

Minutes of the General Meeting, Sunday, September 6, 2026

Pet Resorts at The Farm, Loudon, TN

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

Absent, Excused: Nathan Lamping, work; Luke McCoy, work; Kyle Griffin, other event (he came and helped with the club trial but left at 11:00); Bob Smith, family visit

Others Members Present: Pam & Andy Buck; Rob & Lori Chasse; Laura Dewald; Greg Grant; Troy & Kirsty Perry; Mike & Donna Smith, Bobby Stogner; Lisa Styles; Peter Torok, Ryan Troup; & June Turner

Guests: J.J. Hurst & wife

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. 18 memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 63 (20% would be 13). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 12:35 p.m. following our second club trial of the season, and a picnic pizza lunch provided by the Club. Extra thanks to Lois Luthenauer for the delicious cake and banana bread, and to the unknown person who provided the cookies!

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report:

- Alan Bruhin: Alan thanked people for coming, talked about planning for our schedule next year (his early thinking is scheduling a mid-week Master in March, a double Master in April and a Quad JH/SH in May, and a fairly light schedule in the fall since all the area pros and some of the more advanced amateurs are likely to be at the Master National in Cheraw, plus hopefully three club trials during the year.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** Last meeting was 8/25/26. Minutes were approved by a majority of Board members and published in the September newsletter. Lois moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval. Jim Pearce seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Membership:** Membership at the end of December 2025 was 67. Membership today is 63, with 14 who didn't renew from last year, and 11 new members since the beginning of the year.
- **Correspondence:** Various correspondence from the Master National concerning proposed bylaws changes – more on this later.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance is \$34,999.33. Upcoming expenses & receipts include today's picnic & club trial, our September 15-16 Hunt Test, and our Fall hunt test in October. We are still in excellent financial shape but are not making as much money on our hunt tests as in previous years; a year ago, at the same point in our events year, our balance was \$5,000 higher, and the year before it was \$10,000+ higher than today. We need to take care and carefully examine our costs to make sure that we don't spend down

our reserves. We intend to have a meeting on this topic at the end of the year to plan for next year.

Old Business

Election of New Members:

1. **New Members:** Eleven for final vote into membership:
 - a. **Rob / Lori Chasse**, retired, 16 Northridge Terrace, Crossville, TN 38558, chassetn77@gmail.com, 612-401-5777, email chassetn77@gmail.com. Volunteers for whatever is needed. Joined 7/10. Has a 9 mo. Black lab puppy, interested in hunt tests, field trials, dog training and is an NRA member. Sponsors are Nate Lamping and Lois Luthenauer.
 - b. **Denise Davis**, retired. Address: [1317 Loudon Hwy, Kingston, TN 37763](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1317+Loudon+Hwy,+Kingston,+TN+37763), email kckcdenise@yahoo.com, cell phone 808-937-7831. New to sport although used to hunt ducks with her husband in Hawaii. Volunteers to help where she can. Has a Flatcoat retriever 14 months old. Belongs to Kona Coast Kennel Club (Hawaii) and Oak Ridge Kennel Club. Interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, club trials. Requests John Broucek and Rick Post as sponsors.
 - c. **Laura E. Dewald**, retired. Joined 3/16/26. Address: [108 Cherrywood Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356](https://www.google.com/maps/place/108+Cherrywood+Drive,+Nicholasville,+KY+40356), phone 828-226-2982, email laura.dewald58@gmail.com. Volunteers for whatever is needed, marshalling, food prep/supplies, and ribbons handler. Has a flat coat retriever (9 years) and a Golden Retriever (2). Belongs to the FCRSA, Midwest Waterways FCR Blub, Ohio River Hunting Retriever Club, GRCA, Greater Cincinnati GR Club. Says she may have been a member of ETRC before 2010 but club records don't go back that far. Interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training, club trials. Requests Lois Luthenauer and Michele Fletcher as sponsors.
 - d. **Marsha & Bill Fuzia**, retired. 2115 Fulton Street, Bluefield, WV 24701. Goldengirlmarsha@gmail.com, 503-738-2380. Golden breeder, Belle Terre Goldens. Has 5 Goldens, volunteers for assisting HT secretary, food prep/supplies and ribbon helper, will help "wherever I can". Member of GRCA and a dog training club in Salem, VA. Interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training, club trials, and breeding. They have trained with the Vencilles which is how they know about our club. They requested Michele Fletcher and Mike Smith as sponsors.
 - e. **Gregory Grant, produce broker**, 1260 Spencer Mill Rd., Burns, TN 37029. 615-943-5443, gscottgrant@gmail.com. Volunteers as a gunner. Has 2 black labs, one HRCH 9.5 years, one 4 mo puppy. Member of MTARC, interested in Hunt tests & dog training. Requests Bobby Stogner to be one of his sponsors; Lois agreed to be the second sponsor.
 - f. **Laura Hamilton**, retired, PO Box 55, Loudon, TN 37774 (Preferred address through 9/1/26: PO Box 353, Barnesville, MD 20838). Email: lkoAloha@gmail.com. Phone 360-790-9748. Willing to volunteer as assistant hunt test secretary, hunt test set-up, marshalling, food prep / Supplies. Has three Tollers, two of them are SH WCX. Belongs to HSDTRC-USA and the Buckeye Retriever Club. Requests Mike Osteen as a sponsor. Alan agreed to be the other sponsor.

- g. **Patty & Jay McClain.** Joined 3/1/26. Live at 302 Old Mill Cove, Woodstock, GA 30188, email is pattytampa@yahoo.com, cell phone is 941-224-1401. Volunteers for Training committee and hunt practice setup. Has two 3-year old Flatcoats. Belongs to Fall line, Atlanta Retriever Club, National FCRSA, SSFCRA, Mid Atlantic HT. Interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training, and club trials. Sponsors J. Michael Evans and Brent Navarro.
- h. **Troy & Kirsty Perry.** He's a fireman. 11104 Hardin Valley Rd, Knoxville, TN 37932, tperry398@gmail.com, 423-503-9673. Volunteers for whatever is needed, has 4 labs (3 black 1 chocolate), the oldest one (10 years) with an MH title. Interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, dog training, judging clinics, and breeding. Has signed up for our judges' seminar. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin and J. Michael Evans.
- i. **June Turner, RN.** Address: [171 Stansel Rd](#), Cleveland, GA 30528, email address JuneT428@me.com, phone 404-310-2320. Volunteers for 'whatever is needed.' Has 4 Labs, 2 yellow & 2 black, ranging from 18 months to 7 years, one is QAA, MNH, GRHRCH, UH RR, another one is HRCH. Belongs to Etowah HRC, interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training. J. Michael and Lois are sponsors.
- j. **Luke & Spencer Ann Wheat.** He is a teacher transitioning to sales, she is a pediatric physical therapist. Address: 1664 Louisville Rd., Alcoa, TN 37701, phone 606-434-9122, email LukeWheat96@gmail.com. Volunteer activities: "I am new to this but happy to help out with whatever is needed!" Has an 11 week old Boykin Spaniel puppy, is a member of AKC and the Boykin Spaniel Society, is interested in AKC Hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials, judging/judging clinics. Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce are sponsors.
- k. **Josh & Macy Wilcox.** He is a supervisor at CNS Y-12 plant. They live at 438 Miller Road, Clinton, TN 37716. Email is birdhunter2022@yahoo.com, phone is 865-661-6835. Will volunteer for hunt test set up, marshalling, training supplies, and ribbons handler. They own two young Labradors (6 months, 1 years) and are interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials, and are NRA members. They are friends of the Naveiros, and Brent and Lois agreed to be sponsors for them.

Jim moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. Lois seconded the motion which then passed unanimously.

Facility Managers Mike and Jon Osteen came by to say hello. Alan thanked them for letting us use their beautiful facilities, and asked Mike if he would describe a little of what they do here. Mike noted that Pet Resorts has two facilities – one in Knoxville that is a dog park, grooming and day care center, and also offers evening training classes, and this new facility at The Farm, which specializes in obedience and field work (flushing, retrieving, and pointing) and also deals with behavior modification issues. They have a program that specializes in training and conditioning dogs that are nervous and have anxiety, and using a holistic and trust-building approach they have been successful in being able to wean dogs off behavioral medication. The Farm also offers boarding. He invited us to call them and come out to train with them on occasion.

Many thanks again to the Osteens and Pet Resort!

New Business:

1. **Update on Master National Stuff:** Alan Bruhin explained to the new members that the Master National represents the pinnacle of our sport. To enter, a dog/handler pair must have 6 Master level passes in the qualifying year before the test. Over a thousand top-level dogs gather together for this national test. Alan reported that he would be leaving soon for the MN test in Roseburg, Oregon and will be gone until mid October. The test next year will be practically next door, in Cheraw, South Carolina. The year after that (2028) will be somewhere in our region, possibly Kentucky or Alabama. He encouraged anyone who has more questions about the Master National to contact him, and mentioned that with him as the Region 2 director and Michele Fletcher as the Master National Secretary, we have probably more representation than most clubs do in MN affairs.
2. **Ideas for schedule for next year:** Alan had mentioned earlier his ideas for a hunt test schedule in the spring, but opened it up for people to mention anything else they would like to see. Obviously more training would be good, and he is hoping to schedule 3 club trials next year. Possibly one in the spring and two in the fall, since hunt test dates in the fall next year will be hard to come by. Rob Chasse asked how he could source birds for practice; J. Michael mentioned he had a contact with a local guy who will be supplying our fall test, and also the easiest way is to come help clean up after a hunt test and take some used birds home to freeze.
3. **Retriever filming inquiry:** Karen has been contacted by a photographer who is commissioned to do a shoot for Gun Dog Grind, a coffee company whose website is gundoggrind.com. He is looking for a retriever(s) of any retrieving breed to come on a dove hunt in the Sweetwater area so he can "capture some photos and video of the dog working as well as them shooting and working with the dog". If you are interested, his name is Kaden Ward, phone is (865)-414-3176, email is kadenward@lower48mediaco.com Alan said that anyone who is interested should contact him or Karen for the contact information. This would not be until the weather cooled down.
4. **Nominating Committee:** Alan. It's the time of year to appoint a nominating committee for next year's slate of officers and board members. This committee needs to have one board member and 2 regular members and needs to have a meeting (virtual, emails, 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. Brent Naveiro was appointed to be chair of this committee, and Mike Smith and Peter Torok are the other members.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Peter Torok seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.