

# AHA General Membership Meeting

## Agenda & Minuted

### NPA National, Salt Lake City, UT

The meeting was called to order; January 28, 2010, 5:15 PM by President Bob Bollinger.

#### Members in attendance:

Bob Bollinger	District 7
Dennis Bray	District 2
Dennis Manning	District 2
Hank Ebbelaar	District 2
Vic Eshpeter	District 2
Mike Crawford	District 7
Tony Patti	District 12
Mike LaCom	District 1
Greg Bliven	District 2
Jim Garus	District 2
James Jensen	District 8
Leonard Patitio	District 1
Bill Martindale	District 8
Brian Nicholes	District 2
Larry Dobelbower	
Lloyd Large	
Elmer Walker	
Marty Dehart	

- Reading of Last Year's Minutes, Motion to accept by Dennis Bray second by Vic Eshpeter.
- Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept by Dennis Manning second by Vic Eshpeter.

- Officer's Reports

### Presidents Observations and Reflections from the past year:

Our club is doing well! I am seeing more involvement, discussion, and participation than I have seen in years. We are also continuing to improve our organization, web presence, and tools. I am convinced that we are amongst the best of all specialty clubs! We should be very proud. Listed below is a summary of things I think are very noteworthy;

- Shows - We had 8 nice point shows in 5 districts! A lot of early panning was done, the shows were well advertised and judges were listed. This success is punctuated by the fact that 2009 was a difficult year for many members and people were making hard decisions about what shows they could afford to attend and how many birds they could show.
- Web dialog and tools - We saw a lot of participation discussion on our MyFamily site. People shared pictures, results, helpful hints, good news, bad news and BS :o) I am convinced that we are seeing more collaboration among members than we have experienced in many years. Our AHA site continues to grow with more results, tools, bulletins (incl. color pictures) , club information and a message board for members to share information.. It is an excellent resource.
- General club participation - We should congratulate each other on all of our efforts to communicate better and move the breed ahead. We see it in the amount of show participation, show information, web dialogue and even in our club voting. Chuck told me that he received 24 ballots in our National judge election. This is the best he recalled in his nearly two decade tenure as Secretary!
- Club document updates - We finalized our club document (Const, By Laws, Master Breeder, Standard) update project and we now have very crisp and clean documents in digital format which are readily downloadable on our web site. We finally added our Grand Master Breeder criteria to the master breeder program. We have our ash and muff proposals integrated and we have changed the limitations around our breeder of the year award. This is especially noteworthy as we discovered the discrepancy in breeder of the year award and discussed it at the National last year. Before the National was over; we mobilized a committee, crafted a proposal, and had a BOD vote. It was posted in the bulletin and approved. This is great! I challenge any other club to be as nimble in recognizing a problem and implementing a constitutional change!
- Good ideas and programs - We have had a number of people provide recommendations and do work on things to improve the club. We had several people volunteer to help with our SSL committee and we are awarding our first SSL award at this show.

- ❖ What's next? Listed below are several things I think we should work on in 2010.
  - Everyone keep up the good communication. Let's try to do a great job again this year of defining shows early, selecting judges, and advertising the shows so folks can make plans.
  - I plan to make more of an effort to call more club officers and encourage further discussion on how we can improve the club and our shows. I suggest that all of our officers make an effort to talk even more to people in their sections and districts. More communication is better!
  - I would like to challenge everyone to recruit a new AHA member this year and to support all of our new members with stock, hints, feeders, help at the shows, and anything that is required to help them enjoy helmets and stay with the breed. There seems to be a good demand for helmets now and some of our former members have expressed interest in returning. Let's be sure we have stock available so we can keep these guys!
  - I would also like to see even more information on the MyFamily and AHA web sites. Get information, pictures, and results to me for the AHA site. Post regularly at the MyFamily site.
  - We need to do a better job of getting our show results to Harold and Chuck for our permanent club records. District Directors (for district meets) and VPs (for sectional meets) are responsible for tabulating the results and sending or emailing them to the Points Director, Secretary, Bulletin Editor, and Publicity Director (webmaster).

### Secretary's Report

Fellow officer and members I wish I could be there with you, but things don't always work out the way we like.

This has been a very good year for the AHA. Our shows have all had good attendance, even with the bad economy. The quality of our birds gets better all the time.

- We have had a great 50th anniversary yearbook printed. We have made some good constitutional changes. Our membership has been steady for the whole year. We sold all of our 2009 bands. (3000) Band sales for 2010 have been very good so far. (I recommend that we order the same amount, 3000, for 2011.)
- We now send about 1/3 of our bulletins by e-mail, we have 2 web sites to go to for information about Helmets.
 

As I look back over the 18 years that I have been Sec./Treas. there have been many good times and a few bad times.
- When I was elected there was a lot of conflict going between the east and the west. There was even talk of splitting the AHA into a Western club and an Eastern club.

- At the time I was elected Sec/Treas. there was a major disagreement going on between the President and Secretary. About the time the election results were to be published I got a call from the president telling me that he was resigning. About half hour later I got a call from the secretary telling me he was withdrawing from the election and that I would be elected secretary. At the time I was the Eastern Vice Pres. so for about 2 hours I held the offices of President, Eastern Vice President, and Sec./Treas. Luckily I was able to talk the then President into withdrawing his resignation. I think I am the only one ever elected to a major office by only have one vote for me.
- At the time there were some who had some doubts that I would do a good job as secretary. I think I have proven to them that I could do it.

I have held an office in the AHA since 1985, sometimes 2 offices at the same time. (6 years) I have been Sec/Treas for 18 years. I have decided not to run for re election. My reason for this is that the two busiest times of the year for the AHA is also the same time I am the busiest time with my sheep.

Hope everyone is having a great time. Chuck

#### Western VP report – Hank Ebbelaar

District 2 has had 2 point shows. CA and UT are weakening

#### District 1 report – Mike LaCom

We have a new member Chet Edmunds and he seems to be interested. We are helping with birds. The Pageant was small this year but we all had a good time. Brian McCormick did a great job of judging at the Pageant. We have been discussing where to have the Western Sectional. With the San Diego National we will not have a Pageant so we will plan to go to the Northwest and then go back to the Pageant the following year.

#### District 2 report – Dennis Manning

No new members but we do have some young people who showing birds. We are doing well with the same group of guys. We are hoping to get new members into the AHA. We will take the Western Sectional for 2010.

#### District 8 report – James Jensen

Things are very quiet in District 8. We are hosting the national. Membership has dwindled. James is working to try to get more breeders.

## Old Business from last year:

- Numbers of bands – BOD agrees with Chuck's recommendation to go with 3000 bands this year. Size 7mm. Motion to accept by Dennis Manning second by James Jensen. Approved
- Need money approved for club web sites (AHA \$69 and My Family~\$100) – BOD recommends we pay for the sites. BOD also reminds members to be positive and use the tools to help benefits the club and the breed. Motion to accept by Leonard Patito second by Dennis Manning. Approved
- Email bulletins –everyone remind Chuck if you wish to receive via email - This will reduce Paul's work and the club's copying / postage costs.
- We need to sell a bunch more of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary apparel – Most of the merchandise has been sold and the club is in the black relative to the apparel. BOD agreed that we will discount the remaining items to get rid of the inventory. (50%+-) Anyone who joins the AHA at show will get a free hat, shirt and button. We may also hand out complimentary items to special visitors. Motion to accept by Hank Ebbelaar second by James Jensen. Approved.
- Officers Tasks lists – Bob has created and updated cheat sheets for all of our club officers. There are to help everyone (especially the new people) remember what all they need to do as an office holder. The files are on the web. Please forward any comments to Bob B.
- Club Document Changes / Updates Complete - everything we talked about last year has been done - Spread Ash, Muffed Points, Breeder of the Year, Grand Master Breeder

## New Business

- Suggestions for Secretary/Treasurer after Chuck – BOD to brainstorm possible candidates and talk with members.
- Message board on the AHA web site – A "Birds for Sale" and "Birds Wanted" message board has been added to the AHA web site. BOD recommends that we continue with this as a service to the AHA.
- Do we want to do an Auction at this event? – BOD determined that we will do it at 10A Saturday. We encourage members to minimize selling in the aisles and help support the auction.
- There was a recommendation by a bystander, Marv Jones, to have key club members donate a pair of pigeons to the junior raffle at next year's national in San Diego. He suggested that we should try to represent several colors. We agreed to publish the suggestion in our minutes.

Motion to adjourn by Dennis Manning, second by Dennis Bray, Meeting  
Adjourned at 6:10PM