

Ruff Notes

September 2026

Monterey Bay
Dog Training Club, Inc.



President: Terri Gregson gregsons4@sbcglobal.net

Editor: Marion Bashista marionb@bashista.com

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September 2026 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



September 19th is our annual dog friendly picnic and this year we are celebrating the club's 60th birthday! Bring yourself, your dog, a picnic lunch and be ready to have some fun!

Reena is bringing three jumps and Diana is bringing two small tunnels.

What can you bring to add to our obstacle course?

Michael and Marion are handling the tic tac toe game and the hot dog dunk for the dogs. I am bringing the spoons and potatoes for the on-leash relay. Luane is coming with her added games; they were a wonderful hit last year!

We have prizes for the dogs and snacks for the handlers. The best part of the picnic is you choose your level of participation. All levels of abilities can join in and have fun. If something looks like your dog will enjoy the game come and join in. If not, feel free to just spectate.



I am looking for someone to organize our October annual visit to Sunshine Villa, assisted living facility in Santa Cruz. We can change what and how we do our demonstration – all new ideas are welcome. The residents enjoy our visit and those who can are encouraged to bring their well-behaved dogs to the residents of Memory Care. If you know of any other organization that would be interested in having our dogs visit their facility, let us know and we can see about accommodating them. We recognize that as a club it is good for us to get out there and be visible!



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

Terri Gregson, President

Monterey Bay Dog Training Club

Saturday, September 19th

Picnic with our dogs at Scott Park, Watsonville

3101 Freedom Blvd,
Watsonville, CA.

Bring your own lunch and join us at the covered picnic area.

Club will provide water and a cake.

Dog games and lots of fun.

12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Celebrating 60 years!

Would your
dog dive for a
hot dog in a
bowl?



Have you ever played
potato relay?



Calling All Shutterbugs!!



We need a Volunteer or two to take pictures of the upcoming Annual September Picnic on Saturday September 19th.

We are celebrating our 60th Anniversary with a cake and will have lots of games for our pups! You can use your camera or phone to document the games, meeting, and of course, our special cake.

Please let Candice McLaren or Diana Galvan know if you plan to attend and can take pictures.



BRAGS and CONGRATULATIONS!



We have not a single brag this month. I think this might be a first!

Ruff and I would like to congratulate all members and their canine companions on all their accomplishments to date.

Annual Awards Update



It's not too early to start thinking about the MBDTC annual awards. The Holiday Awards Luncheon is planned for Saturday, December 19, at the Watsonville Elks' Lodge.

If your dog earns a new AKC title beginning November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026, you are eligible to receive a personalized Christmas ornament with your dog's photo and any titles earned listed on the back. (Examples below.)



Starting September, Awards Chair Denise Weatherwax will begin sending surveys to collect info about titles and nominations for the Good Sportsmanship and Phoebus Awards.

Mark your calendars and watch your email for more information.

Nov 14-15 Scent Work Trials Premium



The Premium can be downloaded from the Club's Home and Events pages at <https://montereybaydog.org/> and at AKC's Events search at <https://webapps.akc.org/event-search/>.

The opening date to enter is October 1.

To volunteer, contact Michael B. at michael@bashista.com. Volunteers get to run before the other exhibitors, receive lunch, and are deeply appreciated.





Happy Birthday Wishes



9/5/2016	10	China	Labrador Retriever	Tammy Philbin
9/9/2022	4	Billy	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	June Laman
9/18/2020	6	Holly	Shetland Sheepdog	Denise Weatherwax
9/25/2023	3	Trane	Labrador Retriever	Michael & Marion Bashista
9/25/2018	8	Jamie	Shetland Sheepdog	Reena Walton
9/30/2015	11	Sky	Longhair Dachshund	Wendy Hess

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

9/1	Reena Walton
9/14	Karen Azevedo
9/16	Audrey Lanas
9/17	Carol Canaris
9/18	Marlene Majewska
9/19	Marion Bashista





Upcoming Club Fun Events





Holiday Photos
October, Date to be determined



November 7
Thanksgiving
General Meeting



December 19 Awards Luncheon and Silent Auction



End of October



Sunshine Villa demo and costume party







Onward and Upward - 60 Years

MONTEREY BAY'S OWN THREE RING CIRCUS!!

Submitted by Luane Vidak

In case you missed it! You missed the Greatest Show on Earth, MBDTC style.

An obedience-rally event is sort like a three-ring Circus. You have the rings, the show stopping animal acts, the RING MASTER (Michael Bashista) and CHIEF RING STEWARD (Linda Lang), and a crew of ROUSTABOUTS that put the whole thing together.

Set-up day is crawling with activity. The CARAVAN of vehicles pulls in, the main wagon (equipment trailer) is delivered by TRANSPORTATION headed up by Judy and Craig Simberg. The vehicles unload and club roustabouts Dale Noble, Linda Lang, Michael Bashista, Robert Giattino, Marc Manning, Carol Davis, Karen Azavedo, Imo Lawton, Michelle Pressel, Bunny Jamal jump out and start working: They unload equip, set up rings with precision, deliver all manner of ring equipment, set up the big top tents (well they are only canopies, but close.) When all the work finished, they all drive home, set the alarm for a very early wake-up and start over.....again.

Way before judging starts on trial day, site activity sees the "MAIN OFFICE" of the event open for business. This table is staffed by TRIAL SECRETARY, Karey Krauter. Her role is to prepare all AKC paperwork required of MB to present the event. One important aspect is that our exhibitors' dogs' performances are duly credited by AKC as a result.

By now our worker-bee members are setting up their personal equipment for their dogs' comfort, while getting to their last-minute chores. Some folks work to complete setting up our Midway: RAFFLE: Audry Lanas and Irene Fukutomi set up the Raffle booth filled with wonderful gifts offered by members. Candice McLaren helped earlier in the month to fill and decorate all those eye-catching pieces. COFFEE and sweets table is set up; At the AWARDS TABLE Carol Davis busies herself with setting the display showcasing the SPECIAL awards offered by members, as well as organizing the ribbons and ring awards. Later in the day, the LUNCH STATION materializes under the careful coordination of Candice McLaren. Each lunch bag is specially prepared with a MBDTC decorated label so one's lunch is easy to find even though the order was placed weeks earlier. After a quick lunch break, it's back to the rings.

Back to the rings for a bunch of folks as RING STEWARDS. Linda Lang, Chief Ring Steward, has assumed that responsibility for a long time. Rings don't run without stewards. Unlike a high wire walker, obedience judges are not a one-man act.

One particular ring was stewarded solo all day long by Stewart Gibson...it's a ring offered by the club to exhibitors to do a warmup practice before entering the ring for judging. The rest of the ring stewards are assigned to the specific judges. This year the stewards were: Rich Torres, Denise Panzich, Luane Vidak, Judy Sauve, Dorothy Mash, Liz Manning, Sara Mattson, Marion Bashista, Michael Bashista Christina Binns, Linda Giattino, and Dale Noble.

When it's officially over for the day, our team of roustabouts swells to include stewards and other members including Janet Wolverton and Denise Weathersax join in to gather all items to a central place to reload into the equipment trailer...and it goes back home to Cathy Vanderbilt's place.

Just like a real three ring circus.....it's fun, It's tiring, but the collaborative effort seems to make every trial worthwhile.

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PS: Members...The real nitty gritty will follow. I had asked Michael and Linda L to offer material for this piece. They have put the details to paper and I could not do justice to the information, so I'll send this along as a three-piece unit to include the details it takes to run our three-ring circus! LV

Trial Chair's Tasks Michael Bashista, Trial Chairman 8/2026



If the trial happened the prior year, the corresponding date for the next year is reserved for us. But the application with fee must be submitted 18 weeks before the event. Most of the information can be completed later.

Fortunately, Karey Krauter has annually committed to be our secretary. It's a lot of work and requires a lot of AKC knowledge. The most difficult task for the trial chair is to find judges. It is best to get commitments two years out. Obedience is not a growth sport and judges are aging out. Judges are traveling greater distances. You won't find a hotel for less than \$200. The chair makes the reservations and learns of any special requests. (Like, I am bringing a dog and need to be on the bottom floor.)

The location is important. Fortunately, our trials are outdoors. But don't overlook having enough parking. The chair relies heavily on club members taking the role of Awards Chair and Chief Ring Steward. And who orders all those ribbons? And raffle coordinators and "lunch lady" are preparing weeks before the trials.

The Event Chair is responsible for the Premium. This includes what classes the judges will be assigned and all the awards. We have quite a few.

After the above information is gathered and a lot of AKC required "boilerplate" is added, the Premium is posted. After the closing date, the chair and secretary work closely to prepare the catalog. For our trials, there is a week between close and trial date.

During the trial the chair is available for whatever might arise. There is an Event Committee comprised of 5 club members. The committee's role is to meet if an incident involving handlers and dogs occurs outside the ring. There are fewer tasks after the trial is over. Before the judges leave, the chair checks with how the day went and pays them.

Writing this piece two days after the trial, there's informal sharing with the volunteers on how the trial went. The search for 2027 and 2028 judges continues.

What our members should know is, our club's commitment to the sport supersedes making a profit every year.

Two Days in the Life of a Trial

Linda Lang, Chief Ring Steward 8/2026

There is a ton of prep work done many months before an event is put on, but the day before and the day of the event require a lot of people to help. The day before our Trial, the trailer gets towed from its storage place out to the event site where we start to unload everything, check out the site and current grass conditions to determine where to set out rings. Then comes the measuring of the 40 X 50 rings for obedience and 40 X 60 rings for rally. We use calculations on the diagonal for each ring to get the rings square and then start putting in step-in stakes every 10' and then the ring tape.



Once we know where each ring will be, we now start taking all the equipment that will be needed for each ring to the appropriate ring including the canopy, table, easel, white board and jumps, it's great to have about 10 people to share the load. We also set up canopies for the Raffle tables, Awards table, and the Trial Secretary's table, all the canopies need to be staked with everything placed underneath them to keep everything as dry as possible. The day of the Trial several people show up at 6:00 to get the last items to each of the rings including stewards boxes, dry off things that are wet, get the ring numbers up, set up the Awards ribbons and toys along with Special Awards, and bring in coffee and donuts. Just after 7:00 is when our stewards start showing up to their rings to help the judge with jumps, get paperwork sorted and start checking people in. We need at least 3 stewards per ring with a floater in case someone needs a break. After the day of judging then everything needs to be loaded into the trailer again. It is always great to have at least 10 people to take everything down and over to the trailer. Then the Organizer in the trailer directs where things go. It is a lot of work, but always so rewarding to put on an event and get positive feedback from the exhibitors.



UCDAVIS
VETERINARY MEDICINE

2025 Scholarship Recipient



Chris Han

cjhan@ucdavis.edu

Education

Monterey High
Monterey, CA

BS, Animal Science
UC Davis

DVM, Class of 2026
UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Scholastic and Prior Honors

Honors List

Monterey Bay Dog Training Club Scholarship

Dear Donors,

I am sincerely honored to be the recipient of the Monterey Bay Dog Training Club Scholarship. Thank you for your generous support, which plays a meaningful role in helping me pursue my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. As someone with a deep passion for canine medicine and welfare, this scholarship feels especially personal and encouraging.

My veterinary interests focus on companion animal medicine with a special emphasis on behavior, preventative medicine, and strengthening the human-animal bond. I hope to work in a clinical setting that prioritizes both physical and behavioral wellness, while also collaborating with rescue organizations and training professionals to support adoptability and long-term success in the home. I am particularly interested in reducing surrender rates by addressing behavioral challenges through early intervention and owner education.

This scholarship relieves a portion of the financial burden of veterinary school and allows me to focus more fully on my education, clinical experiences, and volunteer commitments. It has also reinforced my commitment to becoming a veterinarian who not only treats animals medically but also advocates for their emotional well-being. I believe every dog deserves compassionate, informed care—both in clinics and at home—and I hope to be part of a future that ensures that for more animals.

Thank you again for your generosity and for investing in the next generation of veterinary professionals. I am truly grateful and inspired by your support.

Sincerely,
Chris Han

Office of Advancement | 530 752 7024 | vetmed.ucdavis.edu



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

PH: 831.724.6657
E:luanemv@sbcglobal.net

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

Kari-On
Trainer/Instructor



Dorothy Mash
408-710-8405



SHADOWLENDs
Obedience - Rally - Conformation
Trainer

Carol S. T. Davis
831-722-0267