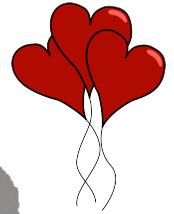




Obedience Views

FEBRUARY 2026



Clubhouse & Outdoor Training

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- 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

Once again, we had a fun-filled awards banquet, with about 85 people in attendance. Congratulations to Willie Mabone for being awarded Instructor of the Year and to Ellen Mack, Tracy McCarty, and Jenn Smith for receiving their Lifetime Memberships, recognizing 20 years of significant contributions to the club. All very well-deserved!

It was great to join many of you to celebrate everything the club has accomplished in the past year, including moving classes into the new building; implementing membership software; adopting a Code of Conduct; and starting to offer more workshops and special classes like the canine fitness workshop, the intro to rally class, and the scent work class. Of course, all of those endeavors are on top of holding many successful events and exhibitions, including our AKC Obedience Trial, two AKC Agility Course Tests, an achievement trial, the Sports Show, the State Fair, three parades...the list goes on! Thank you to everyone who generously contributed their time, effort, and/or dollars to making all of this happen. Your dedication to the club is what makes us so successful.

I also want to thank a few specific people who helped make the awards banquet happen: Peggy Brenner for working with the Pulaski Inn to plan the banquet; Sue Steinbach and Mari Pavleje for collecting raffle items and setting up the raffles (no small task, with the number of donations we received from all of you!), Kayden Rinzel for securing fantastic donations for raffle items and silent auction items, and Dawn Butler for ordering all of the plaques. And thank you to Kim Rinzel, Tracy McCarty, and Dawn Butler for presenting all of the plaques for the many, many titles that members earned with their dogs last year!

A couple other things to note:

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

We're starting to think about compiling a "club history," in anticipation of the club's 100 year anniversary in 2029. If you have pictures or stories to share, or you'd like to help with the process, please contact me or Daryl Ann Stuppan.

Stay warm out there!

Erin Ruppel

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 Mc Nerney
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

Director of Training Report

Cold Weather Reminders and More!

Congratulations to everyone who showed their dogs in 2025. Awards and titles were handed out at the annual Holiday Party on 1/17/25. Keep up the good work!

Please congratulate Willie Mabone on the Instructor of the Year Award! His commitment to helping dogs and people is unparalleled.

We are planning the Achievement Trial for March 22, 2026. See the newsletter for more information on the Trial details and the date of the demonstration session being set up ahead of time. Remember, this is a great chance to show off your dog's skills and advance through the classes. Registration for both events will be through the website.

We have another great workshop planned for Sunday, 3/15/26...Cat & Dog First Aid and CPR. Visit the website for details and registration.

It's winter in Wisconsin and it never hurts to see a few reminders about keeping your dog safe this time of year.

- **Winter wellness:** Has your pet had his/her preventive care exam (wellness exam) yet? Cold weather may worsen some medical conditions such as arthritis.
- **Know the limits:** Just like people, pets' cold tolerance can vary from pet to pet based on their coat, body fat stores, activity level, and health. Be aware of your pet's tolerance for cold weather, and adjust accordingly. You will probably need to shorten your dog's walks in very cold weather to protect you both from weather-associated health risks.
- **Provide choices:** Just like you, pets prefer comfortable sleeping places and may change their location based on their need for more or less warmth. Give them some safe options to allow them to vary their sleeping place to adjust to their needs.
- **Stay inside.** Cats and dogs should be kept inside during cold weather. Like people, cats and dogs are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia and should be kept inside.
- **Check the paws:** Check your dog's paws frequently for signs of cold-weather injury or damage, such as cracked paw pads or bleeding. During a walk, a sudden lameness may be due to an injury or may be due to ice accumulation between his/her toes. You may be able to reduce the chance of ice-ball accumulation by clipping the hair between your dog's toes.
- **Play dress-up:** If your dog has a short coat or seems bothered by the cold weather, consider a sweater or dog coat. Have several on hand, so you can use a dry sweater or coat each time your dog goes outside. Some pet owners also use booties to protect their dog's feet; if you choose to use them, make sure they fit properly.

Wipe down: During walks, your dog's feet, legs, and belly may pick up deicers, antifreeze, or other chemicals that could be toxic. When you get back inside, wipe down (or wash) your pet's feet, legs, and

DOT Report continued

belly to remove these chemicals and reduce the risk that your dog will be poisoned after (s)he licks them off of his/her feet or fur.

- **Stay home:** Hot cars are a known threat to pets, but cold cars also pose a significant risk to your pet's health. You're already familiar with how a car can rapidly cool down in cold weather; it becomes like a refrigerator, and can rapidly chill your pet. Limit car travel to only that which is necessary, and don't leave your pet unattended in the vehicle.



One more common-sense reminder...please pick up after your dog, even in the snow. If your dog has an accident at the indoor training site, the outside garbage can is the place for the trash rather than the indoor garbage cans. Just take the poop bag with you when you leave after class and toss it out.

~ Kim Rinzel

2026 ACHIEVEMENT TRIAL IS HERE!!!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 22nd at 9am at the indoor club, Cornell St. Entries will only be done through the link on the website this year. We will accept entries through Wednesday March 18th.

KNOW BEFORE YOU SHOW on Saturday, February 21, 2026

There will be a Q&A again this year for Novice and Beginner Novice handlers.

2pm for Beginner Novice

3:15 for Novice

Please do not bring your dog to the club for either session.



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

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

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

**Meeting Night is the last Wednesday of the month.

On meeting night only, all classes will be at 7pm in the following rooms:

Basic- outside in the shed. 7pm

Tricks class – Room 2. Open to everyone interested in trying some new skills. 7pm Door 3.

Obedience Practice – Open to everyone interested in practicing the regular skills – meeting in Room 1 at 7pm. All levels of classes will be mixed together, and we'll all be learning together.

The meeting will then be at 8pm in Room 2/3.

ALSO

Puppy class continues on Mondays at 6:30

Scentwork continues on Mondays at 6:45.

MILWAUKEE DOG TRAINING CLUB

General Membership Meeting

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

Beet Red Love Dog Bites

These homemade dog cookies are as vibrant as they are tasty AND healthy. These Beet Red Love Dog Treats will have your pup's tail wagging with joy, and they're super easy to make, too. Beets will add a natural red color, but it's also a healthy choice for your pup.

Ingredients:

1 can of sliced beets

2 cups whole wheat flour

2 tablespoons coconut oil

2 tablespoons peanut butter



Instructions: Preheat oven to 350°F

1. Separate the juice from the beets.
2. Puree the beets, peanut butter, and coconut oil together.
3. Slowly mix in the flour until you get a dough consistency.
4. Roll out the dough until it is about 1/4" thick.
5. Use a heart-shaped cookie cutter or knife to create bite-sized treats.
6. Place on a cookie sheet.
7. Bake in the oven for 25 minutes or until crisp.

Tips: When using canned beets, make sure there are no added sugars. Separate the juice from the beets, and save the juice for added moisture if needed and coloring for frosting.

- Use parchment paper on your cookie sheet for easy cleaning.
- Cook time depends on your oven and the thickness of your dough.
- Store treats in the refrigerator for up to 14 days or freeze treats for up to 6 months (if they last that long).

Dog-friendly and Healthy Frosting Recipe

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 tablespoons melted coconut oil
- 1 tablespoon honey

Instructions

1. In a bowl, combine the plain Greek yogurt, melted coconut oil, and honey.
2. Mix the ingredients thoroughly until the mixture is smooth.
3. Spread on to the cooled treats.

The Sports Show Is Coming!

The 2026 Journal Sentinel Sports Show is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, March 6-8 in the Expo building at State Fair Park. We'll be part of the Main Stage entertainment line-up again this year. That means we'll need plenty of people and dogs to demonstrate just what a trained dog can do, both in obedience and agility. The sign-up book will be at the Cornell location, so be sure to check it out and sign up for a shift or two in our booth. We'll also have a list of rules and guidelines for exhibiting available in the sign-up book.

After you check out the rules and guidelines, if you have any questions about whether your dog would be a good candidate for the Sports Show, please talk to your instructor. Mari Pavleje would be happy to answer any other questions you have. You can talk to her at training on Sundays and Wednesdays or call her (414 545-2733).

We're also looking for people to help us set up our booth on Thursday, March 5th, and take it down on Sunday the 8th. We will meet at the Cornell building around 9:00am, load up our vehicles, and head to the Fair Park. We're usually finished setting up our booth by noon or so. On Sunday, right after our last show, we load up everything from the stage area and take it back to the Cornell building. We can't take down our booth until the show ends which this year is 5:00pm. For both set-up and take-down, we are especially in need of people with trucks or minivans. If you can help us out on either of these days, please contact Mari.



Share Your Success Stories!

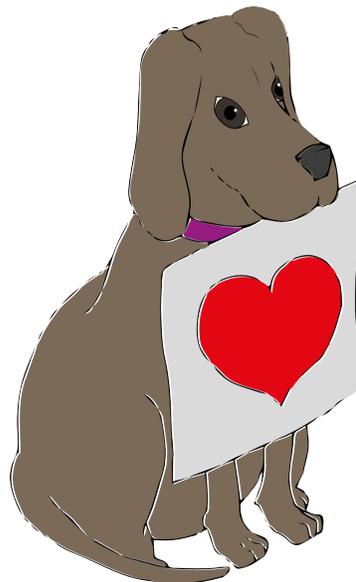
Milwaukee Dog Training Club members can now submit their show wins and trial achievements online! Visit <https://www.milwaukeedog.com/submit-an-achievement> to have your accomplishments featured in our monthly newsletter. Whether it's a new title, ribbon, or personal milestone with your dog, we want to celebrate your hard work and dedication. Submit your achievements today and let the club community cheer on your success! While you're on the site, don't forget to check out the other helpful information under Membership > Member Resources.



SHOW WINS AND BRAGS



Amelia Harsh and Lua: UKI agility: Lua got her Beginner International Dog (BID) and Speedstakes Beginner (SSB) UKI titles at Think Pawsitive on 1/17/2026



February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Indoor Training Scent Hurdles 11:15	2 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	3 Flyball Training 6:30	4 Indoor Training	5	6 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	7 INDOOR AGILITY
8 Indoor Training	9 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	10 Flyball Training 6:30	11 Indoor Training	12	13 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	14  INDOOR AGILITY
15 Indoor Training Scent Hurdles 11:15	16 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	17 Flyball Training 6:30	18 Indoor Training	19	20 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7- 8:30pm	21 INDOOR AGILITY Q & A Obed. TRIAL PREP 2PM-Beg Nov 3PM -Nov.
22 Indoor Training	23 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	24 Flyball Training 6:30	25 Indoor Training 7PM Member Meeting After Class 8pm	26	27 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7- 8:30pm	28 Indoor Agility

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Indoor Training Scent Hurdles 11:15am	2 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	3 Flyball Training 6:30	4 Indoor Training	5	6 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm SPORT SHOW	7 INDOOR AGILITY SPORT SHOW
8 Indoor Training SPORT SHOW	9 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:45	10 Flyball Training 6:30	11 Indoor Training	12	13 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	14 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@milwaukeeedog.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/milwaukeeedogtrainingclub/>



Milwaukee Dog Training Club

Obedience  Agility  Flyball  Puppy Class

414-961-6163

www.milwaukeeedog.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. *



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.