



Obedience Views

May 2026



Clubhouse & Outdoor Training

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Indoor Training

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President

Erin Ruppel

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Mari Pavleje

Secretary

Katie Schmidt

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Laura Lown

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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

Please be sure to attend the membership meeting at the outdoor club on May 27th at 8 pm. We have our annual election and need a quorum of 15%, which is over 40 members.

We're holding a neighborhood cleanup around the indoor club on Saturday, May 16th at 12 PM. Gloves, trash bags, grabber sticks, etc. will be provided. Please join us if you're able!

Now that training is outside for the summer, I'm looking forward to enjoying nicer weather and watching members and their dogs show off their obedience skills in our club Heel Downs. Looking forward to seeing you all on the field!

Erin Ruppel

THE LIVER LADY IS COMING TO MDTC

Mark your calendars! The Liver Lady is coming on Sunday May 31st to deliver her homemade treats!

To order, just visit <https://www.theliverlady.com/>

Please make sure the in comments to the seller, that you note this is for MDTC.

Orders are due by Friday May 29th. Happy training!

Lory Valley



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 Matthies

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

Spring is right around the corner!

The outdoor training season has begun! We made it through the winter. All classes are now meeting at the outdoor training field. All Classes will meet on Sundays at 9:00am and on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. The wind in your hair, the smell of new grass, the dogs feeling squirrely... So many things to look forward to!

The next new class begins on Sunday, 5/31/26. There may be some shifting around at that time. Please check with your instructors about moving to a new class.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when training outside:

- Please pick up after your dog right away. There are garbage cans for disposal on the field.
- When entering or exiting the training field, watch for classes still in session. Please walk around a class rather than through a class.
- Bring water for your dog every time you train. Keep the water at room temperature (not too hot, not too cold). Dogs get thirsty even on cool days. Bring water for yourself, as well!
- Handlers need to wear closed-toe shoes on the training field. Long pants are highly recommended. Keep a sweatshirt or jacket in your car. The field is SO windy and the temperature is cooler by the lake.
- The classes will train in all kinds of weather (even if it is raining). Classes are only canceled if there is a threat of lightning. Our goal is to have dogs that are connected to their handlers under all conditions (not just on sunny days). If you are wondering about class cancellations, check the Facebook page or wait for a text from our alert system. Be sure you are registered in the new database so we can get those texts to you! Check with the membership team for help getting started.

We will start running the monthly Heel-Down competitions again in early May. For those handlers unfamiliar with this event, it is an informal competition within the Club to demonstrate your dog's obedience skills. This event happens monthly, culminating in a competition among all of the monthly winners to find the annual winner. We will be having two events per month (May-Oct), one on a Sunday and one on a Wednesday. You may enter as often as you like but you can only win once per season. It is a fun chance to show off! Start working on your heeling skills so that you are ready to hit the ground running when we start up again! The first Heel Down of the season will be on 5/17/26, right after regular training. ALL are welcome.



DOT continued

April showers bring May flowers—and the start of mosquito season! Make sure your pet is on heartworm preventive medication, as well as a flea and tick control program. Ask your vet to recommend a plan designed specifically for your pet.

One last important thing – Please remember when you are training (either indoors or outdoors) your first priority is your dog. A cell phone is not a training tool and should not be used while in class. If you receive a call during class, simply step out of class to take the call. Leaving your dog unsupervised while chatting on the phone is unsafe. Thanks for keeping you, your dog and others safe while training.

Have a great start to spring training!

~ *Kim Rinzel*

KEEPING YOUR DOG SAFE DURING TICK SEASON

There are at least 90 species of ticks in the U.S. One of the deadliest varieties is the black-legged tick, also known as the “deer tick.” In some parts of the country, up to 15% of these arachnids can transmit Lyme disease, which can lead to cardiac, neurological, and urinary complications in dogs.

Ticks can survive months without feeding on a host’s blood. They’re typically found in wooded areas littered with dead leaves, or wood piles, especially in moist areas or near bodies of water. They’re also common after periods of heavy rainfall. During the winter, they burrow for insulation, where they enter a period of low energy. Then, around springtime or any days when the weather gets warmer, they exit their dormant period and look for hosts.

Nature relies on frigid winters to cull the tick population — at least to some extent. During especially colder seasons, up to 20% of a local tick population could die off. As records indicate warmer and warmer years, ticks also come out sooner. Since not as many ticks were culled during the winter, there could be more once temperature conditions are ideal for them to thrive.

No matter where you live, you should regularly examine your dog for ticks after long periods of being outdoors. But there’s no need to panic if you find one or several. If caught early, you can comb the tick out of your dog’s fur, but be sure to dispose of it with rubbing alcohol. You don’t want it finding its way back to your dog — or you. If you find a tick that has attached itself to your dog, there’s usually no need to worry. To safely remove the tick:

1. Part your dog’s fur with a comb to zero in on the tick.
2. Grasp the tick’s head with tweezers, getting as close to the skin as possible.
3. Gently pull in a straight, outward motion.
4. Dispose of the tick.
5. Pat the tick bite with a disinfectant using a simple saline solution.



Flea-and-tick season varies from year to year, with geographic location, weather conditions, and temperature being key contributors. But, regardless of where you live, prevention is key to keeping your dog from contracting flea-and-tick-borne diseases. By consulting your dog’s veterinarian, you can implement a well-rounded treatment plan that considers your pet’s age, immune system’s strength, and activity level.

THE DOG AGING PROJECT

We recently received this request to share information about this nation-wide research study with our membership. We did some research of our own, and the Board decided that we would share it with you. It's a legitimate request, but the club is not making any recommendation to participate or not; it's totally up to you. Also, the club is not involved with the study at all except to pass the request on to you. If you have any questions about the study, you can direct them to Betsy Nixon (see below).

Hello,

I am with the Dog Aging Project [1], a research collaboration studying canine aging with over 55,000 dogs enrolled in the observational study. We were recently featured on 60 Minutes with Anderson Cooper [2], where they talked about the work we are doing, including the Test of Rapamycin in Aging Dogs [3](TRIAD) [3], a clinical trial to evaluate the impact of the drug, rapamycin, on health-span and lifespan in aging dogs.

TRIAD has specific eligibility criteria including that a dog must be 7 years or older, weigh between 44 and 120 pounds, be spayed or neutered, and in overall good health. Participants are required to bring their dog to a clinical trial site for an exam seven times over three years. Clinical trial sites are located throughout the U.S. (see map [3]), including Madison, WI.

As of today, TRIAD has 267 dogs enrolled in the clinical trial, with a goal of 580. To date, 52 have completed their three-year participation, providing valuable data for researchers. To reach our enrollment goal, we need help getting the word out to more potential participants, and we wanted to ask if you could help us do that.

Would you be willing to share information with your members, volunteers, and communities? To make it easier, we have downloadable resources [4], including social media posts, flyers, and templates for newsletter articles, blog, and email blasts. You can also share the Dog Aging Project's posts on any social media platform. If you have shared in the past, thank you! We hope you will share again to help us continue to find new participants in your area.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to talk further. Thanks in advance for supporting this study so we can better understand how to help our furry family members live healthier, longer lives!

Betsy Nixon | Partnerships and Recruitment | Dog Aging Project
School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Science
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
bnixon64@tamu.edu | Main (979) 845-2844 | Ofc (979) 458-2764 dogagingproject.org [5]

Links:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://dogagingproject.org/;!!KwNVnqRv!Ekn6lcT9myJe-hV9eVhKDoLk3afZRRj9JJJa_Q4RKC_PXpIMrBI-EbS8U9Rf_uRRgH2A3btysnutwhL9XjzcjuAjXkivJ\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://dogagingproject.org/;!!KwNVnqRv!Ekn6lcT9myJe-hV9eVhKDoLk3afZRRj9JJJa_Q4RKC_PXpIMrBI-EbS8U9Rf_uRRgH2A3btysnutwhL9XjzcjuAjXkivJ$)

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/studying-dog-aging-brains-longevity-60-minutes/>

<https://dogagingproject.org/triad>

[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://dogagingproject.org/project-resources;!!KwNVnqRv!Ekn6lcT9myJe-hV9eVhKDoLk3afZRRj9JJJa_Q4RKC_PXpIMrBI-EbS8U9Rf_uRRgH2A3btysnutwhL9XjzcjuKoEFtic\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://dogagingproject.org/project-resources;!!KwNVnqRv!Ekn6lcT9myJe-hV9eVhKDoLk3afZRRj9JJJa_Q4RKC_PXpIMrBI-EbS8U9Rf_uRRgH2A3btysnutwhL9XjzcjuKoEFtic$)

<https://dogagingproject.org/>

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.milwaukeeedog.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



Sabrina Burgett and River- AKC Rally. Entered the Cudahy Kennel Club trial on 4/11/25 & 4/12/25.
River earned the Rally Novice title (RN) and Rally Intermediate 1st leg.

Happy Mother's Day



May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7-8:30pm	2 INDOOR AGILITY
3 Outdoor Training 9am Rally 11:15	4 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	5 Flyball Training 6:30	6 Outdoor Training 7pm	7	8 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7-8:30pm	9 INDOOR AGILITY
10 Outdoor Training 9am Scent Hurdles 11:15 Social Sunday	11 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	12 Flyball Training 6:30	13 Outdoor Training 7pm	14	15 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7-8:30pm	16 INDOOR AGILITY
17 Outdoor Training 9am Rally 11:15	18 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm	19 Flyball Training 6:30	20 Outdoor Training 7pm	21	22 Holiday Weekend No Classes	23 Holiday Weekend No Classes
24 Holiday Weekend No Classes	25 Memorial Day No Classes	26 Flyball Training 6:30	27 Outdoor Training 7PM Meeting After Class VOTE!	28	29 Agility 1 5:30-7pm Agility2 7-8:30pm	30 INDOOR AGILITY
31 Outdoor Training 9am Rally 11:15						

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	2 Flyball Training 6:30	3 Outdoor Training 7PM	4	5 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	6 INDOOR AGILITY
7 OUTDOOR TRAINING 9AM Scent Hurdles 11:15	8 Indoor Puppy Class 6:30pm Scentwork 6:30	9 Flyball Training 6:30	10 Outdoor Training 7PM	11	12 Agility 1 - 5:30 pm Agility2 -7 pm	13 * OUTDOOR AGILITY BEGINS

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? *

Obedienc

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. *



Puppies "Jixii" and "Weller"

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.