

**ETRC Summer Festival:
Jody Ware Training Seminar, Picnic, and General Meeting
August 20, 2015
Fyfes and Fletchers, Pikeville, TN**

Training Seminar, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

27 people (including kids and spouses) and 16 dogs participated in the seminar. For the advanced dogs (7 of them), Jody set up a series of three difficult and quite long blinds, with obstacles, slots and some interesting terrain changes. He critiqued each handler and helped identify and recommend solutions for problems encountered in the set-ups. Next, he worked on the concepts of pile work for a group of 5 junior-level dogs who are in the throes of beginning handling. Finally, he finished up with a group of four young / beginner puppies ranging in age from 4 to 10 months, discussing age-appropriate puppy work. Jody was ably assisted by his son Nick, who has been working as Jody's assistant this summer and is turning into a fine handler!

It was great to see three junior handlers out there working their dogs – Taylor and Bailey McCoy with their Golden littermate brothers Sunny and Nugget, and Noah Houston with the Houston's Black Labrador Teddy. Jody has the wonderful talent of 'speaking dog' and can instantly identify issues and offer suggestions to fix them, and although he is quite direct about handler errors, he always manages to get the information across without hurting any feelings. Huge thanks to Jody and Nick for the wonderful morning. Also thanks to the Fletchers and Fyfes for the use of their adjoining farms. Most amazingly, the weather even cooperated – there were a few unexpected sprinkles but nothing serious, and the temperatures were amazingly cool for a day in August, staying below 80 with shade from the cloud cover for the entire morning. Notes from the seminar will be published in the September Newsletter in the Training Corner.

Picnic, 12 – 1 p.m.

The Fyfes/Fletchers large pole barn was perfect for the picnic and meeting. Also thanks to Patti Gibson who coordinated the fantastic feast, and to all the members who brought such great food along as their entry fee to the seminar. Everything was great but the blueberry and peach cobblers in particular were spectacular!). It was nice to have some time to visit, meet new members, and 'talk dogs'.

General Meeting: 12:55 p.m.

Present from the Board: Lois Luthenauer, Michele Fletcher, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Michael Evans, Patti Gibson, Thomas Art Gibson, Luke McCoy

Absent, excused: Donna Smith, Alan Bruhin, Diane Fyfe

Absent, unexcused: None.

Other Members present: Jim Pearce; Rick Fyfe; Liz Gibson; Brent, Bailey, Taylor and Val McCoy; Jody and Nick Ware; Rhey, Jennifer and Noah Houston; Bob and Chris Purcell, Kevin Niethammer, and Andrew Sellin.

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. A quorum of the membership is 20% of the voting members. 16 members/ families were represented, and the current membership stands at 51 individuals/families. Therefore, a quorum was present (20% is 11 families). Meeting called to order at 12:55 p.m. following completion of the seminar and picnic.

Officer's Reports

President's Report: Lois Luthenauer: Thanked the Wares, Fletchers and Fyfes for the seminar and use of the land, and Patti Gibson and her helpers for coordinating the delicious food. Lois then Introduced Luke McCoy as a new board member until February 2017, replacing Ron Burger's unexpired term (replacing David Knott's unexpired term).

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last meeting was June 8, 2016. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since June 12, 2016. Jim Pearce moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. Michael Evans Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Correspondence:** Based on the Board vote on 6/8/16, our MNRC delegate Michael Evans sent an email vote NAY to the proposed MNRC bylaws changes we were asked to vote on. These rules would have made it much easier to amend the Bylaws without full participation by member clubs via such means as this particular vote.
- **Website changes made & pending:** added minutes from 6/8/16 board meeting, July & August Newsletters. Updated membership list as of June 1, 2016.
- **Membership:** Current membership is 51 individuals/families (8/20).

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 8/20/16 is \$19,752.10 with no bills outstanding other than picnic expenses from today. Single copy of register printout available to anyone who wants to see it.

Election of New members:

- a. Gary & Tammy Neil: sponsors, Rhey Houston, Luke McCoy
- b. Bob & Chris Purcell: sponsors Michael Evans and Karen Edwards
- c. Bob & Margaret Smith: sponsors J. Michael Evans and Karen Edwards
- d. Erik & Lisa Zrucky: sponsors John Guinn and Lois Luthenauer
- e. Andrew Sellin: sponsors Jim Pearce and Tom Gibson
- f. Tracy & Daniel Heard: sponsors Patti Gibson and Donna Smith
- g. Ben and Mandy Dorton: sponsors Michael Evans and Alan Bruhin
- h. Haley & Ben O'Neal: sponsors Michael Evans and Alan Bruhin

All sponsors have recommended that these people be accepted into final membership. The Purcells and Andrew Sellin were there and were introduced in person. Michael Evans moved that these new members be accepted. Patti Gibson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Welcome everyone!

Old Business

1. **Fall Hunt Test:** October 22-23, Lucky 7. Michael Evans
 - a. Status of approvals: Michael has worked with the Lucky 7 owner, TWRA and AKC and has gotten the paperwork into AKC for approval of the grounds. AKC is working; if not approved by October 6 we will have to cancel. We were supposed to give them 90 days but by the time we got everything together we only gave them 67. TWRA issues seem to be going OK; we will probably have a TWRA representative drop by during the test to make sure we are using proper sized shot and all the ducks are pen-raised (and therefore missing a toe). Fee for land usage: we are paying \$1,500 for the use of the property, which is similar to the amount that other clubs pay for the use of private grounds..
 - b. Test format: 2 master flights, single Junior test on Saturday, single Senior test on Sunday. Lucky 7 isn't big enough to have four setups.
 - c. John Broucek has been added to the fall HT committee. Karen still needs to put this up on the AKC website and revise the test format.
 - d. Judges: Michael reported that we have hired Jim and Jan Burnette as the Junior/Senior judges, and that he has one or possibly two master judges lined up. Atlanta has canceled their test for this fall because of conflicts with the MN, and we may be able to pick up some of their judges.
 - e. Michael asked how we should proceed: should we go on and get things like judges, bird boys, marshals, helpers, etc. pinned down now, or should we wait to see if we get actual AKC approval? We decided that if we wait, it will be too late to get people pinned down. We should go ahead and get people lined up, with the proviso that the AKC approval is pending, and that we will get back with them to confirm as soon as the final approval is received.
 - f. Birdboys: We need to get moving now on locating some birdboys. Lois said she had a contact and would see whether or not they might be available but she was doubtful for fall, they had mostly been talking spring. Rhey Houston volunteered to contact one of his local FFA chapters to see if they would be willing. Karen will send him the birdkid contract and information he will need to talk with the coordinator.
 - g. Ducks: Lois says it will not be a problem to wait to order ducks until after we receive AKC approval. She usually waits until after the entries close so she can tell the supplier Kiley Buettner how many we need. There is an issue with that – July 1, a new AKC rule requires we have two ducks per entry. If we actually order this many, we will be drowning in excess ducks. However, it is very likely that we may have an AKC rep drop in especially since this is a new site, so we need to talk about this some more and reach some kind of conclusion about what to do. Another duck issue is what do we do with them? Unlike Hiwassee, there is not going to be a place for disposing of the used carcasses. Jody Ware suggested we look into renting a dumpster for the weekend, which is such a great idea everyone wondered why we haven't been doing that for years. It also solves the problem of what to do with the general trash accumulated every day, including judges dinner and lunch detritus, which we have had to haul in and out of the clubhouse every day and coerce several

people into taking it home with them on Sunday night. Rhey Houston volunteered to call Santek around the Sweetwater area and get us a quote.

- h. We will need to set up several days in advance at Lucky 7, or at least on Friday morning. Will need to have lots of signs, road cones etc. for the traffic patterns and it will be very important that we keep the place very nice if we ever want to use it again.
- i. Val McCoy mentioned that we need to have more Junior Handler forms in the clubhouse at the test. Sometimes judges have them, but often there aren't enough and the kids need them to get credit with AKC. Roberta will need to contact AKC about this and see what is needed to make sure we have enough.

2. **Kevin's Youth Fund:** Lois Luthenauer: Lois mentioned that we have two participants (Taylor and Bailey McCoy), and invited Noah Houston who was out there today in the seminar handling one of the Houstons' labs, to join as well. We have an application from Brian Caldwell's young assistant that still needs to be addressed; Lois is trying to contact Brian Caldwell to discuss. Lois is hoping to set up a handling seminar for kids only this fall.

3. **Dokkens:** Michael Evans. 30 purchased last spring and worked well at the second club trial (and today at the seminar). The Board has decided to purchase 30 more as of June 8 meeting; Michael will get these on order soon.

4. **Club Newsletter:** Karen Edwards reported that Roberta Williams and she are trying to get one of these out around the first of every month. Karen asked for feedback – do you like what we are putting in? Want more? Less? Is it too big? Can your computers handle it? And requested more submissions from members, including suggestions for new articles such as bio sketches of new members, old members, club pros; information about litters, new dogs, dog-related businesses members are involved in; brags, pictures, etc. Deadline for each month is the 25th of the previous month (August 25 for the September newsletter). Feedback was generally positive, with good response when Lois called for a show of hands as to who actually reads the newsletter. No one seemed to have computer issues with the size, or with the general idea that most of the communications from the club will come this way with many fewer emails during the month.

New Business:

New Equipment/stuff needed:

- a. **Graphics for the new trailer:** Do we want to get a logo put on both sides of the trailer? Wrap it in camo? Or just leave it plain? The consensus seemed to be that leaving it plain was a good idea, but that we should have some way of identifying it if it is stolen. As it is, we would not be able to recognize if it's ours or not. Tom volunteered to bring over his welder and put some kind of permanent identification in a hidden spot, and we would then take a picture of it to keep on file. Michele moved that Tom be authorized to do this; Jim Pearce seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- b. *Better equipment box for each stake site:*** Chief Marshal Jim Pearce suggests the club purchase some more items that would go to each test site, including several brush cutters, and a few tools and parts to be able to fix wingers with (wrenches, screwdrivers, nuts/bolts as needed for wingers, cotter pins, a carrier to hold all this stuff, etc.) See handout. He mentioned that the prices quoted on the handout were from Home Depot, and that he plans to check other places (Harbor Freight, Amazon) to see if he can get better prices for equivalent equipment. The \$400 total for 4 sets should be considered an upper-end figure. Rhey Houston moved we authorize Jim to buy four test-site tool kits for no more than \$400. Michael Evans seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- c. *Shade for holding blinds & birdboy stations.*** The Board has been discussing the purchase of some equipment to help with the extreme heat we often encounter at our spring test. At the last board meeting, a purchase of 14 chairs with tops was approved for use by Birdboys, but this will not work for holding blinds. Patti Gibson, who is the person who volunteered to purchase the chairs, has not yet done so since they aren't needed yet. And, there may be a better solution. Karen was asked at the last board meeting to look into umbrellas. She looked into Patio umbrellas in dark brown and tan, and does not recommend that we purchase there – too expensive, too bulky, bases too heavy but would still have to be staked. Several people mentioned that pop-ups aren't terribly expensive and would provide the needed shade for holding blinds – but they are bulky and we would have to have quite a few of them which would overwhelm our two trailers. Brent showed us a camo umbrella with a metal spike that he was given as a judge's gift that might work. His came from Lion Country, but apparently Academy Sports also has something similar. They are small, don't take up too much space, come in both sitting (birdboy) and standing (holding blind) models, and might be our best option. The shade issue was tabled; more work needs to be done on looking at various options before we purchase anything.

Nominating Committee: Bylaws, Article VI, Section 4: The board shall select a nominating committee consisting of 3 members and 2 alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the Board. The Board shall name the chairman. The Committee must hold a meeting on or before November 15th, and not later than NOVEMBER 24 must report the nominations to the Secretary. On or before December 1, the Secretary shall notify the membership in writing of the candidates nominated and additional nominations may be made by any member prior to December 31. Positions to be filled:

- a.** 2 board positions ending Feb 2020 (replacing Patti Gibson and Luke McCoy), 1 board position ending February 2018 (replacing Diane Fyfe; this position can be filled BEFORE February by vote of the Board).
- b.** President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, hunt test secretary, past president. Secy and Treasurer are the only officer positions that can be combined
- c.** AKC Delegate: can be combined with any other officer or board position, or not
- d.** Chief Steward for 2017 events

Remaining on the board: Art Gibson (until Feb 2018); Alan Bruhin & Donna Smith (until Feb 2019). Lois L. would become past president. Current officers: Lois Luthenauer, President; Michele Fletcher, Vice President; Karen Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer; Michael Evans, Past President; Roberta Williams, Hunt Test Secretary. AKC Delegate: Diane Fyfe. Chief Marshal 2016: Jim Pearce.

Lois asked for volunteers, and then appointed Michele Fletcher as the Board representative and Kevin Niethammer as one of the non-board members. Lois will call John Guinn to request that he serve as the remaining non-board members of the committee.

Fall Club Trial: After some discussion of various fall dates (UT football games, other nearby tests, etc.) we settled on October 1 as perhaps being the best date for a fall test. Michael will call Hiwassee to see if they might be available on that date. If not, he will check with Darryl Miller to see when the dates for dove season are, and if there is any availability there before looking at other options. If we do not get AKC approval for our fall test, a good option may be to request Ken Campbell if we can use Lucky 7 for a more formal Club Trial, similar to what we did last year at Hiwassee, and use the same weekend (October 22).

Any other new business?

Final Words: Lois again thanked everyone for organizing and putting on the seminary / picnic.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim Pearce moved that we adjourn. Rhey Houston seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m. and everyone pitched in to make clean up and quick and simple task.

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

Patti Gibson & Michele Fletcher, added missing names 8/22/16

Approvals:

Patti Gibson, 8/22/16

Michele Fletcher, 8/22/16

Alan Bruhin, 8/23/16

Rick Fyfe, 8/24/16

Karen Edwards 8/26/16

J.Michael Evans 8/31/16