



ETRC Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. February 26, 1:00 p.m. Saturday: Brady Collins Dogtown Farm: demonstration, discussion and setups focused on Field Trials from a professional Field Trial Trainer.
2. March 12-13, 2022, Saturday / Sunday, Sweetwater, TN. Advanced Judges Seminar. See article on page 4 — Registration open now!
3. March 20, 2022, Sunday, 1 p.m.: Training Day / Mini Seminar on transition drills, Alan Bruhin & Mike Evans, Master Hunt Test judges and Master National competitors. Postponed from 1/23.
4. April 2, 2022, Saturday: Spring Club Trial. More information to follow.
5. April 19-20, 2022, Tuesday and Wednesday: Double JH / SH AKC Hunt test, Brian Caldwell's Farm, Georgetown, TN.

Photo of the Month



Charley Rader on the hunt, winter 2022. Charley is "Rader's Charley Bell SH" and she is owned by Jeff Rader.

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AKC Advanced Retriever Hunting Test Seminar for Judges

Saturday and Sunday, March 12-13, 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, MARCH 9. Please mail your registration form and check to arrive before that date.

Hey ETRC Members!

There is still time to sign up to come to this seminar, and there is still space. You will learn a LOT about handling dogs in tests at all levels if you come, by knowing more about what the judges are looking for!
FREE to members — we ask you to send or bring a check to reserve your spot, but we will return them after the seminar concludes on Sunday afternoon.
Lunches and snacks provided by ETRC both days!
Contact Karen Edwards at edwardskc@gmail.com or text to 865-300-7607 to reserve your spot.



AKC Advanced Retriever Hunting Test Seminar for Judges

Saturday and Sunday, March 12-13, 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, AKC Representative.

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 \$94 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.
- ◆ Lunches & snacks will be provided by the East TN 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.

Report on Field Trial Seminar & Setups 2/26/22

A group of about 15 people met at Brady Collin's Dogtown training property Saturday afternoon in Ten Mile, TN. The weather could have been better — at the last minute, the forecast changed and it started drizzling shortly after we started at 1:00. And the temperature never got above 41, rather than the balmy 49 that was promised. But we were all wearing jumpsuits, raingear, and hats, so it wasn't as miserable as it sounds. The grounds are beautiful, with a huge technical pond and great sight lines.



Brady had set up a qualification-level set of marks and a blind, and talked us through it as Jake Greenwell demonstrated by running a dog. Then we each had the opportunity to run our own dogs under Brady's guidance. Along the way, he provided some good training tips about how to get better results, and we changed how we ran the set-up based on our dog's training and/or conditioning level.

The first step in field trials is to become "All Age Qualified", which means you have placed first or second in a Qualifier test. After that, you are eligible to run in either the Amateur or Open stakes. Derby stakes, which are highly competitive, are for dogs under two years of age. Qualifying stakes, like all field trials, are usually four series, run in the following order: first series is land marks, then land blinds, then water marks, then water blinds. The marks were longer than we are used to seeing in hunt tests, but at the qualifying level are not THAT much longer than a typical master test, and none of the dogs refused to go the distance.

The set-up consisted of three marks — two long, and a short one in between. The long one on the far right as you stood at the line was run as a single. The point of this part was to ensure that your dog stayed focused on the long mark and wasn't distracted by the very obvious white-coated gunner on the middle short mark. Brady provided tips on how to keep your dog focused on the long mark, including making sure that as you walked to the line, you could stay in front of your dog, sitting them if necessary so you could go past them, and showing them where the marks were. Many of the dogs had a strong tendency to run toward the shorter mark, being drawn in by the white coat standing there, rather than pushing on towards the longer mark.

Next was a double with a hand-thrown diversion bird very close to the line. The handler showed the dog both marks, then sent him for the diversion bird. After returning, the dog was sent first to the shorter mark and then on return, to the longer mark. Depending on the level of the dog's training, sometimes the gunner would 'Retire' (go out of sight behind the blind after the mark was thrown), and sometimes they would stay out in clear sight. Some of the dogs headed back to the area of the old fall, but Brady's bird techs helped out a lot by calling 'hey hey' to get them back on track, or even throwing another bird to attract their attention.

Finally, off to the left of the marks was a long blind in an area with high but sparse cover. The key was to keep the dog in a narrow corridor toward the mark, which Brady indicated by reference to trees and other landmarks.

The dogs all had a great time! And we handlers and observers all learned a lot as well. Huge thanks to Brady, his bird techs, Jake Greenwell and John Broucek for putting this event on for the club. It was a great afternoon in spite of the weather!



End of the Year Awards 2021

Each year, ETRC recognizes a number of members and their dogs for a variety of achievements during the previous year. Awards include engraved brass plaques, and a few awards also have a perpetual trophy that the winner gets to keep for a year. The following End-of-the-Year Awards were passed out at the Awards Banquet on February 18. Congratulations everyone!

Junior Hunter Title Awards: Six dogs earned their Junior Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and an engraved brass and walnut plaque were presented to:

- ◆ Powderhorn Callback JH, owned, trained and handled by Jo Ann Burk. This Golden Retriever also has a number of obedience titles including Utility and Rally.
- ◆ Powderhorn-N-River Run Georgia Peach JH: owned, trained and handled by Victor Burk. Golden Retriever Peach also has a number of other obedience titles.
- ◆ Good Timing Man JH, Black lab owned, trained, and handled by Cheryl McNutt
- ◆ Fin's Fancy Wild Side of Green JH: Black Lab owned, trained, and handled by Cheryl McNutt
- ◆ Rader's Charley Bell JH: yellow Lab owned and handled by Jeff Rader
- ◆ Riverview Farm Highpoint Oak, yellow lab owned and handled by Kyle Griffin

Senior Hunter Title Awards: Four dogs earned their Senior Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and an engraved brass and walnut plaque were presented to:

- ◆ Rader's Charley Bell SH ("Charley") owned and handled by Jeff Rader
- ◆ Fern Hill Py In The Sky SH ("Py"), Golden Retriever bred and owned by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce, and handled by Jody Ware and Jim Pearce.
- ◆ Bear Country's Love on the Rox (Roxie). Chocolate Lab owned by Lois Luthenauer and Sherie Catledge, handled by Lois, and bred by ETRC members Mike and Barb Reed.
- ◆ Fired Up's Maximum Overdrive (Max), Chocolate Lab owned & handled by Lois Luthenauer.

Master Hunter Title Awards: Three dogs earned their Master Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and an engraved brass and walnut plaque were presented to:

- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH ("Cin"), Black Lab bred, owned and handled by Alan Bruhin.
- ◆ Fern Hill Py In The Sky MH ("Py"), Golden Retriever bred and owned by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce and handled by Jody Ware. Py passed 10 hunt tests in a row to get her SH title and her MH title this year, starting in October 2020 and finishing on August 1, 2021.
- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, Mike & Donna Smith, handled by Donna and Brian Caldwell. Indy also qualified to attend the Master National this year and brought home the plate! See below under Master National information.

Field Trial Champion: This is an extremely hard title to win, and very few dogs reach this level of achievement. Earning this prestigious award, and presented with an engraved brass and walnut plaque, was **FC Troublesome Canadian Huntress (Eve)**, co-owned by Jake Greenwell and John Broucek, handled by Jake & Brady Collins. Eve finished her Championship in November 2021 with Jake handling. Go Team Eve!

Qualifying at the Master National: Note that our very own Alan Bruhin was a judge at the 2021 Master National. Quite an achievement and recognition of his excellence in judging! For the first time this year, we had a total of four dogs who competed and qualified all the way to the end. This was especially impressive given that the competition this year was all the way in Idaho! Congratulations and an engraved plaque with a mounted picture were presented to:

End of Year Awards, Continued

- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, Mike & Donna Smith, handled by Brian Caldwell
- ◆ Luther's High Grade Black Coal MH MNH5, David Knott, handled by Brian Caldwell. This is Coal's 5th time for qualifying at the Master National; 4 times with Brian and once with David.
- ◆ RSR's Double J MH, owned by Jeremy Majors, bred by Jody & Leigh Ware, handled by Brian Caldwell.
- ◆ Troublesome Fowl Addiction MH, John Broucek, handled by Jody Ware
- ◆ Ringtail's Headhunter MH, bred, co-owned, and handled by Brian Caldwell.

Qualifying at the Master Amateur: No ETRC dogs competed at the Master Amateur this year, either the 2020 makeup in California or the actual 2021 event in Virginia. However, a Golden Retriever bred by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce, Fern Hill Panda's Sunday Best MH WCX, qualified at the 2020 makeup test for the first time, and also at the Master National. She's a littermate sister of their Zoey, and a half sister of Py.

Congratulations also to people who qualified to attend, and either did not attend or did not make it to the finals, for the MN / MA. Just qualifying for these events is a big achievement!

- ◆ Hilltop's Fowl Mouth Delta Queen MH (Miss Ivy), yellow lab owned and handled by J. Michael Evans, who decided to come into heat just before the Master National;
- ◆ McCoy's Echo Callin' Your Name MH (Echo), Golden Retriever owned by Luke McCoy, who qualified for the Master National with Brian Caldwell handling.
- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball ("Cin"), Alan Bruhin, qualified for the Master National with Alan Bruhin handling.
- ◆ Coon Creeks Backwater Quackhead MH (Woodie), chocolate lab owned and handled by Lois Luthenauer, qualified for the Master Amateur 2020, the Master Amateur 2021, and the Master National 2021, but did not attend any of these events.

AKC Outstanding Sportsman for 2021: the award this year went to J. Michael Evans, who competes at the highest level, does most of the training on his own dogs, breeds on occasion, judges at the Junior / Senior / Master level, is one of the hardest working club members every year, helps other people out with their training issues, and still finds time to duck hunt and help with the Labrador Retriever Rescue group. In addition, he holds down a very demanding job as one of the Knoxville Sheriff's Departments top cops, and has several side jobs as well. He must have found a day stretcher somewhere! .

ETRC Member of the Year, 2021: Alan Bruhin was the unanimous selection for this award for 2021. As president, he led the club to its biggest year EVER. Leading, in his case, meant doing a huge amount of work himself in terms of finding judges for 7 AKC hunt tests and taking a major role at every event to make sure things ran smoothly. It's a good thing he retired last year, because he couldn't have done all he did for the club if he were still working. In addition, he judged at the Master National this fall in Idaho – a huge commitment in time and effort. Having a judge of this stature in the club is an honor!

Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year, 2021: For the first time this year, two puppies tied for this award. We engraved both names on the plaque, and luckily did not have to worry about splitting time with the trophy since both of them were owned by the same person. So, congratulations to Cheryl McNutt and their two puppies: Good Timing Man JH, and Fin's Fancy Wild Side of Green JH.

Holcomb Award for Gun Dog of year, 2021: The winner this year was Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH , Bred,/Owned/Trained/Handled by Alan Bruhin. What a dog, she also took some time out to have her first litter!



Left:
Member of the
Year 2021
Alan Bruhin

Right:
AKC Sports-
man of the
Year 2021
J. Michael Ev-
ans



Left:
Gun Dog Of
The Year
2021
Tennessee
Cinnamon
Fireball MH,
owned by
Alan Bruhin

Right:
Puppies of
the Year 2021
Good Timing
Man JH, and
Fin's Fancy
Wild Side of
Green JH.



Left, Jake Greenwell with award for FC Canadian Huntress;
Right, Donna Smith with Master National Pass award for Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos.

Minutes for ETRC's Annual Awards Banquet & Business Meeting

Friday, February 18, 2022
Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, TN

People started arriving at the Banquet Hall shortly before 6 p.m. for a social hour. The venue was beautiful and large, with plenty of parking. Inside was a lovely large carpeted room with round tables seating 8 nicely spaced, with a roaring fireplace in the center of the room. There was a bar, with wine supplied by the club, BYOB wine and liquor, and beer that could be purchased from the Banquet hall. Dinner was served at 6:30 p.m. and the food was excellent. Menu selections consisted of a garden salad, beef tenderloin, chicken cordon bleu, twice baked potatoes, green beans almandine, yeast rolls, and banana pudding for dessert.



The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Present from the Board: Alan Bruhin, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Luke McCoy, Denise Chambers, Jim Pearce, Jeff McNutt, Mike Smith

Board Members Absent, excused: Peter Torok, Cory Smith

Members present: Cynthia Bruhin; Victor Burk; Tony Chambers; new member Michael Davis; Mitzi Evans; Jake & Laura Greenwell and their son; Kyle & Tracey Griffin; Jeremy & Holly Majors; Katie McCoy; Cheryl McNutt; Jeff & Nancy Rader; and Donna Smith.

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. Sixteen memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 58 (20% would be 12). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Officer's Reports

Greetings and President's Report on last year's activities:

Alan welcomed everyone gave a brief wrap-up of events during the past fiscal year –

- 7 hunt tests: Spring and fall tests with 2 flights Master, double JH / SH; 4 midweek single-flight master only tests; Midweek quad JH / SH tests. This added up to 8 flights of Master dogs; 8 Junior Hunter Tests, and 8 Senior Hunter tests. No other club in the country put on as many tests as we did last year, and it was a huge accomplishment.
- Three Club Trials this year: 3/20/21 at Chuck Atchley's; 4/11/21 at Brian Caldwell's, and 9/12/21 at Cory Smith's.
- Semiannual Meeting / Picnic / Club Trial / Equipment sale 9/12/21, Cory Smith's
- Thanks to everyone in the club who worked so hard this year putting on all these events, judging, getting judges, setting up events, providing lunches, repairing equipment, running errands, and doing all the other myriad things that it took to put on everything we did this year.
- New equipment: This year we made a major equipment purchase from Lucky 7 and also purchased some other items for a general equipment upgrade.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last meeting was on January 19, 2022. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since January 23. Luke moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. The motion was seconded by Mike Smith and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards: Balance in the treasury as of 2/18/22 is \$37,841.22. Karen handed out a single copy of the full Treasurer's report for the past year; this included separate sheets for calendar year 2021 and for Calendar year 2022 to date. Balance in our ORNL FCU account at the end of 2021 was \$23,260.21, of which \$4,616.74 is earmarked for the youth fund. Upcoming receipts are memberships which are coming due, plus \$3,000 which we just received for the sale of one of our club trailers. Upcoming expenses are for the banquet (~\$1600 including hall rental & food, wine and door prizes) , \$560 for awards, \$800 for the upcoming insurance bill, and \$2,700 for ribbons for the upcoming year. This will leave us approximately \$36,000 to go into the spring season. We are financially in excellent shape.

AKC Delegate's Report: Michele Fletcher: The 'bucket rule at the line' will stay. This was loved by everyone – instead of handing the retrieved duck to the judge or a bird tech, the handlers now can drop the duck into a 5-gallon bucket sitting at the line. Instituted because of Covid and social distancing, but a boon for everyone. The Amateurs First rule is also staying – this allows clubs to allocate from 25-35% of entries to amateurs, who can enter Master stakes a day earlier than the general opening of a hunt test. The amateur MUST handle the dog, and cannot use a pro as an alternate handler. The other new rule from last year was allowing clubs to institute a waiting list == this would permit the Hunt Test Secretary to call people on the waiting list after the closing date to fill spaces for people who have decided to drop out. We have decided not to implement this rule yet because of the complications, and will wait to see what Entry Express does about this, and any other club, before we decide to implement this one.

Old Business

Election of New members: Alan Bruhin. We have 3 new provisional members who are coming before the membership tonight for final approval. They have passed through first reading, and all sponsors recommended approval. New members are:

- ◆ Mike & Lisa Vencille, Ceres, VA. He's a pro trainer, she's an experienced handler & insurance broker, they have Labs of their own plus client dogs. Sponsors Mike Evans & Alan Bruhin.
- ◆ Lloyd and Leigha Montgomery, Knoxville, TN. He's a commercial real estate agent. Have a young Golden, previously were active in hunt tests at the JH level. Sponsors Karen Edwards & Jim Pearce.
- ◆ Michael & Dana Davis, Greenback, TN. Have a young lab. Sponsors: Mike Evans and Mike Smith.

Jim Pearce moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. Karen seconded the motion, and everyone was approved unanimously. Welcome new members!

Upcoming Events Updates: Alan announced our line-up of events for this coming year. Planning is already well underway for the following events, and we will need lots of volunteer support.

- ◆ **Winter Training:** Field Trial Seminar and Training, next Saturday, February 26, 1:00, Brady Collins place, with Brady, Jake Greenwell, and John Broucek assisting. This is a great opportunity to learn about the other side of field retriever sports, including Derby, qualifying Stakes, Open and Amateur stakes, and more.
- ◆ **Advanced Judges Seminar,** March 12-13, Comfort Inn, Athens, TN on Saturday; Cory Smith's farm in Niota on Sunday. Great way for handlers to learn more about how judges judge hunt tests at all levels, and improve your handling skills. It's also one of the required steps in becoming a full-fledged AKC hunt test judge. FREE to members who joined prior to December 1, 2021: you have to submit your registration fee, but the fee will be returned to you at the conclusion of the seminar.

Board Minutes, Continued

- ◆ **Training Day on Transition Drills**, Sunday 1 p.m., Cory Smith Farm, Master Hunter judges and competitors Alan Bruhin and J. Michael Smith presenting.
- ◆ **Spring Club Trial**: April 2, Saturday, 9 a.m. Location pending, will be announced in the newsletter next month. Great way to tune up your dog for the hunt test season, and for new competitors to see how close their dog is to being ready.
- ◆ **Midweek Double JH / SH Hunt Test**: April 19 – 20, Tuesday & Wednesday, Brian Caldwell's farm.
- ◆ **Spring Hunt Test**: May 28-29, 2022, Hiwassee. This is usually our biggest event of the year and we need help with set-up, marshaling, and more. Status: up on Entry Express, working on judges. We will have a split location for Master, with one flight being at Brian Caldwell's farm about 15 minutes away from Hiwassee.
- ◆ **Summer Seminar and Picnic**: date and location to be determined.
- ◆ **Fall Club Trial**: date and location to be determined, possibly to be combined with picnic in lieu of a seminar.
- ◆ **Midweek Master Hunt Test**, 1 flight, September 20-21 (Tuesday – Wednesday), Brian Caldwell's farm.
- ◆ **Fall Hunt Test**: October 22-23, 2022, Location to be determined. We're working on it!
- ◆ **Midweek Master Hunt Test**, 1 flight, November 1-2 (Tuesday – Wednesday), Brian Caldwell's farm.
- ◆ **Fall Training**: We will pick up with more club training events starting next November.
- ◆ **Awards Banquet**: Next February. Date to be determined, we are likely to come back here to this venue.



President Alan Bruhin presiding



Left: Victor Burk receives JH title awards for his and JoAnn's two dogs.

Right: Cheryl McNutt with title awards for her two dogs who also won Puppies of the Year Awards.



Board Minutes, Continued

New Business:

Awards Presentations. J. Michael Evans announced that 2021 was a big year for awards. Usually we only have one or two dogs at each level and this year, we have multiples. Also unusually, we have several dogs that have won titled at different levels during the year. See the article earlier in this newsletter for a complete list of Award recipients for this past year.

Election of Officers/Board (Slate of officers/board members and other positions from the nominating committee is presented for approval. There were no additional nominations from the membership during the December time period allotted in the Bylaws, and nominations are now closed.)

- ◆ President: Mike Smith
- ◆ Vice President: J. Michael Evans
- ◆ Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards
- ◆ Board Member Feb 2022- Feb 2025: Jeff McNutt
- ◆ Board Member Feb 2022- Feb 2025: Luke McCoy
- ◆ Hunt Test Secretary: Michele Fletcher
- ◆ AKC Representative: Michele Fletcher
- ◆ Past President: Alan Bruhin (non-elective)
- ◆ Chief Marshall for 2022 tests: Lois Luthenauer (non-elective)

Remaining on the board: Jim Pearce and Peter Torok until Feb 2023, Cory Smith and Denise Chambers (Through Feb 24).

Alan called for a Motion to approve by voice vote rather than secret ballot. This motion was made by Karen Edwards, seconded by Jim Pearce, and Passed unanimously. Mike Evans then moved we approve the slate as read out. Jim Pearce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Alan heaved a huge sigh of relief and figuratively handed the gavel over to new President, Mike Smith.

Statement by New President: Mike Smith. Mike thanked Alan for his service, and handed him a Cabela / Bass Pro gift card as a thank you for his service during the past two years. He went on to state that we have another busy year ahead of and he was looking forward to working with everyone on another successful year.

Door Prizes: Alan Bruhin got back up and called out numbers for door prizes. We had a selection of 12 items including bumpers, glow-in-the-dark collars, 30' puppy leads and more. The winners in order were: Jeremy Majors, Victor Burk, Michele Fletcher, Luke McCoy, Jeff McNutt, Jim Pearce, Denise Chambers, Katie McCoy, Kyle Griffin, Karen Edwards, Mike Davis, and Jake Greenwell. Congratulations everyone!

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Luke moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim, the vote passed unanimously, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Banquet Pictures — Friday, February 18, 2022
Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, TN



Top left: Luke & Katie McCoy & Kyle & Tracey Griffin.

Top right — Jake Greenwell's darling little boy.

Middle left: new member Michael Davis.

Middle right: Denise Chambers, Karen Edwards, Donna Smith.

Bottom: Alan and Cynthia Bruhin, Nancy and Jeff Rader.

Minutes for ETRC Board Meeting After the Banquet

Friday, February 18, 2022
Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, TN

Present from the Board: Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Alan Bruhin, Luke McCoy, Denise Chambers, Jim Pearce, Jeff McNutt.

Board Members Absent, excused: Peter Torok, Cory Smith

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

The sole topic of the meeting is to discuss what to do about building a duck pen. We have two quotes for doing the concrete. The most complete one is for \$5,300 from Alguire Construction.

New ideas for the pen include using a galvanized tank for the pond section, sunk into the concrete. The tank that they are looking at is 2' deep. It drains out the side, which means it has to be plumbed into the concrete and can never be removed again. One suggestion was to put the pen at the end, and not put it in the concrete but next to the concrete pad. This would make it much easier to form and pour the concrete. It could be set on a gravel base for drainage, and the pipe could come right out the end, so that it would be easy to replace if it ever became necessary.

Several other suggestions involved using PT lumber around the tank.

The final decision was for Mike Smith to call John Alguire again and tell him we want to hire him for the project. He will ask him for suggestions on how to do this more cheaply and still get the results we need, and then get back in touch with us on a final price.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



J. Michael and Mitzi Evans at the Banquet



Hunt Test Secretary /AKC Representative Michele Fletcher deep in conversation with incoming President Mike Smith.

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

Renewals for 2022 are NOW DUE. If you haven't paid yet, your membership expired on March 1. We will keep you on the email list until the first of June, and after that you will be dropped if you haven't renewed by then. 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 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. It's a bargain! We are one of the most active Retriever clubs in the country — and have another great year lined up.

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).