

Rocky Mountain Chapter – North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2020

**Opening**

The annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Chapter was called to order at 1:16pm on January 11, 2020 T Scheels in Johnstown, Colorado by Jake Heesacker.

**Present**

A total of 42 members signed in.

**Introductions**

A few moments were taken for everyone present to introduce themselves.

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

**Special recognition:**

All of the Volunteers for 2019 tests

1 2019 Versatile Champion

Max score of 200: Outlanders Nobel Reflection owned and handled by Sara Heesacker

5 2020 Invitational Qualifiers

UT Prize 1 score of 201: Outlanders Dauntless O'Delle owned and handled by Tim Griffin

UT Prize 1 score of 199: WyoWires Too Hot to Handle owned and handled by Terry Uhrich

UT Prize 1 score of 194: Northern Exposure Dark Passenger owned and handled by Brian Thoman

UT Prize 1 max score of 204: Stellar Vista Crator Lakes owned and handled by Allen Kidd

UT Prize 1 max score of 204: Stonyridge Zanna owned and handled by Rick Huber

2 2019 Breeder Awards

WyoWires litter: Mueller's Black Star Trials and Tribulatinos X WyoWires Foxie Roxie

WyoWires littler: Hershey's Chocolate Delight X WyoWires Atma Aisha Sylwann Forest

**2019 Board Reports**

Reports of 2019 were provided by all board members.

President's message and Treasurer's reports attached.

**2020 Board Elections**

The following board positions were renewed, unanimously and unopposed:

President - Jake Heesaker

Vice President - Tim Griffin

Treasurer - Sheryl Dierenfield

Director of Training - Sara Heesaker

Director of Testing - Allen Kidd

Director of Judging - Brian Thoman

Director of Promotions - Theo Stein

The following members were elected unanimously and unopposed:

Secretary – Candice Cooper

Member at Large - Dale Parker

**2020 Appointed Positions**

The following appointed positions were renewed, unanimously and unopposed:

Bird steward - Jake Heesacker  
Webmaster - Steve Roberts respectively.

The following position has been appointed:  
CPW liaison - Theo Stein.

### Old Business

Chapter's 501c3 has completed for both State and Federal.

1. Donations to the chapter are now tax deductible.
2. Our chapter may now seek sponsorships
3. Reduction in costs for facility rentals for our training day at Larimer County Fairgrounds

### 10 minute meeting break

Return from break at 2:32pm

### New Business

1. 2020 Working Budget
  - a. Supply Purchase Requests:
    - i. Board would like to purchase an upland trap for duck search. Cost estimated at \$450
    - ii. Board would like to purchase a new gun for testing and training days.
    - iii. Recommendation is made to purchase additional bird launchers that bring the Chapter up to 6 total launchers that will be operated on 1 remote.
    - iv. Push cart needs repairs. Member Tim Griffin will repair.**Board unanimously approves to look into costs associated with purchase of launchers, gun, and upland trap.** Board would like to see if any discounts might be available for 501c3.
  - b. 2020 Planned Fundraising Efforts:
    - i. Raffle to be held at February training day
    - ii. Clay shooting event (per survey feedback)
2. 2020 Chapter Dues
  - a. Proposed dues: Currently \$40 for both individual and family
  - b. Board recommends staying at current dues – may need to reevaluate in 2021
  - c. Board looking to increase fundraising and to keep dues at current amount.**Board unanimously approved to keep dues at \$40.**
3. 2020 Chapter Test
  - a. Proposed dates: May 15 – 17, 2020 and August 21-23, 2020
    - i. Proposal is made to double test; UT to run on Fridays; double test NA on Saturday and Sunday. This will need to be worked with CPW.**Board unanimously approves testing dates and to explore double testing NA.**
  - b. Proposed test fees: currently, Natural Ability is \$145, Utility Prep and Utility Test are \$150. Non-chapter members add \$25 fee per test.
    - i. Proposal to hold costs. We are slightly higher than average on test fees.**Board unanimously approves to hold test fees at the 2019 rate.**
4. 2020 Training Day Schedule
  - a. Indoor Training Day scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> at Larimer County Fairgrounds in McKee Building.
    - i. Due to 501c3 designation, facility rental decreased from \$550 to \$55. Indoor training day is free for all registered NAVDHA members.
  - b. Youth challenge training days
  - c. Due to too many participants at Cobb Lake, training days have been restructured as follows:
    - i. **Natural Ability:**
      1. Natural Ability training will be held on the following **nights** from **6-8pm** at **Surefire Kennels with Jake and Sara Heesacker** on.
        - a. March 13

- b. March 27
  - c. April 10
  - d. April 24
  - e. May 8
  - f. May 22
  - g. June 5
  - h. June 19
  - i. July 17
  - j. July 31
  - k. August 14
2. Natural Ability training will be held on the following **days** from **8-10am** at **Jackson Creek Kennel with Dale Parker**:
- a. March 14
  - b. April 11
  - c. May 9
  - d. June 20
  - e. August 15

These changes allow for 16 training opportunities (an increase from the 5 training opportunities in previous years).

ii. **Utility Foundation:**

1. Utility Foundation training will be held on the following **nights** from **6-8pm** at **Surefire Kennels with Jake and Sarah Heesacker**
- a. March 6
  - b. March 20
  - c. April 3
  - d. April 17
  - e. May 1
  - f. May 29
  - g. June 12
  - h. June 26
  - i. July 10
  - j. July 24
  - k. August 7

These changes allow for 11 training opportunities (an increase from the 5 training opportunities in previous years).

iii. **Utility Testing and Invitational:**

1. Utility Testing and Invitational training will be held on the following **days** from **7am-4pm** at **Cobb SWA**
- a. March 7
  - b. April 4
  - c. May 2
  - d. June 13
  - e. August 8

Dogs testing in either Utility or Invitational will be given first preference for training at Cobb Lake. Everyone is encouraged to come out to help, watch, and learn how these dogs train and are handled.

- iv. Purpose of proposed change in training plans is to increase member ownership of their dog's training and increase training locations. Also, 8 hours is too much for small puppies. **Anyone willing to lead a group should reach out to the board. It is highly encouraged that members lead training groups in their areas.**
- v. Remember that NAVHDA is a Do-It-Yourself training community. If you only train alone or on the schedule training days you will not be successful.

**Board unanimously approves the outlined training plan.**

5. 2020 Events
  - a. Clay shoot
  - b. Youth group
  - c. Women's retreat
  - d. Member led group hunts
6. 2020 Website improvements
  - a. Volunteer signups
  - b. Payments online
7. NAVHDA International meeting
  - a. Chapter delegate: Craig McLaughlin
    - i. Motion for RMC-NAVHDA to pay his registration fee  
**Board unanimously approves to pay registration fee.**
    - ii. Motion #1: Judge Evaluation proposal
      1. After discussion, Chapter is indifferent on yay or nay decision. Will trust in Craig's experience and judgement.
    - iii. Motion #2: Increase to 4 judges in field work at the Invitational
      1. After discussion, Chapter leans toward nay.  
**Board unanimously vetoes this motion. Craig to take our vote to the International meeting.**
    - iv. Topic for discussion: Judge evaluation of dog's teeth at tests
      1. Health concerns for human and canine.
8. Other items:
  - a. RMC-NAVHDA will not be holding any clinics this year.
  - b. If turning in a test form, form must be complete and turned in with your check.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:02pm by Jake Heesacker. The next general meeting will be January 2021. The date, time, and location are to be determined.

Minutes submitted by:

Candice Cooper, RMC-NAVHDA Secretary



Rocky Mountain Chapter North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association

Annual Meeting Agenda  
January 11, 2020  
1:00 p.m.  
Scheels Training Room, Johnstown, CO

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance and Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Special Recognition
5. 2019 Board Reports
6. Elections of 2020 Rocky Mountain NAVHDA Board
7. Selection of Appointed Positions
8. Old Business
  - a. 501c3 Completion
9. New Business
  - a. 2020 Working Budget
    - i. Supply Purchases Requested
    - ii. 2020 Planned Fundraising Efforts
  - b. 2020 Chapter Annual Dues
    - i. Proposed Dues: Currently \$40 for Family Chapter Membership
  - c. 2020 Chapter Test Details
    - i. Proposed Dates: May 15-17, 2020 and August 21-23, 2020
    - ii. Proposed Test Fees: Currently Natural Ability \$145 Utility Preparatory and Utility Test \$150. Non-chapter members add \$25/test fee
  - d. 2020 Training Day Schedule
    - i. Indoor Training Day February 9, 2020 at Larimer County Fairgrounds McKee Building
    - ii. Attached Calendar list for all other training days
  - e. 2020 Events
  - f. 2020 Website Improvements
    - i. Volunteer Signups
    - ii. Payments Online
  - g. NAVHDA International Meeting
    - i. Chapter Delegate (registration fee \$165): Craig McLaughlin
    - ii. Motion #1: Judge Evaluation Proposal
    - iii. Motion #2: Increase to 4 Judges in Field work at the Invitational
    - iv. Topic for Discussion: Judge Evaluation of Dog's Teeth at tests
  - h. Other Items
10. Adjourn

### RMC NAVHDA Training Schedule

Natural Ability Training Nights 6-8 p.m. at Surefire Kennels with Jake and Sara Heesacker

March 13

March 27

April 10

April 24

May 8

May 22

June 5

June 19

July 17

July 31

August 14

Natural Ability Training Days 8-10 a.m. at Jackson Creek Kennel with Dale Parker

March 14

April 11

May 9

June 20

August 15

Utility Foundation Training Nights 6-8 p.m. at Surefire Kennels with Jake and Sara Heesacker

March 6

March 20

April 3

April 17

May 1

May 29

June 12

June 29<sup>th</sup>

July 10

July 24

August 7

Utility Testing and Invitational Training Days 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at Cobb SWA

March 7

April 4

May 2

June 13

August 8

1 2019 Versatile Champion:

Max score of 200: Outlanders Noble Reflection owned and handled by Sara Heesacker

5 2020 Invitational Qualifiers:

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2 2019 NAVHDA NA Breeders Awards

WyoWires litter: Mueller's Black Star Trials and Tribulations X WyoWires Foxie Roxie

WyoWires litter: Hershey's Chocolate Delight X WyoWires Atma Aisha Sylwonn Forest

**President's Message**

2019 was another great year for RMC NAVHDA! As the aforementioned accolades indicate, everyone's training and hard work are paying off, and the test results show that. The teamwork and dedication of our members is at a very high level, and I applaud you all for that. It has been very enjoyable watching everyone grow as handlers over the past few years, and I look forward to another great year watching more of you reach your goals with your versatile dogs.

RMC NAVHDA reached 100 members in 2019 for the first time in the Chapter's history. This is a monumental achievement and goes to show that the versatile dog movement is strong in Colorado and continues to grow. With that being said, growth requires change. Over the past few years, the Chapter has started to outgrow the training trailer as we acquire more supplies and training gear to support our members. In December, an opportunity to purchase a larger training trailer presented itself to the Chapter, and the RMC Board of Directors voted to purchase a new, larger training trailer that will serve the needs of our growing chapter for many years to come. This will afford us the space to better organize our existing supplies while providing room for more training gear as the chapter acquires it.

Our growth has also required us to look at our training days and our permit to use Cobb Lake. As you will later hear in Sara's Training Director report, we have regularly been over the permitted number of dogs and handler's at training days, and she has some exciting plans for our training this year to accommodate more people while making a better effort for the chapter to remain within its permit. The relationship we have with CPW is invaluable to the chapter, and we must make every effort to keep that relationship intact and healthy.

We had a strong number of responses to the survey we sent out back in December. Your responses gave us some great feedback and ideas for future planning. At the February 9 indoor training day, you will see some of the results of that survey, as we tried to accommodate the interests of the membership. We are excited to have a guest speaker from Pheasants Forever come and talk about habitat and scouting for wild birds. We are also excited to offer three other seminars on strategic planning, a dog's mind, and obedience through distractions. It should be a fun filled day where new members can see what our chapter is all about, existing members can get reacquainted after hunting season, and an opportunity for some valuable information to help you train and hunt with your versatile dog.

As we look forward to 2020 and beyond, our need for volunteers will continually grow. Every year, the strength of this chapter and what sets it apart from other chapters around the country is its volunteer base. Judges and clinicians we bring in from other parts of the country always comment on our volunteers and how smoothly our events run. That is a testament to our volunteer base, and I applaud each and every one of you for that. But as our membership grows, our need for new volunteers will grow as well. The largest worry of any volunteer based organization is volunteer burnout, and our chapter is no exception. We have some exciting things planned for the future to help keep our membership engaged outside of training days, and volunteers will be needed to make it all happen. So my ask of you is if you haven't volunteered to help out your local chapter, please consider it. It is very rewarding to give back to a great organization. And if you volunteer currently or have in the past, I extend a tremendous thank you! You are the reason we are successful!

In closing, it has been a privilege to serve as your President in 2019, and I look forward to a great 2020. It has been an honor to serve with this Board of dedicated members this past year. Each and every one of these individuals up here gave countless hours of their time to this chapter this past year. They are full of great ideas, and their love and passion for versatile dogs shows in everything they do for this Chapter. Thank you again for serving RMC NAVHDA, and I look forward to seeing new faces serve this chapter in the years to come.



## Account Summary 1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

CHECKING ACCOUNT	BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$	8,376.21
	ENDING BALANCE:	\$	6,582.62
RAFFLE ACCOUNT		\$	2,517.17
	TOTAL AVAILABLE BALANCE	\$	9,099.79

### INCOME

<b>CASH Donation; Lunch</b>	\$	334.00
<b>Fundraising</b>	\$	1,364.00
- Book Sales	\$	10.00
- Donation	\$	294.00
- RM Logo Wear	\$	1,060.00
<b>Income</b>	\$	175.00
<b>Membership Dues</b>	\$	3,675.00
<b>Registration Fees</b>	\$	9,365.00
- Seminar/Clinic Registration F	\$	7,610.00
- Training Day(s)	\$	1,755.00
<b>Test Entry Fees</b>	\$	8,060.00
Fall	\$	4,291.00
- - Fall (Other)	\$	880.00
- - NA Fees	\$	2,175.00
- - Test Lunches	\$	36.00
- - UT/UTP Fees	\$	1,200.00
Spring	\$	3,705.00
- - NA Fees	\$	2,955.00
- - UT/UTP Fees	\$	750.00
- Test Entry Fees (Other)	\$	64.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$	22,973.00

### EXPENSES

<b>Administrative</b>	\$	<b>(1,306.02)</b>
- Insurance	\$	(530.24)
- Stationery/Supplies	\$	(62.57)
- Website Fees	\$	(713.21)
<b>Appreciation Gifts</b>	\$	<b>(100.00)</b>
<b>Board Meeting</b>	\$	<b>(174.61)</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	\$	<b>(167.71)</b>
<b>Legal/Professional Fees</b>	\$	<b>(10.00)</b>
<b>RMC Merchandise</b>	\$	<b>(1,026.37)</b>
<b>Test Expenses</b>	\$	<b>(8,315.83)</b>
<u>Spring Test</u>	\$	(2,843.44)
- - Bird Purchases	\$	(1,945.00)
- - Lodging; Judges	\$	(524.20)
- - Meals/Food; Judges	\$	(91.24)
- - Permit Fees	\$	(23.00)
- - Porta Potty Rental	\$	(110.00)
- - Supplies	\$	(150.00)
- Test Expenses (Other)	\$	(64.00)
- Volunteer Food/Meals	\$	(100.14)
<u>Fall Test</u>	\$	(5,308.25)
- - Bird Purchases	\$	(1,960.00)
- - Judges Travel	\$	(1,775.50)
- - Lodging; Judges	\$	(299.02)
- - Meals/Food; Judges	\$	(129.76)
- - NAVHDA Int'l Test Fees	\$	(184.00)
- - Permit	\$	(23.00)
- - Porta Potty Rental	\$	(110.00)
- - Supplies	\$	(936.97)
<b>Trailer</b>	\$	<b>(6,315.90)</b>
<b>Training Day Expenses</b>	\$	<b>(7,405.35)</b>
- Birds	\$	(791.00)
- Facility Fees	\$	(2,693.49)
- Lodging	\$	(469.43)
- Meals/Food/Beverages	\$	(457.63)
- Permits	\$	(115.00)
- Porta Potty	\$	(760.00)
- Speaker/Host Expenses	\$	(1,990.20)
- Training Day Expenses (Othe	\$	(18.60)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	\$	<b>(24,821.79)</b>
<b>PROFIT/LOSS</b>	\$	<b>(1,848.79)</b>

Rocky Mountain NAVHDA presents

# 2020 Indoor Training Day

February 9<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m.-3 p.m

Event **FREE** to attend for all NAV-DA International and RMC NAV-DA Members!  
(Membership can be renewed the morning of the event)



**GUEST  
SPEAKER**  
**Nik Wright**  
**Biologist with**



**Scouting Your Fields**

**Diving Deeper into Habitat & Hunting Strategies to  
Successfully find Upland Game**

## Other Sessions Offered

**Strategic Planning: Developing a Foundation Based Training  
Plan to Achieve The Goals for your Dog**

**Entering Your Dogs Mind: Understanding Dog Behavior and How  
the Handler can Influence for Better or Worse**

**Gaining your Dog's Focus: Using Obedience and Cooperation  
Exercises to Encourage your dog to Work Through Distractions**

The Details:  
Pottluck Lunch

Please indicate in the comment line  
what you will be bringing on  
sign up at [rmc-navhda.com/events](http://rmc-navhda.com/events)

Dogs will only be allowed in the building for  
obedience sessions. Please plan accordingly  
(crate, leash, water, waste bags)  
There will be breaks through the day to take care  
of dogs needs.

Youth are encouraged to attend! We will start  
the 2020 Youth Challenges at this event!

RMC NAV-DA Gear will be available for purchase.

We will be holding a Raffle Drawing at the  
Training Day! Winners will be awarded that day!

For More Information Contact:

Sara Heesacker

RMC NAV-DA Director of Training

[rmc.navhda@gmail.com](mailto:rmc.navhda@gmail.com)

970-420-3850



## Event Location:

Larimer County Fairgrounds  
McKee Building  
5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538

