Volume VII, Issue 5

May 2017



RETRIEVER CLUB

2017 Upcoming Events

- 1. May 13, 2017, Saturday: Spring Club Trial #2: Brian Caldwell's place, Georgetown, TN. See page 2.
- 2. May 27-28, 2017, Saturday & Sunday: ETRC Spring Test, Hiwassee Refuge. Judges approved.
- 3. August ??, 2017, Saturday: Summer meeting and Jody Ware seminar, date & location pending.
- 4. September ??, 2017, Saturday: Fall Club Trial, date & location pending
- October 21-22, 2017, Saturday & Sunday: ETRC Fall Test, Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater. Pending. 5.

President's Message

It's that time already! The ETRC Spring Hunt Test, to be held at the grounds at the Hiawassee Refuge is just a few weeks away! Many of you are already running in Hunt Tests, I do hope you are having great success, and great fun. It's good to get out and enjoy the outdoors with your dog, get some ducks, and hopefully a ribbon or two. Did you know it's also great fun to be a part of putting on a hunt test? It's true, there are a myriad of jobs to be done, from big to small and every hand helps make for a lighter load on the reliable few who work so hard to put these events on. So please, if you haven't already volunteered for a job, let us know right away if we can count on you! Many thanks to those who have already volunteered. I'm looking forward to working with you on another successful ETRC Event.

I've already been contacted by several people just getting into the sport who are planning to enter at the Junior level for the first time. We have a couple of new participants in the young handler's program, and don't forget the puppy stakes!

Finally, as I write this, we are scrambling to get a new location for our second Spring Club Test ... look on Page 2 for the final detail, and come out, get some practice, and support the club. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Club Trial, and Hunt Test.

Meanwhile, Happy Training!

CONTENTS

Upcoming ETRC Events	1
President's Message	1
Club Trial May 13, 2017	2
Report: Club Trial #1, April 8, 2017	3
Spring Hunt Test Update	4
ETRC Board Meeting, 4/8/17	5 -6
Young Handler's Program	6
Training Tips: BB Blinds, Mike Lardy	7-8
Upcoming Hunt Tests	9
MARC Update: It's over!.	9
2017 Membership , Newsletter Info	9



David Knott's MN qualifier, Coa

Spring Club Trial #2, Saturday May 13, 2017 Brian Caldwell's place

ETRC's second spring Club Trial is coming up on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at Brian Caldwell's place, 1810 Hwy. 58 S, Georgetown, TN (note: this is not far from Hiwassee). There is a double gate; entrance is the left gate, please close it after you enter.

Signups begin at 8 am and we hope to have the first stake up and running by 9 a.m. Judges will be club members and we will need people to pitch in and trade off on operating wingers, planting blinds, and setting up and taking down the equipment. There will not be a lot of water, but excellent fields with lots of different terrain.

EVENTS: Singles Classic, Master, Senior, Junior, Puppy Stakes (Junior puppy & Senior Puppy, under 1 yr). Entry Fee: \$10.00 each stake per dog (dokkens), Puppy Stakes (bumpers) \$5.00 (1 PM). Completion ribbons will be awarded for hunt-test stakes and Advanced Junior stakes; placement 1-4 and JAM ribbons will be awarded for Singles Classic and the two puppy stakes. If you are interested in consideration for our end-of-the-year awards for Gun Dog and Puppy, these stakes weigh heavily in completion points.

MEMBERS ONLY. If you haven't yet renewed for 2017 or want to join for the first time, forms and people to take your membership fee (\$25 for the year) will be available before you sign up.

WHAT TO BRING: No E-collars allowed. All dogs must be on leash when out of vehicle unless running tests. Bring your retriever, a chair(s), your lunch, and water for you and your dog, plus appropriate clothing for the weather. NO WHITE SHIRTS please, wear something neutral or dark. If you are bringing a puppy, you may bring your own retrieval items if you wish.

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY: We will send out an email on Friday night if the weather is such that we are going to have to cancel. We will not cancel just for chilly conditions (as if!) or light rain, but if it is monsoon-raining, heavy electrical storms or tornado warnings, we will not run. So be sure to check your email Friday night! If you don't hear anything, come on out.

DIRECTIONS: 1810 Hwy. 58 S, Georgetown, TN. If you have a GPS it will get you there.

From Knoxville: Follow I-40W and I-75 S. Take exit 49 from I-75 at Athens and follow hwy 30 to Decatur, about 9 miles. Turn left onto Hwy 58 and go about 15 miles to the entrance on the left. This is shortly past Blythe Ferry Road, the entrance to Hiwassee. We will put up a sign at the gate hopefully!

Hope to see you there!

Final Report: Spring Club Trial #1, Miller Farm, April 8, 2017

Thanks to:

- The Millers for the use of their beautiful farm!
- Judges: Singles Classic Michael Evans & Luke; McCoy; Master, Senior, Advanced Junior and Junior: Alan Bruhin and Wayne Rasbury; and Puppies Roberta Williams and Luke McCoy.
- Jim Pearce for bringing the club's new smaller trailer over.
- Roberta Williams and Karen Edwards, who ran the table.
- Everyone who threw bumpers and acted as bird boys.

The Singles Classic was run first and was comprised of two long land marks. The Master/Senior/ Advanced Junior and Junior stakes were run on the same set-up at the technical pond near the back of the property, and involved both land and water work. The puppy stakes were run up near the barn that served as Headquarters and were land only.

Signups and setups began at 8:00 a.m., and the action was underway by 9:00 a.m. The weather was brilliantly sunny but quite cold and frosty early, warming later to mid-60s. After the ribbon ceremony and a brief board meeting, everyone who wanted to was invited to stay and train on the technical pond. Lots of wicked set-ups for the more advanced dogs, and some good opportunities for puppies to get into the water and try out their water wings.

Results:

Singles Classic: 7 dogs entered, 6 passed. Breeds included 3 labradors, 3 goldens and a flatcoat. First place: Cooper (GRM) and Wayne Rasbury

Second place: Callie (GRF) and Jim Pearce

Third place: Shine (BLM) and Alan Bruhin

Fourth place: Charlie (CLM) and Tom Gibson

Jams: Ivy (YLF) and Mike Evans, Jim Pearce and Panda (GRF).

Master Test: 3 dogs entered (1 lab, 2 goldens), all three passed. Passing were: Shine and Alan Bruhin; Callie and Jim Pearce, and Panda and Jim Pearce

Senior Test: 1 entered and passed -- Cooper (GRM) with Wayne Rasbury.

Advanced Junior Test: 3 entered, 2 passed. Passing were Mike Evans and Ivy, and Luke McCoy with Echo (GRM).

Junior Test: 2 entered, both passed. Passing were Mike Evans and Ivy, and Luke McCoy with Echo.

Puppies: 2 senior puppies entered. 1st place was won by Josie (GRF) and her owner Ashley Goddard. 2nd place was won by J. Michael Evans and his yellow lab lvy.

Financial Information:

	Memberships/	Entrie	es / Sale	s / Don	ation	Total
Checks	\$100	\$90	NA	\$0	\$190	
cash	0	\$80	NA	\$0	\$ 80	
Totals	\$100	\$170	NA	\$0	\$270	

The Club took in \$170 in entry fees. In addition, one new member/family joined and three old members renewed. There were no expenses.

Final Thoughts:

Beautiful day, lovely farm, lots of fun, disappointingly low turnout. The small trailer worked well with all the equipment needed; much easier than dragging up the big trailer. Dokkens are nicer than rotten ducks!

Update on the Spring Hunt Test

ETRC's spring hunt test is coming up soon, Saturday May 27 and Sunday May 28. The test will be a double Junior, double Senior, and two flights of Master (limit 120 dogs), and will be at the Hiwassee Refuge near Brentwood / Dayton Tennessee. We have an approved judges panel, bird kids are lined up, we have committee chairmen working on all the myriad things that have to happen — lunches, judges /workers dinner, judges' gifts, motel reservations for the judges, lining up gunners for the live fliers, ordering the ducks, etc. We are also working to have a photographer at the event, Edensphoto.com one who will not only take action pictures but who can do individual photo shoots on site. We may have a couple of new sponsors as well! More info next month!

Entries for the public open Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 9:00 p.m. Central time, and close Monday, May 15, 2017 just before midnight Central time. The Master test is limited to 120 participants; people who volunteer to work some at the test can sign up and get a code from test Secretary Roberta Williams (sharphlw@usit.net) that will enable them to enter early — starting Tuesday, May 2, at 8:00 p.m. Central time. Note: you can already enter dogs for Junior and Senior stakes on S.

Workers are needed for test setup beginning at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 26; for gunners, stewards and assistants and equipment moving/maintenance on Saturday and Sunday; for cleanup on Sunday, and for many more tasks. If you would like to work inside, we are looking for helpers who will sell tee shirts and assist with preparing lunches for workers and judges on Saturday and Sunday. Four-wheelers or small utility vehicles are also needed for the weekend to help get workers and equipment from one test site to another quickly. All workers will be treated to a free dinner Friday night and their names will be entered in the Worker's Raffle for Saturday afternoon. To volunteer, contact Roberta (email above), test chairman Lois Luthenauer (mountainLO717@gmail.com), assistant chair J. Michael Evans (Fowl_Mouth_K9@aol.com), Chief Steward Tom Gibson (tinytomgib@yahoo.com) or myself to sign up for some hard work and good fun.

Judges are:

Master A: Ken Kogut and Andy Sonntag Master B: Steven Kelley and Jack Combs Junior Sat / Senior Sun: James and Jan Burnett Senior Sat / Junior Sun: Mary Gregg and Janine Hayes

The official motel is the Best Western Inn, 7835 Rhea County Highway (US 27 North), Dayton, TN. A total of 12 rooms have been blocked out with the hotel and will be held until the Wednesday before the test. If you want to stay at this Inn, contact the Best Western directly and tell them that you are



coming for the ETRC Hunt test in order to get the special rate. *To get the special rate, you must make your reservations prior to May 15.* The phone number is (423) 775-6560.



ETRC Board Meeting, Miller Farm, Sweetwater, April 8, 2017

Present from the Board: Alan Bruhin, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Tom Gibson, Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce.

Absent, excused: Lois Luthenauer, Donna Smith, John Broucek, Rick Fyfe, Michele Fletcher (AKC rep)

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board, barely, was present. Meeting called to order by Vice President Alan Bruhin (in Lois's absence) at 12:10 p.m. following the conclusion of the first Club Trial.

Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports: Dispensed with for this short meeting.

Old Business

Club Trials: The first club trial was today; see attached report. Second spring trial will be May 13 at Lucky 7 Ranch. Alan commented that Chuck Atchley asked him if we were planning to come to his place this spring for a trial; we discussed possibly using his farm for the fall trial although finding a date when it is not in use for dove hunts will be a problem. No decision was reached.

Spring Hunt Test: May 27-28, Hiwassee.

- Work is coming along well. formal TWRA and AKC approval has been received; Entry Express is already taking entries for Junior and Senior dogs. Entries for Master dogs will open May 3 in the evening; anyone who works at the test can get a code that permits them to enter on May 2 in the evening. Roberta has already received the codes.
- Judges are approved and Karen has sent them all confirmation letters. Michael has made reservations for the ones that need it at the hotel. There are 12 rooms available for club members who want them, at a special rate as long as reservations have been made before May 15. Karen will put a notice to this effect in the May newsletter.
- Bird Kids –Karen got contact info from Rhey Houston on the FFA who were so good at the fall hunt test. They have agreed to provide kids for both spring and fall; Karen has modified the contract and sent it to the contact for signature.
- Judges dinner and gifts: Patti asked for a budget on the judges. Michael moved that we keep the amount at the \$75 level that we have used for the past year. Luke seconded, and the motion passed. Tom will notify Patti. Karen is to put a request in the newsletter for polluck food donations for the judges' dinner, to be coordinated by Patti.
- Marshals: Tom is working to identify marshals. Alan Bruhin has already agreed to be one of the Master marshals, and Sherri Catledge will be the primary marshal in the other Master flight. Karen will send Tom the marshal info sheet for him to send out to everyone, and once he has identified people he will pass the info along for Karen to prepare the communications plan handout for each of them.
- ◆ Judges Sheets: Roberta reported that the company we have been buying waterproof paper/judges sheets from is no longer in business. She has downloaded the format from the AKC website and is looking at the cost of buying waterproof paper from Amazon or Staples. It looks like the price of the paper alone is much higher than we were paying for the printed sheets from our old supplier. Alan suggested that we buy 400 waterproof sheets and print them up, but don't use them unless it is actually raining. We should also print out 400 or so sheets on regular paper and use them if possible. He agreed to do the printing and to purchase the paper (for reimbursement); Roberta will send him the link to the AKC format. Roberta will also buy some more mailers for ribbons; we only have a very few left.
- Ducks: Lois will be coordinating with duck supplier Kiley Buettner for getting the ducks. She has been sick for several weeks and we don't know if she has given him a heads up yet on the dates. Michael volunteered to call Kiley to make sure he knows our test is coming up and the dates; of course we will not know how many ducks to order until after the test closes on the 15th. Hopefully Lois will be back in commission by then! Nothing has been worked out yet with Jason on how we are going to receive the ducks. Karen suggested we need to make sure to get the driver's cell phone number from Kiley so we can check with him on his progress on the day of receipt.
- Gas for ducks: Karen reported that Holston Gas is no longer refunding money for the second gas cylinder if we don't use it; they insist that we pay for both. Michael says we only need one and he will stop getting 2
- Dumpsters and Porta Potties: Michael has ordered both from Fay Portables in Athens, for delivery Friday afternoon, May 26.
- Gunners: Michael has Saturday covered, but is still looking for a few gunners on Sunday. If you know anyone, let him know.

-5-

4/8/17 Board Minutes, Cont.

Equipment:

- Karen mentioned that she is still supposed to buy 2 boxes of the Zinger Winger rubber for repairs. This led to a discussion that it would be nice to have a couple of extra wingers that aren't needed for set-ups, so that instead of stopping the test while we fix a winger, we can just bring a working one out and take the broken one back to HQ for a fix. Karen moved, and Luke seconded, that we buy two wingers for this purpose, more of the Field Trial G4 models so they are all alike. The motion was approved. Prices at Gun Dog Supply are \$430 each, but Sporting Dog Pro is advertising them at \$350. Karen will do some price shopping and get them ordered along with the rubber.
- Map Gas: Jim Pearce will get 8 more canisters for the test to make sure we don't run out.
- Equipment repairs: we will meet Friday morning 5/26/17, 11 a.m., to work on equipment and make sure we have everything we need for repairs. Jim and Michael will be there; others are encouraged to come help. Signs: Rick Fyfe has been working on getting new "ETRC EVENT" signs made up.
- **Sponsors and Raffle:** Sport Mix and Purina have agreed to be sponsors. Purina has promised substantial amounts of loot dog food for each dog entered; big bags for us to raffle, hats, other goodies. Michael said he may be getting a couple of Dogtra bark collars and maybe even a GPS collar donated for a raffle as well. After discussion, we decided to have just one raffle that covers both workers and the public, to be held Sunday monring. We will sell tickets, one for \$5 or 5 for \$20. Workers will get free tickets. Michael moved that we buy a third Zinger Winger to include in the raffle. Luke seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. Karen will buy along with the two already authorized, and will also buy some ticket rolls from Staples or Walmart for use in the raffle.

New Business:

New Members: We have three new members who need first reading and assignment of sponsors. They are:

- Lorrie Johnson, Knoxville. Owns Chessies, very active in agility and obedience. Karen will be one sponsor, Alan Bruhin volunteered to be the other.
- Jim Harrison, Smyrna. Has a chocolate lab, is a member of MTARC, willing to help with test set-up. Michael Evans and Luke McCoy volunteered to be sponsors.
- Daniel Blevins, Maryville. Has a young Boykin and a 14-year old lab. Is a friend of member Kevin Niethammer. He came to the Club Trial today to see what it was all about and to turn in his membership application. Michael Evans and Tom Gibson volunteered to be sponsors.

Michael volunteered that we accept these people as new members with the sponsors who volunteered assigned. Luke seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Judges for 2018 Master National Hunt Test: Roberta received a letter from the MN Club asking us to vote on judges from our region for the 2018 test. This must be returned by April 30. We were provided with 6 names of people who had been pre-screened. After some discussion among people who were judges themselves and had judged with some of these people, and others who had tested under them, Luke McCoy proposed that we nominate David Kress, Martha Kress, and Jeff Schilz. Mike seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. There was also some discussion of who was going to be our club delegate this year. Unfortunately, Michael doesn't have a dog qualified. We will probably need to ask either Jody or Brian to attend the meeting. In the meantime, the ballot requires two signatures, one club officer and one Club Contact or delegate. Roberta is the contact.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Luke moved that we adjourn. Michael seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The 2017 Luthenauer Young Handler's Program

Calling all kids! It is now time to sign up for the 2017 Young Handler's Program. Any young person at the undergraduate college level and below is eligible to join. Participants will be reimbursed for entry fees into AKC Hunt Tests and will participate free of charge in ETRC Club Trials. There will be a free Young Handler's seminar as well — and you will be expected to volunteer for at least 4 hours at one of our club events. All it takes to participate: you must be a member of ETRC, and you must submit a one-page essay to the program coordinator stating why you want to join the program and what retriever sports mean to you. Submit your essage to Program Coordinator, Lois Luthenauer, <u>MountainLo717@gmail.com</u>. Details on the club website., click on "Youth Program."

Training Corner

Training with Mike Lardy

BB Blinds

photos by Lee Kjos

Bird boy, or BB, blinds are handling drills that can be used to work on a variety of handling skills. I was first introduced to this drill when I visited Rex Carr in 1994. Like so many of Rex's procedures, BB blinds

During BB blinds, your assistant drops a *bumper, walks about eight paces to one side, and stands facing the line.



are such an effective way to work on a variety of handling problems that any trainer might wonder why they didn't think of it themselves.

Initial Procedure

You begin BB blinds by sending an assistant – the bird boy – with a handful of orange and white bumpers to a position about 90 yards away in a relatively featureless field with light cover. The assistant drops a single bumper, walks eight paces to one side (let's say to the right), and faces the line, where the handler is standing by with his dog. The dog should not see the bird boy drop the bumper, and the cover should be heavy enough to prevent the dog Mike Lardy has trained more than 60 Field Champions and has won the National Retriever Championship a record six times. Training with Mike Lardy, a set of Mike's RJ articles from past issues, and Mike's two comprehensive videos – Total Retriever Training and Total Retriever Marking – are all available from Younglove Broadcast Services at 800-848-5963, or on the web at totalretriever.com. Mike's newest video, Total E-Collar Conditioning

is available from The Retriever Journal.

from seeing the bumper from a distance. The handler sends the dog for the bumper as a blind retrieve.

As soon as the dog picks up the bumper, the bird boy drops another bumper where he is standing and walks eight paces away to the right again. The handler receives the dog, and sends him for the new bumper as a blind retrieve again. This procedure is repeated many times as the bird boy moves in an arc across the field.

At some point, the handler directs the assistant to walk toward the left after dropping the bumper. In this manner the assistant retraces his steps back toward the starting point. There is no set formula for how many bumpers



BB blinds provide repetition for working on a variety of problems, and the presence of the assistant in the field may help to get the dog focused out in the field.



BB blinds can be used to teach and enforce a prompt and straight "sit" in a field situation. Using a combination of attrition, praise, and occasional correction, you can improve your dog's response to the whistle.



A literal casting standard makes the BB blinds most effective for advanced retrievers. Consequently, most of your casts will be straight or angle "back."



BB blinds also provide practice for lining up your dog. Here, the handler gets some coaching as he prepares to send the dog.

Training Corner, Cont.

should be retrieved before the assistant changes direction, or for how many total retrieves should be made.

Purpose

BB blinds provide the repetition necessary for solving a variety of handling problems. In the course of normal training, it is often difficult to actually solve a persistent problem. For example, a dog with an exceptionally loopy sit on land blinds may get a correction or two while running a multiple land blind. Furthermore, it may be a day or even several days before you train on land blinds again. The dog may not fully understand the correction when it occurs in this sort of low frequency, and yet somehow we expect the dog's training to progress.

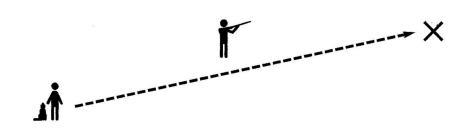
During the course of one BB blind drill, your dog may make 10-30 blind retrieves, usually involving anywhere from 30-60 whistle stops. This provides all kinds of opportunities for fixing various problems. I have used BB blinds to work on bugging, no-goes, slow-goes, crooked sits, loopy sits, lying down on sits, gun phobias (see sidebar), overcasting, whistle refusals, and popping.

Strategies for Problem-Solving

In a previous column (*RJ* July/August '99), I advocated returning to pile work for improving loopy or crooked sits. That is a good strategy before embarking on a course of BB blinds, and it applies to many other handling problems as well. However, some dogs can be nearly perfect on pile work review in the yard, but then exhibit major problems when worked in field situations. BB blinds can be a bridge between yard drills and field application.

As I begin BB blinds, I strive to teach my dog the standard I hope to achieve. I must make sure that I am clear in my own mind about the standard that I'll accept for a particular behavior. Usually, I will attempt to teach the standard with attrition; but well-timed correction and praise are also part of the process. You will confuse your dog if you have an inconsistent standard, but this doesn't mean you need to give a correction each time your dog fails to meet the standard. A general guideline is to give praise for a good response, attrition for a borderline response, and correction for a flagrantly poor response. When you can read that your dog understands the standard, then you can increase the pressure for poor responses.

Consider, for example, a dog with a slow or loopy sit response to the whistle. During BB blinds, I will blow a second sit whistle each time I feel he is sitting too slowly.



Curing Gun Phobias with BB Blinds

ield trial dogs are frequently required to run blinds very near to the back of a visible gun station. The gunner may have thrown a mark the dog has already retrieved, or the gun could be the source of a poison bird or dry shot (RJ August/September '97). In any case, these kinds of diversions create challenges for advanced retrievers. While a naive dog may be extraordinarily attracted by such diversions, it is not uncommon for a trained dog to avoid these diversions – sometimes to a fault. Gun phobia is the term I use to describe the tendency to strongly avoid the gunning station on blind retrieves.

Dogs with gun phobias have a tendency to overcast in the vicinity of the gun. They take 45-degree angle-back casts when you ask for straight back casts. They'll change direction for you too much (overcasting), but they won't go near the gun. If you use pressure for such casting errors, their phobias get worse! Although gun phobias can sometimes be worked out by simply training on the situation with regularity, many dogs never seem to improve on this concept through routine training. BB blinds are a great way to get a dog to relax about lining near a gun.

When I initially run BB blinds, I seldom use collar corrections for casting errors. I'll just keep literal casting until the dog gets each bumper. As the dog starts to understand the BB blind game, he starts to relax about the gun. Gradually, his overcasting will diminish, and eventually he may start to line the BB blinds. Sometimes it may be desirable to use white bumpers on some of the BB blinds to help the dog get comfortable approaching the assistant. Occasional collar corrections with indirect pressure may be appropriate for flagrant casting errors that can be characterized as a "lack of effort."

A five-day course of BB blinds will usually be sufficient for reducing gun phobias. By the third or fourth day, you may move the assistant out about 125 yards, especially if your dog starts doing very well at the initial distance of about 90 yards. With plenty of attrition, occasional correction, and repeated success, your dog will soon gain confidence lining near the assistant on the BB blinds. This skill will usually carry over to field work when you resume your normal training. If your dog has a tendency to break down near the gun when you resume field blinds, just cast back to the distant blind. He'll soon realize the difference between field situations and the BB blind drill.

Around the Region

Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

Mid-South RC	5/6/17	Bruce, MS
Labrador RC of Piedmont	5/6/17	Patrick, SC
Atlanta RC #2	5/10/17	Buckhead, GA ***
Cooper River RC	5/12/17	Cheraw, SC
North Alabama RC	5/13/17	Greensboro, AL
Middle Tennessee RC	5/19/17	LaVergne, TN
East TN RC (Saturday)	5/27/17	Birchwood, TN
East TN RC (Sunday)	5/27/17	Birchwood, TN
Potomac Valley RC	6/3/17	Remington, VA
Black Warrior RC	6/10/17	Greensboro, AL
Cuyahoga Valley RC	6/10/17	Chardon, OH
Buckeye RC	6/17/17	Chardon, OH

*** These tests are being handled by HuntTestHelper.com. All others are handled by EntryExpress.com.

Master Amateur Update

The Inaugural Running of the Master Amateur Invitational was held April 23-29, with 69 dogs qualifying. See the Master Amateur blog for full details — go to www.masteramateur.com and press the blog link in the middle of the page. Congratulations to all the finalists, and to the MARC for putting it all together!

2017 ETRC Memberships

As of March 1, memberships from 2016 expired. We will keep expired members on the email notification list until June 1, at which time we purge the rolls and change the passwords on the website. If you haven't rejoined by that date, this is your last newsletter!

Membership is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). The renewal forms are available online at http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm — just click the link, print it off, and send it to Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Cost is still just \$25 which includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events, and consideration for end of the year awards. It's a bargain!

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 (<u>edwardskc@gmail.com</u>); Lois Luthenauer (<u>mountainLo717@gmail.com</u>) or Roberta Williams (<u>sharphlw@usit.net</u>).