



TOPLINES

Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need."

Kahlil Gibran

TOPLINES
Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan
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**May/June
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Inside this issue:

The Unspoken Truth About Spaying and Neutering Our Pets

Cover Story	pg 1
Next Meeting Info	pg 2
2010 Calendar	pg 3
The Whelping Box	pg 3
Tips & Show Calendar	pg 5
Agility Trial Ad	pg 6

Officers 2010

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Why is it so hard to have a factual conversation about the medical risks of spaying a neutering pets? The health implications of sterilizing dogs and cats are complex and highly individualized. Pet owners, animal advocates and veterinarians should be able to talk about them openly and honestly. But we can't. Why not? The societal benefits of mass spay/neuter -- the prevention of unwanted puppies and kittens, and ending the killing of pets in shelters -- are seen as so overwhelming that the slightest suggestion of a medical downside to sterilization is met with an avalanche of hostility. The backlash can be so severe, for example, that when I've [reported](#) research about increased health risks in sterilized dogs or cats, I've been accused of not caring about the lives of shelter pets, or of being hopelessly naive about people's ability to analyze the risks and benefits of medical procedures. Promoting spay/neuter has evidently become so important that it trumps everything else, including the truth. Read the advice in dog and cat [magazines](#) or the Web sites of [animal welfare organizations](#),

and you'll be assured that not only are there no adverse effects of spaying and neutering, but opting for the surgery will make your pets healthier and better behaved. Conventional wisdom says that altered pets are less likely to soil in the house, to roam and to fight. They won't get testicular, uterine or ovarian cancer or infections, and they'll have a greatly reduced chance of getting mammary cancer. It sounds so great it almost makes you want to rush right out and get spayed or neutered yourself. Some of those things are true. You can't get cancer or an infection in an organ that you no longer possess, so it's accurate to say that your dog or cat won't get ovarian, uterine or testicular cancer or infections. And there is an increased incidence of mammary cancer in unspayed female dogs and a pretty high rate of uterine infection as well. But there are also notable [health risks](#) associated with having your dogs and cats spayed or neutered. These include an increased incidence of some cancers, including osteosarcoma, a painful and usually fatal bone cancer,

in neutered male dogs. Neutered males also have a greater chance of getting prostate cancer and transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder. Spayed females have a greater incidence of urinary incontinence. They may also have a higher risk of bladder infections. Meanwhile, spayed female and neutered male dogs have a significantly greater incidence of anterior cruciate ligament injuries than intact dogs. Recent [research](#) by Purdue University suggests that female dogs (and, interestingly, female humans) live longer if they keep their ovaries. And yes, no matter what you've been told, study after study has shown that spayed and neutered dogs and cats weigh more when fed the same amount of calories as intact animals. The surgery won't "make" them fat, but by changing how their metabolism functions, the amount of food they can eat without gaining weight is reduced. For most dogs and cats that's actually no big deal -- just feed them a little less, exercise them a little more, and they'll be fine. But how do you

**Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan
Annual CERF Clinic
June 19, 2010**



Dr. Patricia Gearhart ACVO
—Starting at 9:00am—
\$25 per dog

Your dog's registration information will be needed for eye checks

POTLUCK LUNCH-Starts at 12:00 Noon

Please call Debbie at (517) 522-4173 or e-mail at Sercatep@yahoo.com with reservations for eye checks and lunch. Please let her know what you plan on bringing for the potluck
Remember to bring lawn chairs, exercise pens

Business Meeting-Immediately following Lunch

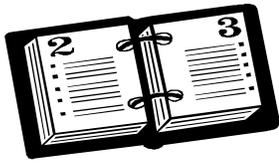
If you wish to discuss a matter, have your information ready. Committees, be ready with your reports. This will help to keep time to a minimum.

This is being held at the home of Debbie & Del Herrell
13551 Phal Rd, Grass lake, MI 49240

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!!

DIRECTIONS: I-94 from the East: Exit 157 Pierce Rd. – at the end of the exit turn left (old US-12 Michigan Ave.) Go 4 1/2 miles to Francisco Rd., turn left. Go to stop sign. Turn right on to Grass Lake Rd. Go 1/2 mile to Fishville Rd. Turn left. After S curve is Phal Rd. Turn right (only goes to the right) to the second house on the left (farm)

I-94 from the West: Grass Lake Exit (Mt. Hope Rd.) at the end of the exit turn right onto Mt. Hope Rd. Go to the stop light. Turn left on to Michigan Ave. Go approximately one mile to Norvell Rd. Turn right, continue through 4-way stop to the next cross road. Turn left onto Phal Rd. Go 1 1/2 miles. Farm is on the right



2010 Calendar of Important Events

*"Only those who dare to fail
greatly can ever achieve greatly."
Robert Francis Kennedy*

JUNE 19

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

AUGUST 21

October 1

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

OCTOBER 8-10

Montgomery County Weekend-Pennsylvania

OCTOBER 23

MSCM Dinner Meeting

DECEMBER 4

MSCM Christmas Banquet & Awards Coral Gables Restaurant, East Lansing



THANK GOODNESS FOR DOGS

Author Unknown

I have so much to be thankful for. I have wonderful friends and family, good food on the table and a roof over my head. I'm thankful for kind strangers, good neighbors and the beauty of nature. But most of all, I am thankful for dogs.

I am thankful for the wake-up call of a cold, wet nose and for snuggling to keep warm on chilly nights

I am blessed by the fur that is permanently embedded in everything I own and the stray dog hairs that make their

way into my lunch

I am grateful for having a third of the bed to sleep on

for getting to use half of the covers for the tail that wags and the nose that sniffs

for the eyes that gaze longingly at my dinner plate and for the jaws that destroy all squeakers, but never harm people

I'm beholden to the "tic, tic, tic" sound of paws on the floor

reminding me that a nail trim is due and the forgiveness after the dreaded task is done

I appreciate the barking that tells me a stranger is at the door

and even the barking that warns of potential danger from squirrels and pedestrians

For endless games of fetch, Frisbee and tug-o-war for kibble-scented kisses and funky smelling feet and for coming when called (usually) for all this, I am glad

For the excited greeting upon my return, even if I've only been gone for a minute the sheer glee of puppies to the patience and wisdom of seniors and the unconditional love and affection, especially on my darkest days for making me feel as if I am the most special, I am thankful to my dog.



The Whelping Box



DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR TROPHY DONATION!!

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!

MSCM TROPHY DONATION FORM

Amount _____

Check Number _____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

Mail to:
Lynn Baitinger
5400 Orion Rd.
Rochester, MI 48306

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

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.



Continued from page 1

do that when you're having it beaten into your brain that spaying and neutering does not, cannot, will not make your dog or cat fat or have any other adverse effects?

This is where I have a problem. I'm not opposed to spaying and neutering. Most of my dogs and all of my cats have been sterilized. I believe that for most pets, the health benefits will outweigh the risks. Furthermore, most people will choose to sterilize their family pets because managing intact dogs and cats is often messy and inconvenient, and our increasingly urbanized and over-scheduled lives only make it more of a hassle.

Most importantly, the benefit to society of preventing unwanted litters of puppies and kittens is huge. Dogs and cats who are never born can't die in a shelter or live homeless on the streets.

But is any of that a valid reason for what I can only call the deliberate spreading of false and misleading information? Does it justify the anger and opposition that meets me and anyone else who openly discusses the medical risks to spaying and neutering?

Yes, I know there are millions of homeless pets in this country. And there are people out there who will seize on any excuse not to alter their pets. They're the ones who often let their animals, particularly cats, have unwanted litters.

I also know that there's someone out there who's going to read this column and say, "Hell, Martha, spaying and neutering will make our dog get cancer. I read it on the Internet!"

But those aren't the majority. Most people are trying to do the best they can for their pets and their families, and they simply need factual information on which to base their health care decisions.

For their sakes, and those of their pets, we have to stop fearing the truth and reacting angrily when we hear it.

If we can't have honest conversations about the health consequences of spaying and neutering, people won't be on the alert for signs their sterilized pet is gaining weight, because they'll have been told that, "spaying and neutering won't make your pet fat."

They won't take precautions to protect their spayed or neutered pets from avoidable risks such as cruciate ligament injuries.

They may not be aware that some risks of spaying and neutering can be decreased by delaying the surgery until a dog or cat is a little older, while others are breed-related, which can affect which breed of dog a person adopts in the first place.

There's one final reason I firmly believe we have to stop shutting down this conversation: Because it erodes trust. If you lie to

people, they'll stop believing what you tell them.

Veterinarians, shelter workers, dog trainers and pet sitters -- all have a certain amount of credibility with the pet-owning public. Veterinarians, in fact, have one of the highest levels of trust of any profession. We shouldn't squander that in order to manipulate people into doing what we think they should do -- or because we're afraid some idiot is going to use it as an excuse not to spay or neuter his pets.

Let's face it, the guy who refuses to remove his dog's equipment because he thinks it will make his own shrivel up and fall off is not being moved by facts and a rational decision-making process.

Cheating caring dog and cat owners out of truthful medical information because we're worried about what that guy is going to do not only doesn't make any sense, it simply hurts the pets of good owners.

By Christie Keith

Read more: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/g/a/2010/04/06/petscol040610.DTL#ixzz0ppNUKkPG>

Tips

Did You Know?

Drinking 2 glasses of Gatorade can relieve headache pain almost immediately without the unpleasant side effects caused by traditional relievers.

Sore throat? Just mix 1/4 cup of vinegar with 1/4 cup of honey and take 1 tablespoon 6 times a day. The vinegar kills the bacteria.

Cure urinary tract infections with Alka-Seltzer. Just dissolve 2 tablets in a glass of water and drink it at the onset of symptoms. Alka-Seltzer begins eliminating UTIs almost instantly—even though it has never been advertised for this use

Honey remedy for skin blemishesCover the blemish with a dab of honey and place a band-aid over it. Honey kills the bacteria, keeps the skin sterile, and speeds healing. Works overnight.

Coca-Cola cure for rust. Forget those expensive rust removers. Just saturate an abrasive sponge with Coca-Cola and scrub the rust stain. The phosphoric acid in the coke is what gets the job done.

Colgate toothpaste makes an excellent salve for burns.

Cleaning liquid that doubles as a bug killer....If menacing bees, wasps, hornets, or yellow jackets get into your home and you can't find the insect spray, try a spray of Formula 409. Insects drop to the ground instantly.

Rainy day cure for dog odor....Next time your dog comes in from the rain, simply wipe him down with a Bounce dryer sheet (or any brand), instantly making your dog smell springtime fresh!

"Welcome every morning with a smile. Look on the new day as another special gift from your Creator, another golden opportunity to complete what you were unable to finish yesterday. Be a self-starter. Let your first hour set the theme of success and positive action that is certain to echo through your entire day. Today will never happen again. Don't waste it with a false start or no start at all. You were not born to fail."

Og Mandino

Show Calendar

Obedience & Rally

July 10,11 Obed & Rally
Ann Arbor KC
Monroe, MI
Closes 6-23

July 16, 17, 18 Obed
Holland/Battle Creek KC
Marshall, MI
Closes 6-30

July 24, 25
UKC Obed-4 trials
Wolverine DTC
Northfield, MI
www.ukcdogs.com

Aug. 14 Rally, Aug. 15, 16 Obed
Obed. Train. Club of Gtr Lansing
Lansing, MI
Closes 7-28

Aug. 21, 22 Obed
St. Joe Valley Agility Club
Buchanan, MI
Closes 8-4

Aug. 28, 29 Obed
Companion DTC
Grand Blanc, MI
Closes 8-11

Conformation

June 26, 27
Armada, Mi—Macomb KC

July 3,4,5
Lima, OH—Dayton, Lima, Sandusky
KC

July 10, 12
Monroe, MI—Ann Arbor KC

July 16,17,18
Madison, OH—Grand River &
Ashtabula KC

July 16,17,18—Holland & Battle
Creek KC

July 24, 25
Medina OH— Medina & Richland
County KC

Agility

July 23, 24, 25
Southern MI Weim. Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 7-7

July 30
MSCM
Dexter, MI
Closes 7-16

July 31, Aug. 1
Fort Det. GWP Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 7-16

Aug. 7, 8-Outdoors
Capital City
Williamston, MI
Closes 7-23

Aug. 20, 21, 22
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 8-6

Aug. 26, 27, 28, 29
Oakland Cty, CDTC of Flint
Grand Blanc, MI
Closes 8-11

July 30, 31, Aug. 1, 2
Marion, OH—Dan Emmett & Marion
KC

August 5-8
Canfield, OH—Ft. Steubin, Columbiana
Co., Beaver Co. KC

August 6-8
Marshall, MI—Michiana, Sturgis, Ber-
rien KC

August 19-22
Muncie, Ind.—Anderson & Muncie KC

August 21, 22
St. Clairsville, OH—St. Clairsville OH
KC

August 27-29
Chagrin Falls, OH—Sugarbush &
Western Reserve KC



*“Who you
calling
Mini?”*

*Connor owned by
club member
Lynn Baitinger*



MSCM's First All Breed Agility Trial *(three day trial weekend)*

July 30, 2010 • Dexter, MI

For trial information call Lynn at 248.390.4900 or visit www.msc-mi.org

Commemorative T-Shirt Order form

Who You Calling Mini?™
(In Full Color)

Order yours now - Limited Supply!
\$15.00 + \$5.00 postage, if mailed
ORDER NO LATER THAN JULY 15TH

T-shirts will be delivered at the Agility Trial
Makes Checks out to “MSCM”
Mail payment to: Lynn Baitinger,
5400 Orion, Rochester, MI 48306

Size: XL L M S (circle size)
(Tee's are women's full cut)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____



Order one for a friend!