

◇ 07/18/2015: NEFHRC Training Day

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# The Hunter's Blind

Volume 2, Issue 5

July 2015

## About NEFHRC Newsletter . . .

This monthly newsletter is to help members keep updated on our club events, achievements, or other announcements that may be of interest. Please call or email Karen VanDonsel at (828) 877-3254 or karenvandonsel@gmail.com if you have anything you would like to submit. Alternatively, you may contact Sherri Osborne at (904) 753-1155 or osbornequarters@aol.com.

Please feel free to submit pictures, announcements of events, brags, the sale of dog or training equipment, litters, or any other announcements for club members! The deadline for submissions will be the 15th of each month.

Our "Did You Know" feature this month covers HRC Policy regarding Lightening Safety.

Our featured member this month is Andy May.

If you have an idea for a recurring feature article, please let us know. This newsletter is for you, our members. We want to include what you want. So, please help make this a great newsletter. Submit your articles, pictures, stories and ideas. We want to hear from you!



*New Member of the Year, Adam Triay and Natty*

## Dog/Puppy Points

Now that the year is half over, please take the time to send your dog/puppy points to our Webmaster, Karen VanDonsel. You can send the information to Karen via e-mail at karenvandonsel@gmail.com. Be sure to include the following information in the e-mail: owner's name, dog's call name, dog's date of birth, points earned only in the current calendar year (up to date of submission) and total points earned in all years (up to date of submission).

Alternatively, you can fill out the form on the club website at <http://www.nefhrc.net/club-information/submit-your-dog-points/>.

NEFHRC recognizes the top dog and top puppy each year. In this context, a "puppy" is defined as a dog aged 24 months and younger.

As of this publication, no points have been submitted. Please do not wait until the end of the year.

## Did You Know . . .

**T**HE HRC LIGHTNING POLICY WILL BE FOLLOWED AT ALL HRC/UKC LICENSED EVENTS. The Hunt Chair, in consultation with the Club's Hunt Committee, will make the final determination to suspend, continue or resume a Hunt based on the following guidelines.

Be aware of how close lightning is occurring. The flash-to-bang method is the easiest and most convenient way to estimate how far away lightning is occurring. Thunder always accompanies lightning, even though its audible range can be diminished due to background noise in the immediate environment, and its distance from the observer. To use the flash-to-bang method, count the seconds from the time the lightning is sighted to when the clap of thunder is heard. Divide this number by 5 to obtain how far away (in miles) the lightning is occurring.

**For example:** If an individual counts fifteen seconds between seeing the flash and hearing the bang, 15 divided by 5 equals 3. Therefore, the lightning flash is approximately three miles away.

Lightning awareness should be increased with the first flash of lightning or the first clap of thunder, no matter how far away. This activity must be treated as a wake-up call. The most important aspect to monitor is how far away the lightning is occurring and how fast the storm is approaching, relative to the distance of a safe shelter.

1. As a minimum, HRC, Inc. strongly recommends that by the time a flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds, all individuals should have left the test site and reached a safe structure or location. Safe structure or location is defined as:
  - a. Any building normally occupied or frequently used by people (i.e., a building with plumbing and/or electrical wiring that acts to electrically ground the structure). Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and do not use the showers or plumbing facilities during a thunderstorm.
  - b. In the absence of a sturdy, frequently inhabited building, any vehicle with a hard metal roof (not a convertible or golf cart) and rolled-up windows can provide a measure of safety. A vehicle is certainly better than remaining outdoors. It is not the rubber tires that make a vehicle a safe shelter, but the hard metal roof which dissipates the lightning strike around the vehicle. **DO NOT TOUCH THE SIDES OF THE VEHICLE!**
2. The existence of blue sky and the absence of rain are not protection from lightning. Lightning can, and does, strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain shaft. It does not have to be raining for lightning to strike.
3. If no safe structure or location is within a reasonable distance, find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Assume a crouched position on the ground with only the

*(Continued on page 3)*

*“The flash-to-bang method is the easiest and most convenient way to estimate how far away lightning is occurring.”*

## Did You Know . . .

*(Continued from Page 2)*

balls of the feet touching the ground. Wrap your arms around your knees and lower your head. Minimize contact with the ground because lightning current often enters a victim through the ground rather than by a direct overhead strike. **MINIMIZE YOUR BODY'S SURFACE AREA, AND MINIMIZE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND! DO NOT LIE FLAT!** If unable to reach safe shelter, stay away from the tallest trees or objects (such as light poles or flag poles), metal objects (such as fences or bleachers), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields. Avoid being the highest object in a field. Do not take shelter under a single tall tree.

4. A person who feels his or her hair stand on end, or skin tingle, should immediately crouch, as described in Item #3.

5. Avoid using the telephone, except in emergency situations. People have been struck by lightning while using a landline telephone. A cellular phone or a portable remote phone is a safe alternative to landline phones, if the person and the antenna are located within a safe structure or location, and if all other precautions are followed.

6. When considering resumption of activity, HRC, Inc. recommends that everyone should ideally wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder before returning to the field.

7. People who have been struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge. Therefore, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is safe for the responder. If possible, an injured person should be moved to a safer location before starting CPR. Lightning-strike victims who show signs or cardiac or respiratory arrest need emergency help quickly, Prompt, aggressive CPR has been highly effective for the survival of victims of lightning strikes.

*“Minimize your body’s surface area, and minimize contact with the ground. DO NOT LIE FLAT!”*

**REMEMBER—SAFETY FIRST & FOREMOST!**

## Meet Andy May . . .

Andy May served as club treasurer from 2010 until 2014. He has also participated in our hunt tests as a “jack of all trades.”

Andy has a gift of showmanship, which made our raffles exciting, entertaining, and profitable. He has regularly organized the club trailer (no easy task) and has assisted with the judges’ dinner, as well as anywhere else he has been needed. Andy remains an active member after leaving his Officer post.

We know him best by his LBD, Cooper, Boykin Spaniel. The two of them make quite a pair and are known throughout the hunting community as avid bird and duck hunters.

Stephen Rosasco refers to Andy as: “generous, funny, welcoming, did a splendid job on club raffles, and his club emails were hilarious. His family participated too.” He stated “we are probably in the black because of the raffles.”

Barry Sales, our current treasurer, commented: “As our treasurer, Andy’s conscientious attention to every detail was only exceeded by the warmth and personal concern he showed everyone.”

Joe Abood states: “He kept the treasury in good shape, and managed the raffle at our hunt test. He was always looking out for the club and his side kick, Cooper, always ran the show by keeping him in line.”

To Andy: A big NEFHRC thank you for your years of service. It’s always good to see you and Cooper at events because we know the fun is about to begin!

*Submitted by Carolyn Abood.*



NEFHRC

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NEFHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club, Inc. We are a club devoted to the training of bird hunting dogs for the purposes of hunting and hunt tests. As the UKC says, we are a club "Conceived by hunters for hunters."

#### Club Officers

- ⇒ President—Sherri Osborne  
[osbornequarters@aol.com](mailto:osbornequarters@aol.com) (904) 753-1155
- ⇒ VicePresident—Carolyn Abood  
[cbrutusmom@aol.com](mailto:cbrutusmom@aol.com) (904) 505-3404
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- ⇒ Treasurer—Barry Sales  
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- ⇒ Past President—Dan Middleton  
[themiddltonso528@comcast.net](mailto:themiddltonso528@comcast.net) (904) 251-5904

For the dogs!



## Farewell to a New Member and Friend . . .



Earlier this year, we were privileged to welcome a new club member, LTJG Mike Thomasson and his dog Taco, who joined us in early spring.

Mike hails La Grange, California and is a 2012 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He is a P3 pilot and has been transferred to his next duty station in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Mike and Taco were regular members of our training group and also our club training days. He always arrived on time and helped with set-up, and take down. His upbeat attitude and desire to learn was an inspiration to us all.

Mike was a key volunteer at our Spring 2015 Hunt Test at the Started flight, working as steward, gunner, and trouble shooter.

He and his awesome black Lab got two passes at the April Hunt test and two more for a title at Coastal Empire Hunt Test the following week.

Taco will spend a few months with a pro at his former home in North Carolina after which Mike will transport him to Hawaii.

Good news for us! Mike will be transferred back to our area in approximately 3 years. We are thankful to Ron Berry who connected Mike with our club. To you Mike, we will miss you and Taco. You both are tops in our book. We look forward to your return and wish you blessings and smooth sailing during your tour in Hawaii.

*Submitted by Carolyn Abood*

# JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 NEFHRC Training Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**NEFHRC Events** – **HRC Events** – **Other Club Events** – **AKC Events**

# AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15 NEFHRC Training Day
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/ 30	24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29