



Beard 'n Browns

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



2015/2016 Leadership Team

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

Board of Directors:

BJ Arcynski
Nancy Snow
Randy Tibbs

AMSC Delegate
Shawne Imler

Committee Chairperson
Specialty Show: Rich Edwards



For Newsletter contributions, contact:
Sharon Edwards at [sletex @verizon.net](mailto:sletex@verizon.net)
or phone (301) 947-8811.

Web site: minischnauzer.org



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Remember our holiday party – **Sunday, December 20 at 1:00 pm** at the home of Rich and Sharon Edwards in Laytonsville, MD. Please RSVP to (301) 947-8811 or sletex@verizon.net. Also, bring a \$15 gift for a gift exchange and something for the silent auction. Join us for a great "schnauzery" holiday party.

Featured in this Issue:

- Tips to make the holiday season safe for your MS
- Wrap-up of our fall Specialty
- New Year's Resolutions for you and your MS

Welcome New Club Members –

Kelly Radcliffe – Camp Hill, PA
Cynthia Bradshaw -

HOLIDAY TREATS

The bird's in the oven and your MS is begging for a taste. Rather than forking over a drumstick, whip up a batch of these holiday-themed cookies. From the Organic Dog Biscuit Cookbook (Cider Mill Press, 2008), they have turkey and all the trimmings, including cranberries and yams, just without the fattening gravy and pecan pie.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine all ingredients and mix until a dough forms. Roll out onto a lightly floured surface to ½ inch thickness. Cut into shapes with a cookie cutter. Place on an aluminum foil-lined cookie sheet and bake 22-27 minutes. Transfer and cool completely on wire rack. Store in airtight container in the refrigerator.

All the Trimmings Cookies

2 cups cooked ground turkey	2 cups brown rice flour
2 eggs	½ cup dried cranberries
½ cup pureed carrots	1 cup cooked, mashed yams
2 tablespoons honey	1 teaspoon diced rosemary
1/8 teaspoon garlic powder	1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Highlights of the MVMSC Specialty

Our Specialty in October was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who participated in planning the event, organizing the lunch, and providing trophies. We've received many comments from exhibitors outside our club regarding the great trophies and food.

Sweepstakes Winners **Judge: Traci Preto Caldwell**

Best in Puppy Sweeps – Blythewood Outrageous Flirt – owners: Florence Wallace & Joan Huber

Best Opposite Sex Puppy Sweeps – Dimension Dow's Divine Intervention – owners: Susan Zemany & David Owen Williams

Veteran Sweepstakes – 7 years and Older Dogs

GCH Blythewood Full Metal Jacket – Owners: Jim & Kristi Clark & Joan Huber

Regular Classes
Judge: Mary Jane Carberry

Winners Dog: Blythewood Murphy's Law – owner: Joan Huber
Reserve Winners Dog: Dimension Dow's Divine Intervention – owners: Susan Zemany & David Owen Williams
Winners Bitch/Best of Winners: Dow Dimensions Diamond in the Ruff – Owners: Malena Rutherford & David Owen Williams
Reserve Winners Bitch: Blythewood Outrageous Flirt – owners: Florence Wallace & Joan Huber
Select Dog: CH Dimension Dow's Skyhigh - Owners: Susan Zemany & David Owen Williams
Select Bitch: CH Cozy's Dark Cloud Silver Lining – Owner: Victoria Van Voorhis
Best Opposite Sex: GCH Blythewood Full Metal Jacket – Owners: Jim & Kristi Clark & Joan Huber
Best of Breed: CH Ernhart's Valentine for Evenstar – Owners: Paula Tibbs and Shawne Imler

Star Treatment ----

If you missed the National Dog Show, broadcast on Thanksgiving Day on NBC, you missed a great appearance by GCH Ernhart's Valentine for Evenstar (Valentine) and her handler, Shawne Imler. Valentine was Best of Breed and appeared in the Terrier Group competition. Val is co-owned by Randy and Paula Tibbs and Shawne Imler.

Membership Dues

Don't delay – If you have not paid your 2016 membership dues, they are due by December 31. Please send a check payable to MVMSC to Rich Edwards, 21301 Golf Estates Drive, Laytonsville, MD 20882.

Dues are \$35 for regular membership and \$25 for associate membership.

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.

Santa's reminder -----



*You are cordially invited to
The Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club
Holiday Party*

When: Sunday, December 20th, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Where: Rich and Sharon Edwards' home
21301 Golf Estates Drive
Laytonsville, MD 20882

Etc. Please bring a \$15 wrapped gift (for either human or furry friend) for a gift exchange,

and

an item for a silent auction (proceeds going to the Club),

and

a favorite salad or vegetable dish to share. Entrée of ham will be provided.

If you need directions, please contact the Edwards' at
(301) 947-8811 or rtesle@verizon.net

R.S.V.P. by December 17th to the Edwards
phone: (301) 947-8811 or rtesle@verizon.net

Winter and Holiday Care for your Schnauzer

As the winter months approach, a dog's need for food, shelter, and loving care increases. Keep your dog safe and warm by following these guidelines.

- Don't leave your MS outside in the cold for too long. Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature, and limit his time outdoors. This is especially true after clipping the coat, when much of the undercoat has been removed.
- Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your MS warm, dry and away from drafts. Tile and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place dog beds or blankets on the floor.
- Be careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes or ponds. Your MS could slip or jump and get seriously injured.
- Consider sweaters or coats for your MS, especially after grooming. Carefully inspect your dog's pads after walking on ice for cuts. Rinse and dry your dog's feet after a walk where rock salt has been applied as it can irritate footpads.
- Towel-dry your MS if he gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean his paws, too. This helps avoid cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.
- Provide plenty of fresh water at all times. Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer. Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.
- Don't leave your MS in the car alone. If the car engine is left on, the carbon monoxide could endanger your dog's life. If the engine is off, the temperature in the car could get too cold.
- Antifreeze, which often collects on drive-ways and roads, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, it can be lethal.

Special Care for the Holidays –

- Poinsettias, holly and mistletoe may make your MS sick if he chews on the leaves, berries, or flowers. Place holiday plants out of your dog's reach.
- Review holiday gifts for dogs to make sure they are safe. Items such as plastic toys and small rawhide sticks may be dangerous.
- Remove holiday lights from lower branches of your tree, and watch out for electrical cords. Pets often try to chew them and may get shocked or electrocuted. Place wires out of their reach. Tree ornaments, candles, and other decorations can cause choking or severe intestinal problems if swallowed. Avoid decorating your tree with popcorn or other edible treats. Tinsel and angel hair can lead to upset stomach and possible intestinal blockage if ingested.

- Pets may find tree water tempting to drink. If you use preservatives in your tree's water, be sure they are pet-friendly.
- Though humans may enjoy cookies, chocolate, raisins and other treats, these treats are dangerous for your MS. Chocolate contains theobromine, which can be harmful to dogs and sometimes fatal.
- While people may indulge in holiday libations, no MS should ever have alcohol (except one lick of champagne on New Year's Eve.)
- Not every guest at your holiday party, especially young children, may be familiar with your dog's habits. When entertaining, consider confining your MS securely in his crate or in one area of the house with a radio or TV on.
- The holiday season can be a stressful time for dogs. Try to keep a normal schedule during all the excitement.

Happy New Year - Resolutions for You and Your Mini Schnauzer

The New Year is just around the corner and with it comes the promise of fresh starts for all – both human and canine. What better time to resolve that you and your dog will work toward better health in 2016 and beyond?

Resolution #1: Get Fit

Yes, getting fit means exercising and exercising takes – ugh – effort, but that's why it works so well to help you and your MS maintain a healthy body weight or shed pounds. Exercise itself requires expending more calories, and you, as you build up muscle tissue, burn more calories even if you're just sitting in a chair. Ditto for your schnauzer.

Although initiating an exercise program can feel uncomfortable if you're out of shape, the longer you stick with it the better you and your MS will feel, physically and mentally. For people, exercise provides a sense of rejuvenation and energy, as well as stress reduction. You can't measure these things in dogs, but it's probably similar. Setting up a consistent and practical exercise routine is most important. The critical part is that you have an appointment to exercise every day, so you don't push it to the background. Your MS will appreciate his daily exercise with his human.

Remember that your 30 minutes of recommended exercise a day can be cumulative. Taking your dog for two robust walks a day is fine. Walking is a nice way of spending time with your family, so unwind together and enjoy being with your dog. For beginning exercisers in particular, walking ranks as one of the best workouts you and your dog can have together. You never know what interesting people and dogs you may find on your walks!

Resolved: Walk with my MS and try not to backslide during the winter weather.

Resolution #2: Eat Healthy

While owners and their dogs certainly benefit from the same exercise program, changing to a healthier diet poses different problems for humans than it does for dogs. With human food available 24/7 and willpower sometimes not as strong as needed, food choices, portion control and adopting regular eating patterns become very important. Formulated pet foods, on the other hand, tend to be nutritious and balanced, so for dogs the problem mainly comes down to excessive consumption when owners free-pour and dole out too many treats.

People have a relationship with their dog that often involves food. It can be a big part of the bond between us, especially in training, where food enticement really helps. But those treats add up. Before you revamp your dog's diet, however, consult your pet's veterinarian, or a veterinarian specialist if your pooch has developed a medical condition such as liver disease or allergies. He or she can advise you about making diet changes, such as switching to a prescription weight-loss diet, and adopting an exercise-diet routine appropriate for your MS. Simply cutting back on food means you run the risk of creating a nutritional deficiency, and many of the light diets maintain weight, rather than cause weight loss over time.

Most portly pooches can be slimmed down safely with these easy diet changes: reduce or eliminate table scraps, measure out his meals, and reward him with more praise and fewer treats.

Resolved: Think before I eat and think before I feed my MS.

Resolution #3: Boost your Dog's Emotional Health

As many of us have learned, dogs have individual emotional needs, likes, and dislikes. All dogs, however, hunger for social interaction with their pack, and that means you! To boost your MS's emotional health, follow the following strategies.

1. Enrich your dog's environment. In many homes there's not much for dogs to do so they make up their own mischief. Keep your dog's mind active with interesting toys, like a treat ball or peanut-butter-filled Kong.
2. Work with him in obedience or another activity. Flyball, trick-training, whatever – the interaction with your pet is what counts.
3. Groom him regularly. For dogs who enjoy a good brushing, regular grooming sessions provide a soothing interlude. Schedule quality time together. Dogs like a regular schedule, and part of that should include affectionate, quality interaction with their owners. If we're not careful, we get busy with our lives and forget we need to pet our MS.
4. Visit a dog park. If your MS loves the company of other dogs, a jaunt to the park will give him the opportunity to socialize with his four-footed friends.
5. Do something your dog likes to do. A lot of dogs have a favorite thing they like to do. If it's safe and fun, why not! It makes them feel good.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON