



Beard 'n Brows

Mount Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club, serving Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC since 1956 Summer 2015
"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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2014/2015 Leadership Team

President: Paula Tibbs
Vice President:
Secretary: Sharon Edwards
Treasurer: B.J. Arczynski

Board of Directors:

AMSC Delegate
Shawne Imler

Committee Chairperson
Specialty Show: Rich Edwards

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Sharon Edwards at sletex@verizon.net
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Web site: minischnauzer.org



Summer Fun!

We hope you and all your schnauzer friends are having a wonderful summer.

As you know, our Club takes a summer break, but we are planning a fun-filled fall. We will be supporting the Hatboro Kennel Club in October (part of the Montgomery County Kennel Club, PA cluster) again this fall by providing trophies for the top five winners. This garners our Club national attention and usually results in one or two new members.

Of greater importance, we will launch a membership drive with our annual Specialty on Saturday, Oct. 10th. As always, this will be at the Howard County, MD fairgrounds. We will host a dinner under a tent at the fairgrounds. We will have some fun demonstrations and announce our plans for the upcoming year. Save the date now and invite your schnauzer friends to come along.

Programs & Events Calendar

- Sarius BBQ – Sunday September 13 – don't miss the Durst's annual bash (See details on page 4.)
- The club will be supporting the miniature schnauzer entry at the Hatboro show on Friday, Oct. 2nd. The show will be held in Wrightstown, PA so try to come by and see the show.
- The Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club Specialty and **DINNER** – Saturday, Oct. 10th at the Howard County MD fairgrounds. More details later, but the minis usually go into the ring around 11:00 am. We have historically hosted a lunch after breed competition, but this year will be providing (free to all members and guests) an informal dinner (BBQ), with activities, including a training demo beginning at **4:00 pm**.

Board Nominations – The Nominating Committee is seeking members who are interested in helping the Club by serving on the Board for 2015-16 . Please contact Sharon Edwards at sletex@verizon.net.

At the Shows – New Champion

From Paula and Randy Tibbs - Evenstar's New Grand Champion/First Home Bred Champion

GCH Ernhart's Valentine for Evenstar (Valentine). Valentine made a clean sweep of the June Bucks and Trenton 4 day weekend. She stated out the weekend by winning the breed at the Garden State All Terrier Show in Trenton N.J. The last weekend was 4 days in New Castle Pa. Valentine was BOS on Friday to finish her Grand Championship. Saturday she won The Metropolitan Cleveland Miniature Schnauzer Club Specialty, then Sunday and Monday won BOB again. Thank you to the Metropolitan Cleveland Miniature Schnauzer Club and all their hard work on providing a picnic lunch after judging. Thank you Shawne Imer for the great handling job.

Evenstar would like to introduce our first home bred Champion- CH Evenstar's Walking After Midnight (Lemmy) (Ch Mai-Laur Black E Nam L x GCH Ernhart's Midnight Wonder). Lemmy debuted last fall, earning a few points, then returned to the ring in June in Richmond, VA. He was BW 3 days and WD 2 days to finish his Championship at the first 5 of 9 shows. We moved him up and he now has points towards his Grand Championship. We are so proud of our new Champion. Again "thank you" to Shawne Imler.

Trophy Donations

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our 2015 Trophy Fund:

Jim and Connie Conrad

Pam Schott

Leslie Cromer

Nancy Snow

June Defontes

Dr. Janet Smith

Debi and Martin Durst
Sarius

Paula and Randy Tibbs
Evenstar

Richard and Sharon Edwards
Lonestar

It's not too late to make a donation – contact Paula Tibbs at schnauzermom@hotmail.com

If you have any news or information that you think other members might be interested in, send it to Sharon Edwards so she can put it in the newsletter. A schnauzer friendly recipe, a good supply company, a dog friendly restaurant, a good place for training? Did your dog earn an award? Send it all in. We need “news” for the newsletter and want to hear from YOU.

Want to be the Hostess with the Most-est

Of course you do.

We would like to schedule club meetings at members' homes. This will keep down the cost of renting facilities for our meetings, which can be quite expensive. Although we like to bring our schnauzers, we understand that some of you do not have fenced yards, thus bringing our furry friends is not practical. That's ok --- we can have a “just people” club meeting. Contact Paula Tibbs at schnauzermom@hotmail.com to reserve your time to shine.

You are invited -----



SARIUS BBQ

20th ANNIVERSARY
Sunday, September 13th, 2015
at 12:00 Noon at Debi & Martin
Durst's, 6546 Middleway Pike in
Kearneysville, WV 25430.

*Surprise entertainment to help us
celebrate 20 years of SARIUS homecoming*

Pork & Turkey BBQ, plates & utensils
will be provided. Please bring a favorite
dish to share and your drinks. Alcohol
is permitted provided you bring a
designated driver.



**THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING ARE CAMERAS, LAWN CHAIRS, A
CRATE OR EX-PEN AND WATER FOR YOUR DOG. ALL DOGS ARE
WELCOME WHO PLAY WELL WITH OTHERS.**

Please RSVP to Debi at
schnauzerpups@comcast.net or by calling
304-725-6794 by August 31st, 2014. Let us
know how many people and dogs to expect.



It's Summer and time to explore with your schnauzer. Here's a list of local dog-friendly places for your summer outings.

Downtown Frederick, MD – dogs always welcome in most shops

Old Alexandria, VA – also a good place to browse and eat with you dog

Barrel Oak Winery
www.barreloak.com

Three Fox Vineyard
www.threefoxvineyards.com

For a listing of VA wineries that welcome dogs
www.virginiawine.org

Pups in the Park – Bring your dog to the Washington Nationals games on September 3 and September 26

For history buffs, this is the 150th Anniversary of the end of the Civil War, and many historic sites are dog friendly. Enjoy this short story of a Civil War canine hero who lived in our area ---

During the first month of training for the 11th PA Volunteer Infantry, a stranger brought the Captain a bull terrier puppy. Named after a local beauty, Sallie became the darling of the regiment and fought alongside her human friends at Cedar Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. When President Lincoln reviewed the Union troops in 1863, he is said to have tipped his stovepipe hat to salute this canine soldier.

Sallie was killed at the Battle of Hatches Run in Stafford, VA in 1865, and even though her regiment was under heavy fire, her friends stopped to bury her in the battlefield. Many years later, the survivors of the 11th PA Regiment dedicated a monument on the Gettysburg Battlefield. If you look closely at the feet of the soldier you'll see a small dog. Sallie still watches over her men as she did during all those battles. The men she befriended made sure she, too, is remembered for her love, loyalty, and sacrifice.

Canine Health Corner



Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) is very painful and in serious cases can be fatal. Compared to most other breeds, the miniature schnauzer is more prone to this disease. Many veterinarians believe that most cases of canine pancreatitis are due to inappropriate diet. This page looks at the symptoms,

causes and treatment of pancreatitis and how diet and dietary supplements can be used to prevent this problem in dogs.

The pancreas is a delicate organ that is easily damaged and slow to heal. It has two important functions - first, it produces insulin for the body to use and store glucose; second, it also produces pancreatic enzymes (amylase, lipase, and protease) that enable the body to digest and absorb fats and proteins in the digestive tract.

As the organ that produces enzymes that digest fats and proteins, the pancreas has all sorts of built-in checks-and-balances mechanisms that prevent the enzymes from digesting itself - since organs are made of proteins as well.

However, when the pancreas starts to inflame, that built-in checks-and-balances system starts to break down, leading to the pancreas almost digesting itself. The result? Pancreatitis.

What is Pancreatitis?

Pancreatitis is the inflammation of the pancreas. The inflammation can be mild, or it can be more severe with hemorrhage.

Onset can be sudden and quick (**acute pancreatitis**). Some dogs, after suffering and recovering from an acute pancreatitis attack, may continue to have recurrent bouts of the disease, and the symptoms may also worsen over time progressively (**chronic pancreatitis**).

If the pancreas is severely inflamed, the pancreatic enzymes can leak into the abdominal cavity from the pancreas and start to digest other body organs, causing permanent damage to other organs nearby (e.g. the liver, bile ducts, gall bladder, and intestines).

When a number of cells that produce the digestive enzymes are damaged, insufficient food digestion results. This condition is known as **pancreatic insufficiency**.

When a large number of cells that produce insulin are destroyed, [diabetes mellitus](#) (sugar diabetes) can result and insulin therapy may be needed.

Pancreatitis is most common in middle-aged or older dogs - especially in dogs who are fed diets high in fat, or dogs who are overly pampered and are fed too much junk food.

Breed-wise, Miniature Schnauzers and Yorkshire Terriers tend to be more prone to develop dog pancreatitis.

Symptoms of Pancreatitis in Dogs

Dogs suffering from a bout of pancreatitis usually show these signs and symptoms:

- poor appetite
- anorexia
- severe vomiting and diarrhea (sometimes bloody)
- yellow, greasy stool

- abdominal pain (dog is crying and hunching his back)
- abdominal distention (floating)
- lethargy and weakness
- may have a fever
- reluctance to walk

Possible Causes of Pancreatitis in Dogs

The underlying root cause of canine pancreatitis is unknown, but this dog health problem can have various triggers.

Many veterinarians believe that one of the main triggers of pancreatitis in dogs is **diet**. The processed foods that many dog parents feed to their dogs are very taxing on the dog's pancreas because such foods are devoid of natural enzymes. Therefore, the pancreas has to work very hard every time the dog eats to produce extra enzymes to digest the foods. As a result, the pancreas can actually live in a state of chronic stress and inflammation.

In addition, many dogs are fed a diet that is much too high in fat, which can also be a trigger that results in low-grade recurring pancreatitis in dogs.

Certain medications are also known to cause canine pancreatitis. For example, anti-seizure drugs such as potassium bromide or phenobarbital are well known to cause pancreatitis issues. Other drugs include corticosteroids (Prednisone) and certain diuretics (such as lasix or furosemide).

Other triggers may include:

- metabolic disorders
- obesity
- injury or trauma to the pancreas
- bacterial infections

Diagnosis and Conventional Treatment

If your dog shows the above symptoms and your veterinarian suspects pancreatitis, he will probably first do a regular blood test to see if the lipase and amylase levels are elevated, in which case there is a high chance that your dog does have pancreatitis. However, the most accurate diagnostic for pancreatitis in dogs is by a blood test called the PLI test. This test helps identify the pancreatic immuno-reactivity or the lipase levels that cause inflammation within the pancreas..

Conventional treatment of this condition usually requires hospitalization.

Food, water and all oral medications are withheld for 24 hours or more in order to give the pancreas a rest. If the dog's symptoms improve in the course of a few days, food intake in small portions can resume but the food given is bland, easily digestible, and low-fat.

In addition, fluid replacement therapy will be given to the dog to maintain normal fluid and electrolyte balance. Fluids are either given subcutaneously or intravenous.

If the dog is in severe pain, he may be treated with pain-relief medications. Antibiotics are also often administered to protect against infection.

Prevention of Pancreatitis in Dogs

Exercise

Exercise improves and promotes digestion and intestinal movements, resulting in a healthier digestive system. Dogs who have a healthy digestive system are less likely to develop pancreatitis. Also, as mentioned above, obesity is one common trigger of pancreatitis. Regular exercise can also keep the dog's weight down and can prevent canine pancreatitis.

Diet and Nutrition

Feed your dog a balanced and natural diet. Do not overfeed your dog, especially with fatty foods or human junk foods.

More importantly, give your dog dietary supplements of digestive enzymes especially if you feed your dog processed foods (e.g. kibbles, canned food).

HAZARDARDOUS Foods for your Schnauzer

As long as we're on the subject of diet, below is a list of foods that are hazardous to your pet. Please keep this list handy as a reminder to yourself and provide to all puppy buyers for their safety.

Most dogs love food, and they're especially attracted to what they see us eating. While sharing the occasional tidbit with your dog is fine, it's important to be aware that some foods can be very dangerous to dogs. Take caution to make sure your dog never gets access to the foods below. Even if you don't give him table scraps, your dog might eat something that's hazardous to his health if he raids kitchen counters, cupboards and trash cans.

Avocado

Avocado leaves, fruit, seeds and bark may contain a toxic principle known as persin. The Guatemalan variety, a common one found in stores, appears to be the most problematic. Other varieties of avocado can have different degrees of toxic potential.

Birds, rabbits, and some large animals, including horses, are especially sensitive to avocados, as they can have respiratory distress, congestion, fluid accumulation around the heart, and even death from consuming avocado. While avocado is toxic to some animals, in dogs and cats, we do not expect to see serious signs of illness. In some dogs and cats, mild stomach upset may occur if the animal eats a significant amount of avocado flesh or peel. Ingestion of the pit can lead to obstruction in the gastrointestinal tract, which is a serious situation requiring urgent veterinary care.

Avocado is sometimes included in pet foods for nutritional benefit. We would generally not expect avocado meal or oil present in commercial pet foods to pose a hazard to dogs and cats.

Bread Dough

Raw bread dough made with live yeast can be hazardous if ingested by dogs. When raw dough is swallowed, the warm, moist environment of the stomach provides an ideal environment for the yeast to multiply, resulting in an expanding mass of dough in the stomach. Expansion of the stomach may be severe enough to decrease blood flow to the stomach wall, resulting in the death of tissue. Additionally, the expanding stomach may press on the diaphragm, resulting in breathing difficulty. Perhaps more importantly, as the yeast multiplies, it produces alcohols that can be absorbed, resulting in alcohol intoxication. Affected dogs may have distended abdomens and show signs such as a lack of coordination, disorientation, stupor and vomiting (or attempts to vomit). In extreme cases, coma or seizures may occur and could lead to death from alcohol intoxication. Dogs showing mild signs should be closely monitored, and dogs with severe abdominal distention or dogs who are so inebriated that they can't stand up should be monitored by a veterinarian until they recover.

Chocolate

Chocolate intoxication is most commonly seen around certain holidays—like Easter, Christmas, Halloween and Valentine's Day—but it can happen any time dogs have access to products that contain chocolate, such as chocolate candy, cookies, brownies, chocolate baking goods, cocoa powder and cocoa shell-based mulches. The compounds in chocolate that cause toxicosis are caffeine and theobromine, which belong to a group of chemicals called methylxanthines. The rule of thumb with chocolate is "the darker it is, the more dangerous it is." White chocolate has very few methylxanthines and is of low toxicity. Dark baker's chocolate has very high levels of methylxanthines, and plain, dry unsweetened cocoa powder contains the most concentrated levels of methylxanthines. Depending on the type and amount of chocolate ingested, the signs seen can range from vomiting, increased thirst, abdominal discomfort and restlessness to severe agitation, muscle tremors, irregular heart rhythm, high body temperature, seizures and death. Dogs showing more than mild restlessness should be seen by a veterinarian immediately.

Ethanol (Also Known as Ethyl Alcohol, Grain Alcohol or Drinking Alcohol)

Dogs are far more sensitive to ethanol than humans are. Even ingesting a small amount of a product containing alcohol can cause significant intoxication. Dogs may be exposed to alcohol through drinking alcoholic drinks, such as beer, wine or mixed drinks (those with milk, like White Russians and "fortified" egg nog, are especially appealing to dogs), alcohol-containing elixirs and syrups, and raw yeast bread dough (please see the above section on bread dough). Alcohol intoxication commonly causes vomiting, loss of coordination, disorientation and stupor. In severe cases, coma, seizures and death may occur. Dogs showing mild signs of alcohol intoxication should be closely monitored, and dogs who are so inebriated that they can't stand up should be monitored by a veterinarian until they recover.

Grapes and Raisins

Grapes and raisins have recently been associated with the development of kidney failure in dogs. At this time, the exact cause of the kidney failure isn't clear, nor is it clear why some dogs can eat these fruits without harm, while others develop life-threatening problems after eating even a few grapes or raisins. Some dogs eat these fruits and experience no ill effects—but then eat them later on and become very ill. Until the cause of the toxicosis is better identified, the safest course of action is to avoid feeding grapes or raisins to your dog. Dogs experiencing grape or raisin toxicosis usually develop vomiting, lethargy or diarrhea within 12 hours of ingestion. As signs progress, dogs become increasingly lethargic and dehydrated, refuse to eat and may show a transient increase in urination followed by decreased or absent urination in later stages. Death due to kidney failure may occur within three to four days, or long-term

kidney disease may persist in dogs who survive the acute intoxication. Successful treatment requires prompt veterinary treatment to maintain good urine flow.

Hops

Cultivated hops used for brewing beer have been associated with potentially life-threatening signs in dogs that have ingested them. Both fresh and spent (cooked) hops have been implicated in poisoning dogs. Affected dogs develop an uncontrollably high body temperature (often greater than 108 degrees Fahrenheit), which results in damage to and failure of multiple organ systems. Dogs poisoned by hops become restless, pant excessively, and may have muscle tremors and seizures. Prompt veterinary intervention is necessary to prevent death in these dogs.

Macadamia Nuts

Although macadamia nut toxicosis is unlikely to be fatal in dogs, it can cause very uncomfortable symptoms that may persist for up to 48 hours. Affected dogs develop weakness in their rear legs, appear to be in pain, may have tremors and may develop a low grade fever. Fortunately, these signs will gradually subside over 48 hours, but dogs experiencing more than mild symptoms can benefit from veterinary care, which may include intravenous fluid therapy and pain control.

Moldy Foods

A wide variety of molds grow on food. Some produce toxins called tremorgenic mycotoxins, which can cause serious or even life-threatening problems if ingested by dogs. Unfortunately, it's not possible to determine whether a particular mold is producing tremorgenic mycotoxins, so the safest rule of thumb is to avoid feeding dogs moldy food. In other words, if you wouldn't eat it, neither should your dog. Promptly remove any trash or moldy debris (road-kill, fallen walnuts or fruit, etc.) from your dog's environment to prevent him from eating it. The signs of tremorgenic mycotoxin poisoning generally begin as fine muscle tremors that progress to very coarse total-body tremors and, finally, convulsions that can lead to death in severe cases. Left untreated, these tremors can last for several weeks. Fortunately, they usually respond well to appropriate veterinary treatment.

Onions and Garlic

All close members of the onion family (shallots, onions, garlic, scallions, etc.) contain compounds that can damage dogs' red blood cells if ingested in sufficient quantities. A rule of thumb is "the stronger it is, the more toxic it is." Garlic tends to be more toxic than onions, on an ounce-for-ounce basis. While it's uncommon for dogs to eat enough raw onions and garlic to cause serious problems, exposure to concentrated forms of onion or garlic, such as dehydrated onions, onion soup mix or garlic powder, may put dogs at risk of toxicosis. The damage to the red blood cells caused by onions and garlic generally doesn't become apparent until three to five days after a dog eats these vegetables. Affected dogs may seem weak or reluctant to move, or they may appear to tire easily after mild exercise. Their urine may be orange-tinged to dark red in color. These dogs should be examined by a veterinarian immediately. In severe cases, blood transfusions may be needed.

Xylitol

Xylitol is a non-caloric sweetener that is widely used in sugar-free gum, as well as in sugar-free baked products. In humans, xylitol does not affect blood sugar levels, but in dogs, ingestion of xylitol can lead to a rapid and severe drop in blood sugar levels. Dogs may develop disorientation and seizures within 30 minutes of ingesting xylitol-containing products, or signs may be delayed for several hours. Some dogs that ingest large amounts of xylitol develop liver failure, which can be fatal. All dogs ingesting xylitol-containing products should be examined by a veterinarian immediately.