

## **ETRC Board Meeting, Wednesday, 8/27/19 Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN**

**Present from the Board:** Luke McCoy, Lois Luthenauer, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Tom Gibson, Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Cory Smith

**Absent:** Alan Bruhin (work commitment), Jim Pearce (prior commitment), Jeff McNutt (sick relative)

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports**

#### ***President's Report:***

***Secretary's Report.*** Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** Last meeting was 8/17/19; minutes approved and sent to the club website 8/21/19. Michele moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. J. Michael Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Correspondence:** AKC disapproval of judge. Discussed below, see Old Business, Fall Hunt Test.
- **Membership:** Current 2019 membership is 49 as of 8/27/19, including 4 waiting final vote in February. 17 members have not renewed from 2018; EOY 12/31/18 membership was 61.

***Treasurer's Report:*** Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 6/7/19 is \$17,359.12. Approximately \$535 not paid yet; this is \$ owed to Karen & Jim for fittings for trailer.

***AKC Representative's Report:*** Michele Fletcher: Nothing new to report. Apparently the AKC has approved the new MAH title retroactive to the first Master Amateur test.

### **Old Business**

#### 1. ***Equipment:***

- a. Upgraded big trailer: Purchased, work underway to fit out insides. Karen noted that she and Jim are going on vacation from 9/2-17/19, but that the work group can feel free to use our workshop and keep going while we are gone. She asked them to please call or text the farm sitter, Jason Williams, in advance, at 865-643-0508. Currently we are out of plywood but there are probably 25-30 2x4s left plus lots of screws and angle irons. Karen has advertised the old trailer to members for \$1,200 in the August and September newsletters. No response to date. Both big trailers are currently parked at Karen & Jim's farm for fitting, unloading, scavenging old fittings and reloading.

- b. Any new equipment needed before test? After some discussion about the need for new popups and more bird dryers, it was decided that nothing was needed before the fall test and we should consider this again for spring.
2. **Summer picnic:** August 17, Saturday, at Lois Luthenauer's place, 3508 Martha Washington Road, Clarkrange, TN. Thanks to Lois and members for bringing food. Lois called a number of members and increased the participation. The event was a success. There was a good turnout, we had a quorum for the meeting, and got lots of positive comments from attendees. Only problem was, Lois needed to work more successfully with the weather gods, because it was awfully hot.
3. **Fall Hunt Test: 9/28-29/19.**
  - a. Dates set with AKC, Entry Express, and Lucky 7 owner Ken Campbell. The test is up on Entry Express as 'pending' with opening dates of Wednesday, September 4 (Tuesday for people with codes), but last week we had an issue with the judges. After initial approval on the judges' panel, we got letters from AKC saying that one of the judges was not approved. Michele worked the issue and after numerous calls to AKC, they admitted that it was all a mistake and our panel was fine.
  - b. Karen will send letters to judges confirming arrangements, and Michele will provide her with the contact information. Karen will also ask each judge if they will be bringing their own judge's book or if they will need us to prepare one for them.
  - c. Lois will call the motel tomorrow to make arrangements for 4 judges (Ken Kogut will be staying with Edwards/Pearce, and one pair of judges is married so only needs one room) plus Michele, plus a block of 8-10 rooms for others to call and reserve at a more favorable rate.
  - d. Lois is working on marshals. We looked on the internet and ordered 6 new marshal boxes for \$67.50 that will stack better, have locking lids, and be uniform in size. These will replace the random-size, broken up boxes we are using currently. During one of the work sessions on the trailer, Lois will check out the marshal boxes, reload them, and buy new supplies as needed.
  - e. J. Michael has the worker codes and will handle getting them out to people. This will be advertised in the newsletter, and several people got their codes at the meeting.
  - f. Michele will order another ream of the waterproof paper for judges sheets; we will ask Alan if he can run off another ream or two of plain paper copies.
  - g. Kiley Buettner is currently the only duck supplier who has the proper authorization to deliver live ducks to Tennessee (avian flu regulations) so we will again be getting ducks from him. J. Michael will order once we see how the entries are going. He will also pick up the canister of gas and has already ordered the porta-potties and the dumpster. There is probably no need to send someone to Hiwassee for duck crates this time; last

spring Buettner's driver picked them all up so they would have extras for various big tests this summer; J. Michael will verify this is the case. Jim and J. Michael will bring feed sacks for the ducks.

- h. In honor of Jim Pearce's absence from the meeting, he was appointed to be grounds/equipment chair again this year. J. Michael, Mike S, Cory, and Jeff will assist, and Luke will try to get a day off and assist as well. Lois, Karen, and Michele will set up the office. Tom and Lois will be responsible for buying ice and water, and will also get some Gatorade for the bird technicians if it is hot. Lois and Tom will also be responsible for bringing the coffee pot and the coffee, and will make sure there is some non-fancy coffee for the people who don't like the fancy stuff.
- i. Lois will order more shirts in time for the fall test. She has located the box of Large shirts, which were missing at the spring test as a result of her move. She picked up all the boxes of shirts etc. from Pawnook at the meeting.
- j. Judges Dinner: J. Michael has been talking with Smokin F BBQ in Sweetwater that does things for Ken, and had the following proposal: dinner for 25 people, with a menu of half brisket, half chicken breasts; corn, smoky bacon mac and cheese, banana pudding, and all paper goods – cost including taxes \$427.97. Consensus agreement was to firm this up as a commitment.
- k. Lunches: we considered three options for daily lunches for workers and judges:

1) A barbecue lunch from the same place that is doing dinner, with fried baloney sandwiches on Saturday and pulled pork on Sunday, with or without our own additions. Cost for this without additions, for 40 lunches a day, would be \$480, or an average of \$6 a lunch. If we add stuff to it, that would probably add another dollar per lunch to our costs (cookies, condiments, wipes, napkins, snacks etc.).

**Pros:** little involvement of people in the office especially if we don't do add-ons, don't have to buy/cart/store supplies. Food available for purchase on site by exhibitors without office staff involvement.

**Cons:** higher price; questions about quality of hot foods served cold after some time delay; some people not thrilled about smoked baloney; some people thought hot foods, if hot, not a good idea for a possibly hot day; concerns about planning/having leftovers that we shouldn't sell ourselves if there is a food truck on site.

2) A Subway lunch, with ham and turkey subs, plus our own usual additions like we did for the spring Master only test. Cost will be about the same as the barbecue lunch, about \$6-\$7 per lunch.

**Pros:** little involvement of people in the office (pretty easy to stuff bags without having to prep sandwiches); cold sandwiches will taste OK if lunch is delayed due to the test status; smaller supply runs and food storage

**Cons:** higher price; some people weren't thrilled with Subway; subs can get soggy if made too many hours in advance; someone has to drive out and pick them up.

3) We make sandwiches and lunches as normal. We improve the quality of the lunches (better bread, better meats) for everyone or at least for the judges (not really decided). Several of the board members think our lunches are great but others particularly don't like the bread and the soggy meats.

**Pros:** Cheapest, although not by a lot if we up the quality of the bread and meat (probably \$5-\$6). Easiest to plan for -- if we get enough for 80 sandwiches, then end up making 60 on Saturday, we can pretty much figure out how much more to buy Saturday night and not have a lot of leftovers or shortages. AND, we can have highest quality of the available options -- sandwiches will be fresher, tastier with better meat and bread .

**Cons:** more work for people in the office. Michele says she doesn't have enough to do as HT Secretary and would relish having some more work to do, and she likes making sandwiches. Lois says she can pitch in when she's not out in the field with a marshal issue. Karen will be happy to stuff bags.

1. Judges gifts: after a brief discussion, we decided to keep on with \$100 bills for the judges included in a thank-you note. Karen will handle.
4. **Fall club trial:** November 16, at Lucky 7. Ken Campbell agreed to the date, but we need to remind him while we are there for the hunt test, and maybe write it on the calendar that is kept there in the clubhouse. Of the format changes suggested at the meeting, we decided to delay the start until 10:00 a.m. With regard to opening it up to nonmembers, Karen has contacted the insurance company to see if there will be a premium increase if we open it up, but has had no response yet. J. Michael suggested we should have a release form that we have them sign; Karen agreed to cobble one together from a form Lois has, plus our standard membership form release, plus the one that Entry Express has on its entry page. There was some concern about if a pro brought a truck full of 20 dogs, and we decided that the best way to deal with this was to advertise a limit of 5 dogs per handler. Karen will advertise these changes in the newsletter.
5. **Nominating Committee:** J. Michael reported that he has gotten some recommendations and made some contacts. More work still needs to be done. He foresees no problems getting a report to the secretary by the November 24 deadline.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Spring 2020 Hunt Test(s) –**
  - a. Changing the dates on the Spring 2020 test: J. Michael reported that AKC is fine with a test on the first weekend in May. He has talked with Wally, but needs to get back with him on the dates of turkey season to see if this is workable for Hiwassee. We decided that we do not want to move the test from public lands to private lands; if we lose Hiwassee in the spring, we will probably never get back in, and private lands are iffier for long term use. J. Michael will call Wally tomorrow to see if this is doable.
  - b. Master only test: are we going to try to do that again this year? We talked about doing another mid-week test in March. A test at that time would be good for the Master Amateur, but not for the Master National. By next fall, Lucky 7 will probably

be developed enough to permit two series of Master plus Junior and Senior; so we would still have an extra 60 dogs at the master level over the year. The test went very slickly last spring, and made a slight amount of money for the club. But it was an extra burden on club workers to have a test in the middle of the week and several of our usual stalwarts weren't able to make it. As far as improving the chances for Amateurs to get in, it was mostly pros who. After some discussion, Tom proposed we not have a master-only mid-week test next spring, and Karen seconded it. There were two Aye votes, no Nays, and the remainder of the Board said they would go either way and didn't vote. So, the motion carried -- no midweek master-only test in the early spring.

- c. Spring Judges – best if they are in place before end of year but obviously we need dates first.

- 2. **Master National** – Michael is going and will be our representative. So, no need to get a proxy form filled out. Michael asked for our input on which judges to vote for and we settled on Andy Sonntag, Alan Bruhin, and Beau from Kentucky; plus a positive vote on the two board position nominations.

**Any other new business?** None.

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

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

- 1. Corrected name of MN judge, J. Michael Evans, 8/29/19

Approvals:

- 1. Michele Fletcher 8/28/19
- 2. Alan Bruhin 8/28/19
- 3. Mike Smith 8/28/19
- 4. Cory Smith 8/29/19
- 5. Jeff McNutt 8/29/19
- 6. Jim Pearce 8/29/19
- 7. J. Michael Evans 8/29/19
- 8. Karen Edwards 8/29/19