



Obedience Views

April 2026



Clubhouse & Outdoor Training

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Indoor Training

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President

Erin Ruppel

Vice-President

Mari Pavleje

Secretary

Katie Schmidt

Treasurer

Laura Lown

Board of Directors

Amelia Harsh

- Term Ends '27

Rebecca Jackson

- Term Ends '27

Daryl Ann Stuppan

- Term Ends '26

Martha Ryan

-Term Ends '26

Kris Conell

-Term Ends '28

Alex Christopherson

-Term Ends-'28

President's Report

I have a couple notes about dog safety before I get to the fun stuff:

First, kennel cough is going around. Please keep some distance between dogs in your classes, and keep any dog showing signs of illness (e.g., coughing, sneezing, runny nose or eye discharge) at home.

Second, dogs should be on leash at all times in the parking lot, when entering and exiting the building, and when moving through the building. Off-leash dogs should be confined to the same room as their handler (e.g., during off-leash exercises in class) and may not have free range of the building at any time. Off-leash dogs running up on or surprising other dogs is a recipe for dog-on-dog incidents, which I know nobody wants to happen.



Now to the fun stuff!

Lifetime Member John Pittman and his Standard Poodle Gerard won the 24" class of the Westminster Masters Agility Championship. The Westminster Kennel Club makes a donation of \$1,000 in the names of first place dogs in their height classes, and John generously made the donation to MDTC. Thank you, John!!!

We had a great time at the Sports Show, as usual! Thank you to Mari Pavleje for coordinating the booth and the obedience demonstration, Tracy McCarty for coordinating the agility demonstration, and everyone who volunteered at the booth or demonstrations.

We had another excellent Achievement Trial thanks to our judge Lory Valley, Director of Training and Coordinator-of-a-Trillion-Things Extraordinaire Kim Rinzel, trial secretary Martha Ryan, and everyone else who pitched in. Congratulations to everyone who placed and/or received a qualifying score!

We also held a very well attended Dog and Cat First Aid/CPR workshop, where we spent 3 hours learning about first aid and practicing CPR on dog manikins. I feel much more prepared to handle different kinds of medical emergencies after attending the workshop. Thank you to Kim Rinzel and Sue Steinbach for coordinating with the instructor, and to Peggy Brunner for connecting the club with the instructor!

Instructor Staff
Director of Training

Kim Rinzel

Obedience

Assistant Directors of Training

Mari Pavleje

Lory Valley

Basic Instructors

Mari Pavleje

Erin Ruppel

Kayden Rinzel

Beginner Instructors

Darlene Wilson

Megan Cooper

Beginning Novice Instructors

Tim Carter

Tori Baldwin

John Sadler

Elizabeth Casey

Advanced Novice Instructors

Laura Sadler

Kim Rinzel

Chris Stephens

Deb Matthias

Open/Utility Instructors

Kathleen McNerney

Lory Valley

Willie Mabone

BJ Parrott

Agility

Director of Agility & Basic-Foundation Instructor

Tracy McCarty

Agility Instructors

Kira Haslam

Martha Ryan

Jennifer Smith

Daryl Ann Stuppan

Nancy Wandersee

Erin Ruppel

Lindsey Moore

Amelia Harsh

Kristina Stuppan

Flyball

Director Dawn Butler

Instructors

Kathy Gibowski

Jammie Schrab

Puppy Class Instructors

Dawn Butler

Scent Hurdles

BJ Parrott

President's Report - Continued

I am often reminded of how cool our new building is. Someone visiting the club from a different metropolitan area remarked on how lucky we are to have such a great training space. There's nothing like it where they live. I was also recently out of town and looked up training clubs in the area (please tell me I'm not the only one who does this!). There weren't any clubs with a dedicated space, and none of the clubs offered rally, agility, or flyball. What we have is truly special, and it's thanks to the hard work and dedication of many committed club members. I hope you all feel as fortunate as I do!

Erin Ruppel

Thanks for Another Successful Sports Show

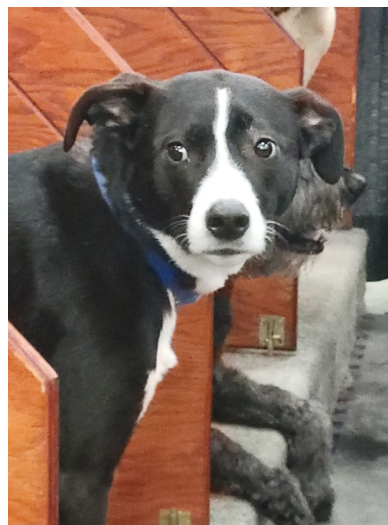
Thank you to everyone who participated in any way to make our time at the 2026 Sports Show a success! From set-up to the shows to take-down, your help was necessary and appreciated. Special thanks to Rick Sasek who did an excellent job as emcee again, moving things along from obedience to agility and, finally, to Rio's Go Dog Go demonstration. The crowd always loves the agility portion of the show because of the skills of all of the dogs and, I think, because we always have a lot of different breeds participating.

Thanks to everyone in the booth encouraging people to enter the drawing for the free membership, we had 115 entries this year.

We hope the winner will be joining us soon!

Again, thanks everybody!

Mari Pavleje



2025/26 INDOOR TRAINING SCHEDULE

Indoor obedience classes continue. The Obedience classes will be 45 minutes in length. There will be 30 minutes between classes to facilitate moving cars in/out of the parking lot.

Please check the schedule below. There you will find your class time, your door entry number and your training room number. If you have any questions regarding the schedule, please check with your current instructor or DOT Kim Rinzel.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE THRU APRIL 26TH **NO CLASSES ON Easter April 5th.**

9 AM

Beginners- Room 1. Please enter through Door 1

Beginner Novice- Room 2/3. Please enter through Door 3

10:15 AM

Open/Utility – Room 1 Please enter through Door 1

Advanced Novice-Room 2/3 Please enter through Door 3

11:15 PM

Basic- Room 1. Enter Door 1.

Scent Hurdles and Rally classes alternate every Sunday- Room 2/3. Enter through Door 3

12:15 PM

Flyball practice- Room 2/3

2:30 PM

New Basic Class Orientation -Room 1 (when needed)

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE THRU APRIL 22ND.

6:30 PM

Basic Room 1. Please enter through Door 1- Room 1

Beginner- Room 2/3 Please enter through Door 2

Beginner Novice- Room2/3. Please enter through door 3

7:45

Open/Utility- Room 1 Please enter through Door 1

Advanced Novice- Room 2/3 Please enter through Door 3

******Obedience classes will be back outside on Wednesday, 4/29/26. All classes will meet at 7:00pm on Wednesdays and 9:00am on Sundays beginning Sunday May 3rd.**

ALSO

Puppy class continues on Mondays at 6:30

Scentwork continues on Mondays at 6:45.

General Membership Meeting

Membership meeting minutes will now be sent separately from the newsletter, so watch your email for those.

MDTC Officer and Board Elections

The MDTC Officer and Board Elections will be held at the General Member Meeting at the Outdoor Club on May 27th, 2026. Please plan to attend this meeting and vote so that we have the necessary quorum to complete.

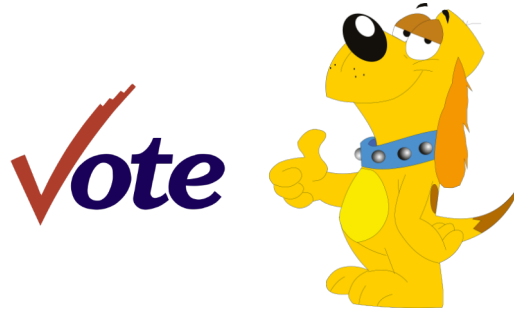
CURRENTLY the Slate of Candidates are as follows:

1 Year Terms

- President: Erin Ruppel
- Vice President: Mari Pavleje
- Secretary: Katie Schmidt
- Treasurer: Laura Lown

3 Year Terms

- Board Member: Daryl Stuppan
- Board Member: Yaakov Cohen



Martha Ryan has decided to step down and not re-run for her board member position.

Additional nominations will be accepted and welcomed from the floor at the April 29th General Member Meeting. You must accept the nomination in person at the meeting or have sent an email accepting the position to the secretary Katie Schmidt (katierschmidt29@gmail.com) prior to the April 29th meeting.

To run for office a person must meet the following criteria:

- Belong to MDTC for a minimum of 1 year
- Must be up to date on club dues.

If you have questions, please contact an Election Committee member (Amelia Harsh or Kris Conell) who will explain the procedure:

MDTC NEEDS YOU!

Our AKC Obedience and Rally Trial needs volunteers to run smoothly and efficiently!

Dates: June 6th and 7th

Times: 8:00am – 5:00 pm

(The trial may get done earlier – depends on the number of entries.)

You may bring your dog IF it is crate trained, since it must be crated at the trial.

Our trial is held in Ixonia, about an hour west of the Indoor Club. (easy to get to, and there is the option to carpool)

Right now, we need 30 volunteers to fill all the spots for both days. Obedience trials are on Saturday, Rally trials on Sunday. You can work Saturday, Sunday, or both days – whatever works for you! The jobs are easy to do and you will be working with others who can answer any questions. You'll learn a lot from watching the competing teams. There is free food and a chance to win worker gas card raffles! Please sign-up at either club or e-mail me at Darylstuppan@aol.com with the subject line of "AKC Volunteer".

Thanks! Daryl

Share Your Success Stories!

Milwaukee Dog Training Club members can now submit their show wins and trial achievements online! Visit <https://www.milwaukeeclubdog.com/submit-an-achievement> to have your accomplishments featured in our monthly newsletter. Whether it's a new title, ribbon, or personal milestone with your dog, we want to celebrate your hard work and dedication. Submit your achievements today and let the club community cheer on your success!



SHOW WINS AND BRAGS



Darlene Wilson and Daisy: CPE Speedway. On March 15th at Paws in Motion, Daisy earned her Elite title.

Leigh Anne Gerard and Missy: MDTC Achievement trial. 1st place in Beginning Novice B at the Achievement Trial with a 188 score.

SMALL RITUALS CAN TRANSFORM TRAINING.

Predictability isn't boring—it's comforting. Dogs thrive when they can anticipate what happens next. Consistent routines help them relax and learn because the world feels safe.

A predictable pattern—like starting each session with a simple cue or walk ritual—signals safety and focus. When your dog knows what to expect, their mind stays open to learning.

Create a “start-of-training” ritual—a simple cue, a breath, a short wait. Repeat it every time you train. Watch how quickly your dog settles into readiness.

Routine builds safety, and safety builds trust.



April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Indoor Training	2	3 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	4 No Classes
5 No Classes 	6 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	7 Flyball Training 6:30	8 Indoor Training	9	10 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	11 INDOOR AGILITY
12 Indoor Training Scent Hurdles 11:15 Room 2 NEW CLASS	13 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	14 Flyball Training 6:30	15 Indoor Training	16	17 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7- 8:30pm	18 INDOOR AGILITY
19 Indoor Training Rally 11:15	20 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	21 Flyball Training 6:30	22 Indoor Training	23	24 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7- 8:30pm	25 Indoor Agility
26 Indoor Training Scent Hurdles 11:15 Room 2	27 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	28 Flyball Training 6:30	29 ** BEGIN OUTDOOR Training 7PM Meeting After Class	30		

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	2 INDOOR AGILITY
3 ** BEGIN OUTDOOR TRAINING 9AM	4 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	5 Flyball Training 6:30	6 Outdoor Training 7PM	7	8 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	9 INDOOR AGILITY

Members please note, if you are not going to renew your membership, when you receive your notice please email your intentions to info@milwaukeekeedog.com
Thanks!



Not receiving your newsletter via email? Please contact the club's front desk. If you have an article, report or upcoming event you would like to see in future newsletters email Ellen at emkk@sbcglobal.net. Please attach any photos as JPG files (.jpg). The deadline for submissions is the LAST WEDNESDAY of every month. If you send an article after the last Wednesday of the month, it will go in the following month's newsletter, which means it will probably be outdated! No exceptions!

Our Facebook page is
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/milwaukeekeedogtrainingclub/>



Milwaukee Dog Training Club

Obedience  Agility  Flyball  Puppy Class

414-961-6163

www.milwaukeekeedog.com

Connecting dogs, their people, and the community.

Searching for a specific American Kennel Club event? *

Obedience

Hunting

Herding

Rally

Scent Work

Tracking

Agility

Fast CAT



The AKC has updated the online AKC Event Search & Results making it easier to find the right events for you and your dog. *

The search now works across all your devices whether you're on a desktop computer, tablet or smartphone. It also gives you more flexible ways to refine your search.

Here's how to find it. Go to American Kennel Club website at www.akc.org. Click on the Events tab at the top of the page.

At the bottom of the events page you will find a link to the Events Calendar. This will take you to the AKC Event Search & Results. *



"Babs" at Scentwork class.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Milwaukee Dog Training Club does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), breed, gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and clients.