



## What's Inside



**President's Message 1**

**Calendar, Schedule 2**

**Test Day Report 3-5**

**OMBAC Hunt 6**

**Versatile Breed 6**

**Local Sponsors 6**

**National Sponsors 7**

**Contact Info 7**

## President's Message

Hello NAVHDA Members,

In March the club hosted our annual spring test. It was huge success thanks to the volunteers and especially Ruth Weiss for pulling it all together. Read more about it in the included article by Ericka Dennis. For all of you that passed the NA test, it's not too early to start thinking about training for the Utility tests. It takes a while so start now and do a little at a time. Remember there are members that are here to help.

Now that hunting season is over, this is a great time to work on taking your dog to the next level. It's a great time to work on steadying your dog along with your water work. Also, the longer days are great for working on your obedience training. Ten minutes a day can make a huge difference.

Our next training day will be Sunday April 29th at High-on Kennels. Directions are on our website. Hope to see you all then.

Thanks,

Mark Matteson

President San Diego NAVHDA



# Schedule of Events



## April 2018

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Training  
@ High-  
On  
Kennels

29 30

### San Diego NAVHDA Schedule

- Sun Apr 22 – Training @ High-On Kennels
- Sat May 19 – Training @ High-On Kennels
- Sun Jun 24 – Training @ Prado

### Upcoming Test Dates

### Chapter Assets

Boat, Signs, T-Shirts, Hats, Heeling Stakes, 2 Shotguns, First Aid Kits, Zinger Winger, Bird Launchers, Tables, Chain Gang, Training Table, Trailer, Whelping Box

### Looking for Your Favorite Photos

Your friendly newsletter editor is ALWAYS looking for photos of you and your dogs, show us what you've been up to! I gladly accept hunting, working, puppy, and goofball photos!

You can e-mail me directly at [rchrssostomides@gmail.com](mailto:rchrssostomides@gmail.com)

### Treasurer's Report

Congratulations to all spring test participants. Also thank you to all volunteers with out your help the spring test wouldn't have been a success

Annual Meeting- \$10,779.63

General Club- \$11,795.90

PayPal account- \$4190.02

The spring test raffle profited \$318.31

## 2017 Spring Test

This year's test was back in the Valley at Woodlands Hunt Club. It was great to be back here camping with everyone. Overall the test went very well. The valley weather was sunny but windy!! I think that a few times my trailer almost tipped over. We did our best to keep from being blown away. One pop up tent sadly bit the dust, so to speak.

Friday was a test for the young dogs as we had 5 NA and 1 UPT testing. The Judging team was Ruth Weiss from our chapter, Jim Carpenter from Arizona and Herb Schoderer from Oregon/So Cal. Thanks to all for coming down and working so hard for us. Here are the results:

Brett Faber Griffon Calvert UPT 168 Prize II

Arrow Megginson GSP Tanka NA 112 Prize I

Brad Scott GSP Ellie NA 112 Prize I

Suzanne Grady GSP Porsha NA 88 Prize III

Kenn Scruggs GSP Hannah NA 91 Prize III

Jim Bellmeyer GSP Storm NA 112 Prize I

Saturday started out calm and cool and ended cold and windy. The dogs did their very best among some pretty difficult situations. We had a mix of NA and UT. The judging team for Saturday and Sunday was Jim Carpenter from Arizona, Gabby Awbrey from Inland Empire and Phil Swain from the Willamette Valley Chapter. Thanks to all our judges once again, and to Jim for being the senior judge apprentice. Good Luck Jim! Lunch was provided by Ruth Weiss, a very yummy taco salad. Thanks Ruth!! Here are the results:

Mark Matteson Brittany Beau UT 201 Prize I

Ruth Weiss Pudelpointer Mac UT 152 None

Brett Faber Sammie NA 107 Prize I

Ruth Weiss Pudelpointer Ava UT 201 Prize I

Wayne Harris GSP Duke NA 112 Prize I

Donovan Ellis GSP Maverick NA 198 Prize III

Patrick Sluder GSP Goose NA 104 Prize II

We celebrated St Patricks day with a great pot luck dinner and some fun story telling around the fire. It felt like old times with the club. A fun evening was had by all.

Sunday started with more calm and then some light winds. So far, the best day of the three as far as weather was concerned. It was all Natural Ability on Sunday.

Here are the results:

Mara Pelsman, Nannie Wilkerson Spinone Enzo NA 78 None

Justin Mota Pudelpointer Hank NA 93 None

Kindall Kinkaid, Jeremiah Bright English Setter Boone NA 102 Prize III

PJ and Mark McAdams GSP Starlight NA 105 Prize II

Melinda and Jim Thoms/Ruth Weiss Pudelpointer Nimitz NA 112 Prize I

Donovan Ellis GSP Maverick NA 112 Prize I

Randy Hanson Weimaraner Zora NA 93 Prize III

Of course we cannot forget all the volunteers for this weekend. We would not be able to put on a test without some selfless individuals in our chapter.

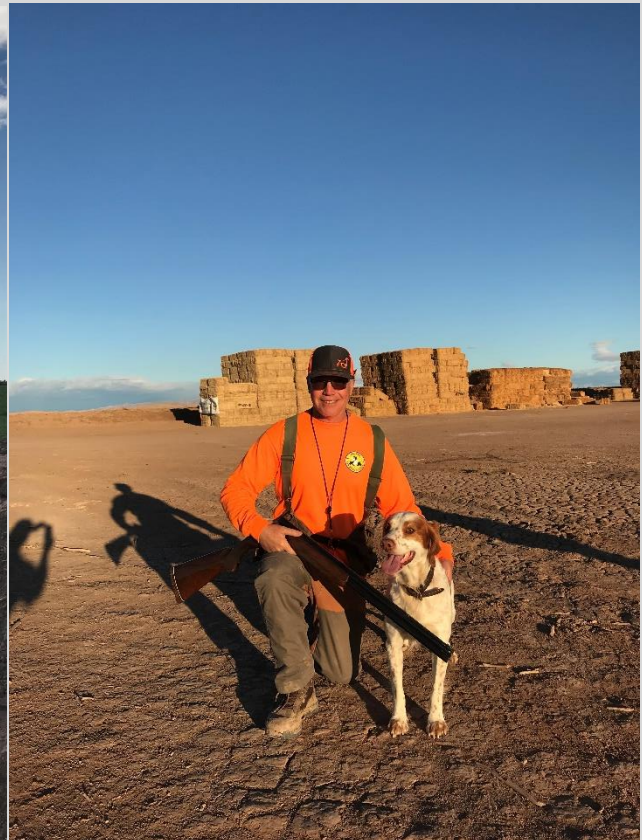
Treasurer Brett Faber, Jean Faber, Training Coordinator and Test Secretary Ruth Weiss, Greg Weiss, Patrick Sluder, Chelsea Coddington, Mark McAdams, VP Bob Kendall, Brett Bigley, President Mark Matteson, Wayne Harris, Thomas Fint, Ed Butt, David Kramer, Kassie Boozel, Mark Van Sickle, Guy Collins, Ericka Dennis and Chiara Dennis.

Honorary Bird Steward: Wookie - AKA Ruth's Puffy Pocket Dog

Thanks to Woodlands Hunt Club and Mendel Woodland for use of the fields, storing the birds and arranging lunch for Friday and Sunday.

Another fun and successful weekend test. Congratulations to the handlers and thanks to all the volunteers!

~Ericka Ransdell-Dennis





## 2017 OMBAC Pheasant Hunt Report

Again our party consisting of mostly OMBAC members, but also including San Diego NAVHDA chapter members Larry Malter, Mike Morrell, Mark Miller, and myself made the hard drive to Pierre, So Dakota to hunt Pheasants. There has been a loss of CRP in the state, along with drought conditions last summer. I'm sorry to report that the Pheasant population has plummeted. We hunted with the same farmer we have hunted with for the past eight years and scored less than one bird per hunter over three days. I long for those days when we all limited in 90 minutes. The only good that came of it was the dogs got a lot of good work on very smart birds.

The last two days we spent hunting on a local preserve with birds put out the night before. Not much good dog work there but a lot of shooting for the pot.

So we are now exploring other states whose Pheasant populations were not affected by the drought for next year.

~Jeff Derbes



## Versatile Breed: Bracco Italiano

The Bracco is reputed to have great stamina, much of it due to the fact that it is able to sustain its trot from dawn to dusk, under a variety of conditions. Most Bracchi have a very strong pointing instinct. Some back naturally.



The average Bracco Italiano is a natural, soft-mouthed retriever. But the breed is mainly an upland game specialist, and its traditional retrieving duties involve small game, mainly birds. The Bracco has always been bred and trained primarily as a hunter of small game, so there is little to no emphasis among breeders on selecting for dogs that show good blood-tracking abilities.

Unlike the Spinone, water work has never been high on the list of priorities for most Bracco breeders, and there are no water tests for the breed in Italy. Nevertheless, a well-bred Bracco from hunting lines should be relatively easy to train for some kinds of water work.

~Pointing Dog Blog

# Please Support Our Local Sponsors!



## Chrysostomides Financial Services

Your Financial Independence is Our Reward

**Financial Services, Investment Management, and  
Tax Preparation for Business and Individuals**

2247 San Diego Avenue #137, San Diego, CA 92110

[www.pchrysostomides.com](http://www.pchrysostomides.com)

(619) 324-7525

[rachel@pchrysostomides.com](mailto:rachel@pchrysostomides.com)



## Iron Mountain Outfitters

**US Made Outdoor Gear; CARHARTT, Filson,  
Browning, and S.O.G**

8493 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91942

[www.ironmountainoutfitters.blogspot.com](http://www.ironmountainoutfitters.blogspot.com)

(619) 463-5660



## High On Kennels

**Obedience & Gun Dog Training, Behavioral  
Solutions, Boarding, and Rattlesnake Avoidance**

26920 Mesa Grande Rd, Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

[www.highonkennels.com](http://www.highonkennels.com)

(760) 782-0728



**San Diego Officers****President:** Mark Matteson (760) 271-0607**Vice President:** Robert Kendall (619) 463-4109**Treasurer:** Brett Faber (619) 857-9370**Secretary:** Rachel Chrysostomides (617) 894-6023**Training Coordinators:**

Ruth Weiss (760) 782-0890

Mark Miller (619) 384-5363

Brett Bigley (858) 761-8741

**Test Secretary:** Ruth Weiss (760) 782-0890**Newsletter Editor:** Rachel Chrysostomides**Webmaster:** Mark Matteson (760) 271-0607

We solicit newsletter contributions (stories, photographs, recipes, advertisements) from club members. Please send all contributions to the editor: [rchrysostomides@gmail.com](mailto:rchrysostomides@gmail.com)

**Training/Testing Days****Rules and Regulations**

- Dogs are to be under control at all times (leash rule is in effect)
- Everyone in the field must wear blaze orange hat, t-shirt or vest and have completed a hunter safety class or have a hunting license
- Children are welcome at our Training Days. They may enter the training field when accompanied by an adult, and wearing blaze orange above the waist. Otherwise, they are welcome to remain in the parking area with a supervising adult.
- No alcohol on premises
- Shotguns must be break action only.

**National Sponsors****Vault & Kennel Systems**