



# TOPLINES

## Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

*Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you choose to react to it*

### TOPLINES

#### Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

**March/April  
2014**

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**Officers 2014**

- President: Sue Quinn
- Vice Pres.: Diane Gardner
- Secretary: Donna Giles
- Treasurer: Sue Schauer



Does language modify behavior or does behavior modify language? Are laws arising as a result of changes in our language, expressions and words, which have, in turn, altered our attitudes toward animals? Words have crept into our vocabulary that is increasingly being reflected in the dog/owner relationship. Transformed words and expressions are placing different emphases on animal shelters, rehoming organizations and the rehomed dogs, often to the detriment of that relationship. Are we, who daily fight to maintain the right to own animals, too harsh on those who are anthropomorphizing their dogs by how they use language??

Recently, I posed those questions to a group of thoughtful animal anti-animal rightist activists, and it was a match that ignited a bonfire. There was frustration --such as how the word "breeder" is now used to debase decent people. "Profit" has developed such a negative connotation that breeders defensively insist that they lose money on each pup. While talking in social media, breeders can no longer discuss their dogs living in 'kennels,' but the dogs must now live in 'dog rooms.' The 'compassionate' reader won-

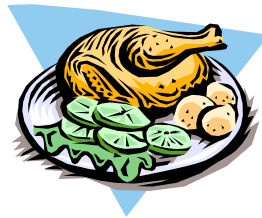
ders about expressions like "pet quality," and questions why all dogs aren't the same, and about why one dog is favored over the other. The group members expressed concern about animal rights groups using words to harm us, yet, well-meaning breeders use the very same words until they become familiar and are constantly used in everyday conversations. One person related how she heard a breeder call another person a 'greeder,' because of the number of litters she had that year. Everybody has heard another breeder called by the infamous "mill" word. The group was frustrated by the increasing anthropomorphizing language used by dog owners, not only for "pocket dogs" and "stroller dogs," but also by those in the breeding community. It has become a vocabulary that is increasingly, deliberately blurring the lines between animal and human. We questioned when this phenomenon began, as even the younger people in the group couldn't remember their mothers referring to themselves 'pawparents,' 'pet parents,' or calling their dogs 'furkids.' The trend seems to have appeared in the early '90's at about the same time that Animal Rights groups

were gaining ground in the media and impacting our lives. The group discussed words that increasingly anthropomorphize dogs, which should be anathema to a breeder, as it reduces the worthy and historic interest in producing quality animals to cartoon characters such as Pongo, Augie and Snoopy. Some of the words mentioned, not in any special order of distaste: Pet Parent, Furkid, (Fur anything), Paw Parents, Furever Home, Foster Mom, Best Friend, Family Member, and my Baby. There are now even dictionary definitions for most of those words; they have become so ingrained in dog owner culture. Furkid, for example is often defined as, "A pet (normally a cat or dog) that the owner treats as if it were a child." Modern Dog Magazine wrote that "These words blur the divide between humans and other animals in our society, muddying the comfortably clear-cut distinction we've set between the roles and rights of each" The recent dictionary definitions of some words are changing to reflect these damaging alterations. When looking up a simple word such

**Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan**  
**Dinner/Meeting**  
**April 26, 2014**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**  
**Dr. Will Schultz**

**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 5:30-6:00pm  
Dinner served at shortly after 6:30 pm  
General Meeting to follow

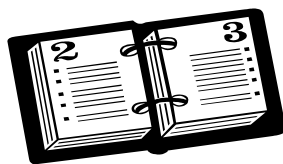
**MENU:**

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

**Cost is \$26 per person (tax & gratuity included)  
Children under 12 get a discounted price.**

Reservation **REQUIRED** Monday April 21. Contact Diane Gardner  
(810)789-6605 (after 7 pm) or email: [gardnerdiane@hotmail.com](mailto:gardnerdiane@hotmail.com)

**AS ALWAYS GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!**



## 2014 Calendar of Important Events

### April 26

MSCM Dinner Meeting- Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth (see page 3 for details)

### JUNE 14-

MSCM Meeting at Beth Santure's residence in Milan

JULY 25- MSCM Agility Trial  
Dexter, MI

### AUGUST 16-

MSCM Meeting at Joanne Forster's residence in Elkton

### SEPTEMBER 26-

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

### OCTOBER 3-5

Montgomery County Weekend-Pennsylvania

OCTOBER 19- Meeting at Sue Quinn's House in Macomb  
MSCM Dinner Meeting

### DECEMBER - 6

MSCM Christmas Banquet & Awards  
Coral Gables Restaurant, East Lansing

# MSCM Agility Trial



## The Whelping Box

Friday, July 25, 2014

Canine Sports & Recreation Center  
Dexter, MI

**Member volunteers needed! If you can't make it to the trial, volunteer to make food to feed the workers!  
More info on the trial to come later**

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!

Continued from Page 1  
as companion, the older dictionary versions define the word as "one that accompanies another: comrade, associate; also: one that keeps company with another" (Merriam Webster). A more recent Google Web definition becomes, "a person or animal with whom one spends a lot of time or with whom one travels." An even stronger change is in the word zoophile. "Zoophile — n. a person who is devoted to animals and their protection from practices such as vivisection" Collins English Dictionary. More recent definitions assign some form of sexual attraction to animals to the word. There are many other examples of how actual formal definitions are

being altered to reflect a growing change in how animals are perceived. These are the terms used by those well-intentioned, admirable folks who re-home dogs and who want to invoke sympathy for the animals that are found homeless or in a situation that requires removal. However, words like "rescue" ("Rescue: when someone or something is rescued from danger: a daring rescue at sea") becomes a term for any dog or animal that is in a shelter for any reason at all. It has become that now, when a person buys a dog from a perfectly safe rehoming organization or shelter, they add "rescue" to the name as if "rescue dog" was an actual breed. If asked by

a stranger what their dog is, the first response is often, "Oh, he's a rescue dog," or "I rescued him from the shelter." There are certainly cases where dogs are rescued -- the dogs pulled from the Katrina floodwaters, from absolutely abusive environments, etc. -- however, most dogs in shelters or rehoming organizations are no longer in danger; they are safe, no longer needing to be "rescued." While 'adopt' can be applied many ways, the first definition will always be some version of: "To take into one's family through legal means and raise as one's own child." 'Adopt,' instead

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## 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.miniatureschnauzerclubofmichigan.org](http://www.miniatureschnauzerclubofmichigan.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.



My family brought me home cradled in their arms. They cuddled me and smiled at me and said I was full of charm.

They played with me and laughed with me and showered me with toys. I sure do love my family, especially the girls and boys.

The children loved to feed me, they gave me special treats. They even let me sleep with them - all snuggled in the sheets.

I used to go for walks, often several times a day. They even fought to hold the leash, I'm very proud to say.

These are the things I'll not forget - a cherished memory.

I now live in the shelter without my family.

They used to laugh and praise me when I played with that old shoe.

But I didn't know the difference between the old ones and the new.

The kids and I would grab a rag, for hours we would tug. So I thought I did the right thing when I chew the bedroom rug.

They said that I was out of control, and would have to live outside.

This I did not understand, although I tried and tried. The walks stopped, one by one; they said they hadn't time.

I wish that I could change things, I wish I knew my crime.

My life became so lonely, in the backyard, on a chain. I barked and barked all day long to keep from going insane.

So they brought me to the shelter but were embarrassed to say why, They said I caused an allergy, and then they each kissed me goodbye.

If I'd only had some classes, as a little pup. I wouldn't have been so hard to handle when I was all grown up.

"You only have one day left." I heard the worker say. Does that mean I have a second chance? Do I go Home today?

## Show Calendar

### **Obedience & Rally**

May 2-4 Obed & Rally  
Tri Cities DTC of Saginaw  
Flint, MI  
Closes 4-16

May 22-26 Obed & Rally  
Various kennel clubs  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Closes 5-7

June 6-7 Obed & Rally  
Midland KC  
Midland, MI  
Closes 5-21

June 8 Obed & Rally  
St. Joe Valley Agility Club  
Buchanan, MI  
Closes 5-28

June 14-15 Obed & Rally  
Grand Traverse KC  
Traverse City, MI  
Closes 5-28

June 21-22 Obed & Rally  
Macomb KC  
Armada, MI  
Closes 6-4

### **Agility**

May 2-4  
Grand Rapids Agility Club  
Kentwood, MI  
Closes 4-18

May 9-11  
AADTC  
Whitmore Lake, MI  
Closes 4-25

May 16-18  
Mt. Pleasant Kennel Club  
Midland, MI  
Closes 5-2

May 23-25  
CDTC  
Grand Blanc, MI  
Closes 5-7

May 30-June 1  
Sportsmens DTC  
Lapeer, MI  
Closes 5-15

June 8-9  
Up N Over Agility Club  
Lapeer, MI  
Closes 5-24

June 13-15  
Fort Detroit GWP Club  
Dexter, MI  
Closes 5-29

June 20-22  
Kalamazoo KC  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Closes 6-6  
OUTDOORS

June 27-29  
Fort Detroit Golden Ref. Club  
Dexter, MI  
Closes 6-13

### **Conformation**

May 17-18  
Genesee County KC  
Corunna, MI  
Closes 4-30

May 22-26  
Pontiac KC, Holland KC, Gr.  
Rapids KC, Kalamazoo KC,  
Greater Muskegon KC  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Closes 5-7

June 5-8  
Midland KC, Mt. Pleasant KC  
Midland, MI  
Closes 5-21

June 13-15  
Grand Traverse KC  
Traverse City, MI  
Closes 5-28

June 21-22  
Macomb KC

## Braggs

CH Loneacre's Grand Slam "Dodger" took a Best of Opposite and a Select Dog at the Louisville shows for two 5 pt. majors toward his GCH. Dodger was also Owner/Handled BOB all 4 days. Owned by Sue Quinn, bred by Beth Santure.



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of purchase; 'Donation' instead of purchase fee; has become the new language for those who rehome dogs. There have, indeed, become an increasing number of breeders who now 'place' their dogs through 'adoption,' with a hefty 'adoption fee.'

Why is all of this so important? It makes it easier for those Animal Rightists to convince the public that animals should have the same \*rights\* as humans, and therefore should not be owned by a human. Such as: Breeders shouldn't breed (words like \*force them to breed\* comes to mind); Breeders shouldn't \*force\* them to be performance dogs, or show dogs, or therapy dogs. By humanizing dogs (pawparents, furbabies, my kids) in the media and everyday usage, it increases that blurring tenfold. It gives the Extremists that much more ammunition to use against the owning of animals. We need to be cognizant that by buying into and using the blurred language promoted by the Animal Rights groups and the media, we are legitimizing that language. ARs use the transformed expressions in order to justify legislation – such as the Guardian ordinance in Boulder and other cities and states. That ordinance takes away the \*ownership\* and creates a completely different legal definition for the dog in your house. Beware, or be aware of the language that you use, because it may and will have unanticipated and unintended consequences.

Armada, MI  
Closes 6-4