



Beard 'n Brows

Mount Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club, serving Maryland, Virginia & Washington, DC since 1955 Holiday Issue 2010
"Celebrating the spirit of the Miniature Schnauzer"

The Mount Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club is affiliated with
The American Miniature Schnauzer Club &
The American Kennel Club.



2010=2011 Leadership Team

President:	Richard Edwards
Vice President	Beth Hinchliffe
Secretary	Lois McCormick
Treasurer:	B.J. Arczynski

Board of Directors:

Sue Faber
Laurese Katen
Donna Parzow
Shawne Imler
(AMSC Delegate)

Committee Chairperson

Specialty Show: Richard Edwards



For Newsletter contributions, contact:
Sharon Edwards at resle@comcast.net
or phone (301) 947-8811.

Web site: minischnauzer.org
Web Master: Chris Franck



The Thanksgiving turkey and pumpkin pie are just memories now (except for the remnants on our thighs), and the holiday season is in full gear. Remember to join the club for our Holiday Party, on Sunday, December 12 at 1:00 pm at Rich and Sharon Edwards. You will receive an evite (electronic invitation) that allows you to RSVP.



Featured in this Issue: In keeping with the holiday spirit, **Beard 'n Brows** gets the season rolling with timely safety tips, a holiday recipe, and other exciting surprises.

- Holiday "Oh No's" – what to watch out for this holiday season
- Health – Urinary Tract Infections
- Results of the member questionnaire
- So your dog is afraid of New Year's fireworks – what to do

President's Letter



Dear Members,

How quickly the year passes – it seems that just a few weeks ago we were worrying about cold weather for our first spring meeting, then we worried about the heat for our summer picnic, and now we're wishing for a white Christmas.

My thanks go out to everyone who participated in our Specialty in October. The show and lunch could not have been successful without the many hours of work you donated to ensure the club had a fantastic Specialty. Our entries were up this year compared to last year and we had more members and guests attend the luncheon than expected. The food was great and everyone had a good time visiting and “talking dogs”.

MVMSC provided supported entry trophies for Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Dog and Winners Bitch and Best of Winners at the Hatboro KC show, which was held in October as part of the Montgomery County weekend. We received many positive comments on both the trophies offered as well as the presentation of the trophy table.

Congratulations to the new leadership team for 2010-2011. New to the team is Beth Hinchliffe, Vice President. My thanks to Beth for accepting this role as a relatively new member of the club. I am sure her fresh perspective will serve the club well. B. J. Arczynski is our new Treasurer, following a distinguished term by Laurese Katen, who will remain a board member. We appreciate the many hours of hard work Laurese has given the club over the years as Treasurer. Sue Faber, Shawne Imler (AMSC delegate) and Donna Parzow remain on the board.

The results of our member survey have been compiled and are included in this newsletter. Thanks to everyone who completed and returned this survey. We will use the results to try to cater the events to the wishes of our members. We will alternate our meetings between those that are more educational in nature and those that are more “just for fun” and include the dogs.

I wish all members a healthful and happy holiday season! I am looking forward to the holiday party on December 12 and hope everyone has the date reserved for a good time.

Rich Edwards
MVMSC President

Welcome New Club Member –

Nancy Snow – Washington, D.C.

Take the “Oh No” Out of your and your Schnauzer’s Holiday “Ho-Ho-Ho

Yes, it’s the holiday time of year again. While you’re busy decorating, baking, wrapping gifts, and preparing your household for guests, remember to watch out for holiday temptations for your pets. Don’t let a pet disaster turn both your and your MS’s holiday “Ho-Ho-Ho!” into a holiday “Oh No!”

Pet Treats

Be careful when giving Fido his stocking stuffer. Because he likes his favorite treats so much, Fido may eat them whole, or eat too many at one time. Pet treats, whether biscuits, rawhides, or jerky sticks, are most digestible when chewed into small pieces. If Fido eats the treats whole, or eats too many at one time, he may not be able to digest them. Un-chewed pet treats, particularly in small dogs, can get stuck in the trachea (windpipe) or gastrointestinal tract (esophagus, stomach, and intestines).

If a piece of pet treat gets stuck in your dog’s trachea (windpipe), you may see him become frantic and start drooling and choking. Severe tracheal blockages are fairly common, especially around the holidays, and all are life-threatening. So, if you see your dog drooling and choking, he needs an emergency visit to his veterinarian!

If a piece of pet treat gets stuck in a dog’s esophagus (the tube that connects the mouth to the stomach that food travels through), he may gulp, start drooling, or bring up undigested food after eating. This happens because the piece of pet treat is blocking the dog food from getting to his stomach and there’s nowhere else for the food to go but back up. This can go on for days if the blockage is not removed.

If something is stuck in your MS’s stomach or intestines, such as a bone or chew toy, the signs are different and may take several days to be noticed. He may vomit and have diarrhea, be less active, not want to eat, and have stomach pain. If the blockage stays in Fido’s stomach or intestines for too long, he may become very ill. The worst-case scenario is when a hole develops at the blockage site, causing a life-threatening infection.

In the cases above, your dog needs a visit to his veterinarian as soon as possible. If he’s choking, it’s an emergency requiring immediate action. When in doubt, contact your veterinarian for medical advice. Your veterinarian may need to take x-rays, use ultrasound, or perform other tests to see what and where the problem is. Your veterinarian may use an endoscope (a long tube with a built-in camera and grabbing tools) to remove reachable objects from the esophagus and stomach. Surgery may be necessary to remove blockages in the intestines.

Tree Ornaments, Tinsel, and Gift Wrappings

Tree adornments, candles, other decorations and wrapping leftovers can cause choking or severe intestinal problems if swallowed. Avoid decorating your tree with strands of popcorn or other items that might tempt your dog’s appetite. Tinsel and angel hair can lead to stomach upset and possible intestinal blockage if ingested. Signs may take a few hours or several days to appear, and include vomiting, diarrhea, lack of appetite, and decreased activity. Play it safe—keep the tinsel off the tree and collect all ribbons after opening your gifts!

If possible, avoid using glass ornaments – they break easily and may cut your dog’s feet and mouth. Also, dogs may find tree water tempting to drink. If you use preservatives in the tree water, be sure they are pet-friendly.

Plants – many holiday plants cause your dog to become sick. Keep all plants out of your MS's reach. Some of the more common offenders are listed below.

Poinsettias

Dogs do not realize that poinsettias have a milky white, latex sap that can be very irritating to his mouth and stomach. Signs of poinsettia toxicity include drooling, and sometimes, vomiting and diarrhea. Fortunately, the signs associated with poinsettia toxicity are not too bad. However, if your MS sniffs on your poinsettia leaves, you can help him by picking up his food and water dishes for a couple of hours to let his stomach settle. Also call your veterinarian for medical advice.

Mistletoe

The major toxic chemicals in mistletoe are lectins and phoratoxins. These chemicals affect the heart, causing low blood pressure and slowed heart rate. Fortunately for dogs, severe toxicity is uncommon and usually only occurs if your pet eats large amounts of mistletoe. The signs of mistletoe toxicity include gastrointestinal upset (vomiting and diarrhea in dogs), difficulty breathing, slowed heart rate, low blood pressure, and odd behavior. If you suspect your MS ate mistletoe, call your veterinarian for medical advice.

Holly

The main toxic culprit in holly leaves and berries is a group of chemicals called saponins. In dogs and cats, these chemicals cause drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, and decreased activity. If your MS eats holly, it's a good idea to call your veterinarian. Your veterinarian can give you advice on what you can do at home to make your pets more comfortable and help you decide if you should bring your pet in for a visit.

Human Treats

During the holidays, dogs are often not as carefully monitored as normal due to all the festivities, and the number of human treats available makes a bad combination. So what if your MS eats some chocolates from the candy dish along with several sugar-free mints? Can the chocolate and the mints hurt him? It depends. Chocolate toxicity depends on the type and amount of chocolate ingested, the dog's body weight, and if he's extra-sensitive to the toxic compound in chocolate called theobromine. Theobromine toxicity can cause a variety of signs, from mild to severe, including vomiting, diarrhea, fast heart rate, restlessness, hyperactivity, increased urination, muscle spasms, and seizures.

The sugar-free mints can cause life-threatening problems for your dog if the mints contain xylitol. Xylitol, an increasingly popular artificial sweetener, is found in food items such as candy, gum, and baked goods, and personal hygiene products, such as toothpaste and mouthwash. Signs occur quickly after dogs eat xylitol-containing items. Vomiting is generally the first sign, followed by signs associated with the sudden lowering of blood sugar (hypoglycemia), such as decreased activity, weakness, staggering, lack of coordination, collapse, and seizures. Some dogs develop more severe complications, including liver failure, bleeding disorders, and death. If you suspect your dog has eaten chocolate or xylitol-containing foods, consider it an emergency and call your veterinarian immediately.

Alcohol is another potentially harmful human treat. Dogs that consume alcohol can develop serious problems depending on how much they drink. The most common signs in pets associated with the consumption of alcoholic beverages are vomiting, diarrhea, lack of coordination, weakness, decreased activity, difficulty breathing, and shaking. In severe cases, coma and death from respiratory failure can occur.

The “Wrap Up”

Don't let this information scare you into paranoia about your dog and your holiday celebrations. You can relax and enjoy your holidays simply by preventing temptations for your MS. Keep holiday decorations, people food, alcoholic beverages, and holiday plants out of reach of your furry friends. If your dog gets into things they shouldn't, don't panic! Call your veterinarian **immediately** for advice instead of waiting for serious signs to develop. Remember, only **you** can keep the “Oh No!” out of your and your pet's Holiday “Ho-Ho-Ho!”

Events Calendar



December – Holiday party, Sunday, December 12th from 1-4 pm at the home of Rich and Sharon Edwards. Phone: 301 947-8811, Address:

**21301 Golf Estates Drive
Laytonsville, MD 20882
(enter Gaithersburg into GPS)**

You will receive another email containing an invite to the party that will allow you to RSVP. After checking yes or no, and if attending, indicate in the comment box the dish you are bringing.

A ham will be provided and members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Be sure to bring an item(s) for a silent auction (proceeds to benefit the club) and a gift (\$15 max) for under the tree. We will draw numbers to see what gift you take home.

January – February – Our winter vacation. Stay tuned for the spring calendar which will appear in the next issue of Beard n' Brows slated for release prior to the start of our spring schedule.

American Miniature Schnauzer News



Notes from the AMSC –

It's a go - The 2013 spring National Roving Specialty will be held in conjunction with the Standard and Giant schnauzer nationals at the new Purina show facility near St. Louis, MO. This will be a great venue and opportunity to meet our fellow schnauzer fanciers. The three schnauzer breeds will be the only breeds shown at this show, so it will be a true “Schnauzerama”. The date will be either May or June, 2013.

**Meeting Minutes
Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club
Sunday, October 24, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 2:25 pm by Rich Edwards, President. The meeting took place at the home of Laurese Katen.

President's Report

Rich Edwards reviewed last weekend's successful specialty at Howard County. We had 19 entries for the specialty and 5 for the Sweepstakes. (B. J. Arczynski served as judge for the Sweepstakes.) Out recent participation with supported entry at the Hatboro show on Friday, October 8, was also a success.

Rich also noted that in recent weeks our bylaws have been changed to reduce the number of meetings and thereby possibly draw in more members for each meeting. Another change to our bylaws raised the maximum expenditure amount which can be spent by the Board without a vote of the entire membership (to \$250).

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the previous meeting on September 19 were read by Lois McCormick and accepted by vote of the membership. In attendance were 11 full voting members, 3 associate members and one guest.

Treasurer's Report

Laurese Katen reported updates from last month.

Income: Trophy fund:	\$30	Current operating balance:	\$5,046.15
Dues	310	Rescue Fund	: 1,227.50
Ditto	340	Trophy Fund	200.91
Silent auction	40		
Other	25.50	Total Balance	\$6,474.56
Total Income	\$745.50		

Expenses: Admin expenses	\$10.58
Newsletter/ brochure	14.80 124.99
	195.56
Printing	356.46
Survey/stamps	78.46
Subtotal	780.85
Gift card (judgeship)	25.00
Food for specialty	70.00
Total Expenses	\$875.85

Committee Reports:

Activities: No report. (Discussion was held later under Unfinished Business.)

Membership: (Laurese Katen) Interim report as of today on number of member renewals: 17 Associates and 31 full members

Awards: Donna Parzow reported that club awards for this past year were given out at the specialty luncheon. (Awards are plaques recognizing member-owned dogs who have attained their championship status or other AKC title.)

Finance: Laurese Katen will do a report on printing and mailing costs for review. We will look for ways to economize on expenditures. Mention was made that our new brochures were used both at Hatboro and at our specialty. A booklet on behavior and training of schnauzer puppies was also sold at the specialty. This booklet has been in existence for a long time and was recently updated. It has been photocopied in limited quantities rather than printed

Membership: B.J. Arczynski said that new member packet is now in use and is being sent to new members. A new member, Nancy Snow, asked about the requirement that new member applicants be sponsored by two current members. It was not clear how a prospective applicant goes about lining up sponsors if the applicant doesn't already know some club members. The consensus was that the website should clearly identify one or more people as contacts who can then invite the potential applicant to come to our meetings and thereby get to know some members.

Specialty: Rich Edwards reviewed the Board's recent decisions on participation in specialties and supported entry venues. This past year we sponsored 2 specialties, Columbia Terrier in April and the Catonsville specialty in October. At the August Board meeting, the Board decided to go back to sponsorship of one Specialty (Catonsville). But we will continue to provide trophies for supported entry for Columbia Terrier. The statement was made that our club will likely never be selected for a national club roving specialty, as we are too close geographically to the annual Montgomery show. The prospect of hosting a national roving specialty had been the motivation for agreeing to hold a local specialty with Columbia Terrier in April

Website: Rich Edwards reported that Chris Franck will continue to manage the website from his post overseas. There was discussion as to how we can make sure that prospective applicants for club membership understand from the website postings that our general meetings are open to all interested people.

Unfinished Business

We held lengthy discussion about location and programs for future meetings for this next year. For our November meeting, Karen Hoffmann will be contacted about the possibility of holding a meeting and program on schnauzer health issues at her veterinary facility. Our December meeting will be held in conjunction with our Christmas party.

The Edwards volunteered to hold the party at their home on Sunday, December 12, from 1-4 pm. Details will be sent out via email invitations. Attendees will be asked to bring a \$15 gift for a gift exchange. The club provides ham or turkey and attendees bring side dishes. Debi Durst suggested planning a Halloween party for a October 2011 meeting, for members and dogs. Other ideas: hold a picnic at Blackrock Park in Montgomery County.

Leading into our discussion of planning for activities, Sharon Edwards gave a brief summary of the results of the recent membership survey. The surveys did not provide any specific problems or a clearcut consensus on reasons why members do not attend more meetings. The biggest issue is the driving distance to any given meeting. Weekend afternoons appear to be acceptable to most people for meetings. For various reasons, Saturday or Sundays are preferred by some members. Some of the ideas that we can implement to encourage members to attend meetings:

* Vary the days/times for meetings (move meetings from Sundays to Saturdays in certain seasons.....pro-football season for example).

* Identify a standard week/day for most of our meetings (e.g., third Saturday or second Sunday of the month).

- * Plan a variety of activities on topics ranging from health issues to grooming to behavior. Include some meetings with dogs invited and some without.
- * Develop the entire year's program at the beginning of the membership year and publicize it on the website and otherwise.
- * Organize some social outings during the year that are not official club meetings.

New Business

Rich Edwards and Laurese Katen presented the slate of officers and board members for 2010/11. There were no nominations from the floor at our September 19 meeting and all nominees were unopposed. As such the slate put forward by this year's nominating committee was elected by acclamation of voting members present at the meeting. New officers/board members are:

President – Rich Edwards	Board members:
Vice-President – Beth Hinchliffe	Sue Faber
Secretary – Lois McCormick	Laurese Katen
Treasurer – B.J. Arczynski	Donna Parzow
	Shawne Imler (AMSC Delegate)

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting; it was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Lois McCormick, Secretary
Secretary

**Meeting Minutes
Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club
Saturday, November 13, 2010**

Meeting convened at 4:30 PM at Sniffers Dog Resort in Gaithersburg. Present were 7 members and one guest.

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

President's Report

Thanks to the many club members who completed and returned the member questionnaires in September and October. The results of this questionnaire will be summarized in the next newsletter. In summary, there are two areas that members feel are very important. The first is education – about the breed, health issues, grooming, events and how to get started with your MS. The second is area of important is the ability of members to social with other MS lovers and the ability to bring their dogs with them to meetings for fun and socialization. Interestingly, members are split equally on which of these areas is more important. As a result, we will be catering our meetings to alternate between the two.

Remember the holiday party will be December 12, so everyone please save the date.

Over the winter break, the board will be putting together the spring meeting schedule including dates and locations. It will be published prior to the first spring meeting so everyone will have sufficient time to mark their calendars for several months of events.

Most members have renewed their membership for 2011. If you have not, there is still time – contact Laurese Katen.

Secretary's Report - none

Treasurer's Report

Income of \$436 primarily from \$260 in dues and \$127 from the Hatboro KC for our supported entry. Expenses of \$248, all related to the annual championship plaques awarded at our Specialty and food for the Specialty. Bank of America balance is \$7,237, comprised of \$65 trophy (excess of 2010 trophy fund revenue over expenses), \$1,228 rescue, and \$5,944 in the general fund.

As of today, 50 members have renewed their memberships for the new year. This consists of 22 regular members (with voting rights) and 28 associate members (no voting rights). Members who live a long distance from the central D.C. area have opted for the associate membership in order to not impact the club's ability to obtain a quorum needed for voting on items required by the club by-laws.

One new member application has been received from Art Titus of Wilmington, DE. His membership will be voted on by the board at the next board meeting.

Unfinished Business

The idea of changing our annual Specialty to the spring in conjunction with the shows at the state fairgrounds in Timonium has been rejected. The thought is that the potential of the October date is better for getting larger entries than is a spring date. The spring date was considered because of the possibility of hosting the spring roving national specialty. However, our proximity to Philadelphia, where the fall national Specialty is held annually, would preclude us from getting the spring national. We will be able to select the judge for our fall Specialty going forward and this should help increase the entry size. Our goal is to get entries outside the club. This year there were only three entries not associated with club members.

The results of the member questionnaire were presented and will be presented in the next newsletter.

Committee Reports – none

New Business - none

A motion was made for adjournment at 5:10 after which a discussion of the breed standard was led by Sharon Edwards.

Respectfully submitted by:
Sharon Edwards for Lois McCormick, Secretary

Bragging Rights



Due to the number of conformation shows, Beard 'n Brow only reports wins of club members' dogs at Westminster, Eukanuba, and AMSC Nationals. For MVMSC Specialties results for BOB, BOS, Winners Dog and Bitch, Best of Winners, and Sweeps are posted.

Montgomery Kennel Club (National Specialty) – Blue Bell, PA – October 2010

Select Dog: CH. Blythewood Full Metal Jacket
Award of Merit: GCH. Earthsong Remedy for the Blues

MVMSC Specialty - Howard County Fairgrounds - October 2010

Complete catalogue results are shown below.

Puppy Sweepstakes – 5 entries

Best Puppy in Sweeps: Dimension-Dow's Bella Fortuno

Regular Classes and Best of Breed – 19 entries

Puppy Dogs 6-9 months:

1. Dimension-Dow's Bella Fortuno
2. Cedars It's Raining Black Ash

12 and Under 18 month Dogs:

1. Ernhart's Enjoy the Ride

Open, Black and Black and Silver Dogs:

1. Sarius Happy Days are Here Again
2. Tex Star Black Cosmic Astro

Winner's Dog: Dimension-Dow's Bella Fortuno

Reserve: Sarius Happy Days are Here Again

Puppy Bitches 6-9 months:

1. Lonestar's Standing Ovation

Puppy Bitches 9-12 months:

1. Cam-Ron's A Street Car Named Desire

12 and under 18 month Bitches:

1. Ernhart Jersey Shore

Bred by Exhibitor Bitches:

1. Manit's Gala in Black Velvet
2. Beauideal Red Hot Rain

Open, Black and Black and Silver Bitches:

1. Shazzam of Oz Something Else

Open, Salt and Pepper Bitches:

1. Ernhart's Absolutely Alice
2. Regency's Rite of Passage

Winner's Bitch: Ernhart's Absolutely Alice

Reserve: Manit's Gala in Black Velvet

Best of Breed: GCH. Earthsong Remedy for the Blues

Best of Opposite Sex: CH. Blythewood Dazzling Perfection

Select Dog: CH. Bella's Gentle Persuader

Select Bitch: CH. Minuteman I Got Cat Style

Best Bred by Exhibitor: Manit's Gala in Black Velvet

Frightened By New Year's Fireworks?

On New Year's Eve, most people look forward to watching the skies light up with fireworks. But for some dogs, the celebratory pops and booms are downright scary.

This common noise phobia turns some dogs into chewing, defecating, trembling messes.

Why some dogs freak out every time they hear the slightest boom while others couldn't care less isn't known. Depending on your dog's sensitivity, keeping her calm and relaxed during the new year celebrations will take some preparation.

The first golden rule for any fearful condition in a dog is to prevent exposure because with all fears, if they are continually exposed to it, even on an intermittent basis, the feat will get worse. Keep your dog inside on the day of the festivities. If you have a basement, which naturally block sound, turn the space into a comfortable nighttime sanctuary with a soft bed, food, and water. Other tactics to try include playing a CD of soothing music and talking with your veterinarian about anti-anxiety medications and desensitizing techniques to help your dog overcome his fear.

Results of Member Questionnaire

Questionnaires completed and returned: 23

Average length of membership: 8 years (two 50 year memberships excluded to prevent distortion)

Individual response totals do not equal total respondents due to non-response to some questions

Reason for non-attendance at club events:

Event too far away: 12

Too busy to attend – work/personal: 8

Event notification:

Notification is received far enough in advance - yes = 6, no = 6

Method of notification matters (email vs USPS) – yes = 2, no = 16

Location/time of meetings

Location matters as long as it's within driving range) – yes = 0, no = 3

Is Sunday afternoon a good time? – yes = 7

Other recommendations for day/time – none

Importance for dogs to attend events? – yes = 6, no = 6

Summary:

1. The main reason listed for event non-attendance was work or other family commitments combined with the distance some members must travel. The time/miles indicated as the maximum the member would travel ranged between 20 minutes and 75 miles one-way.
2. Components of a successful meeting include a) education about the breed, especially health issues, b) the ability for dogs to attend for play time and socialization, and c) fellowship with other MS lovers.
3. Members are divided on dogs attending meetings. No one objects to their attendance so long as owners monitor and clean up after their dogs and crate/leash the dogs during presentations. There was a strong correlation between members who were more interested in education not being as interested in bringing their dogs to the meetings. Members who were more concerned about social activities, both dogs and human, were less interested in educational programs.

4. The most cited reasons for joining the club were to meet other MS people, education about the breed, grooming tips, and general knowledge of the breed.

Actionable items:

1. Strive to have future meetings at locations in Maryland and Virginia. All will be in the metro D.C. area, but we will attempt to equalize the stress of traveling in this congested area.
2. Meeting/event calendar will be prepared in advance and published in the newsletter and/or email for a three-month period. This should provide adequate time for members to save the dates.
3. Meeting/event calendar will be prepared in advance and published in the newsletter and/or email for a three-month period. This should provide adequate time for members to save the dates.
4. We will attempt to provide meeting sites that allow dogs whenever possible and practical so members can bring their dogs.
5. We will also continue with educational programs (this is a MUST in order to maintain our affiliation with the AKC) designed around health and other topics of interest to the membership.

Canine Health Corner



UTI – Urinary Tract Infection

When a dog is diagnosed with a UTI owners often ask: What are the causes and will it happen again?

The urinary tract in dogs includes the kidneys, ureters, bladder and urethra. Kidneys remove waste materials from the blood, forming urine. Urine moves from the kidneys into the ureters and is collected in the bladder. When the animal urinates, urine leaves the body through the urethra.

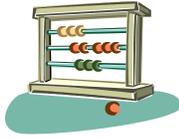
Although kidneys can become infected, the term urinary tract infection (UTI) is most commonly used to refer to a simple bacterial infection of the urinary bladder. Normal urine in the bladder is sterile – it does not contain any microorganisms, so if bacteria make their way up through the urethra and into the bladder, problems occur.

During self grooming, a dog may transfer fecal bacteria from the anal area to the opening of the vulva or prepuce, which then may move into the urethra. Most of the time, bacteria is washed back out of the urethra with urination. If not, it can enter the bladder, causing irritation so the dog feels an almost constant urge to urinate. One of the most common signs of a UTI in dogs is frequent urination.

Many dogs will develop a UTI at least once during their lifetime. Puppies seem to be especially prone, because they lick frequently or because their immune system, which helps fight infection, is still immature. Females are more susceptible to UTI's than males due to anatomy. The male urethra is long and narrow, while the female urethra is short and wide. It is much easier for bacteria to travel the short length of the female urethra to reach the bladder. In contrast, the long, narrow male urethra is more easily blocked due to inflammation and debris. This blockage of urine flow is called a urethral obstruction (particularly common in male cats). A urethral obstruction is extremely painful and is an emergency situation – if the obstruction is not removed, it can lead to death.

In most cases, a UTI is a simple bacterial infection that can be successfully treated with appropriate antibiotics. Often the dog will live the rest of his life without developing another ITU. However, if the dog continues to develop urinary tract infections, then further investigation is needed to discover the cause.

By the Numbers



For the first time in history there are more female than male veterinarians in the US. The tipping point came in 2009, when, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association's data, the number of female veterinarians (44,802) surpassed the total number of male veterinarians (43,196).

Recipe for Thanksgiving Dinner Leftovers

Once you've eaten all the turkey you can stand, you can create this tasty meal for your MS by using leftover cooked, skinless turkey. Note that the turkey should be skinless, thus reducing the fatty content.

Ingredients:

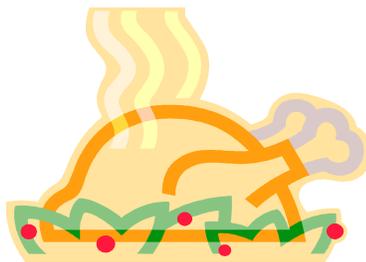
3 lbs. cooked skinless turkey
2 T. cranberry sauce

one cup oatmeal
4 T. turkey gravy

one lb. sweet potatoes, cubed

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly oil a roasting pan.
2. From cooked turkey leftovers, remove bones and dice meat into large pieces.
3. Cook sweet potatoes until tender, let cool, then peel and dice.
4. Cook oatmeal according to package directions.
5. Mix turkey, oatmeal, sweet potatoes, and cranberry sauce together. Pour gravy over the mixture and serve. (Gravy can be omitted for mini schnauzers on a diet.)

Recipe will make nine 1-cup servings. For mini schnauzers, no more than a half cup is suggested.



At the Shows



Conformation New Champions – source: *Schnauzer Shorts*

CH. Ruedesheim Finale via Blythewood, owned by Joan Huber

Don't forget our Holiday Party

When: Sunday, December 12, 1:00 pm

Where: Home of Rich and Sharon Edwards

Remember to open your e-mail for the evite to RSVP and if attending, the dish you will bring.

