



2021 Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. March 20, 2021: Spring Club Trial, #1 Saturday, 10 a.m., Chuck Atchley Farm, Sevierville. See info and directions / trial rules inside on pages 11 –12
2. April 6-7, 2021, ETRC Mid-Week Master Only Hunt Test (Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. daily): read about it in the minutes and check out Entry Express; more info coming next month.
3. April 10, 2021, Spring Club Trial #2, Saturday, 10 a.m. : more info next month.
4. May 29-30, 2021: ETRC Spring Hunt Test, Hiwassee Refuge and Brian Caldwell's farm

Photo of the Month



Alan Bruhin presents the Member Of The Year Award to Cory and Elena Smith. Thanks to both of you for all you have done this past year for ETRC!

CONTENTS

Upcoming ETRC Events	1	Report on 2/14/21 Training Day	10
Minutes, Board Meeting Before the Banquet	2-3	Club Trial Upcoming 3/20/21;	11
Awards Banquet 2/27/2021, minutes	4-7	Club Trial Rules	12
Year End Awards Report	8	Luthenauer Youth Program	13
Banquet pics	9	ETRC Membership Info	13
Listing of Officers / Directors for 2021	10	Newsletter Info	13

Minutes for Pre-Banquet Board Meeting February 27, 2021 — Smith Farm, Niota, TN

Present from the Board: Alan Bruhin, Karen Edwards, Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce, Tom Gibson, Cory Smith, J. Michael Evans, Lois Luthenauer (late); Michele Fletcher (late)

Absent, excused: Peter Torok, Jeff McNutt, Mike Smith

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present when the meeting started, and was bolstered when Lois and Michele arrived. The meeting was called to order at 5:08 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: Will be done during the General Meeting following the banquet

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. Reading of minutes, information on correspondence, and membership info will be done during the General Meeting following the banquet.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Report of current financial status will be done during the General Meeting following the banquet.

AKC Delegate's Report: Will be done during the General Meeting.

Old Business

Winter Training sessions: Report on the completed winter training program will be done during the General Meeting following the banquet. We discussed whether to have any more formal training sessions this winter, without seminars, and decided to wait. Possibly we will try to schedule one in May, and Cory may do an impromptu one from time to time as he did several times last fall.

Spring Hunt Test: Report on the status of the Spring Hunt Test will be done during the General Meeting following the banquet. However, we need to decide if we are going to allocate 25% or 35% of the Master slots to Amateurs; we had earlier seemed to agree that 25% was probably better, but this was not a formal decision. After some discussion, Jim moved that we set aside 25% of the slots for Amateurs. Tom Gibson seconded, and the vote was unanimous. There was some further discussion on how to allocate worker codes. Often we do not have enough workers who are helping out and also running master dogs to need them all, and in the past we have occasionally given leftover ones to our club pros. At what time do we want Michael to release the worker codes? Since most people who are volunteering in order to get those codes contact Michael weeks beforehand to get their codes, we decided that Michael can release them at 8:00 p.m. (central) on the Tuesday evening, at the same time entries open for worker codes and amateurs. This will give the giftees a full day to use them before the test opens to everyone Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.

Club Trial: We had to cancel the Fall club trial because the Smiths both were down with Covid. We discussed rescheduling, and back in December decided tentatively to try to have one in March or maybe early April – but wait until the new year to see how the schedule for testing is shaking out. Since that time, Alan has contacted Chuck Atchley to see if we could have one at his place in Sevierville again, as we have done in the past. Chuck was agreeable, and a date of March 20 has been set. Water will be questionable at this site, as there is often not much there other than the stick pond, but the fields are fine. A second Club Trial has been tentatively set for April 10, 21 – possibly at Darryl Miller's farm in Sweetwater. This is a great place with technical ponds, but the roads leading into the property are iffy at best if there is a lot of rain. Some discussion that this one could also maybe be held at Brian Caldwell's place instead, if Darryl's is inaccessible.

New Business:

New Member: None for first reading. One arrived in the mail this afternoon, but Karen had not

Board Meeting Minutes, Continued

had time to open it up and log him in. We will consider his application at the next meeting.

Extra Hunt Tests: Brian's place is now approved for hunt tests by AKC. He has proposed having several mid-week Master tests during the spring/summer/fall season, and as necessary a double header Junior/Senior test to meet AKC requirements for balance, at his place. We can have two extra Master Only tests, but if we want a third, we will need to run another Double Junior / Double Senior test, and can use his place as well. Brian will locate birdboys; we will need to provide a hunt test committee and a hunt test secretary, and find judges. There will be lunches needed for the judges and workers and motel rooms for the judges; and judges gifts. With only 66 dogs,, this will be a small test and can be handled with just the small trailer if it is packed properly. Brian has asked for a 25% split of the profits. AKC has approved dates of April 6 and 7, a Tuesday/ Wednesday for the first test. If this goes well, there would be a second mid-Week Master in the summer and another one in the fall after our fall hunt test. The consensus was that this was a great idea, but there were no formal motions made to approve the arrangements for cost sharing. Details will need to be worked out quickly and approved at a meeting soon.

Judges Seminar, status of grant proposal: Alan recently talked with the MNRC's regional rep for our area to get feedback on our proposal which was submitted the end of January. MNRC has received 9 proposals for these grants; the initial idea was to approve one for each region and three of them are from our region. The rep is hopeful that he can get all three approved but this is by no means a slam dunk. This will be decided at the MNRC Board's next meeting which is sometime in March. The way this will work is as follows: if we get the grant, we will make all the arrangements, pay all the costs up front, and then depending on the number of people who attend, MNRC will reimburse us an amount between \$600-\$1,000. Any extra we spend would be on us. Alan's initial budget estimates were around \$1,000, but this was very rough depending on the number of attendees and how much food we decide to offer them instead of asking them to pay for themselves. A decision on whether to have a seminar if we do NOT get the grant will have to be made after we find out the status of the grant. It's been some years since we had a judges' seminar, and it might be a good thing to do anyway, even if we have to pay all the costs. These seminars are useful not just for people who think they might like to become judges, but also for handlers to know how tests are set up, what judges are looking for, etc. Our seminar is tentatively slated for next February, so that hopefully there are no more pandemic concerns remaining.

New Holding Blinds: At the December meeting, we decided to ask Cory and others to inventory the current blinds to see how many need to be replaced while waiting for up to date financial info, which we now have. Cory has not yet had a chance to do this, so we will delay a decision until later. Old blinds will be offered for sale to club members, and hopefully will be announced in the April newsletter along with cost. We have enough good blinds to run the mid-week Master test at Brian's but will need more for the spring hunt test.

Insurance Premiums: For \$800, we can get maximum \$5,000 value per item with a \$250 deductible. This is the rate we have now. For an extra \$200, we can increase the maximum per item value to \$10,000 with a \$500 deductible – for a total insurance bill for of \$1,000. Also, remember we have an \$815 premium due in Sep/Oct for officers/directors liability and insurance. Karen asked if the club wanted to stay with the current amounts or increase our coverage? After some discussion, Cory moved we stay with the current amounts; Luke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Luke moved that we adjourn. Cory seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m. as people were arriving for the Banquet.

Minutes for Awards Banquet, General Meeting, & Election February 27, 2021 — Smith Farm, Niota, TN

The Banquet this year was held in the Smith's large open heated workshop, as pandemic restrictions precluded us from using a restaurant and still maintaining adequate 8' plus clearance between tables and family quarantine groups. Rothchild's Event Planning provided 6' wide round tables, chairs, two other tables for food and awards to be laid out and table linens. Smokin' F Barbeque catered the event, with smoked brisket and chicken breast, bacon mac and cheese, peach baked beans, green beans, banana pudding, coffee and tea.



Greetings: President Alan Bruhin welcomed everyone and started the festivities. The first hour was devoted to eating, drinking and talking, and at 7 p.m. Alan called the meeting to order.

Present from the Board: : Alan Bruhin, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Luke McCoy, Lois Luthenauer, Tom Gibson, Jim Pearce, Cory Smith

Absent, excused: Jeff McNutt, Mike Smith, Peter Torok

Members present: John Broucek; Cynthia Bruhin; Andy & Pam Buck; Denise, Tony, Erin, Cade, & Ivan Chambers; Mitzi Evans; Liz Gibson; Jake Greenwell & Son; Kile & Tracey Griffin; Katie McCoy; Cheryl McNutt; Jim and Vicki Langa; Elena Smith; & Lisa Styles.

Guests Present: [any???

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. Sixteen memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 58 (20% would be 12). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Officer's Reports

President's Report on last year's activities: Alan gave a brief wrap-up of events during the past fiscal year – which was sadly impacted by the pandemic

- ◆ 1 set of AKC hunt tests – Spring test canceled by Hiwassee because of Covid. Fall hunt test in October; Master with one flight, double senior, double Junior.
- ◆ Our summer picnic / seminar was canceled due to Covid; we did have a Board meeting in September that doubled as a General business meeting with membership.
- ◆ Spring and Fall Club Trials were canceled because of the pandemic.
- ◆ 3 training/ seminars from November through February, plus several informal training sessions (Thank you, Cory!) during October and early November.

Thanks to:

- ◆ Cory and Elena Smith, for generously sharing their new farm and huge barn for events during the fall and winter, and for allowing us to have our socially distanced banquet here tonight;
- ◆ Luke McCoy, Alan Bruhin, and J. Michael Evans for sharing their judging expertise with us during the winter training/ seminars.
- ◆ Everybody who worked, helped and participated in any of our events during the year

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last meeting was on December 13, 2020. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website since late December. Mike Evans moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. The motion was seconded by Cory Smith and passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

Banquet Minutes, Continued

- ◆ AKC report due following conclusion of this meeting.
- ◆ Received approval of judges panel for the spring hunt test.

Membership: Our current membership is 58 people. Reminder that membership ends at the end of the banquet, and new memberships for 2021 are now due. There are boxes set on the table by the entry with forms and supplies for renewing your membership.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards: Balance in the treasury as of 2/27/21 is \$22,370.66. Karen handed out three copies of the full Treasurer's report for the past year; this included separate sheets for calendar year 2020 and for Calendar year 2021 to date. Balance in our ORNL FCU account at the end of 2020 was \$23,260.21, of which \$4,616.74 is earmarked for the youth fund. Upcoming expenses are for the banquet (which will be around \$1,500 including awards, catered food, heat, and rented equipment) and \$800 for the insurance bill. This will leave us with just at \$20,000 to go into the spring season. We are financially in excellent shape.

AKC Delegate's Report: Michele Fletcher: no significant changes during the year, other than the new rules for amateurs getting a full day to sign up for Master before anyone else can.

New Amateurs First rule: AKC has passed a new rule that is in effect as of April 1 and applies to all AKC Hunt Tests with limited master entries. Worker codes will still be given out as in the past, and people with codes can sign up a full day early (open at 8 p.m. central time on Tuesday). However, this year, 25 to 35% of all Master slots in every hunt test will be allocated initially for Amateurs, and they will also be able to sign up starting Tuesday evening at the same time as the test opens for workers. If someone signs their dog up as an Amateur, they will HAVE to handle the dog in that stake and cannot turn it over to a pro. They will not be able to sign up with a second handler either, which means that you can't put down anyone, pro OR amateur, as an alternate handler. As of Wednesday evening at the regular opening time, all slots not filled will then be available for anyone to sign up.



Old Business

Election of New members: Alan Bruhin. We have 7 new provisional members who are coming before the membership tonight for final approval. All sponsors recommended approval.

- ◆ Brian / Lara Fretwell: Cleveland, TN, Cory Smith and Luke McCoy, sponsors
- ◆ James / Vicki Langa, Harrison, TN. Have two Labradors, are active in hunt testing. Sponsors Mike Smith, Cory Smith.

Banquet Minutes, Continued

- ◆ Wade Leatherwood, Old Hickory, TN. Sponsors Lois Luthenauer & Sherie Catledge.
- ◆ Sydney Parks, Chattanooga, TN. Has a young Black lab puppy. Jeff & Cheryl McNutt, Sponsors.
- ◆ Cameron Pemberton, Chattanooga, Has a black lab puppy . Jeff & Cheryl McNutt, Sponsors.
- ◆ Wayne / Tina Rich: Dandridge, TN. Has a 2.5 year old black Lab. Alan Bruhin and Jeff McNutt, sponsors.
- ◆ Kelli & Joseph Riggs, Odessa, FL. Have a number of flatcoats. Jim Pearce and Lois Luthenauer are sponsors.

Michael Evans moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. Lois Luthenauer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Welcome to all new fully fledged members!

Upcoming Events Updates: We have a full line-up of events for this coming year, and planning is already well underway for the following events:

- ◆ **Mid-Week Master Hunt Test, single flight:** April 6-7, 2021, Tuesday and Wednesday. This is an extra event that will be held at Brian Caldwell's place. We are hoping if this works out to have another mid-week Master in the summer, and possibly a double Junior/Senior and a third mid-week Master after our fall hunt test. This would be a great opportunity for club members to be able to enter a number of tests without lengthy travel.
- ◆ **Spring Club Trials:** These are great ways for people to get your dog out in a new and strange place with other dogs, and see how close they are to being ready for official AKC hunt tests. We have tentatively scheduled two this spring: the first on March 20 at Chuck Atchley's Farm in Sevierville; the second on April 10 at either Darryl Miller's farm in Sweetwater, or at Brian Caldwell's in Georgetown. Information and directions on these will be in the Newsletters.
- ◆ **Spring Hunt Test:** May 29-30, 2021, Hiwassee. This is usually our biggest event of the year and we need help with set-up, marshaling, and more. Status:
 - ◆ Judges and sites are approved, this is up on Entry Express. Will open Wednesday, 5/5 (Tuesday 5/4 for Amateurs and workers) and close 5/17/21. Ready to finalize on EE
 - ◆ Bird Techs: hoping to get the wildlife club from the Cleveland State community college again; they have been contacted and are eager to work.
 - ◆ We will have a split location for Master. Hiwassee's got too much share cropping going on to have a second Master there comfortably; one Master flight will be at Brian Caldwell's, which is only about 10-15 minutes' drive from Hiwassee.
- ◆ **Summer Seminar and Picnic:** date and location to be determined.
- ◆ **Fall Club Trial:** date and location to be determined.
- ◆ **Fall Hunt Test:** October 23-24, 2021, Hiwassee and possibly Brian's place for an extra Master flight.
- ◆ **Fall Training:** We will pick up with more club training events starting next November. Alan asked everyone to provide him with information on what topics they would like to see covered in these sessions.
- ◆ **Advanced Judges' Seminar:** ETRC has put in a grant application for AKC support for putting on an advanced Judging Seminar in February 2022. Tentative location would be at the Athens Comfort Inn, with meeting rooms and overnight accommodations there, plus practical demonstrations at Cory Smith's farm in Niota. We do not have an answer on whether our grant proposal will be approved; there were three proposals from clubs in our

Banquet Minutes, Continued

region and initial word is they will approve at least one of them.

New Business:

Awards Presentations. President Alan Bruhin, with assistance from Luke McCoy, announced the following awards for 2020. Numbers were down for the year, reflecting the shortened hunt test season and other perturbations caused by the pandemic. See the story on page 8 for awards recipients.

In Memoriam: It's all about the dogs. Sadly, they don't live as long as we do. For those people who have lost dogs during the year, we do have an 'in memoriam' page on the website and in the newsletter, and welcome pictures and tributes to any member dogs who pass on. Please send the info and photos to newsletter editor Karen Edwards.

Election of Officers/Board (See article on page 10 for a listing and contact info for officers and Board members for 2021). Alan thanked Tom Gibson, who is going off the Board after 6 years of service — mentioning that Tom came to every event, participated and pitched in to help. Since no other nominations had been made from the floor during the December period as spelled out in the Bylaws, the slate is running unopposed. As a result, Alan called for a Motion to approve the new slate of officers and directors by voice vote rather than secret ballot. This motion was made by Jim Pearce, seconded by Cory Smith, and passed unanimously.

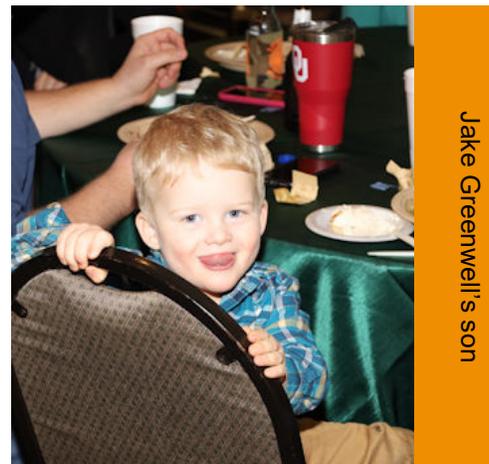
Statement by New President: Alan Bruhin commented that he had already made enough statements to last the evening, and proceeded directly on to the Door Prizes.

Door Prizes: Alan Bruhin. We had some nice door prizes this year. Each number was called, and the person could then come up and pick what they wanted. Results were as follows:

- ◆ Cory Smith selected the Tritronics Collar and Transmitter.
- ◆ Denise Chambers selected the duck decoy carved out of a fence post; we used these as judges' gifts last year.
- ◆ Luke McCoy selected the ETRC Camo hat
- ◆ Mitzi Evans selected the ETRC Sweatshirt
- ◆ Cynthia Bruhin was left with the pillow sham showing an upland hunting scene.

Any other new business? None

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by multiple people including Luke McCoy, Cory Smith, and J. Michael Evans, the vote passed, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 8:00 p.m..



End of the Year Awards 2020

Each year, ETRC recognizes a number of members and their dogs for a variety of achievements during the previous year. Awards include engraved brass plaques, and a few awards also have a perpetual trophy that the winner gets to keep for a year. The following End-of-the-Year Awards were passed out at the Awards Banquet on February 27. Congratulations everyone!

Junior Hunter Title Awards:

- ◆ Calamity Jane's Special Brew JH ("Chai"), Golden Retriever bred, owned, trained and handled by Michele Fletcher.
- ◆ Fired Up's Maximum Overdrive, Labrador Retriever owned, trained and handled by Lois Luthenauer

Senior Hunter Title Awards:

- ◆ Ned's Dedication SH ("Bauer"), Chesapeake Bay Retriever owned and handled by Cory Smith, who also did much of the training himself.

Master Hunter Title Awards:

- ◆ Fern Hill Sunday At The Zoo MH ("Zoey"), Golden Retriever bred and owned by Jim Pearce and Karen Edwards.

Make-Up Plaques: Last year, we were missing several title plaques and one had an error, and these were also handed out – just a little late:

- ◆ Peter Torok and Fern Hill Kepes Narany Sugar JH.
- ◆ Luke McCoy and McCoy's Echo Callin' Your Name MH ("Echo")
- ◆ Lisa Styles: new plaque to correct misspelled name.

Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year, 2020: Not awarded this year.

Holcomb Award for Gun Dog of year, 2020: Awarded to HRCH Hilltopp's Fowl Mouth Delta Queen MH ("Ivy"), with 26 points, Yellow Labrador Retriever owned, trained and handled by J. Michael Evans. Even with the abbreviated season, this award was as always a close fought battle among several top dogs.

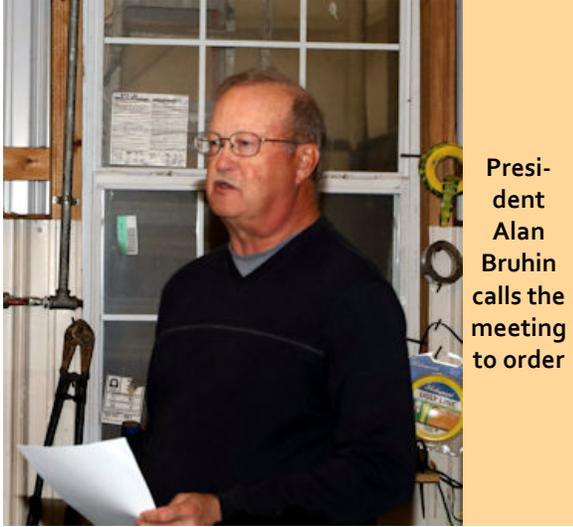
ETRC Member of the Year, 2020: Cory and Elena Smith. In addition to Cory's service on the board and work at every event and in between, he and Elena have graciously allowed us to use their new farm this fall for training sessions, seminars, meetings, and this banquet. Elena has provided us with enough delicious food and beverages to feed an army! Well deserved.

AKC Outstanding Sportsman for 2020: Alan Bruhin, for his work as ETRC President, sharing his knowledge as a multiple times Master National level judge and competitor with the membership, and as a breeder of excellent Labrador Retrievers.

Youth Program: Lois Luthenauer – no entrants for 2020, but Lois described the program, which will pay entry fees to AKC and ETRC events for Juniors, and encouraged anyone who knows of a Junior who is interested to join the program for 2021. She displayed the perpetual trophy that goes with this award.



Awards Banquet Pictures



President Alan Bruhin calls the meeting to order



Lois Luthenauer with Max's JH Award Plaque



Michele Fletcher with Chai's JH Award Plaque



Karen Edwards picks up Zoey's MH Award



Alan Bruhin awards Mike Evans with Miss Ivy's Dog Of The Year trophy.



Past President Luke McCoy announces Alan Bruhin's AKC Sportsman Of The Year. Award

Officers and Board Members for 2021

Here is the list of officers, board members, and other important club positions for 2021, as voted in at the banquet on February 27. Email addresses are provided for everyone; phone numbers are available on the membership listing which is in the “Members Only” section of the website www.etrclub.org. If you have suggestions or comments on any matter about the club, please contact one of the people below:

- ◆ President: Alan Bruhin (wabruhin@utk.edu)
- ◆ Vice President: J. Michael Evans (Fowl_Mouth_K9@aol.com)
- ◆ Past President: Luke McCoy (fonemn3@bellsouth.net)
- ◆ Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com)
- ◆ Hunt Test Secretary: Michele Fletcher (michelemfletcher@yahoo.com)
- ◆ AKC Delegate: Michele Fletcher (michelemfletcher@yahoo.com)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2021- Feb 2024): Cory Smith (lrs223@gmail.com)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2021-Feb 2024): Denise Chambers (tchamb@bellsouth.net)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2020- Feb 2023): Jim Pearce (jwp@pegasustech.com)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2020- Feb 2023): Peter Torok (pandmtorok@outlook.com)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2019- Feb 2022): Mike Smith (mdsmith2314@gmail.com)
- ◆ Director (Feb 2019- Feb 2022): Jeff McNutt (seymournutts75@gmail.com)

Chief Marshal (Non-Elective): Lois Luthenauer (mountainLO717@gmail.com)

Report on February Training Day & Mini Seminar February 14, 2021

ETRC sponsored our third and final winter seminar and training day on Sunday, February 14, 2021, at the Smith farm in Niota. A huge thanks to the Smiths for hosting us again, and on the national Valentine’s Day holiday to boot.

It was Senior day for this seminar. J. Michael Evans, who not only competes in both AKC and HRC hunt tests at all levels, has some Master National passes in his back pocket, and is a licensed AKC Junior/Senior judge to boot. It was a cold, windy day outside, but inside Cory’s cozy heated barn we were all quite comfortable as Michael went through the rules for Senior tests and contrasted them with those for Junior and Master. Thanks again to Elena Smith for providing us all with eats.

Afterwards, we got a chance to run our dogs on a Senior setup, with adjustments possible for more Junior or Master dogs. Cory’s place is a great training ground — you can see pretty much the whole property from up behind his big barn, so you can have long marks without the dogs wandering out of sight. Our dogs gave it the Good Golden seal of approval and everyone else looked happy about it too.

Amazing that this year we didn’t have to cancel any of our mini-seminar / training days. This wraps up the program for the year — we will start it up again late next fall. Please let us know if there are some topics you would like to see covered. We want this to be useful for club members, so tell us what you think! .

Club Trial, March 20, 2021

ETRC will host a Club Trial on Saturday, March 20, 2021. We will start at 10:00 Eastern (9:00 a.m. for people who are going to be judging and help set up the test), and the location will be at Chuck Atchley's farm. The GPS address and directions are listed below.

What is a Club Trial? It is an event to work your dog in conditions that are more test-like than a training session. It's a good opportunity to check your dog's progress and readiness for an actual hunt test, and besides it's a ton of fun. Judges will be Club members, several of whom are licensed AKC judges, including Master National judge Alan Bruhin and judge and MN competitor J. Michael Evans, among others yet to be identified. We will need people to pitch in and trade off on operating wingers, planting blinds, and setting up and taking down the equipment. We will be using our club-owned bumper launchers as well as wingers to reduce the amount of time people have to spend out in the field throwing marks and firing wingers.

STAKES: Singles Classic, Master, Senior, Junior, Puppy Stakes (Junior puppy & Senior Puppy, under 1 yr). Entry Fee: \$10.00 each stake per dog (dokkens), Puppy Stakes (bumpers) \$5.00 (1 PM). Completion ribbons will be awarded for hunt test stakes and Advanced Junior stakes; placement 1-4 and JAM ribbons will be awarded for Singles Classic and the two puppy stakes. If you are interested in consideration for our end-of-the-year awards for Gun Dog and Puppy or the Year, successful completions in Master, Senior, Junior, and puppy stakes count towards those awards. Club Trial Rules are included below / on the next page.

OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS. If you would like to join ETRC, membership forms will be available at the Trial, check with Secretary/Treasurer Karen Edwards. Membership is \$25 and if you join now, your membership will be good through 2021.

WHAT TO BRING: No E-collars allowed if you want to participate for ribbons and awards points. Collars will be allowed if you want to use the session for training only. All dogs must be on leash when out of vehicle unless running tests. Bring your retriever, a chair(s), your lunch, and water for you and your dog, plus appropriate clothing for the weather. **NO WHITE SHIRTS** please, wear something neutral or dark. If you are bringing a puppy, you may bring your own retrieval items if you wish.

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY: We will send out an email on Friday night if the weather is such that we are going to have to cancel. We will not cancel just for chilly conditions or light rain, but if it is expected to be monsoon-raining, heavy electrical storms or snowing in Niota, we will not run. So be sure to check your email Friday night! If you don't hear anything, come on out.

ETRC TEE SHIRTS, SWEATSHIRTS AND HATS will be available for purchase. Bring cash or a checkbook and stock up on some great items to advertise your club.

ADDRESS: GPS address is approximately 3494 Boyd's Creek Highway, Sevierville, TN. Get off on exit 407 (Sevierville / Gatlinburg exit), cross over the French Broad river, turn right on Boyd's Creek Highway immediately after crossing the bridge. Go 2.3 miles, turn right at the sign for Re-vilo Farm. Continue on the farm road to the back of the property.

RSVP: Please let us know if you are planning to come. Contact me at edwardskc@gmail.com. Come anyway — but it's courteous to let us know approximately how many people to expect.

Club Trial Rules

In-Club Rules for SINGLES CLASSIC stake:

- ◆ Two (2) Single long marks. Marks are at least 100 to 200 yards subject to the judges' placement. The dog that runs the straightest line OUT to pick up the bird wins the stake. The line BACK to the judges is not scored. Judges should draw the line taken by the dog on the judge's score sheets and grade the retrieve on a 1 to 10 basis with 10 being the best. Judges should draw accurate diagrams of the retrieves because several dogs may be in competition for the placements and First Place.
- ◆ Entered dogs must be steady on the line and cannot break. Young dogs may be run and held by the buckle collar or lead but no ribbons are awarded. One judge should call "DOG" to release the dog at the line.
- ◆ All dogs must deliver to hand without touching the dog. The handler should then hand the duck to the judges.
- ◆ Dogs are placed First Place, Second Place, Third Place, Fourth Place, and JAMs. A JAM is a Judges Award of Merit where the dog completes the retrieve but does not place First, Second, Third, or Fourth. Green club ribbons are awarded for completions; colored placement ribbons are awarded for first through fourth place.
- ◆ No points are awarded for Singles Classic towards Gun Dog or Puppy of the Year Awards.

In-Club Rules for PUPPY STAKES:

- ◆ There are two separate classifications of the puppy stakes. Junior puppies are from ten weeks through six months (27 weeks of age). Senior Puppies are from seven months to one year (28 weeks to first birthday). Junior puppies should be run first so as not to confuse them with scents and other factors. Junior marks are two (2) singles thrown in the lowest cut grass available at 20 to 30 yards. Senior marks are extended out to 50 to 60 yards or more.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ A running line is established by the judges using a stick or marker to start the dogs from. Handlers may hold Junior puppies any way they want until one of the judges says the word "DOG" to release the pup. Judges should release the pup to retrieve as soon as the bumper or bird hits the ground. The puppies are judged on the straightest line OUT and BACK because the hardest thing is to get the puppies back to the handler.
- ◆ Puppies must get the bumper or bird back across the line to earn placements or points. Junior or Senior puppies do not have to deliver to hand. Judges should draw diagrams on the judge's score sheet so as to grade the puppies' performance.
- ◆ Bird technicians should stand quietly and still after throwing. The judges may ask the bird tech to help the puppy find the bumper or bird after the puppy has gotten out of the area of the fall.
- ◆ Placements of First, Second, Third, Fourth Place and JAMs (Judges Award of Merit) ribbons are awarded for each division. Points for Puppy of the Year are as specified in the current rules for that award.

In-Club Rules for MASTER, SENIOR, JUNIOR and ADVANCED JUNIOR stakes:

- ◆ All stakes may be run on a single setup, or on separate setups. Factors in deciding how many and which setups to use will be made based on availability of land and water and number / qualifications of member judges.
- ◆ Master Stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, any combination of land and water, if space and time permit. At least one triple mark and master-level blinds will be included in the Master setup.
- ◆ Senior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. At least one double mark and two blinds will be included in the Senior setup.
- ◆ Advanced Junior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. Advanced Junior marks are doubles, but there are no blinds.
- ◆ Junior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. At least two single marks will be included in the Junior setup, but no blinds.
- ◆ No points are awarded for Advanced Junior stakes towards Gun Dog or Puppy of the Year Awards.
- ◆ No electronic collars or other training devices are permitted if the dog is being presented for completion ribbons or awards points. However, a handler may declare the dog is being presented for training only and will be allowed to run the stake and be judged for information and advice for improvement.
- ◆ Green club ribbons are awarded for completions.

Youth Program



2018 Award Recipients, Cade & Ivan Chambers

The Luthenauer Young Handler program is entering its fifth year. Kids who are interested in working in retriever sports are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at 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 any fees for other ETRC events such as club trials.

Yearly awards include a perpetual trophy along with a plaque to keep, and participation award for everyone in the program.

ETRC Membership

Membership for 2021 is now due. We will keep you on the mailing list until June 1, but if you haven't renewed by then, we'll drop you from the rolls and take you off our email list.. The cost is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Both 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. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make friendships with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. It's a bargain! The membership year runs from March 1 to February 28/29th; people who join after November 1 are also paid up for the following year.

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).

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 the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is now Volume XXI (for 2021).