



ETRC Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. June 25-26, 2022: Rescheduled Advanced Judges' Seminar. See pp 11-12..
2. Summer picnic/General Business Meeting / Fall Club Trial: TBD
3. September 20-21, Tuesday & Wednesday, Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's.
4. October 22-23, 2022: Sat/Sun, Fall Hunt Test, Ken Campbell's Lucky 7 Ranch
5. November 1-2, 2022: Tues/Wed, Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's.
6. February 25, 2023, Saturday evening, Awards Banquet, Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville

Photo of the Month



Newest ETRC Member, Luthenauer Youth Program and Junior Handler Bella Martin with her dog Summit's Let Your Light Shine, JH. Bella handled him to his final qualifying pass and title ribbon at ETRC's Spring Hunt Test!

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Report: ETRC's Memorial Day Weekend Spring AKC Hunt Test Hiwassee Wildlife Reserve & Brian Caldwell's Farm, May 28-29, 2022

Our big spring AKC hunt test is over, and we had amazing luck with the weather. Oftentimes, we all burn up on the Memorial Day weekend, with temperatures in the high 80s and low 90s. What a treat this time, with the temps on Saturday not getting above 75, and just slightly higher on Sunday — maybe up to 80 by the time we finished at around 2:00 p.m..

Once again we lost two judges during the week before the test, which makes for a little bit too much excitement for the hunt test committee and the Board. Luckily, this time we were able to replace both of the judges that pulled out with qualified AKC judges who are members of ETRC. Thanks a bunch to Luke McCoy and J. Michael Evans, who had to give up the opportunity to run their own dogs in order to judge for us. We appreciate you! We appreciate all the judges, and were also pleased that another of our members, Haley Shealy, was an apprentice Junior / Senior judge at this event. We always need a stream of new people coming in to judge these hunt tests; it's not an easy job for sure!

This was a double Junior / double Senior test, with two flights of Master. One of the Master flights was at Hiwassee, and the other one was about 6 miles away at Brian Caldwell's farm. We had some pretty serious land limitations at Hiwassee, partly due to the row-cropping but mostly due to the recent heavy rains which had flooded some of the areas we typically use and leaving us with some less-desirable places instead. Always some luck involved in this sport!

We started on time on Saturday, but unfortunately the test set-up at Caldwell's had to be redone after 16 dogs had gone, because of some dog safety concerns with too many dogs taking bad tumbles at a certain location. Fortunately, no one was hurt and although it made the test there (Master A) run a bit behind, it was a good call to avoid possibility of injuries. We did not fill, and with some late scratches the Master tests proceeded quite rapidly. Master B was able to finish by about 6 p.m. on Saturday!

A total of 146 dogs made up the 181 entries. There were 96 females and 92 males (but we had several scratches from females in season so it was probably an even number after all!). 140 of the entries were Labrador Retrievers; there were 28 Golden Retrievers, 7 Boykin Spaniels, 7 Chessies, and 6 Flatcoats. It was good to see all the variety! The oldest dog was a whopping 13 years old, and the youngest a baby of 6 months. That's not counting the puppy stakes, where we had three 'senior' puppies of 7 months but one little baby of about 12 weeks.

When we have enough good, competent help, everything goes much more smoothly for sure! Special thanks to the bird technicians! This is one of the hardest jobs going, and we were well-served by kids and adult sponsors from the Cleveland Community College Wildlife Society and several professional bird techs provided by Brian Caldwell. Also thanks to the volunteer helpers who ran the test — our hunt test committee including Event chairman Mike Smith, Event secretary Michele Fletcher, Alan Bruhin, and Cory Smith. Also to other ETRC members who helped out all over the place — the grounds crew which included Cheryl McNutt, Mike Smith, and Jim Pearce (who not only ran around repairing equipment and running errands, but made most of the 80 bagged lunches); treasurer Karen Edwards (who also assisted with lunches, tee shirts and ribbons) and assistant treasurer Michele Fletcher who also paid bills, Marshaled, sold tee shirts, and took care of the ribbon ceremony at Caldwell's; Chief Marshal Lois Luthenauer and the various other people who marshalled or filled in at the different stakes including Donna Smith who han-



Poor Ol' J. Michael Evans had to judge again!

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dled Caldwell's property and Pro member Parker Smith who was drafted at the last minute for marshaling at Master B in addition to running a dog. If I have missed anybody, it's inadvertent — there were lots of people helping and I may not have seen or heard about everyone.

Congratulations to ETRC Members who qualified at this test —

Master Hunter A: 52 Entries, 3 scratches, 29 passes

- ◆ McCoy's Precious Gem Of The South, Labrador Retriever owned by Luke McCoy and handled by Brian Caldwell;
- ◆ Pro Trainer Brian Caldwell, who handled two other non-member client dogs to passes

Master Hunter B: 52 Entries, 3 scratches, 29 passes

- ◆ Coosawatte Backwater Drake, owned and handled by Andy Buck;
- ◆ Fowl Mouth's Million Dollar Maggie, owned and handled by Cory and Hunter Smith, bred by J. Michael Evans

Senior Hunter, Saturday, 25 Entries, 2 scratches, 8 passes

- ◆ Pro member Jody Ware handled two non-member client dogs to passes

Senior Hunter, Sunday, 24 Entries, 4 scratches, 6 passes

- ◆ Pro member Jody Ware handled one non-member client dog to a pass

Junior Hunter, Saturday, 19 Entries, 1 scratch, 13 passes

No ETRC dogs or handlers passed in this test

Junior Hunter, Sunday, 19 Entries, 3 scratches, 9 passes

- ◆ Junior handler and new member Bella Martin passed and titled with her dog Summit's Let Your Light Shine
- ◆ Pro member Brian Caldwell handled one non-member client dog to a pass



Junior handler Bella Martin with Junior Judges Luke McCoy & Wes Bowman, with her ribbons.

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Puppy Stakes, Saturday

Judges were Mike Evans and Jim Pearce. We had three puppies competing on the field below the headquarters cabin. Unfortunately, no water was available so the test was land marks only. Results are as follows:

Junior Puppy:

1st place: Willie, owned and handled by Ryley Silvernail.

Senior Puppy:

1st place: Ridge, owned and handled by Ciara Bell
2nd place: Maple, owned and handled by ETRC Pro member Parker Smith



Picture right: Willie with Ryley Silvernail.

Below: Ciara Bell & Ridge (left); Parker Smith & Maple (right)



Congratulations to everyone for participating in our Spring Hunt Test! To those ETRC members who took part but didn't pass, better luck next time. If this were easy, it wouldn't mean so much when we succeed!



AKC Advanced Retriever Hunting Test Seminar for Judges

Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26, 2022, 8 am to 4 pm



LOCATION SATURDAY: Conference room, Comfort Inn, 2811 Decatur Pike, Athens, TN 37303

LOCATION SUNDAY: Cory Smith Farm, 245 County Road 319, Niota, TN 37826

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION: This seminar has been designed for judges that have attended the basic one-day AKC Hunting Test Seminar and have attained some judging experience through apprenticeships and/or actual judging.

This seminar is, however, **open to anyone and can be quite beneficial in helping handlers to better understand judging criteria and considerations. We encourage ETRC Members to take advantage of the opportunity to attend this seminar even if you never plan to judge a hunt test!**

This seminar WILL NOT count as the initial one-day AKC Basic seminar, which covers different subject matter. This seminar has been designed to enhance the Retriever Hunting Test Program by assuring the regulations, guidelines, and test requirements are understood and are being met, and that the standards for all levels of testing are being maintained through fully knowledgeable judges.

AREAS COVERED: Purpose of the Retriever Hunting Tests—what to expect when you are asked to judge — Judge's responsibilities— Pre-Test Responsibilities — Planning the Hunting situation — Judge's Authority — The day of your Test — Dog's abilities — Scoring.

FORMAT: This is a two-day seminar with one day spent in the classroom indoors and one day spent outdoors developing and running tests at the three levels — Junior, Senior, and Master. Participants will have the opportunity to watch, judge and score each dog's performance on the tests designed. We will then have the time to critique each dog's performance and why the scores were assigned. Three dogs will be run at each level.

PRESENTER: Russ Reavis and / or Jerry Mann, AKC Representatives.

COST: \$50 per participant. To register, complete the registration form & mail to Karen Edwards at 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771 along with your check.

OTHER DETAILS:

- ◆ A block of rooms at the Comfort Inn is being held for Friday and Saturday night. Rates are \$139 for a King room (1 bed) or a Queen room (2 beds) for either single or double occupancy. Contact the Inn directly to make reservations: 423-252-8030 or (423) 745-0002. All rooms are non-smoking. Rates expire June 15.
- ◆ Lunches & snacks will be provided by the East Tennessee Retriever club. Breakfasts & dinners may be purchased at nearby restaurants.

QUESTIONS? call or text Alan Bruhin at 865-850-8712 or email him at wabruhin@utk.edu.

AKC Advanced Retriever Hunting Test Seminar for Judges

Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26, 2022, 8 am to 4 pm

Registration Form



Name:

Address:

Phone Number (mobile preferred):

Email address:

Number of attendees:

Please return this form along with a check for \$50 per participant, made out to "ETRC", to:

Karen Edwards
Secretary / Treasurer
East Tennessee Retriever Club
254 Babbs Road
Lenoir City, TN 37771

REGISTRATION CLOSES ON WEDNESDAY, June 22. Please mail your registration form and check to arrive before that date.

Announcements and Brags

Litter Announcement: Labrador Retrievers, Quinn NDL x Addie MH

Litter was whelped 4/22/22, blacks and yellows
Price \$1,500 contact Jeff Coffey, 949-294-7922

Quinn, bred and owned by ETRC member John Broucek, was the number 5 Derby dog in 2021 with 30 points. He looks to have a bright All Age career in front of him.

Addie ran one Derby and received a Reserve Jam, and one Qual where she received 4th place. She went 6 for 7 in Master tests and ran & qualified at the Master National.

Sire: Troublesome Dr. Quinn NDL
(black)

Dam: Troublesome Fowl Addiction MH
(yellow)



New Master Hunter!!!

Congratulations to Bear Country's Love On The Rox (Roxie), owned by Lois Luthenauer, who earned her MH title at the Greater Atlanta Club's Spring Hunt Test, 4/24/22. She was handled to her title by Alan Sandifer.



Board Minutes, Meeting 5/04/22 Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin (telephone), Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Peter Torok (telephone)

Absent, excused: Luke McCoy, Jeff McNutt, Cory Smith, Denise Chambers

Others Members Present: None

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was met with 7 people present. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report:

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

Minutes: Last meeting was 3/16/22; minutes approved by a majority of Board members and sent to the club website on 3/18/22. Alan moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval. Michele seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Correspondence: None to report.

Membership: Membership at the end of December was 58. 40 people so far have renewed or joined for 2022, including one who paid twice last year and asked for his check to be carried over for this year, two free comped memberships, and a couple of people who joined at the end of the year and their membership carried over. 22 members from last year have not renewed. The membership year started March 1; people are dropped off the rolls if not renewed by June 1. Sent out reminders in mid-April, will send out again before the May hunt test.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$30,848.39. Upcoming: money for sale of 10 ducks to Cory and Alan; May test expenses.

Old Business

Judges Seminar, June 25-26.

Registration: Karen has only received three registrations to date. Michele verified that it is on Entry Express and that Barb and Mike Reed have signed up that way, making a total of 5. Alan says AKC intends to send out a 'blast' email to hunt test judges shortly and may print out some more flyers. Michele and J. Michael both signed up and paid their registration fees at the meeting. Karen and Jim plan to sign up, as does Alan.

Karen sent \$250 hotel registration fee for the meeting room. Everyone else is responsible for making their own room reservations if they want to stay overnight.

Alan reminded J. Michael that when he orders ducks for the May test, he needs to order some 12-15 extra ducks for the Sunday practical part of the Judges seminar as well. About 9 of them will need to be live flyers.

We will also need one or two gunners.

Bird techs: We will need at least 3 for Sunday. Bob Smith is willing to do it, Gavin and Bob Houston are strong possibilities as is Parker Smith who had agreed to do this last time. Karen will confirm their participation.

Test Dogs: we will need 9 dogs, 3 at each of the JH, SH and MH levels for Sunday. Karen will confirm the participation of the people who had agreed to do this last time.

Duck Pen: Complete, total cost \$6,168.46. The ducks stayed alive; we still have 30 down in the pen. 20 of them have carried over from the April test and will be used for the May test; 4 of them are Alan's when he gets down to pick them up; 6 are Cory's. The club is paying for its 20 ducks; Alan and Cory need to chip in on the feed for their ducks and pay for them at \$16.25 each. Alan and Cory will send checks since they couldn't come tonight.

April 19-20 Hunt Test: Tuesday/Wednesday: Double Junior / Senior, Brian Caldwell's Done. Looks like we will net around \$1,570 after ducks are paid for. This includes allocated cost of ribbons (\$337) and cost of lunches (24 @ \$5.10 each). Good things? Bad things? Anything to do different next time? General agreement that the test went well and there were no issues with our last-minute fill in Judge, Donna Smith, who performed with panache and aplomb.

May 28-29 Spring Hunt Test, Memorial Day Weekend. We went over the checklist to make sure everything is coming along OK and on track, and new assignments were made. Karen will update the checklist and get it out to all

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board members and the Chief Marshal.

We are still looking for some volunteers to help work, since several club stalwarts won't be there --Alan Bruhin (National Amateur) and Peter Torok (Ireland!) are the ones we know so far.

We are now facing the situation with the upcoming geographic split in the Master National that both our spring hunt tests and fall hunt tests will be conflicting every year with the national competitions. We discussed trying to change our spring dates again for next year to earlier in the season; unfortunately, we have had no luck being able to do that when we have tried the last several years. And, we can't move all our tests to midweek because AKC insists that at least two of our tests be on weekends.

We will be using professional bird techs again at the Master stake being held at Brian Caldwell's. The Cumberland College Wildlife Society will be providing 16-20 bird techs for the Hiwassee location; Karen has the signed contract for that, and Alan will follow up with coordinator Robert Brewer to make sure everything is going well there.

Problem with the porta-potties and dumpster: Fay Portables has gone out of business and J. Michael will look around to see if we can find another supplier in the area.

The test opened this evening, and as of the close of the meeting there were only 58 master entries out of a possible 132. We may not fill, given that some people will be at the Master Amateur and others are waiting till fall to qualify for next year's master National (the one this year is in Oregon so not many from this area will be going). Only 4 people requested worker codes.

Other Hunt Tests in 2022. we have the following dates and locations:

September 20-21, Tuesday / Wednesday: Midweek Master Only (66 dogs), Brian Caldwell's. On Entry Express, Caldwell is OK with using his farm.

October 22-23, Saturday / Sunday, 2 flights Master, double Junior, double Senior. On Entry Express, AKC application not yet completed. Ken Campbell has verified that we can use his place although that may be subject to change.

November 1-2, Tuesday / Wednesday, single flight Master, Brian Caldwell's. On Entry Express, Caldwell is OK with using his farm, AKC status?

None of these have been approved by AKC yet; Michele will go ahead and enter them in the system. No judges yet for any of these tests; Alan, Mike Smith, and Mike Evans agreed they will start making some calls to try to get these pinned down.

Equipment: any repair or equipment issues unresolved from the fall test? Jim was able to get pins for the wingers. Do we have enough rubber? Anything else needed? Consensus was that we were fine for May and will have to revisit for our fall tests.

New Business:

New Members: Two for first reading:

Ryan Smith (Donna and Mike's son; they will be sponsors). He is a real estate agent in the Maryville area and has a black lab over with Caldwell. He is primarily interested in hunting, but Donna and Mike may do some hunt tests with him.

Bunkie & Maleah VanSkiver: Friendsville, TN, 865-308-0440; bunkieVanSkiver1414@gmail.com. Clients of Parker Smith. Requested Mike Smith and Jeff McNutt as sponsors, came to club trial. They are a younger couple who train with new member Michael Davis over in the Greenback/Friendsville area, and have a nice puppy who did well there.

Karen moved that these people be accepted as provisional members with the requested sponsors; Jim seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Welcome!

Possible New Hunt Test Location: Several of the Board members have been approached by Boy Scout Davy Crockett Camp, which is located in Whitesburg, TN sort of between Morristown & Rogersville, about 1.5 hours from our meeting location. They have many hundreds of acres, about 900 cleared and a lot in woods. No water so far, but they have grant money to build a pond or ponds. They are looking to expand the use of the facility beyond summer camping, and think that dog competitions would be a great use of the property. Several of them came to our April hunt test and looked at what we do. They also looked at Brian's technical pond and said they could build one like that plus possibly another simpler pond as well. Other facilities include about 30 cabins and bathhouses; plus 12 cabins that have en suite bathrooms, and a brand new cookhouse. They would charge us \$250 to use the property for the weekend; rent us cabins at \$25 each for judges and other exhibitors

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who wanted to stay on site; and would have their kitchen staff available to provide breakfasts for \$8, lunches for \$8, and dinners for \$10. The nearest motels and restaurants are about 20-25 minutes away in Rogersville and Morristown. They realize that we are booked up for this year but would hope to have the property available for 2023. Depending on how the land lies and how much water they put in, this could be an excellent option for possibly our fall test or for a midweek test.

Date and time for summer/early fall meeting and shindig: It's not too early to get this on people's calendars. After some discussion, we decided to make this an all-day event combined with a Fall Club Trial. We could run the club trial in the morning, and then around 1:00 break for lunch and a business meeting. After some discussion dates, we decided to have this on September 24 or 25 (either Saturday or Sunday), which is the weekend after our mid-week Master test. The very best place to hold this would be at Ken Campbell's place, since our fall test the next month will be there and this would give people a chance to practice on what will eventually be the test site. J. Michael will ask Ken about this.

AKC Master X Title: apparently AKC is discussing have a Master Excellent title. This would involve longer distances – up to 250 yards for marks and 150 for blinds; no creeping at all allowed; total silence on the honor; and much stricter requirements for precision, cast refusals, etc. Passes at this level would count extra towards qualification for the Master National and Master Amateur. If a club decided to run this test, the club would only provide ONE judge for it; AKC would provide the other judge to make sure the test was held to AKC's standards. No word on when this would happen. We would not have to offer those series, and frankly, around here it would be very difficult to find land that could accommodate the longer distances. Mike Evans thinks this may not happen, or not for long, and may instead lead to a higher standard for perfection in the current Master tests.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Mike Evans seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Still light outside!

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

Peter Torok: added accidentally omitted word "Camp" in New Business #2 paragraph.

Michele Fletcher: fixed typo on number of Master entries for May test.

Youth Program



2018 Award Recipients, Cade & Ivan Chambers

The Luthenauer Young Handler program is entering its sixth year. Kids who are interested in working in retriever sports are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_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 any fees for other ETRC events such as club trials.

Yearly awards include a perpetual trophy along with a plaque to keep, and participation award for everyone in the program.

ETRC Membership

Membership in ETRC is a bargain! The cost is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Both new member and renewal forms are available online at <http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm> — just cut and paste the link, print it off, and send it along with your check to:

Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771.

Membership includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events, and consideration for end of the year awards. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make friends with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. We are one of the most active Retriever clubs in the country — and have another great year lined up in 2022 with 5 AKC hunt tests, club trials, seminars, training days, and more.

The membership year runs from March 1 to February 28/29th; people who join after November 1 are also paid up for the following year.

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, new titles, 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).

Numbering System: When I first took over the newsletter, I just continued on with the volume # from the last issue, then upped it by one every year. But, it makes no sense, and doesn't reflect how many years of newsletters we have anyway. So beginning with the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is now Volume XXII (for 2022).