

ABDA 4th Quarter Board Meeting

11-10-2021 via Zoom Hosted by Hilde Stappens

Started at 7 PM

Present: Tim Gallagher, Hilde Stappens, Bud Rice (Notetaker), & Treasurer Carol Hedges. Chuck Stielstra & Derek Tomlinson are out of state on hunting trips.

Treasury: Balance of about \$21,000, ending October 30, 2021. Detailed financial report from Carol Hedges was emailed out a few days previously, and the Board continues to appreciate the detailed reporting. The sudden drop in finances is a result of bird payments, various purchases like signage and bird transport boxes, and final cashing of payments to Training Fields LLC for leasing of lands for events. Board members questioned the reports and asked for a more complete cash flow report to determine which costs should be attributed to various years. This is needed for more accurate budgeting of annual expenses and incomes. Carol agreed to send these out after the meeting (which she did) and before she departs the state to visit her daughter.

Members: Membership is down slightly from last quarter, but still hovering between 70 and 75. Carol sent a roster of lapsed memberships. These include those that are recent and several that are long term. Judy Alderson is one recent lapse, but she has sent a check that has not yet been received. Lulie Williams and Bud Rice have paid via PayPal, but for some reason payment was not yet recorded. Hilde color-coded lapses as follows: Grey means long-term expiration; white means current paid members, and yellow means recently expired membership. Hilde and Carol will double-check membership status and make a recommendation on how to proceed later with regards to contacting those whose memberships have lapsed.

Events:

Hilde sent two options for next year's events as information to plan next year's events. Our Hunt Test Secretary Rose Munafo sent out proposed test dates to AKC for 2022 at similar weekends as in previous years. We want to coordinate with a Master Calendar for various dog clubs in Alaska to avoid unnecessary date conflicts and to avoid double use of event areas, such as the Robinson

Field/ponds often used by retriever clubs. Black type indicates confirmed dates; red is proposed dates. Hilde will share the events calendar with ABDA members at the General Membership meeting on Thursday 18 November. Outreach events are left blank for now pending developments with the pandemic. We plan to remain flexible. We hope to have 2022 dates for Board and General Membership meetings available at the GM meeting on 11/18/2021.

Bird Program:

A bird vendor in Montana, to whom the last ABDA Pointing Dog judge referred us, is interested in working with ABDA. Bird costs will tick up to \$10/bird from \$9/bird last year, plus increased shipping costs and the \$2/bird housing/feeding at Gary Thompson's facility. We are considering a two-tier approach to bird sales: \$22/bird if picked up from Thompson's facility during events or \$18/bird if the purchaser picks up the birds at the airport at arrival and houses them at their own facility.

Last year we ordered 1400 chukar in 6 shipments: an early shipment in May, a shipment in early June for Fun Day and four other shipments to coincide with Chukar Challenge and hunt tests. Hilde made one delivery, Chuck Stielstra two, Mike Kasterin 2, and Tim Verrett the early delivery in May.

We are planning to order 1400 chukar again for 2022.

Elections:

Tim Gallagher will become Past President and Derek Tomlinson will vacate that position.

Hilde Stappens has agreed to run for President.

We now need a new VP to coordinate events and assure each event has a designated leader.

Carol Hedges has another year as Treasurer.

Bud has agreed to stay on as Secretary unless another member is interested in that position, in which case Bud would agree to run for VP.

Chuck Stielstra has agreed to stay on another term as Member At Large.

Dana Stewart has trained to help with web page updates, and we discussed asking if she would be interested in the Secretary position. Dana also may take over email duties from Hilde. Hilde continues to manage the ABDA FaceBook page. (Mike Kasterin contacted Dana Stewart at Gallagher's request, and she demurred from taking on the Secretary position at this time.) Hilde also renews ABDA insurance each year, but this should move over to the Treasurer, who writes the checks for insurance and event certificates.

Board of Game Proposals: The Board of Game did not meet this winter due to Covid-19. Members could submit proposals for next BOG meeting until 31 May 2021. A key proposal of interest is to extend the ptarmigan hunting season along the Denali Highway from 15 February to 31 March and reduce the bag limit to 5 during winter months. Rick Merizon, ADFG Small Game Biologist, is presenting to the Alaska Backcountry Hunters and Anglers from 6-7 PM on 11-18, but he has agreed to call Bud when he is done, and then he will connect with the ABDA Zoom meeting. He will give us an update on small game population studies and current applicable BOG proposals. (We need to send him the link to the GM Zoom meeting for 11-18.)

TF and BDA LLC Issues: We need new catchy 5 mph speed signs through BDA and TF. (Derek had ideas and the lead to address this concern.) The 5mph speed limit was greatly exceeded when some members drove through BDA to the Chukar Challenge at Robinson's Field. BDA has installed a new chain and lock system at the entrance to BDA and Training Fields for the winter season. The chain-gate will not be up during summer months.

Discretionary Expense Requests: Derek spent about \$2,000 for event directional signs. Bud coordinated purchase of 14 wire bird transport cages that Jim Benson acquired delivered from a shrimp pot builder for a total of \$800.

Lost Action Item:

We still want to establish a mentorship program. Some members help various individuals already, but a coordinated effort would be better.

Hilde has a 3-month old GWP pup for sale at \$1500 from good breeding.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM.