

ETRC Board Meeting, April 18, 2016
Pegasus Technologies building, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Lois Luthenauer, Michele Fletcher, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Michael Evans, Thomas Art Gibson, Diane Fyfe

Absent, excused: Patti Gibson, Donna Smith, Alan Bruhin,

Absent, unexcused: Ron Burger

Members present: None.

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

Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports

President's Report: Lois Luthenauer: See discussion points below.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last meeting was April 9, 2016. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since April 13, 2016. Michael moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. Tom Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Correspondence:** None to report.
- **Website changes made & pending:** added minutes from 4/9/16 board meeting, first club trial.
- **Membership:** Reminders in newsletter. Current membership is 44 (4/16), with 21 people from 2015 who haven't yet renewed. Some are people who always renew late, others are people who joined for one year just to try it out or to participate in a club trial.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 4/16/16 is \$11,914.20 with no bills outstanding. Karen passed out a report showing expenses and income for 2016; Diane moved that the board accept the report; Michael seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Old Business

1. **Spring club Trial #2, Chuck Atchley's Revilo:** May 14. We do not expect this to be a large trial, but decided to try to pin down judges beforehand. Alan Bruhin agreed last time to be one of the judges for the Master / Senior / Junior / Adv. Junior stake. Tom Gibson agreed to help him. Jim Pearce has also agreed to be a judge for the Singles Classic as long as someone who is more experienced will judge with him. We decided to ask Ritchie Grigsby; Karen will contact him to ask.

Ducks: The ducks are just too putrid to use for this trial, and we need to dispose of all of them and start fresh after the spring trial. Alan had mentioned at the last meeting that we should consider using Dokkens instead – makes it easier for the disposal problem as well, which at Chuck's farm is an issue. Karen reported that the listed prices for Dokkens at Gun Dog Supply is \$25 each; there was no information posted on whether there is a price break for buying a large number of them. We usually plan on 50 ducks per club trial, but decided that for this initial trial using them we could get by with 30 although we might have to re-bird more often. Diane moved that we authorize Michael to contact vendors and try to negotiate a price break; if not, that he should go ahead and purchase 30 and a decoy bag to hold them, for delivery to Karen /small club trailer, before the Club Trial. If he can negotiate a better price, he will contact the Board and we will decide via email whether to buy more now. Michele seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- 2. *Spring Hunt Test, May 28-29:*** opens May 4, closes May 16. We went over the assignment sheet and status (see attached). The biggest open item right now is the bird boys. Our usual victims are not going to work out as school will be out; Diane is working with a boy scout troupe. We did discuss the youngest ages for birdkids, and decided that we probably need to set it at 14. The AKC rules currently do not address ages for anyone except people who are firing live ammunition (21) and poppers (16, with a gun safety course). Michael has heard that AKC is trying to set 21 as the age for people to fire Thunder Sticks; we asked Diane if she could talk to some of her AKC contacts about why this would be stupid, and she said she would call one of the people who is involved in rulemaking in this area.

Patti is working on the judges gifts. She asked Tom to see if she could get Board approval of a \$75/per judge budget. After some discussion (last year was \$60; one person suggested \$100), Michele moved that we approve the budget request of \$75 per judge; Michael seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 3. *Fall Hunt Test:*** In a new wrinkle, Jason (TWRA Manager) contacted Michael and said he was willing to push back rabbit hunting and give us Hiwassee on the weekend of November 4-5-6 this fall. Our currently approved dates with AKC are October 22-23. Michael will contact AKC tomorrow to see if the new November dates are possible for us (Fall Line is that same weekend but may be past the 200 mile limit).

We had a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of running our test at Hiwassee versus down at Lucky 7 in Sweetwater. Those grounds are gorgeous but not big enough to run two flights of Master; there are some fairly serious issues with TWRA about being able to use live ducks on private land, which are doubled if we decided to have a second Master test at another location (Dogtown) 15 minutes away; there are logistics problems with running tests at two sites; and there are possible traffic management issues in regards to the HQ building at Lucky 7 that are more severe than at Hiwassee. Possible cons at Hiwassee are potentially low water if TVA draws down the lake early because of heavy fall rainfall, and losing our October dates with AKC (if we move to a November date, we will have first call on that date next year but no dibs on our old October date).

Diane moved that if AKC will approve the November dates, we have our fall trial at Hiwassee this year. Michael seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

This puts on hold all the other items associated with the fall test, namely the following:

- a. If we use Lucky 7, need to decide on single 60-dog Master flight, OR 3-day 90-dog single Master flight, OR use of Dogtown property (Brady Collins) for 2nd Master flight. If we use Dogtown, need to explore contract / insurance certs / money.
- b. Amount of \$ for site/ Ken Campbell donation to youth fund
- c. Need to add John Broucek to fall HT committee if we use the Lucky 7 site. K needs to do this on AKC website.
- d. Need to continue working TWRA duck issues on private land if we use Lucky 7/Dogtown; need to get AKC grounds approval.
- e. Judges: Michael, Lois, Alan. Have to delay until we figure out date.

[NOTE as of 4/28/16: Michael Evans contacted AKC and they told him that the November 4th weekend was unavailable, so we are back to having no test or using Lucky 7/Dogtown.]

4. **Kevin's Fund:** Tabled for next meeting.
5. **Hunt Test Raffle, Website advertising:** Donna was unable to attend the meeting, but she sent a report to Lois which was read at the meeting. Donna and Mike Smith contacted 13 vendors and receiving no responses or negative responses from all but three. The three that responded (Avery, Gun Dog Supply and Delta Waterfowl) all sent little items -- 6 \$25 gift certificates, a thick wool jacket, a pair of safety goggles, a cap, flashlight, master vision camp lights to put on a cap. In addition, Roberta Williams has offered two duck crates, Mike Smith has offered a set of radios and a Cabela's folding chair; and Lois has offered an R.J.McDonald hunting print.

We discussed two main alternatives for the raffle: (1) ETRC spend \$500 on gift items (either gift certificates or prizes, \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place, and use \$100 of donated gift certs for third place, plus places 4-10 or 15 for pick out what you want from the other donated items). Pros – might attract more interest than what we have now; biggest con is whether we would make back enough on ticket sales to make up for the \$500 donation from the club treasury; or (2) give up on the idea of an open raffle and just use the items we have gotten for a worker's raffle.

After noting that very few other clubs are having raffles at their weekend tests, and that these seem to be limited to large events like the GRCA Nationals, the Master National, large specialty shows etc., the group seemed to move towards consensus on option 2. Diane moved that we use the items for the worker's raffle and give up on a big open raffle; Tom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. A big thanks goes to Donna and Mike, who worked very hard to try to make this happen. We couldn't have had anyone working on this who tried more to make it a success, but the times they are a'changing in terms of companies being willing to give away big items as advertising unless it is to large events.

6. **Jody Ware Spring Seminar.** Diane and Michele said their place would be available for a training seminar on either June 18 or June 25. Lois will contact the Wares to see if either of those dates works for them.
7. **Summer picnic:** tentative offer from Ken Campbell to have it at Lucky7 Ranch. We discussed and decided we would like to take him up on this offer and combine the picnic and business meeting with a demo of field trial stuff /training from John Broucek &/or Brady Collins. Best date for the majority of the Board would be Saturday, August 20; Lois will contact Ken and John to see if this or another date in August would work for them. She will wait till after the decision on using Hiwassee for the fall test is made so that she can both ask them about the picnic and thank them for the willingness to let us have the fall test there at the same time, if it turns out we can use the November 4 date at Hiwassee.

New Business:

1. **First Reading, New members:** None
2. **Graphics for the new trailer:** Do we want to get a logo put on both sides of the trailer? Wrap it in camo? This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Karen moved that we adjourn. Michael seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

1. Donna Smith: contacted 13 companies, not 11.

Approvals:

1. Donna Smith, 4/19/16
2. Alan Bruhin, 4/19/16
3. Diane Fyfe, 4/19/16
4. Michele Fletcher, 4/25/16
5. Lois Luthenauer 4/25/16
6. Karen Edwards 4/25/16
7. Michael Evans 4/25/16