



# TOPLINES

## Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

*“Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so”—Douglas Adams*

### TOPLINES

#### Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

January/February  
2009

Editor-Joanne Forster, 2186 S. Elkton Rd, Elkton, MI 48731 Ph. (989)-375-4106  
Email: [jofor@airadv.net](mailto:jofor@airadv.net)



#### Inside this issue:

Cover Story	pg 1
Next Meeting Info	pg 2
2009 Calendar & 2008 Awards	pg 3
The Whelping Box	pg 3
Performance Corner	pg 4
Braggs	pg 6

#### Officers 2009

President: Beth Santure  
Vice Pres.: Joanne Forster  
Secretary: Donna Giles  
Treasurer: Sue Schauer



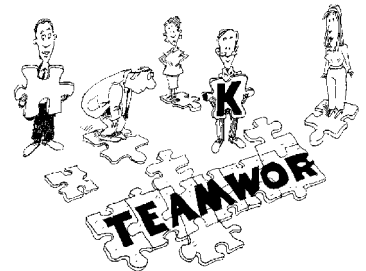
## Your Breed Club Needs You

Reprinted from Toplines July/August 2006

Breed clubs have membership in varying numbers. More often than not, they are held together and run by only a few. These members “carry” the club by attending and volunteering at every club function or event, serving as officers, and chairing and/or serving on multiple committees. Many give monetarily as well as their time. Others are content with just simply paying their dues. What makes an inactive member an active member? I’ll be the first to admit that when I joined my local breed club, I was one who just paid my dues. I rarely attended meetings or club events and didn’t volunteer or serve on any committees. My only monetary contribution was paying my dues. In my case, as my passion for my breed grew, so did

my interest in the club. The more involved I became in my breed, the more involved I became in the club. Everyone has their own certain areas or interests that they do well in that can be useful to a club. My personal interests include computers and crafts. I am now the editor of our club newsletter and make all of the updates and changes on our club website. I have often made trophies and fundraiser items of different crafts. I now attend all of the meetings (weather permitting) and volunteer and help out wherever I can. Offering up your own personal skill can be put to use in many ways. If you are knowledgeable in an area of breeding, training, grooming, etc. ....volunteer to be on the education committee or write a column for your club’s newsletter. If you are great at planning

and giving parties, volunteer on your Hospitality committee and plan your club’s next Christmas party. If you like to shop for that perfect gift while on a budget, volunteer for the Trophy committee. The possibilities of what you can do to help are endless! Joining a club says that you want to be a part of it. Playing an active part in your club is what keeps it going. Don’t just be a member, be an ACTIVE member!



# Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

## MSCM SUNDAY BRUNCH

February 8, 2009

11:00 am {Brunch}

12:00 Noon {General Meeting}



### *Coral Gables Restaurant*

2838 E. Grand River Ave.

East Lansing, MI

Phone 517-337-1311

Brunch

General Meeting

**Directions:** Take I-96 to exit 110 (Okemos Rd.). Go north on Okemos Rd. to M-43 (Grand River Ave.). Businesses on that corner include: Bennigan's Restaurant, Marathon gas station & BP/Amoco station. Turn left on to M-43 (Grand River). After the bridge over the railroad tracks, there is a traffic light at Park Lake Rd. and another at Northwind Dr. (there's a Farmer Jack's on southwest corner of intersection). **Coral Gables** entrance is the fourth on the right following this light (after Tom's Party store, a Hollywood Video, & the new Oriental Market). If you get to Brookfield Shell gas station, you've gone too far.

**From the North:** From Business 69 left onto Park Lake Rd. Right (East) onto M-43 (Grand River Ave.) Follow directions from there as detailed above.

Please contact Karin Jaeger for additional information  
Phone (517) 351-0412 or email at: [karinjaeger@voyager.net](mailto:karinjaeger@voyager.net) and let her know that you are coming!

## GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!

## 2009 Calendar of Important Events



### FEBRUARY 8

MSCM Brunch & General Meeting  
11:00 a.m.  
Coral Gables Restaurant East Lansing

### MARCH

### APRIL 25

MSCM Dinner Meeting- Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth

### JUNE

Annual MSCM Outdoor Potluck Meeting & Eye Clinic

### AUGUST

### SEPTEMBER

MSCM Fall Specialty Show-Monroe, MI-Monroe County Fairgrounds

### OCTOBER

Montgomery County Weekend-Pennsylvania

### OCTOBER

MSCM Dinner Meeting-

### DECEMBER

MSCM Christmas Banquet & Awards-Coral Gables, East Lansing

## MSCM Annual Awards for 2008

### Beth Santure:

Ch. Loneacre's Just A Wonder, OA, OAJ

### Carol Beagle:

Ch. Blackwitch Nite Eclipse  
Ch. Blackwitch Smoke-N-Hot Delite  
Ch. Attaway Cliff Notes  
Ch. Blackwitch Should Be Delite  
Ch. Blackwitch Solar Eclipse  
Blackwitch Copy Rite, RN

### Joanne McCallum:

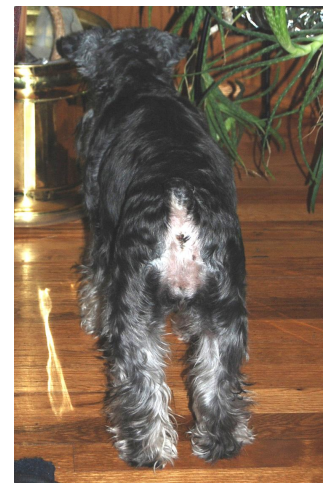
R-Jo's U-R-My Sunshine, CDX, NAP, NJP, RA  
R-Jo's Trendsetter Bootsie, NAP, NJP

### Debbie Herrell:

Am. & Can. Ch. Sercatep's Simon Says

### Joanne Forster:

Ch. Jofor's Dream It Anyway



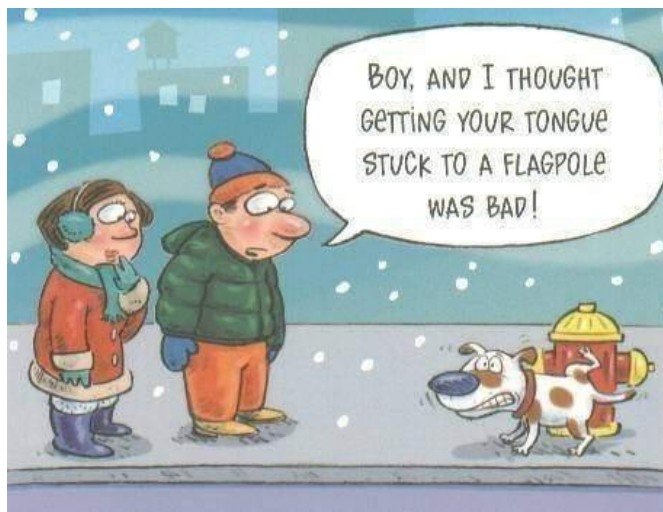
Grrrr....there's a strange dog by that plant! Hmmm...kinda looks like me...  
Leave now before I go and get reinforcements!!



## The Whelping Box

No Litters to announce at this time

*The quality of your litter should not only be evaluated by the best in the litter....but by the least. If you are breeding quality animals, even your pets should be good examples of the breed!*





### It's ALL Tricks!

Trick training is a fun and entertaining way for us to spend time with our dogs. The dogs love us because they receive attention and most likely earn a treat. But there is more to it than that. Dogs that learn tricks learn to THINK, and dogs that learn tricks form a stronger bond with their owners. There is something about a cute trick in front of company that makes everyone's heart a bit warmer and happier.

In the foundation classes that I teach – and also in the one that I take with my new puppy – our homework is to teach our dogs a new trick each week. Most of us use a clicker for trick work as more behaviors are usually offered with a clicker than with *luring*. (Luring is when you shape or help form the behavior by using a food reward or toy to move, or lure, the dog into position.) I personally think that a combination of both works the best. Teach a dog or puppy to sit is usually the first thing most owners do. Puppies naturally sit when lured with a cookie. The cookie is put by their nose and is moved back and up a bit until the pup sits. At that very moment the pup gets the treat. If you are using a clicker you would have clicked at the very moment that bum hit the ground and the treat would have followed quickly afterward. The clicker “marked” the behavior, and the treat would have been given to the puppy as he sat. After a few repetitions or when the dog is catching on, you can add the cue word – i.e., sit, and continue with the treats and clicking (you do not want to add the cue word before the dog is actually doing the behavior – a crouch is not a sit, so why name that behavior and “muddy” the waters). When the sit is consistent with the command, you can start varying your rewards – i.e. treating only for the good, fast, sits (this is called *variable reinforcement*).

Let's say you want to teach your very smart dog to sit up and beg. This is a behavior that I feel is best lured. Some dogs have a much easier time of this

## Performance Corner by Lynn Baitinger

than others – their backs may be stronger or they may simply be more agile or a bit more determined to get that cookie. Let's say your pup needs a bit of help. Start by finding a corner in your home and sitting your dog back in close to the corner. (The corner wall behind the dog will keep it from falling over backward.) Place one hand behind their hip to support and help hold the dog. Lure the dog with a very good morsel of food and encourage him to raise up to get the treat. You would be wise to accept a half sit, half stand, or any attempt at first. You should then “mark” that behavior – even if not completely there yet, with an encouraging “yes”. This word should be spoken lightly and cheerfully and should always be the same word, spoken in the same tone. Clickers work so well because the click sound is always exactly the same. Conversely, our voices are NOT consistent - we can say “good dog” or “yes” in many, many different ways – loudly, softly, sternly, joyously, etc. etc.

After your dog is sitting up to capture that treat, your hand which is still on his hip can help and encourage your dog to stay in the begging position. Don't ask your dog to hold that position long as first – mark (your verbal word) and treat (while dog is sitting up) the position quickly and then release. Gradually work up to the dog sitting up, begging and holding that position.

You should also think about and use the same hand motion every time you ask your dog to beg or sit. That way you are simultaneously teaching them signals. So now, let's try clicker training a behavior. First we must LOAD the clicker. This is fun for the dog that's for sure, as this is the only time the dog will get a treat for doing nothing. After your clicker is loaded, you will only reward for an offered behavior.

**Loading the Clicker:** Put 10 small treats in your left hand. Also, hold the clicker in your left hand. (If you are right handed reverse this.) Sit in a chair with your hands in your lap, relaxed. Click the clicker (NOT near the dog's ear, *please!*). (Saying the word “yes” at the same time you click is a good idea – it marries the positive association of the clicker sound with the cue word.) Immediately use your right hand to pick up a treat from the left hand and give the dog the treat from your

right hand. Repeat till cookies are gone. Play with your dog and quit. Repeat this again a while later - about 3 - 5 times over two days. Very quickly your dog will love the sound of the clicker and come running if you accidentally click the thing.

After you have “Loaded the Clicker”, go on to step two, the hand touch. Here we are waiting for the dog to OFFER a behavior.

**Hand Touch:** Put 10 small treats in your left hand. Hold the clicker in your left hand too. Sit in a chair with your hands at your sides. Hold your RIGHT hand out a bit, palm up. Your dog will most likely touch it with his nose. When he does, immediately click and treat, taking a treat from your left hand and giving the dog the treat with your right hand. Move your right hand away and wait for the dog to touch the palm of your hand again. Say nothing, stay still. This is the part where your dog learns how to think and therefore learn – HIS actions make that treat appear. A cool thing this is and dogs love it. Be patient and let him think and act on his own. If after 10” seconds or so, he had decided to just wait it out, move your right hand a bit to draw attention to it. Repeat till all your treats are gone.

You can repeat this hand touch 2 to 3 times before moving on. But, be sure ask your dog for a good hand touch, work up to a good nose bop if you'd like.

Now you are ready to use your charged clicker for some fun training. It is fun to teach a dog to jump into a box, sit in the box, sit on top of a sturdy box, or to teach your dog to put his paws up on a round canister and roll it. One easy trick is Go to your Place:

**Go to your Place:** This is a fun trick that can actually be very useful! Find a small mat or rug that is good for your dog to lie on and relax. Have your clicker and treats ready. Your dog will be at your side by this time I'm sure! Now, lay the mat down on the floor (find a place that would be a good place for your dog to hang out) and the instant your dog looks at it or goes to it – click and toss the cookie ON the mat. Before he is done eating it, toss another on the mat and then another. (This is called PLACE-MENT of reward – you treat where you

# MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB OF MICHIGAN

## TOPLINES

is a bi-monthly publication

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 March-April  
 May-June  
 July-August  
 September-October  
 November-December

Editor - Joanne Forster

We're on the Web!  
[www.mscom.org](http://www.mscom.org)

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.



## Pet dogs versus Show dogs:

Pet dogs shed ..... Show dogs blow coat.

Pet dogs are in heat ..... Show dogs come into season.

Pet dogs trot ..... Show dogs gait or move.

Pet dogs stand ..... Show dogs stack.

Pet dogs get a bath ..... Show dogs are groomed.

Pet dogs beg for treats .... Show dogs bait.

Pet dogs poop ..... Show dogs exercise.

Pet dogs bark at other dogs ..... Show dogs spar.

Pet dogs wear leashes..... Show dogs wear leads

## Dog Show Definitions:

Great stud dog ..... Mounts anything that can fog a mirror.

Excels in movement .....If he gets loose, runs like hell.

Personality Plus ..... Wakes up if you put liver up his nose.

Good bite ..... Missed the judge, got the steward.

Large boned ..... Looks like a Clydesdale.

Good obedience prospect .... ugly as hell

Quiet and good natured ..... In his kennel.

Excels in type and style ..... However, moves like a spider on "speed".

Won in stiff competition ..... Beat four puppies and a 9 year old novice dog.

Multiple group winner ..... At two puppy matches.

Pointed ..... His head is shaped like a carrot.

Noted Judge ..... He put up our dog.

Respected Judge .....He put up our dog twice.

Esteemed Judge ..... He puts up anything that crawls.

Specialty Judge ..... Puts up anything that looks like his own breeding.

Won in heavy competition ...The other dogs were revoltingly overweight.

Shown sparingly .....Only when we had it in the bag.

Show Prospect ..... He has 4 legs, 2 eyes, 2 ears, 1 tail.

Finished in 5 shows ..... And 89 where he failed to win a ribbon.

Well Balanced ..... .. Straight as a stick, front and rear.

Handled brilliantly by .... Nobody else can get near him.

At stud to "approved" bitches ..... Those bitches whose owner's check is good.

Linebred from famous champions... .. Ch. Whoozitz appears twice in the 6th generation.

Terrific brood bitch ..... Her conformation is the pits, but she conceives big litters.

Wins another Best In Show ... His second, under the same judge, our uncle.

Continued from Page 5

want the dog to be. If you treated when the dog came back to you, why in the world would he want to go back to the mat – you'd get a dog running out to it and then back to you for the treat.) When your dog gets off the mat, wait for him to look at it or go back to it. Click and treat again. Again, toss a few – one at a time - on the mat. Remember to keep up a *high rate of reinforcement* in the early stages. Translation : Give lots of treats when you start a new behavior. Now pick up the mat and end the game. Later that day or the next day, repeat one or two times.

After a few repetitions of this your dog will not want to leave the mat. Now you can start moving a bit – click and treat when your dog STAYS on the mat, tossing a cookie quickly after the click. If he gets off of it, say nothing and wait. Patience is a real virtue in clicker training – give the dog time to think and offer a behavior.

When your dog is staying on the mat while you walk around and then, later, behind him, then it is time to add a name to this behavior, i.e. “go to your bed”. Gradually lengthen the duration of time you'd like the dog to stay. Be sure to give the dog a release word when it is ok for the dog to leave his place. No treats for leaving the mat, please.

**Rewards** – Placement of the reward is so very important!!! Treat where you want the dog to be. For example, when your dog is sitting up, reward so your dog's head is looking up. For the mat, treat on the mat. Don't be stingy with your treats – when the dog does something great or is in the early learning phase, give many small pieces, not one large piece. (Only click once, but verbal praise can be lots.) Dogs don't discern portions – they like quantity – 10 pieces are far more rewarding than one large piece.

One thing to remember when clicker training tricks is to be open to new options!! Your dog may surprise you and offer a behavior that could lead to something really good! Lots of times people start off training with one trick in mind and another one emerges!! Go with the flow and feel free to shape what the dog offers.

In a separate article in the next newsletter, you'll find great clicker information

from Karen Pryor. Karen is one of the very top clicker trainers in the country and this is a nice little information sheet. If you would like more clicker training help, Google Clicker Training on the web and you will be inundated!! Here's Karen's web link to get you started: [www.clickertraining.com](http://www.clickertraining.com). And, yes, it is ALL TRICKS – whether we have a house pet, or a conformation champion, obedience, or agility dog. I'm still tickled when I think of that cute head posture “trick” that Sue Quinn taught her puppy, Dixie to use in the show ring - whatever we train our dog to do, it's all tricks to them!



**Win-Gro's Fields of Daisy CDX,  
RN, OA, OAJ, OAC, OJC  
September 26, 1993-December  
11, 2008**

The difficult decision was made to help Daisy pass on. She was 15 years old and my first dog. She was a challenge to show in her younger days, and definitely let me know I was privileged to be in her presence. Daisy had such a hard time with sit/down stays, because of that it took 3 years to get her CDX! She loved to run in agility although not always where she was suppose too. She challenged my training skill, and hopefully has made me better for my dogs that follow her.

After a limited show career, we found her true calling was as a pet therapy dog. I could put her by anyone, and she would dutifully sit there for anything. It was amazing how she knew her job at those hospital visits. We volunteered for 7 years until she had health issues. She brought me into the “dog show” world and through her I have met some wonderful people. For that, I thank her. Daisy was the queen

## Bragg

At the Macomb Kennel Club Sanctioned A Match , December 27, 2008 , Loneacre's Dixieland Express "Dixie" went Best Puppy in Match! Dixie is owned and shown by Sue Quinn!



*Congratulations!*

of the house and will be dearly missed. Now she's be sitting on my dad's lap in heaven.

Susan Quinn

