

AKC LICENSED CLUB SINCE 1985

MASTER NATIONAL, AMATEUR NATIONAL
and GMHTA MEMBER CLUB

www.nfhra.org



MARCH 2019

Upcoming Events

AWARDS BANQUET

MARCH 28

Vanelli's

Forest Lake

6:00 social hour

Brief program

**Election of officers
and board members**

**Please RSVP for
banquet by March
15 to Mary Heitz**

BANQUET/ANNUAL MEETING

THE NFHRA Annual Meeting/Banquet will be held on March 28th at Vanelli's in Forest Lake beginning at 6:00 pm. The cost to members will be \$25 each or \$45/couple.

Your membership renewals can be made at that time as well. New renewal forms are available at the club website or at the banquet. Renewals are due on April 1st of each year. The banquet will be a buffet meal and there are many prizes to be given away, so please plan on attending. We have a short interesting and informative program planned, as well as a brief meeting and election of board members and officers.

PLEASE RESPOND BY MARCH 15 so we have an idea of how many to expect. It is preferable to have payment ahead of time but payment that night will work as well - we just need to know how many attendees to plan for. Please respond to Mary Heitz,

doublestandard2@msn.com or 651-982-2855

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE - IT'LL BE FUN!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REQUESTS

The information portion: A new renewal form is in the works but has not as yet been completed, however the form that is currently on the website should be used for 2019 renewals. Thanks for taking care of this promptly. Forms will be available at the banquet if needed.

The by-laws of the club are also being revised. A copy of the updated renewal form and by-laws will be sent out to the general membership for approval once they are completed.

The request portion: All members were recently sent messages regarding the Good Ol' Dog award nominations, with the request that they be returned by March 15 as well as the reservations for the banquet. Please send your nominations for the good ol' dog award to Mary Heitz at doublestandard2@msn.com by March 15 or earlier if possible. Please refer to e-mail of Feb. 20th describing the award. If the form sent with that e-mail does not work properly please just send the nominations to Mary with a brief comment as to why you are nominating the person of your choice. Thanks in advance for doing this. It is planned to present the award at our spring casual event which unfortunately does not as yet have a firm date. As always, all members will be informed as soon as the information is available. Thanks very much for your cooperation in getting this information to us in a timely manner (namely by March 15th).

Even though this has been a long winter, spring will eventually be here and our training season will begin. Thanks to the club members who have generously agreed to serve as training coordinators. There will be two set ups for the Wednesday training sessions - one for the less experienced dogs and one for the senior/master dogs. Monday night training will be billed as "field trial training" however all can participate and would benefit from this training as well. Following are comments from a couple of our coordinators who have agreed to share their thoughts on the upcoming training season. Thanks again to these experienced trainers who have agreed to make it possible for all of us to get some training opportunities.

FROM BOB MATTLIN

Tom Newell and I will be organizing the Monday night "Field Trial" training. Please don't be concerned about the term Field Trial. If your dog can do a 50 yard mark, please come out and train with us!!! There is no real difference between the concepts of field trial, hunt test, or just hunting dog training. Mostly we will be teaching "marking" concepts, which all dogs can benefit from. We will be using white coats in the field, and this will only help your dog see and understand the mark. We will not be testing dogs to see if they can do a mark, we will be teaching dogs to do the marks. We will have marks set up, but will be completely open to making minor adjustments to help your dog succeed and learn.

FROM CRAIG MINDER, SENIOR/MASTER

SH/MH will be running some drills at the very beginning of the training season, then the standard triple set ups . There will be a lot more decoys this season because in talking to various handlers a lot them were saying young dogs had not seen decoys until running a test . There will be a push towards more training and less testing on training nights. Some of the top pros run triples one day a week. I will be recommending a lot more cold blinds before marks or more poison birds . Some nights will be a double mark and a double blind.

FROM DAN PHELPS, JUNIOR

The junior level training group will be a bit different this year from previous years. There will be fewer hunt test “set-ups” and more focus on concept work. The training will be based first and foremost on obedience and the dog focusing on the handler. Rock solid obedience is beneficial for the handler that wants to compete in National field trails or the handler that wants to have a hunting companion that is always welcome in any duck blind or pheasant field. We will design the training to maximize the amount of time that the handlers are working with their dogs or up at the line watching and learning from other dogs/handlers. Several highly experienced club members have volunteered to be a special guest trainer for the week at the junior set-up covering topics such as how and when to use pressure (e-collar) effectively. At the end of the day we want the junior handlers to have the tools and know how to teach their dogs to do whatever it is they want to do in the sport dog world and make to a pleasurable experience for both dog and handler.

Again, we are grateful for the club members who have volunteered to help out at the two weekly training nights. There are also going to be some Saturday casual training sessions this season. Guest trainers will also be featured at some selected dates so this season is shaping up to be an exciting and interesting one. Thanks to the members who are working to make this all happen for the members, namely: Jerry DeRose, Bob Mattlin, Craig Minder, Tom Newell, Greg Dodge, and Dan Phelps. Training nights are one of the main perks of club membership so hopefully many members will take advantage of these opportunities and will also be willing to help where needed at the training nights.

As stated earlier, election of officers and board members will take place at the upcoming banquet. Below is a sample ballot for this election. Ballots will be given out at the banquet for this election.

Thanks to the current board members for their service. Most of last year's members have agreed to serve again this year if elected. We appreciate their commitment of time and talent!

President; vote for one.	
Jim Imbertson (incumbent)	_____
Vice-President; vote for one.	
Jerry DeRose	_____
Secretary; vote for one.	
Mary Heitz (incumbent)	_____
Treasurer; vote for one.	
Dan Phelps (incumbent)	_____
Board of Directors; vote for seven (7)	
Josh Barstow (incumbent)	_____
Greg Dodge (incumbent)	_____
Tiffany Haltli (incumbent)	_____
Bob Mattlin (incumbent)	_____
Tom Newell (incumbent)	_____
Sheila Stokes	_____
Shaun Van Vark	_____
To cast your vote for all candidates listed on the ballot check here _____	

GMHTA NEWS

There is exciting news from GMHTA this upcoming year and all members were previously sent e-mails which were forwarded from Gordon Schlichting on this subject. If you need to receive this information again please contact me and I will re-send Gordon's messages. Thanks.

Mary Heitz- doublestandard2@msn.com