

# Southern Tier NAVHDA

## Chapter Newsletter

### April, 2006

**March training day** at the Lawton Farm was tempered by a sudden snowfall that was enough to keep us out of the fields. That did not discourage a great turnout to participate in bench work inside the barn. Just goes to show those NAVHDA members will come out in any weather to train their dogs. Two new members arrived who are also entered in the May NA test as well as two guests who I hope will join. After an introduction to healing on the table, Larry Lawton gave a great hands-on clinic on force retrieve using professional victim Fox as a demo dog. He also covered how to use the barrel for whoa! training. In addition, he covered gun training and how to properly introduce the sequence to young dogs. This is a valuable lesson to hold onto. It is difficult to retrain a gun-shy dog if not impossible so avoid the problem altogether by doing it correctly the first time. Thank you, Larry for the venue and your time and effort.

**April training day Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup>** will be at Gene and Sue Molyneau's Tree Farm at 9AM. There will be both field and water work. Directions to the site: Take route 38b out of Union Center past Old Newark Valley Road on the left and turn right onto Sherder Road. His address is 217 Sherder Road, Endicott 13760. Bring lunch and something to sit on as well as water for your dogs.

You will learn more about actual training by watching others than you will get by working with just your own dog. Instead of standing around waiting for your turn, try walking out in the field with several handlers and learn by listening and watching how they work their dogs.

You are responsible for getting your own birds for training days. The club might have birds left over from the spring test after May but until then you need your own supply. Please do not call and expect to buy birds to take home before the May test since birds are not available in that quantity.

All live ammunition gunners are required to read the sections on gun safety in the NAVHDA test rules booklet. Safety and intelligent, accurate shooting are the primary concerns.

**We need workers for the spring test May 20,21.** We will be happy to sign you up regardless of your experience. If necessary, we will provide on the job training. Our chapter has earned a reputation for everyone volunteering to get the job done. Jobs open are: bird planters (4); NA gunner who fires a blank 12 gage on the direction of the judge; senior dog and handler for pick-up at NA water work; field marshal who is responsible for getting the next handler ready when and where the judge wants them as well as coordinating the bird planters and keeping the gallery from interfering; blank shooter for UT water work sequence; duck chucker for UT water work sequence; boat person for planting ducks and setting decoys: we provide the boat (known as a shorthair rescue craft) and the decoys; lunch person to set up the table and collect money. Contact John Swider at 607-761-0088 or [jtswider@hotmail.com](mailto:jtswider@hotmail.com) if you are interested.

**Future training dates to remember** include the weekend seminar by Dave Molyneaux June 10,11. Dave has put together both indoor didactic and outside hands on material that includes picking a bird dog to many aspects of training. Bring your dog for the hands on portion. He will also discuss types of birds for training and how to care for them. Lunch will be available for a fee. Club members may register for \$40 by check made out to Southern Tier, NY sent to Dick Mider, 456 Silk Street, Newark Valley, NY 13811 before May 1<sup>st</sup>. After that, the seminar is open

to the public looking to close out after 30 entries. If you try to enter late, you might get closed out, so register early if you intend to participate. Starting time will be announced at a later date.