



2017 Upcoming Events

1. August 5, 2017, Saturday: Jody Ware training seminar, picnic and summer business meeting, Fyfe/Fletcher farm, Pikeville, TN, 8.a.m (Eastern) - 2:00. More details in the July newsletter.
2. September 23 or October 7, 2017, Saturday:, 8 a.m.. Fall Club Trial, date & location pending
3. October 21-22, 2017, Saturday & Sunday: ETRC Fall Test, Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater. Pending.
4. May 26-27, 2018, Spring Hunt Test, Hiwassee Refuge. Pending.

President's Message

WOW! 84 Junior Dogs signed up to run our spring Hunt Test. Even with scratches, 79 junior dogs ran on Saturday! What a field! We put on a very successful test with the help of many club members! It was a lot of work, but I do believe everyone had some fun too! And lots of dogs took home ribbons. Of course, there were some glitches, and some unhappy folks who didn't think things were fair, but all in all, a good test.

Many thanks (in no particular order) to Mike Evans, Alan Bruhin, Jim Pearce and Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Patty Gibson, Thomas Art and Liz Gibson, Val McCoy and the girls (for setting up the tee-shirt booth for us), Luke McCoy, Rick Fyfe, Michael Smith, and everyone who marshalled a stake. I'm sure I left someone out, but I appreciate everyone who helped. And then there was my 11-year-old nephew, Gavin Sigmund, who got off a plane from San Antonio Friday morning and went right to work, doing everything and anything, and even filling in for a blind planter for a while ... he really enjoyed his first ever hunt test! He was a big help and he's still talking about it! And those bird kids, another wow! I think we have stumbled upon a great group, and the chaperones all pitched in too. We could not have done it without all those folks!

Of course, we made some money on this one, even after the expenses of another set of judges (thank you Brent McCoy and Kyle Bertram), more birds, borrowed equipment, etc. We will be replacing some more worn out equipment, filling in gaps of necessary items we've been doing without, and generally preparing for the fall test. Yes, we no more than get this one done and we must start getting ready for the next one!

And of course, we have the Summer Membership Meeting, Jody Ware's Seminar, and the Picnic coming up, and a Youth Seminar too. Keep up to date on all the happenings by following the newsletter. Hope to see you all soon, in the meantime, Happy Training!

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Report: Spring AKC Hunt Test, May 27-28, Hiwassee Refuge

What a weekend! This is the largest test that the club has hosted for many a year, certainly the largest since 2008. We had nearly 400 dogs entered — 120 Master Entries, with 57 Senior dogs and 84 Junior dogs on Saturday, and 44 Senior dogs and 68 Junior dogs on Sunday. We had to split Senior on Saturday and find two new judges in a hurry. Thanks to member Brent McCoy and Kyle Bertram who agreed to judge for us with very little advanced notice. Since they were available, we split the Junior stake on Sunday so we could end a little earlier in the day than would otherwise be possible.

Despite the huge numbers, the test mostly went very well. A big thanks to all the judges in addition to the two mentioned above — Ken Kogut and Andy Sonntag in Master A; Steven Kelley and Jack Combs in Master B; Jan and Jim Burnette who handled the gigantic Junior stake on Saturday and finished with hours of daylight to spare; and Mary Gregg and Neener Hayes, the final pair of Senior / Junior judges. Judges get no pay, work harder than the dogs all day, and have to be polite along with it. Very hard job!

Also a big vote of thanks to the McMinn County FFA club who provided us with 25 excellent bird kids each day, plus three extra chaperones who worked on Saturday. Another chaperone helped out in Headquarters making sandwiches for lunches and selling tee shirts. We got many, many compliments on the work the kids did — a number of the judges commented that the kids RAN to plant the blinds!

And, a huge thanks to the many, many members and a few non-members who volunteered to help — marshaling, setting up, moving equipment, cleaning up, bringing delicious food for the judges/workers dinner and for general noshing all weekend, fixing lunches, running errands, buying supplies, helping out in the office and around the grounds — you are all very much appreciated and we couldn't put on these big tests without all of you. I'm almost afraid to list names for fear of leaving someone out — but if you don't see your name and were one of the legion of helpers, please know that it's not that your work wasn't appreciated, it's a simple oversight as I try to put this report together. Big thanks, in no particular order, to Test Chair Lois Luthenauer, Assistan Michael Evans, Chief Marshal Tom Gibson, Equipment Chairman Jim Pearce, Hunt Test Secretary Roberta Williams; office assistant Karen Edwards; dinner / lunch / judges gift guru Patti Gibson and lunch assistant Liz Gibson; marshals Carol Stone, Wayne Rasbury, Beth White, Rick Fyfe, Sherie Cattledge, Marty Odom, Alan Bruhin, Donna Smith, and Cheryl McNutt; gunners Jeff McNutt, Luke McCoy and others whose names I don't know; and setup/teardown/runners/clean uppers/fill ins all over the site and in the office — Michael Smith; Denise, Ivan and Cade Chambers; Val, Bai and Tai McCoy; Gavin Sigmund; Haley O'Neal; and Richard Cook. Thanks too to the Hiwassee WMA Manager Jason, for helping bushhog places and get the place ready for us. I'm sure there were others — thank you all!

A final thanks to our sponsors — Sportmix dog food, whose representative was on site the entire test and who supplied a number of items for our raffle, and Purina, who also provided a number of raffle items and spent time on site.

Financially, the test was a big success. We brought in more than \$27,000 in entries, plus more than \$1000 in tee shirt/hat sales, food sales, and raffle ticket sales. Although the final bills aren't all in yet, we look to clear about \$7000-\$9000 or so. We will use this money for purchasing needed equipment to make our tests run even more smoothly, as seed money for the next test, to defray expenses for things like the summer seminar, and to have enough of a pad to get through any future hard times.

Results are posted on Entry Express — but here's a quick rundown:

Master A, 61 entries, 31 passes, 8 scratches.
Senior A Saturday, 30 entries, 10 passes, 2 scratches
Senior B Saturday, 27 entries, 12 passes, 5 scratches.
Junior Saturday, 84 entries, 58 passes, 6 scratches

Master B, 59 entries, 28 passes, 5 scratches
Senior Sunday, 44 entries, 20 passes, 7 scratches
Junior A Sunday, 35 entries, 28 passes, 3 scratches
Junior B Sunday, 33 entries, 25 passes, 2 scratches

Member Passes at the Spring Hunt Test

Congratulations to the following members and their dogs for their passes at the Hiwassee test:

Master:

- ◆ Lois Luthenauer, Luthenauer's Troublesome Coon Creek Susie, handled by Sherie Catledge
- ◆ Alan Bruhin, Grady's Tennessee Moonshine, handled by Alan
- ◆ Jeremy Majors, Troublesome Deltas Highseas Mae, handled by Brian Caldwell
- ◆ Bob Smith, Ruth Ann Charmed Hobo, handled by Brian Caldwell

Senior:

- ◆ Brent McCoy, McCoys Acappella Adirondac Crescendo ("Ella"), handled to a pass by Luke McCoy on Saturday, and by Taylor and Bailey McCoy on Sunday for a pass with two handlers!
- ◆ Bob Smith, Knute's Callie's Man, handled by either Bob or Brian Caldwell, who was entered and passed on Saturday

Junior:

- ◆ Rick Fyfe, Northern Star Holy Mackerel ("Mac"), handled by Rick and passed both Saturday and Sunday
- ◆ Jeff McNutt, Hooked us a Gem, handled by Jeff McNutt, who passed both Saturday and Sunday
- ◆ J. Michael Evans, Hilltop's Fowl Mouth Delta Queen ("Ivy"), handled by Michael. Ivy passed both days and earned her Junior Hunter title at just over a year of age
- ◆ Cade Chambers, Dead Rivers Rascally Reed, handled by Cade, who passed on Saturday and Sunday;
- ◆ Ivan Chambers, Dead Rivers Southern Belle, handled by Ivan, who passed on Sunday
- ◆ Kevin Niethammer, Niethammer's Theodore ;Mundo Jones, handled by Kevin, who passed on Sunday
- ◆ Konrad Heider, RoddyDogs Little Brown Nash, handled by Konrad, who passed on Sunday



Michael Evans' Ivy with her JH title ribbon

If you have a picture of your dog for this test or any other brags, please send it to me for publication in a future newsletter!

Alan Bruhin and Shine



Special Thanks from Asst Test Chairman Michael Evans

I know Lois has included many of the usual players in her "President's Message" for our Hunt Test and more are mentioned in the general report on the test, but, from my perspective in the field I'd like to call out a few folks that, in my opinion, went above and beyond.

- ◆ First I'd like to personally thank Brent McCoy and Kyle Bertrum. These two men not only brought chainsaws and weed eaters to ready their tests to make them more challenging and fair but, they moved their own equipment and came to the shed and got their own ducks and hunted up pallets for handlers to stand on in the mud Sunday morning. They didn't wait on help, they dug in and did it in order to help the club members. And let's not forget that they both gave up their Holiday weekend on extremely short notice when we needed them! Some may look at it as "Brent's a member and it was his duty" but nothing could be farther from the truth! Kyle planned on running his dog at our hunt test but instead let a pro run it so he could help. Brent was scheduled to work but used vacation time at the last minute to help us. They should both be commended for going far above and beyond and we would be remiss if we didn't give both of them a very special Thank You for all they did!
- ◆ Second I'd like to acknowledge the Chambers family. I'm usually first on the grounds on set-up day but they were already there, waiting on me at 10:45am Friday morning. When I needed fill-in birdboys they were there, ready to help, when we had winger problems they didn't call for assistance, they just fixed the problem and when we were short on pop-up's for the Judges, they gave their own to the Junior Judges on Sunday. Both Ivan and Cade volunteered to shoot, throw birds, move equipment and anything else we needed to make the test run smoothly. As I said, they were there when I got there Friday morning and one of the last to leave Sunday evening. We all owe them a huge Thank You!
- ◆ Third I'd like to shine a bright light on Victoria Evans (no relation) and Sportmix feed. Not to take anything away from the wonderful gifts Purina sent the club for our raffle, but Victoria (Tori) was there every day answering questions, giving away samples, T-shirts and visors to handlers and guests as well as providing gifts for our raffle. She is knowledgeable about the product and answered specific questions asked by pros and amateurs alike. She requested to be taken around to the various stakes so she could introduce herself to anyone who might not have made it to the clubhouse or seen her in the pavilion. Not only was she a great representative for Sportmix at our Hunt test but she always takes the time to attend our Club tests. The one thing I heard a lot of talk about was that she didn't try to pressure or "sell" anyone on her product. If they seemed interested she simply gave them a coupon for a free 50lb bag and asked them to try it themselves. For her to show up, get a motel room and spend the entire weekend supporting our club and event is wonderful in my opinion. This is exactly what this sport needs and I appreciate her and Sportmix for supporting the ETRC.

As I said, there are far more people to appreciate than I mentioned but, I'll leave that up to our President and Newsletter Editors. However, in my realm of this Hunt test, the folks I mentioned above need special recognition for the things they did over the weekend because they truly went above and beyond! If our club is to grow and continue to be a beacon as to how a test "should be" run then these folks are where we should start. Without them I think our test would have been much less successful, and from my perspective, much more stressful.

Thank you!!!! — Mike Evans
Past President & Asst. Hunt Test Chair



Final Report: Spring Club Trial #2, Saturday May 13, 2017 Brian Caldwell's Training Grounds, Georgetown, TN

Thanks to:

- ◆ Brian for the use of his training grounds at the last minute, and for helping out with birdboy duties.
- ◆ Judges: Singles Classic – Michael Evans & Luke McCoy; Master, Senior, Advanced Junior and Junior: Alan Bruhin and Jeff McNutt.
- ◆ Jim Pearce for bringing the club's new smaller trailer over; Karen Edwards for running the table; and Everyone who came and enjoyed a perfect day!

The Singles Classic was run first and was comprised of two long land marks. The Master/Senior/Advanced Junior and Junior stakes were run on the same set-up on the other side of the property, and involved both land and water work. Signups and setups began at 8:00 a.m., and the action was underway by 9:00 a.m. The weather was brilliantly sunny with perfect temps, starting with light jacket weather and warming later to the low 70s. After the ribbon ceremony, there was a brief board meeting.

Results:

Singles Classic: 10 dogs entered, 8 passed.

- ◆ First place: Cooper and Wayne Rasbury. This is a repeat for Cooper, who also won at the April 8 Club Trial.
- ◆ Second place: Wilson with Seth Wagner.
- ◆ Third place: Reed and Cade Chambers. Cade is one of our new Luthenauer Youth Program members.
- ◆ Fourth place: Panda and Jim Pearce.

JAMs: Ivy and Michael Evans, Callie with Jim Pearce, Belle and Ivan Chambers (another Youth Program participant!) and Ella with Luke McCoy.

Master Test: 4 dogs entered and three passed. This test included a nearby woods that really tended to suck in dogs on the second blind! Passing were: Shine and Alan Bruhin; Panda and Jim Pearce, and Ella with Luke McCoy.

Senior Test: 5 entered and 4 passed -- Cooper with Wayne Rasbury, Pearl with Jeff McNutt, Ivy and Mike Evans, and Wilson with Seth Wagner.

Advanced Junior Test: 6 entered, 5 passed. Passing were Mike Evans and Ivy, Luke McCoy with Echo, Rick Fyfe and Mac, Jeff McNutt and Pearl, and Ivan Chambers with Belle.

Junior Test: 6 entered, 5 passed. Passing were Mike Evans and Ivy, Luke McCoy with Echo, Rick Fyfe with Mac, Cade Chambers with Reed, Belle and Ivan Chambers, and Seth Wagner with Wilson.

Puppies: None entered.

Financial Information:

	Memberships/	Entries /	Sales /	Donation	Total
Checks	\$0	\$60	NA	\$0	\$60
cash	\$25	\$190	NA	\$0	\$215
Totals	\$25	\$250	NA	\$0	\$275

The Club took in \$250 in entry fees. In addition, one old member renewed. There were no expenses.

Final Thoughts: Everyone who came had a great time – how often does it work out that the weather cooperates like this! We will try to schedule a third Trial in the fall, possibly at Lucky 7.

ETRC Board Meeting, Brian Caldwell's Training Grounds, Georgetown, May 13, 2017

Present from the Board: Alan Bruhin, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Rick Fyfe, Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce

Absent, excused: Lois Luthenauer, Roberta Williams, Donna Smith, Tom Gibson, John Broucek, Michele Fletcher

Members present: Jeff & Cheryl McNutt, Brian Caldwell

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. Meeting called to order at 12:55 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports

President's Report: None. Alan Bruhin was filling in for absent president Lois Luthenauer.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. Last meeting was 4/8/17; minutes were approved on 4/13/17 via email, sent to the club website that day. Jim moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. Mike Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Correspondence:** Request for donation for Workers Party at the National Amateur Retriever Championship. Reply??? No one seemed to be interested in sending any money in their direction, so the issue was tabled without a vote.

- **Website changes made & pending:** Routine. Paid Mary's first quarter bill for \$29.

Membership: End of year membership was 59. Current membership is 50 with 17 from 2016 not renewed, 3 new pending vote in August, 2 new for first reading today.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 5/9/17 is \$13,846.53 with the only bill outstanding being \$262.20 for the new signs (which Rick brought to the meeting) to be paid back to Rick. Paid since last time: rubber for wingers (\$199.98), 3 new wingers (\$1,199.97), Kogut airfare (\$485.21).

Old Business

Club Trials:

- ◆ May 13. Completed. See report attached to these minutes.
- ◆ Fall: dates are always hard to find, between the various hunting seasons and UT football games, in addition to nearby hunt tests. September 23rd looks like the best date (away game, no nearby hunt tests) with October 7 being the next best. Michael will call Ken Campbell to see if Lucky 7 is available on either of those two dates. Brian asked if we would be interested in setting up to have live flyers at this fall trial, which might encourage more people to come. He can get ducks locally; we would have to have people sign up in advance if they wanted a flyer, at an extra cost. We could also use the dead ducks for everyone. This looks like a good idea; we will try to work on this idea later on in the summer.

Spring Hunt Test: May 27-28, Hiwassee. We ran down the assignment list to make sure everything is on track. A couple of items are still underway, as follows:

- ◆ Roberta is ordering the (expensive!) waterproof paper and will run off the judge's sheets on the waterproof version. Alan will print off the form on plain paper, and we will only use the waterproof if it's raining.
- ◆ Michael will call Kiley Buettner on Tuesday morning to order the ducks, using the formula of 1.4 ducks per entry. He will confirm that we want delivery on Friday during the day, and will ask Kiley for the cell phone number of the driver so we can coordinate. If we have leftover ducks, Michael will handle selling them, trying to get full price if we can. Since we no longer try to have a lot of ducks for club trials, Alan suggested that we offer any dead and still useable ducks to any of the volunteers who work at the test. This was agreed to by consensus but no formal motion made.
- ◆ We currently have 43 Senior entries for Saturday. If we get to 50, we will have to split the stake. Brian Caldwell mentioned that he might end up scratching one or two senior dogs, and Luke McCoy also said that he might end up scratching Ella. If they do and we still go over, we will probably have to use club judges like Michael, Brent, Luke, or Alan, and will need to go back to back with the setups since we haven't got enough room there at Hiwassee to add another location. Brian Caldwell mentioned that we could use his place for the extra series; however it is way too late to get AKC grounds approval. Michael suggested that he work with Brian to get AKC approval for Brian's place for next year to have as a backup if needed. Considering that Brian is only a few

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miles from Hiwassee, this would probably work out if we had to do it although it is never easy to have split locations.

- ◆ Bird Boys: Karen discussed final arrangements with the chaperone for the bird kids for spring on May 9. The Board discussed how late we should make the kids work; in the past this has been sometimes a problem with judges who don't manage their time well. Alan mentioned that at other tests, judges are told up front that the birdkids are leaving at a particular time and they do; if the judge wants to continue, it has to be done with volunteers from the gallery. Karen moved that we tell the judges that the tests have to shut down at 6 p.m., but that if we have only 1 or 2 dogs left we use some flexibility. Luke seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- ◆ Gunners are lined up and ammunition is ordered. Jim still has to buy 8 canisters of Map gas; he mentioned that he bought a new igniter for thunderstick #8 which was not almost unusable and was going to submit a bill to us for repayment.
- ◆ People who are available should come to Hiwassee at 11 a.m. for starting on an equipment repair party. This will allow enough time to run out to a store to get more parts as needed to be sure to have enough for the weekend, before the judges arrive and start setting up the test.

Kevin's Fund:

- ◆ Rules: review and make any changes necessary. Karen and Lois – tagged but have not done this yet.
- ◆ Status of application from Griffin McDowell, 13, who is Brian Caldwell's Assistant. Brian Caldwell agreed to try to get a parental signature on a membership form for Griffin. If so, we agreed that the club will use waive his membership fee.
- ◆ Two new applications: Cade and Ivan Chambers. Essays were sent around to the Board via email. Rick moved that we accept them both into the program; Jim seconded and the vote was unanimous. In anticipation of this result, both Cade and Ivan participated in the Club Trial free of charge.
- ◆ Karen sent a reminder to our last years' participants, the McCoy girls, and included reminders in the last two newsletter. Luke talked with Brent who said they would probably try to join later in the summer after school was out.
- ◆ Youth Handler's seminar: Brian Caldwell says July would be a good time for him, and this would also work well with our summer plans which only have the club picnic in August. Brian will get some potential dates to Karen shortly. He has all kinds of good ideas about how to run this program, and wants to make it something like what Sure Shot Retrievers advertises on its website. He suggests that we open it up to all youth, and invite the birdkids / FFA to attend as well. There would be a fee for people other than our own youth program participants, possibly \$50 per kid (ETRC would cover costs for kids in the Youth program, and could also partially fund this as a club -- offer a discounted rate for member kids who aren't in the program, maybe a lesser discount for the bird kids, etc.). The fee would cover the cost of a meal, snack, possibly some ducks. He says what he'd like to do is have enough senior or master level dogs for each kid, and have various stations or groups with different people helping. Maybe have a fishing break for a while in the afternoon. He mentioned he would like to tag Alan and Michael to help with this, so that they can do basics with trained dogs in small groups. We asked him to continue fleshing out these plans and keep us informed for further discussion.

Training Dates: Any dates for summer? Problem with high grass at Roane Regional during the summer and just about everywhere else, plus high heat. We decided not to have any organized training again until September.

Fall Hunt Test: Karen needs to go online & fill out AKC application: 2 junior, 2 senior, 1 60-dog master, and pay.

Summer Seminar/Picnic: Leigh says Jody is delighted to do this for us again and will get back to us with dates. Karen will try to pin him down when we visit hopefully later this week. Need to firm up dates and location.

Committee to look at Dog/Puppy of the Year rules: Karen, Michael Evans, Mike Smith – Have agreed on editorial changes and some other minor changes. Still working on other issues. Plan to have report to the Board in time for this to be presented to the membership in August.

New Business:

First Reading, New members:

- ◆ Konrad / Tricia Heider, applications architect, 1020 Reunion Drive, Chattanooga. Has Roddydog Labradors. Sponsors: ; Haley O'Neal and Alan Bruhin.
- ◆ Charles & Connie Lockwood. Have labs, want sponsors familiar with labs. Live in Madisonville. Sponsors: as-

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signed are Michael Evans & Brian Caldwell.

Luke moved that these new members be accepted on first reading. 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 summer picnic.

Any other new business?

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Luke seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

The 2017 Luthenauer Young Handler's Program

Calling all kids! It is now time to sign up for the 2017 Young Handler's Program. Any young person at the undergraduate college level and below is eligible to join. Participants will be reimbursed for entry fees into AKC Hunt Tests and will participate free of charge in ETRC Club Trials. There will be a free Young Handler's seminar as well — and you will be expected to volunteer for at least 4 hours at one of our club events. All it takes to participate: you must be a member of ETRC, and you must submit a one-page essay to the program coordinator stating why you want to join the program and what retriever sports mean to you. Submit your essay to Program Coordinator, Lois Luthenauer, MountainLo717@gmail.com. Details on the club website, click on "Youth Program."



Very Young Handler William Ware & Fern Hill RSR
Golden Boy (Willie)

2017 ETRC Memberships

Membership is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). New member and 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!

Training Corner

Tips from the Dobbs Training Center

by
Jim & Phyllis Dobbs

The Angle-Back Cast

The *angle-back* cast is usually defined as the dog turning and going back at a 45-degree angle from the shoulder instead of turning completely around and going straight back. Ideally, what you really want when you give an angle-back cast is for the dog to leave the line he is on, move over several degrees at an oblique angle, and then go straight back (Diagram 1).

Why give an angle-back instead of an "over" cast and then a straight "back" cast? With an "over" and then a "back" cast, you must stop the dog twice in rapid succession; this amount of control tends to slow the dog down. However, giving only one *whistle-sit* and then an *angle-back* doesn't tend to slow down the dog's momentum as much. This is important, as a dog with good momentum tends to carry the line straighter and farther.

However, if your main goal when handling your dog is to have good control, and you are not concerned with how many *whistle-sit* commands you use, then the "over" and straight "back" cast handling technique works well. The choice of handling styles is yours. If you choose to train your dog



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Jim and Phyllis Dobbs operate the Dobbs Training Center in Marysville, CA. They regularly write for *The Pointing Dog Journal*, *The Retriever Journal*, and *Front & Finish* magazine. Jim and Phyllis specialize in the use of e-collars and are constantly developing new training techniques. Many of these techniques are shown in their videos. Jim and Phyllis can be reached at (530) 741-0375 or 1-888-E-COLLAR.



Start with the dog sitting on a place board facing you. Give him an angle-back cast to another platform that is placed behind him and over at about a 45-degree angle.

to take angle-back casts, this article describes how we teach it.

Teaching the Angle-Back Cast

To teach angle-backs, we use platforms or "place boards," as they give a visible target the dog understands. Therefore, to use this technique, it is imperative that you have already taught the dog to cast to a platform. (See *The Retriever Journal*, "Training Your Dog to Cast," June/July 1996; or our video *Dogtra E-Collar Introduction*.)

Step 1. Teach left and right angle-backs by casting to place boards as shown in the picture. When the dog takes the correct cast to the place board, throw him a bumper to retrieve.

Step 2. Practice the same drill, but add a diversion place board directly behind the dog. If he goes straight back instead of taking the angle-back, tell him, "No, here!" Move over a little toward the intended board, and try again.

The "Y" Drill

Step 3. Sight Blinds: Set up three blinds as parallel lines with the middle one indented. This set-up is the same

as we use on the Modified T. (See *The Retriever Journal*, "Handling Patterns for Retrievers," December/January 1996-'97.)

Place a pile of bumpers at each blind. Use flags at each pile so that the dog can see where he is to go. When you run the middle blind and stop the dog partway to give an angle-back, the pattern looks like a "Y" (Diagram 2).

Send the dog "back" to the center blind. Sometimes, stop him short of the center flag with a *whistle-sit* and give him either a left or right angle-back cast. When the dog is proficient with this drill, it is time to practice the same setup, or Y drill, to permanent blinds.

Step 4. Permanent Blinds: Set up three blinds as parallel lines with the middle one indented. Run each blind separately, as shown in Diagram 2, so that the dog is familiar with the "permanent" location.

Next, run the drill as the Y drill, stopping the dog before the middle bumper pile and giving an angle-back to either the left or right blind.

Around the Region

Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

Potomac Valley RC	6/3/17	Remington, VA
Black Warrior RC	6/10/17	Greensboro, AL
Cuyahoga Valley RC	6/10/17	Chardon, OH
Buckeye RC	6/17/17	Chardon, OH
Greater Pittsburg RC	6/24/17	Chardon, OH
Flat Coated RC	6/24/17	Brandywine, MD
Curly Coated RC	7/8/17	Hambden, OH
North Alabama RC	7/29/17	Section, AL
Master National RC	October	Tennessee Colony, TX
East TN RC	10/22/17	Sweetwater, TN

*** These tests are being handled by HuntTestHelper.com. All others are handled by EntryExpress.com.

Basic Retriever Judge's/Handler Seminar in Virginia in July

The Mid Atlantic Hunting Retriever Club of Virginia is sponsoring an 8-hour Judges/Handler's seminar on Saturday, July 29 beginning at 8 a.m., at the New Kent Forestry Center, 11301 Pocahontas Trail, Providence Forge, VA 23140. On Sunday, July 30, there will be an optional training day focused on field set up and judging, complete with bird boys and flyers. \$25 for Saturday, includes lunch. \$25 per dog for Sunday, includes a flyer (2 dog limit). For more info, go to www.mahrcva.com or email to mahrcofva@gmail.com. Sign up at Entry Express.

Advanced Judges Seminar in Ohio in August

The Buckeye Retriever Club is sponsoring a Judges seminar August 5-6, 2017. Cost is \$55.

Saturday, August 5: 7:30-8:30 a.m., registration with coffee and pastries. Morning: Classroom training by AKC representatives. Afternoon: Field exercises run by AKC representatives. Location: Euclid Rifle & Hunting Club, 17100 Whitney Road, Montville, OH 44064.

Sunday, August 6: 7:30-8:30 a.m., registration with coffee and pastries. More field exercises run by kAKC representatives. Location: Hambden Nursery, 14849 Rock Creek Rd. (SR 166), Chardon, Ohio 44024.

Box lunch and afternoon snack will be provided both days. Contact for more info: Robert Samios, (724) 932-5956, robertsamios@zoominternet.net.

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); Lois Luthenauer (mountainLo717@gmail.com) or Roberta Williams (sharpplw@usit.net).