

ETRC Board Meeting, February 22, 2017
Pegasus Technologies Building, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Alan Bruhin, J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Roberta Williams, Tom Gibson, Rick Fyfe, Luke McCoy, Jim Pearce, Michele Fletcher (AKC rep)

Absent, excused: Lois Luthenauer, Donna Smith, John Broucek.

Absent, unexcused: None

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present.

Meeting called to order by Vice President Alan Bruhin (in Lois's absence) at 7:05 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Representative's Reports

President's Report: None.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards. The last two meetings were the banquet / general membership meeting and a short board meeting, both on February 18, 2017. Minutes were sent out for approval on 2/19/17 via email, have 4 approvals so far, have not been sent yet to the club website. Rick moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. Luke Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Correspondence:** AKC listing of officers: updated, faxed to them on 2/22/17. Letter from Kevin Cheff soliciting an invitation for him to put on a pro training seminar for our club.
- **Website changes made & pending:** added minutes from November meeting, December, January, February newsletters. Am working on list of changes needed to reflect elections and awards, hope to finalize soon.
- **Membership:** End of year membership was 59. Current membership is 26.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. Current balance in ORNL FCU as of 2/22/17 is \$14,870.69 with no bills outstanding. Insurance club liability bill (\$850) just paid along with check to Michael (\$181) to pay for the awards, check to Karen to pay for AKC spring test (\$15). Michael moved we accept the Treasurer's report; Jim Pearce seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher reported that the meeting was next month; nothing pressing to report at this time.

Old Business

1. **Club Trials:**

- a. Need to set dates, locations RIGHT AWAY for spring. After some discussion and review of nearby hunt tests, we decided to try for Trials on April 8 and May 13. For the earlier trial, Michael will call Hiwassee Manager Jason to see if we can use the Refuge for this trial. If that doesn't work, he will call Darryl Miller to see if his farm is available that weekend. For the second trial, Michael will get in touch with Ken

Campbell about using Lucky 7. Michael will notify Karen as soon as possible and hopefully full details can be included in the March Newsletter due out on March 1.

- b. Fall Trial: we discussed whether it was timely to try to get a date and location pinned down now for a club Trial in September or early October. Unfortunately, TWRA doesn't set dates for opening and closing of hunting seasons until their meeting in July, and this impacts on our ability to schedule either Hiwassee or Darryl Miller's farm. We decided to table this for now and address a potential fall date/location at a future meeting.

2. **Spring Hunt Test:** May 27-28, Hiwassee.

- a. Karen has entered the info on committee, format, fees (\$70/80/90), start times, open/close dates into AKC's event management website and has paid \$15 for the 2nd test on 5/28 (the first one is free).
- b. Status of securing Hiwassee with TWRA: Roberta will submit the paperwork to TWRA in the next several days, and will also coordinate with Entry Express to get the date listed.
- c. Bird boys – at our fall test, Rhey Houston contacted the FFA and got us great kids for the test. Karen will contact him to see if he will set up with this group again.
- d. Judges: one flight of master is set: Ken Kogut, Andy Sonntag. One set of Jr/Sr is set up – Jan and Jim Burnette. For the other set of Master judges, Alan Bruhin recommended a pair he recently judged under, Jack Combs and Tom Lehr. He agreed to call them and see if either or both will be available, and if so, get them to commit. He will pass this information on to Michael. If there are still Master slots available, Rick Fyfe mentioned some that he knows, a couple Bob and Macy Smith, and also has several others in mind. For the other Junior/Senior pair, Michael will look on the website and try to find a few possibilities to contact. We will attempt to get the judges all lined up within the next several weeks so we can submit the judges panel to AKC in a timely manner.
- e. Judges dinner and gifts: Tom contacted Patti, who confirmed that she will continue to do this for the spring test. There was some discussion about ideas for judges gifts – judges Michael and Alan both mentioned some gifts they had gotten that they particularly liked, including a subscription to Retriever News, a field umbrella, anoraks / handler's jackets with the club name on them, etc.
- f. Lunches: Karen and Patti will do the lunches.
- g. Ribbons – Karen reported that we are OK on the ribbons for the spring test.
- h. Ducks: Lois has been coordinating with duck supplier Kiley Buettner for getting the ducks. We will have a problem this spring at Hiwassee since Jason no longer lives on the grounds and the gates are closed at sunset. Even though the driver gives us a tentative time of arrival, he never comes anywhere close to that time. And, with the gates locked, even if someone is there to meet the truck there is no place to get the ducks in. We discussed several alternatives: (1) have the ducks delivered to a club member who lives near the refuge and ferry the crates over the next morning in a fleet of trucks; or (2) see if Jason is willing to let Michael have the key during the hunt test. Michael will discuss this with Jason again.
- i. Workers raffle: Since Lois wasn't here, she was volunteered to head up this effort!

- j. Tee shirts: Lois will need to do an inventory and order any more needed for the spring test, which is usually our biggest time for sales.
- k. Dumpsters and Porta Potties: We have not used dumpsters before at Hiwassee but what a good idea they were at the fall test! Michael will discuss this with Jason to see if he has a problem with us bringing in a dumpster, where it should be put, and if he has any recommendations for a dumpster company. Porta potties: someone will need to contact Fay Portables in Athens several days / week before the test, which is all the notice they need.
- l. Gunners: we will need 8 for the spring test, and it's always hard to find people over the memorial day weekend. Jim volunteered to contact his friend who shot for us a couple of years ago, Luke will ask Brent if he wants to shoot. Michael said if anyone locates a gunner, tell him the gunner's name and contact info. Better to have a couple extra than not enough. Michael will need to purchase live ammo this time around, we are very short.
- m. Other supplies: we need to do repairs on equipment before the test, perhaps at the club trials, and make sure we have enough other supplies like Map gas for the thunder sticks. We know we need zinger winger rubber; Karen offered to buy two boxes of the black rubber online. We also need a bunch of zip ties – both Luke and Tom volunteered to buy bulk quantities of these.
- n. Michael will work on straightening out the feet on the blinds. The hard-packed droughty soils at the fall test resulted in a number of them being bent.
- o. Signs: we are short on signs, both those for inside the test and those that are parked on the road outside. Karen commented that we lost one of the outside signs last fall, and Alan commented that road crews have been told to pick up and remove signs they find along the public roads. Michael had suggested getting more expensive signs this time, but the thought of a more expensive one being purloined was not an attractive one. We decided that what we needed was ~20 campaign-style signs with the wire feet, in neon-bright colors, printed on both sides in black with ETRC and an arrow (the arrow pointing the same way on both the front and the back so that it can be used in either direction). This way, we can use magic marker for signs inside the test for Master A, B, Junior, Senior, and can use unmarked signs for pointing to the grounds. Rick volunteered to contact a sign company he has worked with in Pikeville to get a quote. He will provide Karen with the quote and she will get it out to the other board members.

3. ***Kevin's Fund:***

- a. Rules: review and make any changes necessary. Karen and Lois are tagged with doing this but haven't yet begun.
- b. Status of application from Griffin McDowell , 13, who is Brian Caldwell's Assistant. Last year he applied and wrote the essay, but we never got a parental signature on a membership form. Karen talked with Brian about this at the banquet; Brian took a membership form and said he would make sure one parent signed it for his participation this year. I told him we could pay the membership fee on a scholarship basis.
- c. Handler's seminar: Dates. Brian Caldwell has agreed to do this, but not date has been set. If it's going to be this spring, that needs to be set quickly. Karen moved

that if he does this for the Club, we will give Brian a free membership for 2017.
Mike seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **Training Dates:** At the Banquet, Brian told Karen that he would host us again at his place one day in March. No date yet. The Board looked at potential dates and March 25 looks good except that it conflicts with Bootheel and Fall Line. Karen volunteered to contact Brian and see if he has a date that will work for him during March. If he is already booked up, we will have a training day at Roane Regional on March 25 with Alan Bruhin leading the festivities.
5. **Fall Hunt Test:** Karen went online to fill out application for this test and found that the wrong dates are there. It was set up for Sunday and Monday, Oct 22 and 23, not Saturday and Sunday, Oct 21 and 22. Karen emailed Ledell Pendarvis with the correction needed, which we cannot make online. She has made the date changes but before Karen finalizes the application, we need to make sure we are in agreement on the format for that test – Lucky 7, 2 junior, 2 senior, 1 60-dog master. Considering that we are conflicting with the Master National again, this seems like the best approach and the board agreed by consensus on this format. Michael will confirm the dates with Ken Campbell.

New Business:

1. Committee to look at Dog/Puppy of the Year rules: Karen, Michael Evans, Mike Smith: Without quite intending to, we got involved in a discussion of the merits of including field trials, and whether we should or should not include specialty AKC hunt tests (i.e., poodles only, Labradors only, etc.). Interesting discussion, but the committee needs to go off and talk about this for a while before bringing recommendations back to the Board.
2. Summer Seminar: Probably not too early to contact Jody Ware to see if he has some dates available in August. If we do it at Fyfes/Fletchers again, both Rick and Michele are available on August 5; only Michele is available on the 12th and 19th; only Rick is available on the 26th. We had talked about maybe having this at Lucky 7 but don't want to wear out our welcome! Karen will email Jody and Leigh to see their August schedule, if we can get on the calendar.

Any other new business?

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Michael moved that we adjourn. Luke seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

1. Jim Pearce, Typo correction 2/23/17
2. Michele Fletcher, 2nd typo correction 2/23/17

Approvals:

1. Jim Pearce 2/23/17
2. Rick Fyfe 2/23/17
3. Alan Bruhin 2/23/17
4. Tom Gibson 2/24/17
5. Luke McCoy 2/27/17
6. Karen Edwards 2/27/17
7. Roberta Williams 2/27/17