

Ruff Notes

March 2026



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March 2026 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to take a moment and thank our current Board Members for their efforts. We volunteer because we are dedicated to providing opportunities for our members and the community surrounding us to bond with our dogs in a variety of venues.

The Board is putting together a list of volunteer opportunities of all levels. We hope that you will review this and look for where your skills will fit to further our efforts.

One Board Member that has gone above and beyond recently is Michael Bashista. He worked tirelessly to find a new venue for our April Scent Work Trial. Unfortunately, even Michael could not save the April trial. We know all the entrants are disappointed that we had to cancel. Know that Michael will continue to search for a replacement location for next year. In the meantime, we will still be able to hold our November Scent Trial. If you see Michael, thank him for all he does for the club.

The February Blast from the Past of MBDTC

In the early 1970s, scent hurdle competition originated in Southern California. Teams of 4 dogs raced over 4 hurdles, identify and retrieve their handler's dumbbell and return it to their handler. I don't know the year these pictures are from, but MBDTC held Scent Hurdle trials. We still have the wooden hurdles in our container at the fairgrounds. Scent Hurdles evolved into Flyball today. Craig Simberg and Tom have been successful participants in this sport.



Hug your dogs and cherish every minute you are privileged to have them with you!

Terri Gregson, President



Monterey Bay Dog Training Club, Inc.

Our guest speaker will be Jill Kessler-Miller, M.S.,CPDT-KA
Expert Witness in Dogs

Jill has trained, handled, and titled in Conformation, Obedience, Schutzhund, Agility, Rally, Barnhunt, Scentwork, and Nose work. She is an AKC Scentwork Judge and is knowledgeable in dog behavior, animal rescue work, dog aggression, and other animal related topics.

Ruff says "Bring your favorite finger food to share".

Bring your questions
to this great meeting

March 14, 2026

2:00 PM

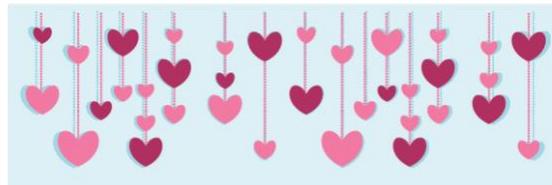
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Gifts from the Heart

This year our donation of over \$1,000 from the
Holiday Photos was given to
Dentistry for Animals
Dr. Judy Force DVM, FAVD, DAVDC and her staff will put it
to good use!

For the past 20+years in memory of Marilyn Runyan, a long-time member, the Monterey Bay Dog Training Club has made a monetary donation to a local Veterinarian Clinic or Foundation on behalf of a Recipient/Pet Owner as our "Gifts from the Heart Project". In the past our donations have paid for services, lab work, surgery, and medicines. Our donation is usually presented around Valentine's Day.



April Scent Work Trials Cancelled

After a few surprises and multiple attempts to locate a new site, the trials were cancelled. The major reason was the surprise loss of the Watsonville Elks Club. The Santa Cruz Elks, after multiple yes and no to availability, the final answer was no. Other than the AKC application fees, no other funds were committed.

At least one judge had the opportunity to be invited to another trial the same weekend. It was decided to cancel and release the other judges.

The search is on for a site for our Nov. 15 trial. We could add Nov. 14 if a large site was available. A one-day trial can be held in a small facility. A weekend trial requires multiple large and small rooms with plenty of parking. Most likely we will hold a one-day trial. Judge Suzanne Edholm has the date on her calendar.

A key element securing a trial site location is if there is a "champion" working or teaching or is a MBDTTC member associated with the facility. Rich Torres was the Club's champion at the Watsonville Elks Lodge.

All suggestions are welcome. Email Michael Bashista at michael@bashista.com. The AKC requires the submission of the application 18 weeks before an event, which is mid-July.

I am optimistic we will have the Nov. trial.

*Michael Bashista
Dir. of Matches and Trials*

Congratulations New CGCs! *from Lynn Schmitt, CGC Test Chair*

Congratulations to these dogs and handlers who earned their CGC titles. Well done all!



Westley



Yoshey



Trane



BRAGS and CONGRATULATIONS!



Soleil got to hunt for rats in Barn Hunt and loves this new game. She found both rats in one of her Open runs for a 3rd place finish and a total of 8 rats in Crazy 8s between 2 runs (5 and 3 respectively) for a total of 120 points if my math is correct. She earned 3rd place in her first Crazy 8s run ever with her 5 rats. Good rat dog!!! She was thinking about getting a new handler after her first Open run when I blurt alerted. Oops. Sorry Soleil. Good thing she loves me. I am also enjoying this new game. Learning the rules, meeting new people and crossing paths with people from other dogs sports where we compete.



My dogs have done it again. And in spectacular fashion!!! We went to the well run MBASWC scent work trial and had the best time.

Rhyme earned her first 2 detective Qs with a 2nd and 3rd place. This was her first time running detective and I never thought we would come home with a Q, let alone 2 with placements. She also earned her first Master interior Q with a 1st place and another Master Exterior, also with a placement.



Soleil got to play as well and earned 3 out of 4 Qs in Excellent with 2 placements. So proud of her, she works so hard for me.



More Nose Work excitement. Over the weekend of Feb 20th, **Rhyme** earned a leg in her first NW3 and **Soleil** earned her Level 1 Interior title. My dogs bring me so much joy with their sniffing skills. So much fun to go to the line with both..... (Michelle Pressel)



We had a couple of great weekends at Scent Work Trials:

On Feb. 7 we went to Lodi for the Norcal GRC Trial, **Rainy** picked up her 5th Detective leg. **Eddie** got 3 legs in Advanced and finished his Adv. Buried title.

Then on the 14th at the MBASWC Trial in Pacific Grove, **Rainy** picked up her 6th Detective leg and repeated that on the 15th for her 7th leg. **Eddie** Q'd in all 4 Adv. elements to finish Interior, Containers & Exterior and his overall SWA title!!..... (Linda Lang)





More **BRAGS** and **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Lacie and I completed our Excellent Handler Discrimination title with a third place at the MBASWC trial 2/15/26. (Reena Walton)



Isa Rally Advanced B. title - 100, 99 & 90 (Mom blew a sign 🐶)..... (Karen Azevedo)



Trane passed his CGC at the Club's test on February 23rd..... (Michael Bashista)



Happy Birthday Wishes



3/5/2017	9	Austin	Miniature Schnauzer	Imo Lawton
3/10/2014	12	Kiara	Labrador Retriever	Michael & Marion Bashista
3/10/2021	5	Hannah	Doberman Pinscher	Elizabeth Manning
3/14/2020	6	Connor	Dalmatian	Judy Force

** If we've missed someone or your information needs to be updated, please contact Marion Bashista at marionb@bashista.com with your changes. Thanks!

3/4	Tammy Philbin
3/23	Yvette Cook





San Lorenzo Dog Training Club, Inc.

Sunday, March 29, 2026

All-Breed Obedience "OC" & Rally "RC" Matches

LOCATION: CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY, Music-Business Peristyle Lawn - 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd, Hayward. From Hwy 880 in Hayward, take the Jackson Street exit eastbound. Turn right at first stop light onto Santa Clara which becomes Harder Rd. Follow to Cal State campus. Left on Old Hilary Road, park in Lot K (Theatre) at the rear of the campus. **PARKING** is free on weekends. **NO DRIVING ONTO THE GROUNDS ALLOWED AT ANY TIME.** Be prepared to haul your equipment between the parking lot and the match site. Match will be held rain or shine. Shade is limited – please bring your own if possible.

OBEDIENCE CLASSES: ● BEGINNER NOVICE (1 ring) ● NOVICE (2 rings) ● OPEN (2 rings) ● UTILITY (2 rings)

RALLY CLASSES: ● RALLY NOVICE ● INTERMEDIATE ● ADVANCED ● EXCELLENT ● MASTER ● CHOICE
There will be two rally rings, with Novice/Int/Adv in one ring, Exc/Master/Choice in second ring, subject to change after close of pre-entries. Rally jump height divisions are 4" 8" 12" 16". See AKC Rally Regulations.

OBEDIENCE & RALLY RULES: Mixed and rare breeds welcome. Entries may be limited if necessary. Judges: To be announced. Toys and food are permitted. Collars should comply with AKC regulations. No prong or electric collars allowed. Corrections limited to verbal corrections or gently guiding the dog. Exercises may be repeated at Judge's discretion.

PRE-ENTRY FEES: Fees for entries received by **TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026** are **\$18.00** for first entry of a dog and **\$12.00** for each additional entry for same dog. **NO REFUNDS** will be made after March 11.

Raffle!

Lots of great prizes
will be available on our
raffle table.

LATE AND DAY-OF-MATCH ENTRY: Entries received after March 11 are \$20.00 first entry and \$15.00 each additional class same dog. Limited day-of-match entries will be allowed only if **SPACE IS AVAILABLE**. Sign up between 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Day-of-match entries to run after pre-entries.

MAIL ENTRIES TO: Steve Stern, SLDTC Match Secretary, PO Box 3522, San Leandro, CA 94578-0522. Make checks payable to "SLDTC." For more information, contact Steve at (510) 483-4546 (leave a message) or email steve_stern@hotmail.com.

JUDGING SCHEDULES with armband number will be emailed approximately March 25th to all entrants specifying an email address on their entry form. You may log onto www.sanlorenzodogtraining.org to download the schedule, however, entry lists will NOT be published online for protection of your privacy. You may also request a printed copy to be mailed to you by including a #10 SSAE (stamped, self-addressed envelope) and checking the box on bottom of the entry form. Judging time will be announced in judging schedule.

STEWARDS: Half-day stewards will receive one free entry. Full-day stewards will receive two free entries. All stewards will be given time to work their dogs. If you are interested in stewarding, please contact Jackie Phillips via email Jackie@thesocialpet.com. Deadline is February 27, 2026 for steward volunteers to receive free entry.



PRE-ENTRIES should be received by Thursday, March 11, 2026. Please mail to Steve Stern, PO Box 3522, San Leandro, CA 94578-0522. Make checks payable to SLDTC. Please print legibly. Entries received after March 11 should include day-of-match fees.

Owner's Name				Phone ()							
Address				E-Mail							
City-State-Zip				Obedience Classes				Rally Classes			
Pre-entry fees \$18 first entry for a dog, \$12 ea add'l entry same dog.				BN NOV OPEN* UTILITY*				RN RI RA* RE* RM* RC			
				*Specify jump height for Open & Utility.				*Circle rally hgt division for Adv/Exc/Mas			
Dog	Breed of Dog	Sex	Dog's Call Name	Class	Class	Class	OJump Ht	RClass	RClass	RClass	RJump Ht
#1											4" 8" 12" 16"
#2											4" 8" 12" 16"
#3											4" 8" 12" 16"

MAILED JUDGING SCHEDULE – Check box and include #10 size Stamped, Self-Addressed envelope with entry form to receive judging schedule in mail.

SAN LORENZO DOG TRAINING CLUB, INC. - OBEDIENCE & RALLY MATCH - SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026. I agree to hold the San Lorenzo Dog Training Club, its members, officers, match secretary and helpers, and Cal State University East Bay, blameless from loss or injury to any person or things caused by any act at this function. I assume full responsibility and liability of the dog(s) I enter and certify that they are current on all vaccination shots.

■ Signature _____ Date _____ Amt Enclosed \$ _____

For Club use only: Received Date: _____ Check # _____ Armband # _____



WESTOVER DOG TRAINING
PRIVATE LESSONS

SUSAN WESTOVER
jswestover@earthlink.net

408-857-7715




**WANT A GOOD DOG?
WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

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OBEDIENCE INSTRUCTOR:
Monterey Bay Dog Training Club, Inc.
AKC Obedience Judge Emeritus

Kari-On
Trainer/Instructor



Dorothy Mash
408-710-8405



SHADOWLEND'S

Obedience - Rally - Conformation
Trainer

Carol S. T. Davis
831-722-0267