

Minutes of ETRC's Awards Banquet and Meeting
Saturday, February 22, 2025
Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, TN

Present from the Board: J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin, Mike Smith, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Jeff Rader, Lois Luthenauer, Bob Smith, Kyle Griffin

Absent, excused: Luke McCoy, work emergency

Members present: John Broucek; Cynthia Bruhin; Rick Fletcher; Jake Greenwell; Tracy Griffin; Bob Houston; Dick & Jolynn Lamping; Nate & Hayley Lamping; Brent, Macy, & Ben Naveiro; Zach & Tyra Pry; Nancy Rader; Donna Smith; Lisa Styles; Peter & Mara Torok; and Lisa Vencille.

Guests Present: Dr. Monica Webb & her husband Jason.

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. 19 memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 67 (20% would be 14). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. following dinner.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Monica Webb, DVM, Countryside Animal Clinic, Field Triage for Dogs. Dr. Webb was introduced by President J. Michael Evans, who gave her a glowing recommendation. Much of her practice is devoted to hunting injuries, in addition to a regular small animal practice. J. Michael mentioned that she is his veterinarian and that his dog, Miss Ivy, owes her life to Dr. Webb's treatment.

Dr. Webb gave a very interesting presentation on the types of accidents that can occur out in the field. A rundown of her presentation with slides will be included in either the March or the April Newsletter.

In addition, Dr. Webb had prepared a field triage / emergency treatment kit that included a wide variety of bandaging materials, tools, and medications that she donated to the club as a door prize.

Officer's Reports

Greetings, Introduction of Guests, and President's Report on last year's activities:

J. Michael Evans welcomed everyone, and introduced new members the Tara and Zach Pry, who joined in April 2024 and who have already attended a number of ETRC activities and volunteered to work.

He then gave a brief wrap-up of events during the past fiscal year – which included 2 club trials (the fall one included live flyers and a picnic lunch), and 6 hunt tests including 4 single flight Master Only tests, a Quadruple Junior / Senior test, and a Fall test that included Master and double JH / SH tests. It was a very busy year beginning in early March and ending in Mid-November.

Michael mentioned that our upcoming year was also going to a big one with 6 hunt tests and 3 club trials, and urged people to volunteer to work. There will be just 3 Master Only tests this year, and these are pretty easy to put on – but for the tests that involve multiple setups (3 or 4 at a time) we desperately need people to help Marshal, set up, tear down, repair equipment, wrangle ducks, prepare lunches, and all the other things that go into putting on a big hunt test.

He also reminded people that there are some club perks for helping out at our tests. For members who have been members for at least a year, and who are running bitches - we will refund your entry fees for any test of ours that you enter, and your bitch goes into season and can't compete, without a vet certificate. If you work at one or more hunt tests or club trials for more than 8 hours total, you will be entitled at the end of the season to a refund of your entry to one hunt test that you participated in.

Michael called out several people and groups for special thanks:

- Ken Campbell & Brian Caldwell for letting us use their properties repeated times during the season for hunt tests and club trials.
- Members J. Michael Evans, Lois Luthenauer, Dick Lamping, Haley Shealy, and Lisa Vencille for judging some of our hunt tests this year;
- Cory and Elena Smith, for storing our club trailers and for taking care of leftover ducks in the ETRC duck pen on their property; and
- 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 11, 2024. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and were published in the January newsletter. I will be putting them up on the website during the next month. Alan moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. The motion was seconded by Lois and passed on a voice vote.

Correspondence:

- a. AKC report due following conclusion of this meeting, identifying our new officers and board members.
- b. Recent renewal of our Club General Liability insurance policy. Price went up some to \$900 (from \$815) and we had to come up with a new liability statement that guests at our club trials must sign.
- c. The Annual report for the State of Tennessee is due soon, and tax information is due to our new tax accountant. Now that we are bringing in more than \$50,000 a year in gross income, we can no longer use the simple 'postcard' return that we have been able to use in the past.

Membership: Our current membership is 67 people. Reminder that membership ends at the end of the banquet, and membership dues for 2025 are now due. A number of people renewed at the banquet.

Website, Newsletter and Facebook Page: We are continuing to try to improve our communications with members and people who might be interested in becoming members. Alan Bruhin is the Facebook page manager, and Karen Edwards deals with the Newsletter and website. Please, if you have news to share – a new puppy, a litter announcement, a new

title, a dog passing – even important personal news like a new baby or a new spouse! – please let us know and we'd be happy to share the news.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Edwards: Balance in the treasury as of 2/22/25 is \$42,735.63, which is almost \$5,000 more than we had at the same time last year (\$4,921.97). We actually made a little less money on our Hunt Tests this year, but spent less on new equipment. Karen handed out a single copy of the full Treasurer's report for the past year, from the start of our club fiscal year (3/1/24) to today. \$4,533.57 of this amount is earmarked for the youth fund.

Upcoming expenses are for the banquet (which will be around \$3,500 including awards and food), \$2000 for ribbons that need to be ordered very soon, and around \$500 for our website annual fees. This will leave us with around \$36,000 to go into the spring season. We are financially in excellent shape.

AKC Delegate's Report: Michele Fletcher reported a new rule change that has taken place regarding time frames after exposure or recovery from communicable disease before a dog is allowed to show/ compete again. Previously there were no specified time frames; the rules specified only that the treating veterinarian's recommendations be followed; and there were no penalties for a person who brought dogs in anyway. The AKC Board has now voted to approve penalties for the offense of "Knowingly" bringing a dog on event grounds within 30 days of displaying symptoms of a communicable disease, or within 14 days of being exposed to such a disease. The full text of the rule change will be included in ETRC's March newsletter.

Also, the AKC board is considering some rule changes on how many entries an amateur handler can make under the 'day early' entry rule, and prohibit a judge from judging his or her own pro trainer if they have conducted business within a year. This rule change will be discussed further at the April AKC Board meeting. Again, more info will be included in the March newsletter.

Old Business

Election of New members: Mike Smith announced that ETRC has 6 new provisional members who are coming before the membership tonight for final approval. All sponsors recommended approval.

- Jane & Scott Tully, Red Bank, TN: They have a young Golden Retriever in training with Jody Ware. Sponsors, Karen Edwards & Jim Pearce.
- Randy & Dianne Clark, Springfield, KY. They have recently moved here from the west coast, and Dianne is a hunt test judge. They ran Labradors in several of our hunt tests this past year. Sponsors were J. Michael Evans and Alan Bruhin.
- Luke & Julie Campbell, Apison, TN. They have two young Labradors. Sponsors are Jan Summer and Mike Smith.
- Jon & Taylor Osteen, Lenoir City, TN. Jon is a professional dog person, working with Heath Shuler and Mike Osteen on developing more dog facilities in the Knoxville / Loudon County area. Sponsors and Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans. These guys have attended a number of events this year and helped set up, shoot, and take down. Much appreciated.
- Mike & Allyson Osteen, Knoxville, TN. See above Sponsors and Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans.

- Caleb & Savannah Kirtner, Knoxville, TN. They have come to several of our events with their dogs this year and have helped as well. They are part of the Heath Shuler / Osteens group working to set up more dog training facilities. Sponsors are Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans.

Lois moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. Bob Houston seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Upcoming Events Updates: As Michael Evans mentioned earlier, we have a full line-up of events for this coming year, and planning is already well underway. The newsletter carries the calendar of upcoming events every month, right at the top of the first page, with more details inside on events coming up during the month. Michael didn't go over the entire schedule, but did note that our first event, a club trial, is coming up on March 9, from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m at Cory's Smith's farm in Sweetwater. There will be frozen ducks and dokkens, and we will try to make this as good practice for the upcoming hunt test season.

New Business:

1. **Awards Presentations.** J. Michael Evans announced the following awards for 2024:

Junior Hunter: Two member-owned dogs earned Junior Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and a title plaque were presented to:

- Nate's High Flying Wren JH, owned and handled by Nate Lamping.
- Fern Hill I Mint To Do That JH, owned by Karen Edwards & Jim Pearce, and handled to her title by Jim.

Senior Hunter: One member-owned dog earned a Senior Hunter title this year. Congratulations and a title plaque were presented to:

- Foulweather's Filson River SH ("River"), owned and handled by Lisa and Mike Vencille

Master Hunter: One member-owned dog earned a Master Hunter titles this year. Congratulations and a title plaque were presented to:

- Tennessee Gentleman Jack, bred, owned, trained and handled by Alan Bruhin

Amateur Field Trial Champion:

- AFC Seasides Troublesome Fowl Pursuits (Percy), owned, trained and handled by Charter ETRC member John Broucek.

Field Trial Champion:

- FC AFC Seasides Troublesome Fowl Pursuits (Percy), owned, trained and handled by Charter ETRC member John Broucek. Earning these two prestigious and hard-to-get titles in one year is an amazing accomplishment. Percy is also making a name for himself in the breeding shed – and both Alan's Jack and Nate's Wren are Percy puppies!

Qualifying at the Master National, which was held near Paducah, Kentucky in 2024. Congratulations and a picture plaque were presented to:

- Rader's Charlie Belle MH, owned by Jeff Rader and handled by Jody Ware.

In addition, we want to acknowledge the other ETRC members whose dogs succeeded at the Master National this year, but whose owners did not submit their names or pictures for formal recognition:

- Troublesome Fowl Addiction MH, owned by John Broucek and handled by Jody Ware;
- L7TroublesomeWhatAboutBob MH, owned by Bob Smith and handled by Brian Caldwell;
- Chosen Spot's Splash of Tequila MH, owned and handled by Dennis Wilcox.
- Southern Comfort's Run Your Tail Off MH, owned and handled by Melissa Dobson;
- Southern Comfort's Painted With a Punch MH, owned and handled by Melissa Dobson;
- Jody and Brian also passed with another non-member client dog each, and Melissa passed with 5 other client dogs. Congratulations!

Congrats also to people who qualified to attend the Master National, and either did not attend or did not make it to the finals. Qualifying to attend these events takes 6 MH passes during the year and is quite an achievement in itself. The following club members met these criteria:

- Coosawatee Backwater Drake, MH, owned by Andy and Pam Buck;
- CrossPointe's Blindside Blitz MH, owned by Rhey and Noah Houston;
- Rader's Charlie Belle MH, owned by Jeff Rader;
- Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH, owned by Alan Bruhin;
- Tennessee Gentleman Jack MH, owned by Alan Bruhin;
- Ringtail's Headhunter MH, owned by Brian Caldwell;
- Spitfire's Whiskey Teal MH, owned by Jan Summers;
- RSR's Double J MH, owned by Jeremy Majors;
- RSR's Leader of the Pack, owned by Dennis Wilcox;
- Chosen Spot's Irish Nobleman MH, owned by Dennis Wilcox; and
- Chosen Spot's Black Ice Warning MH, owned by Dennis Wilcox.

The Master Amateur was held in Washington State this year, and no one from our club attended. Therefore, there were no plaques presented. However, congratulations to the following Club Members whose dogs met the criteria for attending:

- Gator Pts Don't Mess With My Toot Toot MH, owned by Barbara and Mike Reed
- Chosen Spot's Splash of Tequila MH, owned by Dennis Wilcox
- RSR's Leader of the Pack, owned by Dennis Wilcox
- Chosen Spot's Black Ice Warning MH, owned by Dennis Wilcox
- Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH, owned by Alan Bruhin;

Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year, 2024: this year's award goes to Nate's High Flying Wren, a female Black Labrador owned and handled by Nate Lamping. Congratulations to this lovely young dog!

Holcomb Award for Gun Dog of year, 2024: Once again, this award went to Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH35, a lovely Black Labrador female bred, owned, trained, and handled by Alan Bruhin.

Atchley Lifetime Achievement Award, 2024: this is the second year for this award, which is given to a dog nominated by the membership or the owner and selected by the board for impressive accomplishments that are worthy of special lifetime recognition. This honor may be awarded only once! The very deserving winner this year was FC AFC Seaside's Troublesome Fowl Pursuits (Percy), owned, trained and handled by Charter ETRC member John Broucek. His achievements in Field Trials and in the breeding shed are exceptional.

ETRC Member of the Year, 2024: This year's award was presented to Dick Lamping, who was present at every ETRC event this year, helped at every one of them, judged at one, and has just been an amazing supporter of the club.

AKC Outstanding Sportsman for 2024: this year, the award was given to the married duo, Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce, for work they do for the club, and for competing and breeding.

2. **Door Prizes:** Alan Bruhin drew the numbers and Michael Evans passed out the prizes. Prizes included 4 certificates for free entry into Club Hunt Tests (up to a \$110 value each), 10 vouchers redeemable for an ETRC Tee shirt or hat (up to a \$25 value each); a platform dog bed, a car tire inflator, gloves for washing dogs, a decorative Labrador plaque; and many more items. The grand prize was the Field Triage kit donated by our guest speaker Dr. Monica Webb, which was won by Mara Torok.
3. **Election of Officers/Board :** The Slate of officers/board members and other positions from the nominating committee was presented for approval. There were no additional nominations from the membership during the December time period allotted in the Bylaws, and nominations are now closed.
 1. President: J. Michael Evans
 2. Vice President: Alan Bruhin
 3. Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Edwards
 4. Board Member Feb 2025- Feb 2028: Luke McCoy
 5. Board Member Feb 2025- Feb 2028: Nathan Lamping
 6. Hunt Test Secretary: Michele Fletcher
 7. AKC Representative: Michele Fletcher
 8. Past President: Mike Smith (non-elective)
 9. Chief Marshall for 2025 tests: Donna Smith (non-elective)

Remaining on the board: Jim Pearce and Jeff Rader (2023-2026), Kyle Griffin & Bob Smith (through Feb 2027).

Thanks so much to Lois Luthenauer and Luke McCoy, whose terms are expiring, for your service and expertise these past years.

Michael Evans called for a Motion to approve the nominees by voice vote rather than secret ballot. This motion was made by Jim Pearce, seconded by Lisa Styles, and Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Michael Evans then called for a Motion to approve the slate of officers and board members. The motion was made by Jim Pearce, seconded by Jeff Rader, and passed unanimously.

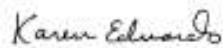
4. **Statement by President:** J. Michael Evans, re-elected to a second term, again thanked everyone for coming.

Any other new business?

The Toroks graciously donated the field triage kit back to the club so that it could be used by anyone at any of our events, should that prove necessary. A very generous donation back, and J. Michael thanked the Toroks for their thoughtfulness.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Alan moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by numerous people, the vote passed unanimously, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer

Changes:

1. Corrected Dr. Webb's husband's name – J. Michael Evans, 2/23/25
2. Corrected that Alan Bruhin drew the door prize numbers – J. Michael Evans, 2/23/25
3. Corrected the recipient of the grand door prize – Michele Fletcher, 2/23/25

Approvals:

1. Alan Bruhin, 2/23/25
2. Mike Smith 2/23/25
3. Luke McCoy 2/23/25
4. Michele Fletcher 2/23/25
5. Kyle Griffin 2/24/25
6. Nate Lamping 2/24/25
7. Jeff Rader 2/24/25
8. Jim Pearce 2/24/25