



TOPLINES

September/
October 2015

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

Inside this issue:



“Nothing In Life Is Free: The Alpha Dog Boot Camp”

Cover Story	pg.1 & 3
Next Meeting Info	pg.2
Calendar & Whelping Box	pg.4
Performance Corner	pg.5
Show Calendar	pg.6

Officers 2015

President: Sue Quinn
V.President: Margo Heiden
Secretary: Donna Giles
Treasurer: Sue Schauer



If you own a dominant dog– especially a dog that has exhibited aggressive behavior– then you'll need to follow these guidelines for the rest of your dog's life. They will help create a more natural relationship between you and your dog. But don't be fooled: This approach also works on shy, timid dogs–because the shy, timid dog gains confidence by knowing that you are a strong leader who will protect and keep him safe. Following our Nothing In Life Is Free: Alpha Dog Boot Camp approach will create a balanced, harmonious and more natural relationship between you and your dog. Remember: Dogs are not “hairy children.” They have different drives and instincts than children do. And although there are some similarities– your dog will interpret your behavior through the eyes of canine genetics that have evolved over several hundred years of domestication.

1. Neuter or spay your dog. Not only will it eliminate the possibility for various types of cancer to develop, but it will also reduce hormonal dominance levels. Have your veterinarian give your dog a full health check-up.
2. Stop roughhousing and playing tug-of-war type games with your dog. It teaches your dog that challenging you is fun. It is not a productive activity in any manner, for the dominant dog. When your dog wins, he thinks he is stronger than you; and stronger dogs are always higher in the social hierarchy of the pack.
3. Teach your dog the down-stay exercise and use it throughout your day. Instead of letting your dog wander around the house or go where he pleases, make him hold a down-stay while you're preparing dinner, watching television, changing your clothes, etc... Make your dog stay down for at least a full 30 minutes every day.
4. Do not reward your dog if he hasn't first earned the praise. That is, make him “work for the praise.” If your dog approaches you and demands to be petted, then make him sit, first. Or hold a down-stay. Or some other exercise. He needs to learn that nothing in life is free!
5. Only issue commands that you are in a position to enforce. In other words, don't use the formal “Come” command if you're not in a position to physically make your dog come. Do not tell your dog, “Down” if he's not wearing a training collar and short leash (tab). Otherwise you'll be teaching your dog that your commands are

Continued on Page 3

Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan

Brunch Meeting

Sunday, October 18, 2015

11:00 a.m.



Home of Brian and Sue Quinn
48226 Revere
Macomb, MI 48044
(586)532-0725

Brunch will be starting at 11 am
Meeting will follow
Conformation photo critique after the meeting

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.

Please rsvp Sue at quinndixie@gmail.com or the MSCM List and let her know what you would like to bring for the potluck. Members are asked to bring a brunch type dish to pass. Sue will provide pop/ water .

Directions: Take M-59 (Hall Rd) to Tilch Road, Tilch is just east of Hayes Road. There is a Discount Tire and a Beaumont Medical Center on the corners of M-59 and Tilch. You will have to do a Michigan left to take Tilch north if you are coming from the west. Go north on Tilch, and through the next traffic light (21 Mile Road). The speed limit will drop to 25 mph. Continue straight, there will be a four way stop, keep going straight. The first street on your right (after the 4 way stop) is Nathan. Turn right on Nathan (heading east). The second street on your left will be Revere. Turn left on Revere. I have a reddish brick ranch on the east (right) side, there is a lamp post in the yard. Park anywhere on the street.

Continued from Page 1

meaningless. And in the pack, when the alpha dog wants a subordinate dog to do something... he's never ignored, as this would jeopardize the survival of the pack.

6. Don't wait to see if your dog will obey a command. If you're having dominance problems with your dog, then every command needs to be enforced, immediately. Eventually, your dog will become conditioned to respond to commands— and at that same time, you will have noticed your dog has begun to see you is his pack leader. But until that point (which can take several months) ... you need to enforce commands, as soon as you give them.

7. There's an old military slogan: Lead, Follow or Get out of the Way. In short: You need to be the leader. This means that you need to be the first one to walk through doors, the first to eat, and the first to decide where you're going to walk. Alpha dogs never walk behind the pack. They always lead. If your dog is pulling on the leash or walking out in front of you— you need to change this and learn how to get your dog to walk on a loose leash and pay more attention to you than anything else that may be going on.

8. Your dog needs to "work" for everything. Does he want you to throw the ball? Then he needs to lay down first. Is he hungry? Then he needs to sit and stay there, until you tell him that it's okay to eat.

9. Your dog should be wearing a leash and training collar, anytime you're with him. You cannot enforce a command if your dog isn't wearing a short leash (a tab) and a training collar.

10. If your dog is not wearing a leash and training collar, then he

needs to be confined in his crate or dog run. Free run of the house is no longer permitted. Seems harsh? Only to us humans.

Remember: You're dealing with a dominant dog. Act like the pack leader so he'll view you as the pack leader! Note: Never leave a training collar on your dog when he's unsupervised— even in the crate or kennel run.

11. You can create your own short leash (tab) by buying short piece of rope (or plastic coated cable if your dog is a chewer) and then tie a knot at the end of the rope. Attach the other end to a harness snap (about .27 cents \$USD at your local hardware store).

It just needs to be long enough that you can grab, create a bit of slack, and give a tug on the tab when you're correcting your dog for bad behavior.

12. Do not let your dog sleep on the bed. And do not let your dog sleep on your child's bed. This is very important. More dominance and aggression problems are created by people who let their dogs sleep on their bed, than probably any other single behavior. The pack leader always sleeps on higher ground. Subordinate dogs sleep on lower ground. Being higher (or on top) is a dominance behavior.

13. Work short obedience sessions, throughout the day. 5-15 minutes. There is no limit as to how many obedience sessions you can work with your dog. The more, the better.

14. When your dog does something right, praise him. The way to effectively praise your dog is by saying, "Good dog!" and then making physical contact. Dogs are very physical animals. And don't be shy. Some dogs like to be patted, while others like to be stroked. Observe which style of

praise your dog likes best, but always make physical contact when you praise your dog.

15. Correct your dog every time your dog exhibits an unwanted behavior. There are many different ways to correct your dog, which we elaborate more on at Dogproblems.com. Remember: You must make sure that your dog gets corrected every time he exhibits an unwanted behavior. (See point #10, above).

16. Dogs live in the moment. You should, too. If your dog exhibits a bad behavior, correct him for it and then forget it. It's not personal. Dogs don't do things out of "spite." They do not possess the ability to use long term logic.

17. You decide when your dog is allowed to meet visitors. Do not let your dog immediately run up to visitors and greet them. You need to decide when and how— which in most cases, should be after holding a sit-stay or down-stay.



2015 Calendar of Important Events



OCTOBER 18

Lunch Meeting held at the home of Sue Quinn in Macomb. Details on Page 3

NOVEMBER 30

MSCM Membership
EXPIRES TODAY if dues are unpaid!

DECEMBER 5

MSCM Christmas Banquet & Awards-Coral Gables Restaurant, East Lansing 4:00 p.m.

MSCM Nominations for 2016

President—Mark Jaeger
Vice President—Margo Heiden
Secretary—Donna Giles
Treasurer—Diana (Sue) Schauer
Board Member— Sue Quinn

The duty of this committee is to prepare a slate of candidates for Club officers for the following year. At least three months (September) prior to the Annual Meeting, the Committee shall mail to each member a list of names they have placed in nomination for each Club office. Any member may make nominations, which must be seconded by another member. All nominators shall incur the consent of each nominee before placing their name on the slate. All nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary by the regular October meeting. The election shall take place during the Annual Meeting in December.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Sue Schauer
Terri Harmon
Joanne Forster



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!

2015 MSCM Annual Awards

If you have a new 2015 AKC Champion or Obedience title winner, please send the following information to Lynn Baitinger:

1. The complete name of the dog with all of it's titles exactly as they are to be engraved
2. The name and date of the show that the dog finished at
3. The name (s) of all of the dog's owners

Please send your information to Lynn by January 9, 2016

Lynn Baitinger
5400 Orion Rd.
Rochester, MI 48306

THANK-YOU!!!!

A huge thank-you goes out to the members that gave of their time and presence at this year's Specialty Show!!! Without the hard work and strong dedication of a portion of the membership, our Specialties would not be the success that they are!

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB OF MICHIGAN

TOPLINES

is a bi-monthly publication

January-February

March-April

May-June

July-August

September-October

November-December



Performance



by
JoAnne Scott

Owner

Keeping Your Dog in Good Condition

Keeping a dog in good physical condition is an essential component in training and competing in performance sports. Of course, even the best conditioned dog can suffer an injury. Injuries happen not only from participating in performance sports, but just as often from dogs running, jumping, playing and just being dogs.

Canine physical therapy is growing in popularity and can help your dog heal from surgery or an injury or just improve the dog's overall conditioning. Modalities such as underwater treadmills and swimming pools are wonderful for exercising a dog's muscles without carrying their full weight.

However, you don't need to have access to specialized equipment to improve your dog's conditioning. There are many great exercises you can do at home to increase and maintain your dog's strength and flexibility. The following are a few that I use with my dogs. The number of repetitions of each is a

general guideline. Only do as many as your dog is comfortable with at a time. Stretches:

Cookies from the shoulders: In standing position, have your dog take a treat from near each shoulder while you stabilize his pelvis so he doesn't just turn in a circle. This concentrates the stretch to the neck area. Hold the position for several seconds. Always perform the same number stretches on each side.

Cookies from the hips: In standing position, have your dog take a treat from near each hip. Again, stabilize his pelvis so he doesn't just turn in a circle. This concentrates the stretch to the middle of the back. Hold the position for several seconds.

Cookies from the floor: In standing position, have your dog take a treat from the floor between his front feet. This gently stretches the entire topline. Hold the position for several seconds. Exercises:

Sit to stand: Have your dog sit, and then slowly lure him into a stand by pushing up with his rear legs. Repeat up to 10-12 times.

Sit ups: Have your dog sit, and then slowly lure him into sitting up with his front feet off the floor. Repeat 6-8 times.

Three leg standing: In standing position, lift one leg at a time. Lift front legs up and forward and rear legs up

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.



and backward. Support the leg very lightly so that the dog is supporting his weight on three legs. Begin with the leg flexed which is easier for the dog, and work up to holding the leg in an extended position. Hold the position for 15 seconds. Repeat 6-8 times.

Rear leg standing: While sitting on some stairs, a chair or the couch, have your dog stand facing you. Gently lift his front feet up so the dog is supporting most of his weight on his rear legs. Encourage your dog to maintain this position for up to 30 seconds. Repeat 6-8 times.

Diagonal leg lifts: Lift the right front and left rear legs gently in flexed position, hold for 3-5 seconds, alternate sides. Gradually increase repetitions to eight on each side.

Cavaletti poles: Use 6-8 poles raised 1-3 inches off the floor spaced approximately 15" apart. Ask your dog to trot through the poles. Gradually increase the number of repetitions through the poles to 20. You can make cavaletti poles with PVC pipe and plastic cones to hold the ends of the poles.

Figure eights: Walk your dog in circles about 8-10 feet in diameter in a figure eight pattern. Work up to 3-5 minute sessions.

Performance Show Calendar

Obedience & Rally

Oct. 30 Rally, Oct. 31 & Nov. 1
Obed.
Companion DTC of Flint
Flint, MI
Closes 10-114

Nov. 5-8 Obed. & Rally
Various Kennel Clubs
Kalamazoo, MI
Closes 10-21

Dec. 5-6 Obed. & Rally
OTCGL
East Lansing, MI
Closes 11-18

Agility

Oct.30, Nov. 1 & 2
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 10-16

Nov. 6-8
Fort Detroit GWP Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 10-20

Nov. 13-15
Mt. Pleasant KC
Midland, MI
Closes 10-30

Nov. 20-22
Canine Combustion
Grand Blanc, MI
Closes 11-6

Nov. 27-29
Capital City Agility Club
East Lansing, MI
Closes 11-11

Dec. 4-6
Mich. Boxer
Midland, MI
Closes 11-20

Dec. 11-13
Siberian Husky Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 11-27

Dec. 18-20
Weimaraner Club
Dexter, MI
Closes 12-4

Dec. 26-28
Central MI Agility Club
Midland, MI
Closes 12-12

Conformation Show Calendar

October 24 & 25 Delaware OH KC
Delaware Ohio
Entries Closed

Oct 28- Nov1, NE Ind.KC, LaPorte Cty KC,
Sturgis KC, Marion KC, NE Ind. KC
Ft. Wayne, Ind.
Closes 10-14

Nov. 5-8, Pontiac KC, Grtr Muskegeon KC,
Kzoo KC, Gr. Rapids KC
Kalamazoo, MI
Closes 10-21

Nov 12-15 Sandusky KC, Dayton KC, Lima
KC, Ctrl Ohio KC
Columbus, Ohio
Closes 10-28

Braggs

On Sunday October 27, 2015 at the Monroe Kennel Club Show in Monroe, MI, Jofor's Nobody But Me (Blake) went Winners Dog under Judge Sean Delmar for a 4 point major. He was handled by Lindsay Green and is owned by Joanne Forster



Continued from page 5

Backward walking: Using a toy or treat, encourage your dog to step backwards. Gradually increase to 5-7 feet of walking backward. Repeat 2-3 times.

Side-stepping: Using a toy or treat, with a hand on the side of the dog's hip to keep his body straight, encourage your dog to step sideways. Gradually increase to 8-10 feet in each direction. Repeat 2-3 times on each side.

Keep your exercise sessions short, and vary which exercises you have your dog do from day-to-day. Be sure to keep his motivation high with toys and/or treats. It's always a good idea to consult with your Veterinarian before starting an exercise program with your dog.