

**ETRC Board Meeting, June 8, 2015**  
**Pegasus Technologies Building, Lenoir City, TN**

**Present from the Board:** Mike Evans, Michele Fletcher, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Lois Luthenauer, Derek Dieterich, David Knott, Diane Fyfe

**Absent, excused:** Kevin Luthenauer, Patti Gibson, Thomas Art Gibson

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports**

**President's Report:** Michael Evans: Michael deferred his report to the discussion of old and new business.

**Secretary's Report.** Karen Edwards. The last meeting was on April 17, 2015. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since shortly afterwards. Lois moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. David Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Website changes made & pending:** The missing two awards pictures are now posted; we have resolved the issues of the invisible logos for company sponsors, dates for events were added (but need to be revised again after this meeting), and the members-only portion password has been changed. Also, an updated membership list as of 6/1/15 has been posted on the members-only site.

**Membership:** Karen submitted the membership list to AKC May 18, 2015. As of today, we have 46 member/families, including 3 new members to be voted on today for first reading. 21 people did not renew from 2014 despite receiving 3 reminders, and were dropped from the lists on June 1. Two people renewed during the hunt test.

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU is \$18,719.77. Year to date report is attached, which does not match numbers because it still shows a few estimates for checks to be paid out for the hunt test. The Treasury is fully up and running now, and Roberta now has signatory authority and a few checks.

**AKC Representative's Report:** Diane Fyfe. Nothing new to report.

**Old Business**

1. **ETRC Spring Hunt Test.** Final report:
  - a. 291 dogs entered and actually tested.  
Master A: 54, 32 passed, 4 scratches  
Master B: 56, 27 passed, 1 scratch

Senior Saturday: 48, 31 passes, 2 scratches  
Senior Sunday: 39, 24 passes, 3 scratches  
Junior Saturday: 51, 39 passes, 3 scratches  
Junior Sunday: 43, 32 passes, 3 scratches

- b. Birdboys: we need 25 per day, only had 17 on Saturday, 16 on Sunday. Policy established last spring -- \$60 per birdboy per day if all 25 are there; docked back to \$50 per day if some are missing. This was not well understood and so we paid the full \$60 per birdboy this time. Karen has volunteered to write a brief draft contract that spells out the penalties for short numbers, and will get it out to the board for comments, suggestions, and adoption.
- c. Good things about the test: the Judges/Workers' Dinner was great. Food sales continue to increase and are paying for over half of the lunch costs. Title ribbons very well received. We netted more than expected (about \$8,000).
- d. Bad things: controversy over legality of one portion of the senior test, difugalty over one contestant leaving line without permission, Entry Express does not prohibit ineligible breeds of dogs from entering, and we had a Doberman entered and had to call AKC and the owner to get him scratched. We still had to pay Entry Express for his entry, which is a problem that needs to be brought up with them.
- e. Scratches: A number of the scratches were bitches in season or injured dogs for which we received vet statements and they were entitled to full refund, for a total of \$1025. One person scratched because his dog titled the week before. He scratched after the entries were closed, but before the test started. In accordance with our scratch policy, this had to be voted on by the Board, whether to refund him his entry fee (\$65) less our \$45 scratch fee, for a total of \$40 for the two days. Because he usually enters our tests with a number of dogs (and did have 3 or 4 who competed), and has helped the club out with other things in the past, Michele moved that we refund him the \$40. Derek seconded, and the vote was 5 to 2 in favor. Karen will send him a check.
- f. Ribbons: because of the increase in Junior / Senior entries, we are running low on ribbons in those categories. Don't have enough for another Junior entry like this time in the fall. Also need more title ribbons – had no idea how many there would be; we handed out 33 (14 JH, 13 SH, 6 MH). Have only 17 remaining. Karen recommended ordering more JH and SH ribbons in addition to the title ribbons, and to order enough to get reasonable price breaks. She estimated the order would be around \$1,100. The Board consensus was that Karen should go ahead and get what we need at the best price we can get.
- g. Raffle for member workers: we had 18 members that were automatically entered, and gave away 8 prizes. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$25 gift certificates to SportingDog.com to Diane Fyfe and Seth Knott. 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – retriever-related prints donated by Patti Gibson. Got some happy comments about this – it wasn't advertised in advance so was a surprise.

Do we want to expand this for the fall and maybe have a few slightly better prizes? Tee shirts? Hats? No decisions were reached, but the consensus was that this was probably a good idea.

2. ***Inventory, Sale of shotguns and equipment, purchase of new/improved equipment:*** The club needs to get a good inventory of the equipment that we have and make some decisions on purchasing new equipment and excessing some of the old items. Karen volunteered to prepare a rough draft inventory to pass around to the Board. This draft, after additions by other members from memory, will mostly list the types of equipment we have but not the numbers of each. This draft will make it easier to do an actual count at the fall Club Trial. Consumable supplies (poppers, MAP gas canisters, toilet paper etc.) will not be included in the inventory per se although a list of the types of expendable supplies we need to keep on hand, and the amounts we have, would also be useful.
  - a. Michael suggested that the club consider buying a small closed trailer, maybe a 6' model, that can be easily hauled behind a car and can be used for Club Trials and Training Sessions. The current trailer is enormous and hard to pull, and has to be stored at Hiwassee which is not convenient for these other events. Michael agreed to do some research on Craig's List to see what prices we could expect to pay for a small trailer; Karen will ask over at the Yates' trailer place in Lenoir City. We hope to make a decision on buying one at the summer picnic.
  - b. Our winger situation needs improvement. We have about 8 aluminum wingers, made by John Guinn, that work well. We also have 8 or 9 old black wingers that don't work well and are a little unsafe to use. Michele agreed to do some research on prices of new wingers that are good ones such as Zinger Wingers (\$350-\$400?) at Lion Company and other places. Michele will see if she can get some kind of club discount, gift certificates, or some other form of consideration if we decide to buy multiple wingers from a particular vendor. If we buy 4 new ones, possibly we can put a couple of the old ones on the new trailer and sell or excess the remainder.
  - c. Shotguns: with the new thunder simulators (which worked great) we have no need of the 21-22 shotguns currently owned by the club. Michael said that he has researched the legalities of gun sales these days, and that we can sell them to club members without any problems, but not to non-members. We also have the option to have Mike Lett, our gun repair guru, sell them for us. Michael suggested that we keep 5 guns in the trailer for use as handler guns and bubba guns at the tests, and possibly two more in the small trailer should we get one, for use in training. That would mean that approximately 14-15 guns would be available for disposal.
  - d. Rubber for stringing wingers: We need more of the black rubber before the fall hunt test. Great idea to include some lengths of rubber in the marshal boxes. Derek will order more in time for the fall test.
3. ***Tee Shirts etc.*** We sold a lot of these at the hunt test (\$427) and could have sold more if we had more variety of sizes. We need to assign someone to do an inventory and order more stuff for fall. With all Val McCoy has on her plate, she is willing to help sell them at club events but no longer wants to be responsible for ordering and inventorying. Lois Luthenauer knows where Val has been ordering and will get some prices and suggestions for sizes M, L and XL, which we are almost completely out of. The Camo ones sell really well. Lois will

report on findings at the Club picnic. The current inventory is on the trailer at Hiwassee so it will probably be at the fall Club Trial before we can get an actual count of what we have and the sizes.

4. **Advertising on the website:** Derek Dieterich: nothing new. We turned down the most recent request which was from a consumer group that does reviews of dog foods.
5. **Training Committee and dates:** Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> is the next training date. This will be dependent on the field being mowed. Karen will get this listed on the website.

### **New Business:**

1. **First Reading, New members:**
  - a. David / Sonya Christopher: requested Caldwell & Overton as sponsors. We assigned David Knott and Brian Caldwell; Wes Overton is too hard to get hold of to get his signature on the forms.
  - b. Barry Smith: David Knott and Mike Evans assigned as sponsors
  - c. Philip Dalton: Mike Evans and Derek Dieterich were assigned as sponsors  
Diane moved that these new members be accepted on first reading. Lois seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Karen will notify the new members and the sponsors and the final vote will be scheduled for the summer picnic.
2. **Raffle for Participants at Hunt Tests:** Michael talked about several tests he has been to recently, where very corporate sponsors have donated rather nice gifts and the club has put some money into gifts as well. Raffle tickets were sold all weekend and the drawing was on Sunday at noon. Michael's contacts told him the club made quite a bit of money on these raffles. Michael asked if there were any volunteers to look into putting such a raffle together for the fall hunt test. Lois volunteered Kevin for doing this and said he had been already talking about some ideas he had for it.
3. **Fall Hunt Test:** Discussion on this was tabled until after the first of July. Current AKC dates of Oct 18 are right in the middle of the MN and won't work at all. Need to get a couple of people to work with Michael on finding judges.
4. **Summer picnic:** We discussed various ideas of how to increase participation in the picnic. Having it at Karen and Jim's house last year was fun, and the people who came seemed to enjoy it a lot – but there was a very small crowd, not a quorum for voting. Karen suggested that we consider trying to get Jody Ware to come over to do an early morning seminar, followed by a picnic lunch and the business meeting, rather than doing it in the evening. This seemed like a good idea – Lois agreed to contact Jody and see if he could do it August 15 or some other date in late July or early August. Diane and Michele offered to host it at their places in Pikeville. They are putting in some technical ponds and have some good land area as well. Pikeville would be closer for Jody as well although we would have to offer him and his family a motel room and expenses to come.

5. ***Nominating Committee:*** Their report is not due until November but we usually try to get a committee appointed at the summer picnic. Michael urged everyone to give some thought to this committee so it isn't just whoever is there at the time.
6. ***Master National Judges:*** We have been asked to vote for two judges for the Master National, from a slate of 5 presented by the national club. One of them is an ETRC Member, Alan Bruhin. We none of us had much information on the other judges presented, but no recent complaints on any of the ones we did know about. After some discussion, Derek moved that we vote for Bruhin and Richard Pyka. Karen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
7. ***Gratuity for the Hiwassee Manager:*** in the past, the Club has provided a gift card or a visa money card to Jason to thank him for going the extra mile for our club at the hunt tests. The amount has varied from year to year (last year we did not send a card for the spring test, but gave him \$150 after the fall test; in 2013 we sent \$125 after each test). Lois moved that we send him a \$75 Visa card; Derek seconded the motion and it carried. Karen will research how to get this done.

***Any other new business?*** None

***Adjourn:*** There being no other new business, Lois moved that we adjourn. Diane seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary

**Changes:**

1. Corrected names on MN judges, Roberta Williams 6/14/15

**Approvals:**

1. Diane Fyfe 6/11/15
2. Michele Fletcher 6/11/15
3. David Knott 6/12/15
4. Lois Luthenauer 6/14/15
5. Roberta Williams 6/14/15
6. Derek Dieterich 6/15/15
7. Karen Edwards 6/15/15