

# ETRC Upcoming Events

Volume XXIV, Issue 5

May 2024



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. May 14-15, Tuesday—Wednesday: Midweek Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's
2. June 1-2, Saturday—Sunday: Quad Junior / Senior Hunt Test, Hiwassee WMA
3. June 11-12, Tuesday—Wednesday, Midweek Master only Hunt Test, Lucky 7 Ranch
4. September 15, Sunday: club trial, picnic, summer business meeting, Lucky 7 Ranch
5. October 19-20, Saturday—Sunday: Fall Test, Lucky 7 Ranch, 2 JH, 2 SH, Master
6. November 12-13, Tuesday—Wednesday: Midweek Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's

## Photo of the Month



**Peter Torok sent this cute photo of his puppy Kepes with the family cat — this is a few years ago!**

## CONTENTS

President's Message, J. Michael Evans	2	New Education Requirements from AKC	8
Upcoming ETRC Hunt Tests in May & June 1-2	3	ETRC's Luthenauer Youth Program	9
ETRC Hunt Test Report, April MH Only test	4-5	Membership Info—renewals due NOW	9
Member Announcements / News / Brags	76-7	Newsletter / Facebook info	9

EAST TENNESSEE RETRIEVER CLUB, INC. WWW.ETRCCLUB.ORG

**ETRC Newsletter**

## President's Message

J. Michael Evans, ETRC President

First let me say to anyone who is new to our club, WELCOME! If you weren't able to get out to our Mid-April test we hope to see you at our next whether you run a dog or are just curious how a test is run. Please come watch and hang out with some of the members. I promise not to put you to work.....OK, maybe that's a complete lie.

Anyone who doesn't know what it takes to make a test run let me just say, it's a huge undertaking! I'd like to take a moment to recognize a few of those who work so very hard to make it a success. It began with planning way back in January by the Board and Officers, these men and women freely give up their time in order to make our club successful.

A huge thank you to our amazing judges for generously giving up their time and expertise to allow the ETRC to have a wonderful test! Without them there could be no test. Huge thanks also to Ken Campbell and Brandon Camp for the use of their property and assisting us in the logistics of moving equipment and moving birds in and out.

A huge thank you to our Hunt Test Secretary, Michele Fletcher, for putting together the event on Entry Express and coordinating with AKC, managing the event and then handling all the paperwork before, during and after! She also Marshals anytime needed as she did this weekend, and is our supplier and stocker of water, ice and Gatorade for the judges and workers.

Thank you to our Club Secretary/Treasurer, Karen Edwards for taking care of advertising the test in the newsletter, ordering and handing out ribbons, paying the judges expenses, paying all of the club's expenses during and well after the test is complete, and helping Jim Pearce in making lunches. These two women do the work most of us never see, they are truly the unsung heroes of any hunt test.

Thanks to Head Marshal, Donna Smith, for coordinating Marshals and overseeing the test site, all while also running her own dog in the test.

Thanks to the Bird Techs who show up first thing in the morning, sit out in the field all day and throw birds, all so we can have a smoothly-run test. It's worth noting here that this test had ZERO no-birds! I've run and judged hundreds of tests and I cannot think of one single time an entire test had such a thing. THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the members who not only showed up on Friday for set up but, stayed all weekend to assist the judges with anything they needed as well as throwing birds and planting blinds on occasion. I would especially like to thank Dick Lamping and Kyle Griffen. These members did not run a dog, gave up their time freely just to help the club.

Friday set up, all day Saturday and all day Sunday was a success because of workers such as Alan Bruhin, Mike Smith, Jim Pearce, Bob Smith and Jeff Rader who worked tirelessly the entire weekend. These folks were machines! If I've forgotten anyone please forgive me but, your contributions did not go unnoticed.

I'd like to say a quick "Welcome Back" to a long time friend and club member Seth Knott who came out and threw birds for us both days and did a tremendous job. It's good to have you back, my friend, and we look forward to seeing you run tests in the future.

Our next test is also a Master only in May and I hope to see all of you there. Best of luck in your training!

**SOON!**

## ETRC Mid-Week Master Only AKC Hunt Test May 14-15, 2024, Brian Caldwell's Farm

Our second AKC hunt test of the season will be in mid-May. This is a Master-Only test which will be held at Brian Caldwell's place on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14 and 15. Start time will be 8:00 a.m. Eastern time each morning. Judges are Keith Maready and Robbie Griffin.

The test opened Wednesday, April 24, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time (a day earlier for Amateurs and people with worker codes) and will close Monday, May 6 at 11:59 p.m. Check Entry Express for the premium list and further details; as of today's date, the test is filled & there is a waiting list.

We will have professional bird technicians and a bagged lunch will be provided to all workers at the test. Completion ribbons and title ribbons will be awarded, along with duck bands. There will be no live flyers, as this property is a 'no live ammunition' site as approved by AKC.

**Volunteers are needed to help out with test set-up and breakdown. Call or text J. Michael Evans at 865-824-8638 to sign up. Just a few hours on even one day will be a big help!**

Free bagged lunch will be provided to all volunteers who stay till lunchtime or come early for the afternoon session. Also, if you need a volunteer code to make sure you get in the test if a pro runs your dog, contact J. Michael and sign up for something!

## ETRC Quadruple JH/SH AKC Hunt Test June 1-2, 2024, Hiwassee

This is our big Spring Extravaganza for Junior and Senior dogs, with the opportunity to earn a title all in one weekend! There will be two Junior and two Senior tests each day, four tests in total at each level. Junior Judges on Saturday, June 1 are: Dick Lamping & Haley Shealy (Junior 1) and Clint Catledge & Ray Rogers (Junior 2). Senior Judges on Saturday are Lisa Vencille & Bonnie Cuddihy (Senior 1) and Robert Shell & Kenny West (Senior 2). On Sunday, June 2, the same judges will have the following assignments: Junior 1 is Vencille & Cuddihy; Junior 2 is Shell & West; Senior 1 is Lamping & Shealy, and Senior 2 is Shell & West.

The test will open soon and will close Monday, May 20 at 11:59 p.m. Check Entry Express for the premium list and further details. There are no limits on the number of entries.

We will have professional bird technicians and a bagged lunch will be provided to all workers at the test. Completion ribbons and title ribbons will be awarded, along with duck bands. There will be no live flyers, as this property is a 'no live ammunition' site as approved by AKC.

**Volunteers are needed to help out with test set-up and breakdown and running errands. With 4 setups running at once each day at a large test site, the normal 3 or 4 people who help out will NOT BE ENOUGH. Call or text J. Michael Evans at 865-824-8638 to sign up. Just a few hours on even one day will be a big help!** Free bagged lunch will be provided to all volunteers who stay till lunchtime or come early for the afternoon session.

**New members, or people looking to get into the hunt test game, are encouraged to come and spectate. Single flight Master tests are easy tests to watch, since there is only one set up at a time and plenty of room to set up a chair and watch. With this many Junior and Senior tests on the June date, you will have an opportunity to study how these tests are run.**

## ETRC Hunt Test Report

### April 13-14, 2024 Weekend Master, Lucky 7 Ranch

Our first hunt test of the season is now in the books. We were lucky to have wonderful weather for the test — bright and sunny, with moderate temps in the 60s and 70s. 59 dogs entered, 4 scratched before the test started, and 55 came to the line for the first series. 32 dogs passed.

The test was meaty and quite long. The first series was a land triple, a single blind behind the middle mark, and an honor. This series was run on the hills behind the back technical pond. Difficulties were in the varied terrain and the deep and long shadows on the right-most mark, which got considerably shorter as the day wore on. The average time for successful runs was about 4.5 minutes. We lost 8 dogs on this series.

The second series was a land/water walk-up triple with a diversion shot. Dogs received the diversion shot before exiting the holding blind. After exiting, the walk-up bird was 30 yards to the left followed by a 60 yard middle bird directly across the small pond with a drive uphill and the third was to the right forcing the dog to make an angle entry into another pond and drive approximately 25 yards through a low line in the field. We only lost 2 dogs on this series.

The third series was set up on the next technical pond over, the one 'in the hole'. It again consisted of a triple with a land mark along the edge of the pond, one mark that fell either right at the bank or in the edge of the water after a swim, and the third mark was up the hill on the other side of the pond. There were also two blinds, both involving swimming the length of the pond and crossing over one or two points. The average successful time was right at 10 minutes a dog; there was one dog who brought everything back but it took him over 25 minutes! We started with 45 dogs at 8 in the morning and finished just after 4:00 p.m. on a rather warm afternoon that reached into the low 80s. There was a light wind which kept it comfortable in the shade of the pop-ups that we put up midway through the afternoon.

Thanks to our judges, Mike Perry and Wesley Bowman. Special thanks to Kevin Campbell for the use of his beautiful Lucky 7 Ranch, which is an amazing place to run hunt tests. Thanks as always to Beuttner Farms for the really lovely ducks. We had four bird techs from the Cleveland State Community College Wildlife Society; member Seth Knott who worked in the blinds both days, and one other bird tech who works usually for pro trainer Ryan Stamey. Jim Pearce, Mike Smith, and Bob Smith alternated planting blinds on Sunday to make up the needed allotment. The judges gave special compliments to the bird techs at the end of the test — that this was one of the few tests they had been to where there were NO, ZERO 'no-birds'. Great job guys!

Other members helping out on one or both days or during setup — Mike Evans, Alan Bruhin, Kyle Griffin, Donna Smith, Dick Lamping, Hunt Test Secretary and Marshal Michele Fletcher, and Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce for the lunches. Finally, thanks to everyone who came out to play with your dogs!

Member dogs passing were:

- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, owned by Mike & Donna Smith, handled by Donna.
- ◆ Lick Creek On The Money MH, owned by Mike & Lisa Vencille, handled by Mike.
- ◆ Ringtail Headhunter MH, owned & handled by Brian Caldwell.
- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH25, bred, owned, trained & handled by Alan Bruhin.
- ◆ RSR's Leader Of The Pack MH, owned & handled by Dennis Wilcox.
- ◆ Tennessee Gentleman Jack MH, bred, owned, trained & handled by Alan Bruhin.
- ◆ Chosen Spot's Splash Of Tequila MH, owned & handled by Dennis Wilcox.
- ◆ Rader's Charley Belle MH, owned & handled by Jeff Rader.
- ◆ HRCH Hilltop's Fowl Mouth Delta Queen MH ("Ivy"), owned & handled by J. Michael Evans .
- ◆ L7TroublesomeWhatAboutBob MH, owned & handled by Bob Smith.
- ◆ Chosen Spot's Irish Nobleman MH, owned & handled by Dennis Wilcox.
- ◆ RSR's Double J MH, owned & handled by Jeremy Majors.



***Club Trial Report, Continued***

Congratulations to all these dogs, owners and handlers — and to those other members and non-members whose dogs didn't do so well, better luck next time!

Financial information: Entry fees less expenses left us with a profit of around \$900 in profit. We are still waiting for one final bill for the porta-potties and this figure is an estimate based on last year's charges.



*Diagram of the third, 10-minute plus series: The mark on the left-most side was at the edge of the peninsula sticking out of the water, not on top of the hill like it looks like in this diagram.*



***Left: the newest McCoy is growing up!  
Above: location of the first series***

## Member Announcements, News, & Brags

### PERCY IS TEARING 'EM UP!

John Broucek's **AFC Seasides Troublesome Fowl Pursuits QA2** ("Percy") continues his winning ways in 2024 with Amateur WINS at the North Alabama Retriever Club 2024 Spring Field Trial on April 13-14, and the Green River Retriever Club of Kentucky spring trial in Onton, Kentucky on April 19-21. John was handling at both tests. In his first two trials this year, he placed 2nd and 3rd in large Amateur stakes.

Percy just needs one more open point to earn his FC title — unfortunately these wins don't count towards that, but it's a very impressive feat to place / win in so many trials so close together, for sure. Congratulations, John and Percy!





*Member Announcements, News, & Brags, , Continued*

## TWO NEW OUTSTANDING DAMS

The Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA) awards Outstanding Sire (OS) and Outstanding Dam (OD) titles to those dogs whose progeny have earned a certain number of high-level titles. To be named as an Outstanding Dam, a bitch must have at least 3 “qualifying get” . To be a qualifying get in the field world, the puppy must have at least a Senior Hunter title; in Obedience they must have a Utility title; in Agility, an Agility Excellent is required, and in Scent Work, the minimum title needed to be a qualifying get is a Scent Work Master title. Conformation titles are also qualifying at the Champion level. Once a puppy has become qualified towards earning its dam the OD title, other lesser titles in one of the other fields also counts towards the overall point total. The two new Outstanding Dams in ETRC are:



Callie

**MACH RPO’s Calamity Jane UD SH MXG MJS MXF MFS T2B3 OD “Callie”**, owned and loved by Michele Fletcher. Callie had one litter of 5 puppies, all of whom are out competing successfully.

Her qualifying get are:

1. Calamity Jane’s Special Brew JH MXB MJB MXF T2B (Chai), 13 points
2. Calamity Jane’s Ricochet of Agilitypaws MX AXJ MXF T2BRATO RS-N JS-E GS-O (Ricochet) , 9 points
3. RPO’s Calamity Jane’s Sidekick CDX BN R1 AX OAJ NF CGC (Kick) , 13 points
4. Calamity Jane’s Flower Child AX AXJ XF (Groovy), 9 points

Her fifth puppy, Watermark Don’t Go Trippin Over Me (Tripp), has a Junior Hunter title and a CGC, so may join her list of qualifiers one of these days.

**Fern Hill Sunday At The Zoo MH OD “Zoey”**, owned by Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce. Zoey had two litters for a total of 9 puppies. Five of these went to non-competition hunting homes, but the four who are competing have done very well so far:

Zoey’s three qualifying get are:

1. Fern Hill’s Triple Echo Remy MH, 10 points;
2. Fern Hill Fiona McCool SH, 7 points;
3. SHR Fern Hill Jessie’s Girl Rae JH NAJ SWM SWEE SWAE DMX (Rae), 15 points

Upcoming is Fern Hill & Gingrock’s Miss Parr JH, who is starting on her Master Hunter career later this summer and into Qualifiers in the spring if all goes well.



Zoey

**Congratulations Callie and Zoey!** Special kudos to Callie, who was sick with lymphoma during the gestation period of her puppies, but managed to hang on till her babies were weaned.

## AKC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS POLICY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

*Editor's Note: This letter from AKC was sent to all AKC judges to inform them of action taken by the AKC Board of Directors at its April 2024 meeting. AKC notes they will communicate directly with those impacted by this policy on how to fulfill this requirement at a later date. It's not clear the full impact of this requirement at this time; more details will be forthcoming as we learn them.*

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As an additional step in creating a safe and respectful sport environment for all, the AKC Board of Directors approved the following educational requirements policy and recommendations. Effective immediately:

- AKC Board of Directors, Inspectors, Field Staff across all sports, AKC Registered Handlers, and additional AKC Staff that regularly attend events, will be required to successfully complete the *Stewards of Children*® training from the non-profit organization Darkness to Light once every three years.
- All current and future Junior Showmanship judges will be required to successfully complete the *Stewards of Children*® training. The initial course will be offered by AKC on a complimentary basis and must be refreshed every three (3) years. All current Junior Showmanship judges must fulfill this requirement in 2024.
- All current and future Club Junior Coordinators will be required to successfully complete the *Stewards of Children*® training. The initial course will be offered by AKC on a complimentary basis and must be refreshed every three (3) years.
- Junior participants and their parents will be recommended to take the following complimentary courses as applicable from SafeSport:
  - SafeSport® for Youth Athletes (ages 13-17)
  - SafeSport® for Kids (5-12)
  - SafeSport® Parent's Guide to Misconduct in Sports Core.
  - All Superintendents, AKC approved Show Secretaries, and AKC approved Agility Trial Secretaries will be strongly advised to take the *Stewards of Children*® course.
  - All current and future Judges across all sports are required to complete the *Stewards of Children*® training. The initial training will be provided on a complimentary basis by AKC. This requirement will be phased in.



## Youth Program

2022 Award Recipient, Bella Martin



The Luthenauer Young Handler program was established as a memorial to ETRC member Kevin Luthenauer. The program is supported by generous contributions from family and friends to encourage youth participation in retriever sports. Kids who are interested in applying 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 any fees for other ETRC events such as club trials.

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

## ETRC Membership Information

Membership in ETRC is a bargain! 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 cut and paste the link, print it off, and send it along with your check to:

***Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771.***

Membership 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 friends with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. We are one of the most active Retriever clubs in the country — and have another great year planned in 2024 with 6 AKC hunt tests, club trials, seminars, training days, and more.

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 / Facebook / Website Info

**NEWSLETTER:** The ETRC newsletter is published monthly, usually on the 1st of the month. Send us your test results, new titles, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs, items 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)).

Numbering System: beginning with the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is Volume XXIII (for 2023). Newsletters are archived on the club Website, [www.etrclub.org](http://www.etrclub.org).

**FACEBOOK:** we now have a Facebook page! Either post on it yourself, or send pics and info to our moderator, Alan Bruhin, at [wbruhin1@retiree.utk.edu](mailto:wbruhin1@retiree.utk.edu).

**WEBSITE:** Updated recently to add a security certificate so no more pesky 'danger/warning!' notices. A repository of current & past information. Send material for the website to webmaster Karen Edwards ([edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)).