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I would like to take a moment and thank all the Directors for their work over the past six years I have been part of the Board. I would like to remind you that the budget is going to be a tough thing this January due to some of the decisions made last January.

I would like to point out some thing that may have been over looked in June and from some new information I received while judging a show in regards to the video. First I would caution that the purchase of any new products should be done with a written contract that should state what exactly NPGA is paying for. I also found out the makers of the video charge @25.00 for each person attending their clinics and the cost per DVD is only \$8.00 as stated at the June 2008 Board meeting.

The color task force was set up as an extension of the Breed Standard committee and reported to the Breed Standard chair. It was asked to look into the color history of NPGA Breed Standard and make recommendation(s) to the Breed Standard committee. In the past committees have had special advisors that were not committee members and this task force is just an extended version of that practice. It was my belief after the June Board Meeting that the Board members did not get the full picture in regards to the brown/gray agouti issue but just received a one sided point of view. With all the complaints I and most if not all of you have received about this issue I felt this action was justified and so did the E-board. My personal opinion, for what its worth, is that NPGA's Board of Directors should never pass motion that affect only a minimal portion of the membership with out a getting all the facts, which in this particular case did not happen.

The web site has been another problem you all will have to deal with. I sent a contract to Terry but have not received it back from him as of yet. There has been some problems with getting Terry to add items to the website as well as updating the Breeders list (which I am doing) and the Herd Book (which I believe Aaron is or has done). Since this is one of the most visible faces of NPGA to the general public, the board will have to deal with issue. I hope you have better luck then I have.

The Board has some tough decisions to make this January and it my belief that you all will take the time to make sure that those decisions are not made without thorough discussion and full facts.

It was my pleasure to serve with all you and to welcome the new directors to the Board and to say thank you to all I have served with. Good luck to you all.

***Mark Adkins***