

For immediate release...
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Contact David Smith
731-764-2058

Groundbreaking at the National Bird Dog Museum

A ceremony was held Friday, May 6, 2011 to break ground for the much anticipated Sporting Dog Wing to be built at the National Bird Dog Museum in Grand Junction, TN. About 50 people representing various dog breeds and states from far and wide took part in the ceremony held on the lawn of the museum. Some of the sporting dog breeds to be included in the 6,000 sq. ft. building addition are: Brittany, German Shorthaired Pointer, English Springer Spaniel, Irish/Red Setter, Vizsla, Wiemaraner, Gordon Setter, German Wirehaired Pointer, and others. It is anticipated that a Cocker Spaniel presence will also be a part of the expansion.

David Smith, Executive Director of the Bird Dog Foundation, opened the morning program with brief introductions of special guests. Dale Bush, foundation president, from College Station, TX made remarks about the unselfish work of the many people who have raised the nearly \$500,000 to build the new wing. He also thanked Hayley Killam of Laredo, TX, a German Shorthair fan, who jump-started fundraising two years ago.

Also making remarks were Brittany enthusiasts, Rick Smith of Crosier, VA and Jim Chase of Redbud, IL. They highlighted the fact that the Brittany fans had launched the new building idea nearly five years ago. They lauded the financial support shown by many Brittany field trialers.

Dignitaries on hand with complimentary remarks and welcoming the crowd were Grand Junction Mayor, Curtis Lane; Hardeman Co. (TN) Mayor, Willie Spencer; and TN State Representative, Barrett Rich, 94th District.

The general contractor for the expansion is Grinder-Haizlip Construction Co. of Memphis, TN. Speaking for the company were Greg Grinder and Robert Nelson. Construction will get underway immediately, with completion in about 4.5 months under normal conditions.

ICO Polymers of Grand Junction, along with its manager, Billy Clayton, hosted the audience for a luncheon following the groundbreaking.

For more on the National Bird Dog Museum and its events, visit www.birddogfoundation.com