

As the 2016 summer training season starts, I thought I would take the opportunity to share observations of my first year serving as ABDA President and then suggest some initiatives for this next year. As many of you are aware, relative to many of our members, my tenure in the association has been short- but, with your patient support, I am assimilating the operations of organization quickly. Thank you all for that.

Thoughts:

- Our members are absolutely passionate and dedicated to our dogs and advancing their ability to hunt.
- Our board is completely dedicated to the interests of our members.
- Complementing our board is a deep bench of members that are significantly contributing to the success of the club
- Our members are completely open to professional dialog and advancement of training approaches among one another.

With this degree of dedication, we can be proud of the following noteworthy accomplishments in 2015:

- Our club grew to now more than 80 members across the state
- We have had record attendance at our quarterly, general membership meetings by changing the venue to a more inviting atmosphere with engaging speakers and meaningful topics
- We have developed a reliable system to provide live birds for use in our training that will get even more efficient in this next season
- Our club now has a fully developed corporate sponsorship program to help put it on a solid financial footing
- We have advanced the partnership between ABDA and the Training Fields LLC

As we move into 2016 I would like to challenge each of our members to assist with the following initiatives:

- For all of our activities: Novice Class, Clinics, Family Field Day, Chukar Challenge, Hunt tests, etc, volunteer to assist in any small way that you can
- Increase our membership by 10%: Recruit one new member
- Improve our financial footing: Sign-up a corporate member

Thanks to everyone for all that you do and for making this association so successful. I welcome your continued feedback and suggestions as we continue to make our organization as successful as it can be.