

**Arctic Bird Dog Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2023**

Meeting began at 703 p.m.

In attendance:

Hilde Stappgens	Randy Breaux
Tim Gallagher	Tina Veldecamp
Bill Ellis	Bud Rice
Chuck Stielstra	Dan Brandvold
Carol Hedges	Dana Steward
Mark Davis	

- Last board meeting minutes review and approval
 - Carol made motion to approve, seconded by Bill
- Membership Status:
 - Drop in membership, many have lapsed.
 - Currently 66 members
 - Bill Ellis committed to call part of the list; Chuck will call the other portion.
 - Hilde contacted several members and received agreements to renew.

Quarter	Total	Individual	Family	Corporate
	◦	◦	◦	29.
◦	◦	◦	◦	24.
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- Budget Status (Carol):
 - First quarter 2023 – balance of \$32,000
 - Sales are up about \$940 over last year, mostly attributed to increased bird costs (no profit made).
 - Expenses are down about \$4000
 - Carol asks for big bills that need to be paid over the next month
 - AMTHA (Eagle River) has been paid, as has the Paw Room, Alyeska Canine and Gary for the bird pen rental for the year.
 - She has not received request for payments for Robertson’s field yet. Hilde requests that he be paid for all of 2023. Per Carol, Robertson was last paid in October of 2022, which covered 2023.
 - Tax filing is due on May 15th

Carol also has some birds available, preferably to ABDA members first.

The board thanks Carol for her service as treasurer beyond her term.

- Secretary's report – N/A
- General Topics:
 - Birds and pen set-up - Chuck Stielstra/Bill Ellis
 - No firm cost number received yet. Plan is to fly them out of Seattle, scheduled for late May, most likely the Thursday before Memorial Day weekend.
 - Bird pen setup will be on May 20th. Bill will send out request via emails to those who've purchased birds this year; anticipates smaller crew than 2022 (5-6 people), and road into BDA may not completely passable yet.
 - Bud asked about food for the birds. Chuck will bring that up to the property with the birds.
 - Chuck was also asked by a member about getting pheasants prior to the hunt test in August. He will bring up to flushing hunt test chair.
 - Website - Dana Stewart
 - Changes in process to the website to make it more user friendly. Asks for any type of feedback.
 - Concerned that people may not be getting reminder emails for membership fees.
 - Tim confirmed was able to use the renewal portion of the membership page and it worked well.
 - Chukkar Challenge is open for sign up on the page.
 - Events – Randy Breaux
 - Novice classes – enrollment is down for both classes. Suggests posting on Facebook page a reminder to complete payments. Per Dan, this is the smallest pointing Novice class in 15 years.
 - Judges seminar – hosted by Spaniel club in Maine, virtual format. Randy and Derek Tomlinson attended, resulting in credentials renewed for Derek and an apprenticeship for Randy. Suggest future attendance by others interested.
 - Family Fun Day – trying to integrate training into this event. Only one individual signed up currently. Per Dan, this is promoted in the Novice classes, and treated as an extension of the Novice classes.
 - Chukkar Challenge in process
 - Attempted to make contact with chair for first flushing event; is this person still available?
 - Still looking for volunteers and participants for all events.
 - Member asked if there were door prizes at the Family Fun Day, and how it was being advertised for, suggested posting on boards at

Petco/PetSmart. Hilde advised only posting at hunt-friendly places, such as Sportsman's Warehouse and Cabela's.

- Per Hilde, the premiums for the hunt tests are posted on Hunt Secretary. Registration will be available on May 15th.
- Judge coming up in July will need accommodation.

- Bylaws – Mark Davis has reviewed and has found them very precise. Hilde asked for more flexibility and latitude, namely in regard to the website. Per Mark, specificity is needed in membership verbiage, but will look at the other items.

- Bird cages – some crab-pot style cages are available for purchase from local manufacturer Jim Benson, at approximately \$90 each. Hilde asked for input in purchasing 7 additional cages, to bring the club total to 20, to replace some that were accidentally driven over. Mark Davis motioned to purchase; Bill Ellis seconded. The majority approved.
- Chuck requested a return to in-person meetings, or virtual. Hilde states not opposed to having social gatherings but would require a volunteer to set up. She is not available to do in-person Board or General Meetings in person due to time commitments but agrees that the larger membership would participate in more in-person meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

- 2023 Calendar of Events: <https://arcticbirddog.org/docs/abda-field-events.pdf>
- Next GM Meeting: July 20th, 2023, Location: Zoom.