on December 31, two (2) calendar years thereafter.

The Secretary shall solicit the membership in writing for nominations for the members of the Board of Directors by June 1 of the second calendar year. Membership will be required to return nominations by July 1st and the Secretary is required to list all nominations on a ballot for each office and submit said ballot to the membership by August 1st. Ballots must be returned to the Secretary by September 1st. The Secretary will total the results and send the results to the membership by October 1st. The ballots will be retained by the Secretary for a period not less than three (3) months and any member may review those ballots upon written or oral request to the Secretary.

All persons, who have been a member of the club for a minimum of two consecutive years at the time of their nomination, shall be eligible to become a nominee for election to the Board of Directors.

Chapter Contact

Questions or feedback can be directed to:

Barbara Kissinger
(215) 752-9580
BarChar@aol.com

Purina Helping Habitat

Pheasants Forever (PF) and Purina have announced a new partnership called the "Purina Conservation Program." Through the program, Purina will support PF's wildlife habitat conservation efforts. On the side panel of each bag of Purina Hi Pro and Purina Pro Plan product appears a "weight circle symbol." For each of those weight circle symbols redeemed by Pheasants Forever, Purina will make a donation to PF's wildlife habitat mission. Additionally, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has agreed to match Purina's donation to PF.

Pheasants Forever supporters are encouraged to mail their Purina weight circle symbols to PF's national office. For each weight circle symbol redeemed, Purina will donate a penny per pound denoted on the weight circle symbol. In other words, if the weight circle symbol is from a fifty pound Purina Pro Plan bag of dog food, then Purina will donate fifty cents and NFWF will donate a matching fifty cents. So, each fifty pound bag weight circle symbol is worth \$1 to PF. People interested in participating in PF's weight circle symbol fund-raising drive should mail their weight circle symbols to PF's national headquarters at 1783 Buerkle Circle; St. Paul, MN 55110.

Chapter Meeting

The Del Val chapter will be holding their first meeting of the year on **June 21st** at Assunpink Club house at 6:30 P. M.

We look forward to seeing you there!

NAVHDA

Del Val Chapter Newsletter

June 2005

www.delvalnavhda.com

A New Way to Share the Sport

As a kid in high school some of my fondest memories were anticipating 5th period study hall. Sure it was a much needed break from Geometry, but it also gave me a chance to go hunting or fishing far away!

What am I talking about? Well our study halls were held in the high school library and there were a handful of us that eagerly anticipated a fresh copy of Outdoor Life magazine every month! Diving into the magazine got the imagination pumping about far away places and fishing for world records. I definitely believe this influence guided me down the right path of hunting and fishing.

In today's fast paced world of video games, MP3 music-players and the internet, I sometimes wonder if the outdoor sports have a chance to keep kids interested. I placed a call to my local high school library and was not surprised to hear they had no outdoor magazines for the kids. I was surprised at how grateful and excited the librarian was to my suggestion of donating a subscription to the school.

My next call was to the publisher of Outdoor Life. They are currently offering a subscription combo to Outdoor Life and Field & Stream for \$15.97. Think about, what a great way to expose the future generations to a fantastic life-style!

I encourage you to contact your local high school librarian and see if they would like to participate in something similar, you may be surprised at how happy they are to have a hunter become a partner in educating our future.

For additional subscription info contact:
Theresa O'Connor
Customer Service Manager
Time4Media Inc.
1-800-227-2224 Ext. 5205
theresa.oconnor@time4.com

Chapter Officer Reports

There will be a meeting on June 21, 6:30, PM at the Assunpink Club house. Some of the topics to be discussed will be feedback from the Spring NA test, the storage trailer (pros and cons) we have some members in the chapter that have been through this with other clubs or chapters and we have to make a final decision before we spend the money.

We have to talk about members bringing the proper equipment needed to train, in addition, we have to talk about getting back to basics and not just shooting birds, this is something that Ron has asked about and I think is a good idea. The last and as important that must be discussed is the election's and how to go about it, Barb and or Andy will fill you in.

Charlie Kissinger President

In accordance with the club's Bylaws, The Secretary shall solicit the membership in writing for nomination for the members of the Board of Directors by June 1st, of the second calendar year. Membership will be required to return nominations by July 1st. The letters have been mailed on May 26th and contain all necessary information.

Barbara Kissinger, Secretary

The Del Val NAVHDA club treasury is in great shape. Our balance as of May 2005 is \$7,150.16 We expect some future expenses for the Spring test.

Carl Mertens, Treasurer

The Spring test is nearly full, with 14 entries (we limited it to 15 due to limited bird availability). Show up 6:30, test starts promptly at 7.

Fall test is full with 4 on the waiting list, but last couple years we had up to 9 on the list and they all ultimately had a chance to get in, so if people want to they can send an entry and be put on the list.

Tim Otto, Test Secretary

Spring Test is right around the corner, I hope you can join us! It is always a fun test and the food is out of this world. If you would like to help, please send an email to markd@netlabs.net

I also wear the hat of club webmaster and the site is fully functional, we just posted some photos of the Vetter Clinic.

We are always looking for new ideas on the newsletter and looking for someone to take over the management of the newsletter starting this Fall. If you are interested, please contact me to discuss.

Mark Dreyfus, Director of Testing

I like to start by welcoming all the new members to the chapter. We also have a lot of new pups in the chapter this year. I also have a new pup and I forgot how much fun training could be. When you are training for the Utility test and beyond you sometimes lose that FUN in your training experience.

The bird supplies are low this time of year and I would like to thank Graig Hacker and Charlie Kissinger for going out of their way to help secure birds for the chapter. Please note PIGEONS ARE NOT TO BE SHOT at the training clinics.

I would also like to thanks all the members that pick up things for the training days. Ex. key, birds, kayak, etc. You know who you are THANK YOU. If I call on you throughout the year to run a group at the clinics it is your responsibility to make sure things are running smooth. You need to get everyone involved and should not have a few people thinking they are on their own to do what they alone want.

We need to work together at all times. We are here to help the members train their dogs and I know sometimes this can be a big undertaking. We are not here to just use the clubs permit for the day.

Have a fun and safe training year. Good luck to all entered in the spring and fall tests.

Ron Granai Training Director

Clyde Vetter Visits Del-Val

Most of us have one, but few of us know how to use it correctly. No, I'm not talking about that table saw in your basement, I'm talking about your e-collar! We were fortunate to have had an e-collar clinic May 7th & 8th led by the internationally-known trainers Clyde and Marilyn Vetter. Clyde has tested several hundred dogs in the NAVHDA system, with over 80% passing, 72% receiving Prize II or higher, and has qualified 14 Versatile Champions, so he obviously knows his stuff. As those of us who attended can attest, he really put on a great clinic, and we all left with the foundations to use the e-collar much more effectively in training.

Clyde started out the clinic by covering the three-step introduction to the e-collar, noting that all aspects of training involve basically wanting your dog to do three things: come to you ("come" or "here"), go away from you ("kennel", "fetch"), or stop ("whoa"). He then spent quite a bit of time on the e-fetch, demonstrating how to advance from the ear-pinch to the e-collar by overlaying both types of stimulation. Then prefacing the next demonstration by saying "I want to see splinters fly", he showed how to do "the push" on the table, which basically entails holding the dog back from picking up a bumper while applying stimulation. Not surprisingly, we saw splinters fly. On day two, he worked with individual dogs as demonstrators for using the collar for other issues, such as creeping on point, backing, etc. Two of the most impressive aspects of the clinic were Clyde's timing and his ability to read dogs - I think we were all amazed to see some of the things he was able to get the demonstrator dogs to do so quickly. Everyone seemed to leave with a commitment to include his methods in our future training.

It was great to see a lot of familiar faces, and some new ones as well. Thanks to Tim Clark for organizing the clinic, Mark Dreyfus and Charlie Kissinger for helping out, and Shawn Clark and Jane Johnson for preparing lunch! And most importantly: Thanks Clyde and Marilyn for coming out! - **Tim Otto**

