

# 2020 Upcoming Events

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC's EVENTS!

1. Wednesday, January 8, 2020: ETRC Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. 108 Pawnook Farm Road
2. Sunday, January 19, 2020: Directed training session, focusing on transition work. Sherie Catledge will conduct. 12:00 CENTRAL– 4 p.m. Retriever Retreat, 3058 Martha Washington Road, Clarkrange, TN. Weather dependent. RSVP please; see article on page 4.
3. January 14: Deadline for nominating dogs and people for awards — see article inside on p. 3
4. Saturday, February 22, 2020— (tentative) Annual Awards Banquet & election, 6:00 p.m., Calhoun's Bearden Hill, Knoxville — more details on p.3
5. April (TBD) — club trial
6. May 23-24, 2020: ETRC Spring Hunt Test, Hiwassee. 2 flights Master (132), double Junior & Senior.



## Photo of the Month



Happy New Year **2020!!**

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## End of the Year Awards – Second Call for Nominations

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 14. Club awards, nomination procedures, and due dates are listed below. All nominations and other information required for each award are due to J. Michael Evans (Fowl\_Mouth\_K9@aol.com ) by **JANUARY 14, 2020**.

1. **ETRC Member of the Year:** Any ETRC Member may nominate any other member for this award. The criterion 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 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 . You may provide the information in an email or letter. Winning dog and puppy will receive an engraved plaque to keep and a silver perpetual trophy to display for a year. NOTE: This is the second year for new rules approved in 2018.

4. **Title awards:** If your dog has earned **any AKC field titles** during 2018, please send your name, your dog's registered name, title earned, and the date and place where you titled. ETRC recognizes these achievements with an engraved plaque.

5. **Master National/ Master Amateur Dogs:** If your dog was a **finalist** at the 2019 Master National or the 2019 Master Amateur, email the info to Michael along with a picture of you/your dog/your silverware. ETRC's award is an engraved plaque with the picture mounted on it. If your dog was **qualified to enter** the 2019 Master National or Master Amateur and received an invitation from the MNRC/MARC 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 Michael 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 he can keep the categories straight. AND, please put the category into the subject line -- 'AKC Sportsman nomination', etc. Dates outlined above for response to Michael have very little flexibility -- the engraver that we use is in the midst of basketball season awards at the same time, 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 8 years:



Year	Member of the Year	AKC Sportsman of the Year
2018	Mike Smith	Jody Ware
2017	Roberta Williams	Brian Caldwell
2016	J. Michael Evans	Carol Stone
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

## Final Slate for Election of Officers and Board Members

The nominating committee headed by Board Member Alan Bruhin, with assistance from members Mike Smith and Jeff McNutt, has recommended the following slate for ETRC officer and director positions for fiscal year 2019, beginning at the end of the banquet in February:

- ◆ President: Alan Bruhin
- ◆ Vice President: J. Michael Evans
- ◆ Secretary: Karen Edwards
- ◆ Treasurer: Lois Luthenauer
- ◆ Hunt Test Secretary: Michele Fletcher
- ◆ Two Director positions (Feb 2020 - Feb 2023): Jim Pearce, Peter Torok
- ◆ AKC Delegate: Michelle Fletcher

Remaining on the board are: Tom Gibson & Cory Smith (through Feb 2021), and Mike Smith and Jeff McNutt (through Feb 2022). Luke McCoy will serve as Past President through 2020 and Lois Luthenauer has again 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! Going off the board and into new positions are J. Michael Evans and Jim Pearce.

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, 2019, in writing to the Secretary, using the process outlined in the last newsletter. No one has made any additional nominations, so the nominations are now closed.

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 evening, February 22, 2020 (see below).

## Awards Banquet Info & First Call for RSVPs

The annual Awards Banquet is Saturday, February 22, 2020, 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.

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, and a close-out of fiscal 2018 for the club. Come celebrate a successful year... and help us look ahead to our many activities for 2019.

We will no longer be able to order off the menu; new restaurant rules require that we participate instead in a buffet. More details next month!

I need to have RSVPs from anyone who is planning to eat NO LATER THAN 11:59 p.m. on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 (edwardskc@gmail.com), so that the restaurant manager can arrange for enough people to be on shift to handle our orders expeditiously.



## Training Day: Transitions 01/19/20

Come join us on a Sunday afternoon (1:00 –4:00) for a directed training session, focusing on transition work. Pro trainer Sherie Catledge, who focuses on training amateurs to train their own dogs, will conduct. 12:00 CENTRAL– 4 p.m. Retriever Retreat, 3058 Martha Washington Road, Clarkrange, TN. Weather dependent.

Bring your dog, a chair, appropriate clothing for the weather, water for your dog, your personal training equipment for your dog, and a few bumpers marked with your name.

RSVP please to Karen Edwards ([edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)) or Lois Luthenauer ([info@TheRetrieverRetreat.net](mailto:info@TheRetrieverRetreat.net)) with info about your dog's training level so we can have some activities that will be useful at every level represented.

We are hoping to offer another of these directed training days during February.

If the weather doesn't cooperate (rain, snow, or temperatures that are truly dreadful), we will cancel. If the forecast is iffy, I will send out an email on Saturday night with a go/no go decision.

The first two of these sessions this fall/winter season have been extremely useful — come take advantage of some of our members' expertise that they are kindly willing to share with us!

Hope to see you there!

## Youth Program



The Luthenauer Young Handler program will soon enter its fifth year. Kids who are interested in working with dogs in field work are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at [http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub\\_youth\\_program.htm](http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_youth_program.htm).

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. The program will reimburse AKC Hunt test fees, and ETRC Club Trials are free for enrollees.

Yearly awards include a perpetual trophy along with a plaque to keep, and participation award for everyone in the program. The awards are retroactive to 2016. A young handler's seminar for spring is also in the works, and details will be announced when plans are finalized.

## Training Corner

### Training Alone — an ETRC Mini-Seminar With Lisa Styles

ETRC's second off-season directed training session was held on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at Roane Regional Business and Technology Park and the Pegasus Technologies Building in Lenoir City. Lisa Styles, a successful field trial and hunt test competitor with a background in competition obedience and keeping kids in line as a school principal, conducted the session. The focus was on 'Training Alone,' which many of us amateur handlers do a fair bit of the time.

About a dozen people and maybe a total of 20 dogs participated in this session. The weather was amazing for mid December, with sunny skies and temperatures up in the mid 50s. Most of the dogs there were Golden Retrievers, with three Chessies and one lone Labrador. Not sure that means anything, but it was an interesting observation that many more Golden Retrievers are taking part in the field game than in years past, which has to be a good thing. Skill levels in both handlers and dogs ranged from beginners up to the Master level, with a number of people who are experienced competitors in other types of dog sports and are also cross-training or learning about retriever field work.

Lisa stressed that having a training group is important for other aspects of preparing your dog for competition, but that a lot can be done when you are just by yourself or with an inexperienced friend/family member, without needing a lot of space. She does some of her training in her back yard and in public parks. She starts with a solid basis of obedience work — making sure the dog knows that "sit means SIT" and has a good recall, and that they are solid on this even with distractions. She demonstrated a distraction drill, where the handler left the dog in a sit-stay and retreated about 40 feet away, then recalled the dog. For dogs that were already able to stay until called, she added distractions — someone coming close with soft words and a treat — and showed how to correct firmly but gently when the dog was unable to resist. She pointed out that sits and stays not being solid enough are the reason why some dogs have trouble with honoring and not breaking.

Other drills involved pile work, pile work with distractions and some simple directional casting. Then we moved on to some marks, which could be done as singles or doubles. Thanks so much, Lisa, for a wonderful session! We all enjoyed it and appreciate you taking the time to share your knowledge!

### ETRC's New Trailer Is Finished!

Take a look inside the new trailer, which is now in service. Thanks to Robert Dodson, who is now the proud owner of our old trailer. As you can see, we have shelves, cabinets, and room to walk in and find what you need. Many thanks to Jim Pearce, Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Cory Smith, Luke McCoy, and Lois Luthenauer for designing, organizing and building our new space!



## Around the Region — Seminars, Tests, & Trials

### Upcoming AKC Retriever Hunting Tests

*[Feature returning in February]*

*Numbers in parentheses are limits on number of Master dogs*

### Upcoming AKC Field Trials

*[Feature returning in February]*

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## Membership 2020

The membership year runs from March 1—February 28. Membership is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Renewal and new member forms are available online at <http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm> — click the link, print it off, and send it to Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Cost is \$25 which includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events including those classified as members-only, and consideration for end of the year awards. Best of all, membership provides the opportunity to make friendships with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. It's a bargain! Members joining in November and December are covered for the following year, so start sending in your renewals now!

## 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, death notices, 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: Karen Edwards ([edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)).

You may notice we have a new numbering system. When I first took over the newsletter, I just continued on with the volume # from the last issue, then upped it by one every year. But, it makes no sense, and doesn't reflect how many years of newsletters we have anyway! So beginning with this issue, the volume number will be the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is now Volume XX (for 2020).