

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE AMATEUR RETRIEVER CLUB, INC.

[www.mtarc.homestead.com](http://www.mtarc.homestead.com)

## WINTER 2005

Happy New Year to everyone! Hope you're having a successful hunting season and that your dogs are getting lots of ducks and geese. January is here and that means that annual membership dues are due, and that the annual meeting and banquet are around the corner.

*The proposed slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee is as follows:*

**President:** Matt Griffiths

**Vice President:** Eric Gawthorpe

**Secretary:** Paula Harris

**Treasurer:** Richard Slicker

**Board of Directors:**

Tommy Fairchild Marty Kress Shawn McBrien

Henry Ragle Dick Kaiser Dennis Wilcox

Mike Horsley Al Previte Sherie Catledge

Remember, nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the Annual Meeting and members must be in good standing (dues and other club obligations paid) in order to be officers/board members and/or vote.

Please mark down the following dates for future reference:

April 15 - 17	Spring Field Trial	Dick Kaiser, Chairman	Charlotte Kaiser, Secretary
April 23 - 24	Open Dates for Seminar or Club Training Dates		
May 20 - 22	Spring Hunt Tests	Matt Griffiths, Chairman	Sherie Catledge, Secretary

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Our **Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet** will be held Saturday evening, February 5th, at Darfon's Restaurant in Donelson (I-40 to Donelson Pike north away from airport and turn right on Elm Hill Pike).

A cash bar will be available from 5:30 - 6:00 and dinner will start promptly at 6:30. The Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation will follow dinner. The cost will be **\$25/single or couple** payable in advance (yes, that is **less** than in previous years, but we would like to give something back to our members). We will have several menu items to choose from including prime rib, chicken, fish, and pasta.



Please cut and send the following attachment to Sherie Catledge, 420 Paul Thompson Road, Bethpage, TN 37022. For more information, please call 615.888.3647 or email [Catledges@aol.com](mailto:Catledges@aol.com).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Past Member? What year? \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find:

- \$25 2005 Membership Dues (single or family)       \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ number of guests

**MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> SO I CAN GIVE HEAD COUNT TO DARFONS**

## TROPHIES/AWARDS

- If you have not done so already, contact Dennis Wilcox at drwllabs4ever@yahoo.com or 615-822-5402 regarding club awards and trophies so that they may be presented at the dinner. Dennis is NOT responsible for correct spelling of dog's names; YOU ARE.
  - We would like to again present an award for the Amateur Handler/Dog Team of the Year. Please give Dennis your nominations for this award as well. The recipient will be announced at the banquet and then the plate for the trophy will be made.
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## BOARD NEWS (items discussed at last meeting)

- Over the past two years, MTARC has donated in excess of \$10,000 to the TW Foundation earmarked for improvements to the grounds.
- Fall Hunt Test netted a profit of approximately \$4,000.
- Our old trailer has been sold for \$1500. We will have a trailer inventory and build out of the new trailer some time in the spring prior to the first event. Items that we have on our wish list of things to buy include radios, dryers, gun stands, bubba guns, more canopies.
- A motion was made by Marty Kress and seconded by Matt Griffiths to reduce entry fees by \$3.00 due to our use of Entry Express and the fact that they charge \$3.00 per entry to enter online. After much discussion, the motion DID NOT carry.
- Matt Griffiths made the motion (Marty Kress seconded) to have a spring double header as we did last year. Matt would agree to be the Chairman. Motion passed.
- Round Table discussion included the following:
  - More training days and continuation of the recruitment of new members. If we do not use the second April date for a seminar, we will use it for club training days.
  - Marty suggested that we have an Owner/Handler Qualifying at the Spring Field Trial. The Board members present were very enthused and wanted to pursue. Will consult with Dick Kaiser, Chairman, for his opinion and feedback.
  - There was discussion about reducing the entry fee for the Amateur stake. The Open entry fee would remain unchanged. Will be brought up again.
  - The discussion of getting a more interactive web site was discussed where there would be more memory capacity and more frequent updates. Several board members were going to look into professional webmasters to see what is out there and where we want to go with this.
  - With the upcoming nominations for new officers and board members around the corner, there was discussion of the possible conflict of interest with regard to board members being professional trainers. Some board members felt that the inclusion of professional trainers on the board was not synonymous with the intention of "Amateur" in MTARC. This issue needs further clarification by reviewing current by-laws and discussion on whether the majority of club members feel that an amendment should be pursued. Comments on this subject are encouraged.
  - Subsequent discussion included the need to have the most current version of the by-laws available for review. We may need to consult with AKC on which version they have on record.

See you all at the Banquet!

SHERIE