

French Brittany Gun Dog Association of America, Inc.
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
3 March 2006
Cordele, Georgia

The 2006 General Membership Meeting of the FBGDA was held at Lake Blackshear Resort and Golf Club near Cordele, GA on Friday March 3, 2006. The meeting was called to order by President Fred Overby at 7:55 PM as he welcomed all to the meeting and the 2006 National Membership Meeting and Conclave. Fred opened his remarks by thanking the numerous sponsors, the Cordele-Crisp County Chamber of Commerce for providing lunch for all of the Field Trial attendees on Friday, and a special thank you to the following Supporting Members; David Cady-Placentia, CA, Dan Falls-Cleveland, TN, Jane Philps-Salem, MA, Guy de la Valdene-Havanna, FL, Tony Bua-Chandler, AZ, R.L.Dalrymple-Ardmore, OK, Fred Overby-Lumpkin,GA, Rick Thompson-Mt. Vernon, NE, Peter Ward-Willsall,MT, and Brian Smith-Minnentonka,MN. Field Trial Co-Chairperson Billy Cannon then thanked all of the members of the Field Trial Committee and the numerous volunteers for their hard work with respect to the successful completion of both a Wild Bird and a Liberated Bird Field Trial at this national event.

Fred then asked for a show of hands of all 2006 FBGDA members so that Corporate Secretary Bob Olson could obtain a count to verify that we had a quorum of 15% of the members in good standing for this meeting as required per Article V Section 4 of our Constitution and Bylaws. Fifty Two members were present at the annual membership meeting in addition to guests and dignitaries.

Fred then reviewed the topics that were to be discussed at the Saturday Seminars. Henri-Xavier Guelou has prepared hand outs on "General Instructions for Judges of the Epagneul Breton" and "Information for Handlers of the Epagneul Breton" and will be speaking on these topics starting at 9:00 AM at the Veterans Memorial State Park Group Shelter II. Also speaking will be R.L. Dalrymple on the topic of "Observations of Trials in France and with the French Brittany Gun Dog Association in the USA." R.L. has also prepared a hand out for the attendees. Butch Nelson and Don Berg will be speaking training techniques for young dogs with hands on demonstrations for seminar participants. The final speaker will be Todd Kellum from the UKC with a review of the goals for the Pointing Dog Field Trial Program.

At this point the First Place Dogs and handlers in the 2005 National Field Trial and Conformation Show were recognized. R.L. Dalrymple and Samba de Keranlouan took First Place in the Field Trial Novice Class and Lynda & Christopher Kieres and CH TAN Beau De L'Hospitalier as our National Best of Breed winner. Congratulations to both.

Fred asked if there were any questions or comments on the 2005 Membership Meeting Minutes which were printed in the Second Semester 2005 Magazine. There were none and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed.

Fred led a review of the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws to include:

- A change that proposed amendments do not have to be mailed out may be posted on the Association's Official web site or in the magazine.
- When running for an officer position or board seat, you will only need 5 signatures of members in good standing including the signature of one board member (to include any club officer).
- The Committee on Breeding, Registration and Certification will now be the Committee Breeding, Registration and Conformation.
- Limit the term for officers to 2 years and no Officer shall serve consecutively for more than a single term for a particular position except for the Corporate Secretary whose term is not limited in number.
- The membership shall be able to pass resolution or make formal recommendations to the Board of Directors at any membership meeting.
- The Web Site domain name and content belongs to the club not to any individual.
- The Board and Officers will not serve to mediate or arbitrate any private disputes among members.
- The New bylaws, if passed by the membership will take effect April 1, 2006.

These proposed changes were prepared to take us from an organization that 7 years ago was not as national or international in scope nor had the involvement of the membership into the conduct of the business of the club which had grown in membership and the various activities of the club. A more open club than encourages member participation as we've grown in size and geographic locations is needed. The Board of Directors unanimously approved and recommended these changes to the membership. A copy of the Proposed Constitution and Bylaws is included with the spring issue of the magazine that was mailed to each member.

There were no questions from the members. A motion to accept the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws and make them effective April 1 2006 was made and seconded. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

The Secretary Report was presented by Bob Olson as he described the four types of membership, Single, Family, Supporting, and Junior. We currently have 152 Single members, 63 Family members, 10 Supporting members and no Junior members for a total of 225 dues paying members. We also have 25 Honorary members; members who the board members believe would benefit the club by receiving complimentary memberships which essentially consist of receiving the magazine.

Peter Ward presented the Treasurer Report as follows:

I) Beginning Balance 5/31/2005

\$10,460.77

II) Receipts and Expenditures
1 June 2005 to 31 December 2005

A) Receipts

Memberships	\$4045.00	
Breeders Advertising	\$1550.00	
Annual Meeting	\$400.00	
Miscellaneous	\$627.95	
Totals		\$6,622.95

B) Expenditures

Magazine	\$2550.00	
Advertising	\$554.60	
Conference Calls	\$666.95	
Insurance	\$2364.00	
Annual Meeting	\$955.92	
Miscellaneous	\$3645.01	
Totals		\$10,736.48

III) Ending Balance 31 December 2005 \$6347.24

The club is on sound financial footing and anticipates being able to adequately fund the ongoing basic club functions for the next year.

Fred then recognized other officers and directors for their service on the board, committees, and to the club:

Vice President – R.L.Dalrymple

Board Member Joyce Smith who will no longer be on the board after the 2006 election is complete

Board Members Ed Smith, Wallace Huey, Brett Shipley, and Bob Luff who was not present.

Ed Smith who is Chairperson of the Nominating Committee presented the list of the following persons who have been duly nominated for the following offices and specified terms for such office:

President- Fred Overby (GA)	(One year remaining on term expiring 2007)
Vice President- R.L.Dalrymple (OK)	(One year remaining on term expiring 2007)
Secretary- Robert Olson (IN)	(One year remaining on term expiring 2007)
Treasurer- Peter Ward (MT)	(One year remaining on term expiring 2007)
Director, Post One- Wallace Huey (GA)	(Three year term expiring 2009)
Director, Post Six- Brett Shipley (KS)	(Three year term expiring 2009)
Director, Post Three- Randy Meester (IA)	(Two years remaining on term expiring 2008)

Director, Post Five- Jennifer Alain (MT)* (One year remaining on term expiring 2007)

(* Jennifer voluntarily withdrew her nomination subsequent to the meeting, leaving the seat open for nomination by petition.)

Nominations are open until March 31 for members who wish submit nominations by written petition.

Fred thanked Jennifer and Matt Allain who took on the editor role to see that our magazine was published. Jennifer serves as Editor and oversees general production and Matt serves as Assistant Editor with a focus on photographic and artistic aspects. This was a monumental task that required Jennifer and Matt to start from scratch and get the Second Semester 2005 out to the membership. Fred asked those in attendance if they liked the magazine, a huge round of applause was the answer.

The Committee that provided a recommendation to the Board with respect to Hip Dysplasia in our breed was introduced by Chairperson Ed Smith; Chris Kieres, R.L. Dalrymple, and Kim Olson. Ed reported that this is a complicated issue but the common goal is to work to reduce and try to eliminate DJD or hip dysplasia. Ed further stated that as a club we would continue to work to improve the breed, this is a work in progress, the first step toward addressing this issue. An area to investigate in the future is the need for a dog to receive a certain hip score from a recognized agency before a title can be earned for a dog participating at club events. Ed then read the statement recommended by the committee and approved by the Board of Directors as the official Association policy;

It shall be the official policy of the French Brittan Gun Dog Association that only dogs who have been radio graphed and evaluated by a recognized certifying body with no evidence of Hip Dysplasia, be used to perpetuate the breed. These authorities include Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, Inc. (OFA), PennHIP, and appropriate certifying authorities from outside the United States on imported dogs. For a dog to be considered, they must have been rated as follows or better:

OFA: Fair, no evidence of hip dysplasia was recognized

PennHIP: Distraction Index (DI) of .50 or better, with no radiographic evidence of DJD

Non US rating systems: OFA fair equivalent, no evidence of hip dysplasia was recognized

R.L. Dalrymple then spoke on how France deals with DJD. The CEB has been studying this issue for a long time and are moving slowly on this issue. The CEB has elected to go to 'C' rating as of 01 Jan 2006. The CEB uses A 1(excellent) A2 (Good), B (Fair), C (mildly dysplastic). You can not title or receive an award for your dog in a CEB conformation event unless you have a documented rating of 'C' or better. R.L. further

explained that we, FBGDA, have no policing authority since our titles are awarded through UKC. We can educate our members and the public with respect to DJD.

Next, Chris Kieres described the methods used by OFA and PennHIP to evaluate our dogs' hips. He stated that the OFA method is similar to what is used in Europe. The PennHip method uses more views of the hips and is more scientific. He then explained the Distraction Index (DI) and that for the Brittany breed a DI close to .30 is desirable. A question was raised to Chris on his preference. He stated that either method is better than none but he prefers the PennHip method as it is more scientific.

Ed stated that a background policy paper supporting the committee's recommendation would be prepared and that he would write an article explaining in more detail DJD, OFA and PennHIP's evaluation methods for the next issue of the magazine.

Fred complimented the committee's extensive work and research on this complicated issue. He also thanked Chris for his work as an apprentice judge at both Field Trial events.

At this point the Regional Club provided reports;

Wallace Huey reported for the Georgia club and thanked them for their hard work to sponsor this year's national event. It was just one year ago that the Georgia club had their first meeting and Field Trial.

For the Indian Regional club President Ed Smith reported on the club meeting and TAN that were held last March, several members attended a conformation show last fall, bragged that the club had two dogs that were Grand Champions, and how the officers of the club were heavily involved in the FBGDA leadership transition.

Tim Powell is the current President of the Montana club and he thanked Lynda and Chris Kieres for their past leadership roles, remarked that the club has held 2 Wild Bird Field Trials and 1 Liberated Bird Field Trial, thanked the Georgia club for their help putting on a great national event, mentioned the club web site, and announced the two day wild bird Field Trial slated for April 22-23. The club plans to hold a Liberated bird Field Trial this fall.

Fred thanked UKC and Todd Kellum for their support. UKC has worked with us for the conformation and field trial events and has asked for our help in designing the field trial rules.

Todd Kellum was the next speaker and thanked Henri for allowing Todd to walk with him during Friday's Field Trial. Todd was very complimentary of our dogs and would like a format that would allow more of the spectators to view the actual running of the trial. Todd also stated that he thought the sportsmanship was fantastic and that we were a very well organized club.

Wallace Huey gave Certificates of Appreciation to the following that helped with this year's annual event:

Lynda Kieres
Kim Olson
RL Dalrymple
Shelly Shipley
Peter Ward
John Barge
Terry Bennett
Billy Cannon
Butch Nelson
Matt Allain
Jennifer Allain
Todd Kellum
Herb Cawthorne
John Patterson
Ted Kolchak
Dan Falls
Bob Olson
Mark Bird
Lynn Huey
Dudley Horton
Henri Guelou
Don Berg

Joyce Smith then thanked Fred for his hard work and perseverance during this past year's turmoil. Those in attendance gave Fred a standing ovation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted this 31st day of March 2006.

By Robert Olson, Corporate Secretary