



TOPLINES

JULY/AUGUST 2017

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
-Mark Twain

TOPLINES
Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

Editor: Susan Quinn, 48226 Revere Drive, Macomb, MI 48044
Email: quinnndixie@gmail.com, Ph. (586) 532-0725

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Officers 2017

- President: Mark Jaeger
- Vice Pres.: Sue Quinn
- Secretary: Donna Giles
- Treasurer: Sue Schauer

The Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan Agility Trial was held on Friday, July 28, 2017. This year brought us to a new location, All Dogs Can in Lapeer, Michigan. Thank you to the many members and exhibitors, who worked to make it a successful trial! The raffle baskets were a huge hit again this year. A few more pictures from the trial are located on page 6.

The High in Trial Winner from the Regular Classes was Lynn Baitinger with Kelsi. The High in Trial Winner from the Preferred Classes was Cristy Nagle with Blaze. Congratulation to Lynn & Cristy!



MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB OF MICHIGAN
GENERAL MEETING
August 12, 2017

Echelon Abatement Solutions



At the home of Joanne & Rod Forster
2186 S. Elkton Road
Elkton, MI

Presentation starts at
12:30 p.m.

Potluck & Business
Meeting will follow.

Mike Forster, Master Falconer and owner of EAS will be talking to us about his birds and how they are trained and used for nuisance bird control (at airports, fruit farms, etc.) He will be bringing a bird with him

Please call Joanne (989)375-4106 or email : jofor@airadv.net and let me know what you will be bringing for the potluck. Bring lawn chairs & exercise pens

If you wish to discuss a matter, have your information ready. Committees, be ready with your reports. This will help keep time to a minimum.

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!

Directions from the Southeast.– Take M-53 North to Sebewaing Road (flashing yellow light) Turn left on Sebewaing Rd. and follow to South Elkton Rd. Take this to the RIGHT. Go North 2 1/2 miles. We will be the house on the left hand side of the road, right after the Thumb Animal Shelter. Light grey house, black shutters, fenced back yard, paved driveway.

Directions from the South & Southwest– Take I-75 North to the M-81 Exit (Exit #151) Turn right off of the exit, heading East. Stay on M-81 through Reese, Caro, and into Cass City. At the only stoplight in Cass City you will turn left, heading north. The name of the Road starts out as Seeger, changes to Cemetery Rd, then changes to S. Elkton Rd. Stay on this road through 2 stop signs. The second stop sign crossing road does NOT stop. After the 2nd stop sign we are 2 1/2 miles on the left hand side of the road, right after the Thumb Animal Shelter.



Club News:

The Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan Specialty will be Friday, September 29th, 2017, held in conjunction with the Terrier Club of MI show. Also, that weekend is the Monroe Kennel Club shows on Saturday & Sunday.

We usually have a large miniature schnauzer entry in the breed ring. Barn hunt, lure coursing, and obedience are also offered that weekend. This is a great opportunity to see miniature schnauzers in many different venues. Our club also hosts a luncheon for exhibitors & friends on Friday!

2017 Calendar of Important Events

August 12-

MSCM Meeting @Joanne Forster's House, Elkton, MI

September 29th-

MSCM Specialty, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Monroe, MI

October 2-5-

All Terrier Agility Trials, Pennsylvania

October 5-8-

Montgomery County Weekend, Pennsylvania

October 21-

MSCM Meeting/Fun Match @ Canine Workshop, Fraser, MI

December 9-

MSCM Meeting & Christmas Party , East Lansing, MI

Braggs

At the Michigan Cluster shows in Kalamazoo on Saturday May 27, Loneacre Drunk On You (Alize) went Winners Bitch under Judge Douglas Gaudin for a 4 point major, and on Monday, May 29 Alize went Winners Bitch under judge Kim Ramey-LeBlanc for 2 points. Alize is bred by Beth Santure & Marcia Coffman and Owned by Joanne Forster and Beth Santure



We're on the Web!
www.miniatureschnauzerclubofmichigan.org

Congratulations!



We Can All Use A Little Support

We spend a great deal of time and energy making sure that we are doing everything we can to support our performance dogs' needs for training, exercise, conditioning, nutrition, etc. Sometimes we can use a little support for ourselves. If you've ever wished you had someone to discuss an idea with, provide some moral support, help celebrate a great performance or commiserate a poor one, a support team might be the answer.

The follow article was written by Susan Klavon, who I met through membership in the Daisy Peel 2017 Agility Challenge. Susan generously gave her permission for its use in Toplines.

"Building A Support Team"

Having a support team can help you reduce stress, solve problems, and enhance your enjoyment of agility. A support team should meet your needs -- you get to decide what's needed, how much is needed, and who is on your support team. It is also an opportunity to build community -- you can provide support to members of your team or you can opt to "pay it forward" at a time when you are better able to do so.

People who enjoy solitude or are introverts have understandable concerns about how a support team could fit them. I am an introvert. I would die if I had to walk up to someone and ask, "Would you be on my support team?". I don't trial with an entourage. It's not unusual for me to trial on my own. My support team fits my interpersonal style, even during those times when it gently pushes me outside my comfort zone. It has been a very important factor in my dogs' success. When dealing with challenges, I never feel alone because I know my support team is available to help me as needed.

Here are some tips to consider when building a support team: Look at the roles (or gifts) of your current circle of friends and acquaintances. All of us fill different roles in our social networks. In agility, some roles include instructor, classmate, good listener, encourager, "Debbie Downer," course analyst, Snooker strategy guru, and crating space saver. Another way of looking at this concept is that all of us have gifts that people notice -- and may rely on.

Remember that your social network isn't just the people you see locally, but those you interact with via email and social media. Seeing the roles/gifts already present in your circle can help you identify potential sources of support. This step can also help you avoid asking someone for something they can't really do. Alanon has a saying, "don't go to the hardware store for a loaf of bread". Once you get a handle on roles/gifts, knowing who to ask for specific types of support can be easier.

My friend Donna is a very positive person and always keeps agility in perspective. I can tell her when I am feeling stressed, and she will gently coach me on how it's just agility. Donna is naturally gifted at incorporating play and fun in her life, so spending time with her at trials helps me to see new options for de-stressing my life. My friend Carol is a wonderful trainer with an excellent grasp on behavior issues. During my dog Asta's journey, she not only provided encouragement during the hard times, but she also suggested I consider consulting an expert to help me with Asta's table issues.

Remember that instructors, vets, sports medicine professionals, mental game experts, spiritual advisors, and a whole host of others can be part of your support team. It all depends on what you need and want. Frame a question and then see who can help you find the answer. Early in Asta's Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

Continued from page 4— We Can All Use A Little Support

journey I got in the habit of asking myself, "Who do I know who can help me [fill in the blank]?" When I asked myself, "Who do I know who can help me find other people with OCD dogs?", I thought immediately of my friend Jamie, who has an extensive network of dog contacts in the US and Canada. I sent her a message asking for her help and, sure enough, she connected me to two other people doing agility with an OCD dog.

If you can't think of anyone to help you find an answer to your question, you may need to reformulate the question. If a question isn't getting you anywhere, you may need to move on to a different one. Identify a specific, short-term need and who can help you with that. For six months Asta and I avoided doing tables at trials while we worked on the behavior mod plan to address her table issues. As we prepared to return to tables in competition, Dr. Tom Mitchell suggested that I enter her in a few classes where I skipped the table so that she could see that its presence didn't mean she had to do it. This idea made me nervous because CPE people tend to yell, "Go to the table!" as a helpful reminder to handlers at the end of games. I was concerned that any yelling from the crowd could upset Asta. I discussed this situation with two people on my support team, and they suggested I ask a few handlers if they could let any concerned spectators know that I was skipping the table on purpose. I asked for this help from two casual friends who are "influence agents" in our local CPE community (yes, I considered their roles before I asked for their help). Not only did they keep the crowd quiet for us, they were also willing to help in the same way at subsequent trials.

Just like with a garden, you will need to tend to your support team from time to time. Consider the breadth and depth of your support team. I like to include people with different perspectives and experiences. I also like to have a healthy number of people on my team so that I never overwhelm one person with my requests for help. I add new members to my team to address new situations or to increase variety/expertise. Do a little "weeding" when needed. Sometimes my support team members have things come up in their own lives, and I will take them off my team so that they can focus on their own needs (I try to support them as best I can). In those rare cases where a support team member becomes a greater burden than a help, I permanently remove them from my support team. That means not asking them for help any longer and setting healthy boundaries.

Express gratitude and appreciation to your support team members. Research has shown the benefits of gratitude to well-being, resiliency, and relationships. Thanking your support team not only promotes positive emotions, but also reassures them that what they did was in fact helpful -- which can motivate them to provide assistance to others in the future. (See Brian Doyle's TED talk for an 8-minute overview of his experiment in saying thank you: [youtube.com/watch?v=QNfAnkojhoE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNfAnkojhoE))

Finally, becoming intentional can be one of your greatest tools in building a support team, as well in many other aspects of life! Too often we mindlessly repeat the same behaviors and thought patterns that don't benefit us. Increasing your intentionality can help improve performance, increase satisfaction, and enhance connection to others. The following questions help me become more intentional about my life: What am I doing? Why am I doing it? ("I don't know" is not a satisfactory response; "I don't know what else to do" is.) Is it working for me? Is it working for my dog?

Having a support team can help improve your life and build community. Getting started may feel awkward, but these are skills that can be developed and strengthened until they become healthy habits that feel like second-nature. Competing with two "special needs" agility dogs has taught me the importance of having a support team -- and shown me the joy that comes from sharing the journey with others.



The objective of the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan is to advance the principals and scientific practices in the breeding of purebred Miniature Schnauzers; foster co-operation between breeder, owner, and veterinarian; encourage the exchange of information and experience among the club members and between show-giving clubs; to conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows and matches; and to encourage the adherence to the high standards of conduct and to the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

SHOW CALENDAR

Breed/Obed/Rally 2017

Sept. 1-3 Breed/Obed/Rally
Marquette KC
Marquette, MI Closes 8-16

Sept. 2-3 Breed
Jaxon KC
Jackson, MI Closes 8-16

Sept. 16-17 Breed/Obed/ Rally
St. Clair KC
Goodells, MI Closes 8-30

Sept. 23 Obed
Tri Cities Dog Training
Saginaw, MI Closes 9-6

Sept. 24 Obed
English Springer Spaniel Club
Davisburg, MI Closes 9-6

Sept. 29-Oct. 1 Breed/Obed/Rally
Monroe KC
Monroe, MI Closes 9-13

Oct. 7-8 Obed/Rally
AADTC
Whitmore Lake, MI Closes 9-20

Oct. 21-22 Obed/Rally
Golden Ret. Club
Ann Arbor, MI Closes 10-4
Limited Entry

Oct. 28-29 Obed/Rally
Sportsmen's DTC
Warren, MI
Closes 10-11

Agility 2017
Sept. 1-4
Various agility clubs
Midland, MI Closes 8-18

Sept. 8-10
AADTC
Whitmore Lake, MI
Closes 8-25

Sept. 15-17
GRAC
Wyoming, MI
Closes 9-1

Sept 15-17
Fort Det. Golden
Lapeer, MI
Closes 9-1

Sept. 22-24
MI Boxer Club
Midland, MI
Closes 9-8

Sept. 29-Oct. 2
Grand Traverse KC
Midland, MI
Closes 9-15

Oct. 6-8
Midland MI KC
Midland, MI
Closes 9-22

Oct. 13-15
Oakland Cty KC
Lapeer, MI
Closes 9-27

Oct. 13-15
Boston Terrier Club
Wyoming, MI
Closes 9-27

Oct. 20-22
Fort Detroit Golden Re-
triever
Lapeer, MI
Closes 10-6

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB OF MICHIGAN

TOPLINES

is a bi-monthly
publication

January-February

March-April

May-June

July-August

September-October