

**Minutes for Banquet and General Membership Meeting,
Saturday, February 18, 2017
Calhoun's Bearden Hill Restaurant, Knoxville, TN**

Present from the Board: Lois Luthenauer, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Patti Gibson, Donna Smith, Tom Gibson, Rick Fyfe, Luke McCoy

Absent, excused: Alan Bruhin, Michele Fletcher

Members present: Mitzi Evans; Ashley Goddard & parents; Cory & Elena Smith; Luke McCoy and friend; Brent, Val, Bailey and Taylor McCoy; Carol Stone; John & Carol Broucek; Tony, Denise, Erin, Ivan, & Cade Chambers; Michael Smith; Brian Caldwell; Bob & Chris Purcell; Beth and Joe White; Jim Pearce; Lois Luthenauer's father Asa Lafara, his friend Ruth Connelly, Lois's son Matt Shoemaker.

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. Twenty-one families were represented, and the current membership stands at 59 families. Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m. following dinner.

Officer's Reports

Greetings, Introduction of Guests, and President's Report: President Lois Luthenauer welcomed everyone and gave a wrap-up of events during the year: two spring club trials, a very successful spring hunt test, a summer picnic and seminar with Jody Ware, and a fall hunt test at new grounds. During the year the club made more equipment upgrades including new duck dryers and wingers, and completed the inventory and sale of excess/old equipment. This was the first year for the new Luthenauer youth program, in honor of Lois's deceased husband Kevin Luthenauer. Also during the year, the Board decided the club should become a charter lifetime member of the new Master Amateur Retriever Club in order to show our support for the continued role of amateurs in our sport, and to support the inaugural running of the National Master Amateur test which will be this March in Georgia. Lois announced that we also have a new corporate sponsor, Midwestern Pet Foods who sell the Sport Mix brand of food in county co-ops. They signed on as sponsors at our Fall hunt test; Lois urged everyone to support our sponsors as they support us. The official name of the new enhanced food, designed to compete with all of the other major brands, received a 5 star rating on its official roll out this past year, is "Sport Mix Canine X."

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last meeting was on November 14, 2016. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since November 20. She called for a motion that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted; Tom Gibson made such a motion which was seconded by Luke McCoy and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards passed out a Treasurer's report showing expenses and receipts for the past fiscal year from March 1 to date. During the year, income has exceeded outgo by \$1,742.54 and our current balance is a healthy \$15,661.69.

Election of New members: Lois reminded the membership that new members have to first be provisionally approved by the board on first reading of the application, than sponsors are assigned. Final approval takes place at the next general membership meeting following provisional approval, after the sponsors have signed off that they believe the person(s) should be accepted into full membership. We currently have 7 provisional members who are coming before the membership tonight for final approval. All sponsors have recommended approval.

1. Ashley Goddard, lives in Knoxville, has a Golden Retriever puppy. Sponsors Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher.
2. Jeff & Cheryl McNutt, live in Seymour, have a young black Lab. Sponsors Roberta Williams and Tom Gibson.
3. Chad & Brandi Suttles, live in Dayton, TN; have black labs. Sponsors Michael Evans & Luke McCoy.
4. Scott & Joanne Ring, sponsor Midwestern Pet Food, live in Columbia, TN, sponsors Michael Evans and Luke McCoy.
5. Cory & Elena Smith, live in Knoxville, have a young Chessie. Sponsors Alan Bruhin & Luke McCoy
6. Todd & Martha Kisling, live in Rockwood, have a Golden puppy. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin & Karen Edwards
7. Bill & Kelly Rowland, live in Clinton, have a young American Water Spaniel. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin & Roberta Williams

Ashley Goddard and the Smiths were present; they were asked to stand up and briefly introduce themselves. Michael Evans moved that all these members receive final approval; the motion was seconded by Carol Stone and the vote was unanimously in favor. Welcome!

Old Business

- **AKC Representative's Report** . Our new AKC representative since early fall 2016, Michele Fletcher, was off on a judging assignment. She had supplied a report to Karen Edwards that there was nothing in the last several months that affects the retriever field world.
- **Spring & Fall Hunt Test 2017 updates** : Lois Luthenauer mentioned that our spring hunt test will be back at Hiwassee over Memorial Day weekend. It will be a double junior, double senior, and two flights of master with a limit of 120 Master dogs. Several judges have been pinned down and we expect to finalize our judges' panel shortly. The fall test will be October 21-22, back at Ken Campbell's Lucky 7 ranch again. We have not decided the format finally, but are thinking we will have a double Junior, double Senior, and single flight of master with a limit of 60 dogs.
- **Kevin Luthenauer Youth Fund**: Lois Luthenauer: The fund is fully funded for next year thanks to the generosity of Ken Campbell of Lucky 7 Ranch. The Board needs to re-visit the criteria and operation of the program, but mainly we need more youth participants. Anyone who has suggestions about changes to the program, please let Lois or secretary Karen Edwrds know.
- **Dog of the Year and Puppy of the Year awards** : Lois commented that she would like to take a look this spring at the rules for this program and see if any updates/clarifications are needed. Last time the program was reviewed was in 2011. Anyone interested in serving on a committee in the next month to look at these programs, or if you have any suggestions to make about the program, please contact Lois or Karen.

New Business:

1. Awards Presentations (Lois Luthenauer)

Junior Hunter: 3 dogs earned their Junior Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and a title plaque were presented to:

- Wayne Rasbury and Fern Hill Golden Boy Cooper JH
- Ben O'Neal and Roddydogs Flying Hawaiian JH ("Mae")
- Bailey McCoy and McCoy's Only Sunshine JH

Senior Hunter: No club member dogs earned their Senior Hunter titles this year. Hopefully next year we will have a couple to present!

Master Hunter: 2 club member dogs earned Master Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and a title plaque were presented to:

- Terri and Lane Arthur, HRCH Loaded Down and Flyin' High MH
- Dr. Richard Cook, Adirondac Sir Charles MH, "Charlie"

Qualifying at the Master National: Congratulations and a picture plaque to:

- Luther's High Grade Black Coal MH, "Coal," owner David Knott, handler Brian Caldwell

Qualifying for the Master National but did not go or did not qualify: Other than David's dog Coal, no other member dogs qualified this year for the Master National.

Qualifying Member Handlers: Kudos to the following ETRC members who successfully handled dogs at the Master National:

- Jody Ware, with several non-member qualifiers
- Brian Caldwell, with member David Knott's qualifier Luther's High Grade Black Coal MHx

Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year: Coon Creek's Polly Wanna Quacker, bred and owned by Lois Luthenauer

Holcomb Award for Gun Dog of the Year: Grady's Tennessee Moonshine SH, owned and handled by Alan Bruhin

ETRC Member of the Year: J. Michael Evans, who was everywhere and did everything this year. Without him, our fall test would not have happened and none of the other events would have run as smoothly. Well deserved!

AKC Outstanding Sportsman for 2017: Carol Stone, who not only came to both hunt tests and helped out from dawn to dark for three solid days, but who actively participates in Hunt Tests, tracking, agility, and obedience. Carol is truly a credit to the world of dog sports and demonstrates the highest level of sportsmanship.

2. **In Memoriam:** Lois Luthenauer – Last year we had a roll call and pictures of dogs who had died during the year, but it was such a tear jerker that we decided not to do that this year. However, we do have an in memoriam page on the website, and welcome pictures and tributes to any member dogs who pass on during the year. Please send the info and photos to Karen Edwards for inclusion in the newsletter and the website. And if anyone wants to stand up and tell us now about a dog of yours who died during the year, we would be glad to have you make that tribute now. Lois announced the death of her dog Watermark's Troublesome Bonnie; Patti Gibson announced that she lost her old girl Lazy Daisy during the fall.
3. **Special Recognition of our Pros:** Lois Luthenauer congratulated the three pros in the club for all they do to help other members, giving generously of their time and knowledge: Jody Ware, Brian Caldwell, and John Broucek.
4. **Election of Officers/Board** (*Slate of officers/board members and other positions from the nominating committee is presented for approval. There were no additional nominations from the membership during the allotted December time period, and nominations are now closed.*)
 1. President: Lois Luthenauer
 2. Vice President: Alan Bruhin
 3. Secretary / Treasurer: Karen Edwards
 4. Board Member 2017-2020: Luke McCoy
 5. Board Member 2017-2020: Jim Pearce
 6. Hunt Test Secretary: Roberta Williams
 7. AKC Representative: Michele Fletcher
 8. Past President: Michael Evans (non-elective)
 9. Chief Marshall for 2016 tests: Tom Gibson (non-elective)

Remaining on the board: Rick Fyfe and Tom Gibson until 2/18. Alan Bruhin & Donna Smith until 2019. Going off the Board: Patti Gibson (filling Ken Wade's term), Luke McCoy, filling Ron Burger/David Knott's term) expiring at the end of this meeting.

Brent McCoy moved that we dispense with written ballots and hold the election by a voice vote. Beth White seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Brent McCoy then moved that we approve the slate of officers and board members as presented. Carol Stone seconded the motion, which also was approved unanimously. New officers and Board members are official as of the end of this meeting.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Carol Stone moved that we adjourn; Jim Pearce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

1. Corrections on names of dogs earning awards, plus the official name of our sponsor's dog food – Michael Evans, 2/21/17

Approvals:

1. Alan Bruhin 2/19/17
2. Rick Fyfe 2/19/17
3. Jim Pearce 2/20/17
4. Mike Evans 2/21/17
5. Karen Edwards 2/21/17
6. Voice vote of ETRC Board 2/22/17