

Fall 2016–Winter 2017 Upcoming Events



ETRC Newsletter

1. December 10, 2016, Saturday: Organized Training at Roane Regional , 108 Pawnook Farm Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. 10 a.m. For more info, see page 5
2. January 14, 2017, Saturday: Organized training. Weather dependent, see p. 5.
3. February 4, 2017, Saturday: Organized training. Weather dependent, see p. 5.
4. February 18, 2018, Saturday: Awards Banquet, Business meeting, and election. Calhoun's Bearden Hill, Knoxville, TN. 6 p.m. More info in January Newsletter

President's Message

Well, Thanksgiving is over, the turkey is carved and consumed and even the pumpkin pie has disappeared! I hope everyone had a pleasant holiday and enjoyed the company of family and friends, I know I sure did.

Winter is upon us Or it's supposed to be. At least it's been good training weather, even though it's been so dry. With this extraordinary weather in mind, I believe we have a couple of tentative training dates set up and we look forward to seeing you if the weather holds.

It's also the time of year when the Nominating Committee proposes a slate of officers for next year, along with replacements for board members where necessary. Be sure to check out the proposed officers and directors elsewhere in this newsletter. Many folks are hesitant to serve on the board for fear that it will take too much time, but just like with the hunt test events, if we all pitch in then no one must do all the work! I appreciate everyone who has volunteered to serve the club in this way, we have a good time and do great things together (I hope) for the club!

As I said last month, next up on our agenda is the Annual Banquet and General Membership meeting, so be sure to save that date in February! We will be electing officers and directors and this is your chance to participate in the decision-making process. We will also be passing out awards for the year, so start adding up your points! It is a great time for fellowship with club members without worrying about our dogs on the truck ... and the food is always great! We are already hard at work on lining up judges for the spring hunt test, which will be back at Hiwassee. We are looking forward to a great event! In the meantime ... happy hunting, happy training and **Merry Christmas to all!**



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Nominating Committee Slate for Election & Call for Nominees

The nominating committee headed by Vice President Michelle Fletcher has recommended the following slate for ETRC officer and director positions for fiscal year 2017 (beginning at the end of the banquet in February):

- ◆ President: Lois Luthenauer
- ◆ Vice President: Alan Bruhin
- ◆ Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards
- ◆ Hunt Test Secretary: Roberta Williams
- ◆ Two Director positions (Feb 2017 - Feb 2020): Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce
- ◆ AKC Delegate: Michelle Fletcher

Remaining on the board are: Rick Fyfe & Tom Gibson (through Feb 2018); and Alan Bruhin & Donna Smith (through Feb 2019). Michael Evans will continue to serve as Past President through 2017. In addition, Tom Gibson has agreed to serve as Chief Marshal for the spring and fall AKC hunt tests. These last two positions will not be on the ballot. If Alan Bruhin is elected to Vice President, we will have another board vacancy to fill in March for his remaining 2-year term. Anyone who might be interested, please contact me or any Board member.

In accordance with the Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by any member prior to December 31, 2016, in writing to the Secretary, provided that the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one elective position (except for the position of AKC Delegate which may be combined with any other board/officer position, and Secretary and Treasurer which may be combined). We welcome additional nominations and encourage all members to become involved in the running of the ETRC -- without many volunteers helping, we would be unable to do all the events we put on each year. In the meantime, thanks to the nominating committee for your hard work, and to all the nominees for your willingness to serve.

To make a nomination, send it to Secretary Karen Edwards at edwardskc@gmail.com or by mail to 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Please specify the nominee's full name and the position for which you are nominating him or her, and send along the written agreement (forwarded email, for email nominations) of the nominee stating his/her willingness to stand for election. If there are any additional nominations from the membership, they will be announced in the January newsletter.

Voting for officers/directors and the AKC Delegate will be done at the annual Awards Banquet and general membership meeting. This will be held Saturday, February 18, 2017; more details in the January newsletter.

ETRC Board Meeting, November 14, 2016

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

Absent, excused: Patti Gibson, Alan Bruhin

Members present: Mike Smith, Jim Pearce

Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports

President's Report: Lois Luthenauer: Lois thanked everyone for working hard to make the fall test a success. Not the least important in the success category, Lucky 7 owner Ken Campbell was pleased with the good care we took of his facility and said he will welcome us back for other hunt tests, club trials, and our summer picnic. There were a few problems, but they

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were resolved without too much incident and we had enough workers to make things go smoothly.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last two meetings were September 16, 2016 and October 18, 2016. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website within a week of the meeting. Karen moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. Michelle Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance as of 11/14/16 is \$17,229.98 with several bills outstanding – mostly, money owed to Patti for picnic bills, judges dinner and gifts (don't have yet) and misc. HT costs. Waiting for receipts on these items. Karen passed out a year-to-date treasurer's report.

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher. Michele reported that she is still working with AKC on getting access established to the representatives' site.

Old Business

Club Trials: We had talked about trying to have a Fall club trial in November at Hiwassee. However, given the late date and the holidays coming up, we decided not to have one this fall. In the spring, we now have four options for places to put on a club trial: Lucky 7, Brady Collins' Dogtown facility, Chuck Atchley's Revilo, and Darryl Miller's farm. After the first of the year we will pick dates and locations, and try for one in March and one in April.

Fall Hunt Test Wrap up: Overall, a success! We did lose some money, probably around \$500-\$1,000 once all the bills are in and paid. After discussion, there was general agreement that we would like to hold our next Fall test again at Lucky 7.

Things that went well:

The birdkids were great and we need to strike up a long-term relationship with this FFA group, which were arranged for by Rhey Houston.

The dumpster was a great idea – but we need a smaller one next time. For future tests at Lucky 7, farm manager Brandon Kamps suggested we call him and he can arrange for an extra pickup as part of their own dumpster contract, which would end up costing less.

The traffic problems were not as bad as expected with the alternative pond opened up to us. We could probably handle a bigger test there if (1) there was more use of the big technical pond in the back and (2) we had extra birdkids, possibly with radios, to sit at the pinch points and direct traffic back and forth.

The clubhouse for the judges' dinner was fantastic.

Things that didn't go so well:

There were issues with two of the judges refusing to sign off on the judges' sheets verifying that pros were pros and amateurs were amateurs. The Master Amateur relies on marshals doing the actual on-site verification and the judges taking their word for it and signing off based on the marshal's word. It is unclear if the contestants in Master A will be considered as having a qualifying leg since the judges didn't sign off. Michele was asked to discuss this with AKC before the next test.

The HQ set up down at the barn was very marginal. It worked out OK because the weather was mild & dry – but if it had been hot, cold, or raining it would have been fairly unworkable for the Hunt Test Secretary. It was also not good for tee shirt sales. Possible solution – a pull-behind camper trailer as HQ, or some way to have the HT secretary set up in the club house (difficult because of the parking situation).

The duck situation: the ducks arrived a day early, in the dark, and the inexperience of both the driver and the farm manager (who gallantly filled in for us with the unexpected delivery) led to all the ducks being let loose in two dog kennels. That resulted in a very messy duck rodeo Friday night which we would not like to repeat. If one of us is not going to be present to receive ducks, we need to provide very clear instructions to the stand-in about the routine of swapping empty crates for full and leaving the ducks crated.

Test format: We had two flights of Master, a single Junior on Saturday, and a single Senior on Sunday. For next fall, we decided we should go back to a two-day test, with a single Master flight and double Junior and Senior.

Kevin's Fund: With donations of \$1,575 (Lucky 7 owner Ken Campbell & one of the judges) at the Fall Hunt test, the youth program is fully funded for 2017. We need to schedule a review of the program rules and guidelines for 2017 before the end of the year, and advertise the program again for 2017. We also need to discuss how to handle applicants whose parents are not members. Lois has talked with Brian Caldwell who has agreed to put on a young handler's seminar, date to be determined in February or March, possibly at Lucky 7.

Workers Raffle: This took place at the Fall Test and was well-received. We would like to do this again for the spring. Perhaps the club should donate a small amount of money, like \$300, to be used for raffle prizes, in addition to a cou-

ETRC 11/14/16 Minutes, Con't.

ple of tees, hats, etc. from our stock. This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

New Business:

First Reading, New members: 3 new members approved on first reading. See article later in this newsletter. Total of 58 members now.

Nominating Committee: Michelle gave a status report. The slate is due to Karen NLT 11/24.

Winter Banquet: possible dates in February are Saturday the 11th and Saturday the 18th. After some discussion, we settled on the 18th. Michael Evans reported that the Calhouns group of restaurants has now imposed a \$150 fee for hosting banquets where groups eat off the menu. We decided to continue on with our location at Calhoun's Bearden Hill although it is rather small and crowded. Michael will call and reserve the dates with them and will get the info back to Karen before the deadline for the December newsletter.

Awards: As President, Lois will take over the responsibility for receiving nominations for awards. Michael will continue to coordinate with the awards engravers in Sevierville, and Lois will need to have all the finalized info to him by the 15th. Karen will include information in the December newsletter asking for nominations for Member of the Year, AKC Sportsman of the Year, applications for Gun Dog and Puppy, and for MN qualifiers and title awards to be sent to Lois by January 10. The Board will then have to vote on the member / sportsmen awards and there may be ties that have to be resolved.

Spring Hunt Test.

Location: There was considerable discussion about whether we should have the spring hunt test at Lucky 7 or go back to Hiwassee. We decided to go back to Hiwassee for the spring – it allows for more separation of tests, has better roads in the event of bad weather, and is better able to accommodate a large number of people. It also has a better Headquarters arrangement. Perhaps more importantly, it is probably better to keep our foot in the door at Hiwassee as long as we can so that we have choices of location for our tests in case one or another is not available for any particular test or becomes permanently unavailable. It may turn out in the future that we have to abandon the WMA entirely, but for now it is still available.

Planning: Karen will go on AKC's online event website and set up the spring test as a two-day test with 120 dog limit on Master, double junior, double senior. Roberta will contact TWRA to get the paperwork started for using Hiwassee.

Judges: We have several judges already pinned down; still looking for one Junior/Senior judge and a pair of Master judges. We are hoping to have the judges all pinned down by the end of the year.

Coordination with Hiwassee: Michael informed us that Hiwassee's Manager, Jason, no longer lives on the WMA. It will be necessary to coordinate with him to make sure gates are open for such things as duck delivery and delivery and pickup of dumpster and porta-potties. He will confirm the spring dates with Jason and ask him about the gate schedule around the dates of the spring test.

Equipment.

Rubber for wingers: We need more of the good black ZingerWinger rubber for spring. Karen volunteered to purchase two boxes from Gun Dog Supply. Michael moved that Karen be authorized to purchase two boxes at the going rate; Michelle seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

Signs: Our signs are getting frail and lost and we need some more. Michael will talk with a sign shop to get estimates; Lois & Michael will talk to some people who might be willing to sponsor some of the signs. More info by Winter Banquet.

Radios: There was some discussion but no decision on buying a few more radios to station at various test sites for traffic control.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Karen moved that we adjourn. Luke seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

NOTE: Full minutes are published in the Members' only section of the ETRC website.

Winter Training Days Announced

ETRC will sponsor organized training sessions at the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park on the following Saturdays:

- ◆ December 10, 2016 at 10 a.m.
- ◆ January 14, 2017 at 10 a.m.
- ◆ February 4, 2017 at 10 a.m.

Bring your dogs, water, and training equipment; live ammunition is not allowed and we will have several of the Thunder Simulators on site for use.

If it is muddy, park in the Pegasus parking lot and walk back to the fields to the left of the red barn behind the office building. If it continues to be dry, go past the Pegasus building and take the first gravel/dirt track on the right, several hundred yards further down the road. We will be up on the hill for starters.

New members are encouraged to attend — come meet other club members and let us get to know you and your dog(s)! We will have activities for dogs at all levels, from puppy to Master-level dogs.

Under our new policy, RSVPs are required in order for us to actually have the session. **If at least four people do not respond saying they are intending to come, by NOON on the Friday before the scheduled training, we will not have the session.** Also, we will cancel if the weather is not predicted to be in the mid-40s or if it is raining or snowing. Send your RSVPs to Secretary Karen Edwards, edwardskc@gmail.com. Karen will send out an email the evening before the training if it is to be canceled.

Directions:

From Knoxville: Take I-40 West towards Nashville, stay right on I-40 at the I-75/I-40 split. Go 4.1 miles. Take exit 364 for TN-95 toward U.S. 321 West/Lenoir City/Oak Ridge and turn right onto TN-95 at the end of the exit ramp. Go 4/10 mile and take the first left onto Buttermilk Road West. Go one mile. Take the 2nd right onto Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go 5/10 mile. Take the second left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign.

From Points East: Take I-40 East toward Knoxville. Take the exit "Industrial Park Road" Turn left onto Industrial Park Road and cross over the Interstate. Go 3/10 mile. Take the first right onto Buttermilk Road West into the Roane Regional business park. A VW plant and the H. T. Hackney plant will be on your left. Go 1.2 miles. Turn left on Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go .5 mile. Take the 2nd left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign by the road.

From Points South: Come up I75 and get off at the Lenoir City exit. Go towards Oak Ridge on Hwy 321/95. You will stay on 321 through a couple of stop lights and will then pass under I40. Take the next left after the underpass onto Buttermilk Road West. Go one mile. Take the 2nd right onto Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go 5/10 mile. Take the second left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign by the road.

End of the Year Awards — Call for Nominations Etc.

It's that time again! One of the highlights of the February end-of-the-year Banquet is recognizing people and dogs who have done well during the year. Club awards, nomination procedures, and due dates are listed below. All nominations and other information required for each award is due to Lois Luthenauer (MountainLo717@gmail.com) by **JANUARY 10**.

1. **ETRC Member of the Year:** Any ETRC Member may nominate any other member for this award. The criteria is, who has done the most to help out the club during the past year? Please send your nominations along with a brief justification why you think the person is deserving of the award. The award consists of an engraved plaque.

2. **AKC Sportsman of the Year:** This award recognizes the member who best exemplifies the qualities you want to see in dog sports, and who has best furthered the aims of the AKC in promoting our sport. The award is an engraved plaque mounted with an AKC-provided medallion.

The final selection for the two awards above will be made by secret ballot of the Board of Directors.

3. **Gun Dog and Puppy of the year Awards** -- You must nominate your own dog or puppy for these awards, which are based on points earned in hunt test competition and club trials during the year. Information and point worksheets must be provided for each dog nominated. Remember to check the ETRC website (http://www.etrclub.org/gun_dogs.htm) for award rules and information on how to submit nominations and count points. Winning dog and puppy will receive an engraved plaque to keep and a silver perpetual trophy to display for a year.

4. **Title awards:** If your dog has earned any AKC hunting titles during 2016, please send your name, your dog's registered name, title earned, and the date and place where you titled. ETRC recognizes these achievements with a plaque.

5. **Master National Dogs:** If your dog was a finalist at the 2016 Master National, email the info to Lois along with a picture of you/your dog/your silverware. The award is an engraved plaque with the picture mounted on it. If your dog was qualified to enter the 2016 Master National and received an invitation from the MNRC to participate, but either did not run or did not pass all series, please send along that information too. No hardware, but we want to announce this achievement! Make sure you are clear which category your dog falls into.

When you send Lois an email about awards, please use a separate email for each different subject -- i.e., if you are entering for Dog of the Year and also earned a title, please put those in two separate emails so she can keep the categories straight. AND, please put the category into the subject line -- 'AKC Sportsman nomination', etc. Dates outlined above for response to Lois have no flexibility -- the engraver that we use is in the midst of basketball season awards so we need the info by the dates specified in order to get the plaques back in time for the banquet. Once the order is in to the engraver, it can't be changed.

Member Award Winners Last 5 years:



Year	Member of the Year	AKC Sportsman of the Year
2015	Derek Dieterich	J. Michael Evans
2014	Jim Pearce	David Knott
2013	Carol Stone	Jim Pearce/Karen Edwards
2012	J. Michael Evans	Ken Wade
2011	Robert Dodson	Hubert Helton

tips

FROM
THE
DOBB'S
TRAINING
CENTER

by
Jim & Phyllis Dobbs

Handling a Retriever PART I



When sending the dog for a blind retrieve, position your hand high enough over his head so that he doesn't have to duck under it when leaving your side.



As soon as your dog leaves your side, get ready to handle: whistle in your mouth; hands together in front of your chest.

The Handler's Job

Handling is rooted in teamwork. People spend a lot of time developing a dog's skill at sitting on the whistle and taking casts. But, if you want to become a good handler equally important is that you seek to develop your overall technique.

What should you as a handler remember to do? Let us explain:

- When sending the dog for a blind retrieve, position your hand high enough over his head so that he isn't distracted by having to duck under it when leaving your side.
- As soon as the dog leaves, put the whistle in your mouth so that you will be ready to blow it. If you have to reach for your whistle after you recognize the dog needs to be stopped, your "whistle-sit" will be too late.
- Bring your hands together in front of your chest as the dog leaves your side.

Then when you blow the whistle and the dog looks at you, your hands will be in a central location in relation to your body. You will be ready to give a cast. If your hands are not ready when the dog looks at you, he will see the "false motion" as you bring your arms up from your sides. He may misinterpret the motion and take the wrong cast.

- When giving a "back" cast, raise the open palm of your hand straight up. Do not slant your arm forward as it decreases the height of your arm, thus decreasing the visibility of your signal to the dog.

A good way to practice giving a proper "back" cast is to place your heels against a wall. Now raise your arm as if



When giving a "back" cast, extend your arm straight up.



Notice how slanting the arm forward decreases the visibility of the hand signal.

giving a "back" cast. Ideally, the back of your raised hand should touch the wall, and your biceps should touch your ear. Not everyone can get their arm extended in this ideal position, but do the best you can.

- When giving an "angle-back" cast, be sure your arm is in a position that enables the dog to differentiate it from a "back" or "over" cast.
- When giving an "over" hand signal, again it's a good idea to practice against a wall. You want the back of your hand to touch the wall. When it does, you know your arm is extended correctly, not too far forward or too far back.

Member Brags



Fern Hill Golden Boy Cooper, owned by Wayne and Charlotte Rasbury, earned his Junior Hunter title November 12, 2016 at the Black Warrior Retriever Trial in Greensboro, AL. Wayne has done all the training and handling on Cooper, who is 18 months old. Congratulations to both of you!



Welcome to New Members —

- ◆ Jeff & Cheryl McNutt: Jeff lives in Seymour and has a black lab puppy. ETRC Sponsors are Roberta Williams and Tom Gibson.
- ◆ Scott & Joanne Ring: Scott is the territory sales manager for our new sponsor, Midwestern Pet Food, and owns several Boykins. He lives over towards Nashville, in Columbia, TN. ETRC Sponsors are Michael Evans and Luke McCoy.
- ◆ Chad & Brandi Suttles: Chad lives on Blythe Ferry Road in Dayton, very near to the Hiwassee Refuge. He has two black labs. ETRC Sponsors are Michael Evans and Luke McCoy.

A big welcome to all these new members! We hope to see you soon at some of our winter events!

The 2016 Luthenauer Young Handler's Program



The inaugural year of the ETRC / Luthenauer Young Handler's program is almost over. Thanks to the generosity of Ken Campbell of Lucky Seven Farms and several of our Fall Hunt Test Judges, we are now fully funded for 2017. It's time to revisit the program to see what worked, what didn't, and make some changes. If you have any ideas, please pass them on to the Program Coordinator, Lois Luthenauer, MountainLo717@gmail.com.

The program is designed to encourage young ETRC members to become more active in retriever sports. Named in honor of long-time club member, past president, and enthusiastic sportsman Kevin Luthenauer, and funded largely via donations from his family and friends, this program will support kids up to college graduation who want to participate in retriever sports.

For full information on this program please visit our website at http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_youth_program.htm

Around the Region

Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

Palmetto RC	12/3/16	Cheraw, SC
Mid-Florida Golden RC	12/9/16	Monteverde, FL
Cooper River RC	12/14/16	Bennettsville, SC
Treasure Coast RC	1/28/17	Okeechobee, FL
Jacksonville RC	2/18/17	Williston, FL
Wiregrass Hunting RC	3/4/17	Meigs, GA
Tallahassee Hunting RC	3/18/17	Thomasville, GA
Fall Line RC	3/25/17	Lincolnton, GA
Master Amateur RC	4/23/17	Cairo, GA

Master Amateur Update

Charter memberships in the MARC are only available through December 31, for a cost of \$500. After that, annual memberships may be purchased annually for \$50, and are due on March 1 of every year. All clubs were granted interim membership for the first year; ETRC will have to decide if we want to renew our membership before March 1. This will be an item for discussion at the ETRC Awards Banquet / Business Meeting in February. If the club does not become a member, our hunt tests next year will not be qualifying events for the Master Amateur test in 2018.

So far, there are 77 Charter individual/family members, and 22 Charter club memberships.

As of November 5, 239 dogs have qualified for the inaugural running of the 2017 Master Amateur Hunt Test which will be in Cairo, Georgia at the end of April.

Advanced Retriever Seminar for Judges in Ohio, August 2017

Co-sponsored by: Buckeye Retriever Club & the Presque Isle Retriever Club of Erie PA. Cost \$55. A box lunch will be provided both days. Afternoon snack. For more information, contact Robert Samios, 724-932-5956 or robertsamios@zoominternet.net.

Saturday August 5, 2017: Classroom. Registration 7:30-8:30, Coffee and Pastries
Location: Euclid Rifle & Hunting Club 17100 Whitney Rd., Montville, Ohio 44064

Sunday, August 6, 2017: Field Exercises. Registration 7:30-8:30, Coffee and Pastries
Location: Hambden Nursery, 14849 Rock Creek Rd (SR166), Chardon, Ohio 44024

Newsletter Info

The ETRC newsletter is published monthly, as close to the 1st of the month as we can get it together. Send us your test results, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs and services, interesting articles, and any brags you care to share, along with pictures! Deadline is the 26th of the month but we can sometimes sneak something in a little late.... Send items to any of the following: Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com); Lois Luthenauer (mountainLo717@gmail.com) or Roberta Williams (sharphlw@usit.net).