

ETRC Upcoming Events

Volume XXIII, Issue 4

April 2023



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. April 11, 12, 13: Club Member Open Training Event at the Retriever Retreat — info on page 5
2. May 16-17, 2023: Midweek Master Only, Brian Caldwell's. Entries open: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 7:00 PM CT, Workers/Amateur Set Aside open: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 7:00 PM CT
3. June 6-7, 2023: Midweek Master Only, Brian Caldwell's
4. October 21-22, 2023: Fall Hunt Test, location to be determined
5. November 14-15, 2023: Midweek Master Only, Brian Caldwell's

Photo of the Month



Competitor at the March 14-15 ETRC Master-Only Midweek Test

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Report on the ETRC Quadruple JH / SH AKC Hunt Test April 1-2, 2023, Hiwassee Reserve

Our second AKC hunt test of the season was this past weekend, April 1 and 2, at the Hiwassee Reserve in Beechwood, TN. This was a quadruple JH / SH test, meaning that we ran two Junior Hunter and Two Senior Hunter stakes each day — four active sites running at once. This is a difficult format to manage, since even more than standard hunt tests with single JH, SH and even 2 MH stakes, there are many more people running in multiple stakes each day. We even had one woman who ran her dog in all 8 stakes (and qualified in most of them!). But, this meant that each stake was always looking for people who were running somewhere else — and Hiwassee is a large place, so it was a challenge to get people where they needed to be to avoid delays. Our marshals were amazing, and did a great job of coordinating between themselves to get people where they needed to be.

We ended up with 147 entries in the four Junior tests, and 65 entries for Senior. As always, most of the dogs were Labrador retrievers, but we had quite a few Golden Retrievers, a handful of poodles, a Springer Spaniel, and a Flatcoat. Good to see the other breeds out working in the field!

The weather turned out to be pretty nice — but Friday night there was a terrible storm with over two inches of rain. It had cleared out by about 7 a.m. down in Birchwood, but there were some muddy spots where several vehicles got stuck and had to be pulled out. Saturday was a high of 75, brilliantly sunny, but was also super windy with gusts up to 50 mph. Several of the WMA's portapotties blew over, and in the early afternoon, an enormous tree blew down on Priddy Road, which is the only way in and out of the preserve. Several of our workers had to spend a considerable amount of time working with one of the neighboring farmers to get the road cleared so we could leave in the evening by the time the test finished! Luckily, by Sunday the wind had died down and we were treated to a sunny day with a high of 65. It was pretty cold in the morning though — lows were around 35.

A big thanks to the bird technicians, college kids from the Cumberland State Community College Wildlife Society, who as always were terrific. We were even more grateful this time since one of the bird technicians, a tiny young woman, was an EMT and provided prompt and extremely professional support to one of our members who suffered a dizzy episode with a low enough heart rate that we called an ambulance to transport the person to a hospital where they were checked out and treated. As a result, the Board of Directors has taken two actions: (1) we have voted to donate another \$500 to the Wildlife Society in gratitude for going above and beyond the call of duty; and (2) we are going to research and buy a defibrillator and possibly other equipment so that we can provide prompt first aid for anyone who might have a serious problem in the future. As isolated as we are at these test sites, and as far away from hospitals, we need to beef up the equipment that we can use until professional help arrives.

Thanks also to our eight judges — Senior judges on Saturday were James Cuddihy / Lisa Styles and Kenny West / Robert Shell. These two pairs judged Junior stakes on Sunday. Senior Judges on Sunday were Clint Catledge / J. Michael Evans, and Lisa Vencille / Bonnie Cuddihy. These pairs judged Junior stakes on Saturday. We are proud that three of these judges are also ETRC members — J. Michael Evans, Lisa Vencille, and Lisa Styles.

And, thanks to everyone who helped out putting on this test — Mike Evans (in addition to judging); Alan Bruhin, Mike Smith, and Jim Pearce, who broke down and set up tests while also acting as relief marshals (Alan), running test dogs (Mike), serving as Duck Meisters (Mike, Alan, Mike and others), helping to fix lunches (Jim), and clearing trees (Alan and Mike); Michele Fletcher who was not only the hunt test secretary but ran test and bye dogs and marshaled; Lois Luthenauer who marshaled, helped run communications from the office, sold ETRC merchandise, and ran errands; her nephew Gavin Sigmund who spent time throwing birds, setting up and breaking down tests, and running errands; Matt Eden who marshaled, helped setup and tear down tests, and even helped make sandwiches;

April Hunt Test Report, Continued

Pam Buck and Denise Chambers who also marshaled and kept the test running smoothly, and Karen Edwards who made lunches, paid the bills, sold tee shirts, took out trash, and ran the ribbon ceremonies. Also thanks to a number of people who were not members but who helped out as relief marshals, ran errands, helped move the big tree, and more. It truly takes a village! If I missed anybody, it's just an oversight and not because we don't very much appreciate your contribution.

Congratulations to ETRC Members whose dogs qualified at these tests —

Senior tests:

- ◆ Haley Shealy's Southern Pro Faith & Hope JH, with Parker Smith handling

Junior tests:

- ◆ Haley Shealy's Souther Pro Rastafarian Roy, with Haley handling, 4 passes and a title
- ◆ Matt Eden, owner handler of Br. Bristol's Roan of Appalachia, 1 pass
- ◆ Konrad Heider, owner handler of Mighty Mighty Teddy the Rough Rider, 2 passes

Also congratulations to Pro member Parker Smith, who handled several other dogs to passes.



Parker Smith and Friend

Puppy Stake Report

On Saturday, we ran two puppy stakes — one for Senior puppies (7 months up to a year) and Junior puppies (up to 7 months). The 3 Senior puppies who entered (3 Black Labradors from the same litter) ran two land marks of about 40-50 yards. All three qualified and placed in the following order:

1. First Place: Bruce, male puppy owned by Bill Von Holtum;
2. Second Place: Halo, male puppy owned by ETRC member Robert White; and
3. Third Place: Lu, female puppy owned by Robert White.

One Junior puppy entered and ran two land marks of about 20-30 yards:

1. First Place: Fern Hill I Mint To Do That, owned by ETRC members Jim Pearce & Karen Edwards

Congratulations to all puppies! We look forward to seeing how you progress in your future careers!



Jim Pearce and Mint, 6 months old



Hunt Test Secretary Michele Fletcher

Report: ETRC's March Mid-Week MH AKC Hunt Test

Brian Caldwell's Farm, March 14-15, 2023

Our first AKC hunt test of the season is in the books. 66 dogs were entered, with 8 dogs on the waiting list — and 7 were scratched at the last moment. It was a cold, cold morning — 23 to 25 degrees both days although it warmed up nicely in the afternoon. As a result, the water work on the second morning was kept short and sweet, and we finished the test by 9:15 in the morning. 42 dogs passed.

Thanks to the judges — Scott Chaney and our own J. Michael Evans, who had to scratch his own dog to fill in for the other judge who bailed out on us without a lot of warning. Also thanks to Brian Caldwell for letting us use his property, and for providing the professional bird technicians. Many thanks to all the club members who got out there in the cold and worked. Special thanks to the 'lunch crew' of Donna Smith and Michele Fletcher who filled in for Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce who were recovering from Covid and unable to perform the sandwich duty this time. Also, thanks to Donna for the many beautiful pictures that she took!

Congratulations to ETRC Members who qualified at this test —

- ◆ Coosawatte Backwater Drake, owned and handled by Andy Buck
- ◆ Lick Creek On The Money MH, owned and handled by Pro member Mike Vencille
- ◆ L7 Troublesomewhataboutbob, owned by Bob Smith & handled by Pro member Brian Caldwell
- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball, bred, owned, and handled by Alan Bruhin
- ◆ McCoy's Precious Gem of the South, owned by Luke McCoy & handled by Brian Caldwell
- ◆ Tennessee Gentleman Jack, bred, owned and handled by Alan Bruhin
- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos, owned by Michael and Donna Smith, handled by Brian Caldwell



Master Amateur Invitational Hunt Test 2023

Below is the ad that ETRC has put in the Master Amateur Retriever Club's Training Guide. Our Club is very proud to have so many excellent handlers and dogs who qualified to attend this prestigious event! Best wishes to those of you who go, and



EAST TENNESSEE
RETRIEVER CLUB

AKC Member Club
MARC Club Founding Member
MNRC Club Member
www.etrclub.org

Congratulations and Best Wishes to all the exhibitors and event planners at the 2023 Master Amateur Hunt Test!

Good Luck to ETRC's 2023 qualifiers:

- ◆ Alan Bruhin and Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH
- ◆ Lois Luthenauer and Bear Country's Love on the Rox MH
- ◆ Jeff Rader & Rader's Charley Belle MH
- ◆ Barbara Reed & Trinity's Zoey Love MH
- ◆ Mike Reed & Gator Pts Don't Mess With My Toot Toot MH

Open Training Days at the Retriever Retreat

Lois Luthenauer is hosting a 3-day free training event at the Retriever retreat on April 11, 12, and 13, 2023 (that's midweek, (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). All levels of training will be included, and thawed ducks will be available. Drills in the morning, set ups in the afternoon. 8:30 a.m. Central time to 4:30 p.m. Central time.

You must call ahead if you want to attend any or all days — 865-803-1187 — so Lois knows how many to expect. Pack a lunch and drinks / water for your dogs, plus any training equipment you want to bring along. There will be a bucket for voluntary donations to help cover the cost of ducks.

The Retriever Retreat is located at **3058 Martha Washington Road, Clarkrange, TN** . GPS gives good directions to this location about 15 miles north of Crossville. There is a small technical pond on the property for water work, and nice land for marks and blinds. A pavilion is available for eating lunch, as well as a bathhouse with toilets.

Hope to see some of you out there!

Club News, Member News and Brags



Brilliant Young Dog!!!

Tennessee Gentleman Jack picked up his first master pass at 23 months old at the March 2023 East Tennessee Retriever Club midweek AKC Hunt Test. This is the first test he has entered at any level. Congratulations to Jack and owner/ breeder / trainer / handler Alan Bruhin! Jack is by Seaside's Troublesome Fowl Pursuits QAA (Percy) out of Alan's dog Grady's Tennessee Moonshine MH25 (Shine).

Qualified!

Pictured are club members Mike Reed and Lois Luthenauer with their dogs who qualified at the Master level at the recent Bourbon Hills Retriever Club hunt test in Kentucky. Passing were Gator Pts Don't Mess With My Toot Toot MH ("Tootie"), owned by Barbara and Mike Reed and handled by Mike, and Bear Country's Love On The Rox MH (Roxie), who is owned and handled by Lois. This was the final pass qualifying Lois



Fancy Branded Trailers!!!

After several years of our trailers being anonymous, we have gotten some logo decals to identify them. Thanks to Michele Fletcher for getting these decals made up, and to Mike Smith and his trusty crew for getting them on the trailers. These should be removable with little effort if we ever decide to sell the trailers in the future.



Youth Program



The Luthenauer Young Handler program was established as a memorial to ETRC member Kevin Luthenauer. The program is supported by generous contributions from family and friends to encourage youth participation in retriever sports. Kids who are interested in applying 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 awards for everyone in the program.

ETRC Membership: TIME TO RENEW FOR 2023

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 2023 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).