Volume VIII, Issue 12

December 2018



2018 Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC's EVENTS!

- Sunday, December 16, 2018: Mini-seminar and training session, focusing on starting the young/inexperienced dog. John Broucek will lead, Lisa Styles will assist. 12:30 for setup, 1:00 seminar begins. 108 Pawnook Farm Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Weather dependent. Please RSVP to Karen at edwardskc@gmail.com
- December: time to nominate dogs and people for awards and club management positions see article inside on p. 3
- 3. Saturday, February 23, 2019 (tentative) Annual Awards Banquet & election, 6:00 p.m., Calhoun's Bearden Hill, Knoxville more details to follow
- 4. Tuesday-Wednesday, March 26-27, possible Master-only Hunt Test, Tentative, details to follow.

Photo of the Month



Tom and Liz Gibson's Charlie at the mini-seminar / training day, November 18, 2018

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Nominating Committee Slate for Election & Call for Nominees

The nominating committee headed by Board Member Alan Bruhin, with assistance from Mike Smith and Jeff McNutt, has recommended the following slate for ETRC officer and director positions for fiscal year 2019 (beginning at the end of the banquet in February):

President: Luke McCoyVice President: Alan Bruhin

Secretary/Treasurer: Karen EdwardsHunt Test Secretary: Michele Fletcher

◆ Two Director positions (Feb 2019 - Feb 2022): Mike Smith, Jeff McNutt

AKC Delegate: Michele Fletcher

Remaining on the board are: Jim Pearce and J. Michael Evans (through Feb 2020), and Tom Gibson and Cory Smith (through Feb 2021). Lois Luthenauer will serve as Past President through 2019 and also has agreed to serve again as Chief Marshal for the spring and fall AKC hunt tests. These last two positions are not be on the ballot but are important to the workings of the club! Leaving the Board are Donna Smith and John Broucek. Many thanks to both of them for their expertise, advice and hard work over the past several years.

In accordance with the Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by any member prior to December 31, 2018, 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 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 tentatively be held Saturday, February 23, 2018; more details and a confirmation of the date and location will be in the January newsletter.



Lisa Styles discussin some genera points, seminar 11/18/18

End of the Year Awards — Call for Nominations

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 are due to J. Michael Evans (Fowl_Mouth_K9@aol.com) by **JANUARY 14, 2018.**

- 1. **ETRC Member of the Year:** Any ETRC Member may nominate any other member for this award. The criterion 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 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. You may provide the information in an email or letter. Winning dog and puppy will receive an engraved plaque to keep and a silver perpetual trophy to display for a year. NOTE: New rules approved last year will apply for the first time for these awards.
- 4. *Title awards*: If your dog has earned any AKC field titles during 2018, please send your name, your dog's registered name, title earned, and the date and place where you titled. ETRC recognizes these achievements with an engraved plaque.
- 5. **Master National/ Master Amateur Dogs**: If your dog was a **finalist** at the 2018 Master National or the 2018 Master Amateur, email the info to Michael 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 2018 Master National or Master Amateur and received an invitation from the MNRC/MARC 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 Michael 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 he
can keep the categories straight. AND, please put the category into the subject line -- 'AKC Sportsman nomination', etc. Dates outlined above for response to Michael have very little flexibility -- the engraver that we use is in
the midst of basketball season awards at the same time, 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 7 years:



AKC Hunt Test Rule Change, Effective January 1, 2019 Allowing Consecutive Judging Assignments

The AKC Board of Directors has recently approved a change to the Regulations and Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers. This change will allow one of two judges assigned to a Retriever hunt test level, to judge the same test level on consecutive days or consecutive back-to-back events. This change will help reduce cost burdens to clubs as they plan their judging panels and tests. The exact wording of this change will appear in the next printing of the rules as follows with the new regulation shown in bold, underline:

Chapter 1, Section 6. Judges' Eligibility. (paragraph 16) Each test or division of a test shall be judged by at least two qualified Judges. One of the two Judges may judge the same test level on consecutive days or consecutive back-to-back events. The same team of Judges will not be approved to judge the same test level on consecutive days or consecutive back-to-back events.

Mini-Seminar & Training Day, 11/18/18

Member Lisa Styles, assisted by John Broucek, put on a mini-seminar Sunday afternoon focusing on transition training for retrievers. For more info, see the Training Corner (pages 9-10) which provides notes on the festivities. This was a successful day and everyone who came felt they got a lot out of it. By popular demand, we are going to do another similar session on Sunday afternoon, December 16, which will focus on starting the young or inexperienced dog and will also cover force fetch. More details on page 8 and the 'events' block on the front page.









Member News, Brags, & Announcements

J. Michael Evans reports that he and HRCH Hilltops Fowl Mouth Delta Queen ("Ivy") earned her Master Hunter title on November 18, 2018 at Cooper Black's Fall hunt test in Cheraw, SC.

It's been a great but busy year for Miss Ivy. She earned her AKC Senior Hunter title, HRC Seasoned and Finished titles all in the Spring, and followed it up with her Master Hunter title this fall. Michael is confident she would be happy going to a test every weekend but is ready to settle in to a productive duck season with his girl. Congratulations to both for a great hunt test season!





Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce are proud to announce that Fern Hill Pandemonium MH WCX OD ("Panda") has just earned her Outstanding Dam title from the Golden Retriever Club of America for the accomplishments of her progeny. Panda's sire is UHTrifecta's Shag-edelic CD MH *** WCX CCA VCX OS, and her dam is our recently-deceased Fern Hill Pennyroyal CDX NAP JH TDI CGC, who was a Speaker daughter.

Panda's Qualifying Get are:

Sired by AFC HRCH Topbrass Hawk's Red Wing MH CCA & whelped 4/16/15:

- Fern Hill Meadowbrae Legacy CD MH TKI WC ("Jake"), owned & trained by Ken & Joan Kogut of NY;
- Fern Hill RSR's Golden Boy SH ("Willie"), owned by Leigh & Jody Ware & handled by Jody & Nick Ware;

<u>Sired by AFC The Sunday Swimmer & whelped 12/06/16:</u>

- Fern Hill Panda's Sunday Best SH ("Violet");
- Fern Hill Panda's Sunday Player SH

("Chi"). Both Violet and Chi are owned & trained by Bruce Hayes of California.

We are very proud of these fine dogs and of our Panda, and of her other get who are competing, in training, or just being happy family pets! We love you, Panda!

ETRC Board Meeting, 10/31/18 Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Luke McCoy, Karen Edwards, Jim Pearce, Michele Fletcher (AKC delegate) Tom Gibson, Cory Smith, J. Michael Evans

Absent, excused: Alan Bruhin (job conflict), Donna Smith (on vacation), John Broucek (event conflict), Carol McCorkle (event conflict), Lois Luthenauer (event conflict).

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. after unloading the small trailer into the office so that Michael Evans can work on it over the winter and set up more internal storage areas.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: None.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes**: Last meeting was 10/3/18; minutes approved via email and sent to the club website. Michael moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. Michael ed, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Correspondence: None to report.
- **Membership:** Current 2018 membership is 60 as of 10/31/18, including 9 waiting final vote and 1 more needing first reading today, and excluding recently deceased member.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. No formal report today; initial report from the Hunt Test (where Michele Fletcher was acting as treasurer as well as Hunt Test Secretary) showed that we took in \$11,872.52 and wrote checks so far for \$9,963.77. The club treasury is around \$23,000 and a full report will be made next month.

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher: Nothing new to report.

Old Business

1. Fall Hunt Test

- Michele reported on expenses and outgo. As far as we know there are no further expenses coming other than possible grounds repair costs. Biggest expenses were for the ducks (\$2,900) and for the Birdkids (\$2820). Six judges cost \$2,130.40 including hotels, expenses, and judges' gifts.
- Although the Master test had only about 30% of the dogs passing, the consensus of the people who were there was that the problem was not that the test was unfair, but the weather caused a higher than usual fail rate. The first series eliminated almost 1/3 of the candidates but that is fairly typical of Master tests. It was the second series where our numbers fell very low. In that series, a 20mph crosswind blew the dogs in the water way to the right of the line to the blind, and they got lost afterwards. The judges did shorten up that blind after running the test dog, but it was still a bear of a test because of the wind.
- Sr/Jr Judges Debbie Bodner and Bonnie Cuddihy were outstanding, and we would be happy to have them back at any time.
- There was some confusion over where Marshals were to be assigned and too many last minute decisions had to be made on marshaling. It all worked out OK, but we should aim to have this better worked out before the test.
- There was rain on Saturday and some inconsiderate people got off the roads and tore up some of the hillsides, getting stuck. Michael called Ken Campbell and apologized. He will talk with him again once Ken has the opportunity to see the damage, and will offer to pay for repairs. Usually Ken asks us to donate the fee we would otherwise pay for use of the land to our youth program; in this case, we may need to apply that money towards the repair of the land instead.
- We were a little too tight on the number of ducks we ordered. We only ended up with 7 or 8 extras. The Master test used 7 or 8 getting set up, which was excessive. Also, the quality of the ducks was not wonderful. After spending 13 days on a trailer as Buettner dropped off ducks for a number of different tests after leaving Iowa, there were 1 or 2 dead ducks in each crate and they were rather thin and weak.
- The bird kids were great, and they even helped fix the lunches. However, we need to make sure that we tell them up front to wear dark clothing or camo, no white, and that they should bring along appropriate clothing

Meeting Minutes 10/31/18, Con't

for the weather, such as rain gear.

- We are out of toilet paper, paper towels, and paper pads for the marshal boxes.
- 2. March Master-Only Hunt Test: If we are going to do this, we must decide on dates and location very soon if we want to get this approved by AKC. Michael talked with AKC and they pointed out that having the test in March would mean that we hadn't already met the criteria for having a 'master only' test, and it is unclear that we would be approved on that basis. We decided to enter all the tests for the year at once and hope that would help them see that we are serious about meeting the requirements for having enough Jr/Sr. tests to balance out the extra Master.
 - Discussion about Hiwassee or Lucky 7. Advantages of Hiwassee are that it is flatter so there won't be the problem of stuck cars in case it is muddy in early spring; and there is more room, enough to run two flights of Master. However, there may not be too much water there at that time of year. Advantages of Lucky 7 closer to almost everyone. Michael will talk to Jason and ask about the water and the availability of two possible dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, 3/26-27; and 4/2-3. He will also talk to Ken Campbell about those same dates and then we will have to decide.
 - Number of entries: if we go to Lucky 7, there is some concern whether we could have adequate land/water to set up two master flights. This would only be feasible if we could get four judges to agree on three series and everyone round-robin through them. There is some concern about judges agreeing to do this, even though the request would be because of limited land. If we go to Hiwassee, two flights are probably doable (depending on the water situation that time of year). However, one flight would only require 6-7 birdboys and a single setup session of all three series on Monday. Two flights would need 13-15 birdboys and potentially setting up lots more than the 3 series for a round-robin test. We also discussed a single 90-dog flight but discarded that idea because it would require 3 days and it's going to be hard enough to get workers who can either take time off or who are already retired, without adding a third day to it.
 - Birdboys: for a mid-week test, we would not be able to use high school kids unless it happened to be spring break and even then, many people have lots of plans so it would be even harder. We could possibly hire Brian Caldwell's birdboys, and the rest would have to be volunteers from the club. Not too hard if it's only 6 or 7 but pretty difficult otherwise.
 - Ducks: Michael has heard of another duck supplier up near Kingsport, and we agreed that it would be worthwhile to contact this person for ducks for this test to try them out. Michael has heard that the cost of the ducks is about \$.50 higher per bird, but the birds are much bigger and healthier.
- 3. **Spring Hunt Test**: May 25-26, 2018. Hiwassee, Double Junior/Senior, two flights Master. Michael will talk to Jason about this at the same time he talks to him about the possible Master-only test, and will get the paperwork started with Wally in Nashville as well. Karen will enter this test into the AKC website soon. This will be the Roberta Williams memorial hunt test; we can put this information into Entry Express and will have a full page devoted to Roberta's picture and info about her. Also we can have a poster board in the clubhouse about her as well, similar to what we did for Kevin and Mark a few years ago.
- 4. *Training dates:* Lisa Styles has agreed to put on a training day/ mini seminar on various handling drills, on November 18. Karen will announce this in the newsletter due out tomorrow. January and February -- need to try to set up dates soon for these.

5. Equipment:

- Automatic launchers: In August, the board approved buying two of these to help at Club Trials and training days, less time for people in the blinds etc. This fell in the cracks and Karen volunteered to pick it up on 9/30/18. Unfortunately, these are drop-shipped from the factory and take 3-5 weeks to ship so it was too late to order in time for the club trial in early October. Karen will order, now that it is clear that we didn't lose money from the fall hunt test.
- Popups: Luke & Michael have been researching but haven't found any heavy duty ones at a price we like. Meanwhile, another one broke at the fall hunt test, so we have lost three this year.
- Some equipment may still be in weird places no one is sure where the tool tote and the bag with the repair rubber is. Lois may have it, or it may be in the big trailer.
- 6. Miscellaneous Club Business stuff: History stuff has been moved from Roberta's home to her daughter Melody's, along with incorporation papers, corporate seal, etc. She warns that some of it has been water damaged. Michael has been trying to contact her but has had no success so far. He will redouble his efforts; we need to get this

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resolved.

7. **Defribillator:** Cost is \$1,200 per unit. If we have a defibrillator, we have to have experienced/certified people to use it. We have at least three of those in the club already. However, even having one in a vehicle does not assure that we could actually save anyone's life, if the equipment and operator were at another test site and had to be retrieved. Some concerns about liability of trying and failing, or liability for not getting there in time; we decided to drop this subject at least for now.

New Business:

1. New Members:

Nathan & Nicole Osbourn. Nathan is an electrician who lives in Ringgold, GA. He is the son of past member Tony Osbourn. He has two daughters and a 6-month old yellow lab puppy. He's interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, dog training, and club trials. Joined at the Club Trial and did pretty well with his puppy.

Jim and Luke agreed to be sponsors for the Osbourns. Michael moved we accept these new members on first reading. Cory seconded, and the motion was approved.

2. Nominating Committee: Today is the last day to select a nominating committee and the report has to be sent to Karen as Secretary NLT November 24. Alan Bruhin was appointed by Luke in absentia to be the Board representative on the committee (and chairman), and Jeff McNutt and Mike Smith were also appointed to serve. Karen will send them information on the duties (from the Bylaws) and the positions to be filled this year.

Any other new business?

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

ETRC Training Day and Mini Seminar December 16, 2018

Come join us on a Sunday afternoon (12:30 –4:00) for a mini seminar and training day at Roane Regional training grounds behind the Pegasus Technologies building at 108 Pawnook Farm Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. ETRC member John Broucek, who is a successful Field Trial and Hunt Test Competitor and a breeder of top-notch Labradors, will be leading the session and will be demonstrating and teaching various techniques for starting young / inexperienced dogs. Member Lisa Styles will be assisting.

Bring your dog, a chair, appropriate clothing for the weather, water for your dog, your personal training equipment for your dog, and some bumpers marked with your name. The club will provide all other equipment needed.

Please RSVP if you plan to come. We are hoping to offer several of these more-focused training days during the winter months and hope that the weather cooperates. RSVP to Karen Edwards, edwardskc@gmail.com.

If the weather doesn't cooperate (rain, snow, or temperatures that are truly dreadful), we will cancel. If the forecast is iffy, I will send out an email on Saturday night with a go/no go decision.

Hope to see you there!

Training Transition Dogs — Notes from an ETRC Mini-Seminar With Lisa Styles and John Broucek

On November 18, 2018, Club members Lisa Styles, assisted by John Broucek, put in a mini-seminar on training for the transitional dog. Both Lisa and John have been successful in field trials at the very highest end of the sport, and both of them have been heavily involved in training their own dogs. Some of the notes from this seminar are presented below — although there was way too much information to condense into a short article! More pictures are on page 4.

NOTES:

- Dogs are situational learners and don't generalize well. That is why we must train in different locations. Eventually, they will have seen most of the scenarios that can come up and will know how to handle the situation.
- Dogs are problem solvers sometimes you may stop the unwanted behavior but the dog might substitute another unwanted response in an attempt to fix the problem. That's OK, you need to show them the correct response.

WHEN: Do I help? WHEN: do I correct?

- You HELP a dog that is confused or afraid.
- You CORRECT a dog that things he/she has a choice or gives a lack of effort.

A Correction is NOT a random act of violence! The correction stops the unwanted behavior. You still might not have the correct action that you want but you are communicating.

Yard Work is important. However, remember, there is NOT a series in a hunt test or field trial called yard work, it is just teaching the dog tools to be able to succeed. When your dog knows how to run to the pile, sit on a whistle, turn to look at you, change direction when you cast, you are ready to start going to fields to teach blinds and add other drills. You can always go back to the yard if needed or to reinforce skills.

Lisa and John demonstrated how to use "proofing" as a yard drill to introduce dogs to learn how to handle distractions as they are asked to complete a familiar command from their owner.

In addition, they showed a lining drill to assist a dog with learning how it feels to learn straight and a pile drill that introduces transition dogs to diversions and poison birds. John explained how he teaches casting using the place board. He demonstrated the steps he goes through until all casts including angles and a come in cast are taught.

Teaching Blinds — or, TRUST ME I will tell you where the bird/bumper is. Really! General:

- In training, set up your blinds on land and water to be at the end of the field or pond. You want your
 dog to learn to pick out the furthest target and assume that is where they are going. Very important
 concept for transition level dogs.
- Keep your blinds separate from your marks as much as possible during early training.
- Do NOT set up one blind, set up multiple ones but keep them well separated in the field or pond.
- Even for hunt test training, do not plant a blind near the area of a holding blind where they retrieved a mark. You can set your blind where the dog runs tight to a holding blind, but past it and further out.
- When setting up blinds for transition dogs, look for natural or man-made features to help keep the dog running straight.
- If working on the same line and increasing distance, back up away from the end of your target.
- Distance start close but increase the length. Go to about 150 yard blinds for hunt test dogs.

Training Corner, Con't

Start with Pattern Blinds — this is situational training!

There is not a fixed number of repeats for the steps below. Each dog is different and this is where you can learn about your dog. The steps below appply for both land and water blinds.

- Use white bumpers at first and then go to orange.
- First take the dog with you as you plant the blinds. Later, sit the dog and have them watch you plant the blinds. Third, position your car so the dog can see you walk out to plant the blind. Finally, add your diversion mark and your poison bird.
- Generalization training move to a different location and repeat the above. Keep moving to different fields and water. We are limited in technical water so you will have to be creative.

Progressing to Cold Blinds

- Find a field you have not used for marks or blinds that has features that will help the dog leave and go straight. Be ready to follow the dog out if necessary. Use white bumpers at first and set up 2 or 3 blinds to run. They can be short.
- As you are planting the blinds, think about the things that can go wrong and how you will respond to a pop, command refusal, etc.
- Keep your blinds simple but your standards high.
 Run multiple blinds. Build confidence!

Therapy Walk-Recess: After a training session, walk with your dog or let them have 'recess.' It gives you and your dog time to relax and cool off. Let your dog be a dog. I don't throw happy bumpers during these times.



Youth Program



The Luthenauer Young Handler program will soon enter its third year. Kids who are interested in working with dogs in field work are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at http://www.etrclub.org/etrc_youth_program.htm.

There is no application fee; if the applicant is not already part of a family membership, their membership fee will be paid for by the Luthenauer fund. The program will reimburse AKC Hunt test fees, and ETRC Club Trials are free for enrollees.

A perpetual trophy is being designed and ordered along with a plaque to keep, and participation award for everyone in the program. The awards will be retroactive to 2016. A young handler's seminar is also in the works, and details will be announced when plans are finalized.

Around the Region — Seminars, Tests, & Trials

Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

EPalmetto RC	Patrick, SC	12/01/18
Lower AL HRC	Fairhope, AL	12/15/18
Wiregrass HRC of Georgia (120)	Meigs, GA	03/02/19
Carolina Retriever Assoc.	Cheraw, SC	03/16/19
Tallahassee HRC (120)	Thomasville, GA	03/16/18

Numbers in parentheses are limits on number of Master dogs

Upcoming AKC Field Trials

Carolina / Palmetto RC D/Q	Bennetsville, SC	12/7/18
Talloka RC	Pavo, GA	12/7/18
Labrador RC	Americus, GA	02/22/19
SW Georgia RC	Americus, GA	03/01/19
Mid Atlantic HRC, O/H Qual	Emporia, VA	03/22/19

Membership 2019

The membership year runs from March 1—February 28. Membership is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Renewal and new member forms are available online at http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm— click the link, print it off, and send it to Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Cost is \$25 which includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events including those classified as members-only, and consideration for end of the year awards. Best of all, membership provides the opportunity to make friendships with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. It's a bargain! Members joining in November and December are covered for the following year, so start sending in your renewals now!

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, death notices, 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: Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com.