

Key City Kennel Club PUPPY PUDDLES MAY 2021



Officers:

President: Lori Espeland Vice President: Pete Otterness
Treasurer: Lynn Davey Secretary: Megan Hancock

Board members: Alexis Smith, Brian Carstensen, Sue Erickson,
Bobbie Nuytten, Betsy Norland

Monthly Meeting

May 18, 2021

IN-PERSON MEETING

at the Training Center

Board Meeting 6:00pm

Club Meeting 7:30pm

Add to the newsletter!

Please e-mail your ideas,
stories, pictures, or newsletter
corrections to:
puppypuddlesnews@gmail.com

Hybrid Meeting in May

The May meeting will be held in-person at the training center, and also virtually. If you attend the meeting at the TC, please bring your own chair. Masks and social distancing are required.

The Board meeting for May will start 30 minutes early (at 6:00) to accomodate trailer loading for the show at 7:00.

The information needed to attend the KCKC general meeting virtually at 7:25 p.m. on May 18th will be sent through email.

CGC Testing

CGC testing is being planned for May 15 at the training center, this testing will also include trick testing. Testing will be from 11:30am-2:00pm, please do not come early as there is a basic class in session before this. Please let Lynn know if you would be able to volunteer to help with testing.

The cost of taking the test is \$5.00 per dog tested.

Sign-up is required if you are planning on taking the CGC. To sign up or volunteer to help, please contact Lynn by phone: 507-344-1159 or by email: ldavey470@gmail.com

May Show trailer loading

We will be loading the trailer for the show on May 18th at 7:00pm (just before the monthly membership meeting). **The more people we have, the easier things are and the faster it gets done!**

May Show

KCKC's All Breed Show, Obedience and Rally Trials are just around the corner and if you are not planning on showing but still want to be a part of the action, please contact the show committee for information on volunteering! The help is always greatly appreciated. Please remember that this event is a main money-maker for the club and helps us fund our training center; we as a club need all of our members to pitch in and make it a smooth running experience.

Set up for the show will begin Thursday May 27th, since we need to slow Bruce down a bit after his recent surgery, anyone who can help set up on Thursday is welcome! Work will start around 9:30, but please come when you can. Tear down for the show will commence at the end of the show on May 30th, the volunteers that have been at the show since Thursday will be exhausted and need your help, please stick around to take down and pack up if you are able.

Spring Show planning is definitely a challenge this year, and may look a bit different than in the past, but please let Larry, Sue, or Gladys know if you are able to help in Conformation, Obedience, or Rally!

Conformation:

Larry Blaine – webmaster@keycitykennelclub.org

Obedience:

Sue Erickson – 507-388-3282

Rally:

Gladys Berlin – 507-304-2958

St. Peter demo - Key City Kennel Club

On Monday June 7th at 10:30am, Key City Kennel Club will be holding a demo in St. Peter at the Gorman Part Patio. If anyone is able or interested in volunteering to show the public a first hand look at training for obedience and agility, please contact Lynn by phone: 507-344-1159 or by email: ldavey470@gmail.com

In Memory of Lee Schulz

Your life was a blessing,
your memory a treasure.

You're loved beyond words,
and missed beyond measure.

There are so many happy club memories that include Lee Schulz. Patty has some of the longest memories from the early 70's of Lee collecting fees for obedience class, with Ron and Pat Johnson as the instructors and Lynn, Bruce, and Patty as some of the students.

Lee and Ron were cornerstones of our club, Lee taking club calls and fielding questions from early on. She was always involved in club functions and shows, helping wherever she was able. Some of my fondest and funniest memories of Lee were from the annual May show. And, as I know many others will agree, it's difficult to picture Lee's face without her amazing smile and a lively twinkle in her eye.

Lee will be missed greatly by us all, but remembered for the positive attitude and sincere dedication that she showed to the club through all of the many years she was a member.



BETTER DAYS *article from the Free Press*

Prior to COVID, longtime friends and Mankato residents Rose Jensen and Breanna Gehring would spend their weekdays doing light assembly work at Mankato Rehabilitation Center Incorporated, or MRCI — packaging and sealing panel-edge clips for Menards and Home Depot.

Now they spend their days out in the community meeting people, going out for coffee, volunteering at the Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society and taking trips up to the Twin Cities to visit the Mall of America or the Minnesota Zoo.

“We volunteered at BENCHS today and met a cat named Ginger,” Jensen said. “She looks like she needs adopting. She just moved in yesterday.”

It’s a favorite spot for the two, who happen to be big animal lovers. Jensen describes visiting BENCHS as therapeutic.

“It’s just nice to be able to pet some cats that are safe to pet,” she said. “You also have to be careful because some cats do have disabilities like people. So, you’ve got to pay attention to which cats you pet at the shelter.”

Melissa Cardona, a day service specialist for MRCI — which provides employment, volunteering and social activities for adults with disabilities — works with Jensen, Gehring and two other clients. She said MRCI’s new community-based day service program provides everything from a learning opportunity to developing life skills and gaining confidence.

During a lunch break, Cardona will ask them what they would like to do for the week. Recently, one of them talked about her mother’s new pet snake on a visit. So, the group decided to spend the day learning about reptiles by visiting a reptile zoo. “The girls absolutely love seeing animals and they get to have the opportunity to see things from a different view,” Cardona said. “After COVID hit they were kind of stuck at home so now it’s fun for them to be able to go out and know the barista from the coffee shop. They build relationships but also have the opportunity to see what they might want to do for employment down the road.”

Sarah Nagele, a Fairmont- based day service coordinator for MRCI, just arranged a couple volunteer opportunities for clients there for the new program, officially launched at MRCI’s Mankato location Thursday.



MRCI client Rose Jensen pets Linda Murray’s therapy dog Ricky during the launch of MRCI’s new community-based day services program Thursday.

“They are helping out the community education department at the school, and they’re also helping out at a nursing home doing activities with the individuals that live there,” Nagele said. “They got memberships at a gym recently, and they’re super excited to be accessing that every day and being able to stay healthy and fit.”

Jensen said the group has learned about managing money and finances by visiting stores or going out to local restaurants.

“We go out to eat and learn how to budget,” she said.

A popular place among the group is to go to Minnesota State University to go bowling or grab a meal from the food court, where they hang out and play board games and card games. Gehring said they’ve also gone out to eat at A&W and Taco Bell, and she has a few ideas of where she would like to go next.

“The Big Yellow Barn or Mom and Pop’s ice cream would be good — or Dairy Queen,” she said.

MRCI Community Relations Manager Lisa Cownie said their goal is to eventually get all of their clients working out in the community with competitive wages, based on their own goals and interests.

“Until they’re ready to do that, they do this community-based program where you’re still learning skills until you get ready to work or launch a business,” Cownie said.

Jensen hopes to do just that, and she already has a plan for starting her own business by making decorative jackets for pens and pencils.

“I’d like to earn money,” Jensen said. “I’ve actually been working on a little project that I’m trying to find a place for selling. I call them curly chains and use yarn to make them. It’s a traditional friendship bracelet technique and is very therapeutical for me.”

The plan to focus on community-based socializing, volunteering, educational opportunities and eventually establishing jobs out in the community as opposed to at one of MRCI’s buildings has been in the works for a few years, but MRCI CEO Brian Benshoof said the pandemic expedited the process.

“Once we got through the initial crisis of getting our feet on the ground, COVID gave us the opportunity to do this pivot to the community,” Benshoof said. “But being shut down we were able to rebuild and get this whole thing open.”

That means the nonprofit organization will need much less space and instead focus on buying 200 white vans for the new program.

So far, they have about 50, and clients have already been doing community activities since the beginning of the year.

“Each van has four clients and a staff (person),” Benshoof said. “It’s unique and we’re probably the only agency in the state that’s doing it.”

While the community employment program has been operating for a long time, Benshoof said what’s different is they’re working with employers to hire all of their clients, who can do one or the other, or a combination of the day service program and the innovative employment exploration program, which gives clients a chance to learn about different jobs or careers they may be interested in.

“We’re hiring staff to fill those vans and we’re bringing clients back as we get each new vehicle ready to go,” he said. “It’s still a challenge to hire people, but even that’s starting to pick up.”

He said that in addition to connecting with volunteer opportunities and prospective employers, MRCI is hoping to recruit people from the community who may have a unique skill or hobby they can teach to clients.

Jensen, who has been involved with MRCI for the past decade, welcomes the changes and said she prefers being able to go out into the community on outings to learn, meet new people and volunteer as she looks to start her own business.

“I’m just hoping I can be a good example for future people who come to this program,” she said.

Greenwood, D., (2021) ‘Better Days’ (Mankato Free Press, online) 23 April. Available at: https://mankatofreepress-cnhi-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=31a4e1da5_1345d1b (Accessed: 10 May 2021).

Photo by Pat Christman

AGENDA:

BOARD MEETING

- I. Approve minutes of previous meeting
- II. Report of Secretary
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. Applications for membership
- III. Reports of Committees
 - A. Treasurer
 - B. Training
 - C. Building Committee
- IV. Unfinished Business
- V. New Business
- VI. Recess meeting
- VII. Adjourn meeting

GENERAL MEETING

- I. Introduce Guests
- II. Approve minutes of previous meeting
- III. Report of the President
 - A. Board discussion and action
- IV. Report of the Secretary
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. Applications for membership
- V. Good Cheer Fund
- VI. Report of the Treasurer
- VII. Reports of Committees
 - A. AKC Delegate
 - B. Training
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn Meeting

APRIL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Opening:

The general meeting of the Key City Kennel Club was called to order at 7:28pm on April 20th at the training center in Mankato MN by Lori Espeland.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Reports

President:
none

Secretary:

Correspondence --

- We have a second reading for membership from Christine Black-Hughes. The application was approved by the membership
- We have a first reading for membership for Deb Gaare
- AKC is supporting house bill S.951 and would like people to contact local senators to support HR 1022/s951

Treasurer:

- the vacuum needed repairs, CGC recertification fees

were paid, one judge was reimbursed for her airfare, all other expenses normal

- Balance: \$49,825.43

Training Report

- Training classes are going well, we have a new nose work class this session

Agility Trial

- All three days of the trial are approved May Show
- We are good to go and on track for the May show

Scent Work Trial

- Lori still needs to purchase a few things for the trial but we are on track for this trial

CGC/Trick

- The test is scheduled for May 15th at 11:30AM-2PM. Please do not come early, as we have a class that runs before the test

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Brian to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alexis

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm . The next general meeting will be at 7:30 on May 18 at the Training center in Mankato MN.

Minutes submitted by: Megan Hancock