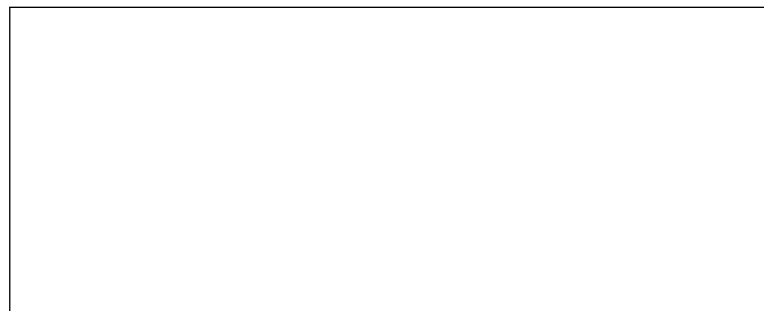




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# NAVHDA Newsletter

## San Diego Chapter

### March 2007

#### San Diego Chapter Officers

President	Bob Smith (619) 226-1164
Vice President	Gabriel Awbrey (951) 764-9329
Treasurer	Jerry Newton (619) 222-1281
Secretary	Nancy Hall (619) 435-5523
Training Coordinator	David Awbrey (760) 789-1175
Photographer	Jackie Smith (619) 226-1164



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FEBRUARY WORK DAY

#### Treasurer's Report

Balance (1 Jan 2007): \$3,364  
 Balance (24 Feb 2007): \$5,023

### Election of Officers

The terms our current officers will expire in July, and we will hold elections for new officers at the July chapter picnic. Gabby Awbrey is in charge of the nominating committee for new officers. If you would like to run for any of the offices (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Training Coordinator), please call Gabby at (951) 764-9329 and you will be placed on the ballot.

### 2007 Chapter Dues

Our dues for 2007 will remain the same this year, \$25 for an individual membership and \$35 for a family membership. They are due in January. Please send your dues to Jerry Newton, 791 Gage St., San Diego, CA, 92106. Or you can bring a check to this month's NAVHDA test. Note that if you joined our chapter after September 1, your dues are paid through 2007, so you owe nothing at this time. If you have any questions about your membership status, contact Bob Smith at (619) 226-1164 or rsmith@cox.net.



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### February Work Day

by: David Awbrey

We had a great turn out again about 25 people and their dogs. What a Great Club. We ran a mock test to give everyone who is participating or thinking of participating a chance to run their dogs. It was raining for about two hours but everyone kept at it and it turned out to be a good day. The water turned out well with all but one dog doing it right. Then we went to pointing and all dogs did well on that. Finally there were practice for the tracks and the pups did well on that as well. I think we are all in good shape for the Test. Erica Dennis stepped up and offered to take a judge as did Lance and Bob Smith. Nancy is covering the judge stewards for the day. Angela said she would do both lunches but she needs people to help and serve at lunch both Saturday and Sunday. We still need volunteers to do odd jobs Saturday and help with take down on Sunday afternoon. We are selling raffle tickets for the privelge of cleaning the field after the hunt test Saturday and Sunday. There will be 15 chuckers and 30 bob white quail each afternoon. Mary Pope will be selling the raffle tickets.

While Bob and Doug Streed were working on Pointing and Gabby was working with tracks and drags, I noticed a training opportunity that I failed to point out to folks. Since we have a lot of young dogs, their manners are not what they could be when we have these large group meetings and we are standing around chatting. This is an opportunity for us to quietly assert ourselves and make

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our dogs sand still when we are socializing. I noticed Jay Jaburg's dog was a paragon of virtue and was always quiet on lead as he was talking. And when Jay was not talking he was quietly training, making his dog heel and then stand for long periods of time. No butt sniffing was allowed. The little dogs under six months get a pass, but the older pups can be compelled to stand still and be quiet when we are standing and talking. They need to pay attention to us and not every dog that is within three feet. They do not need to be right on top of another dog to know what he/she is like. I saw dogs pointing birds 30 feet away. I know they can smell a butt 3 feet away without going over and making contact. I also noticed that some of the dogs were overly excited when around other dogs. Sometimes this leads to fights. It didn't this weekend but it could of. Being calm around us is the beginning to being calm around other dogs. We will start working more on this after the Test. Our goal is getting these young pups ready and steady for hunting season!

## March 10-11 Test Note

We want everyone to be at the property by 7:00AM. It will take us at least 20 minutes to kick things off and we want to have dogs in the field by 7:30AM. If it is raining we will park at the top of the hill where we parked for our last work day. Test protocol requires that all dogs are housed or tied or kenneled. Females in season are to remain away for the group until they run, which will be last. Pets not running must be on leash and exercised well away from out group events. David Awbrey will point out the areas where they can safely run. We will have a raffle to see who gets to hunt out the field at the end of each days work.

We would like to thank all of the members of the club in advance for you help and support you have all provided for this Test. We want to thank all of those who helped us get pigeons and planted birds for the work days. And a special thank you to Dave Bowers, Doug Streed, Jerry Dunaway, Ray Nabors and Ian Cecena who helped with the pigeon palace.

**Test Photographer:** Don Barthel (who took the pictures of Ericka's dogs for the recent cover of Versatile Hunting Dog magazine) will be at our test on Sunday only, and will take pictures of your dogs (humans optional) for a very reasonable price. He will not be able to be there on Saturday.

### Direction:

**From North of San Diego:** South on Hwy 5 to Hwy 78. East on Hwy 78 to Hwy 15. South on 15 to Poway Road. East on Poway road to Hwy 67. Left on Hwy 67 to Archie Moore Road. Left on Archie Moore to Highland Valley Rd. Right on Highland Valley 1/2 mile to gate. Turn left at the sign and follow the dirt road and signs. Shut the gate after you.

**From San Diego and Parts South:** Take Hwy 15 North to Poway Road. East on Poway road to Hwy 67. Left on Hwy 67 to Archie Moore Road. Left on Archie Moore to Highland Valley Rd. Right on Highland Valley 1/2 mile to gate. Turn left at the sign and follow the dirt road and signs. Shut the gate after you.

**From Arizona and Parts East:** Take Hwy 8 West to Hwy 67 in El Cajon. Turn right and follow Hwy 67 North for several miles to Archie Moore Road. Left on Archie Moore to Highland Valley Rd. Right on Highland Valley 1/2 mile to gate. Turn left at the sign and follow the dirt road and signs. Shut the gate after you.

## Utility Work (Finney-Ramer Unit)

On February 17th, 18th, 19th, a group of NAVHDA members from Southern California and San Diego Chapters met to train for the March 30th, 31st & April 1st NAVHDA hunt test in Imperial Valley (Finney-Ramer Unit). Gabby Awbrey (Destiny, GSP), Guido Dei (Rene, GSP), Chris Gentner (Poodle Pointer), Lance Lauricha (Roxie, Vizsla) & Mary Pope (Jet, Vizsla) worked on Utility water search. With hand full of frozen ducks and ten shackled ducks, we accomplished a lot. One obstacle that all the dogs had trouble with was the shore-line and the sixty yard cast out to the cover and ducks. It was a big task that challenged our patience and our courage as we crossed the water in a kayak.

If any member is interested in working towards the Utility test in the future, here are a few things to consider: 1) Force fetch is a must. 2) Practice the water search on land. 3) Line drill your dog up to 100 yards. 4) Shoot over your dog and send without a visual, trust is key. Always make your dog successful.

## Annual Meeting Report

*By: Gabby Awbrey*

This year's 2007 International NAVHDA meeting was held by the Heartland Chapter in Council Bluffs, Iowa on January 27th thru 29th. As a representative of the San Diego Chapter, I would like to thank our chapter for sponsoring the trip. It was apparent that not all chapters can afford to send delegates to the annual meetings. I am grateful to be part of such a gracious chapter. The conference was impressive and it became clear to me how big of an event it was as I dug deep into to my pockets for all of the fundraiser. The Heartland Chapter hosted a wonderfully orchestrated conference.

The itinerary for the week began on Thursday with the Executive Council meeting to discuss issues of reorganization since the passing of Bobbie Applegate. The other pressing issue was insurance, but after further discussion the general consensus was to keep the status quo.

Delegates from various chapters arrived throughout Friday, as I did. I flew into Omaha, Nebraska and only knew of it existence because the Cabelas store that I would later visit on Saturday. The shuttle drove me from the airport to Council Bluffs, Iowa it was a familiar venue as people commuted to Iowa for the entertainment and gambling. Upon arriving to my hotel, I was ushered into Friday's afternoon preliminary general meeting for delegates only. Among topics discussed was declining membership, cost of hunt test, and insurance premium. Even though our chapter membership is growing, many delegates felt that the cost of travel (gas) had an impact on membership. Our chapter hunt tests are the highest of all chapter tests because of the lack of local judges within the Southwest. I do see the cost of our tests leveling out to reflect other chapter's lower cost with the appointment of new judges in our region. The cost of insurance is a non-issue in my mind because of our solid membership base.

On Saturday, the general meeting took place with the EC reporting back to the delegates on six topics three of which I've discussed above. The only other topic of importance was that by 2010 all NAVHDA litters will have DNA done on sire/dam.

Over shadowing all of the topics was the loss of Bobbie Applegate, she was a commanding figure in the international organization. We will miss her dearly. In line with her absence, delegates and members are encouraged to volunteer their skills to the international. No job is too big and no person is too small.

On both Saturday and Sunday there were two break-out sessions "How to Keep Homing Pigeons" and "Q & A" with a knowledgeable panel of trainers.

Overall, I met many new faces and began some new friendships. I would certainly recommend attending the annual meeting.

## California City (AKC Hunt Test)

On February 24th and 25th, Team San Diego attended California and San Diego Brittany Club hunt test. This was double hunt test which meant handlers could run there dogs twice in a day and have an opportunity to earn four legs in a weekend. Members who attended were Gabby Awbrey (Mila, Vizsla), Ian Cecena (Dixie & Chief, Vizslas), Tracy Jensen (Molly & Bernie, Wirehair Pointing Griffon), Jeff Morey (Jake, German Shorthair Pointer), and Mary Pope (Jet, Vizsla). Despite difficult weather and running birds, Mila, owned by Dave Awbrey, finished and earned her Junior title. Jake earned his first Master leg towards his title. Dixie completed her Junior title and Ian was encouraged to field trial her. Chief earned his first leg in Seniors. Over all, everyone had a dose of humility.

The other highlights were Ian's wild goat purchase and Jeff Morey's Polaris vehicle definitely a most at any test.



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