



Beard 'n Brows

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

Spring, 2011

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

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2010-2011 Leadership Team

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

Board of Directors:

Sue Faber
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Donna Parzow
Shawne Imler
(AMSC Delegate)

Committee Chairperson

Specialty Show: Richard Edwards

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Finally, Spring



Featured in this Issue:

- Canine Chronicles - from 1884, the story of "Help," a Scotch collie
- Our Goals – this month's feature is the Sportsmanship goal
- Spotlight on Obedience and Rally - how to train your MS to perform a flawless "Come Front"
- Health – Prebiotics, Probiotics, and Snybiotics
- And now that it's getting warm outside – Warm Weather Tips for your MS

President's Letter



Dear Members,

We started the year with our first meeting March 19 at Sniffers Doggie Depot in Rockville. Although attendance was less than usual, everyone enjoyed visiting with other members. There were more dogs in attendance than people, and all the pups had a great play time.

Our April meeting will include an Obedience demonstration led by Carol Chopin, who is an obedience trainer from Northern VA. Make your plans now to attend – the meeting will be at Sniffers in Rockville on Sunday, April 17 from 3-5 pm.

Make plans to attend the Columbia Terrier Association's show on Friday, April 22 at the state fairgrounds in Timonium, MD. Our club will provide trophies in support of the Miniature Schnauzer entry at the show.

Take a minute to review the events calendar. We have alternated meeting days between Saturdays and Sundays to try to make attendance possible for a larger number of members. All meetings through September are scheduled on the **third weekend** of each month. We hope this consistency will help members schedule the meeting times better and increase our attendance.

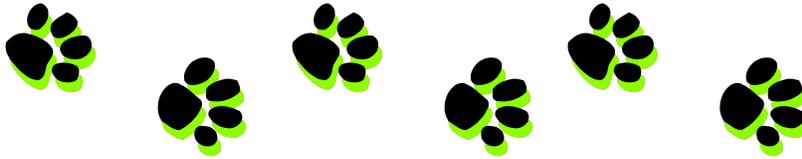
The emphasis on our Club goals continues in this issue of *Beard 'n Brows*, this month featuring sportsmanship. I encourage everyone to read this section, as it applies to all competition events as well to everyday life.

As always, I encourage each of you to make suggestions for specific activities that you would like to recommend to the club – places, or fun places that you may have experienced with your mini that we all could share in. Please contact me or one of the other officers or board members with suggestions.



Rich Edwards
MVMSC President

Our Goals - Sportsmanship



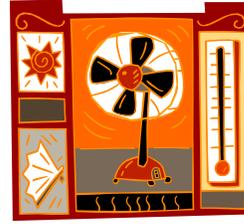
“Our Goals” is a series of discussions of each of our Club’s seven goals. Each issue will focus on one of the MVMSC’s seven goals as stated in our constitution and by-laws. This issue focuses on the fourth goal – **“to encourage sportsmanlike conduct at all times”**. We hope that these articles will help your understanding of our breed as well as heighten your knowledge of the entire canine kingdom. (For a listing of all our goals, see the Early Spring 2011 issue of *Beard ‘n Brows*.)

The following is the AKC Code of Sportsmanship. It is the gold standard defining the rules of sportsmanship concerning the purebred dog and provides the foundation for our Club’s sportsmanship goal. It’s greatest value, however, may be its lessons for everyday life.

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligations to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the AKC, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

Warm Weather Safety Tips



With warm and even hot weather not far away, take a few minutes to review tips on how to prepare and handle warm weather situations.

- If kept outside, make sure your dog has plenty of shade.
- Make sure your dog has access to plenty of cool, fresh water 24 hours a day. If your dog travels with you, bring along water and a bowl.
- Never leave your dog in a vehicle on a warm day – with windows cracked or not. Even on a cool, sunny day (mid-60s) the temperature in a closed car can rise to 130 degrees in minutes. Even with windows open, the temperature inside a car can rise to over 100 degrees.
- Avoid strenuous exercise on extremely hot days. Condition and train your dog in the early mornings or evenings, when the heat is less intense.
- Make sure your dog's vaccinations are up-to-date. Dogs tend to stay outdoors longer and come into contact with other animals during warmer months.
- Keep dogs off lawns that have been chemically treated or fertilized for at least 24 hours.
- Mosquitoes, which carry heartworm disease, along with fleas and ticks, are more prevalent in warm months. Ask your veterinarian for an effective preventative to keep these parasites off your dog.
- Chlorine from pools and bacteria from streams, lakes and ponds can be toxic for a dog's system. Always rinse your dog with clean water after swimming.
- Many airlines will not ship dogs during summer months and some will only ship in the early morning or evenings when the temperature is below 85 degrees.
- If traveling by car, keep your dog cool by putting ice packs such as frozen water bottles in his crate. Do not use freezer ice packs, which contain poisonous materials. Make sure the crate is well ventilated.
- Be aware that asphalt can quickly get hot enough to burn the pads of dogs' paws. Walk your dog in the open grass or dirt, where it is cooler.
- Carefully observe elderly dogs, those that are chronically ill, or pets with respiratory problems.
- Remember that dogs don't sweat. When humans sweat, heat is transferred from the moisture over our entire body to drier, cooler air around it. Evaporation of this sweat cools us, and a fan makes it happen faster. By contrast, dogs pant because they have few sweat glands. Panting is evaporative cooling, canine-style. Cooler, drier air is inhaled through the nose and in the lungs it is exchanged for warm, moist air as cooling takes place. The breathing rate increases from 40 to 400 breaths per minute, with an occasional deep breath. After the cooler air is sucked into the lungs, hot air is exhaled through the mouth, expelling excess body heat.
- Understand that as a dog's temperature rises, blood rushes to the tongue, gums, and membranes to transfer heat. A dog is in distress if he has bright-red membranes, gums, and labored breathing. He may quickly progress to a metabolic meltdown as his temperature rises to over 106 degrees and he can no longer cool himself.
- If you think your dog is overheating, move him to a cool place and spray cool (not cold or icy) water on his coat, ensuring it reaches the skin. Very cold water constricts the surface blood vessels in the skin and this reduces, instead of increases, heat loss. Put an electric fan on the

dog if one is handy; if not, fan the dog yourself. Wipe the face and muzzle with cool water, and as soon as possible, take him to an emergency clinic.

Remember, if you are sweating, your dog is already uncomfortable and must work much harder to cool down by panting. Observe you dog carefully, and if you notice symptoms of overheating, don't wait until it's too late. Take precautions to prevent overheating, but if that fails, take immediate action to prevent a tragedy.

Events Calendar



Mark your calendar now for this year's meetings/activities. Email notices (or hard copy notices for those not receiving email) with complete details regarding place, time, directions, program outline and speaker will be provided well in advance of the meeting date. Note that all activities will be held in the afternoon and except for the October-December meetings, are held on the **third weekend** of the month. Other activities, such as hikes, dog park outings, dog-friendly boat rides, etc. may be added as the dates of such activities are known.

April 17 (Sunday, 3-5 pm) – Meeting at Sniffers in Rockville with Obedience demo by Carol Chopin, an obedience trainer from Northern VA– Bring your dogs!

April 22 (Friday) – Supported Entry at the Columbia Terrier Association show at the Maryland state Fairgrounds in Timonium

May 21 (Saturday) – Regular club meeting

June 19 (Sunday) – annual picnic and Puppy Match with the dogs at the Walden's house near Frederick

July-August – summer vacation



September 18 (Sunday) - club meeting including presentation of slate of officers and Board for 2011-2012

October 15 (Saturday) – MVMSC Specialty at Howard County Fairgrounds, followed by luncheon and meeting

November (date TBD) – social event – bring your mini

December (date TBD) – Holiday party

American Miniature Schnauzer News



Notes from the AMSC –

If you missed the National Specialty in Louisville you missed a lot of fun and healthy competition. Beginning the weekend was a day of Obedience trials. Sonny Lelle, of Austin, TX coordinated the event and it was well attended by MS people from across the country. (See winners in the *Bragging Rights* section.)



Some of the Obedience competitors in Louisville

MS Clubs in Michigan and Ohio (Columbus and Cincinnati) sponsored local conformation Specialties on three days and the weekend ended with the AMSC National Specialty. All days had entries of about 80 dogs. The local clubs did a wonderful job hosting each of the three days. Several educational seminars were sponsored by the AMSC, including a judges' seminar (how to judge our breed), a seminar about contracts (puppy, stud, etc.), and a health seminar about eye issues. CDs containing the eye information are available by contacting Sharon Edwards. The AMSC sponsored a welcome party on Wednesday night and a dinner was held on Saturday night with attendees representing conformation and obedience from across the country and Canada.

The AMSC Board voted to approve \$6,100 for three health grants from the donor advised funds of the Canine Health Foundation. This money will go toward research at veterinary schools. Plans for the "Schnauzerpalooza" in May 2013 continue to progress. This event will be held at the Purina Center

near St. Louis, MO and will be an all-schnauzer weekend featuring all three schnauzer breeds. It will replace the spring AMSC Specialty and will be held May 8-12, 2013.

The next AMSC Specialty will be held in Long Beach, CA June 26 with the Great Western Terrier Association. This is an all-terrier show held in the Queen Mary Events Park, in the shadow of the majestic Queen Mary. A block of rooms has been reserved on the Queen Mary at a discounted \$109/night. Call 562-432-6964 for reservations.

Spotlight on Obedience and Rally

Skill of the month: Come Front

The “Come Front” command is used in both obedience and rally. Here are some tips from the pros to get your pup performing this command beautifully.

When you call your dog to Come Front, he should sit directly in front of you, close enough to touch. To teach this command, start with your dog on leash, preferably in heel position at your left side.

Call “(dog’s name), Front!” and start walking backward until your dog is coming straight toward you. Hold a treat in front of you. Stop abruptly and bring your feet together.

As you halt, pull the treat close to you and lift it high enough that your dog’s nose points slightly up. Tell her to sit. When she sits, mark that moment with your training clicker or verbal, “yes!” then reward with the treat. Once she learns this, try calling her to Front from a distance.

A perfect Front has the dog facing straight toward you, her toes about 6 inches from yours, but some will sit slightly angled toward whichever hand holds the treat. If this happens, hold the treat with both hands on an imaginary line down your center. Come Front is used in rally, obedience, and other dog sports, but whether or not you compete, it looks impressive when done well.

Bragging Rights



*Due to the number of conformation shows, **Beard ‘n Brows** only reports wins of club members’ dogs at Westminster, Eukanuba, and AMSC Nationals. For MVMSC Specialties full results are posted. All Best in Show titles are posted.*

Although no local dogs won top honors at the AMSC Specialty in Louisville on March 20, there were 80 dogs entered and the top winners were:

Conformation:

Best of Breed – CH Repetition’s Valedictorian, bred by Kurt Garmaker, Marietta, GA, and Lauri Sicurella, Bensonville, IL; owned by Kurt Garmaker

Winners Bitch, Best of Winners & Best of Opposite Sex – Regency’s By Design, bred by Bev Verna, Tracy, CA and Sharon Walton, owned by Bev Verna

Winners Dog – Loneacre’s Cowboy Casanova, bred and owned by Beth Santure, Milan, MI

Select Dog – GCH Attaway Blue Light Special, bred and owned by Linda Drost, Church Road, VA

Select Bitch – Repetition’s Her Majesty, bred by Kurt Garmaker, owned by Garmaker & Greg Harris, Marietta, GA

Award of Merit – Dog – GCH Rampage’s Triple Crown – bred by Janice Ramel, St. Francis, WI, and owned by Ramel and Kathy Hudziak, South Milwaukee, WI

Award of Merit – Bitch – CH Minuteman Venus Flytrap, owned/ bred by Kate McMillan, Delisle, Saskatchewan, CAN

Sweepstakes:

Best in Puppy Sweeps – (bitch) – Destineez Time to Press Your Luck, bred and owned by Terrie Houck, Cathy Pendleton, Charlotte, NC, and Alan Ream, Greenville, SC

Best of Opposite Sex Puppy Sweeps (dog) – Bandsman Aragon U Got a Friend, bred by Carole Weinberger, Orlando, FL, owned by Weinberger and Gloria Lewis, West Palm Beach, FL

Veteran – (bitch) CH Gangway’s Final Feature, bred by Bill Brown, Houston, TX and owned by Brown and Cheryl Coffman, Columbus, OH

Stud Dog – CH Evahill Esset, bred and owned by Eva Monsen, Milton, Ontario, CAN

Obedience:

Novice B.

198.0/HT Warchex Amaze-N-Grace CD, bred by Shirley Coby, owned by Mary Janek

Open A.

196.5 Southcross Diamond Girl CD AX OAJ NF, bred by Sonny Lelle, owned by Pat Heinzelman

Open B.

197.0 Alpine Loft Carmel Mini Haha UDX, bred by Brad Child and Carma Ewer and Karen Ewer, owned by Helen Banet

Utility B.

184.0 Fraulein Karley Ka-To UD, bred by Bill Morrical, owned by Pamela Casey

Veterans

198.0 Mach4 Southcross Fascinatn Rhythm UDX OM1 RE XF, bred by Sonny Lelle, owned by Clay and Nancy Lincoln

Graduate Open

171.0 Southcross Vote for ME RN CDX TD MX MXJ, bred by Sonny Lelle, owned by Lynn Tamms

Beginner Novice B.

198.5 CH Southcross Hope To Keep A Secret, bred by Jeff & Marilyn Murray, owned by Sonny & Richard Lelle

Canine Chronicles –



This is a new feature that will be in each issue of **Beard ‘n Brows**. An interesting fact, story or trivia from times past will be featured in each issue.

This month’s blast from the past is from the **London Daily Telegraph**, circa 1884. The canine subject of this post is “Help”, a Scotch collie, who traveled by train all over Britain. His job: collecting donations for the orphan fund of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

When Help died in 1884, in a train accident while seeking money from the orphans, a writer for the **London Daily Telegraph** sent the dog off with a moving farewell.

“An animal of singularly engaging manners, great intelligence and a most generous disposition, Help will be sincerely regretted by a large circle of admiring friends.....A dog’s heaven is in his master’s approval. Help lived and died doing his duty; and that man is fortunate indeed who, dying, can have so much truly recorded for his epitaph.”

Canine Health Corner



Prebiotics, Probiotics, and Synbiotics

The health of your dog’s gastrointestinal tract is essential to her well-being. Approximately 70 percent of a dog’s immune system is located in her GI tract, and the beneficial bacteria (microflora) that live there play a significant role in fighting disease and infection. “Probiotic” literally means ‘for life’ or ‘supporting life’. These microorganisms are the friendly flora and “good” bacteria that reside in the intestinal tract and work with the body to prevent the overgrowth of “bad” bacteria.

For many years, science has concentrated on killing “bad” bacteria through the use of antibiotics. But with the negative side effects and antibiotic-resistant “superbugs,” more emphasis is being placed on preventing disease by promoting “good” bacteria. Prebiotics, probiotics, and synbiotics are nutritional ingredients that can enhance your dog’s health by supporting the good bacteria in her GI tract.

Prebiotics

These non-digestible food ingredients selectively stimulate the growth and/or activity of one or more strains of beneficial bacteria in the large intestines. Dietary fiber is the most commonly used prebiotic for companion animals. However, not all fibers are created equal. For the fiber to act as a prebiotic, it must meet three criteria:

1. It must be resistant to degradation by stomach acid, enzymes, and hydrolysis.
2. Beneficial bacteria in the large intestines must be able to ferment the fiber.
3. It must be able to selectively stimulate the growth and/or activity of the beneficial bacteria in the intestines.

Prebiotics are a safe, proactive way to improve the health of a dog’s GI tract. However, avoid highly fermentable fiber sources, such as citrus pectin, guar gum, and lactulose, which can cause gas or bloating.

Probiotics

These live, beneficial bacteria provide health benefits when ingested in sufficient numbers. To be called a probiotic, the product must be live and contain adequate numbers of good bacteria of at least 1 billion per dose. Probiotics are the body’s first line of defense against potentially harmful microorganisms inhaled or ingested. Having a sufficient number of them will help prevent a wide range of health problems. Probiotics reduce cholesterol levels, blood pressure, yeast growth, and toxin levels and improve food digestion and nutrient absorption.

But don’t share your probiotic with your dog. A dog’s intestinal tract contains different microflora than a human’s, so a probiotic that’s beneficial for a human isn’t necessarily so for an animal. Look for products

that contain beneficial bacteria originating in the GI tract of healthy dogs, rather than from humans. Probiotics promote many health benefits in dogs, including

- Improved stool quality
- Faster resolution of acute diarrhea
- Management of stress colitis
- Stronger immune system
- Reduced inflammation

Probiotics are extremely safe, but we should avoid giving them to dogs with weakened immune systems, such as those taking chronic steroids or undergoing chemotherapy. If the bacteria entered into the bodily systems of these dogs, their weakened immune systems might not be able to cope.

Synbiotics

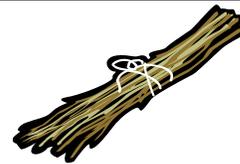
This type of nutritional supplement combines prebiotics and probiotics. When taken together, the prebiotic enhances the probiotic's ability to survive in the intestines. Used alone or together, prebiotics and probiotics provide a host of health benefits for dogs, and help reduce or eliminate the need for antibiotics.

Good Reasons to Brush your Dog

1. Brushing distributes the natural protective skin oils along the hair and makes the coat shine.
2. It removes dead loose coat and skin cells.
3. It allows you to check your dog for skin changes, growth, injuries, or parasites.
4. Your miniature schnauzer will LOVE it. If done regularly, the grooming session can be a positive bonding experience.



Why Didn't We Think of This?



Fetchstix

Wagatha's, a small company in Manchester Center, Vermont, that produces organic dog biscuits, has started selling bundles of maple sticks as boutique dog toys for \$12.95 a pop, and people are buying them!

This idea is the brainchild of Wagatha's owners, Norm Levitz, and Neal Reilly, and a local artist, Anna Dibble. She even created a fully illustrated user's manual, included in every bundle, explaining (in painful detail) the correct way to throw the sticks to your dog. It even has a technical support line, which is Anna's home number.

"I get two kinds of calls," she says. "They either call up late at night and are a little loaded and think it's hilarious, or they're people who say their dogs love the sticks, but they're worried about the toxicity. Are their dogs going to get sick from chewing on these sticks?" No, she explains calmly; they're sticks.

The bundle of sticks is called "Fetchstix", and over the two years they have been marketed, have sold thousands around the country. As you might expect, they don't do very well in Vermont, but the sticks are rare commodities in a lot of places. The owners say the Las Vegas market is particularly hot, maybe because they don't have trees.

Fetchstix are also wholesaled to distributors. One company's rep insisted on testing the product before placing an order, although it's unclear what he was looking for. "It throws like a stick; it has bark like a stick; it IS a stick," says one of the owners. "People have gotten so far removed from anything natural for their dogs, I think it throws them off."

"It's God's original dog toy," Levitz says. "How do you get better than a stick?" He pauses for a moment, then adds, "with instructions."

In Vermont, money does grow on trees.

What Happy Dogs Know



"Smiley" courtesy of C. Borrelli

This is the first in a series of "dogisms", the lessons dogs teach us about the world and getting the best out of life.

Lesson #1: Be Content

Dogs are not very demanding. All they ask is a little companionship, plenty of food, and an opportunity to go to the bathroom.

As our lives get more complicated, maybe we need to take notes from watching our dogs.

Relax a little more and enjoy each other's company. Be content with what we have. Take a nap. Eat a little. Take another nap.



Easter Morning Heavenly Manna Squares

Whether your dog is a Saint Bernard or Holy Terrier, he'll be praying for these on Easter morn.

6 slices white bread

8 oz. low-fat cream cheese, cubed

4 eggs

1 ¼ cups skim milk

1/3 cup honey

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- Tear bread into cubes and toss lightly with cream cheese cubes.
- Place in an 8 x 8 inch greased baking pan and set aside.
- In a mixing bowl, beat eggs together and add milk and honey. Stir well.
- Pour over bread mixture and bake for 30 minutes. Cool, then cut into squares. Store leftovers well wrapped in the refrigerator.