



Beard 'n Brows

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

Summer, 2011

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



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Summertime And the living is easy

Featured in this Issue:

- Canine Chronicles - a current day story from Montgomery and Howard Counties
- Our Goals – this month's feature is MVMSC's first goal – quality breeding
- Spotlight on Obedience – 75 years of obedient dogs
- Health – Obesity (in dogs) and how to avoid it
- Photos of our annual Puppy Match winners
- Is your schnauzer afraid of fireworks? – how to help

President's Letter



Dear Members,

We had a great picnic June 18 at the Walden's. About 20 members and guests attended and shared good food, rollicking schnauzers in the back yard, and our annual puppy match. (See photos of winners on page 11.) It was loads of fun and we're glad so many of you were able to attend.

We're officially on summer break until September, when we'll resume with the nominations for next year's slate of officers. A nominating committee was set up at the meeting following the picnic – BJ Arczynski, Karen Walden, and Shirley Mae Ross will serve as the committee. Please contact one of them if you would like to serve on next year's board.

We have already begun planning events for our Specialty on October 15. We have a few surprises in store, so stay tuned for more information as the time draws nearer. We will provide trophies for the top five winners at the Hatboro show on Friday, October 7. This will be our second year to support the entries at this show, which is part of the Montgomery County weekend. We received numerous compliments from breeders and exhibitors from around the country after last year's supported entry as many were impressed by the trophies and our presentation.

The emphasis on our Club goals continues in this issue of *Beard 'n Brows*, this month featuring our first goal, quality breeding. I encourage everyone to read this section, as this goal is paramount to the future of our breed.

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.

Meanwhile, have a happy, safe summer. See you in September.

Rich Edwards
MVMSC President



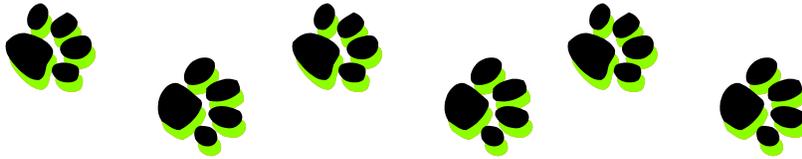
Welcome new members

Dale and Linda Dembrow – Ijamsville, MD

And Returning Member

Carol Meitzler – Allentown, PA

Our Goals – Quality Breeding



“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 first goal regarding quality breeding (highlighted below).

MVMSC Goals:

- **To encourage and promote quality breeding of miniature schnauzers of correct type in conformity with the breed standard as set forth by the American Miniature Schnauzer Club and approved by the American Kennel Club.**
- To support the breed standard as the only standard of perfection by which miniature schnauzers shall be judged. (see the Early Spring issue for discussion)
- To protect and advance the interests of the breed in breeding, exhibiting, grooming, and health care.
- To encourage sportsmanlike conduct at all times. (see the Spring issue for discussion)
- To conduct sanctioned matches and licensed shows under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- To provide the community educational events to encourage responsible ownership of the breed.
- To support local rescue organizations in their efforts to place unwanted miniature schnauzers.

The following is an excerpt from the Spring 2008 *AKC Gazette*. These are the reflections of Anne Bowes, who was awarded the 2007 Herding Group Breeder of the Year shortly after winning the title. Bowes has owned and bred Pembroke Welsh Corgis for 40 years. She has bred over 65 champions under her Heronsway kennel name, the large majority of which were breeder-owner-handled to their titles. In this article she talks about “the job of a lifetime” – creating a quality breeding program. Her remarks appropriately reflect the conviction and perseverance needed to uphold this goal.

On the evening of December 1, 2007, 40 years after I walked onto the grounds of my first dog show, I stood with eight other recipients of the coveted AKC Breeder of the Year Award in the large ring at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. It was a thrilling and humbling experience.

As I listened to the credentials of the other breeders being read to the crowd, it struck me that there was one accomplishment we had all achieved which enabled us to have been considered for this award: We had all established a breeding line in our chosen breeds which continued, through the years, to produce outstanding show dogs and producers in both conformation and performance events.

I think the ability to create a breeding program that keeps producing exceptional dogs is the hallmark of what judge Pat Trotter calls “master breeders.” It is a difficult achievement, but it’s certainly worth dedicating one’s life to reaching it.

Filling the Job Description

I doubt that any of us really knew what we were getting into when we started down this road. If we had been able to read a “job description” of a dedicated dog breeder, it might have read like this:

“Position available for goal-oriented, high-energy, disciplined individual with a passion for dogs and puppies who thrives in a challenging, fast-paced environment. Must be able to work long hours.

Requirements: thorough knowledge of the breed standard and the basics of genetics, strong back, strong stomach, thick skin, and a heart not easily broken. Rewards: the intense joy and satisfaction which comes from creating beautiful animals who give a lifetime of love and devotion to their owners.”

So, what is involved in creating a breeding line? Here are some observations gleaned from 40 years of trying.

Totally dedicate oneself to the pursuit. The lives of breeders revolve around the reproductive cycles of their bitches and the requirements of their puppies. Many other normal human activities are subjected to these considerations and often must be sacrificed.

The dogs and their needs must always come first.

Cultivate an understanding of the basics of genetics. Many successful dog breeders have done well without formal genetic education, but it is very beneficial to have a basic knowledge of how the mechanics of genetics work. A seminar on genetics or an introductory college-level genetics course will go a long way to improve a breeding program. Linebreeding, inbreeding, and outcrossing are tools the experienced breeder uses to set type. A thorough knowledge of the pros and cons of these methods and when to use them are necessary for an ongoing and productive breeding program.

Develop a comprehensive and unbiased understanding of the standard. Breeders must be diligent students of the standard for their breeds. Develop a mental picture of your ideal dog based on that standard by attending breeders' and judges' seminars and by reading everything you can get your hands on about your breed. Show and breed from only the best

Kennel blindness (not objectively evaluating your own dogs) is a fatal disease and must be avoided. Learn how to objectively evaluate your stock, and don't be afraid to solicit the opinions of other breeders, inside and outside of the ring. Do not rely on any single person's opinion regarding their interpretation of the breed standard – question many breeders, ask questions, re-read the breed standard again and again, and THEN form your own opinion. Never let personal biases or emotion interfere with the breed standard. A breeder should be able to answer all your questions explaining “why” .

Become a walking encyclopedia of pedigrees. A broad knowledge of the influential pedigrees in your breed and what they can be counted on to produce is essential to building a breeding line.

Visit as many litters as you can, go to specialty shows outside of your own area, and attend your national specialty every year. The more dogs you see, the better understanding you will have of the pedigrees important to your program.

Develop a breeding plan. There should be a plan. Pick the bloodlines and pedigrees you most admire, and then stick with them. Introducing an unrelated pedigree just because a certain dog from that line is winning is usually not a good idea.

The goal should be to have an outstanding example of the breed who is also an excellent producer on both sides of the pedigree within the first three generations.

The important thing to remember is to always put high-quality dogs into your pedigrees—dogs with excellent health and temperaments who have won well at specialties under breeder-judges. These are the pedigrees that are going to produce for you in the future.

Mediocre quality cannot be expected to produce excellent quality.

Breed for the future. A breeder must look at each breeding for not only what it can produce now, but for what it can contribute to your line in the future.

Many breeders get seduced into breeding to the “hot” show dog of the moment or repeating litters that have produced well in the past. Both of these actions will delay the development of a line—temporarily or permanently—because they will only enhance the present, not look to the future.

Overcome discouragement when things go wrong. There will be setbacks. That beautiful puppy you are basing all of your hopes on may not turn out and needs to be sold into a pet home.

Or the litter you were counting on to produce your next winner may have nothing of quality in it. That happens. If it does, revisit your plan, modify your tactics, and try again.

You may have to change your direction slightly, but never lower your standards. Breeding beautiful, healthy dogs, litter after litter, is extremely difficult, but that is what makes it so satisfying.

Avoid overconfidence when things go well. One of the wonderful things about our sport is there is always something to learn, always someone who knows a new way to do things better.

Never stop going to seminars and listening to what other experts in our field have to say. One outstanding winner is fabulous, but it takes many exceptional dogs to create a line.

Give back to the sport. Our sport is largely run by volunteers. Active members of all-breed or specialty clubs not only help run the sport but also learn a great deal from fellow club members and from breeders from around the world who come to club events.

Generating pedigrees that keep producing dogs with type and quality takes years and years of hard work and self-discipline. However, I cannot conceive of any endeavor that gives more pleasure and fulfillment than creating beautiful, healthy, and affectionate dogs who are a real credit to the breeding programs that produce them.

The Long, Long Stay – 75 Years of AKC Obedience



The AKC held its first licensed obedience test in June 1936 – that’s 75 years of obedient dogs. As we mark this anniversary, here is a chronology of the sport’s milestones.

1933 – Poodle breeder Helene Whitehouse Walker observes British obedience testing and in October she holds the first U.S. obedience test at her father’s estates in Mt. Kisco, NY.

1936 – Obedience approved as titling event by AKC.

1937 – Walker and her assistant, Blanche Saunders, make 10,000 mile “trailer trek” to promote obedience.

1939 – The word *test* is replaced by *trial*; obedience makes Westminster debut.

1941 – New England Dog Training Club: AKC’s first obedience club.

1977 – Golden Retriever Moreland’s Golden Tonka, first dog to achieve OTCH title.

1984 – AKC honors Walker on 50th anniversary of obedience; 104,000 dogs compete in AKC program.

1995 – The first AKC National Obedience Invitational (NOI).

1999 – Jim Dearing wins first AKC Lifetime Achievement Award for obedience; National Obedience Champion title established.

2004 – Obedience World Cup introduced at Crufts in England.

2011 – AKC adds Juniors competition to NOI.

Congratulations on 75 years!



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.

July-August – summer vacation



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

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 Club News



The summer AMSC Specialty show was held in Long Beach, CA on June 26. Fifty-five entries competed under Judge Geraldine Kelly of Nakoma, FL.

And the winners were...

Best of Breed: Allaruth Just Kidding v Sole Baye (dog)

Best Opposite Sex: Regency's Shine On

Select Dog: Regency's Playmaker

Select Bitch: Minuteman Goldakova

Award of Merit: Jack Flash of Hansenhaus (dog)

Minuteman Underworld (dog)

Major Impact of Hansenhaus (dog)

Other AMSC news of interest –

- The AMSC will participate in the annual AKC Meet the Breeds in New York City on November 19-20.
- The Central Florida Club will run the AMSC booth at the Eukanuba Invitational in Orlando on December 17-18.
- Letters were sent to all US and Canadian judges approved to judge the MS breed re-enforcing the AMSC's view of the presentation of dogs with undocked tails as being improper. An ad was also placed in the June issue of *ShowSite Magazine* emphasizing same.
- A letter was sent to the Texas Senate voicing the AMSC's opposition to House Bill 1451 which would put undue burdens on responsible breeders in Texas.

Canine Health Corner



Pet Obesity

Pet obesity isn't a pet problem it's a people problem.

We shower our schnauzers with love. We buy them comfy beds, dress them in stylish collars, and give them treats by the handful. But according to a 2008 study, when it comes to feeding, we may be killing them with kindness. More than 40% of dogs and nearly 60% of cats are overweight or obese.

In general, obesity is defined as being 15-20% above ideal weight. Your vet can evaluate your MS's health and help track progress if weight loss is the goal. As a guideline, you should be able to feel (but not see) your dog's ribs. Dogs should have a discernible waist when looked at from above.

Excess weight isn't just about appearance. Even a few extra pounds can lead to serious conditions, including osteoarthritis, diabetes, and cancer. A sedentary lifestyle can also exacerbate behavior problems such as chewing and scratching. Pets need something to ward off boredom.

Why have our dogs been putting on pounds? Pet obesity isn't a pet problem, it's a people problem. When we have less time to walk the dog, we often ease our guilt by offering treats or table scraps, which can be full of sugar, fat, and calories. Many owners give treats too frequently as rewards for good behavior. Sometimes it's better to offer a simple "Good boy!" Remember that you control what your dog eats. If you're committed to providing a healthy diet, they'll not only lose weight but also live longer.

Feeding Tips

- Read the label – Whole foods, such as beef and chicken (rather than animal by-products) should be at the top of the ingredients list of your dog's food.
- Control portions – Use a measuring cup and feed your pet the minimum amount of food recommended on the package for your pet's ideal weight, not his current weight. Consider serving more frequent meals throughout the day.
- Give healthy snacks – Replace treats with a few pieces of kibble or fresh fruit or vegetables, such as apples and carrots. Toys, playtime, a long walk, and a belly rub are also fine rewards.

Exercise Tips

- Get moving – As your dog loses weight, gradually increase his walks to 30-45 minutes a day. (If you're thinking YOU can't walk that long, then we may have another problem.)
- Hit the pool – Exercising on an underwater treadmill and swimming in a pool are great options for dogs with arthritis or mobility issues.
- Make time for play – Engage your MS in at least two active 10 minute play sessions each day.
- Have fun with feeding – Motivate your MS to get off the sofa by placing kibble inside a food-dispensing toy (make your own by poking small holes in an empty plastic bottle).

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 (or in some issues, current) will be featured.

This month's chronicle is current and is local, happening in Montgomery and Howard Counties, Maryland. This account of Winston, a mixed breed dog, is from the *Montgomery County Gazette*.

On February 27, 2011, a furry 25-pound pooch wandered into Rob and Katy Engels' yard in Gaithersburg, MD. He wore no collar and was playful, but allowed no one to touch him.

At the same time, more than 30 miles east in Howard County, hundreds of people were hunting for Winston, who had gone missing 37 days earlier.

Back in Gaithersburg, the Engels threw a stick to see if the dog would play fetch, but he wasn't interested. Then they tossed a tennis ball, and he went nuts. The Engels expected the owner to come calling for the dog any minute, assuming he had just slipped out of a neighbor's yard. By morning the next day, still no call.

When Winston disappeared, Janet West of Ellicott City posted his picture on Facebook, and many of her friends took on the effort to find Winston, creating a "Help Find Winston" Facebook page which drew more than 250 followers. There were numerous "sightings", but none of the dogs turned out to be Winston. "The weather worried us constantly", said West. "The cold temperatures and snow were all very disheartening. But after a storm we would get a sighting, and hope was restored."

On February 28, the Engels placed a notice with the Montgomery County Humane Society and spread the word to nearby veterinarians. Four days later, they heard from someone who had become involved in the search and directed the Engels to a photo of Winston on the "Help Find Winston" Facebook page. The dog in their home looked dirtier and shaggier than the one in the photo, but they were certain they were the same.

Winston traveled for 37 days and over 30 miles (if he took the "direct" route"). A trip to the vet confirmed that Winston was in good health. He had lost four pounds during his journey and accumulated three ticks. A microchip was inserted in Winston's shoulder in case he gets the wandering spirit again. A welcome home party was thrown for all the people who participated in the search efforts and for the Engels. A very happy ending.....

Lesson learned - Please get your MS microchipped. Between 5-7 million pets enter animal shelters in the U.S. every year, and 3-4 million are euthanized. Only 15-20% of lost dogs are returned to their owners. Help increase the odds – get a microchip.

Summer Book Club



Here's a five paw book for your summer reading – *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. It's about Enzo, a dog who knows he's different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul who has educated himself by watching television extensively and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn't simply about going fast. Using the techniques needed on the race track, one can successfully navigate all of life's ordeals.Happy reading

New Champions

Reported by Debi Durst

Sarius Nora's Night Before Christmas (Ch Attaway Dark Side Of The Moon x Ch Sarius Galloping To Glory) owned by Carole Ulich of New York City and co-owned by breeder Debi Durst just completed the requirements for her AKC championship going Best Of Winners at the Union County Kennel Club show on May 30, 2011 under Judge Shirley M. Limoges. We would like to thank Shawne Imler of Ernhart Kennels for her grooming and expert handling of Nora and a note of gratitude to all the judges who recognized and rewarded her qualities.



Sarius Happy Days Are Here Again, AKA "The Fonz" or Fonzie (Ch Mai-Laur Black E-Nam-L x Ch Blythewood Hope O' Sarius) completed the requirements for his AKC championship going Best Of Winners at the Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association, Inc. show on June 3, 2011 under Judge Lowell Davis. This was the second New Champion for *Sarius* in less than one week. Fonzie was bred and owned by Debi Durst of Sarius Schnauzers. A special thank you is due all the Judges who rewarded Fonzie's attributes and a debt of gratitude to Shawne Imler of Ernhart Kennels for her special skill in the conditioning and handling of our black beauties.



Another Champion for Laurese Katen --- Mocha (MAI-LAUR MOCHA SORBET SAYS WATCH ME) completed her championship title June 12, 2011 at the Skyline KC show. Mocha was shown by Shawne Imler and bred and owed by Laurese. Congratulations!

Is Your Mini Frightened by Fourth of July Fireworks

Most of us look forward to watching the sky light up with fireworks, but for some dogs the pops, booms, and bangs are scary.

This common noise phobia, much like thunderstorms, turns some dogs into trembling messes.

Why some dogs freak out every time they hear the slightest boom, while other dogs couldn't care less isn't known. Depending on your dog's sensitivity, keeping him calm and relaxed during the year's noisiest holiday 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 fear will get worse. It's an "old wives tale" that continual exposure to conditions that make the dog fearful will "cure" them of the sensitivity – it will only make it worse. So the best remedy is to keep your dog inside on the day of the festivities. If you have a basement, this is a good area because it blocks sound. Also play a CD or turn on a TV to help block the noise. Above all, try to maintain a familiar atmosphere where your dog will feel safe. Some people have had great success with thunder jackets, a coat-like device that was developed to soothe dogs who are sensitive to thunderstorm lightning and thunder. The theory is that the jacket snuggles around the dog's body providing comfort and desensitizing him to noises that would otherwise bother him.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MOUNT VERNON MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2011

The meeting was held at Sniffers' Doggie Depot in Rockville MD and was called to order at 3:15 pm by Rich Edwards, President. There were 6 members in attendance and 2 guests.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes from the last meeting (November 13, 2010) were read by Lois McCormick and accepted.

President's Report:

Rich Edwards reported that arrangements for the club's supported entry for the Columbia Terrier Show, April 22, were complete. There is a sizeable entry for show so far – 14 dogs. The calendar for upcoming meetings was reviewed. Saturday, May 21, is the date for our next meeting, with the location and program to be determined. Sunday, June 19, is the date set for the annual picnic with puppy match.

Treasurer's Report:

B. J. Arczynski reported \$85 in trophy fund contributions for a total of \$985. Trophy fund expenses deducted from that figure since the last report are \$474 (\$62 to Laurese Katen and \$412 to a vendor). No other reported income or expenses. B. J. noted that the cost of supported entry for Hatboro will be \$300.

Membership:

Carol Metzler did follow up and send in appropriate forms to accompany her re-application for membership.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business:

A discussion about possible venues for future meetings was held. In particular, we are seeking an outside location for a meeting or social activity on Saturday, May 21. Suggestions included Hampstead Park in Maryland (no advance fee and no cover in case of rain), Black Hills Park in Maryland (pavilions can be rented in advance, or individuals with dogs can meet for walks using the pathways), and A Click Above, a training facility in Leesburg VA. Lois McCormick agreed to research the Black Hills Park option for May 21, canvass members for interest and report back. For our September meeting, it was suggested that we again hold a meeting at the Durst annual picnic in West VA, if we are invited to do so by the Dursts.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting; it was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Lois McCormick, Secretary

What Happy Dogs Know



"Smiley" courtesy of C. Borrelli

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

Lesson #2: Play Together

We spend a lot of money on high-tech toys – for children and for adults. Dogs remind us that we don't need expensive toys to entertain ourselves.

A Frisbee or a ball or stick will do just fine, providing you have someone else to play with.

It requires an investment of time and togetherness, not money. As the days of summer go by, remember to play together.

Our Annual Puppy Match

Meet our winners of our annual puppy match held at the Walden's picnic in June. Our judge was BJ Arczynski.



Best Puppy – Stevie
Bred by Karen Surma, owned by Sue Faber



Best of Opposite -- Greta
Bred by Karen Walden



Fourth of July Snaps

Making these cookies is a snap and the results will be explosive.

½ cup molasses
2 tablespoons honey
½ cup water
¼ cup vegetable oil
3 cups flour

¼ teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon ground cloves
2 tablespoons ground ginger
¼ cup chopped pecans
1 teaspoon baking soda

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- In a bowl, combine molasses, honey, water and oil.
- In another bowl, mix flour, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, and pecans. Stir dry mixture into wet and mix well.
- On a lightly floured surface knead and roll out dough to ¼ inch thick, then cut out shapes.
- Place on a greased baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes. Cool on a rack then store in a sealed container.

Happy 4th of July



See You in September