



Beard 'n Brows

Mount Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club, serving Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC since 1956

Early Summer, 2016

“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.

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2015/2016 Leadership Team

President: Paula Tibbs
Vice President: Shawne Imler
Secretary: Leslie Cromer
Treasurer: Rich Edwards

Board of Directors:

Nancy Snow
Randy Tibbs

AMSC Delegate

Shawne Imler

Committee Chairperson

Specialty Show: Rich Edwards

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For Newsletter contributions, contact:
Sharon Edwards at sletex@verizon.net

Web site: minischnauzer.org
Web Master: Janet Smith



Almost Summer.....

Featured in this Issue: Our salute to Summer

Twenty-seven of the best tips ever on avoiding summer hazards, ranging from hot temperatures to hot cars to hot pavement. Read carefully to help protect your MS from the perils of the season.

Plus – Ask Dr. Schnauzer, recipe of the month, canine health corner – how to avoid pet obesity

Welcome our New Members

Jennifer Bowen – Rockville, MD
Patrick and Carol Vanek – Frederick, MD

Trophy Fund

All of you should have received your letter requesting donations to our Trophy Fund. The money donated to this fund allows our club to purchase trophies for our annual Specialty as well as Supported entries for other local shows.

Please send your donation now to our treasurer, Rich Edwards – 21301 Golf Estates Dr., Laytonsville, MD 20882 so our we can honor our dogs' wins with trophies.

Thanks to your support, our club supported the mini schnauzer entries at the Columbia Terrier cluster at the Maryland state fairgrounds in April. Tote bags embroidered with our club's name and logo were awarded for Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Best of Winners and Best Puppy.

We plan to provide supported entry trophies for two other upcoming shows – the show in Millwood, VA on October 1 and at the AMSC cluster (Hatboro II) on October 7 in Macungie, PA. Our annual Specialty will be October 15 at the Howard County MD fairgrounds and Specialty trophies will be awarded to the winners there as well.

The Club thanks members who have already donated this year:

Cynthia Bradshaw
Susan Cheek
Leslie Cromer
Rich and Sharon Edwards
Anna Lenz
Cindy Sanders
Pamela Schott
Janet Smith
Janet Taylor
Paula Tibbs

Welcome New Webmaster – Janet Smith

Many of you already know Janet Smith. She has been a MVMSC member for several years and lives in Philadelphia. She graciously volunteered to become our webmaster after Chis Franck decided it was time to take a break. Janet has been busy updating our website, so take a look at the changes so far at minischnauzer.org.

Janet is looking for photos of club members' schnauzers as well as any ideas anyone has regarding what you would like to see on our website. Please contact her at smithjc@alumni.upenn.edu

Paws Up Award



A BIG “thank you” goes to Chis Franck, who was our webmaster for many years. Your time and effort in providing the technical expertise to expand and maintain our website is greatly appreciated.

In the Ring

Conformation



New Champion **Lonestar’s Witch Doctor “Diggs”**
Sire: Mystique’s Mayhem “Trouble”
Dam: Lonestar’s Something Wicked “Salem”

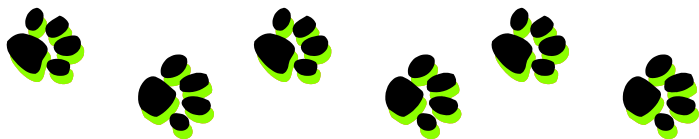
“Diggs” debuted at the tender age of six months and one day, winning Sweeps at the Miniature Schnauzer Club of California’s Specialty at the 2015 Great Western. The next weekend he earned both his Majors and the following weekend he capped off his debut with a Breed win. And then he went home to grow up.....

“Diggs” finished his Championship the first day of MiniPalooza 2016 under Judge Lloyd Amadei at the Greater Cincinnati Specialty.
“Diggs” is owned by Rich and Sharon Edwards.

Calling all Conformation Schnauzers – We want to post your wins!

Calling all Performance Schnauzers – We want to post your wins!

Please submit your brags for publication in the newsletter – send to sletex@verizon.net



Barn Hunt, Anyone?

Barn Hunt is the new and quickly growing dog sport catching fire across the country! Barn Hunt is based on the traditional roles of many breeds in ridding farms, barns, crop storage areas, and homes of destructive vermin. Some breeds were specifically created to fill this role, and for many of those breeds,

including the mini schnauzer, Barn Hunt provides their first true opportunity to test proper working traits in their dogs. Barn Hunt is also open to any dog of any breed or mix who wishes to play the game and can fit through an 18" wide by bale-height tall tunnel. Barn Hunt has titles, levels of increasing difficulty, and championships. Barn Hunt is an independent sport, but titles are recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Barn Hunt is committed to creating a safe and fun sport for dogs and their owners. Dogs compete by following a maze of challenges to get to a rat that is in a safely secured tube. The fastest dog to the rat wins. The rats used in Barn Hunt are often beloved family pets. They jump eagerly into their safe, comfortable aerated tubes and truly enjoy interacting with the dogs.

Leslie Cromer, a member of our club, has been approved by the AKC to hold Barn Hunts at her farm in WVA. If anyone is interested in learning more about this fun sport, please contact Leslie at lesliecromer@aol.com

Tips for a Safe Summer

With the hot days of summer quickly approaching, it's worth a few minutes to review some tips for a safe and happy summer for your special mini schnauzer. Here are some tips and precautions to avoid hazards during this season of outdoor living, traveling, and high temperatures.

Here are the top tips for avoiding summer hazards, from water-related risks to spilled lawn chemicals in the garage – read on for tips to help you and your mini enjoy all the season has to offer – safely.

Water Safety

1. Watch your mini while he's near any water, even if he's a strong swimmer. If you're on a boat, outfit your dog with a life jacket made specifically for pets.
2. If your mini falls into a cold pool or lake, even for a short time, watch for signs of hypothermia. It occurs when a dog's body temperature falls below the normal range of 100.5 to 102.5 degrees. Signs of hypothermia include shivering and lethargy, and severe cases include violent shivering, difficulty breathing, and lack of coordination.
3. If you suspect hypothermia, contact your veterinarian ASAP.
4. Keep your mini out of algae-covered ponds, as certain types of algae blooms can contain harmful toxins. Don't allow dogs to consume dead fish or mussels.

Summer Guests

5. Throwing a backyard barbeque? Put your dog's bed in a shady spot where he can stay cool and take a break from the activity. Keep him away from matches, charcoal lighter fluid, citronella candles, onions, avocados, chocolate, grapes, fresh garlic, and raisins – all of which are toxic to dogs.
6. Put locks on gates. During parties, appoint someone to monitor doors, unscreened windows, and gates. If this isn't realistic, confine your dog to the basement and give him a favorite toy to keep him busy.

7. Ask overnight guests to stow away all medications. Common drugs such as acetaminophen, diet pills, antidepressants, and cold medicines are toxic to dogs if swallowed.
8. Keep garbage out of your dog's reach. Rotting food can contain mold or bacteria, and overly fatty foods may lead to pancreatitis, which can be fatal.

9. Take your dog on a tiring walk before guests arrive. If he's an anxious guy, he'll appreciate a quiet room all to himself during get-togethers.

Sizzling Heat

10. Keep your dog indoors during the hottest part of the day in an air-conditioned room.
11. If your dog must stay outside, provide plenty of shade and water, preferably from an automatic water bowl. Nix stainless-steel bowls outdoors, since metal can hasten evaporation. Place a children's wading pool in the yard to provide another cooling spot.
12. Signs of heatstroke include excessive panting, drooling, and mild weakness. If you suspect heatstroke, call your vet ASAP and put your dog in a cool – not cold -- bath. Offer him ice cubes to lick while you wait for additional instructions.
13. Hot asphalt, sidewalks, and sand can burn your dog's paw pads. If the surface would be uncomfortable to your bare feet, keep your mini off it.
14. Give your mini a summer haircut, but not too short, as too-short hair robs him of important sun and insect protection.
15. Use sunscreen made especially for pets. Sunscreen for humans can cause vomiting, excessive thirst, and lethargy in dogs.
16. Avoid insect repellents containing DEET. Dogs are very sensitive to this ingredient and may develop nervous-system problems if it is applied to their skin.
17. Plan walks for early morning or late evening especially if it is both hot and humid.

On the road

18. Never leave your mini alone in a vehicle. Even with the window open, a parked car can quickly become a deadly furnace. On a mild 73-degree day, the temperature in a car can reach 120 degrees in just 30 minutes. On a 90-degree day, the interior of a vehicle can reach 160 degrees in fewer than 10 minutes.
19. Pay attention to your vacation spot's climate and weather forecast. Most heat-related incidents with dogs happen to travelers who don't realize "how hot it can get".
20. Think parking a car in the shade offers some protection? Think again. Your dog cools his body mainly through panting, which can't keep pace with a car's spiking temperature.
21. The same goes for a truck's open bed, which offers dogs no protection from the hot sun. Metal beds can also burn sensitive paw pads when the surface heats up.
22. If you must travel with your mini in a car, carry a large thermos filled with cool, fresh water.
23. Keep your dog's collar and ID tag on him at all times. You may want to have your cell phone number on his ID rather than your home number. Consider getting him a microchip ID, too.

Toxic chemicals

24. Poison-proof your house and garage. Store toxic substances such as fertilizers, weed killers, rat poisons, ice-melting products, and gasoline in a safe place and make sure they don't leak. When you use lawn products, confine your dog to the house.
25. Stay alert for leaked coolant, which has a sweet taste that attracts dogs. Ethylene glycol-containing antifreeze and coolants, even in small quantities, can be fatal. Switch to antifreeze products made with propylene glycol, considered less toxic to dogs, or products that contain a bittering agent.

Vaccinations

26. Visit the vet now if your dog needs his annual check-up. It's good to start the summer with up-to-date heartworm and flea/tick preventives, as well as vaccines.
27. Check your dog daily for ticks, even if he gets a preventive. If you find a tick, remove it with tweezers using steady, firm pressure to draw the tick away from the skin.

Now get out there and enjoy the season! Take advantage of long days to make a special after-work trip to the dog park, or take your mini on a leisurely moonlit stroll. They don't call them the dog days of summer for nothing.

Events Calendar



- **June 12 – (Sunday) Club Meeting and Dental Health Presentation** - Sunday, June 12 at 2:00 pm at Olney-Sandy Spring Veterinary Hospital, 1300 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860. Club member and veterinarian, Dr. Karen Hoffmann will discuss dental health for schnauzers.
- **October 1 (Saturday)** – Supported entry at the Warrenton Kennel Club at Millwood, VA
- **October 7 (Friday)**– Supported entry at Hatboro PA Kennel Club at Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA
- **October 15 (Saturday)** – MVMSC Specialty at the Howard Country (MD) fairgrounds.

Recipe of the Month..... Bacon Crumbles

These no-bake treats can be made with any bacon, cheese or peanut butter-flavored biscuit you have available. Keep the crumbles small, and store them in the refrigerator until ready to serve. Recipe yields about 40 crumbles.

¼ cup unsalted natural peanut butter
¼ cup unsalted natural peanut butter ¼ cup cream cheese



¾ cup peanut butter biscuits
4 pieces bacon, cooked and cooled

1. Combine peanut butter and cream cheese in mixing bowl and mix at medium speed using a paddle attachment until combined.
2. Place the biscuits in a plastic bag and gently crush into small crumbles. Add the bacon and broken biscuits to the peanut butter and cream cheese mixture and mix until just combined.
1. Wet your hands and shape the mixture into small cubes or rounds. Store in a sealed container in the refrigerator for up to one week.

From Everything Cooking for Dogs

Canine Health Corner



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).

Ask Dr. Schnauzer



MVMSC members are invited to ask questions to our resident authority, Dr. Schnauzer, regarding tough issues that have you stumped.

Q: I'm planning to take Mitzy with me on vacation this summer, but she gets very anxious when riding in the car – is there anything that will help?

A: If you're heading out on the open road with your Mitzy, but don't want to be driven crazy, you might want to pack your aromatherapy supplies. Research has found that the scent of lavender seems to calm dogs during long car trips. Dogs not known for their backseat manners were taken on rides with and without lavender-scented cloths hanging in the car. On the "without" trips, the dogs spent more than 70% of their time barking and vocalizing. When exposed to lavender, the vocalizing dropped to 55% of the time and the dogs rested more. Lavender can also help ease dogs' motion sickness. It is available in health-food stores and pharmacies. Happy trails!



It's baseball season and some of the professional clubs offer Pups in the Park. Check with your local ball club and see if they offer a day or several to go to the ball park with your best fur buddy.

Volunteers Needed

Our club is looking for members to volunteer to hold or host club meetings or a puppy match. It can be at your home, restaurant, coffee shop, picnic in the park, or just about anywhere. With or without dogs --- your choice. If interested, please contact Paula Tibbs at schnauzermom@hotmail.com



Happy Memorial Day
See you at the Club Meeting June 12