Volume XXIII, Issue 10

October 2023





ETRC Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

- 1. November 14-15, 2023: Midweek Master Only, Brian Caldwell's, one flight (66 dogs)
- 2. February 24, 2024, Saturday: Awards Banquet, Elections, General Meeting: Bearden Banquet Hall, 6:00 p.m.

As the hunt test season winds down, thanks to everyone who has helped make this year such a success!

Photo of the Month



CONTENTS

Report on Fall Hunt Test Sept 30-October 1	2-3	Master National Update	10
Report on September 17 Club Trial,& Picnic	4-5	ETRC's Luthenauer Youth Program	11
Minutes from Sept. 17 General Meeting	6-9	Membership info	11
Upcoming November MH Hunt Test	9	Newsletter Info / Facebook info	11

Fall Hunt Test Report—September 29– October 1, 2023 Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater, TN

We had two beautiful fall days for our hunt test this last weekend! This was a Double Junior, Double Senior, and single flight Master test that unfortunately didn't fill. Don't know quite why, as the location is beyond compare and other tests in the area are at least coming closer to filling. We knew that some pros are already migrating to Georgia to begin training in the area and acclimatizing their dogs for the massive Master National test coming up down there later this month, but we thought and hoped we were early enough to not conflict too badly with that.

Thanks so much to our judges, the wonderful bird techs who again came from the community college Wildlife Society, and all the club members who pitched in to help. Worker bees included Mike Smith, our Hunt Test chairman; J. Michael Evans who was the assistant chair and also judged one set of Junior / Senior tests; Lois Luthenauer who was an apprentice judge with one set of Junior / Senior judges; Michele Fletcher who was Hunt Test Secretary and also marshaled at the Junior Stake; Donna Smith, who was Chief Marshal, helped organize all the marshal boxes and straighten out the mess in the big trailer, plus served as marshal at Senior; Luke McCoy who helped with setup and tear down and was a relief marshal; Jim Pearce who helped with setup, teardown, and the lunches; and Karen Edwards who worked on lunches, helped with HQ communications, was ribbon marshal, and paid the bills. Thanks also to non-member Nancy Clinchy who marshaled at Master! If I missed anyone, I apologize; it's my fault and your contribution was still completely appreciated!



We had a small test, which is bad in the sense that we didn't quite break even, but was good for being relaxed and much more fun for everyone. Of the dogs participating, Here are the results:

Master Stake: Judged by Ethan Lane Corkren & Allen Dillard. 29 dogs entered, including 11 males, and 18 females. 25 of these were Labradors; and there was one each Golden, NSDTR, Poodle, and Chessie. 7 dogs scratched; and 23 came to the line. Of those, 16 passed (including the Golden and the Toller) and 7 failed. Passing ETRC-owned dogs and handlers were:

- Rader's Charlie Belle MH, Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Jeff Rader;
- Spitfire's Whiskey Teal, Labrador Retriever owned by Janet Summers and handled by Bob Smith;
- Razor Sharp's Duck em Down, Labrador Retriever owned by Brian Caldwell, handled by Bob Smith.

Senior Stake, Saturday: Judged by J. Michael Evans and James Cuddihy Jr.. 6 dogs entered, 1 male and 5 females. Five of the dogs were Labs and one was a Flatcoat. One dog scratched, 4 passed including the Flatcoat, and 1 dog failed. No ETRC –0wned or handled dogs passed.

Hunt Test Report, Continued

Senior Stake, Sunday: Judged by Bonnie Cuddihy & Lisa Vencille, with Lois Luthenauer apprenticing. 6 dogs entered, 1 scratched, 4 passed (including the Flatcoat) and 1 failed. The same dogs entered the second day. Passing ETRC-owned dogs and handlers were:

 Cadron Ridge's Hunting Birds In The Snow And Rayne, Labrador Retriever owned by Janet Summers and handled by Bob Smith.

Junior Stake, Saturday: Judged by Bonnie Cuddihy & Lisa Vencille, with Lois Luthenauer apprenticing. 22 dogs entered, of which 8 were males and 14 were females. 17 were Labradors, 3 were Goldens, one was a Irish Water Spaniel, and one was a Flatcoated Retriever. The youngest was born November 25, 2022 and the oldest was born January 8, 2019. 19 passed (including 2 out of the 3 Goldens, the Flatcoat, and the Irish Water Spaniel), 3 failed. Passing ETRC-owned dogs and handlers were:

- Nate's Diety Gaia, Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Nathan Lamping;
- Fern Hill I Mint To Do That, Golden Retriever owned by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce and handled by Jim;
- Indy's Mini Cooper Of The Clindy Clan, Labrador Retriever owned by Mike and Donna Smith and handled by Mike;
- Dick's High Flying Lazer Teal, Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Dick Lamping.
- Razor's Coal Cotton, Labrador Retriever owned by Donna and Mike Smith and handled by Donna.

Junior Stake, Sunday: Judged by Bonnie Cuddihy & Lisa Vencille, with Lois Luthenauer apprenticing. Again, 22 dogs entered, two scratched, and one failed. The same dogs were entered both days, and the same four ETRC owned and handled dogs also passed on the second day.

Congratulations to everyone who passed, and better luck next time to those who didn't make it. If this were easy, it wouldn't be as rewarding when you pass!



Fall Club Trial Report—Sunday, September 17, 2023 Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater, TN

This year, we decided to combine our Summer picnic / business meeting with a Club Trial. The festivities started at 9 a.m., on a day that started out crisp and cool and stayed comfortable all day with bright sun and a nice breeze. Thanks a million to Ken Campbell for letting us use his beautiful Lucky 7 Ranch for our event! Thanks also to judges Alan Bruhin, Mike Evans, and Michele Fletcher, and to them and others who helped set up the stakes and manned gunner stations. Thanks also to the people who brought along frozen ducks from their freezers. Big thanks to Jim Pearce who ordered and collected the 7 large pizzas, and to the various people who brought along delicious desserts!

Singles Classic had 14 entries, with two long single marks across the back technical pond pond and up the hill. First through 4th place color ribbons were awarded, along with JAM (green) ribbons for others who brought back both marks but didn't place in the top four. Results were:

- First place was won by Cin, a black Labrador Retriever bred, owned, trained and handled by Alan Bruhin.
- Second place went to Lucy, a Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Dick Lamping.
- Third place went to Ivy, a yellow lab, with owner J. Michael Evans handling;
- Fourth was Jack, another Alan Bruhin special Labrador.
- JAMs were: Okie and Clue, Labs owned by Jake Greenwell and handled (with a little help from Dad) by 5-year old Baker Greenwell; Cotton, owned and handled by Donna Smith; and Teal, another Labrador owned and handled by Dick Lamping.

Junior Hunter/Advanced Junior Hunter was up next. Junior was the standard setup, with two single marks. Advanced Junior ran those same marks as a double. Both marks were water marks, one with a swim along the shore to a point and the other across the pond. Both ducks landed on the land (except for a few where the throw was a bit more enthusiastic than other times!) 12 dogs entered in Junior. Passing were:

- Mint, a 11-month 29-day old Golden Retriever puppy bred and owned by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce, and handled by Jim.
- Polly, a chocolate Lab owned and handled by Lois Luthenauer;
- Gus, a Labrador owned and handled by brand-new member Brent Naveiro;
- Cooper, a black Labrador owned and handled by Mike Smith;
- Cotton, a black Labrador owned and handled by Donna Smith;

There were 6 dogs entered in Advanced Junior and 5 teams passed:

- Teal, a Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Dick Lamping;
- Gaia, a Labrador Retriever owned and handled by Nate Lamping;
- Gus, a Labrador Retriever, handled by owner Brent Naveiro;
- Cotton, with Donna Smith;
- Cooper with Mike Smith.

Senior Hunter was run with the same marks as the Advanced Junior setup, and with the addition of two blinds. Three dogs entered, and two passed. Passing were:

- Kaypesh, Peter Torok's Golden Retriever; and
- Roan, Matt Eden's Black Labrador.

Master Hunter ran next, and added another mark to make a triple along with the . Five dogs went to the line, and four of them were successful. Passing were:

- Max, Chocolate Lab, owned and handled by Lois Luthenauer;
- Ivy, J. Michael Evans' Yellow Lab;
- Cin and Jack, Alan Bruhin's black labs.



Club Trial Report, Continued

After the Master Stakes was finished, we broke down the test and returned to the Clubhouse for dessert, puppy stakes, the ribbon ceremony, and the business meeting.

The puppy stakes was run in the back yard of the clubhouse, with one mark on land up a hill and the other one into the water. We used white bumpers for the land mark, and a small dokken for the water mark. Alan and J. Michael Evans judged.

Junior Puppy had only one entry, but what a dandy! Four month old Wren, a black Labrador puppy owned by Nate Lamping, showed everyone how it was done. She won first place, well deserved.

There were two Senior puppies. These were littermates out of Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce's Master Hunter Fern Hill Py In the Sky:

- First place was taken by Mint, with owner Jim Pearce handling.
- Second place was Quincy, with owner Jo Ann Burk handling.

This was a very successful day, with good attendance, perfect weather, and outstanding facilities. Also lots of fun people and lovely, talented dogs! Congratulations everyone!



Minutes: Summer Meeting—Sunday, September 17, 2023 Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater, TN

Present from the Board: : Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Lois Luthenauer

Absent:, Cory Smith, Luke McCoy, Denise Chambers (football game), Jeff Rader (work)

Members present: Kevin Anderson; Jo Ann and Victor Burk; Matthew Eden; Jake, Laura, and Blake Greenwell; Bob Houston; Blake & Kim Johnson & daughter; RETURNING MEMBERS Dick & JoLynn Lamping and NEW MEMBERS Nate Lamping with wife Haley and son; Donna Smith; Lisa Styles; Peter & Mara Torok.

Guests present: Brent Naveiro (who joined at the event)

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. 18 memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 54 (20% would be 11). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 3:50 p.m. following a Club Trial and a picnic pizza lunch provided by the Club. Thanks to people who brought desserts -- they were delicious!

Officer's Reports

Greetings, Introduction of Guests, and President's Report on activities so far this year:

- Master Only Hunt tests in March, May, and June at Brian Caldwell's place.
- Quadruple JH/SH test in April at Hiwassee.
- Our next hunt test will be a double JH, double SH, and single flight Master right here at Lucky 7 on September 29-October 30. The entries don't close on this test until tomorrow night at midnight, so there is still time and space to enter.
- Our final hunt test will be 11/14-15, another Master Only single flight test at Brian Caldwell's.
- Our first club trial of the year was this morning. Thanks to all for coming! Attendance was great, the best in several years, and the weather cooperated!
- Thanks to:
 - Brian Caldwell, who let us use his farm repeatedly this year for mid-week hunt tests
 - Ken Campbell for letting us use his wonderful facilities today and at the end of the month.
 - All the members who judged, worked, helped and participated in any of our events during the year.

New equipment: Mike Smith mentioned that we had bought four new mini poppers and four more blinds. We are in excellent shape for equipment.

Mike also reported on the Boy Scout Camp property, several hundred acres just north of Morristown that is being developed for off season use as a location for hunt tests among other activities. They have started work on construction of ponds. This property is a possibility for the future if we lose our access to Hiwassee and/or Lucky 7.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

 Minutes: The last meeting was on July 13, 2023. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since July 15. J. Michael Evans moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. The motion was seconded by Lois Luthenauer and passed unanimously.

- Correspondence:
 - Insurance renewal for our officers' indemnity policy.
 - More correspondence from the MNRC to be discussed later.
- *Membership:* Our current membership is 54 people.
- Website: Karen took over as webmaster at the beginning of July. The website is up to date, but the ISP didn't transfer the security certificate along with it, so you will get a notice that 'danger, unsafe' when you go there. There is nothing there unsafe, this really only applies when you take money on the site which we don't. Karen need to call GoDaddy and get this straightened out but hasn't taken the hours on the phone this will take to do this yet. It will probably cost more money as well.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards: Balance in the treasury as of 9/17/23 is \$41,039. \$4,533.57 of this amount is earmarked for the youth fund. Karen made available a single copy of the year-to-date income and outgo, and said that the books are open and if anyone wants an electronic copy of this, to email her.

Upcoming expenses are for today's event (several hundred dollars), and the Fall tests. Given the low turnout for our October test, we expect to lose several thousand dollars on that, some of which we may make up in the November test. Even with this loss, we will have plenty of money to go into the spring season. We are financially in excellent shape.

AKC Delegate's Report: Michele Fletcher: Michele reported that the only changes that impact the hunt test world this year are (1) a change that makes it possible for Hunt Test clubs to run Field Trials without further approvals; and (2) a change in Junior Hunter where handlers can talk softly to their dog and touch them for reassurance, unlike in the higher levels.

Old Business

- *Election of New members:* Mike Smith. We have 5 new provisional members who are coming before the membership today for final approval. All sponsors recommended approval. They are:
 - Logan & Lindsay Fugate. He works in Logistics, and comes from Georgetown, TN. He runs a Chesapeake Bay Retriever, 4-year-old All Father Odin of Valhallah, and joined 6/9/23 at our hunt test.
 - Britton & Julia Keyes. He's a Sales Manager from Ooltewah, runs a 3 year old lab HRCH Harness Creek Top Gun Remington (Remi), and joined 5/16/23 at one of our hunt tests.
 - Blake & Kimberly Johnson (PRESENT), a Sr. Construction Project Manager from Athens, he owns a 1-year-old yellow Lab, Feathered Star's Farm Hunting Herald, and joined 3/20/23.
 - Nathan & Haley Lamping (PRESENT). Nathan is an instrumentation and controls technician living in Harriman. He has two black labs, a puppy named Nate's High Flying Wren, and a 4-year old named Nate's Diety Gaia. Joined 7/27/23.
 - Heath & Nikol Shuler of Knoxville, who own 3 young Labradors, Cane Creek's Fresh Squeezed, Hidden Springs Aha I've Got It, and Cane Creek's Golden Goose. He joined 4/12/23.

Jim Pearce moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. J. Michael Evans seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

• Update on Master National Issues: Alan Bruhin reported that after the three motions about how to change the Master National to cut down on numbers of entrants all failed, he has not heard any new rumors about where we go from here. Karen Edwards reported receiving a new proposal and ballot this morning from the MNRC Secretary. A Bylaws change has been put on the table that would eliminated the paragraph that prohibits professional dog trainers from serving on the board as a director or an officer. Also, there is a vacancy for the MNR Region 2 Vice President. Two candidates have applied for the office – Frank Barton, who has previously been MNRC Event Secretary, Club Secretary, and Treasurer; and Matt Griffiths, who is currently on the MNRC board. Many of us know Matt Griffiths, since he judged for us at one of the Master Only tests. Some of the members also know Frank Barton.

Alan Bruhin pointed out that pros have so much financially at stake in the Master National test that he has concerns about conflict of interest if they are allowed to serve in director and officer positions. He moved that we vote NO on this proposed Bylaws amendment. J. Michael Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed with no dissent.

Alan Bruhin then moved that we support Matt Griffiths for Region 2 Vice President, and Lois seconded that motion. This motion also passed unanimously.

Karen will fill out the ballot and mail it in so that it arrives before the October 16 deadline. [Note: this was mailed out on 9/18/23].

New Business:

- **Nominating Committee**: Mike Smith. Need to have one board member and 2 regular members; are also supposed to have two non-board alternates. The committee needs to have to have a meeting (virtual, phone or in person) before November 15, and must report to the Secretary (Karen) their nominations before November 24. If you agree to serve, Karen will send you the full details of what is involved and which positions are to be filled. Look for this before the end of September but after she returns from her trip to Oregon on September 27. Alan Bruhin 'volunteered' to serve as chairman of the committee. Donna Smith and Peter Torok agreed to be the other two non-board members.
- Off-Season Seminars: one of the newer members asked if we had any plans for seminars or mini-seminars during the late fall and winter like we did for two years prior to the last year. He said he got a lot out of those and would like to see them reinstated. Lois Luthenauer mentioned that we were working on a possible 2-day pro handler seminar in February or March, that would be at a reduced or no cost for ETRC members. Blake Johnson suggested a seminar on field first aid for your dog, whether it's at a hunt test or when the dog is out hunting. This would include how to recognize heat stroke, hypothermia, and wound care. He mentioned Charley Lowry, who is the local DU representative, and his wife Carey Lowry DVM as possible people to contact about this. The Board agreed to look at this topic and try to set up some mini-seminars for this winter.
- ◆ Junior Handlers Being Helped Too Much At the Line?: Lisa Styles mentioned that at one of the recent hunt tests where she was judging Junior, a parent stood in the holding blind behind the line and loudly and repeatedly told the Junior handler what to do. She asked if any of the other judge members had faced this issue? J. Michael and Alan said they had seen parents giving advice from behind the line, but that in the incidents they had witnessed personally it was not disruptive and they did not believe this fell under the prohibition of 'double handling' as outlined by AKC. They did comment, however, that there is nothing in the rule books that addresses this situation, so every judge just needs to use their own best judgment about how much help from a parent was too much in the case of a

junior handler.

New Proposed Award: Alan Bruhin suggested that the club consider a new award – a lifetime achievement award to be given out once a year. No dog could win it more than once. He suggested that first consideration should be given to the dog's overall achievements in the field; second consideration to its achievements in the breeding shed; and third to achievement in other dog sports. After some discussion, Alan made this into a motion, and that the award be named the Chuck Atchley Lifetime Achievement Award, in honor of charter member Chuck Atchley who, among other roles, served as Treasurer of the club for 17 years. Jim Pearce seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Secretary Karen Edwards volunteered to draft up a strawman description and set of criteria for this award to use at our next meeting to finalize plans for the award.

Any other new business?

Adjourn: There being no other new business, J. Michael Evans moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lois Luthenauer, the vote passed, and the meeting was officially



Our final hunt test of 2023 will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 14-15, at Brian Caldwell's place. This will be a Master Only test with a single flight of 66 dogs. Entries will open on Entry Express on October 25 at 7:00 p.m. Central time. Amateurs and people with worker codes may enter a day early, October 24, at 7:000 p.m. Central time. Entries will close November 6 at midnight.

Judges are Jack Gravely and Mickey Taylor. We will also be having an apprentice judge, Wesley Joseph Bowman.

This test is always quite relaxed, and it is a wonderful opportunity for those new to the sport to come watch, ask questions, and learn more about the higher levels of the sport. It's fun to watch!

How to get to Brian's Farm:

The address is 1810 State Highway 58 South, Georgetown, TN, near Cleveland and Decatur and not far from Dayton, TN. If you don't have a GPS, here are some more detailed instructions:

- From Interstate 75, take exit 49 for TN-30 towards Decatur.
- Follow TN-30W for 9.3 miles into the stop light in Decatur
- Turn left onto TN-58S. Stay on this road for 15 miles and turn left into Brian's property. This is just after going up a hill, so be prepared to turn in a hurry as you approach the hill.

There will be "ETRC" signs at the entrance and the gate will be open.

Update: Master National News

The in-person MNRC Annual Meeting will be held at the 2023 Master National Event on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the Deep South Fairgrounds, 2057 GA 122, Thomasville, Georgia 31757 at Noon.

At this meeting, delegates will be asked to vote on another Bylaws amendment which would allow professional handlers to participate in the management of the MNRC and hold office / director positions. As mentioned above in the ETRC Minutes, our club has already decided to vote NO on this amendment. A 2/3 majority will have to be in favor of it in order for it to pass.

Also, there are several Board member positions coming up for a vote. Our club only has votes on two of them — the uncontested re-election of Dede Paterson for Secretary, and a contested election between Matt Griffiths and Frank Barton for Region 2 Vice Chairman. As discussed above in the meeting minutes, our club voted for Matt Griffiths and also for Dede to continue as Secretary.

Hopefully there will be more information coming out and new plans for trying to reform the bylaws to make the Master national test more manageable but we don't have any news or rumors on that right now.

Congratulations and best wishes to ETRC Members who will be going to the Master national this month in Thomasville, GA along with more than 1100 other dogs:

- McCoy's Precious Gem Of The South MH, owned by Luke McCoy & handled by Brian Caldwell
- Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, owned by Mike and Donna Smith & handled by Brian Caldwell
- CrossPointe's Blindside Blitz MH, owned by Noah and Rhey Houston, handled by Brian Caldwell
- L7troublesomewhataboutbob MH, owned by Bob Smith & handled by Brian Caldwell
- Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH, owned & handled by Alan Bruhin
- Gator Pts Don't Mess With My Toot Toot MH, owned by Barbara & Mike Reed, handled by Mandy Cieslinski or Alan Sandifer



ETRC's youngest member made his first hunt test appearance on October 1. Luke will have him handling dogs before we know it!

Congratulations Luke, Katy and SAM McCoy!

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/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 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 Information

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 <u>http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm</u>— 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 ongoing in 2023 with 6 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 / Facebook Info

NEWSLETTER: The ETRC newsletter is published monthly, usually on the 1st of the month. Send us your test results, new titles, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs, items 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: beginning with the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is Volume XXIII (for 2023). Newsletters are archived on the club Website, <u>www.etrclub.org</u>.

FACEBOOK: we now have a Facebook page! Either post on it yourself, or send pics and info to our moderator, Alan Bruhin, at <u>wbruhin1@retiree.utk.edu</u>.