



## Winter 2017 Upcoming Events

1. January 7, 2017, Saturday: Organized training. Weather dependent, see p. 5.
2. February 4, 2017, Saturday: Organized training. Weather dependent, see p. 5.
3. February 18, 2018, Saturday: Awards Banquet, Business meeting, and election. Calhoun's Bearden Hill, Knoxville, TN. 6 p.m. More info on page xxxx

## President's Message

### Happy New Year!

My goodness, how did it get to be 2017 already! I guess we've all been having fun, since it is a new year and time has flown! I started to write this message before Christmas, and have been thinking about the year past ... two great hunt tests, some good training, many good friends who helped with it all. A year in which we continued to miss good friends gone from us, both people and dogs, and a year in which we've lost a few more of both. A serious drought which we've not seen the likes of in years in this area, which led to a disaster for a neighboring community. And now we are blessed with the rain that we really could have used just a few weeks earlier. Many things are outside of our control, and our lot is to just keep moving forward ... time marches on!

Are you making a resolution for the new year? We always seem to do that, only to let that resolution fall by the wayside. So, be gentle with yourself in the new year, make few resolutions and make them easy to keep. Here's mine:

- 1) Follow the Golden Rule and treat others as I wish to be treated.
- 2) More dog training! Starting with January 7<sup>th</sup> at Brian Caldwell's place – hope to see you there.
- 3) Train the dogs! Get together with someone, anyone, and train these dogs!
- 4) Run the dogs! Susie and Polly are at Bear Country, go run my dogs!
- 5) Spend more time with dog people (so I can train my dogs)!

I guess you get the picture! If I can keep just one or two, I'll be happy! Here's hoping for a great 2017!

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## Final Slate for Election of Officers and Board Members

The nominating committee headed by Vice President Michelle Fletcher recommended the following slate for ETRC officer and director positions for fiscal year 2017 (beginning at the end of the banquet in February):

- ♦ President: Lois Luthenauer
- ♦ Vice President: Alan Bruhin
- ♦ Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards
- ♦ Hunt Test Secretary: Roberta Williams
- ♦ Two Director positions (Feb 2017 - Feb 2020): Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce
- ♦ AKC Delegate: Michelle Fletcher

Remaining on the board are: Rick Fyfe & Tom Gibson (through Feb 2018); and Alan Bruhin & Donna Smith (through Feb 2019). Michael Evans will continue to serve as Past President through 2017. In addition, Tom Gibson has agreed to serve as Chief Marshal for the spring and fall AKC hunt tests. These last two positions will not be on the ballot. If Alan Bruhin is elected to Vice President, we will have another board vacancy to fill in March for his remaining 2-year term. Anyone who might be interested, please contact me or any Board member.

In accordance with the Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by any member prior to December 31, 2016, in writing to the Secretary, provided that the proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. No additional nominations were received by the deadline date, so the slate of officers stands unopposed.

Voting for officers/directors and the AKC Delegate will be done at the annual Awards Banquet and general membership meeting. This will be held Saturday, February 18, 2017; more details below on page 3!

## ETRC Board Meeting via Email, December 1-4, 2016

While working on the December newsletter, Secretary Karen Edwards noticed that the time for lifetime charter memberships in the Master Amateur Retriever Club was ending on December 31, 2016. Lifetime membership means that annual dues will never be required in order to belong and have a vote in the club's activities. Lifetime membership is \$500 and annual dues are anticipated to be \$50 a year, so if the club is going to exist for longer than 10 years it would be financially beneficial as well. A query to the MARC membership chairman clarified that our understanding of any future dues payment is correct, but also clarified that we do not HAVE to be a member club for our tests to be counted as qualifying tests; the membership of the individual handlers and their pro/amateur status is the key for qualification and entry in the annual National Test.

In order to support the MARC and encourage the continued strong presence of amateurs in our sport, Karen moved that we purchase a lifetime membership. Donna Smith and Alan Bruhin seconded, and yes votes were received from 8 board members, all of the ones who voted via email. The motion passed, and Karen submitted our charter membership application on December 5, 2016. AND, we are listed now as a Charter / Lifetime member on MARC website!

We will shortly be receiving a banner with our club's name and status as a MARC Charter member, that we can use at our upcoming events.

## Membership Renewals Coming Due

It's that time of year again! Memberships for 2017 are coming due, and your membership will run out if not renewed by March 1, 2017. We will keep you on the email notification list until June 1, at which time we purge the rolls and change the passwords on the website.

So why not renew now at the start of the new year? Membership is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). The renewal forms are available online at <http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm> — just click the link, print it off, and send it to Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Cost is still just \$25 which includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events, and consideration for end of the year awards. It's a bargain!

## Mountain Fires

Many of our members have been affected by the recent fires in the mountains, including the worst one of all which swept down out of the Smokies and gutted much of the area around Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, and Sevier County. To everyone who was affected, either directly through evacuation or properly damage and loss, impact on your community, impact on your job or who have volunteered to help through donations of time, services, or money with the cleanup and renewal of the Gatlinburg / Pigeon Forge / Cosby / Sevierville area — the ETRC sends condolences and / or thanks. If there is anything that we can do to help, please let us know.



The inaugural year of the ETRC / Luthenauer Young Handler's program is over. Thanks to the generosity of Ken Campbell of Lucky Seven Farms and several of our Fall Hunt Test Judges, we are now fully funded for 2017. It's time to revisit the program to see what worked, what didn't, and make some changes. If you have any ideas, please pass them on to the Program Coordinator, Lois Luthenauer, [MountainLo717@gmail.com](mailto:MountainLo717@gmail.com).

The program is designed to encourage young ETRC members to become more active in retriever sports. Named in honor of long-time club member, past president, and enthusiastic sportsman Kevin Luthenauer, and funded largely via donations from his family and friends, this program will support kids up to college graduation who want to participate in retriever sports.

**For full information on this program please visit our website at [http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub\\_youth\\_program.htm](http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_youth_program.htm)**

### The 2016 Luthenauer Young Handler's Program

## Winter Training Days

ETRC will sponsor organized training sessions on the following Saturdays:

- ♦ January 7, 2017 at 9 a.m. at pro trainer Brian Caldwell's place, 1810 Hwy 58 S, Georgetown, TN. There is a double gate; entrance is the left gate, please close it after you enter. Thanks Brian, for offering to share your knowledge with us!
- ♦ February 4, 2017 at 10 a.m. at Roane Regional Industrial Park. Use 108 Pawnook Farm Road as the GPS or google maps address.

Bring your dogs, water, and training equipment. New members are encouraged to attend — come meet other club members and let us get to know you and your dog(s)! We will have activities for dogs at all levels, from puppy to Master-level dogs.

Training will be held at Brian Caldwell's rain or shine.

Under our new policy for training at Roane Regional, RSVPs are required in order for us to actually have the session. **If at least four people do not respond saying they are intending to come, by NOON on the Friday before the scheduled training, we will not have the session.** Also, we will cancel if the weather is not predicted to be in the mid-40s or if it is raining or snowing. Send your RSVPs to Secretary Karen Edwards, Edwardskc@Gmail.com. Karen will send out an email the evening before the training if it is to be canceled.

Live ammunition is not allowed at Roane Regional and we will have several of the Thunder Simulators on site for use.

### ***Directions to Roane Regional:***

**From Knoxville:** Take I-40 West towards Nashville, stay right on I-40 at the I-75/I-40 split. Go 4.1 miles. Take exit 364 for TN-95 toward U.S. 321 West/Lenoir City/Oak Ridge and turn right onto TN-95 at the end of the exit ramp. Go 4/10 mile and take the first left onto Buttermilk Road West. Go one mile. Take the 2nd right onto Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go 5/10 mile. Take the second left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign.

**From Points East:** Take I-40 East toward Knoxville. Take the exit "Industrial Park Road" Turn left onto Industrial Park Road and cross over the Interstate. Go 3/10 mile. Take the first right onto Buttermilk Road West into the Roane Regional business park. A VW plant and the H. T. Hackney plant will be on your left. Go 1.2 miles. Turn left on Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go .5 mile. Take the 2nd left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign by the road.

**From Points South:** Come up I75 and get off at the Lenoir City exit. Go towards Oak Ridge on Hwy 321/95. You will stay on 321 through a couple of stop lights and will then pass under I40. Take the next left after the underpass onto Buttermilk Road West. Go one mile. Take the 2nd right onto Sam Rayburn Parkway. Go 5/10 mile. Take the second left onto Pawnook Farm Road. Look for a small tan block building with racing stripes on the right (Pegasus Technologies). There is a sign by the road.

## End of the Year Awards — Call for Nominations Etc.

There is still time to get your nominations in for our end-of-the-year Awards Banquet in February, but you need to hop on it right away as the deadline is JANUARY 10. Club awards, nomination procedures, and due dates are listed below. All nominations and other information required for each award are due to Lois Luthenauer ([MountainLo717@gmail.com](mailto:MountainLo717@gmail.com)) by **JANUARY 10**.

1. **ETRC Member of the Year:** Any ETRC Member may nominate any other member for this award. The criteria is, who has done the most to help out the club during the past year? Please send your nominations along with a brief justification why you think the person is deserving of the award. The award consists of an engraved plaque.

2. **AKC Sportsman of the Year:** This award recognizes the member who best exemplifies the qualities you want to see in dog sports, and who has best furthered the aims of the AKC in promoting our sport. The award is an engraved plaque mounted with an AKC-provided medallion.

*The final selection for the two awards above will be made by secret ballot of the Board of Directors.*

3. **Gun Dog and Puppy of the year Awards** -- You must nominate your own dog or puppy for these awards, which are based on points earned in hunt test competition and club trials during the year. Information and point worksheets must be provided for each dog nominated. Remember to check the ETRC website ([http://www.etrclub.org/gun\\_dogs.htm](http://www.etrclub.org/gun_dogs.htm)) for award rules and information on how to submit nominations and count points. Winning dog and puppy will receive an engraved plaque to keep and a silver perpetual trophy to display for a year.

4. **Title awards:** If your dog has earned any AKC hunting titles during 2016, please send your name, your dog's registered name, title earned, and the date and place where you titled. ETRC recognizes these achievements with a plaque.

5. **Master National Dogs:** If your dog was a finalist at the 2016 Master National, email the info to Lois along with a picture of you/your dog/your silverware. The award is an engraved plaque with the picture mounted on it. If your dog was qualified to enter the 2016 Master National and received an invitation from the MNRC to participate, but either did not run or did not pass all series, please send along that information too. No hardware, but we want to announce this achievement! Make sure you are clear which category your dog falls into.

**When you send Lois an email about awards, please use a separate email for each different subject -- i.e., if you are entering for Dog of the Year and also earned a title, please put those in two separate emails so she can keep the categories straight. AND, please put the category into the subject line -- 'AKC Sportsman nomination', etc. Dates outlined above for response to Lois have no flexibility -- the engraver that we use is in the midst of basketball season awards so we need the info by the dates specified in order to get the plaques back in time for the banquet. Once the order is in to the engraver, it can't be changed.**

### Member Award Winners Last 5 years:



Year	Member of the Year	AKC Sportsman of the Year
2015	Derek Dieterich	J. Michael Evans
2014	Jim Pearce	David Knott
2013	Carol Stone	Jim Pearce/Karen Edwards
2012	J. Michael Evans	Ken Wade
2011	Robert Dodson	Hubert Helton



## Training Corner

# Handling a Retriever, Part II

by Jim and Phyllis Dobbs



*When giving an "over" cast, extend the arm out straight from your body at shoulder height. For good visibility, keep your hand open with the palm facing the dog.*



*When giving an "over" cast, do not slant your arm behind you as it significantly decreases the visibility of your cast.*

to position the arm too far behind the body rather than fully extended straight out from the side. The dog loses sight of your palm if your arm is too far back.

Another error occurs when the handler changes location to "regain ground" for a new cast. If the handler "regains ground" when the dog has already turned and is looking at him, the dog is likely to go in the wrong direction. Be sure to remain stationary

when you give a "whistle-sit" and move only in the direction you want the dog to cast. Contrary motions must be done when the dog cannot see you.

The third common error is to hold a gun away from the body with one hand while giving an "over" with the opposite. The dog now has two very conflicting signals to decipher.

### Body Motion

It really helps if you add motion to your "over" cast (especially if you are wearing camouflage) by moving the palm of your hand up and down from the wrist. Keep your arm straight, only moving your hand; keep your hand open with the palm facing the dog.

Also, when giving an "over" cast, stepping in the direction of the cast helps the dog see your signal from a distance. Remember, a dog's vision is much like ours when watching a black & white T.V. Some colors that are very easy for us to see are just gray to them. However, dogs are very keen at picking out motion.



*One common error when handling is to hold the gun away from the body with one hand while giving an "over" with the other hand. You can see the confusing picture the dog is now confronted with!*

### Be Aware of the Background

Depending on the background, the dog may have difficulty seeing you. Field trailers wear white jackets so that the dog can see them from a great distance. Hunters and hunt test participants, on the other hand, typically wear camouflage or dark clothing.

Wearing camo hunting gloves with black palms will help the dog see your hand signal when working with a poor background. And again, motion will help the dog see you. Remember that this is teamwork, so do your best to ensure that he sees those hand signals. ■





## Member Brags



Picture of MACH cake  
courtesy of Beth White!

ETRC's Vice President /AKC Rep Michele Fletcher and her Golden Retriever Callie (MACH RPO's Calamity Jane CDX JH MXS MJB T2B CGCA WC ADHF) earned their AKC MACH title (Master Agility Champion) on November 18, 2016. This title requires achieving a minimum of 750 championship points and 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Excellent B Standard Agility class and the Excellent B Jumpers With Weaves class. As you can tell, it takes a lot of competition and a lot of training, plus a talented and willing dog, to earn a MACH title! Callie is the daughter of Rick Fyfe's Mo (Ambertrail's Holy Moly MH UDX Ver OM1 RE MX MXS MXJ MJS MSF WCX) and Diane Fyfe's Nash (MACH3 High Times in Music City CDX JH MXS,MJG MXF), so is very much an all-ETRC girl!



Congratulations to Panda (Fern Hill Pandemonium MH WCX), bred, owned and loved by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce, on the birth of her 2nd litter December 6. Ten puppies, 5 girls and 5 boys. All of them are promised already to wonderful homes — Karen and Jim are keeping one of the girls. Mama and pups are doing fine, and Grandma Penny is beside herself with joy. Aunt Callie ....Not so much!

The sire is AFC The Sunday Swimmer, a handsome field trial golden who competed in the 2014 and 2015 National Amateur Field Trial invitational. In addition to his talents, he is a delightful house pet!



Wow! John Broucek and his lab Doc (Troublesome Highseas Makin House Calls MH \*\*\*) won the Amateur stake at the Bluegrass Retriever Club Fall Field Trail in Grahamville, KY on October 7-8, 2016. He placed first out of 56 entries! Bred by John and Bob Jones and trained by John, Doc is 6 years old. Way to go, John and Doc!

## Around the Region

### Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

Treasure Coast RC	1/28/17	Okeechobee, FL
Mid-Florida Golden RC	2/11/17	Monteverde, FL
Jacksonville RC	2/18/17	Williston, FL
Wiregrass Hunting RC	3/4/17	Meigs, GA
Black Warrior RC	3/11/17	Greensboro, AL
Tallahassee Hunting RC	3/18/17	Thomasville, GA
Fall Line RC	3/25/17	Lincolnton, GA
Tidewater RC	3/31/17	Remington, VA
Rappahannock RC	4/14/17	Remington, VA
Yadkin River RC	4/15/17	Cedar Grove, NC
<b>Master Amateur RC</b>	<b>4/23/17</b>	<b>Cairo, GA</b>



### Advanced Retriever Seminar for Judges in Ohio, August 2017

Co-sponsored by: Buckeye Retriever Club & the Presque Isle Retriever Club of Erie PA. Cost \$55. A box lunch will be provided both days. Afternoon snack. For more information, contact Robert Samios, 724-932-5956 or [robertsamios@zoominternet.net](mailto:robertsamios@zoominternet.net).

**Saturday August 5, 2017:** Classroom. Registration 7:30-8:30, Coffee and Pastries  
Location: Euclid Rifle & Hunting Club 17100 Whitney Rd., Montville, Ohio 44064

**Sunday, August 6, 2017:** Field Exercises. Registration 7:30-8:30, Coffee and Pastries  
Location: Hambden Nursery, 14849 Rock Creek Rd (SR166), Chardon, Ohio 44024

## 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, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs and services, 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 any of the following: Karen Edwards ([edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)); Lois Luthenauer ([mountainLo717@gmail.com](mailto:mountainLo717@gmail.com)) or Roberta Williams ([sharphlw@usit.net](mailto:sharphlw@usit.net)).