



TOPLINES

Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

"Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude."
—Denis Waitley

TOPLINES

Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

March/April
2008

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Our "Little Man" —Joanne Forster

Officers 2008
 President: Beth Santure
 Vice Pres.: Joanne Forster
 Secretary: Donna Giles
 Treasurer: Sue Schauer



He came into this world, one of four that was my first litter of Miniature Schnauzers. Knowing very little about the structure of the Mini, I picked him for myself because of his attitude and personality. Following the theme of names for my dogs, I chose to name him after my favorite country singer Travis Tritt (his mother had been named for Reba McEntire) He became a learning experience for me, taking me into the world of conformation showing. Previously I had only trained and showed my dogs in obedience (with a little Schutzhund thrown in there) I learned how to hand strip a Mini coat on Travis. He was forever patient with me, even though I'm sure it wasn't the most comfortable experience for him. As I slowly got better with the process, he would doze on the table as I pulled hair. (either that or he just went into a "zone" until I was done!) I lacked the confidence at that time to learn to groom the furnishings or even attempt to show him myself. Instead, I worked to pay people to groom and show him for me. He finished at a young age, was

specialized some and picked up several BOB's and a couple of Group placings. Being the first Champion here, it was only fitting that we have a professional portrait done of him to hang in the house. Another learning experience...that's not cheap! But it sure looks nice hanging in our living room.:-) Travis retired as our house pet and protector. He fathered only 2 litters before we had him neutered. Even though he had only bred a couple of times, he never lost his uncanny ability to know exactly when a bitch was to be bred. With the very first bitch that came to him for breeding, I had asked the owner to bring her earlier than the 10th day of her cycle. The owner argued that she always bred her bitches on the 10th and 12th days and got puppies. Regardless, I insisted and she came here on her 8th day. That evening I introduced the 2 dogs and Travis bred her immediately. The next day when I put them together, Travis would have nothing to do with her; not even a sniff or a glance...he totally ignored her. When his demeanor was exactly the same the following

day (day 10 of her cycle), I called the owner to come and get her bitch. She reluctantly wrote out her check for the stud fee, letting me know that she was being gypped with only one breeding. Nine weeks later I got a phone call from her telling me that her bitch whelped 8 puppies! To this day, Travis lets me know the exact day my bitches are to be bred, and not before. The years have now taken it's toll on Travis's body. One ear tips at an angle due to a puncture wound delivered by his mother over a dispute. Structural problems have contributed to a lack of mobility in his rear and front, along with arthritis. At 10 years of age, he was barely able to get up from a down position or lift his leg to urinate. In my quest for a liquid arthritis supplement, I stumbled across K9 Liquid Health Level 5000. The results were nothing short of miraculous in Travis! In less than a weeks time, he was again able to get up and down with no trouble, take the stairs by himself, and mark his territory once again! Running was once again an

**Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan
Dinner/Meeting
April 26, 2008**

**GUEST SPEAKER:
Dr Will Schultz DVM
“Dog Breeding and Breeding Myths”**

**Bavarian Inn Restaurant
713 S. Main Street
Frankenmuth, MI 48734
Phone (800)228-2742**



**US-23/75 to Exit 136 (Birch Run)
Turn East & proceed to M-83, turn left, proceed to downtown,
on the right after the covered bridge**

**Cash Bar Social Hour at 5:30 pm
Dinner served at 6:00 pm
General Meeting to follow**

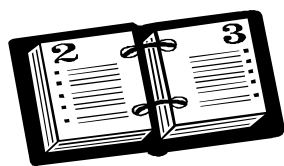
MENU:

**Family style chicken dinner with all of the accompanying
side dishes plus dessert. Coffee and tea included. Cash Bar.**

**Cost is \$23.00 per person (tax & gratuity included)
Children under 12 get a discounted price.**

Reservation **REQUIRED by Wednesday, April 23. Contact Diane Gardner
(810)789-6605 (after 8 pm) or email: gardnerdiane@hotmail.com**

AS ALWAYS GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!



2008 Calendar of Important Events

APRIL 26

MSCM Dinner Meeting- Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth (see page 2 for details)

JUNE ?

Annual MSCM Outdoor Potluck Meeting & (unconfirmed) Eye Clinic at Debbie Herrell's, Grass Lake

AUGUST 16

Tentative date for meeting held at Joanne Forster's, Elkton

SEPTEMBER 26

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

OCTOBER 3-5

Montgomery County Weekend-Pennsylvania

OCTOBER 18

MSCM Dinner Meeting-Italia Gardens-Flint

DECEMBER 6

MSCM Christmas Banquet & Awards
Coral Gables Restaurant, East Lansing

Bit O" Trivia...

Remember at the February meeting in East Lansing at the Coral Gables Restaurant when Debbie Herrell asked the members for help in naming her male puppy? And you picked the name "All About Me? The picture at the bottom left hand corner on Page 1 is Reuben, aka "Sercatep's All About Me"

I am writing to your Club as show Chairman of the Ann Arbor Kennel Club. Each year the Ann Arbor Kennel Club selects members that have made outstanding contributions to the Club. This year one of our selected members is **Beth Santure**. The Ann Arbor Kennel Club give trophies in the respective breeds of the selected members. This year the Ann Arbor Kennel is offering beautiful trophies for Miniature Schnauzers.

Please let you Club know of this recognition of Beth's efforts on behalf of the Ann Arbor Kennel Club and please encourage them to enter our shows to compete for these beautiful prizes.

Many thanks,
Mary Anne Brocius
Show Chair
Ann Arbor Kennel Club

CONGRATULATIONS BETH!!



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!

Fundraising

A project for MSCM hooded sweatshirts are in the works. Payment must be made upfront. Please contact Beth (bjsanture@peoplepc.com) or Joanne (jofor@airadv.net) if you would like to order one. Price will be determined by the amount ordered. More details will be forthcoming
(See design below)





Old Dogs..... Young Dogs

No, this article is not about our dogs that have aged, or our young and upcoming puppies in training; but, rather, I've been thinking about the experienced trainer and the new "Novice A" trainer.

New people to the sport of dog training come into obedience, rally or agility with little knowledge of our sport/hobby/passion. Frequently this "newbie" buys a puppy and then – after they've bought the puppy - they decide it might be fun to try some type of performance activity.

This is wonderful! We want new people into our sport, and frankly that is probably how most of us got into dogs. HOWEVER, I think that most of us "old dogs" don't realize these new trainers need some guidance along the way. They need help in many areas of dogs; and, if we keep our eyes open we can smooth the path for them – and make new friends as well. Just think

Continued from Page 1

option for him!

As I am typing this Travis is sleeping in a bed at my feet. I think about the past 14 years with him and the memories come back of him in his youth. In the show ring, in the yard playing, "rooing" at me when he wanted something, climbing into my lap when he wanted to cuddle, playing tug with a toy. He sleeps most of the time now, often snoring louder than a human. His coat has lost its shine and texture. He can no longer see or hear well, relying on me to gently guide him or clap my hands to help him find me. He has to potty more often, having accidents occasionally.

Performance Corner by Lynn Baitinger

how intimidating an entry form is to the uninitiated! How do you find out when dog shows are? Why can't you enter the day of the show? (Horse people can!) What's a trial secretary? Why bring a crate to a show?

The newbie has no idea of the "language" we use. I'll bet most newbies don't even know what we mean when we describe them as "Novice A" people! (*For the strictly conformation people and the newbies on our mailing list – Novice A simply means that you are training your very first dog. Novice A is the name of the first obedience class one would enter. We commonly use this term when talking about or introducing a new person to another "old dog".*) Our training terms are very specific to our sport and in many cases so confusing that they have no idea what we are talking about! Us "old dogs" tend to take so much for granted. I know that my friends and I must sound like we speak in a foreign language when within earshot of a non-dog person.

In Agility – "tighten the line", "front cross", "rear cross", "back chain", "go on", "Exc. B", etc, etc etc are all terms we toss out without thinking. In obedience – "straight front", "stand for exam", "long sit", "front & finish", etc.

etc. etc. are terms we commonly use in training and constantly talk about losing points for. In Rally – "serpentine", "course map", "stations", "Advanced follows Novice", etc. etc. etc. are terms used regularly.

If we "old dogs" keep our senses tuned to the new trainer we should find many opportunities to teach and educate them in our chosen sport. An invitation to tag along with you at an event could be just what that new person needs. What an opportunity to chat, learn, watch. I fondly remember my first dog show – a friend invited me and my young Mini, Shannon to an obedience trial at the fairgrounds. Wow!! Look at all those dogs, I thought! And, my friend seemed to know everyone! My dog was higher than a kite because of all the stimulation and I thought that there was no way she could ever do what those obedience dogs were doing!! But, I knew I wanted to try.

Of course, the most important thing we can teach the new person is to have fun with their dog when training. And, we should always encourage them to ASK! There are no dumb questions in dogs – just "old dogs" and "young dogs".

When the weather is warm he is often found sitting in a corner of the yard by himself, eyes closed, head lifted, nose to the wind, dreaming of the days gone past.

Our days are numbered with our "little man". He will enter his 14th year with us on Saturday, April 12. As he was when he was born here, he will leave in my hands. The legacy he created will live on in the generations of Minis that have come and gone and in those that will continue to come and go. I've learned so much in the past 14 years. Thanks for the ride "Little Man"!



Ch. Jofor's Foolish Pride
"Travis"

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB OF MICHIGAN

TOPLINES

is a bi-monthly publication

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

Editor - Joanne Forster

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

Tighten Pet Import Regulations and Hug an American Dog Breeder

Congress is presently considering a Farm Bill that would put more stringent health and screening requirements in place for importing dogs and puppies into the US. This is a critically important step in ensuring public health, healthy pets and the vitality of the pet industry in America.

American consumers are increasingly concerned about the quality, safety and source of their products, especially imported foods and household goods. Our standards for pets should be no less. But there is a profound irony in our country where claims of pet overpopulation are used to target breeders and force sterilization of American pets, when hundreds of thousands of foreign dogs are being imported every year!

American-bred dogs are the best in the world, and the U.S. pet industry is the world's most highly regulated. But 30 years of successful programs aimed at reducing dog overpopulation plus an extra decade of misguided overkill on the issue has created a perfect storm for American dogs and their owners.

Too much success is the biggest problem facing dog overpopulation campaigns today. The majority of Americans understand today what it means to be responsible dog owners. They consider their dogs to be part of the family and keep intact dogs home to prevent unwanted puppies, or have them spayed or neutered.

Meanwhile, shelters have become successful at marketing their dogs to the

public, so shelter intake and euthanasia rates have plummeted to a fraction of their former highs. Yet misguided campaigns to end dog overpopulation by targeting breeders continue unabated, reducing the number of good breeders right along with the bad, so there are fewer American-bred puppies for sale -- and fewer American dogs available at some American shelters.

The result?

When consumers want more dogs than American breeders and shelters can supply in a given region of the country, legal and illegal importation of foreign dogs has risen. And fast -- up to 300,000 annually, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

These imports displace American dogs with poorer quality dogs. And because imported dogs are poorly screened or smuggled in with no screening, they also bring zoonotic (animal-to-human) diseases such as rabies, and potentially expose the U.S. pet, livestock and wildlife populations to diseases and parasites that are not present here.

In the face of ongoing "overpopulation" campaigns, smugglers run black markets to meet puppy shortages. A European commercial breeding for export to the U.S. is exploding. And some enterprising American shelters and national animal groups have begun importing foreign street dogs to meet demand.

It's a familiar American story: US breeders who have raised quality, health, and welfare standards to levels un-

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.



matched in the rest of the world now find their puppies displaced by an influx of dogs produced in foreign countries that do not adhere to our high standards. A perfect storm of good intentions promoted by fundraising groups and international humane relocation operations has managed to outsource American dog breeding and put our pets and us in peril.

The National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians recommends in their Animal Rabies Compendium that: "The movement of dogs for purpose of adoption or sale from areas with dog-to-dog rabies transmission should be prohibited." We agree.

NAIA members can expose the irony and hypocrisy underlying this dangerous trend. It's time to ring the wake-up bell and inform our friends, neighbors and lawmakers about what is happening and what can be done to correct it.

The CDC is now considering tougher import regulations and the US Farm Bill includes language to prevent the import of dogs less than 6 months of age for resale or adoption. The National Animal Interest Alliance strongly supports these needed reforms and calls on dog lovers from coast to coast to support these legislative actions to protect our pets. Go to the NAIA Trust action alert to learn more and take meaningful action today.

Please join our 16-year old movement

Donate to NAIA Today!
<http://www.naiaonline.org/>

Tips

“Dog” Related Uses For Vinegar

Homemade Disinfectant—

Fill an empty spray bottle with 1/2 cup of white vinegar, 1/4 cup of isopropyl alcohol, and the remainder of water. The small amount of water dissipates quickly and the vinegar acts as a natural, non toxic disinfectant.

Dry Skin Shampoo—

1/3 cup Glycerin
1 cup Lemon Joy
1 cup white vinegar
1 qt. Water
Mix and shake well before using.



Fly Repellant—

2 cups Vinegar
1 cup Avon Skin So Soft
1 cup water
1 tablespoon Eucalyptus Oil
1 tablespoon citronella oil
Mix and put into a spray bottle to spray the dog's coat



Pet Carpet Stains—

Mix 1/2 cup white vinegar with 1 1/2 cup of lukewarm water. Squeeze onto the spot, let stand, then blot with a damp cloth. Apply clear water to the area then blot with a dry cloth. Repeat until clean

Skunk Odor—Rub the fur with full strength white vinegar (be careful not to get into the eyes) Rinse.

Fleas—To keep fleas away, add a little vinegar to your dog's drinking water.



Changing the acid content of a dog's stomach can reduce the amount of coat staining from saliva, tears, and urine. Add a small amount of apple cider vinegar to your dogs' drinking water



NATIONAL ANIMAL INTEREST ALLIANCE

Our members feed, clothe, heal, comfort, entertain, inform and protect the world!

March 22, 2008

Beth Santure
Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan
200 Begole Road
Milan, MI 48160

Dear Beth:

Thank you for your donation to National Animal Interest Alliance on 2/28/08 in the amount of \$100. Your contribution will help NAIA continue to provide a moderate, balanced, fact-based perspective within the animal welfare debate. We are proud to represent a variety of animal interests including organized dog and cat enthusiasts, agriculture, medical research, veterinary medicine, wildlife management and pet owners across America.

I'd like to highlight a few recent accomplishments that wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of members like you. In April 2007, we hosted the **NAIA National Convention** in Portland, Oregon, assembling a broad coalition of animal welfare advocates. This conference featured outstanding speakers and topics – from dangerous dog issues to pet populations to animal law – as well as legislative and media workshops. We enjoyed a **successful legislative season**, (with the help of our political arm, NAIA Trust), organizing grassroots campaigns, citizen testimony, and professional lobbying efforts across the country. Finally, we are thrilled to announce the opening of our **new headquarters in downtown Portland** last Fall and the hiring of our **new Executive Director**, Kristine Phillips. She has begun assembling a permanent professional staff to vastly expand the scope of this organization with a focus on enhancing our legal and legislative capabilities over the course of the next year.

In order to stay abreast of the latest developments in the animal welfare arena and take full advantage of the information and services we offer our members, I encourage you to visit our award winning website at <http://www.naiaonline.org>. Be sure to sign up for our online newsletter and invite others to do so, too. It is our primary method of communicating with our members so if you don't sign up, you'll miss out on interesting information, news updates and opportunities. Please also take a look at NAIA's new Guide to Constructing Pet Friendly Ordinances at <http://www.naiaonline.org/body/pdfs/PetFriendlyGuide.pdf> full of innovative solutions that pet owners and clubs are already using.

We look forward to staying in touch with you in the coming months as we grow our organization and make great strides toward becoming the most viable alternative to animal rights extremism. Again, thank you for your generous support and involvement.

Sincerely,

Patti Strand, National Director

Please **save this receipt for your tax records**; NAIA is a 501 c (3) educational not-for-profit organization, Tax ID # 93-1099912, so you may be able to deduct all or part of your donation. Your tax accountant can determine what portion of your donation may be deductible.

Patti Strand, NAIA National Director, PO Box 66579, Portland, OR 97290-6579 www.naiaonline.org naia@naiaonline.org 503-761-1139

Editor's Note: Thanks Beth for sending this! It prompted me to join immediately, something I had meant to do for a while, just kept forgetting. I URGE all of our membership to join if you haven't already!!

“Be mindful of how you approach time. Watching the clock is not the same as watching the sun rise.”

– Sophia Bedford-Pierce

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Joanne Forster, Editor
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