



Report of WAFDAL president, Josef Fertig

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I'd like to welcome all delegates to the 13th WAFDAL Meeting in Neunkirchen/Saarland Germany. Of course I'd like to welcome as well all other guests and associated members.

2 years ago in Prague, the hosting of this meeting has been entrusted to the German Club für Dalmatiner Freunde (CDF). It has not been easy to find a location which is at the same time easy to reach for those of us travelling here, and a location which provides affordable accommodation. Of course, the date of the meeting was important too, as we have to international shows on that weekend. We think, that thanks to the intensive efforts of CDF's 1st and 2nd chairmans Misters Thomas Höppner and Michael Jäger this mission was very good accomplished.

Anybody who has ever planned, organized and executed such a big event knows that it is a lot of extra work which needs to be done in addition to the regular task, long before the event itself. Therefore, we'd like to express our sincere thanks to the entire lead team of the CDF and all the members who helped to organize this meeting.

We are very happy about the inscription numbers for the three shows. Tomorrow, Saturday 3rd of June we have XX Dalmatians registered. The males will be judged by Mr. Dr. Milivoje Urosevic, and the females will be judged by D.I. Boris Spoljaric. For Sunday we have 53 Dalmatians registered and CAC and CACIB will be awarded, again Mr. Dr. Milivoje Urosevic will judge the males and Mr. D.I. Boris Spoljaric the females. On our 3rd show day on Monday, 5th of June, Mrs. Nina-Valerie Nierscher-Nemecek will judge the WAFDAL-Show with a total of 51 Dalmatians registered.

When I took over as president of the WAFDAL following our meeting in Prague in 2015, all of the WAFDAL committee members agreed, that there are 3 important things to achieve in future.

First, we all agreed, that it is highly important that WAFDAL needs to be recognized by the FCI. Therefore, WAFDAL needed to be recognized first by the HKS (Croatian Kennel Club).

Second, it was necessary to achieve that all WAFDAL committees work on their assigned tasks actively in the future.

And third, the WAFDAL website needed a future-fit update in order to be interesting and to provide on-time news.

To reach all of this, it was necessary to bundle a lot of efforts and energy, and to have a team that engages in our joint matter. Please let me therefore name some of the persons who tirelessly worked on all of these matters, and without them our common success would not have been possible.

First of all, I'd like to name our WAFDAL secretary, Mrs Ursula Voitle. She's one of that tireless workers who always kept the overview, and with a lot of persistence, efforts and vision reminded us to do our home works. Dear Ursula, many thanks for your commitment and engagement, WAFDAL wouldn't be where it is today without you.



Mrs. Andrea Theuerkauf-Höppner our new web master did a great job on reviving our WAFDAL website and keeps it always updated. Mrs. Theuerkauf-Höppner – many thanks. We're more than happy to have you as our webmaster in the team.

Via the 1st chairman of the ÖDaC (Österreichischer Dalmatiner Klub) we've been able to establish contacts to Mr. D.I. Boris Spoljaric and Dr. Milivoje Urosevic. We had our first meeting with both gentlemen on 29.9.2016 in Tulln, Austria, in order to discuss recognition of the WAFDAL by HKS and subsequently by the FCI. In very intensive discussion, we've been able to establish a common base for proceeding, and to open up the doors for WAFDAL to be recognized by HKS and FCI. Dear Margot Nemecek, many thanks for your very important work and commitment. Meanwhile, the HKS, in person his president Mr. Branko Sare, have given green lights for proceeding. We are positive that an agreement between WAFDAL and HKS can be reached and time and that the recognition of FCI will follow accordingly.

All involved parties agree, that all Dalmatian Clubs, regardless of country borders are united in the joint wish and effort to breed a Dalmatian who is healthy and fits to nowadays environment with his smooth character.

To reach this, we need global international cooperation, including honest exchange of breeding data.

I may remind you, that already in 1978, under the patronage of the DDC's long-time chairman Mr. Dr. Erhard Schuster, a meeting has been held in Ising/Chiemsee/Germany, where all of the European Dalmatian clubs have been invited. At the time, 12 countries followed the invitation and came to discuss the joint specific matters about the Dalmatian breed. Already, 40 years ago we had this borderless cooperation for our joint benefit, and we are happy to see that this joint effort is still lively.

Considering, that nowadays data exchange and communication is much easier than 40 years ago, we are positive that our international exchange will grow and work better than ever. Unfortunately, we couldn't establish a sound contact between the judging and the breeding committee at WAFDAL, but it is definitely one of our future goals. Let's work together on this!

Having given you a short update on the last 2 years, we're looking now ahead: WAFDAL will concentrate in the next 2 years on topics of the judging and breeding committee.

To close, I'd like to express my thanks again to the entire WAFDAL committee for the great cooperation during the last 2 years. I wish us all a very good meeting and fruitful cooperation in the future.

Kind regards,

Josef Fertig