



2018 Upcoming Events

1. February 10, 2018, Saturday, 10 a.m.. Organized Training: weather dependent, see p. 4
2. February 17, 2018, Saturday: Awards Banquet & Business meeting, at Calhoun's Bearden Hill. 6 p.m.; details inside; **RSVP now before February 11.**
3. March 10, 2018: Spring Club Trial #1, location pending. **ORGANIZED TRAINING** following in the afternoon.
4. April ???, 2018: 2nd Spring club Trial, TBD.
5. May 26-27, 2018, Spring Hunt Test, Hiwassee Refuge. Judges Pending.
6. August ???, summer picnic/business meeting/seminar
7. October 20-21, 2018: Fall Hunt Test, Lucky 7 Ranch. Pending.

President's Message

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the ETRC for the past two years. During this time, I have had plenty of opportunity to renew and strengthen old friendships, make new friends, solve some problems, get myself into and out of trouble, and generally have a rip-roaring good time. There has also been a lot of work, long days in the field at hunt tests, late nights driving to and from board meetings so that we can keep things running smoothly, headaches trying to solve last minute problems that crop up, etc. I wouldn't trade all of that for a million bucks Well maybe!

Many of you remember my husband, Kevin, for whom our fledgling youth program is named. When Kevin and I first met, I knew nothing about hunt tests and dog training. Our second date was watching a junior hunt test, an ETRC Fall Test held at a farm near Sweetwater. On our third date, he took me to a weekend training session where I first met John Broucek, and I decided very quickly that there would be no better way to spend weekends than with all these dogs and their people, out in the fresh air, usually near the water, and with the added bonus of dead ducks! How much better could it get?

Well, I still feel that way ... and you folks, the members of the ETRC, are the reason why. We have a great club, with many people who are willing to step in and help get things done. We have members that have been here a long time, and some new folks who have just joined. All in all, a great bunch of people who work hard and play hard and think the world of their dog(s)! We have a great time together, and get the job done. I could not have asked for better people around me, especially (in no particular order of importance): Karen Edwards, Mike Evans, Luke McCoy, Alan Bruhin, Michelle Fletcher, Rick Fyfe, Jim Pearce, Roberta Williams, Tom Gibson, Patty Gibson The list goes on an on. Thank you everyone for the opportunity to serve the Club in this capacity. I'll do my best to keep working for you as Past President in the coming year.

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Awards Banquet 2/17/18; RSVPs Due Now

The annual Awards Banquet is Saturday, February 17, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at Calhoun's on the Bearden Hill, 6515 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919. This is the same location where we have been for several years.

Folks will order off the menu when they arrive, and the meeting will begin around 7:00-ish. New members are particularly urged to come - don't be shy, come and meet folks! This is also our election meeting and general membership meeting, presentation of end-of-the-year and various other trophies; and a close-out of fiscal 2017 for the club. Come celebrate a successful year... and help us look ahead to our many activities for 2018.

I need to have RSVPs from anyone who is planning to eat NO LATER THAN 11:59 p.m. on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 (edwardskc@gmail.com or 865-376-3453), so that the restaurant manager can arrange for enough people to be on shift to handle our orders expeditiously.



Winter Training Days

Our January 13th training day was canceled; thanks for Brian Caldwell for agreeing to a make-up session on January 20, 2018 at his place. Attendees reported a great day with lots of good tips!

ETRC will sponsor organized training sessions on the following Saturdays:

- ◆ February 10, 2018 at 10 a.m., **Roane Regional**. John Broucek, leader. There will be bumpers, Dokkens, and a few birds for dogs who need to learn about ducks.
- ◆ March 10, 2018 at 2 p.m. following the completion of the Club Trial. Details to follow.

Bring your dogs, water, and training equipment; live ammunition is not allowed for events held at Roane Regional and we will have several of the Thunder Simulators on site for use.

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.

Special info for training at Roane Regional: If it is muddy, park in the Pegasus parking lot and walk back to the fields to the left of the red barn behind the office building. If it is dry, go past the Pegasus building and take the first gravel/dirt track on the right, several hundred yards further down the road. We will be up on the hill for starters.

Under our training policies, 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 40s or higher, 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.

Final Slate for Election of Officers and Board Members

The nominating committee headed by Board Member Luke McCoy, with assistance from Cory Smith and Chad Suttles, has recommended the following slate for ETRC officer and director positions for fiscal year 2018 (beginning at the end of the banquet in February):

- ◆ President: Luke McCoy
- ◆ Vice President: Alan Bruhin
- ◆ Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards
- ◆ Hunt Test Secretary: Carol McCorkle (previously Stone)
- ◆ Two Director positions (Feb 2018 - Feb 2021): Cory Smith, Tom Gibson
- ◆ AKC Delegate: Michelle Fletcher

Remaining on the board are: Donna Smith & John Broucek (through Feb 2019), and Jim Pearce and Luke McCoy (through Feb 2020). Lois Luthenauer will serve as Past President through 2018 and in addition has agreed to serve as Chief Marshal for the spring and fall AKC hunt tests. These last two positions are not on the ballot but are important to the workings of the club! If Luke McCoy is elected President, J. Michael Evans has agreed to serve out Luke's remaining Board term. Leaving the Board are Rick Fyfe and Tom Gibson. Many thanks to Rick for his hard work over the past several years, and thanks to Tom for agreeing to serve another term.

In accordance with the Bylaws, and as announced in December's newsletter, additional nominations could have been made by any member prior to December 31, 2017, in writing to the Secretary, using the process outlined in the newsletter. No one made any additional nominations, so the above slate stands unopposed.

Voting for officers/directors and the AKC Delegate will be done at the annual Awards Banquet and general membership meeting, Saturday evening, February 17, 2018 (see p.2).

Membership Renewals Coming Due

Your 2017 memberships expires the end of February. You will stay 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 while you are thinking about it? 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 plus the opportunity to make friendships with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. It's a bargain!

Or, you can renew at the Banquet. Karen will have extra membership forms available and is always happy to take your money.

News About ETRC's Awards Program

It has been a number of years since we last looked at ETRC's various awards — the last changes to the Gun Dog and Puppy of the Year awards took place in 2011. In the spring of 2017, the Board decided to appoint a committee to examine our various awards and make recommendations for changes and possibly some new awards. The committee consisted of Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, and Mike Smith. At several Board meetings, their progress was discussed and further guidance from the Board was provided to guide their continuing efforts. This resulted in a set of new Gun Dog and Puppy Award rules that were presented to the Board and approved on 11/1/17, for use in the 2018 and subsequent award years. We delayed publishing them until AFTER the awards calls for the 2017 rules, to avoid confusion between which rules were in effect at the time. Now that the awards nominations have all been sent to the engraver's, we want you to see the changes that have been made to the program.

First, the rules were changed to provide less emphasis on ETRC's Club Trial program. Unfortunately, these events are no longer as well attended as in prior years, due to the many calls on everybody's time. Although all the dogs that were eventually selected under the previous Gun Dog and Puppy rules were very deserving, the rules COULD have worked to award the club's highest trophy to a junior level dog that attended every Club Trial but never participated in a single hunt test, over a dog that qualified for the Master National and actually was a finalist, but who attended no Club Trials. Luckily, this has never happened but it was time to make sure that the rules were effective in consistently selecting the best dog every year.

Second, we eliminated the puppy form for tabulating points, changed the point system to clarify what events puppies can earn points in and to reward puppies who are advanced enough to be competing in AKC recognized hunt tests.

Third, we made many editorial and structural changes for clarity and flow. Michael was instrumental in this part of the work, since he is the one who has been tabulating the awards for many years and is familiar with what the intent of the rules was.

Finally, we added a new set of awards — high point title awards for Junior, Senior, and Master Hunter titles. This is in addition to the plaque earned for the title itself, and is intended to reward those dogs who perhaps weren't at the highest level of the sport yet but still were noteworthy for their accomplishments during the year.

The committee is not yet done with their work. We are now working on a document that will codify the individual title awards, eligibility requirements, membership and handling requirements etc. We hope to have this document completed by the summer and will provide an update in the newsletter when that has been completed. This document will apply to title awards earned during 2018.

In addition, the committee will be looking at AKC Retriever Field Trials and learning about how they might be given recognition in our awards program. After all, our Bylaws state that we are a club to support and encourage both Hunt Tests and Field Trials, and some of our members do participate in trials and their efforts should not go unrewarded. To assist us in this effort, John Broucek has been added to the committee. Again, we hope to complete our work on this effort during the year. We intend to have AKC Field Trial title awards in place for the 2018 award year; however, any changes made to the Gun Dog and Puppy Awards to include field trial results will not take place until the 2019 awards year.

If you have any questions about any of these awards, the recent changes, or have comments for further changes you would like to see, please contact me (Karen Edwards, edwardskc@gmail.com) or any of the other committee members with your ideas. Rules begin on the next page ...

ETRC GUN DOG OF THE YEAR AWARD RULES

(Approved November 1, 2017, effective January 1, 2018)

1. The dog which accumulates the most points in AKC-Licensed Retriever Hunting Tests and ETRC club trials throughout the calendar year will be the winner of the annual Holcomb Gun Dog award and trophy. The annual award and trophy will be presented at the February ETRC annual awards banquet. The recipient of the Holcomb Gun Dog of the Year award will keep the trophy for one year and is responsible for its care. An engraved personal plaque is awarded to the retriever and the owner.
2. Points may be earned only in AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Tests and ETRC Club Trials.
3. Points earned for "Puppy" Stakes at AKC Hunt Tests or ETRC Club Trials, plus points earned by puppies under 12 months of age at the time of the AKC Hunt Tests or ETRC Club Trials will not be included in computation of Gun Dog of the Year point totals.
4. Dogs are eligible to earn points at their current AKC title level and higher stakes at ETRC Club Trials. For example, a dog who has already earned his Senior Hunter title may continue to earn points at either the Senior level or the Master level. However, once a dog has passed two consecutive club trial stakes at a higher level than their current AKC title, or has a single pass at the higher level at an AKC test, he or she may no longer run lower level stakes for points at ETRC Club Trials.
5. Dogs are eligible to earn points at their current title level or above in AKC Hunt Tests. Once a dog earns a pass in a higher stake than its current AKC title level at an AKC hunt test, that dog cannot run a lesser hunt test stake for points. For example, a dog with an AKC Master pass cannot run in an AKC Senior Hunt Test stake for points, but may earn points for a run in an AKC Master stake.
6. All hunt tests stakes will be run for completion points only (points are only awarded per test successfully passed).
7. Calculation of Points:
 - A. A dog will receive 1 point for Junior, 2 points for Senior, and 3 points for Master at each AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test passed. Points earned at a Specialty where only one breed is allowed to compete may be included in the points calculations, but only up to a maximum of two completions (i.e. up to 2 points for Junior, 4 points for Senior, or 6 points for Master tests passed).
 - B. A dog will receive 1 point for Junior, 2 points for Senior, and 3 points for Master at each Club Trial stake passed. However, only the highest level passed for which the dog is eligible to receive points will count towards the Gun Dog awards. Singles Classic and Advanced Junior Hunter stakes will not count towards the Gun Dog Awards.
 - C. Points for Master National or Master Amateur Hunt Tests:
 - (1) A dog will receive 1 point for qualifying for the Master National and/or Master Amateur Hunt Test
 - (2) A dog will receive 6 points for passing at the Master National and/or Master Amateur Hunt Test
8. Only dogs owned by ETRC members in good standing are eligible to compete for the Gun Dog of the Year award. However, points gained while the dog is being handled by someone other than the owner will count towards the award, whether or not the handler is an ETRC member.
9. In the event of a tie, the tied dog who competed in the most ETRC Club Trials during the awards year will be declared the winner. If this tie breaker still results in a tie, all tied dogs will receive recognition.
10. The eligibility year for the Gun Dog of the Year Award begins January 1 and runs through December 31 of the award year.

It will be the responsibility of the owner to provide information on ETRC club and AKC passes to the ETRC club member who is responsible for tabulating points, by the date specified in the December newsletter. If there is a discrepancy in the points submitted for ETRC events and ETRC's records, the records of the ETRC are final. Any discrepancies in AKC points submitted will be compared to AKC's Performance records with AKC tabulations being final. These rules and regulations are to be published in the club newsletter preceding the club's annual February meeting. A copy will be posted on the ETRC website. Any changes to the rules will be published in the club newsletter and posted on the website. Winners will be announced in the March Newsletter and posted on the ETRC Website.

ETRC PUPPY OF THE YEAR RULES

(Approved November 1, 2017, effective January 1, 2018)

1. The puppy which accumulates the most points per the rules below in ETRC club trials, puppy stakes at ETRC's AKC Hunt Tests, or AKC licensed Hunt tests throughout the year will be the winner of the annual Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year award and trophy. Puppies between 10 weeks and one year of age are eligible to compete. The annual award and trophy will be presented at the February ETRC annual awards banquet. The recipient of the Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year award will keep the trophy for one year and is responsible for its care. An engraved personal plaque is awarded to the puppy and the owner.
2. Age Classifications: Junior Puppy: ten weeks through six months (27 weeks of age); Senior Puppy - seven months to one year (28 weeks to first birthday).
3. Points.
 - A. Points will be earned only in ETRC Club Trials, puppy stakes at ETRC's AKC Hunt Tests, or regular hunt test stakes at any AKC licensed hunt tests. Points for any level hunt test stakes at AKC hunt tests or any stakes at ETRC Club Trials will only count if the puppy was less than 1 year of age at the time the points were earned.
 - B. Puppies are eligible to run in their current age classification. A Senior puppy may not compete in the Junior Puppy class. Junior puppies may compete in the higher stake Senior Puppy class for a JAM ribbon only, no placement or points will be awarded.
4. Calculation of Points:
 - A. Points will be awarded for placements in ETRC club Trial and ETRC Hunt Test puppy stakes as follows:
 - (1) If 5 or more puppies are entered, 3 points will be awarded for 1st place, 2 points for 2nd place, and 1 point for puppies placing 3rd or 4th or receiving JAM ribbons.
 - (2) If 4 puppies are entered, 2 points will be awarded for 1st place, 1 point for puppies placing 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or receiving JAM ribbons.
 - (3) If 3 or fewer puppies are entered, all placements and JAMS will receive 1 point each.
 - B. Additional Points: A puppy will receive 1 point for any Junior Hunter stake, 2 points for a Senior Hunter stake, or 3 points for a Master Hunter stake passed at an ETRC Club Trial before the puppy's first birthday. No points will be awarded for Singles Classic or Advanced Junior stakes.
 - C. A puppy will receive 1 point for any AKC-licensed Hunt Test Junior Hunter Stake (2 points for Senior, 3 points for Master) passed before the puppy's first birthday. Points earned at a Specialty AKC Hunt Test where only one breed is allowed to compete may be included in the points calculations, but only up to a maximum of two completions.
5. Only puppies owned by ETRC members in good standing are eligible to compete for the Puppy of the Year award. However, points gained while the puppy is handled by someone other than the owner will count towards the award.
6. In the event of a tie, the tied dog who competed in the most ETRC Club Trials during the awards year will be declared the winner. If this tie breaker still results in a tie, all tied dogs will receive recognition.
7. The eligibility year for the Puppy of the Year Award begins January 1 and runs through December 31 of the award year.
8. It will be the responsibility of the owner to provide information on ETRC club and AKC passes to the ETRC club member who is responsible for tabulating points, by the date specified in the December newsletter. If in the event there is a discrepancy in the points submitted for ETRC events and ETRC records, the records of the ETRC are final. Any discrepancies in AKC points submitted will be compared to AKC's Performance records with AKC tabulations being final.
9. These rules and regulations are to be published in the club newsletter preceding the club's annual February meeting. A copy will be posted on the ETRC website. Any changes to the rules will be published in the club newsletter and posted on the website. Winners will be announced in the March Newsletter and posted on the ETRC Website.
10. Judges are strongly encouraged to set up different marking tests for the Junior and Senior puppy tests. A water mark should be included in the Senior puppy stake. Lack of suitable grounds, cold weather, and time may prohibit this suggestion but all efforts should be made to adhere to it.

High Point Junior/Senior/Master Awards

(Approved November 1, 2017, effective January 1, 2018)

1. ETRC will offer an engraved plaque for the dog at each level (Junior, Senior, and Master) at any age who accumulates the most points at each level during the calendar year. Points towards this award are counted differently than points towards the Gun Dog and Puppy of the Year Awards; however, points may be counted towards both awards. The award will be presented at the February ETRC Annual Awards banquet.
2. Points may be earned only in AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Tests and ETRC Club Trials.
3. Points earned for “Puppy” Stakes at AKC Hunt Tests or ETRC Club Trials will not count towards level awards. However, any points earned by puppies at Junior, Senior or Master level stakes will count towards level awards regardless of the age of the dog at the time the points were earned.
4. Dogs are eligible to earn points at multiple levels regardless of age or title level, at either AKC Hunt Tests or ETRC Club Trials. Points will only be applied towards the level earned. For example, a dog who has 3 passes at the Senior Level and another 3 passes at the Master level will have 3 passes counted towards each level for the high point award.
5. All stakes will be run for completion points only (points are only awarded per test successfully passed).
6. Calculation of Points:
 - A. A dog will receive 1 point for Junior, 2 points for Senior, and 3 points for Master at each AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test passed. Points earned at a Specialty where only one breed is allowed to compete may be included in the points calculations, but only up to a maximum of two completions (i.e. up to 2 points for Junior, 4 points for Senior, or 6 points for Master tests passed).
 - B. A dog will receive 1 point for Junior, 2 points for Senior, and 3 points for Master at each Club Trial stake passed. Singles Classic and Advanced Junior Hunter stakes will not count towards the Gun Dog Awards.
 - C. Points for Master National or Master Amateur Hunt Tests:
 - (1) A dog will receive 1 point for qualifying for the Master National and/or Master Amateur Hunt Test
 - (2) A dog will receive 6 points for passing at the Master National and/or Master Amateur Hunt Test
7. Only dogs owned by ETRC members in good standing are eligible to compete for the Gun Dog of the Year award. However, points gained while the dog is being handled by someone other than the owner will count towards the level award, whether or not the handler is an ETRC member.
8. In the event of a tie, the tied dog who competed in the most ETRC Club Trials during the awards year will be declared the winner. If this tie breaker still results in a tie, all tied dogs will receive recognition.
9. The eligibility year for the High Point level Awards begins January 1 and runs through December 31 of the award year.
10. It will be the responsibility of the owner to provide information on ETRC club and AKC passes to the ETRC club member who is responsible for tabulating points, by the date specified in the December newsletter. If there is a discrepancy in the points submitted for ETRC events and ETRC’s records, the records of the ETRC are final. Any discrepancies in AKC points submitted will be compared to AKC’s Performance records with AKC tabulations being final. These rules and regulations are to be published in the club newsletter preceding the club’s annual February meeting. A copy will be posted on the ETRC website. Any changes to the rules will be published in the club newsletter and posted on the website. Winners will be announced in the March Newsletter and posted on the ETRC Website.



Youth Program Update

After two years of operating the Luthenauer Young Handler program, it was time to see what was working and what wasn't. The Board has approved a revised set of program guidelines for 2018 and beyond, which makes some minor adjustments and one major one — instead of submitting an essay, program applicants must fill out and submit a special application form, which has space for parental signature and contact information for applicants under the age of 18, contact information for the youth applicant separate from their parents, information on dogs, etc. and incorporates the essay requirement into the application itself.

There is no application fee; if the applicant is not already part of a family membership, their membership fee will be paid for by the Luthenauer fund. A perpetual trophy is being designed and ordered for the Awards Banquet, along with a plaque and participation award for everyone who participates. The awards will be retroactive to last year, so two years worth of awards will be granted this year.

New rules are printed below and are also on the website, as is the application form. The form is attached to the email transmitting the newsletter as well.

The ETRC Kevin Luthenauer Young Handler Program

Effective 1/14/18

Background

Kevin Luthenauer, a long-time ETRC Member and Past President, died in August 2015. Kevin was an avid outdoorsman and loved to hunt. He was passionate about dogs, and believed that a well-bred and well-trained dog was an asset to any family. He also felt strongly that giving back to the sport he loved would help perpetuate the outdoorsman lifestyle, and in spite of years of chronic health problems, he did all he could to participate in the sport he loved. To honor his commitment to the sport and the hunt test community, his family asked that donations in lieu of flowers be made to ETRC and be used for supporting and encouraging young people to pursue retriever sports. The program was inaugurated in 2016.

This plan outlines program guidance for the Luthenauer Young Handler Program. It will remain in effect until revised or canceled by majority vote of the ETRC Board.

Eligibility

Any interested youth who is under the age of 23 and is enrolled full-time at a public or private school (elementary, middle or high school), or in a college or university associate or baccalaureate program is eligible to participate.

To participate in the program, the candidate must complete an [application form](#) each year. If a candidate is under the age of 18, his or her program application must be signed by a parent or guardian and the applicant will be considered an ETRC youth member. If over 18, the applicant will be a full ETRC member entitled to vote and hold office. The normal application fee for membership will be paid for by Program funds if the applicant is not otherwise part of an ETRC family membership.

The application may be submitted via email or snail mail to the Youth Program Coordinator for consideration by the ETRC Board of Directors. This program will accept applications at any time during the year.

Selected applicants will be notified of acceptance for participation following review of their application by the Board. The number of Participants accepted will depend on the amount of money in the fund, including any amounts the ETRC Board decides to allocate to the fund and any further donations from the family or other individuals. Also, second and subsequent year participants must have completed the required 8 hours of volunteer activities during the previous year.

Sponsored Entry Fees for ETRC Club Events

The Fund will pay directly to ETRC all entry fees for approved program participants in all club trials, and any for-fee seminars or events held by the Club.

Sponsored Entry Fees to AKC Hunt Tests

The Fund will reimburse the entry fees of youth program participants who enter AKC hunt tests for up to a total of 6 tests a year (including ETRC tests). To receive a refund, the participant must submit proof of entry and participation to the Youth Program Coordinator, in the form of a written copy of the Entry Express results or an email link to those results, together with the name to whom the check should be payable and a mailing address. The ETRC Treasurer will mail a check to the provided address. In the case of participation in an ETRC sponsored AKC Hunt Test, the refund may be disbursed by the ETRC Secretary/Treasurer at the completion of the event once the Judges' Books have been received by the Hunt Test Secretary. Passing the test is not required for refund.

Young Handlers Seminar

ETRC will attempt to arrange for at least one youth handling seminar during the Club Year. This seminar will be free for all youth members whether they are program participants or not, and will be conducted by one of our club pros, semi-pros, or senior handlers. Parents and other ETRC adult members may audit this seminar but may not bring dogs to work, in order to ensure that the focus on developing handling skills is on the young handlers.

Carpooling Assistance Provided

Youth program participants who need a ride to any ETRC or other supported event should contact the Youth Program Coordinator for assistance. The Program Coordinator will attempt to find someone who will be willing to provide transportation for the youth handler / dog.

Volunteer Activities Expected

Volunteerism is a key aspect of retriever sports. To that end, all youth program participants are expected to help at club events as needed, as junior marshals, runners, office assistants, equipment assistants, bird kids, etc. A minimum of eight (8) hours work is expected during the club year, and assignments will be coordinated by the Youth Program Coordinator.

End of the Year Awards

The Fund will provide a participation award to all program participants who participated in one or more Youth Program events during the year. In addition, the high point Youth Participant will receive a Plaque & Trophy at the Annual Meeting and awards banquet. Points (to be maintained during the year by the Youth Program Coordinator) will be awarded as follows:

- ◆ Participation in an ETRC Organized Training Day – 1 point per session
- ◆ Participation in an ETRC Club Trial: 1 point per trial
- ◆ Passing one or more events in an ETRC Club Trial: 1 point per trial
- ◆ Participation in an ETRC AKC Hunt Test: 2 points
- ◆ Passing an ETRC Hunt Test: 2 points
- ◆ Participation in another club's AKC hunt test: 1 point
- ◆ Passing another club's AKC hunt test: 1 point
- ◆ Attending ETRC's young handlers seminar: 2 points
- ◆ Attending ETRC's open handling seminar: 2 points
- ◆ Earning an AKC hunt test title: 2 points (any level, awarded for each level)
- ◆ Volunteering at a Club Event: 1 point for every day or part of a day at least 4 hours in length spent volunteering

In the event of a tie in total points, the award of any Plaque or Trophy will be determined solely by Youth Program Coordinator and/or by the ETRC Board, and the essays submitted by the participants may be taken into consideration in making such final determination.

Member News and Brags

Litter Announcement

**AFC HRCH Topbrass Hawk's Red Wing
MH CCA ("Red") x Fern Hill Pandemoni-
um MH WCX ("Panda")**

Panda had 9 puppies on January 24, 2018, 8 girls and 1 boy. Mom and pups are all doing great and eating lots. All pups have been sold; we we are keeping another girl puppy & are excited!

Karen Edwards & Jim Pearce



Training Corner

No-Fail Recall

By Craig Clark

1. Set The Table

A recall is critical for success in the field. You can start conditioning for recall at any time—even with a young puppy—with a food-pan drill. When you feed the dog, wait until he's out running in the yard or playing in another room. Peep the whistle or call the dog, shake the pan, and put it down. When you feed twice a day, that's two recall sessions, and you've set up an environment in which they succeed every time. That's very important.

2. Take The Lead

To extend recall training to the yard, start with a 20-foot lead rope. Take the dog out in a controlled environment—you don't want distractions, such as kids running around, or a lot of noises. Hold the rope near the midpoint, let the dog wander around, and when he gets to the end of the rope, issue the recall command and give the rope a tug. When he returns, give him a reward—either a food treat or lots of praise. Once the dog has performed three or four successful recalls in the session, put him in a crate or send him to the kennel or in the house to a quiet room. The point is to let the lesson sink into his long-term memory for 15 or 20 minutes. You get so much more out of a dog by doing this.

3. Go Long

From there, it's a matter of introducing longer recalls, using the entire 20-foot rope length, and adding distractions and new environments. But you never go up a level until you have 90 percent behavior success.

4. Cut The Cord

Once you are ready to try this drill off the lead, go for a walk with the dog. Let him get 25 yards away from you, command the recall, and give the dog a treat or praise when he returns to your side. The thing is, dogs will often come running back just to check you out. Don't reward them for coming back on their own terms. They only get the reward when they've obeyed your command.

5. Keep It Going

Do that every day, and with the food-pan drill, that's three quality training sessions a day—and you're not adding any more time to your schedule than you would normally invest in feeding and walking your dog.

ETRC Board Meeting, 1/14/18 **Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN**

Present from the Board: Lois Luthenauer, Alan Bruhin, Karen Edwards, Donna Smith, Tom Gibson, Rick Fyfe, Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce, John Broucek, Michele Fletcher (AKC delegate)

Absent, excused: J. Michael Evans, Roberta Williams,

Members present: Mike Smith

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. Meeting called to order at 3:10 .m.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: Lois noted that this is her next to the last meeting to preside as President. She thanked the Board for putting up with her occasional absences during her last two years as president, and for people pushing on her to keep her active and engaged. If she hadn't been elected as President shortly after her husband Kevin died, she said she was afraid she would not have stayed active in the sport, and is very glad that she has and did. She looks forward to continuing to work on the board next year as Past President and also to assist as Chief Marshal at the tests and trials.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

Minutes: Last meeting was 11/1/17; minutes were approved within a week via email and sent to the club website. Alan moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. John Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence: letter from AKC requesting new officers and membership list. Will take care of this following the banquet meeting.

Membership: End of year 2017 membership was 61, with 7 new pending final vote in February and 1 new pending first reading and assignment of sponsors today. 15 members from 2016 did not renew in 2017, total 2016 membership was 59. Renewals for 2018 starting to come in.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 1/14/18 is \$23,537.05. end of the calendar year balance was \$23,176.46, which is \$7,464.88 more than we had on January 1, 2017. Bills still owed: one invoice from Patti Gibson for spring food (she can't find it).

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher. Has AKC sportsman medallion to hand over to Michael, and AKC has requested that she provide them information on who is the winner after the banquet. Karen will provide Michele with the full info for her to send on to her AKC contacts.

Old Business

Banquet Planning. 2/17/18, 6:30 p.m. Michael was not here to give a status report. Karen has been collecting RSVPs and has about 13 so far. Michael did provide some questions for consideration by the Board about title awards.

- ◆ Should we give title awards for Field Trial AKC titles? We have not apparently done this in the past, but we don't know about the early days. This came up because Karen suggested we should give John Broucek a title award for his dog's QAA that she earned earlier this year. However, after doing some research and talking to John, it turns out that QAA is an informal title. The formal AKC title is QA2, which means a dog has to earn the QAA twice, and John's dog has not yet done that. We decided that AKC titles for field trials should be rewarded by the club, should we have any in the future, but a QAA would not count for a title award.
- ◆ One new member earned a JH title in 2017 and most of his SH title before joining the club on 10/21/17; his final SH leg was earned at ETRC's fall test at the time he joined. The question was, should we give new members title awards for titles earned during the year, or only for titles earned after they are already members? After some discussion, but no formal vote and no dissension expressed at the meeting, the decision was reached to give him the plaques and work to clarify our policies as below.
- ◆ Codification of our title awards policies: we have not got written down anywhere what the club rules are for receiving a title award. Karen suggested that it would be a good idea to do this, so that everyone is clear what the eligibility for such awards are. She volunteered to write up a draft and bring it to the board for discussion and approval. After approval, it will be posted on the Club website.
- ◆ Voting on Member of year and AKC delegate of year (secret ballot). Michael had provided Karen with all the nominations for these awards. Karen handed out a sheet of paper with all of the nominations and an envelope to each person present, and each person marked their choice and sealed the ballot in an envelope for Michael to pick up later in the week.
- ◆ Lois and Alan brought back the perpetual trophies they earned last year. Jim will keep them at the Pegasus Technologies Building until later this week when Michael has an opportunity to pick them up, along with the ballots, a

plaque from last year with the wrong name on it, and the AKC medallion. He will take everything to the engravers before the end of the week.

Training dates: The dates scheduled for December and January were canceled due to bad weather. Brian Caldwell has agreed to reschedule for next weekend, February 17, and Karen sent out an email to the membership calling for renewed RSVPs. So far, the weather forecast looks promising. Our next scheduled training after that is Feb 10, but so far we hadn't pinned down a location or a leader. John Broucek said he would be willing to lead that one, and after some discussion, it was decided to try to do this at the Dogtown facility if Brady Collins would be willing. John says he will contact Brady to ask, and check his calendar, and asked Karen to send him a text reminder. In March, Alan Bruhin has agreed to lead a training session following the club trial scheduled for that date. We still don't have a location for that event.

Kevin's Fund:

- ◆ Rules: Karen and Lois worked on revising the initial program rules. Changes suggested are for clarity and to use a special membership form for youth program participants that would have parental signatures and contact info for kids under 18, plus contact info for the kids personally. Membership fees would be paid for out of program funds for kids who are not already part of a family membership. Also, in the points totaling for end of year awards, a category was added for participation in organized club training sessions. A picture of a proposed perpetual trophy award, which would cost approximately \$150, was also handed out. After review and discussion, Alan moved that we approve the draft rules and membership form as presented, and also approve ordering the perpetual trophy. John seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Karen will order the trophy along with the Hunt Test ribbons within the next week or so, in order to take advantage of Hodge's winter 10% sale.
- ◆ Program balance remaining as of today: \$3,675, thanks to Ken Campbell's generous contribution.
- ◆ Program participants for 2017: Cade and Ivan Chambers. Both of them were at the club seminar, at one or more training sessions, at a club test, and at the spring hunt test. At least one of them titled their dog during the year. Lois will work with the Chambers to develop a point total for the trophy award.
- ◆ Youth Handler's seminar: Lois has been unable to pin Brian down on a date, and has now asked Sherie Catledge if she would lead the seminar. John B volunteered to help as well. There was some discussion on whether there should be a minimum age. So far, participants have ranged in age from 10 or 11 to 17 or 18. Alan Bruhin said he would be willing to help with a separate group of very young kids if there were any. We discussed advertising this widely, beyond the club, for participation. Lois intends to have the plans and dates finalized for announcement at the banquet.

Spring Hunt Test:

- ◆ Karen has filled out the online form for AKC, with Carol Stone listed as HT Secretary replacing Roberta, and Luke (incoming pres, Michael (past pres), Jim (equipment guy), Lois (Chief Marshal) and Karen (Sec/Treas) making up the rest of the committee. AKC stuff is done pending submission of judges' panel.
- ◆ Judges: Luke has been working with Michael and has a slate of people to call to see if they will judge for us. He has fallbacks on the master judges if some of these don't pan out.
- ◆ Status of Hiwassee paperwork etc.: Unknown. Need to check with Michael to see if this has been done already.
- ◆ Ribbon order: on sale for another couple of weeks. Will inventory and buy any we need while the price is cheap. We will need JH ribbons and possibly SH ribbons. We have plenty of MH ribbons and title ribbon & tabs.

Dog/Puppy of the Year rules: Finalized and will be printed in the February newsletter in entirety, as well as posted on website. Committee (Karen, Michael, Mike Evans, John B) will start looking at field trial stuff to see what we should do about awards re AKC field trials. Aim is to have this ready in time for 2019 awards year.

New Business:

First Reading, New members:

Bryson Bayles, 305 Tom Garrison Road, Evensville, TN 37332. College student. Bryson.bayles@icloud.com. Cell phone 423-280-8539. Will judge at club trials, work with training supplies. Has a young black lab, interested in hunt tests, dog training, breeding. Luke knows him and has volunteered to be one sponsor; John B has agreed to be the second one. Jim moved that we accept Bryson as a tentative member on first reading, pending final vote at the February meeting. Luke seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Karen will send emails to the new member and both sponsors with mutual contact info.

Transition of stuff from Roberta:

- ◆ **Entry Express:** (1) Contact Tara, Office Mfg 1-800-863-4647 Add new HT Sec’y Administrator Profile. Karen will get in touch with Carol Stone about getting this done. (2) Shipping Addresses for Check and Catalogs, two separate shipments. Preferably send the check to Karen and Treasurer, but if this is a problem, send everything to Carol. (3) Delete previous HT Sec’y Administrator.
- ◆ **Insurance:**
 - ◆ Equisure (AKC) Affiliate - Last Payment 2/20/17, \$850.00 Billing and 2018 Application must be filled out and submitted for approval, Officers and Directors Liability Policy
 - ◆ Equisure (AKC) Affiliate - Last Payment 10/29/17 \$850.00 Billing and 2018 must be Filled out submitted for approval Application, Club Umbrella Liability Policy
 - ◆ Roberta has always taken care of these items, but it seems to make more sense for this to be a secretary duty. Karen will contact the insurance companies and get the address changed, and will be responsible for sending insurance certificates to events as necessary.
- ◆ **Corporate/Government Stuff**
 - ◆ IRS Annual return - Not for profit - 990-N Postcard Due May 15, 2018 Print off Form 990-N from IRS website- can use this as long as we bring in less than \$50,000 per year.
 - ◆ Annual Report, State of Tennessee, due spring. Roberta is probably doing this online; usually there is a form sent out several months in advance to the address of record, giving a special code for doing this online. Probably the form is being sent to the PO Box now, will need to put in a forwarding order. Making an address change with the State will cost an additional \$20 this year in addition to the \$20 filing fee.
- ◆ **PO Box**
 - ◆ In Sevierville. Roberta and Chuck used to check it frequently. We need to change the address because there is no long any way to get it checked regularly. Options are: PO Box elsewhere that someone is willing to check regularly, or Karen’s home address as secretary/treasurer. After some discussion, Alan moved and John seconded that we change ETRC’s official address to Karen’s home address until she is no longer Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.
 - ◆ Forwarding to new address for PO Box: we have an invoice for continuing on with the box. Karen will write a letter to the Postmaster instead, and include a change of address form so that mail coming in to the box will be forwarded to Karen’s address.
- ◆ **Second Signatory on Checking Account:** need to have a second person in case Karen is unavailable or incapacitated. Roberta has been the second signatory. This is not necessarily a HTSecretary job and would be good to have someone who almost always comes to the meetings – Carol has indicated that she will probably miss a number of them. Michele volunteered to be the second person. Jim moved and Luke seconded that Michele be authorized to sign checks as the second signatory in lieu of Roberta, who is retiring from active participation in club management. Karen and Michele will need to meet up together at an ORNL office and get the new signature authority card done.
- ◆ **Supplies, Equipment, etc. :** We have some of Roberta’s stuff and need to do an inventory on what Lois has gotten from her so far, and what we still need to pick up. Lois has everything at her house and will bring it to the banquet so we can transfer some of it to Carol or elsewhere. For years, Roberta has been our historian and must have dozens of boxes full of stuff back to when the club first started. Some of it may be items we can throw out, but the AKC charter info, the original members list, the incorporation papers, and some degree of tracking what has happened through the years needs to be maintained — minutes, newsletters, etc. Lois says she has a dry, empty basement and is willing to store it.. Lois suggested that sometime in the summer, some of us should get together and go through it, paring down as necessary, organizing, and digitizing some. Karen will ask Roberta about this, and Michael will also mention this to her daughter to make arrangements as necessary.

Any other new business?

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Tom seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Around the Region

Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

Mid-Florida GRC (120)	Monteverde, FL	2/10/18
Jacksonville, RC	Williston, FL	2/17/18
Wiregrass HRC of GA (120)	Meigs, FL	3/3/18
N.AL RC	Greensboro, AL	3/3/18
Black Warrior RC	Greensboro, AL	3/10/18
Carolina RA, Cooper Black (120)	Patrick, SC	3/17/18
Tallahassee HRC	Thomasville, GA	3/17/18
Fall Line RC of GA (180)	Lincolnton, GA	3/24/18
Tidewater RC	Remington, VA	3/30/18
Rappahannock River RC (double J/S/M)	Remington, VA	4/13/18
Yadkin River RC (double J/S/M)	Cedar Grove, NC	4/14/18
Poodle Club Natl.Spec	St. Charles, MO	4/14/18
Neuse River RC	Kinston, NC	4/21/18
Atlanta RC	Buckhead, GA	4/21/18
Labrador RC of Piedmont	Patrick, SC	5/5/18
Master Amateur National Invitational	Sedalia, MO	5/20/18
ETRC Spring Test (120)	Hiwassee, TN	5/26/18

Numbers in parentheses are limits on number of Master dogs

Upcoming AKC Field Trials

Palmetto RC	Cheraw, SC	2/23/18
Labrador RC	Smithville, GA	2/23/18
Tall Pines RC	Leesburg, GA	2/23/18
Snowbird RC of S.GA.	Boston, GA	3/2/18
SW GA RC	Americus, GA	3/2/18
Tar Heel RC	Snow Hill, NC	3/9/18
N. FL RC	Thomasville, GA	3/9/18
Talloaks RC	Pavo, GA	3/9/18
Black Warrior RC	Greensboro, AL	3/16/18
Carolina Piedmont RC	Cheraw, SC	3/23/18
Bluegrass RC	Grahamville, KY	3/23/18
Snowbird RC	Cairo, GA	3/29/18
Montgomery RC	Greensboro, AL	3/29/18
Blue Ridge RC D/Q	Farmville, VA	4/6/18
Mid-Atlantic RC double D/Q	Farmville, VA	4/6/18

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 either of the following: Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com); or Lois Luthenauer (mountainLo717@gmail.com) .