

ETRC Board Meeting, 6/5/18
Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Luke McCoy, Karen Edwards, Carol McCorkle, Donna Smith, Jim Pearce, Tom Gibson, Cory Smith, J. Michael Evans, Michele Fletcher (AKC delegate)

Absent, excused: Alan Bruhin (whelping puppies), Lois Luthenauer, John Broucek

Members present: Michael Smith

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present.
Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: None

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** Last meeting was 5/12/18; minutes approved within a week and sent to the club website shortly thereafter. Jim moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. Michael Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Correspondence:**
 - Sent response to AKC about new officers and membership list 5/15/18.
 - Completed IRS form for 2017 taxes 5/15/18.
 - Completed annual report for the state of Tennessee, including changing over to Karen as the authorized contact 5/15/18.
 - Sent email to Daryl and Sharon Miller thanking them for use of their farm for the club trial. 5/15/18
- **Membership:** Current 2018 membership is 55 as of 6/5/18, including 2 that had first reading on 2/17/18 and 4 more needing first reading today. Reminders sent out in newsletters each month, individual emails on 3/22 and 5/13/18. 16 from 2017 did not renew. End of year 2017 membership was 61. Password changed on website 6/1/18 (now "bumper"), people not renewed have been purged from email list; membership list as of 6/1/18 sent to website.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 6/5/18 is \$28,751.63, with bills outstanding for scratches, gas, porta potties and dumpsters, youth program, ribbon mailings, etc.

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher: Michele reported that for the first time in years, we did not have an AKC rep at our test. They were all at the Master Amateur that weekend. There are some new rules that make it possible for clubs to have tests in any order during the year, to meet the requirements for having all three levels offered. This would make it possible for us to have, for example, ONLY a master test with three flights in the fall if we wanted to. We need to discuss this in more detail about whether we want to change our format. There is nothing that has come from AKC that Michele has seen that concerns the rumor J. Michael heard about a possible ban of live

birds in hunt tests because of the difficulty of transporting live ducks across state lines. The implications of this are unclear – would we have to buy frozen ducks instead? Or can they be transported live and then gassed when they get here? Michele will look into this to see what is actually being considered and who is looking at this.

J. Michael also reported a conversation he had with AKC rep Jerry Mann, who said that very quietly, AKC has amended the rule made last year that requires live flyers at every junior test. Now, live flyers are “encouraged” but not required; however, if a judge demands live flyers, the test management has to accede to that demand which could be problematical if not discussed beforehand. Apparently, the requirements for live flyers are also waived for all levels if the property that the test is being held on does not permit shooting of live ducks. Apparently Hiwassee does not allow shooting of waterfowl after November 1 each year.

Old Business

1. **Club Trial#1, 5/12/18:** Successful, more entries than for many years (3/2012 was the last time we had anywhere near as many entries). Report submitted separately shortly after the trial. There was some discussion about why we had so many more entries than in the past. Was this due to several pros coming (Sherie Catledge and the O’Neals?) Was it because we had been rained out on all but one training day and two other club trial dates before we finally managed to have an event not be rained out? Unclear; makes it hard to plan for the next one in the fall.
 - a. Karen mentioned that a club that some of her friends in NY belong to have “Live Flyer” days that are extremely well attended, and wondered whether if we incorporated this into our club trials, and did only two a year, we might be able to count on higher entries. There was some discussion about how this would of course cost more and require more planning, but it might be something to consider – we would maybe have to have reservations taken beforehand, if you want a duck you send in money in advance or something.
 - b. Carol asked about being able to use training equipment at Club Trials. Actually, this is always permitted; the person pays their money same as if they were competing, use whatever training equipment they deem necessary and may repeat for training purposes as many times as they pay the \$10 fee, but no points accrue towards club awards. Carol mentioned that the info in the newsletter never mentions this, and Karen agreed to revise it next time to make this opportunity clear to people who don’t already know about it.
2. **Training dates:** dates scheduled for December and January canceled due to bad weather; makeup in January happened at Caldwell’s place – thanks! One scheduled for Feb 10 & March 10 canceled because of rain; one scheduled for 5/12 after the club trial canceled because the trial ran too long. Now it’s hot unless we start before 7 a.m. We decided to wait till September and maybe plan one then, or in October, maybe one in November.
3. **Kevin’s Fund:**
 - a. Youth Handler’s seminar: Status? Lois isn’t here so we don’t know if she has had any further talks with Sherie about this. Luke suggested we might try to combine this

with the summer picnic/seminar, and have one pro (Brian or Sherie) go work with the kids while Jody works with the others. Only difficulty with this is if it's in late August, many of the schools are back in session; the younger Chambers boy is on the football team and probably won't be available on a Saturday.

- b. Have two 2018 membership applications approved (Chambers' kids), have any others come in? Apparently there is a new member family that took an application but have not yet filled it out and returned it, unless they sent it directly to Lois. The McCoy girls have not rejoined, nor has Nick Ware joined.
- c. Award trophy: found a suitable one at Hodges Badge Co. for ~\$150. Did not get ordered – need to discuss status with Lois and whether we want to order now with retroactive awards for presentation at the picnic, or wait till next year.

4. *Spring Hunt Test:*

- a. Financial report, money taken in during the test: Karen passed out a printout of income and outgo so far. At the moment we are almost \$8000 in profit, but we have \$2,400 in vet cert scratches and more in the board-voted upon scratches for Jody and Luke. Plus there are a number of other bills that will total around \$600 more. So it looks like we will be slightly under \$5,000 in profit, but that is still fine.
- b. Still to pay for: scratches, ribbon mailings, youth refunds, final bills on gas, portapotties, dumpster etc.
- c. Good things, bad things: Many compliments from exhibitors about how smoothly everything went. We had plenty of help for a wonder. There were some glitches on the worker codes – miscommunications between Karen, Carol, and J. Michael that will be fixed for next time. Possibly some hard feelings with one guy about it, but apologies have been extended and the situation explained and hopefully they will be understanding. Also, there were some comments that some of the tests were too tough – both Seniors on Sunday, which had 7 out of 27 passing, and 12 out of 26, very low percentages for these tests. We very much like the judges in question, but might want to talk with them about this next time. The final complaint was that some of the birdkids didn't get to eat on time. Apparently there was food there, and it was passed out, but they weren't given a 'stop everything and eat' order and had to eat on the fly. Also, there was apparently some miscommunication between the kids and the chaperone on that score.

5. *Awards rules:*

- a. Committee (Karen, Michael, Mike Evans, John B) will start looking at rules for title awards to get eligibility codified, and also will look to see what we should do about awards re AKC field trials. Aim is to have this ready in time for 2019 awards year. Will try to get going on this during the summer; nothing to report yet.

6. **Transition of stuff from Roberta:**

- a. *Second Signatory on Checking Account:* Michele and Karen need to get together at an ORNLFCU office to do this, and it hasn't happened yet.
- b. *History & corporation papers.* History stuff may still be at Roberta's, along with incorporation papers, corporate seal, etc. Michael doesn't have any of this, nor does

Carol. Karen will ask Lois if she might have more of Roberta's stuff at her house; if not, Michael will contact Roberta or her daughter to try to pick it up.

New Business:

1. ***First Reading, New members:***

- a. John A. & Teena Hewgley, insurance agent, 1386 Sweetens Cover Rd., S. Pittsburg, TN 37380. Volunteer activities TBD (New to this; I am wanting experience working my dog in hunt tests). L7Troublesome Cali, Joe Joe Dougan MH, black lab, 3 years. Interested in hunt tests, dog training, DU member, requests Scott Chaney as one sponsor. Carol McCorkle volunteered to be the other.
- b. Gwen & Bill Coon, she is a retired RN moved down from Michigan, 143 County Seat Rd., Crossville, TN 38555. Volunteer activities whatever is needed if able, hunt test set up, marshalling. She has 4 multi-titled goldens ranging in age from 3 to 13, with titles in field up to SH, agility, and obedience. She is an obedience evaluator for TDI and CGC, belongs to lots of other dog clubs mostly in Michigan but also the ORKC. Interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training, and club trials. Requests Sherie Catledge and Lois Luthenauer as sponsors. She was one of the people who asked for a master code and after some last minute work, managed to get one. Michele verified that she did indeed pitch in at that Master stake where she was martialing, helped out all day so earned her code.
- c. Barb Reed, Cincinnati Ohio. Friend of Sherie C and Lois L, came to club trial with dogs and took lots of great pictures. Retired, breeder of choc labs, owns 3. Interested in Hunt Tests, Dog training. Belongs to various other retriever clubs including MTARC, West Central Ohio, Ohio River, and Central KY. Requests Tom Gibson and Sherie C as sponsors.
- d. Spark & Nikki Roberts, Chattsworth, GA. Has a young yellow lab, was at hunt test and joined there. Interested in hunt tests, dog training, requested Lois L and Michael Smith as sponsors. May have a young kid interested in handling – Carol handed them a youth program application form, but it hasn't been received yet unless it went straight to Lois.

Jim moved that these new members be accepted on first reading. J. Michael seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Karen will notify the new members and the sponsors and the final vote will be scheduled for the August picnic.

2. ***Summer seminar:*** Karen reported that Jody is willing, and suggested we ask about using Lucky7 this time. Having different ponds and grounds this year would enable him to raise different training points. J. Michael and Luke both mentioned that Brian had offered to have it at his place. He now has a nice technical pond that is full of water, and the plus side would be no hotel fee as Jody would stay with him. However, there is no nice pavilion there where we can eat and potentially stay cool if he can demonstrate some things on the Lucky 7 pond near the pavilion. Karen will contact Jody and ask him for some dates, and will also discuss with

him the various options for location. As far as the food goes, we decided to hold off on discussing that till we knew when the seminar was going to be.

3. *Fall Hunt Test:*

- a. Karen needs to get dates (October 20-21) entered into AKC's website. However, it would be best if we decided which format to use first. The format can be changed, but we have to go through AKC to do it, once the information has been submitted to the website. Michael pointed out that the Master National is indeed conflicting with us again this year, but since it is in Oregon, most of the pros in our area are not going. They will be entering heavily to get dogs qualified for next year's event which is closer by. We could easily fill two flights of Master, but that would only leave us Junior one day and Senior the next, which is not helpful for people trying to get lower-level titles on their dogs. There was some discussion about trying again (maybe for next year) to see if we can get back in at Hiwassee; the AKC/Tennessee calendars change periodically and it may be back in synch for a weekend that we can actually use. Or we could try going for November if we are willing to ditch having live flyers at the test. No decision was reached.
- b. Judges: can't start looking for judges till we know how many of what type we will need.

Any other new business?

1. J. Michael suggested that we spend some money on some additional equipment.
 - a. We need a new winger basket, one of the blue mesh ones. The grommet got pulled through and made a big hole. Carol mentioned that she might be able to fix it; we decided that Jim Pearce should order a new one, and at the fall test, Carol should get the broken one and see if she can fix it for use as a spare.
 - b. We need several new pop-ups. Two of them broke during the test and will have to be replaced. These were the cheap Walmart models. Luke mentioned that Avery has some very nice popups, and he was volunteered to call them to see if they would like to either donate some to the club or give us some kind of a discount. Luke will report his findings back at the next meeting.
 - c. 4 more wingers: with having 5 setups the last two spring tests, wingers were in short supply. Also, if we had some extras, if one broke we would be able to replace it with a spare in quicker time and get the test back up and running while we fix the other one offline. Karen moved we buy four more wingers and ask Jim Pearce to order them at the same time as the winger basket. J. Michael seconded, and the motion carried.
 - d. Thunder launchers: J. Michael suggested that the club look into buy 1, 2, or 3 of these with electronics, for use in training days, club trials, and the summer seminar. This would eliminate or greatly reduce the need for people standing out in the field forever throwing bumpers, and missing the discussions at the line. Cory Smith volunteered to look up prices and options and report back at the next meeting. A quick glance at the Gun Dog Supply website showed that we would be looking at around \$1800 for each one with electronics, for a 10-bumper model, and we could get either Garmin/tritronics or Dogtra electronics.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Michael moved that we adjourn. Carol seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer

Changes:

1. .

Approvals:

1. Donna Smith 6/6/18
2. Alan Bruhin 6/6/18
3. Cory Smith 6/6/18
4. Jim Pearce 6/7/18
5. Michele Fletcher 6/7/18
6. Lois Luthenauer, 6/10/18
7. Karen Edwards, 6/10/18