

PREZ SEZ

by Kristin Hauser

"The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue."

--Anonymous

Seasons Greetings!

As hard as it is to believe, the holidays are upon us. Time seems to move ever more quickly these days, never enough hours in the day to get all the things done we plan. As I sit here writing this, my two Standard Schnauzers are happily snoozing away (yes, snoring), reminding me how important it is that we take time to stop, relax and enjoy each day, even if it's for just a minute or two.

As you all know, this year we have been celebrating our 15th anniversary as a club. As part of that celebration, we have acquired several terrific new items that we used for the first time this summer, and will continue to be used at future events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank several people who worked very hard on these, and took our visions and turned them into reality.

Joe Axmacher tackled the task of designing and purchasing a banner that we now proudly display at events. It is an wonderful addition, and helps us stand out at any event we are at! **Greg Dineen** created templates that were the basis of our beautiful new free-standing forms of Standard Schnauzers. He made them, start to finish, and topped it all off by making stands for each of them as well. **Judi Hornbacher** also spent considerable time making the beautiful sashes that adorned each of the dog stands, which we will also be able to use in the future. We had quite a few very well deserved compliments that day on our display from all walks of life!

Two people who I feel deserve special mention here, as well, are **Carol Smith** and **Carol Kruger**. These two incredible women organized and ran the table, trophies, ribbons, dogs, and created calm out of chaos once again this year at ringside. Without them...well, let's not think about that!

A special thanks to **Joe and Deb Axmacher** for once again opening their home to host our dinner and auction. It was another wonderful evening!

There are a number of people that also helped out behind the scenes throughout the year, and that day, working together to make this year's specialty another success. And I thank you, as well. Without the support and help from our members, we would not be able to function as well as we do.

Looking forward to next year...

We have some great news! We have accepted the invitation from Prairie-land SSC to participate in the 2010 SSCA Nationals in Bloomington, IL during Memorial weekend. This will be a big event, and the Board is excited about participating at Nationals. There will be more information as we move closer to the date (see page 4), but I hope you will plan to attend, if only to cheer on your friends—2 and 4 legged!

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THE HEARTBEAT

Another big event for us next year is our regular specialty in August, as part of the Cluster, moving our show from Saturday to Friday. This will make it a four day show—a great opportunity for points! Keep an eye on the website for updates. There are other events that are in the planning stages, as well, and we will send out information as it becomes available.

Our next event is our **Annual Party and Meeting on Saturday, January 9, 2010, at Greg Dineen's house in Lakeville.** It will follow the Land O Lakes show at River Center in St. Paul. Please check our website for more details.

Final Thoughts....

Before I close for this edition, I would like to thank all of you, our members, for your continued support. No doubt you understand without it we could not survive. But it is so much more than a financial commitment. It is your individual involvement, at any level, that helps keep us moving forward. During

these difficult economic times, it can be a challenge to support those clubs and charities that we value so very much and have become an important part of our lives. So I thank you, on behalf of myself and the Board, for your continued membership, and for taking that time out of your busy schedules to participate in events which help make our club a success.

I wish each of you and your families a wonderful holiday season, and a New Year of health, happiness and prosperity.

All my best,

Kristin

Wagging Rights

We would like to recognize all the wonderful milestones you and your Standard Schnauzer accomplish! Not only to promote what has been accomplished, but to also know our membership better and most importantly, about your SS. Did you recently finish an obedience class? Earn points toward you CH? First impressions of starting agility or rally? Anything you wish the rest of the club to be able to share? We would love to hear about it! Send us the information and we will include it here. Feel free to email pictures of you with your Schnauzer (or just your dog if you are camera shy) and it will be added, too.

Good luck!

In the News

2009 National Specialty

The Greater Pittsburgh Standard Schnauzer Club hosted the 2009 National Specialty in New Castle, PA. Heartland Club members attending the hot sultry event were Kristin Hauser along with her daughters, Judi Hornbacher, Sunny Lambert, Jon & Suzanne Rosenberg, Gretchen Castle & George Huddle. Our apologies if any were missed.

Sounds as though a great time was had even though the locale was somewhat remote and the weather was hot and steamy. Acquaintances were renewed and perhaps a couple new friendships started. There were a total of 163 entries counting multiple entries. Saturday resulted in 116 entries and about 100 on Friday & Sunday. Nice turn out!

2009 HSSC Regional Specialty

HSSC Regional Specialty was held in conjunction with the St Croix Valley Kennel Club Show at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Lake Elmo, MN on August 22nd. There was a very nice turn out and everyone enjoyed an absolutely lovely day. Sunny, warm and pleasant continued on into the evening when Joe & Deb Axmacher again hosted a potluck supper. This year was pulled pork and all the trimmings that were awesome. A bronze figurine of a schnauzer was the top raffle prize. Many thanks again to Deb, Axman & Baxter for their hospitality.

2009 Annual Dog Walk—Lake Harriet

The HSSC Annual Dog Walk around Lake Harriet was held on Sunday, November 1st. It was another wonderful turnout! We had beautiful weather, lots of good conversation and laughs. Our four-legged friends seemed to really enjoy getting out and strutting their stuff! We hope you will plan to join us again next year.

2010 Annual Party / Meeting

Our Annual Party/Meeting will be held after the Land 'O Lakes Show on January 9, 2010. It will be at Greg Dineen's house in Lakeville. Please plan to bring a dish to share. This is always a fun event, so come join in the fun! Check the HSSC website for more details.



Heartland
Standard
Schnauzer
Club Of The
Greater Twin Cities™

THE HEARTBEAT

2010 SSCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY, BLOOMINGTON, IL, INTERSTATE CENTER
Heart of Illinois Cluster – Illinois Valley KC & Corn Belt KC – May 26 – May 31
Jack Onofrio, Superintendent www.onofrio.com

Check website for current information: www.SSCA2010national.com
No Internet? Contact Dorothy Pazereskis, Publicity, (309) 344-1140

SSCA will have our own private building for most events of the Specialty. Performance events all on site: Tracking Workshop, Herding events, 3 days supported entry Obedience, Rally and Agility.

Thursday, May 27 – Tracking Workshop, AKC Herding Trial, SSCA Herding Instinct Test
Evening welcome party Fun and Games on site

Friday, May 28 – Heartland SSC Regional Specialty, Illinois Valley KC All Breed Show
Breed Judge: David Kirkland* - Sweeps: Holly Heetland*
Educational Seminar – Practical Canine Anatomy – Dr. Claudia Orlandi

Saturday, May 29 – SSCA National Specialty. Corn Belt KC All Breed Show
Breed Judge: James Reynolds* - Sweeps: Robin Haggard*
Supported entry Obedience, Rally & Agility – CERF clinic
Titlists, Rescue & Hero Parades; Schnauzer Forum; Annual Meeting; evening Puppy Match

Sunday, May 30 – Prairieland SSC Regional Specialty. Illinois Valley KC All Breed Show
Breed Judge: Jerry Watson* - Sweeps: Catherine Dunphy*
Supported entry Obedience, Rally & Agility – CERF clinic
SSCA Awards Banquet and Auction (Jean Gillen, Auctioneer)

Monday, May 31 – SSCA Supported Entry. Corn Belt KC All Breed Show
Breed Judge: Karen McFarland*
Supported entry Obedience, Rally & Agility (*Judges pending AKC approval)



MEMORY WALL

Bring memories from past Nationals & Regionals:
Photos, catalogs, short write-ups of dogs, people, Specialties, SS memorabilia to put on the wall.
Share your treasures with everyone. Let's build memories on memories.

VOLUNTEER

For a successful Specialty we need Volunteers! Go the website and see what you would like to do to make 2010 a memorable Specialty. No Internet access? Contact Dorothy Pazereskis, Publicity Chair, at 3566 W Lake Storey Rd, Galesburg, IL – (309) 344-1140 for information and assistance.

Plan Your Trip

Stay at LaQuinta Inn, (309) 828-6000, 505 Brock Dr, Bloomington, IL 61701
Special Schnauzer Club room rates (plus a one-time \$10 cleaning charge for dogs):
Single King: \$59.99 + tax;
Double (2 double beds): \$69.99 + tax;
Jacuzzi Suite: \$129.99 + tax

Call Motel directly (309) 828-6000 and say you are with the Standard Schnauzer Club.



THE HEARTBEAT

Performance Corner

By Roger Eriksen

Consistent Commands

We can all agree that some level of training is absolutely necessary for us to be able to cohabitant with our dogs. Whether it is advanced obedience training to earn titles, confirmation training to project 'loud & proud' in the show ring or just to be able to control our pet in a way that fits into our lifestyle, training is mandatory. The first course we teach is house breaking or potty training. Hopefully the second course is to establish the pack leader or Alpha dog. After that, who knows? The pack leader gets to pick.

It is our strong opinion that all dogs whether they are destined for the confirmation show ring, hunting field, obedience ring or to slug out on the couch next to us, must complete a basic obedience-training course. This course teaches you to teach the dog the basic commands that make it much, much easier to share our homes with our dogs. It helps to establish the pack leader position for you and is very essential in teaching the dog to remain under control in an environment filled with other dogs.

In basic training we learn to teach the correct response to the commands; heel, sit, stay, wait, down, come and stand. These commands have very specific meanings and are to elicit very specific actions by the dog. Sit and down are specific commands for a non-specific time period when used in the home. That is if they are not followed by a 'stay' command. In everyday life we tend to be more casual in our commands and if we are consistent, the dog has no problem following our directions. "Go lay down" when we are at the dinner table simply means that the dog gets to pick the spot to lay down and to stay away from the table until we are done. As he has never been fed anything from the table, he obeys not expecting a treat from that locale.

"Down" is a very specific command. Of course, it means to the dog to lay down right where it is. This command to the dog can mean only one thing. If you do not wish to have your dog allowed on the furniture and it jumps up on the couch, do you command it to 'down'? If s/he immediately lies right down on top of Grandmas hand made afghan throw, you must praise the dog for obeying. 'Down' just isn't the right command in this case. When Ruger happily jumps up on company when they come in the front door, 'down' is not what we want him to do. We want him to get off the people and that is the command we are teaching. Ruger, OFF! Good boy!

And Exercise Finish.

Breed Popularity

By Roger Eriksen

At the time that President Obama and his family were considering which breed of dog to get, an article appeared on the op-ed page of the local newspaper. It was very similar to an article we had already drafted along the thought line that too much popularity can ruin a breed. While the basic premise is valid, we find that the Portuguese Water Spaniel is just as obscure as ever.

We can't deny that Bo is a handsome young lad even though by now he has matured since this photo was taken. Puppies are always cute, but there is just something about a pup with big brown eyes a fuzzy coat and gray/white chin whiskers. As cute as he was and the amount of publicity he received, the 'buzz' quickly quieted. No puppy mills that we are aware of are pumping out numbers of the breed to fill the predicted demand.

Just because the First Family selected this breed did very little in adding to its popularity with the general public. But what does drive the desire for a particular breed? Steve S. stated that he is not a breed snob and because he owns several breeds, we would tend to agree with him. On the other hand, some of us that selected S. Schnauzers opt to share our homes with more than one.

Unfortunately for several breeds, they have been the choice of the ill informed. Some people think that the dog is an extension of their own personality or machismo fueled by Hollywood/TV bologna creates an unrealistic image of some breeds. It seems that it is this image is what drives buyers. In the old days Dobermans and Shepards were over bred and today we see it with Pit Bulls and Rottweilers. Remember the "My Governor Can Beat Up Your Governor" bumper stickers? Same mentality.

Thankfully our breed just doesn't appeal to that kind of buyer. If you look at a dog and try to pick a name based on looks and reputation, Spike, Killer, or Thor may fit some of the 'tough' breeds. When we first decided on a Standard Schnauzer even though they have German heritage rather than English, we still saw in that face with the soft brown eyes, fuzzy eyebrows, stately beard and ears at full attention, a Nigel or Basil or even a Baxter or Lance. Now how tough does that make you feel?

"Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful."
-- Ann Landers





THE HEARTBEAT

Animal Inn Training School has a nice facility of us on the East side of town. Check out their web page at www.animalintraining.com/ for the details on all levels of training classes. Confirmation classes are usually held on Tuesdays. A new Agility session begins in October 20th.

C & E Dog Training Center: Check out their web page and class schedule for puppy, beginning obedience, advanced obedience, intermediate, novice, pre-open/open, utility, rally, agility as well as conformation classes at www.cedogtraining.com/schedule.html

St. Paul Dog Training Club holds obedience run thrus for practice for trials typically on Friday evenings at 6:00 PM. Fee is \$7.00 for the first dog and walk-ins are welcome. Check their calendar at www.spdtc.com.

Total Recall, Check out the info at their newly redesigned web site at <http://trdogs.com>.

Another therapy dog training session will be held at **Dog Works** in Eden Prairie. This class starts January 4, details see www.dogworksinc.com. Dog Works also offers Confirmation run throughs on Monday evenings at 7:30 for \$6.00 a session and walk ins are welcome.

Bloomington Obedience Training Club offers confirmation classes on Wednesday evenings at 8:15 for \$5.00. For more information visit www.botcmn.org.

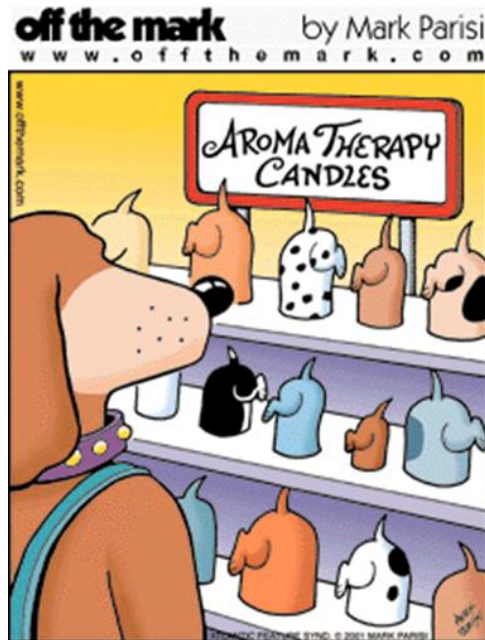
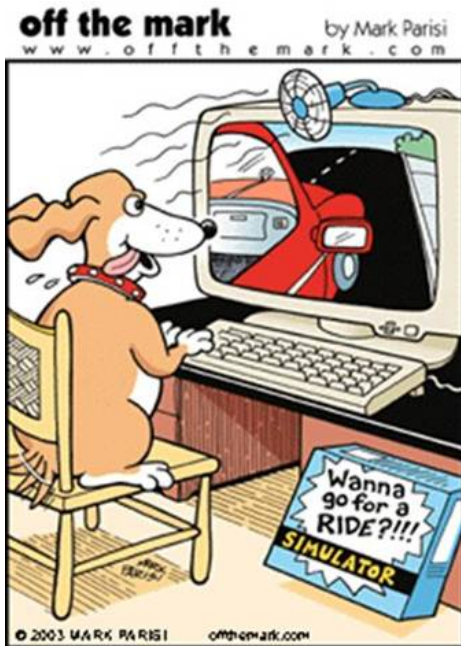
Walk ins are also welcome as non-club members in Novice, Open and Utility classes for \$8.00 per session. All classes are held on Tuesday evenings with both Novice and Open starting at 7:00 PM and Utility at 8:00 PM.

Both confirmation classes as well as several levels of obedience training classes are available at **Tails Up Dog Training** in Burnsville. Visit www.tailsupdogtraining.com for the scoop on what's happening with up coming trials, Canine Good Citizen certification and pet photography.

If H2O is on the inside of a fire hydrant, what's on the outside?

Canine Pee (K9P)

THE HEARTBEAT



Each issue of **The Heartbeat** newsletter is a means for the club to communicate, inform and hopefully, entertain the readership. All club members are invited to submit articles, photos, editorials or simply your comments on the dog related news items and happenings which you wish to share. "Letters to the editor" and op-ed pieces are your 'take' on what is important to you that you feel the club should be aware of.

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