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A Passage from the President

On July 15th, our chapter is holding our first Youth Training Clinic. We'll have birds available for youths who have a valid hunting license to harvest. Youths who haven't yet passed a Hunter's Safety Course and don't have a hunting license will still be able to participate. Youngsters will get instruction and hands-on experience from hunting dogs in the field to processing birds. We still need volunteers for bird planting, cooking and dressing birds, etc. I encourage you to participate. It's very rewarding to mentor these young people.

I often hear that all our kids want to do is play video games. I believe as hunters, conservationists and parents, it's our responsibility to get our sons and daughters in the outdoors and share our knowledge with them.

I enjoy spending time with my grandson on our little farm. We have a lot of rock features and tons of boulders in the fields that surround my home. One of my grandson's favorite things to do is to run around with grandpa and lift all the boulders and identify the different bugs and little creatures underneath them. We have found everything from sow bugs to tiny little brown salamanders and even some Rosy Boas. I have found it's been very interesting for me, and I have seen some creatures I had not seen before. My grandson just turned 6 years old. He does like video games, but when he's at our farm, he prefers to be outdoors trying to catch lizards and exploring.

I was raised on a farm in Iowa. My father was an avid outdoorsman. I can remember him teaching me to identify the different flora and fauna, and how to trap, hunt and fish. I remember him telling me why rabbits run on the same trail through the snow, packing it down and making obvious trails. He said they did this to outrun their predators.

I have tried to pass what I know on to my son and grandson. My son has developed a love for bowhunting and generally spends a couple weeks every year elk hunting with his bow. He loves being in the wilderness. By teaching our youngsters to respect nature and continuing to observe and enjoy the outdoors ourselves, we can help them develop a lifelong love for the outdoors.





Weekday Mornings

by Jim Bellmeyer

It is a weekday, mid-summer morning and I am making a daybreak trek to the San Jacinto training fields. The goal for today, like other early morning runs, to train the pup before the Southern California heat produces unbearable temperatures that make training dangerous. I have to manage my time wisely; some of us still have to punch the time clock.

As I drive into the San Jacinto parking lot, I see a familiar sight; a truck loaded with ten custom dog kennels in its traditional spot parked at the north end. The professional dog trainer is already set up and starting his walk with a set of Brittany's running at top speed.

I have questions. What time does he wake up to load all the dogs, equipment and birds? Does he live close? What do the dogs think when he retrieves them from their kennels in the dark, early morning hours? I can never seem to arrive sooner than the man. Maybe his discipline is one of the marks of a true professional bird dog trainer.

I position my truck just east of him, and start my ritual of driving a stake into dry desert ground next to the truck where the only shade can be found. I turn on the Garmin Alpha GPS collar to allow the collar and transmitter to locate the satellite signal and sync. Pup jumps out of the kennel and goes to the stakeout chain.

I don my vest, which has seen better days; the hole in the front, right pocket allows a misplaced shell to escape occasionally. The stains are from sources better left

undiscussed. I load shotgun shells into the pocket without the hole and grab the Delmar Smith lead. The sync is complete, the transmitter can see the collar and the collar is near. Phase two of the operation commences.

We have six pigeons to work today. Three are loaded into the game bag and three remain in the shade. Off to the field to plant birds, bird bag over one shoulder and three DT launchers in hand. Time goes by quickly these days; I hurry to get the birds planted in their strategic positions, looking for good cover and playing the wind. En route, I pass the man and his Brittany duo. Nods and smiles are exchanged with the man. It is too early for elaborate greetings and long conversation.

Although I see this man regularly, something stood out this summer morning. Maybe it was the fog that was starting to lift off the field, creating a picturesque sunrise, or just the bond that we shared. A bond marked by a passion for bird dogs and early mornings in the field. As we passed one another, I noted the man's sun weathered skin, with deep well-earned wrinkles. Weather and hard work are the sculptors of those wrinkles. Swollen hands damaged by time and work. Hands that had been hurt by a check cord or two, healed and hurt again. The man walks with a slow, purposeful gate, with eyes on the synchronized movements of his Brittany counterparts, not the terrain. The man has walked fields before; the terrain makes no impact on his progress.

Today, I share a bond with the man. I am equally as quiet and reserved. My wrinkles are deepening from exposure to the sun and wind. My hands have experienced the burn of a check cord or two. My stride is swifter, but the uneven terrain tries to take me down. This bond is deeper than we both understand. It is the bond that drives most bird dog handlers, pushing us to the field before daybreak with our dogs. The drive that allows us to find joy in the hard work of bird dog training, or maybe it's even more than that.

Maybe I can even see my future in the man. My dog and I have many years in the field ahead. Many summer mornings walking through a field in search of elusive birds. I am grateful for the future I see in the man, the dogs and walks in the field. I count it all joy.





YOUTH TRAINING EVENT

JULY 15, 2017

7:30AM-3:30PM AT PRADO DOG ACTIVITIES AREA
LOCATED AT 17505 EUCLID AVE CHINO, CA 91708



Great Opportunity for Youth of all ages to experience all aspects of training dogs.

An Interactive, Hands on experience with Trained NAVHDA Dogs

- **Engage in all aspects of Field work- must wear orange**
- **Basics for training your dog, steadiness on shot and retrieval**
- **Participate in all things Birds: From planting to cleaning game birds**
- **Advanced Activities in training for those with Hunting License**
- **BBQ Lunch provided, Free T-Shirt and Certificate of Completion for all youth**

For More information www.inlandempirenavhda.org

To RSVP to this event email Shelly Oliver at inlandempirenavhda@gmail.com



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HEALTHY HYDRATION HELPS DOGS BEAT HEAT STRESS

The dog days of summer don't have to be unbearable. Practicing healthy hydration and understanding the signs of heat stress and how to deal with it can help reduce the dangers of overheating in your active and hardworking dogs.

Keep in mind that dehydration can occur rapidly. Dogs that exercise 30 to 60 minutes at 70 to 80 degrees can experience mild to moderate dehydration, depending on the activity and the intensity. Among the effects of dehydration

HYDRATION TIPS

MONITOR A WORKING DOG FOR SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS AND DEHYDRATION

TO SLOW DEHYDRATION, A DOG SHOULD BE GIVEN SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER EVERY 15 TO 20 MINUTES WHEN WORKING AND ESPECIALLY DURING EVENTS LASTING LONGER THAN 60 MINUTES

TRY COOLING YOUR DOG BY PERIODICALLY SQUIRTING HIM OR HER WITH A SPRAY BOTTLE OR MISTER. THE WETNESS ON THE COAT HAS A COOLING EFFECT AS IT EVAPORATES

is an impaired ability to maintain a normal body temperature.

The most common risk to a working dog is an excessive increase in body temperature causing heat stress. The level of crisis ranges from simply making a dog uncomfortable to a life-threatening situation.

Most dogs are very good at controlling their body temperature — until their temperature goes past a critical level.

When this happens, even after the dog's temperature is lowered back into the safe range, the dog may experience permanent inability to regulate its body temperature as well as before overheating.

Here are some tips to help you take the heat out of summer.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS & HEATSTROKE

Heat Stress

- Shade-seeking behavior
- Lethargy
- Heavy panting, possibly with tongue curled up
- Lack of coordination
- Loss of focus & motivation for training
- Squinting of the eyes

Heatstroke

- Distressed & anxious behavior
- Profuse, thick drooling
- Extreme panting
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Gums & tongue may turn dark pink or bright red

IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR DOG HAS OVERHEATED, immediately cool the body using water from a pond, creek, hose, or any other source to help bring down the body temperature. If your dog shows signs of heatstroke, you should take your dog immediately to the veterinarian. A dog with advanced heatstroke may have seizures or slip into a coma. The effects of heatstroke can continue for 48 to 72 hours even if a dog appears normal, so it is important for a veterinarian to evaluate a dog for damage to the liver and kidneys and any other health problems.



DOGS' COMPLEX CIRCULATION

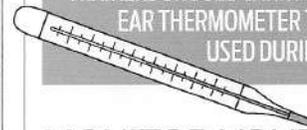
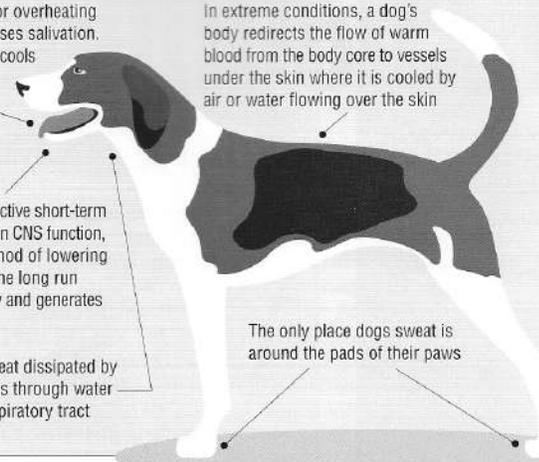
A dog compensates for overheating by panting, which causes salivation. As saliva evaporates, it cools the blood going to the brain, helping to maintain central nervous system (CNS) functioning

While panting is an effective short-term solution to help maintain CNS function, it is an inefficient method of lowering body temperature in the long run because it uses energy and generates additional heat

About 60 percent of heat dissipated by dogs during exercise is through water evaporation in the respiratory tract

In extreme conditions, a dog's body redirects the flow of warm blood from the body core to vessels under the skin where it is cooled by air or water flowing over the skin

The only place dogs sweat is around the pads of their paws



TRAINERS SHOULD CARRY A RECTAL OR EAR THERMOMETER THAT CAN BE USED DURING TRAINING

MONITOR YOUR DOG'S TEMPERATURE

A DOG'S BODY TEMPERATURE IS NORMALLY BETWEEN **100 TO 102.5** DEGREES

TAKE YOUR DOG'S TEMPERATURE AT THE FIRST SIGN OF DISTRESS OR AFTER EXERCISE. IF IT IS ABOVE **105 DEGREES**, START COOLING DOWN YOUR DOG RIGHT AWAY

IMMEDIATELY AFTER HARD WORK, A SPORTING DOG'S TEMPERATURE MAY BE AS HIGH AS 107 DEGREES. WITHIN 5 MINUTES, THE TEMPERATURE SHOULD DECLINE TO BELOW 104 DEGREES

IF A DOG'S TEMPERATURE REMAINS ABOVE 104 DEGREES,

THE DOG IS LIKELY SUFFERING FROM HEAT STRESS AND REQUIRES IMMEDIATE VETERINARY CARE

HOW TO HELP AN OVERHEATED DOG

FIRST, COOL DOWN YOUR DOG, and then work on restoring hydration

IF POSSIBLE, TRY TO KEEP THE DOG MOVING by encouraging standing or walking slowly. The circulating blood tends to pool in certain areas if a dog is lying down, thus preventing the cooled blood from circulating back to the core

APPLY COOL WATER to the foot pads



ALLOW THE DOG TO DRINK SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER, BUT DO NOT LET THE DOG GULP WATER, AS DRINKING TOO MUCH WATER TOO RAPIDLY COULD CAUSE VOMITING



GET THE DOG INTO SHADE OUT OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT

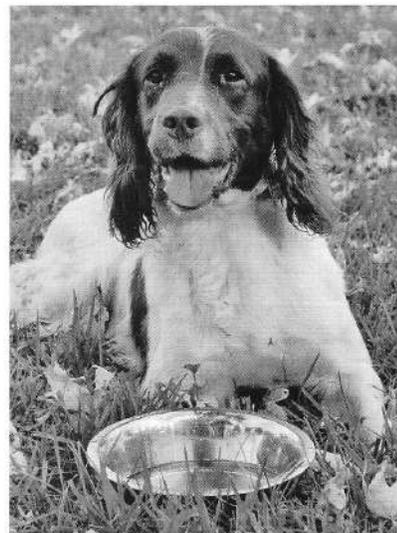
USE COOL WATER

under the dog's front legs and in the groin area where there is a higher concentration of large blood vessels to aid cooling

DO NOT COVER A DOG WITH A WET TOWEL OR BLANKET, as you want to be sure the water can evaporate and this inhibits evaporation by creating a sauna effect

After wetting down a dog, do not put the dog in an enclosed kennel, as this reduces air flow that would benefit the cooling process

SITTING WITH A WET DOG IN A VEHICLE WITH THE AIR CONDITIONER BLOWING HELPS COOLING



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WATER RULES

ALWAYS GIVE AN OVERHEATED DOG **COOL WATER**

rather than ice water, which could cause the dog to cool down too quickly. Ice water can cause blood vessels to constrict, which slows blood flow to the brain and the cooling process

TO BOOST WATER CONSUMPTION, **TRY BAITING WATER WITH LOW-SODIUM CHICKEN BROTH**

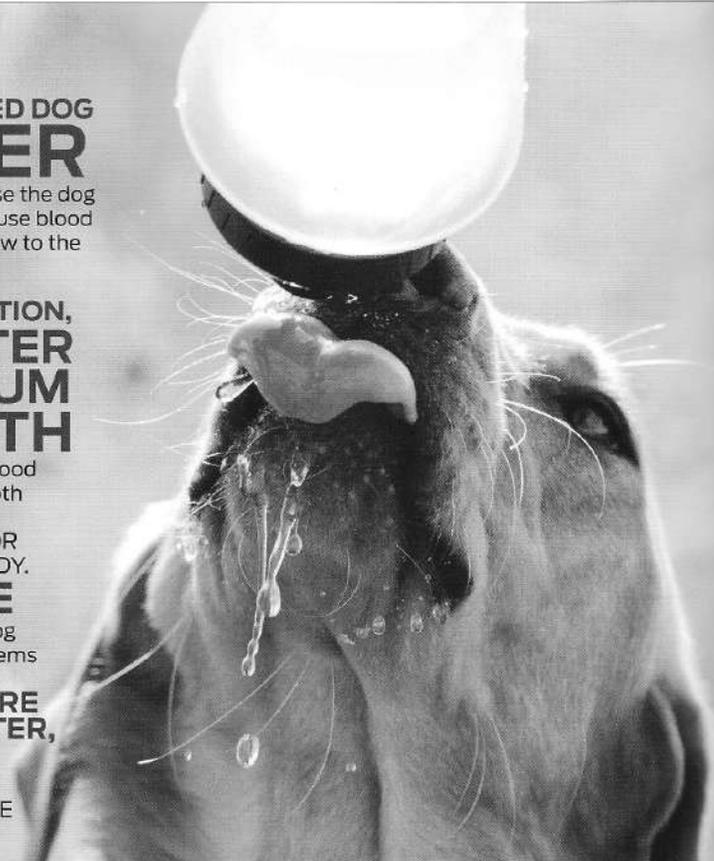
to encourage drinking or try mixing a few food kibbles with water and adding chicken broth

USE RUNNING WATER — A FAUCET OR HOSE — TO WET DOWN A DOG'S BODY.

NEVER SUBMERGE

A DOG IN WATER, as this could cause a dog to cool too rapidly and lead to other problems

**AFTER WORKING, MAKE SURE
A DOG HAS ACCESS TO WATER,
BUT WAIT UNTIL A DOG'S PANTING
SLOWS DOWN BEFORE ALLOWING
THE DOG TO DRINK A LARGE VOLUME
OF WATER**



Dr. Brian Zanghi and his Labrador Retriever "Aspen"

WATER AS A NUTRIENT

Did you know that water is the most essential nutrient? This is because water supports many physiological functions, helps to remove metabolic waste and establishes a complex body-fluid matrix that underlies all metabolic processes.

At the Purina Companion Animal Nutrition Summit held in May in Vancouver, Canada, Purina Senior Nutrition Scientist Brian Zanghi, PhD, explained that hydration is a dynamic process between water intake and loss in which there is no consensus on how to define optimal hydration in dogs.

"Many factors influence a dog's daily water loss and hydration," Dr. Zanghi says. "These include a dog's environment, health condition, age, physical activity, water availability, and diet. Without a doubt, a dog's body water is in constant flux, thus regulation of water balance and thirst-driven water intake is necessary to replenish the persistent evaporative loss of water through respiration, skin and coat, and urine, saliva and feces."

The bottom line, Dr. Zanghi advises, is that "dogs should always have fresh water available to help establish true hydration."



The Back Page

Training Day Rules:

- Dogs are under control at all times. (Leash rule is in effect)
- Everyone in the field MUST wear blaze orange hat, shirt, or vest.
- Must have completed a hunter safety class or have a hunting license.
- Children are to be supervised and remain in the designated parking lot area at all times.
- NO alcohol on the premise.
- Shotguns must be break action only.
- Must have an active NAVHDA international membership.

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