

barking dog express

july/aug/sep



2024

yankee chapter
north american versatile
hunting dog association

calendar

July 13, 2024
Water Clinic
Burnham, Maine

July 19-21, 2024
NAHP Camp
Brunswick, Maine

August 24, 2024
Pre-Test Clinic
Bowdoinham, Maine

September 6-8, 2024
Fall Test Weekend
Bowdoinham, Maine

September 12-15, 2024
NAVHDA Invitational
Searsboro, Iowa

from our president...

It's Summer! Our country's weather has been nothing but challenging since we turned the calendar to 2024. The Northeast suffered so much damage to our coastal communities as well as inland wind and water damage. The old saying, "if you don't like the weather, wait a minute, it will change" sure held true.

As I type away, the sound of the lawnmower means the warmth of the sun and nightly rain showers are making vegetation happy. I'm starting to hear a few positive reports from the North re young grouse hatches being spotted. I know, shhhhhh, top secret stuff. No matter what, Gnarly and Etta always have fun hunting.

Hopefully, you have all seen the CDC's new regs about importing dogs across U.S. borders starting August 1st. If you have not, it was posted a few weeks ago on the Yankee FB page. NAVHDA International just came out with their letter to the CDC, crafted by NAVHDA VP Terry Wilson, opposing the new regulations. It's very well written and states how this change will impact our organization. This also was posted on Yankee's FB Page.

Spring events are behind us. What a great weekend of testing and cheering on our fellow members. It was nice to meet a few out-of-chapter NAVHDA members and share our Yankee hospitality and support. We are never lacking membership support at any of our events. Cheers to our very efficient Test Secretary, Nick! Thanks again to all!

Next on our agenda is our Water Clinic at Sugarfoot Kennels in Burnham on July 13th. FYI, Sugarfoot just hosted the 2024 National Amateur Retriever Championships at its facility! Training opportunities are endless! Check out the event's details in this newsletter. Colorful Tropical shirts are a must!

Yankee Chapter Semi Annual Meeting will be held at Sugarfoot on Saturday during lunch. It's very informal and usually our most informative. Please feel free to ask questions or offer new ideas. It's how we grow. Speaking of growth, we are at a record 222 members. I honestly feel it's due to folks first impressions and our members sharing so much of their talents with so many. Thank you all.

Remembering our friends:

On a very sad note we lost two long time Yankee members this Spring, Randy Bertrand and Jim Hynson. Please read Blaine's tribute to his friend Randy in his Director's Report and a few notes about Jim on page 5. We were also notified by the Executor of Jim's state that he listed the Yankee Chapter as one of his beneficiaries. We will share with everyone when we learn more.

John Petros Estate. I was notified recently by John's sisters, Helen and Frances, that they would like to make yearly contributions to the Yankee Chapter in his name. John was always a big supporter of our Youth Events. Again, we will keep you posted as we proceed.

Hawaiian Luau - Saturday, September 7th! Now onto Brent and Kelley's Luau plans for Fall Test weekend. As usual they are donating all proceeds from this event to offset our test expenses. Even after the test fee increase of 2024, we are still the lowest in NAVHDA. Thanks so very much for this generosity! Put it in your plans! Menu: Chicken Shish Kabobs; Coconut, cashew, pineapple rice; Pineapple upside down cake, and more... Dress: Hawaiian! Grass skirts and flowery boas can be found at Dollar Stores everywhere!

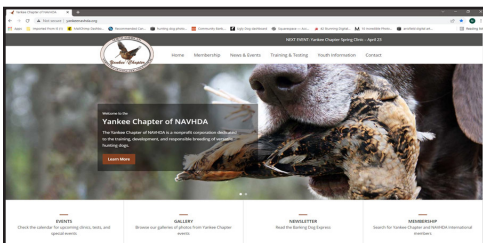
Anyone play the ukulele?

-- Patti Carter

"not your normal chapter"
page 1

NAVHDA

yankeenavhda.org



ycnavhda@gmail.com

yankee updates & info

Join the new Trailer Committee!



Our beloved trailer has worked hard over the last decade and is in need of some love and ongoing care. As our chapter grows, additional support is needed to ensure she makes it to all our events with everything ready to go. We are looking for a few dedicated members to help out and volunteer for a Trailer Committee. This important committee would keep the trailer organized, transport it to and from events, notify the board if service is needed, and do pre/post event checks. No expertise required! If you would like to help out, please email ycnavhda@gmail.com.



Welcome New Members!

Richard Wood
Sarah Kirkland
Elise Letizia
Cynthia Liska

Spring Test Results

utility test

Andrew Christie	176	PZ 2
Merrymeetings Cold Stream Etta		
Steven R. Buck	202	PZ 1
Hamilton's Hunting amilton		
Branden M. Roberts	192	PZ2
Konigs Axel	Axel	
Tyler Bruce/Lisa Rinaldi	162	PZ3
Jagen Vom Schlussstein	Bleu	
Kerry Robillard	155	PZ 3
Abu Von Wasungen	Cash	
Nate Becker	180	PZ 3
Landry's Leonard Becker	Lenny	

natural ability test

David Miller	112	PZ 1
Four Points Pistachio Pie	Burt	
Justin Dodge	107	PZ 2
Schwarzwald's Quest for Nyla's Limit	Nyla	
Nancy Anisfield	86	no prize
Garibaldi's B-24 Nose Gunner	Pilot	
Kevin Schofield	94	no prize
Merrymeetings Huckleberry Grand	Huck	
Anthony Baker	107	PZ 1
Merrymeetings Pull the Triggah	Triggah	
Matthew Lorello	103	PZ 2
Schwarzwald's Quit'n Aint Til Sunset	Bob	

Kim Lueders	110	PZ 1
Cady Falls Captain Douglas	Doug	
Michael Crowell	112	PZ 1
Frost Mire Hazel May	Hazel	
Caleb Winder	112	PZ 1
Dakota Sky Elsie	Elsie	
Theresa A. Champagne	107	PZ 2
Cedars Point Distant Dreamer	Rebellin	
Michael Hendry	112	PZ 1
Stella Del Nord I'm on Fire	Otis	
Jason Carter	112	PZ 1
Merrymeetings Sauvignon Point	Savvy	
Jake Cornish	110	PZ 1
Lone Pine's Iko Grizzlybar	Griz	
James Eldredge	112	PZ 1
Lone Pine's Innis	Jett	
Philip A. Thayer, Jr.	78	no prize
Birch Spring Royal Hellion	Ellie	
Rick Madden	96	PZ 3
Dorte Vom Rollenwald	Maple	
Adam J. Green	112	PZ 1
Frost Fire Sookie	Sookie	
Kevin Schofield	102	PZ 3
Merrymeetings Huckleberry Grand	Huck	



CONGRATULATIONS to Will Beck, Yankee's newest test gunner!



The Barking Dog Express is published five times a year:

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

from our Test Secretary, Nick Racioppi

Fall Test Update

The Yankee Chapter September test is full with 19 dogs running. We have 12 UT, 1 UPT and 6 NA dogs running during the weekend of September 6 – 10. We currently have 13 dogs on the wait list (7 UT and 6 NA).

For those of you on the running list, more information will be sent out in early July. If any handler pulls, changes may be required on the days your running due to the NAVHDA Capacity Chart.

If you have any questions regarding the test, please contact Nick Racioppi at (207) 751-3133.

DOG CALL NAME	HANDLER NAME	
Jeb	Russel Oakes	Running in the September Test
Nyx	Kelley Grover	
Tillie	Marsha Bennett	
Brooke	Nicholas Racioppi Jr.	
Rowe	John McDonough	
Bogie	Mike Rinaldi	
Scout	Robert Leffler	
Etta	Patricia Carter	
Henry	Jason Carter	
Nyla	Justin A. Dodge	
Stella	Paige Pellerin	
Lola	Jim Skillings	
Bob	Matthew Lorello	
Rebellin	Theresa A Champagne	
Sequoia	Darcy M. St. John	
Timber	Robert Clifford	
Lexi	Aaron Landry	
Lexie	Raymond W. Dyer Jr.	
Ely	Amanda Dyer	
Tessa	Mark Momeau	Wait List
Ripple	Jeremy Hatch	
Hamilton	Steven R. Buck	
Sam	Carlton Peabody	
Pilot	Nancy Anisfield	
Kate	Elise Wright	
	Danielle Murphy	
Bissell	Steve Morse	
	Danielle Friend	
Lenny	Nate Becker	
Bowie	Jessica Cortez	
Kineo	Scott Cataldi	
Birch	Adam Newell	

Scavenger Hunt

**ATTENTION YANKEE MEMBERS!
WATER CLINIC FUN!**

On July 13th at the Yankee Water Clinic, we'll throw in a little extra entertainment with the Yankee Scavenger Hunt and Summer Shirt Photo Shoot.

For the scavenger hunt, ten items will be hidden in the central clinic area. Find them all and submit your list in the designated bucket. A winner (or three) will be drawn from the bucket at 2 p.m. Top prize: Browning Gun Cleaning Kit.

For the group photo, wear your funniest or your favorite summer shirt. Dazzle us with your style... or lack there of!



Get your great Yankee gear!

Shirts, hats, decals... available at all our clinics and on test weekend.

Tribute: Randy Bertrand

When I first met Randy, I was a welder at Bath Iron Works. Randy was a ship fitter. We worked together off and on for many years. Randy was also a lobsterman and loved tuna fishing as well. It wasn't many years before Randy decided to get a bird dog and our lives outside of work connected. Randy got a DK from me, Alyssa, one from our son Jason, Dory, and his final DK from Rick Hartle in North Dakota, Ruddah.

Randy always worked hard with his dogs with the help of his wife Diane; they did very well in NAVHDA testing and hunting. Our friendship and time spent together grew over the years. Randy always had a good sense of humor; he made me laugh with his well timed witty comments. I can remember Randy telling me that he was mad because my wife retired and she was taking up too much of his hunting

partner's time.

Just a few years after his retirement, Randy was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. This horrible disease was taking a toll on his body. Randy was determined to train and Ruddah in her UT test nonetheless. He continued to train. We even walked together into Wildes Point WMA to train late last summer. He decided to have Jason run her in Utility. With the help of Randy's dedicated training, Ruddah, handled by Jason and cheered on by us all, received a PZ 1.

The following weekend, while we were hunting in Saskatchewan, Randy, weak from cancer, decided he would run his dog in the AZP German test and got a PZ1 all on his own.

Obviously he was tough man with amazing nautical skills and love of the

sea. We shared so many hours on his boat fishing off the Maine coast. He was loved and respected by his fellow fishermen. I learned a lot. His skills in the woods amazed me too. How he could make those woodcock shots while walking with his gun slung over his shoulder never ceased to amaze me. He loved his dogs and his time spent with them. They adored him too.

Most important of all, Randy was a devoted husband, dad, grandfather and friend to many. Everyone thought the world of him, too! All I can say, Randy was always there for me as a friend as I for him. So instead of saying "good-bye," I will say, "Until we meet again my good friend, I will miss you and I will catch you up on all the NAVHDA gossip." -- Blaine



From Director of Training, continued...



Upcoming Water Clinic:

Some things to think about training the Duck Search

- Is your dog acclimated to ducks and wants them?
- Is your dog used to making long water retrieves?
- In a duck chase, your dog needs to want to catch the duck, not just pursue it.
- In the duck search, if your dog doesn't want to penetrate the vegetation in the water, practice on land. Set up the same scenario on land with cover, and practice chasing a duck there as well as making long retrieves in the cover.

What is a Prize 3?

Too many of us focus on our dog getting a Prize 1. We need to remember the definition of the three levels of NAVHDA prizes as said in slightly different ways through the years but always with the same truth:

**A Prize 3 dog is a very good hunting dog.
A Prize 2 dog is an excellent hunting dog.
And a Prize 1 dog is an excellent dog having a lucky day. ***

** By "lucky," we mean all the variables of a test day working to our advantage, such as the luck of weather that isn't too hot or too wet, birds that fly well, a breeze that favors scenting in the field, a tracking pheasant that doesn't jump too much, no horseflies biting, no visiting comorants in the water, and so on.*

In Memoriam: Jim Hynson

Longtime Yankee member, Jim Hynson passed away May 19, 2024.

Jim had a Master of Natural Resources from the University of Michigan in 1974 and then spent the next three years doing field research connected with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Urban Wildlife Program.

He returned to Maine in 1977 after accepting a job with the Center for Natural Areas. That is where he met his wife Susan, with whom he shared a warm and peaceful life. In 1984, he went to work for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection under a 6-month temporary appointment and retired 28 years later.

Jim was a member of several boards of directors of conservation and

environmental groups, including the Maine State Council of Trout Unlimited, the Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and the Natural Resources Council of Maine. He was also a strong supporter of the Ruffed Grouse Society and Ducks Unlimited.

Jim adored his Brittanys and was a member of both the Yankee and Sebasticook Chapters.



2008 Yankee Chapter Membership Application

Please check one: \$20 REGULAR MEMBER receives monthly chapter newsletter, participates in all chapter activities, and has full voting privileges as defined in the chapter by-laws. New Member Renewal Member

\$5 FAMILY MEMBER (spouse and children under 18 years of age) have all the rights and privileges as regular members.* Children, however, have no voting privileges.

\$10 JUNIOR MEMBER available to individuals under 18 years of age, have all the rights and privileges of regular members; however, junior members have no voting privileges.

* Only one newsletter per family will be mailed.

Kenny King/Bob Bisson Scholarship Fund Contribution:
 \$15 \$20 \$30 Other

(For those not familiar with our Kenny King/Bob Bisson Fund, this fund was established in memory of two of our most beloved members, and now provides the opportunity for selected Chapter youth members to attend the Maine Conservation School and/or receive a life-time hunting license.)

Name Jim Hynson Date 1/6/08
Address 274 Dedytt Rd.
City Phillips State/Prov ME Zip 04945
Telephone # (207) 582-2048 Occupation Environmental Specialist
Email Address Jim.H.29@aol.com
Breed of dog(s) BSP (stands for Beautiful Spotted Pooch)

I'd like to help save the Chapter postage, copying and handling costs by viewing and printing our newsletter from our website each month. Please notify me by email when a new monthly newsletter is available online. I understand this copy will be far superior to what I would otherwise get via costly snail mail and will be in color.
Make check payable to Yankee Chapter of NAVHDA, Inc. and mail to:
Cindy Tracy, Treasurer
37 Eider Lane
Topsham, Maine 04086

You must be an international member to join the Chapter. International membership renewal forms are automatically sent to existing members. Membership forms are also available on both the NAVHDA International website (www.navhda.org) and through the Yankee Chapter website (www.yankeenavhda.org). Chapter dues and scholarship contributions are NOT tax deductible for income tax purposes in the USA. Chapter membership is for calendar year.

From the Yankee files: Jim's 2008 application.

July and August Training Clinics

WATER CLINIC

Saturday, July 13
9 a.m. until waterlogged
Burnham, ME

Whether you have a puppy who's not swimming yet, a UT dog developing a duck search, or an Inv. dog doing double marks, Dave Mosher's Sugarfoot Kennels' ponds have a place for you. We'll do retrieving, steadiness, drags and other drills, too. There's plenty of parking along the treeline, but you might want to bring a shade tent for afternoon sun swings. Watch for the duck order form email; pay when you arrive.

Bring your own lunch and beverages. Desserts to share are always welcome!

For some "Not Your Normal Chapter" fun, we'll have a Scavenger Hunt and a Summer Shirt photo session! (Be sure to wear your favorite shirt -- tropical, funny, loud!)

At lunch we'll gather for our Semi-Annual Meeting. Please contact Patti Carter if you have items you'd like discussed.

PRE-TEST CLINIC

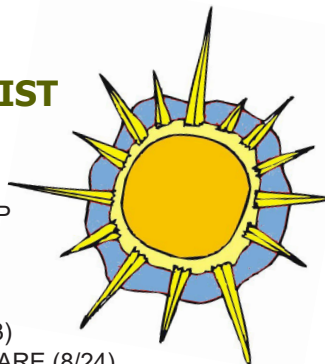
Saturday, Aug 24
9 a.m.
Bowdoinham, ME

Even though testing dogs will have priority in the field running order and water sites, there will be plenty of opportunities for all dogs to train on field work, obedience, and water retrieves. We will be sending out a bird/duck order form before the clinic as usual. Please contact Blaine Carter, Dir. of Training, with any questions: mmkennels@myfairpoint.net.

The Yankee Chapter's famous grill will be tossing burgers and dogs, (not the 4-legged ones) at lunchtime. Please bring a favorite side or dessert to share.

CLINIC CHECKLIST

WATER
BUG SPRAY
SHADE TARP
WATER
CHAIR
LEASH
LUNCH (7/13)
DISH TO SHARE (8/24)
STAKE OR CRATE
SUNSCREEN
RAIN GEAR
DOG



Fall Test Weekend: September 6-8

The fall test weekend will be here before we know it! Help is needed to make everything run smoothly, and supporting Yankee members and dogs who are testing is part of what makes us great! Stop by any day to cheer on your chapter handlers. If you'd like to volunteer to plant birds, set up the tent, be a go-fer, help with lunch, etc., please contact our Director of Testing, Tyler Bruce: tyler_bruce@hotmail.com 207-522-5741.

Test days will begin at 7 a.m. sharp. Handlers should be at the test grounds no later than 6:30 to have enough time to park, check in with the Field Marshal, "air" their dogs, and be ready to meet the judging team. Don't forget to bring lots of water for both you and your dog(s). Even though the Bowdoinham site has some shade along the road, you can't be sure where you'll be able to park, so bringing a tarp or tent is a good idea if it's hot or raining, or both.

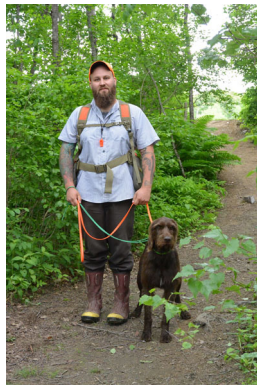
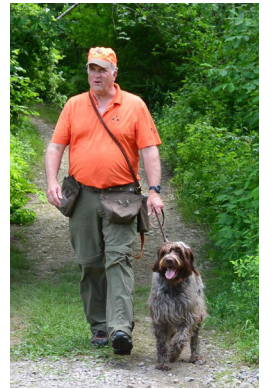
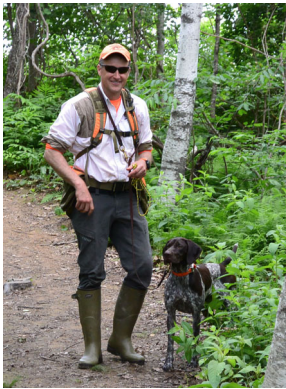
Those testing on Friday should bring their own lunch. Saturday and Sunday -- the 9th and 10th -- our grill will be up and sizzling with burgers and dogs and whatever else we can come up with. But even with the dedicated Yankee Chapter volunteers at the grill, there are lots of hungry handlers, field volunteers, judges and friends to feed. *Please please please*: Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to contribute to the lunch table!

To get the weekend started in typical celebratory Not Your Normal Chapter fashion, the Carters have invited everyone to their house for a lasagna dinner on Friday night at 6 p.m. (33 Simpson's Point Rd., Brunswick).

After the test on Saturday, Brent and Kelley Grover will once again generously put on a luau right at the test grounds. Proceeds from the dinner will help offset the costs for test weekend. THANK YOU BRENT & KELLEY!

GOOD LUCK TO ALL TESTING DOGS AND THEIR HANDLERS!

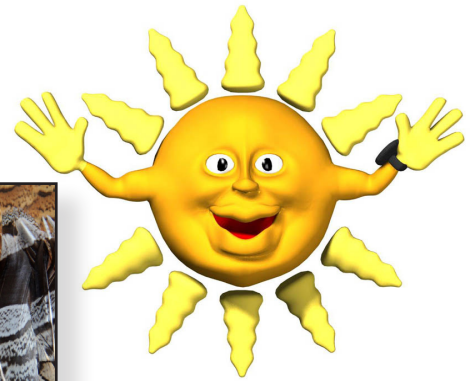
showcase: a great spring test weekend!



yankee youth!

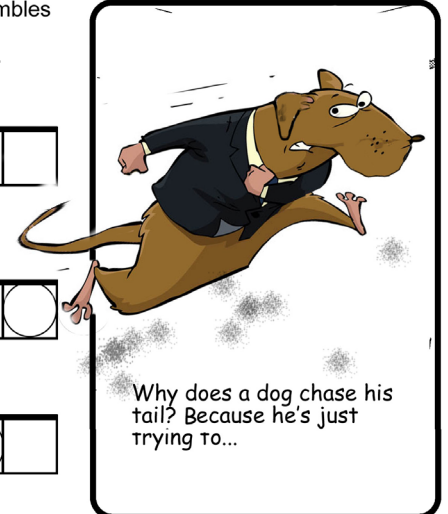
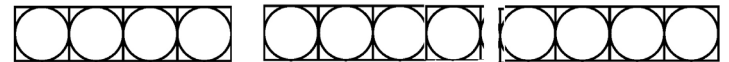
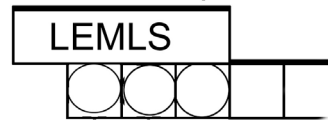
7 Nifty Facts About Grouse

1. There are **18** species of grouse and the majority of them are found in cold regions of the northern hemisphere, such as the Arctic Circle. They tend to inhabit deciduous forests, scrubland, moorland, prairies and tundras.
2. Grouse birds can reach lengths between **12** and **37** inches and a weight between **0.66** and **14.33** pounds. Male grouse birds are larger than females.
3. They're a **ground dwelling** bird that's adapted to the life on the ground. While it can fly, it's only for short distances or to get away from predators.
4. Grouse birds have nostrils, legs and toes that are **feathered**. Their dense plumage is what keeps them warm in their cold habitat. The feathers act like snowshoes when they're moving across the snow.
5. They're **omnivores**, which means that they eat both plants and meat. Young grouse birds have a diet of insects and rodents, while adult grouse birds have a diet of flowers, buds, shoots, seeds, berries, fruits and grass.
6. During the winter, they will hide **10** inches below the snow, which provides it with insulation from the harsh winds and extremely low temperatures.
7. They're territorial animals. Male grouse birds occupy a territory of **6 to 10** acres. Their territory will usually overlap with the territories of up to two nearby females.



yankee mumble puzzle

Unscramble these four mumbles one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

a dog by any other name!
Can you think of other words for DOG besides these:



canine
hound
cur
doggy
pooch
mutt
hound

dog riddles

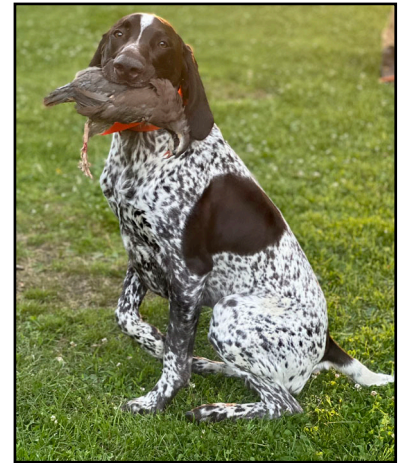
- What kind of dog eats with his ears?
They all do! Ever see one remove them before dinner?
- What does one flea say to the other?
Should we walk or take the dog?
- What has 4000 eyes and 8000 legs?
2000 dogs.
- Would you rather have a 150 lb. dog chase you or a lion?
I'd rather have him chase the lion.

mumble answer: "...make ends meet"

Member Spotlight

Learn a little more about some of us Yankees! Join the fun -- send in your photo and answers to these questions, and we'll put you in the next newsletter.

1. Name? Do you have a nick name?
2. Current Job? Dream Job?
3. How many dogs and what breeds?
4. What is something we don't know about you?
5. What made you join Yankee?
6. If you could do one thing differently in your training what would that be; why?
7. What is the oldest thing in your fridge?



Quill

Brian Pike

1. Nickname? Back in college when I was a little thinner and had hair, folks called me 'Petty' because with long hair I bore a striking resemblance to Tom Petty.
2. Current Job: I.T. Manager – Emerging Channels and Ecommerce Services
Dream Job: I think I already do it. I enjoy what I do. It pays for the toys and gives me plenty of time off to hunt and fish.
3. I have two GSP's
4. I had a brief career as a comic book editor. The book was well received by critics, but wasn't a huge seller and was cancelled after 4 issues.
5. My first shorthair, Tessie and I had lots of fun hunting, but she had some bad habits that were all my fault. When I got my second one, a neighbor mentioned NAVHDA and also Merrymeeting Kennels for training. It was exactly what May and I needed, and I was hooked.
6. More consistency and improved timing.
7. Can I include all the freezers? I just threw out a pheasant from Quill's NA training. He's 4 now.

On another note...so you think your dog isn't listening, eh?

Dogs hear at a wider range of frequencies than humans. The low end of the range is similar to humans (humans hear down to about 20 Hertz, or cycles per second, dogs are at about 40 Hz). But at the high end, they are quite different. Humans hear to about 23 KHz or 23,000 Hz (kilohertz = 1000 x Hz) but dogs can hear up to 45 KHz! Although as dogs age they may become deaf and some dogs are born deaf.

When dogs become aware of a sound they've heard, their ears will prick up and move around. Part of the reason why dogs can hear better than humans is that their ears have more mobility which enable it to maximize its ability to hear. The shape of a dog's ear also helps it hear more proficiently. As we cup our ears, some dogs ears are already in that position.

1. Atticus von der Western Mountains
Nicknames? Quill, Quilly, Puppy, Big Boy, Good Boy (sometimes) and some others that can't be printed.
2. Current Job: Director of Perimeter Defense, Squirrel Extraction Division.
Dream Job: Avery Bumpers Quality Assurance Tester
3. Dogs? I have 4 two legged people, and one other 4 legged people.
4. I am very self-conscious. If people laugh at me, I sulk and go in my cozy cave.
5. Most of my family had been members, Henna my mom, Autumn my grandmother, May my new sister, and my new family too.
6. I would combine all of my favorite parts of training all the time. I would find and point birds next to a pond, so they flush over water and I would get water retrieves each time.
7. It was a memento from my first pheasant track and retrieve at a Yankee clinic, but someone just threw it out.

The 1 thing you're probably doing on walks that drives your dog nuts

by Julia Ries

Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, May 13, 2024

...Research shows people enjoy seeing their dogs happy on walks; it's a potent stress reliever. But it's the 21st century, which means many dog owners don't solely focus on their pets when they're out and about. Instead, they multitask by scrolling on Instagram, flipping through TikTok or getting lost in a gripping true-crime podcast.

Some animal experts have likened this to "distracted driving." If you're not paying attention to your dog and the environment around you, you could easily wind up in a dangerous situation — or lose out on bonding with your pet.

As Dr. Katherine A. Houpt, a professor emerita of behavioral medicine at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, puts it: When you're out walking, "your dog's safety should be paramount."

Here's why it's so important to be present with your dog when you walk them: You could run into triggers or risky situations. Most dogs know exactly what they want to do on a walk, which is, most likely, to sniff or, perhaps, catch up with another dog that's a quarter mile ahead, Houpt said.

But it's not all interesting scents and fun, new friends. Some dogs might want to battle the approaching hound, snap at a nearby child or snatch a sharp chicken bone lying on the sidewalk. Worse, they could gobble up something poisonous such as chocolate, marijuana or candy containing xylitol.

"Not keeping your eyes on your dog and what's around is bad because various things could happen," Houpt said.

Additionally, when listening to a podcast, your eyes may be on your dog, but you may miss important auditory cues like an approaching bicyclist ringing their bell, a skateboard zooming by or a nearby dog growling that may trigger your dog.

"Even that is probably not a good distraction when you're walking your dog," Houpt said.

If you're paying attention to your surroundings, however, you can stay on top of potential triggers or dangerous encounters. If, for example, you see a squirrel before your dog does, you can distract them and avoid having your elbow whipped around. You can

prevent a dog fight or avert them from walking into the street right as a car pulls up.

You can also enforce basic training by calling your dog closer to give them a treat before they have a chance to react to another dog or redirect them from an interesting — but potentially dangerous — snack on the ground.

"When an owner is more attentive to their surroundings, they can be proactive versus reactive to these things," said Dr. Melissa Bain, a professor of clinical animal behavior science at UC Davis Veterinary Medicine.

Being present with your dog can strengthen your bond. If for no other reason, it's worth keeping your phone in your pocket while walking your dog to bond with your pet. The human-dog bond significantly influences both the human and dog's psychological, physiological and physical health...

This is all to say: Be present with your dog when you walk them. It'll probably make you both happier, healthier and emotionally closer than whatever fleeting stimulation is streaming on your smartphone.

The Costs of Caring for Pets -- notes

from the article by Katie Thomas; New York Times, Sunday, June 23, 2024

-- The price of veterinary care has soared more than 60 percent over the past decade, outpacing inflation.

-- Veterinarians make far less money than human doctors and are often in debt from years of education. Their prices have gone up partly because of the rising cost of drugs, vaccines and other supplies, as well as paying workers in a tight labor market.

-- About one-quarter of primary care clinics and three-quarters of specialty clinics are now owned by corporations.

-- Only about 4 percent of pet owners have insurance.

Whatcha been up to?

Take a look at what some Yankee members and dogs have been up to with other club tests, shows, and events.



Christine Schmidt and Sebastian



Laura Farrell (breeder, owner), Dennis Kirouac (handler) and Bart (Redrock Reach For The Sky JH NA 112) after winning Best of Breed, GSPs, York County Kennel Club of Maine, Cumberland ME, 5/19/24.



Clayton Loubier and Duke



Phil Thayer with Bella (above) and Rogue (below). Ellie (not shown) finished her junior hunter title at 8 months. Bella at 11 months finished her junior hunter title and placed Best in Sweepstakes at two Brittany specialties this year. Their "horse-back trial dog," Rogue, finished his show championship with a specialty major win in Nashua, NH.



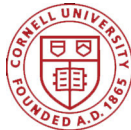
Migratory Bird Wing Collection Survey -- Send in your wings

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service runs a Migratory Bird Wing Collection Survey every year. Wings sent in are examined by biologists to determine the birds' species, age, and sex. They can collect data on American woodcock age and sex, as well as age data on common snipe and band-tailed pigeons. What's extra interesting about this program is that they will send you a letter after the annual survey exams are completed, so you can learn the information about the specific birds whose wings you submit.

For an example of their report, check out the info below Patti Carter received about the woodcock she shot this year.

For more information or to request the survey envelopes so you can participate, visit their website: <https://www.fws.gov/project/migratory-bird-parts-collection-survey>

PATRICIA CARTER 33 SIMPSONS POINT RD BRUNSWICK, ME 04011-7905 Hunter Number 54414010				Contributed 14 wings to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Migratory Bird Parts Collection Survey.	
Date	County	State	Species	Age	Sex
??/??/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Female
??/??/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Male
10/05/2023	Aroostook	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Male
10/13/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Male
10/19/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Male
10/19/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Female
10/19/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Male
10/20/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Male
10/20/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Female
10/25/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Female
10/25/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Female
10/27/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Female
10/27/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Immature	Female
11/04/2023	Somerset	ME	American Woodcock	Adult	Male



Current Canine Medical Research

In a recent conversation with Rory Todhunter, Director of the Riney Canine Health Center at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, I asked him what the Center was currently working on. Here are some of the over two dozen studies underway:

>> Creating caninized (dog genes in mice) mice to test novel drugs for cancer like leukemia in dogs

>> The Dog Aging Project following 10,000 dogs – the Cornell CVM biobank is one of the archiving locations for samples from these dogs and the Morris Animal Foundation samples from the GRLS study are coming to the Cornell CVB biobank – the only biobank accredited by the International Standards Organization.

>> Aging Sled Dog Study and biomarkers (metabolomics) for healthy aging and performance

>> Genomics of service/athletic dog performance - drive

>> Rapid Response Fund from the Canine Riney Center with the Diagnostic Lab to secure samples of dogs in the early stages of infectious respiratory disease

>> Surveillance of Surgical Site Infections in the Cornell University Hospital for Animals as prequel to interventional studies to decrease infections and reduce antibiotic resistance

>> Helping more dogs - supplements and drug repurposing for canine

lymphoma. This grant supports a randomized controlled trial (RCT) that tests whether the addition of other oral medications and products to single-agent prednisolone impacts outcome and quality of life in pet dogs diagnosed with spontaneous, large cell, nodal lymphoma

>> Effects of underwater treadmill therapy on post-operative recovery of paraplegic dogs following T3-L3 hemilaminectomy - spinal decompression

>> Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine: Refinement of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) therapy in dogs (improved outcome on dog resuscitation)

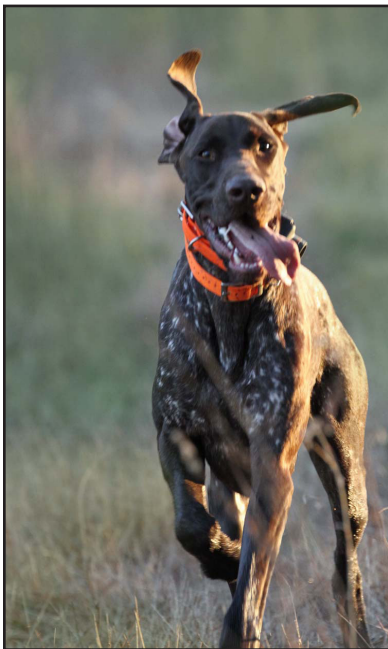
-- N.A.

keep the heat in mind

by Nancy Anisfield

Training dogs in hot weather presents new challenges. While it's good conditioning for them to practice in the heat, it gives us something else to worry about besides how clean the retrieves are or if they're backing consistently.

The most worrisome part may not be while they are running in the field; it can be afterwards. In the field, we felt the heat, too, and feel more in tune with our dog's need for water or shade, knowing that down in the tall grass they are pushing through captured heat up to ten degrees hotter



than what we feel.

I remember once when I was training Scratch, when we were done and he was staked in the shade with a light breeze blowing, I was amazed how long it took for him to cool down.

Tongue flopping from left to right side of his gaped open mouth, drooling and panting in heavy breaths, he wasn't in trouble, but he was hot. Really hot. I wet down his ears, belly and armpits but didn't give him any more water since he'd downed almost two bottles during our 20 minute run. It took him nearly twice as long as that to cool down.

Conditioning vs. overheating – another part of the summer's learning experience. It's not without its lighter side, though. Who could blame a dog that retrieves the final chukar in the field (how does he know it's the last one out there?) and instead of coming to sit by my side with a proper presentation of the bird, blows right by me heading directly for the pond beyond the trucks.

And there I found him, reclining in the mud like a fat lazy crocodile, still holding his chukar, cool water lapping at his belly... with a very pleased sparkle in his eyes.

precautions

Being familiar with your dog's normal anatomy and its normal functions will help you know when medical treatment is necessary. Learn the normal appearance of your dog's ears, ear canals, eyes, eyelids, mouth, teeth, muscle structure, limb anatomy, joints, gait, heart rate, respiratory rate and body temperatures during different times of the day and night. This information can be very valuable to a veterinarian.

Average normals:

--Rectal temperature: 101-102

--Heart rate: Small dogs and puppies normally have heart rates of 120 to 160 beats per minute. Dogs over 30 pounds have heart rates of 60 to 120.

--Respirations: 15-30 breaths per minute

Help! Brown Tail Moth Caterpillar Rash!

Only in Maine... well on Cape Cod, too, the tiny airborne hairs from the brown tail moth caterpillar can give some people a contact dermatitis similar to poison ivy. Nasty, itchy, stinging, blisters, welts and all in all no fun.

Suggested remedies range from duct tape pulls to remove the hairs, Benedryl, rubbing alcohol, hydrocortisone cream, Sarna, and just about everything short of an iguana botox potion.

There are also formulas you can prepare at home. This one is highly recommended:

1/4 cup witch hazel
1/2 tube hydrocortisone cream
1/2 tube diphenhydramine cream
1/3 tube aspercream or Lidocaine cream

Place all in a plastic spray bottle and mix. Apply twice a day.



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Send your stuff to ycnavhda@gmail.com and put "For the newsletter" in the subject line. If you're not a punctuation wizard, don't worry. Our editor can smooth out the rough edges for you. And don't forget to include a photo or two if you have them.



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