

# ETRC Upcoming Events

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

1. October 19-20, Saturday—Sunday: Fall Test, Lucky 7 Ranch, 2 JH, 2 SH, Master
2. November 12-13, Tuesday—Wednesday: Midweek Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's, with Tailgate Potluck Party Tuesday Afternoon
3. February 22, 2025 — Saturday: Annual Awards Banquet & Business Meeting / elections, Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, Tn



## Photo of the Month



*Set-up for the Hunt Test stakes at our Club Trial September 15, 2024. Michele Fletcher & Chai at the line; Alan Bruhin judging along with Peter Torok who was filling in for Michele while she ran her dog. A great turnout with live flyer and dead ducks. For full details and lots more pictures, see article inside.*

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**NOW!**

## East Tennessee Retriever Club 2024 Fall Hunt Test

**Date:** Saturday, October 19, 2024 - Sunday, October 20, 2024

**Location:** Lucky 7 Ranch, 6720 Erie Road, Sweetwater, TN, beginning at 8:00 a.m. ET each day

**Stakes:** double Junior, double Senior, single flight Master limited to 66 entries.

**Entries:** Enter on [EntryExpress.net](https://www.entryexpress.net). Entries opened Wednesday, September 25, 2024 7:00:00 PM CT; Workers/Amateur Set Aside opens Tuesday, September 24, 2024 7:00:00 PM CT. As of publication date, there are still a few entries available for Master and plenty of space for Junior and Senior.

Entries Close: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:59:59 PM CT

### Judges:

Master: Steve Davis / Tracy Davis, Saturday  
Senior Saturday: Kathy Poole-Price / Paula Johnson  
Senior Sunday: Wesley Bowman / Larry Noland  
Junior Saturday: Wesley Bowman / Larry Noland  
Junior Sunday: Kathy Poole-Price / Paula Johnson

### Additional Info:

This test will not have live flyers as the property is a 'no live ammunition' site.

This is a big test that will have three test sites running simultaneously at different places on a 390 acre farm. Big tests take a lot of volunteers! We are looking for people to help set up / tear down stakes, serve as site marshals, assist in preparing lunches, fill in as relief bird technicians as needed, and more. Contact any of the following to help out:

- ◆ to volunteer for set-up and bird tech work and to get your worker code for early entry if needed, text J. Michael Evans at 865-824-8638 or email to [fowlmouthk9@gmail.com](mailto:fowlmouthk9@gmail.com)
- ◆ to volunteer as a site marshal or relief marshal, contact Chief Marshal Donna Smith at 615-419-7370 or email [donnasmith@gmail.com](mailto:donnasmith@gmail.com);
- ◆ For assistance in other areas, contact Karen Edwards at [edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)

This is a great test for people new to the sport to see the different levels of dog and get a better understanding of test setup, skill set and training needed at each level, and an opportunity to ask all the questions you want. Hope to see you there!

**DIRECTIONS TO LUCKY 7 FARM:** The address is, 6720 Erie Road, Sweetwater, TN. BE AWARE that some GPS services may take you to the wrong place, around the back of the farm where there is no entrance. Alternatively, use the address 6979 Erie Road, which is right across the street from the L7 Farm entrance.

**SOON!**

## East Tennessee Retriever Club November Midweek Master Test

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12, 2024 - Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 8:00 a.m. start

**Location:** Brian Caldwell's Farm, Georgetown, TN (See directions below)

**Entries:** Entries open Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 7:00:00 PM CT on [EntryExpress.net](https://www.entryexpress.net)  
Workers/Amateur Set Aside (35%) open on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 7:00:00 PM CT

Entries Close: Monday, November 4, 2024 11:59:59 PM CT

Limited to 66 dogs

**Judges:** James E Floyd III, and Mike Greer

This test will not have live flyers as the property is a 'no live ammunition' site.

We are looking for volunteers to help set up / tear down stakes. Contact J. Michael Evans (text to 865-824-8638 or email to [fowlmouthk9@gmail.com](mailto:fowlmouthk9@gmail.com) to volunteer and to get your worker code for early entry if needed). All volunteers will be provided with a bagged lunch and drinks.

**End-Of-Season Tailgate Party:** As the test winds down on **Tuesday afternoon**, Janet Summers is coordinating a tailgate party free to everyone who attends. Come help us celebrate the end of our long and very busy Hunt Test season! **NOTE THIS IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE TEST.**

We are asking everyone who is interested to please bring a dish to share, either an entrée, appetizer, or dessert. For people coming from away who are staying at a motel for the duration, something simple like store-bought chips, crackers, cheese / meat / fruit / vegetable trays, baked goods, or canned sodas are just fine. The club will supply bottled water, paper plates, napkins and plastic cutlery.

Brian has a refrigerator we can use to store items during the day, and will let us use his stove to heat up items as necessary. Text Janet at 214-470-6265 to coordinate what you are bringing,

### How to get to Brian's Farm:

The address is 1810 State Highway 58 South, Georgetown, TN, near Cleveland and Decatur and not far from Dayton, TN. If you don't have a GPS, here are some more detailed instructions:

- ◆ From Interstate 75, take exit 49 for TN-30 towards Decatur.
- ◆ Follow TN-30W for 9.3 miles into the stop light in Decatur
- ◆ Turn left onto TN-58S. Stay on this road for 15 miles and turn left into Brian's property. This is just after going up a hill, so be prepared to turn in a hurry as you approach the hill.

There will be "ETRC" signs at the entrance and the gate will be open.



## ETRC Club Trial Report

### Sunday, September 15, 2024, Lucky 7 Ranch

Our second Club Trial of the year was held at Ken Campbell's beautiful Lucky 7 Ranch in Sweetwater. The weather was wonderful, with cool temps (high was 82) and a nice breeze. We started with the Junior Hunter stake, then on to the Advanced Junior, then Senior and Master. All stakes were run on the same general setup on the big technical pond at the back end of the property — with adding marks and blinds as we progressed. Live flyers were shot from the left-most mark, and dead ducks were used for the other one or two marks as we progressed. It was a meaty setup, made more difficult by the sloping terrain and the rather tall grass.

After we finished the Hunt Test stakes, we took a break for pizzas — cheese, vegetable, Hawaiian, all meat, and 'everything' pizzas from Little Caesar's, which were quite excellent. For dessert we ate homemade brownies and a variety of deli-style cookies. While eating, we had our brief business meeting — see minutes later in this newsletter — and then moved on to another site for the rest of the afternoon festivities.

We used the middle technical pond down in the bowl on the left side of the farm road for the Singles Classic stake. What a test! The marks were long but the sloping terrain and high brush on the two islands that were on line for the water mark, and the swirling wind and tree break-line in back of the test made for tough conditions for the dogs. For this stake, we used the club's bumper launchers. On the other side of the hill and concurrent with the Singles Classic was the Puppy Stake.

Thanks a million to Ken for letting us use his beautiful property. Thanks also to our setup crew including Brent Naveiro, Alan Bruhin, Jim Pearce, Mike Smith and others; judges, Alan Bruhin and Michele Fletcher, who kept things running smoothly; to Mike Smith for bringing the small club trailer up from Cory Smith's farm; and to Lois Luthenauer for bringing the tee shirts and hats. Also thanks to Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce who ran the sign up table, provided the brownies and brought the ribbons and pizzas, and to Jo Ann and Victor Burk for the wonderful cookies. Special thanks to Mike and Jon Osteen and Caleb Kirtner, who are new members who spent most of the day in the blinds throwing ducks and shooting (with nary a miss!). If I missed a few names of people who helped as relief judges or in the blinds, your work was appreciated as well. Finally, thanks to everyone who came and made this a successful day!

Full Results of all stakes are given below:

**Junior Hunter** started the regular hunt test series. This stake had two single land marks, one relatively short and the other mid-distance. Seven dogs entered; only one passed. Passing was

- ◆ Quincy, Golden Retriever owned by Jo Ann and Victor Burk and handled by Jo Ann (Quincy was also bred by club members Karen Edwards and Jim Pearce and is a son of their Py):

**Advanced Junior** ran those same two junior marks as a double. Four dogs entered, and two of them passed. Passing were:

- ◆ Wren, a Labrador owned and run by Nate Lamping; and
- ◆ Susie June, a Labrador owned and run by Justin Pinkston.



Kyle & Tracey Griffin with Oak

**Senior Hunter** was run with the same marks as the Advanced Junior setup, with the addition of a blind down to the left of the marks. Seven dogs entered, and four passed. Passing were:

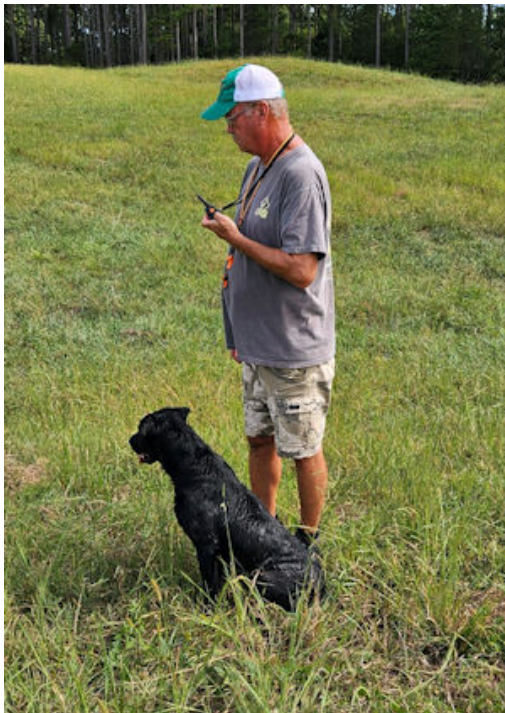
- ◆ Cooper, black Labrador owned by Mike and Donna Smith and handled by Mike;
- ◆ Gus, a Labrador owned and run by Brent Naveiro;
- ◆ Kepes ("Kaypesh"), a golden Retriever owned and handled by Peter Torok; and
- ◆ Rayne, a yellow Labrador owned and handled by Jan Summers.

**Master Hunter** : This stake used the same setup as Senior and added a third mark in the middle to make a triple, and a second blind in back of the left and middle mark. Eleven dogs went to the line, with nine passing. Passing were:

- ◆ Cin and Jack, Alan Bruhin's black labs;
- ◆ Py and Fee; Karen Edwards' and Jim Pearce's Golden, with Jim handling;
- ◆ Indy, Donna Smith's Black Labrador;
- ◆ Cotton, Ryan Smith's Black Labrador, handled by Mike Smith;
- ◆ Bootsy, David Knott's Black Lab;
- ◆ Roxie, Lois Luthenauer's chocolate Labrador; and
- ◆ Lucy, Dick Lamping's Labrador.



*Peter Torok & Kepes at the line; judges Alan Bruhin & Michele Fletcher*



*Alan Bruhin at the Line*

**Singles Classic:** this stake had two long single marks, one on land and one through water with two small islands on the line. 20 dogs entered. First through 4th place color ribbons were awarded, along with JAM (green) ribbons for others who brought back both marks but didn't place in the top four.

Results were:

- ◆ First place was won by Jack, a black Labrador Retriever bred, owned, trained & handled by Alan Bruhin. He stepped on both marks and showed us how it should be done!
- ◆ Second place went to Sage, handled by new member Jon Osteen;
- ◆ Third place went to Cin, another Alan Bruhin special and half sister to Jack;
- ◆ Fourth place was Juice, a Labrador, with new member Mike Osteen handling.
- ◆ JAMs:
- ◆ Py and Fee, Golden Retrievers bred & owned by Karen & Jim and handled by Jim;
- ◆ Roxie, with Lois Luthenauer handling;
- ◆ Teal and Lucy, with Dick Lamping;
- ◆ Piper, with Mike Osteen handling;



**Puppy Stakes:** One puppy entered in Junior puppy and won first place with a nice effort. Winning was Jammer, a yellow lab puppy being socialized by Ryan Smith, who was handled by Mike Smith. (pictured right)

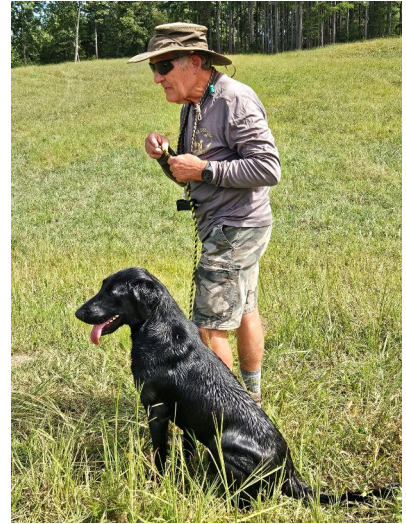
Financial information for the club trial and the picnic:

**Income: \$240**

- ◆ **Entry Fees:** \$125. Stakes were \$10 each except for puppy stakes at \$5 each, and everyone who is a member was granted two free entries per family and one or two free live flyers. We did not expect to break even on this event which was provided as a benefit for members.
- ◆ **Tee shirt/hat sales:** \$40
- ◆ **New Memberships (3 families):** \$75.

**Expenses: \$802.66**

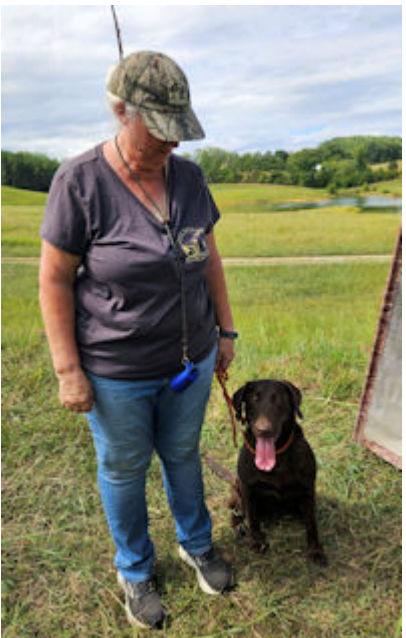
- ◆ Ducks \$640
- ◆ 10 large Pizzas: \$140.78
- ◆ Paper for judges sheets, paper plates, plastic forks, napkins: \$21.88



*Top: Mike Smith and Cooper*

*Middle: new member Jon Osteen with his Springer Spaniel Tex, and Jim Pearce with Py;*

*Bottom: new member, not sure of names; Michele Fletcher with Chai; Lois Luthenauer with Max.*



## Retriever Hunting Test Regulations — Six Clarifications

The AKC Board voted to allow six clarification changes to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*. The changes are effective October 1, 2024. They are as follows:

1. **Specify the hunt test application is required 3 months before the opening date.** Previously, the application was required 3 months before the CLOSING date so this has moved up the date by a few weeks. More importantly, the new wording states that the application includes the judges panel, which is to be considered part of the application and not to be thought of as separate. Fines may be imposed for late submission of the judges' panel. These changes are included in Chapter 1, Sections 3 Making Application, and Section 15, Premium List.
2. **Clarify the exact point at which honoring begins when the working dog is sent for a marked retrieve.** Changes to Chapter 3, Section 6 are as follows — language removed is lined through, language underlined is added: “In Senior and Master Tests, every dog shall honor in at least one hunting situation involving the retrieve of a marked fall(s) by remaining on the line off-lead while the working dog ~~retrieves, unless otherwise directed or until dismissed by the judges~~ is sent for a marked retrieve.”
3. **Clarify judges can call the next dog to the line by saying the word “dog”.** Section 10, Send to retrieve, is modified as follows: Dogs shall be sent to retrieve by handlers only when released by the Judges, who shall then score each retrieve accordingly. Judges shall call the number of the dog ordered to retrieve or say “dog” rather than the name of the handler of the dog.
4. **Clarify the blind must be clearly marked by a conspicuous object.** Chapter 5, Part I, subsection **Hunting Situations**, is revised as follows: “On blind retrieves, wherever possible, the Judges shall plan their hunting situations taking advantage of hazards, such as islands, decoys, points of land, sandbars, ditches, hedges, small bushes, adjacent heavy cover, and rolling terrain. The blind must be clearly marked with a conspicuous object.” This subsection continues with no further changes.
5. **Clarify inspection of birds is required by a judge when the damage to a bird is suspected due to a hard mouth or unusual situation.** Changes to Chapter 5, Part I, subsection **Judges' Responsibilities**, is amended to modify the first sentence of subsection (4) as follows: “Every bird retrieved and delivered to the handler and suspected of damage due to hard mouth or unusual situations shall be inspected by one of the judges.” Previously, the judges were supposed to inspect every bird brought back to the line, but this was changed during/after the pandemic and the language is now catching up to established practice. Where the handler drops the bird in a bucket unless there is a question.
6. **Specify for a senior test; blinds shall not be run between marks unless they are run first.** Chapter 5, Section 6, **Senior Hunting Test** has been revised as follows: “Dogs shall be tested in a minimum of four hunting situations that shall include one land blind, one water blind (that may be run as a double blind on land and water), one double land mark, and one double water mark. There shall be at least one diversion shot and at least one of the hunting situations shall include a walk-up. In Senior tests, a double mark is defined as two marks presented before the dog is sent to retrieve. Blinds shall not be run between marks in Senior Hunting Tests **unless they are run first.** “

## ETRC Members at the Master National 2024

It's that time of year again and the Master National is just in our backyard this time! This enormous event is due to run from September 21 to October 2, at the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Areas near Paducah, KY. There were a total of 1,131 dogs entered, divided into 9 flights of 140-144 dogs each. It seems like the flights are mostly arranged according to geographical area — all of our members are in Flight G except for Melissa Dobson, who doesn't live in Tennessee, and she is in Flight H. They also had to contend with the remnants of Hurricane Helene, plus the usual

Just qualifying for this test, by passing 6 Master Hunter tests in a 12-month period, is quite an achievement. Congratulations on making the cut, and GOOD LUCK EVERYBODY!

ETRC members attending are:

- ◆ Jody Ware is handling a string of 7 dogs, including four ETRC member dogs —
  - ◆ Jeff Rader's **Rader's Charlie Belle MH**,
  - ◆ John Broucek's **Troublesome Fowl Addiction MH**;
  - ◆ Andy and Pam Buck's **Coosawatee Backwater Drake MH**; and
  - ◆ Rhey and Noah Houston's **CrossPointe's Blindside Blitz MH**
- ◆ Brian Caldwell, who is handling 4 dogs, all owned by ETRC members —
  - ◆ Bob Smith's **L7Troublesomewhataboutbob MH**;
  - ◆ Brian's own **Ringtail's Headhunter MH**;
  - ◆ Jan Summer's **Spitfire's Whiskey Teal MH**; and
  - ◆ Jeremy Major's **RSR's Double J MH** (Jeremy is listed as an alternate handler)
- ◆ Dennis Wilcox is handling four of his own dogs that have been in training with Jody —
  - ◆ **RSR's Leader Of The Pack MH**;
  - ◆ **Chosen Spot's Splash of Tequila MH**;
  - ◆ **Chosen Spot's Irish Nobleman MH**; and
  - ◆ **Chosen Spot's Black Ice Warning MH**
- ◆ Melissa Dobson is handling a string of 7 dogs, including one of her own and her daughter's dog:
  - ◆ **Southern Comfort's Run Your Tail Off MH**; and
  - ◆ **Southern Comfort's Painted With A Punch MH**

Also qualified to go but not attending because of other conflicts were Alan Bruhin with **Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH** and **Tennessee Gentleman Jack MH**.

If I missed any members whose dogs were either qualified or who went, apologies — the lists of qualifier and attendees go on and on, and it's hard to make sure to catch everyone.

UPDATE: As of October 1, all flights are reporting data on the first 4 series at <https://masternational.org/callbacks-2024/>. Two more series to go!



## ETRC Minutes: Summer Business Meeting 9/15/24 Lucky 7 Ranch

**Present from the Board:** : Alan Bruhin, Mike Smith, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Lois Luthenauer, Kyle Griffin

**Absent:**, J. Michael Evans, Luke McCoy, Bob Smith, Jeff Rader

**Members present:** Jo Ann and Victor Burk; Tracey Griffin; Caleb & Savannah Kirtner; David Knott; Dick & Jolynn Lamping; Nate Lamping; Brent Naveiro; Jon and Taylor Osteen; Mike and Allyson Osteen; Justin and Allie Pinkston; Zach & Tyra Pry; Donna Smith; Jan Summers; Peter Torok.

**Guests present:** Stone Payne, Ashley Windelera

A quorum is 20% of the voting membership. 20 memberships were represented, and the current membership stands at 65 (20% would be 13). Therefore, a quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. following/during a picnic pizza lunch provided by the Club. Thanks to people who brought desserts – Jo Ann Burk for the cookie trays, and Karen Edwards for the brownies. In President Mike Evans' absence, Vice President Alan Bruhin presided.

### Officer's Reports

#### ***Greetings, Introduction of Guests, and President's Report on activities so far this year:***

- Master Only Hunt tests in April, May, and June at Lucky 7 & Brian Caldwell's places.
- Quadruple JH/SH test in June at Hiwassee.
- Our next hunt test will be a double JH, double SH, and single flight Master right here at Lucky 7 on October 19-20. The entries will open Wednesday, September 25, 2024 7:00:00 PM CT (Workers/Amateur Set Aside open: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 7:00:00 PM CT. Entries Close: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:59:59 PM CT.
- Our final hunt test will be 11/12-13, another Midweek Master Only single flight test at Brian Caldwell's.
- Our first club trial of the year was in March, and our second one was this morning. Thanks to all for coming!
- Thanks to —
  - Brian Caldwell, who let us use his farm repeatedly this year for mid-week hunt tests
  - Ken Campbell for letting us use his wonderful facilities a number of times including today and in October.
  - All the members who judged, worked, helped and participated in any of our events during the year.
  - Special thanks to new members the Osteens and Caleb Kirchner who took over manning the blinds and shooting the ducks for us during the hunt test stakes this morning. Great job!
- New equipment: After purchasing quite a bit of equipment the last several years, we have bought some small items this year -- a new first aid kit, some rubber mats, the new ETRC banner attached to the popup we are sitting under, and some burlap duck bags instead of the empty feed sacks we have been using. Anything more that we need before the end of the year? Nothing was mentioned.

Alan Bruhin asked Mike Smith if he had any updated info about the new Boy Scouts of America property north of Morristown, which is a possibility for events in future years. Mike said he had talked with his contact during the last month and the pond is partly done but won't be finished until

next year. Alan also mentioned Heath Shuler's and the Osteen's new venture for hunt training / testing facilities under development, and said that we were hoping that would be something we could draw on in the future.

**Secretary's Report.** Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** The last meeting was on July 2, 2024. Minutes were approved via email by a majority of the Board and have been posted on the club website. Jim Pearce moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval of minutes as posted. The motion was seconded by Mike Smith and passed unanimously.
- **Correspondence:**
  - The club has received a thank you card from Bob Smith's daughter on behalf of the family for our donation to their selected charity, the Gideon society.
  - Lots of correspondence from the MNRC including voting for our own Alan Bruhin to become a VP for our region. Haven't received the final tally yet, but congratulations....
- **Membership:** Our current membership is 65 people/families.
- **Website:** Karen took over as webmaster at the beginning of July 2023. The website is up to date, and the club purchased a security certificate in the spring so we no longer get 'danger/warning' notices when we go on site. Also renewed the domain name earlier this summer.
- **Facebook Page:** Alan Bruhin has been maintaining this page on a regular basis and it is being effective in driving new traffic to our website and new members to our club. Good job!
- **Treasurer's Report:** Karen Edwards: Balance in the treasury as of 9/15/24 is \$45,713.60. \$4,533.57 of this amount is earmarked for the youth fund. Karen had available a single copy of the year-to-date income and outgo, and said that if anyone wants an electronic copy of this, email Karen. Upcoming expenses are for today's event (several hundred dollars), and the Fall tests. We will have plenty of money for the winter banquet and to go into the spring season. We are financially in excellent shape.

Lois moved that we accept the Treasurer's report; Jim Pearce seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**AKC Delegate's Report:** Michele Fletcher: There are several changes to the Retriever Hunting Test Regulations made during the year that we need to be aware of. These changes are effective as of October 1, 2024. They are:

- Hunt test applications to AKC must now be made at least three months before the date the test opens for entries. This means that a completed judges' panel is also required at this time, and fines may be imposed for late submission of the Judges Panel. This is different from how we have operated in the past and we need to be sure to get our judges lined up earlier than we have up till now.
- A change to clarify that the exact point at which honoring begins is when the working dog is sent for a marked retrieve;
- A clarification the judge shall call the next dog to the line by saying the word "Dog" or the number of the dog, rather than the name of the handler of the dog.
- A clarification that a blind must be clearly marked by a conspicuous object.
- A clarification that inspection of birds is required by a judge when the damage to a bird is suspected due to a hard mouth or unusual situation; and
- Specification that for a senior test, blinds shall not be run between marks unless the blinds are run first.

## **Old Business**

- **Election of New members:** Alan Bruhin. We have 5 new provisional members who are coming before the membership tonight for final approval. All sponsors recommended approval.

- Matt & Katie Neil. He works for Cigna Group. Address 8234 Trout Lily Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363. [matthewJNeil10@gmail.com](mailto:matthewJNeil10@gmail.com), (423)618-9081. Has a 2-year old Labrador, interested in hunt tests, dog training, club trials. Will volunteer for 'whatever is needed.' Sponsors: Kile Griffin, Donna Smith.
- Justin & Allie Pinkston. (PRESENT) He's a wildlife officer, she's an RN. Live in New Market, 37820. [JustinpinkstonTTV@Gmail.com](mailto:JustinpinkstonTTV@Gmail.com), phone (423)736-8442. Has a young Black Lab, interested in hunt tests and field trials. Sponsors are Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans.
- Zachary & Tyra Pry (PRESENT): he's a truck driver. 447 Mountain Gap Road, Thorn Hill, TN 37881. [Waylonharley3@gmail.com](mailto:Waylonharley3@gmail.com). 865-469-4215. Volunteers for hunt test set-up, bird tech / coordinator. Interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, hunter's safety course for his wife, dog training, club trials. Has an SHR 2-year old black lab. Sponsors: Donna Smith, Lois Luthenauer
- James "Ryan" and Briana Troup: self employed. 304 Royal Oaks Drive NE, Cleveland, TN 37323. [TheTroupFam@gmail.com\(423\)943-8977](mailto:TheTroupFam@gmail.com(423)943-8977). Volunteers for training committee, test/training grounds search, Raffle/fundraising, duck wrangler/assistant, Board of Directors, Club Officer, Gunner, Marshalling, Awards Committee, Judging at club trials, Hunt Test Chariman, Training Supplies, Ribbons Handler. Interested in Hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials, judging/judging clinics, breeding, and is a member of NRA and Ducks Unlimited. Has 2 young black labs, was at our Quad test and earned a number of JH ribbons. Sponsors: J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin
- Dennis & Nora Wilcox, Facilities Manager, 107 Sioux Ct., Hendersonville, TN 37075, [dennisRWilcox@gmail.com](mailto:dennisRWilcox@gmail.com), cell 615-414-8273. Requests Mike and Donna Smith as sponsors, has 4 labs of various ages, is a judge of HT and FT, interested in hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials. Sponsors: Mike and Donna Smith.

Dick Lamping moved that we accept all these people into full membership in ETRC. Lois Luthenauer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- **First Reading of New Members:** We also have 4 new member families that are ready for first reading and assignment of sponsors. They are:
  - Luke & Julie Campbell. He's a licensed professional counselor, 5255 Howardsville Rd, Apison, TN 37302, email [luke.g.campbell@gmail.com](mailto:luke.g.campbell@gmail.com), cell phone 847-445-2136. They have a four year old black lab and a puppy yellow Lab. Will volunteer for whatever is needed, are interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, hunter's safety course, dog training, club trials, breeding, and are DU members. We received their membership application in mid-July. Sponsors: Mike Smith and Jan Summers.
  - Caleb & Savannah Kirtner. He is a dog trainer, lives at 4835 King George Way, Apt 2401, Knoxville, TN 37918. Phone is 540-875-4064; email is [calebKirtner@gmail.com](mailto:calebKirtner@gmail.com). Volunteers for 'whatever is needed' and volunteered today for manning gunner stations and assisting with set-up. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans.
  - Jon & Taylor Osteen. He is the owner/manager of a west Knoxville pet facility, they live at 280 Crestwood Drive, Lenoir City, Tn. Phone number is 229-376-0464; email address is [jon.osteen@petresorts.com](mailto:jon.osteen@petresorts.com). The family owns a 3-year old English Labrador and a 2-year old English Springer Spaniel. Interested in AKC hunt tests, dog training and breeding, will volunteer for 'whatever is needed' and volunteered today for manning gunner stations and assisting with setup. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans.
  - Mike and Allyson Osteen. Mike is a professional retriever trainer. They live at 221 Lancaster Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37771. Phone is 910-280-0076, and email is [mosteen2@gmail.com](mailto:mosteen2@gmail.com). Owns a chocolate Labrador, interested in Hunt tests, field trials, dog training, and club trials. Will volunteer for 'whatever is needed' and volunteered today for manning gunner stations and assist-

ing with setup. Sponsors: Alan Bruhin and Mike Evans.

Jim Pearce moved that we accept this people into provisional membership into ETRC for final vote at the February banquet. Dick Lamping seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

- **Update on Master National Stuff:** Alan Bruhin: The Master National is coming up very soon in Paducah, Ky. People are already getting ready to go there to assist with setup. David Knott has been asked to help out again and will be leaving on Saturday to assist. Best wishes to everyone who is going.
- **Nominating Committee:** Alan Bruhin. We need to have one board member and 2 regular members for this committee; we are also supposed to have two non-board alternates. The committee has to have a meeting (virtual, emails, phone or in person) before November 15, and must report to the Secretary (Karen) their nominations before November 24. If you agree to serve, Karen will send you the full details of what is involved and which positions are to be filled. Alan appointed Mike Smith from the board to serve as chairman of this committee, and Brent Naveiro and Nate Lamping to serve from the general membership.
- **Tailgate Party After Last Hunt Test:** Jan Summers has volunteered to coordinate a tailgate party after the final midweek Master hunt test at Brian Caldwell's. This will be open to anyone who attends that test; more details will be printed in the October and November newsletters.
- **Pheasants at Hunt Tests:** Because of problems acquiring ducks, the Master invitationals have warned people that they may be facing pheasants in some series rather than ducks. As a result, Donna Smith asked it would be possible to have pheasants as part of the marks at our fall hunt tests. After some discussion about the difficulties of finding pheasants on such short notice, the fact that we are supposed to state which kind of birds are used in the premium lists for these tests which are already set, and the possibility that it might keep down attendance at the hunt tests for people who had never had access to pheasants before, we decided not to try to do this for the fall hunt tests. However, this might be a good idea for our spring club trial event, to give people the opportunity to try out pheasants in a low-cost setting that doesn't count towards titles or national eligibility. Dick Lamping mentioned again that he has provided information on a new (to us) duck supplier in Alabama who can provide delivered ducks for \$16.50, and who may have pheasants. Karen has passed this information on already to Mike Evans who is our duckmeister.
- **Increased Entry Fees for Hunt Tests:** Dick Lamping raised the issue that the new \$10 increased fees for all our hunt tests starting next January (currently \$80 / \$90 / \$100, going to \$90, \$100, and \$110) is going to put increasing pressure on participation in the sport, especially for people on fixed incomes as many of us older hunt testers are. He asked why we had decided to raise the rates and whether this could be revisited, especially for the Junior and Senior levels where a weekend usually involves a double test and therefore a double entry. At these prices, he is concerned that new people may be priced out of the sport as well. Alan responded that our entry fees were amongst the lower levels this year; many clubs have already raised prices, and costs of running tests are continuing to increase. However, the Board vote to increase prices was not unanimous and if we end up losing attendance we may make another vote in the future. We can't put on hunt tests and lose money, though; we do need to make a profit on these so we can support other activities like this club trial with free lunch and live flyers, our seminars, the winter awards banquet, equipment purchases, etc.

**Any other new business? Adjourn:** There being no other new business, Jim Pearce moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by Peter Torok, the vote passed unanimously, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

## 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 XXIV (for 2024). 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)).