

ETRC Board Meeting, 10/31/18

Pegasus Technologies Bldg, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: Luke McCoy, Karen Edwards, Jim Pearce, Michele Fletcher (AKC delegate) Tom Gibson, Cory Smith, J. Michael Evans

Absent, excused: Alan Bruhin (job conflict), Donna Smith (on vacation), John Broucek (event conflict), Carol McCorkle (event conflict), Lois Luthenauer (event conflict).

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. after unloading the small trailer into the office so that Michael Evans can work on it over the winter and set up more internal storage areas.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report:

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** Last meeting was 10/3/18; minutes approved via email and sent to the club website. Michael moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes. Michele Seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Correspondence:** None to report.
- **Membership:** Current 2018 membership is 60 as of 10/31/18, including 9 waiting final vote and 1 more needing first reading today, and excluding recently deceased member.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards. No formal report today; initial report from the Hunt Test (where Michele Fletcher was acting as treasurer as well as Hunt Test Secretary) showed that we took in \$11,872.52 and wrote checks so far for \$9,963.77. The club treasury is around \$23,000 and a full report will be made next month.

AKC Representative's Report: Michele Fletcher: Nothing new to report.

Old Business

1. Fall Hunt Test

- a. Michele reported on expenses and outgo. As far as we know there are no further expenses coming other than possible grounds repair costs. Biggest expenses were for the ducks (\$2,900) and for the Birdkids (\$2820). Six judges cost \$2,130.40 including hotels, expenses, and judges' gifts.
- b. Although the Master test had only about 30% of the dogs passing, the consensus of the people who were there was that the problem was not that the test was unfair, but the weather caused a higher than usual fail rate. The first series eliminated almost 1/3 of the candidates but that is fairly typical of Master tests. It was the second series where our numbers fell very low. In that series, a 20mph crosswind blew the dogs in the water way to the right of the line to the blind, and they got lost

afterwards. The judges did shorten up that blind after running the test dog, but it was still a bear of a test because of the wind.

- c. Sr/Jr Judges Debbie Bodner and Bonnie Cuddihy were outstanding, and we would be happy to have them back at any time.
- d. There was some confusion over where Marshals were to be assigned and too many last minute decisions had to be made on marshaling. It all worked out OK, but we should aim to have this better worked out before the test.
- e. There was rain on Saturday and some inconsiderate people got off the roads and tore up some of the hillsides, getting stuck. Michael called Ken Campbell and apologized. He will talk with him again once Ken has the opportunity to see the damage, and will offer to pay for repairs. Usually Ken asks us to donate the fee we would otherwise pay for use of the land to our youth program; in this case, we may need to apply that money towards the repair of the land instead.
- f. We were a little too tight on the number of ducks we ordered. We only ended up with 7 or 8 extras. The Master test used 7 or 8 getting set up, which was excessive. Also, the quality of the ducks was not wonderful. After spending 13 days on a trailer as Buettner dropped off ducks for a number of different tests after leaving Iowa, there were 1 or 2 dead ducks in each crate and they were rather thin and weak.
- g. The bird kids were great, and they even helped fix the lunches. However, we need to make sure that we tell them up front to wear dark clothing or camo, no white, and that they should bring along appropriate clothing for the weather, such as rain gear.
- h. We are out of toilet paper, paper towels, and paper pads for the marshal boxes.

2. **March Master-Only Hunt Test:** If we are going to do this, we must decide on dates and location very soon if we want to get this approved by AKC. Michael talked with AKC and they pointed out that having the test in March would mean that we hadn't already met the criteria for having a 'master only' test, and it is unclear that we would be approved on that basis. We decided to enter all the tests for the year at once and hope that would help them see that we are serious about meeting the requirements for having enough Jr/Sr. tests to balance out the extra Master.

- a. Discussion about Hiwassee or Lucky 7. Advantages of Hiwassee are that it is flatter so there won't be the problem of stuck cars in case it is muddy in early spring; and there is more room, enough to run two flights of Master. However, there may not be too much water there at that time of year. Advantages of Lucky 7 – closer to almost everyone. Michael will talk to Jason and ask about the water and the availability of two possible dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, 3/26-27; and 4/2-3. He will also talk to Ken Campbell about those same dates and then we will have to decide.
- b. Number of entries: if we go to Lucky 7, there is some concern whether we could have adequate land/water to set up two master flights. This would only be feasible if we could get four judges to agree on three series and everyone round-robin through them. There is some concern about judges agreeing to do this, even though the request would be because of limited land. If we go to Hiwassee, two flights are probably doable (depending on the water situation that time of year).

However, one flight would only require 6-7 birdboys and a single setup session of all three series on Monday. Two flights would need 13-15 birdboys and potentially setting up lots more than the 3 series for a round-robin test. We also discussed a single 90-dog flight but discarded that idea because it would require 3 days and it's going to be hard enough to get workers who can either take time off or who are already retired, without adding a third day to it.

- c. Birdboys: for a mid-week test, we would not be able to use high school kids unless it happened to be spring break – and even then, many people have lots of plans so it would be even harder. We could possibly hire Brian Caldwell's birdboys, and the rest would have to be volunteers from the club. Not too hard if it's only 6 or 7 but pretty difficult otherwise.
 - d. Ducks: Michael has heard of another duck supplier up near Kingsport, and we agreed that it would be worthwhile to contact this person for ducks for this test to try them out. Michael has heard that the cost of the ducks is about \$.50 higher per bird, but the birds are much bigger and healthier.
3. **Spring Hunt Test:** May 25-26, 2018. Hiwassee, Double Junior/Senior, two flights Master. Michael will talk to Jason about this at the same time he talks to him about the possible Master-only test, and will get the paperwork started with Wally in Nashville as well. Karen will enter this test into the AKC website soon. This will be the Roberta Williams memorial hunt test; we can put this information into Entry Express and will have a full page devoted to Roberta's picture and info about her. Also we can have a poster board in the clubhouse about her as well, similar to what we did for Kevin and Mark a few years ago.
 4. **Training dates:** Lisa Styles has agreed to put on a training day/ mini seminar on various handling drills, on November 18. Karen will announce this in the newsletter due out tomorrow. January and February -- need to try to set up dates soon for these.
 5. **Equipment:**
 - a. Automatic launchers: In August, the board approved buying two of these to help at Club Trials and training days, less time for people in the blinds etc. This fell in the cracks and Karen volunteered to pick it up on 9/30/18. Unfortunately, these are drop-shipped from the factory and take 3-5 weeks to ship so it was too late to order in time for the club trial in early October. Karen will order, now that it is clear that we didn't lose money from the fall hunt test.
 - b. Poppers: Luke & Michael have been researching but haven't found any heavy duty ones at a price we like. Meanwhile, another one broke at the fall hunt test, so we have lost three this year.
 - c. Some equipment may still be in weird places – no one is sure where the tool tote and the bag with the repair rubber is. Lois may have it, or it may be in the big trailer.
 6. **Miscellaneous Club Business stuff:** History stuff has been moved from Roberta's home to her daughter Melody's, along with incorporation papers, corporate seal, etc. She warns that some of it has been water damaged. Michael has been trying to contact her but has had no success so far. He will redouble his efforts; we need to get this resolved.

7. **Defibrillator:** Cost is \$1,200 per unit. If we have a defibrillator, we have to have experienced/certified people to use it. We have at least three of those in the club already. However, even having one in a vehicle does not assure that we could actually save anyone's life, if the equipment and operator were at another test site and had to be retrieved. Some concerns about liability of trying and failing, or liability for not getting there in time; we decided to drop this subject at least for now.

New Business:

1. ***New Members:***

- a. Nathan & Nicole Osbourn. Nathan is an electrician who lives in Ringgold, GA. He is the son of past member Tony Osbourn. He has two daughters and a 6-month old yellow lab puppy. He's interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, dog training, and club trials. Joined at the Club Trial and did pretty well with his puppy.

Jim and Luke agreed to be sponsors for the Osbourns. Michael moved we accept these new members on first reading. Cory seconded, and the motion was approved.

2. ***Nominating Committee:*** Today is the last day to select a nominating committee and the report has to be sent to Karen as Secretary NLT November 24. Alan Bruhin was appointed by Luke in absentia to be the Board representative on the committee (and chairman), and Jeff McNutt and Mike Smith were also appointed to serve. Karen will send them information on the duties (from the Bylaws) and the positions to be filled this year.

Any other new business?

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Michael seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer

Changes:

- 1.

Approvals:

1. Jim Pearce, 11/2/18
2. Michele Fletcher, 11/2/18
3. Cory Smith, 11/2/18
4. Alan Bruhin, 11/2/18
5. Michael Evans, 11/3/18
6. Karen Edwards, 11/3/18