



Miniature Schnauzer  
Rescue of Houston, Inc.  
www.MSRH.org



Volume 3, Issue 1

January 15, 2011

**Inside this issue:**

The Rationalization: What's One More	1
Part 5 of 8: Tick-Borne Diseases: Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	4
Featured Pet	5
2010 Adoption Statistics	6
Volunteer Spotlight	8
Book Raffle Details	8
Book Raffle Ticket Forms	9
Book of the Month	10
Dear Sophie	11
Ben Harrington Memorial	11
A Look Back at 2010 (Photos)	12
Transport Volunteers	13
From the Editor	13

## The Rationalization: What's One More?

By Pat Miller

© 2010 Pat Miller/Peaceable Paws

All Rights Reserved

### MSRH Mission Statement

Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston, Inc. is an all volunteer, donation sponsored, non-profit organization dedicated to the overwhelming task of saving the lives of abused, abandoned or unwanted Miniature Schnauzers who, through no fault of their own, have lost their homes. Many of these dogs come to us healthy. However, some are sick, injured, or abused. They come from shelters, off the streets, from owners who, for whatever reason, can no longer care for them, and from puppy mills, where they have never felt the loving security of a home. Our goal is that they will never have to feel unwanted or unloved again.

Dogs are like potato chips. It's hard to have just one. I know - we have five. When I give seminars, the number of attendees with multiple dogs always far outweighs the singletons. "What's one more?" those of us who love dogs rationalize when we find ourselves falling for yet another furry face.

It's been suggested that oxytocin may be partly responsible for the feel-good connection that happens when you can't resist yet another canine. Oxytocin, a hormone that acts as a neurotransmitter in the brain, plays a role in various behaviors, including social recognition, pair bonding, anxiety, trust, love, and maternal behaviors. Recent research findings indicate that interactions with dogs can significantly increase the amount of oxytocin in the human system.

That "new relationship" oxytocin feeling happens whenever you welcome a new dog into your heart. But it's important to prepare for the reality that goes beyond the hormone boost.

The more dogs you add, the more your relationship with each dog changes. When you have one dog, he's your whole canine world, and you are his. When you add a second, your time, attention and affection are divided, and so are your dog's. When all goes well, you get double the love, although you have to sort out who gets how much and when. It's important to give each dog individual time and attention, as well as enjoying group family activities. Whenever you consider adding another, ask yourself, "Do I have time for this?" That's training, groom-

ing, play and affection.

When all doesn't go well, you have the added stress factor. With luck, you find yourself dealing with minor inappropriate behaviors in your new dog that don't rub off on your prior dog. Social facilitation can have a powerful influence on behavior - your current dog may have never dug a hole or jumped a fence in his entire life; bring a digger/escapee home and your first dog may add these skills to his behavior repertoire.

Worst-case scenario, the new dog doesn't get along well with your current dog(s) and you have to manage and modify intra-pack aggression issues that can range from minor to significant. This degrades the quality of life for all family members and often demands considerable management and modification to keep everyone safe and happy.

The ASPCA estimates average care costs from \$580 per year for a small dog to \$875 per year for a large one - not including one-time costs for things like spaying and neutering. You can figure what you spend on one dog, and double that to determine what you'll spend on two. Or triple it, for three. But sometimes it doesn't work that way. Our five-dog household was doing nicely in the cost category until our 12-year-old Cattle dog mix developed prostate cancer at the same time our 3-year-old Cardigan Corgi fell off a stone wall, rupturing her left

Continued on Page 2

## The Rationalization continued from Page 1

anterior cruciate ligament and 75 percent of the ligaments in her left front wrist. One year and \$10,000 dollars later, Tucker succumbed to the disease and passed away..., and Lucy could walk. Our dog-expense budget was knocked out of the ballpark for the next decade. You will face added veterinary costs from time to time during your dogs' lives, especially as your canine family members age.

### Training

The more you have, the more important it is your dogs are trained. Training allows you to direct and control multiple dogs' movements and behaviors. With control, you can prevent or easily intervene in situations that could cause conflict in your pack. Without it, you have chaos. Chaos creates stress, and stress is a recipe for aggression.

Training creates structure which reduces stress and minimizes potential for aggressive behaviors. Training increases communication, helping you and your dogs understand each other, which also reduces stress. Especially useful are self control and calming behaviors, such as "Sit," "Down," "Wait!" (at doors and for food bowls), "Leave It!" and "Relax" (dog lies flat on his side, head down).

Find a good positive training class, pick a dog and get started. If your spouse, child or partner can attend with a second dog, all the better! Watch a class first to ensure the trainer is using positive reinforcement - treats, toys, play and praise - rather than verbal and/or physical punishment, choke chains, prong or shock collars.

### Exercise

Tired dogs are better-behaved dogs. During this year's unprecedented snow-fall, our hikes were restricted because neither the dogs nor I could wade through its depths. I could see canine stress levels rising. I enrolled Lucy in a Nose Games class and Bonnie in an Advanced Rally class to give them more mental exercise, and we did more barn play, but it wasn't until we resumed our farm-hikes in the spring that life settled back to normal.

Note that a walk around the block on a leash is not adequate exercise for most dogs. Geriatric canine pals, maybe, but not for healthy, active dogs. When we hike off-leash my dogs probably run at least five miles for every mile of ground I cover.

### Management

The more dogs you have, the more you need management. Crates, leashes, tethers, baby gates, doors, exercise pens and direct supervision are all excellent management tools. Use them!

### SIDEBAR

A Day in the Life --

*Note: In the following narrative of living with multiple dogs, examples of management are marked with a (1); training with a (2); relationship with a (3); cost with a (4); and exercise with a (5)*

Here's an example of how life can look in a multi-dog household (ours): It starts at 6 a.m. when Paul goes out to the barn with Scooter, our Pomeranian. At a mere 10 pounds, Scooter is overwhelmed by the larger dogs tearing down the stairs, so husband Paul takes him out first for a little one-on-one time. (1,3)

Fifteen minutes later, dressed and ready to head out with the remaining four, I release Lucy (Corgi) and Bonnie

(Scorgidoodle) from their crates where they sleep (to prevent Lucy from chasing cats and Bonnie from urinating on the bathroom rug) (1) and we start downstairs. I stop at the landing and cue them to wait there (2) so they won't knock me over on the way down (1) and descend to the first floor where I open the baby gate (to keep dogs upstairs) (1) and invite them down the rest of the way.

Lucy and Bonnie win the "stairs race" and I swing the baby gate closed behind them to hold Missy (Australian Shepherd) and Dubhy (Scottish Terrier) on the stairs (1) until Lucy heads for the back door. There is tension between Lucy and Missy because Lucy tries to control/herd Missy's movements and Missy protests. I minimize opportunities for Lucy to pester Missy (3).

Barn time is fun time (5/3). Lucy fetches a ball, draining energy she might otherwise use to harass Missy (5/3). Bonnie swipes Lucy's ball when she's not looking - much to Lucy's dismay (5). I reinforce desired behaviors such as polite group sits for treats and practice "Wait!" anytime we go through doors (2). There's one-on-one time with Dubhy, who hops in the wheelbarrow for a ride back to the feed room after we've dumped manure, and Missy, who has a strong attachment to me and follows me around the barn like a shadow (3).

Barn chores over, we troop back to the house for breakfast (4). When the bowls are ready, Scooter gets fed in the laundry room so he doesn't have to defend his meal from the big dogs (1). I reinforce Lucy with a small piece of cheese for waiting at the laundry room door while I put his bowl down (2). We return to the kitchen, where each dog

*Continued on Page 3*

## The Rationalization continued from Page 2

in turn sits and waits for his/her bowl (2) in the four corners of the dining area (1). When I clean up the kitchen, garbage scraps go in the covered receptacle (1) in the corner.

The rest of our day includes similar management and training rituals. If Missy and Lucy posture over who gets to lie under my feet as I work at my desk (3), I send them both to their nearby crates in my office with a cheerful "Go to bed!" cue (1/2). When I toss Lucy's toy for her to fetch in the back yard, I put Bonnie in the sunroom (1) so Lucy doesn't get stressed over her sister grabbing her toy. Dubhy's recall, a hard-won behavior, still gets reinforced with tasty treats when I call him from the back yard and he comes running (2). On many days we toss in a hike (5, 3), individual training sessions (2, 3) or other dog-related activities (5/2/3).

We watch TV in the evening and Barney the cat enters the room. I reinforce Lucy for looking at me, not chasing him out of the room (2). This is also grooming time, with each dog getting his or her share of brushing (3).

Finally, we troop upstairs for the night, where Scooter and sometimes Dubhy sleep on our bed (3), Missy lies on the floor her mat on my side (3) and Lucy and Bonnie are closed in their crates (1) until the next morning, when it starts all over again.

-----

### SIDEBAR: Too Many?

How many is too many? It depends on your resources (time, money, commitment and physical ability to care for multiple dogs); relationships

within the group; support of other family members; and laws in your community.

If you have "limit laws," I don't recommend you go over the limit, regardless of how drawn you are to the next pair of pleading eyes in the shelter kennel. You risk the security of all your dogs if you ignore legal restrictions. If your spouse is adamantly opposed to one more dog, you risk the stability of your relationship if you bring home another. If you already have conflict in your multi-dog home, adopting another will only add to the stress and increase tension.

If you take on too many, you do a huge disservice to all the dogs and humans in your family. You're not doing your dogs any good if you take in more than the number for which you can provide proper care and attention. You don't want to become a hoarder. Really. Animal hoarders - those who collect far more animals than they can reasonably care for - seem to be able to convince themselves that they must take in just one more - and their animals suffer horribly as a result.

Our limit seems to be five. We've had fewer, but never more than that number. Our county has a limit of five, and while we could easily get a kennel permit, we realize that we're a little stretched with this many. Even if we wanted more, at this point, adding another dog would only exacerbate the tensions between Lucy and Missy - not fair to any of us.

Be realistic. Be fair. Be responsible. Put on your management and training shoes, and don't take on more than you can handle. Your dogs, and your human family members, will thank you for it.

### Peaceable Paws LLC

Pat Miller, CPDT, CDBC  
301-582-9420

[www.peaceablepaws.com](http://www.peaceablepaws.com)

*Pat Miller is a Certified Dog and Horse Behavior Consultant and Certified Professional Dog Trainer. She offers classes, behavior modification services, training clinics and academies for trainers at her 80-acre Peaceable Paws training facility in Fairplay, Maryland (US), and presents seminars worldwide. She has authored "The Power of Positive Dog Training," "Positive Perspectives," "Positive Perspectives 2," "Play With Your Dog," and "Do-Over Dogs." Miller is training editor for The Whole Dog Journal, writes for Tuft's University's Your Dog, and several other publications. She shares her home with husband Paul, five dogs, three cats, five horses, a donkey and a potbellied pig.*

[www.peaceablepaws.com](http://www.peaceablepaws.com)

### Parker Road Animal Hospital

#### Benefits for you & Benefits for MSRH

**As an adopter you will be entitled to a set discounted rate to support you in the care of your new family member:**

**10% Off- Examinations**

**Laboratory Diagnostics**

**X-rays/Imaging**

**Hospitalizations**

**Surgeries**

● **Parker Road will donate \$20.00 for each adopter's first visit back to MSRH**

● **Parker Road will also donate 5% of your total dollars spent back to MSRH after your first visit**

**6730 Airline Drive  
Houston, Texas 77076  
(713) 694-0552**

## Part 5 of 8: TICK-BORNE DISEASES

### Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever in Dogs

By Holly Nash, DVM, MS

Veterinary Services Department, Drs Foster & Smith, Inc.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is a disease transmitted by ticks and is most prevalent in the east coast, mid-west, and plains regions. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever affects dogs and humans. Through blood tests, it has been demonstrated that cats may also become infected, but the disease in cats is minimal. Various rodents, raccoons, and fox may carry the causative agent of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

#### What causes Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever?

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is caused by *Rickettsia rickettsii*. It is one of many *rickettsia* organisms, which on the evolutionary scale are between bacteria and viruses.

#### How is Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever transmitted?

*R. rickettsii* is transmitted from animal to animal through the bite of the American dog tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*) and the Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever tick (hence the catchy name) *Dermacentor andersoni*.

The tick has various life stages, several of which feed on animals. Any of these stages could be infected with *R. rickettsii* and transmit Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. The tick must be attached to a host for a minimum of 5-20 hours for transmission of *R. rickettsii* to occur. Since it is transmitted by ticks, most cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever occur during the tick season from April to September.

#### What are the symptoms of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever?

There are two stages of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever: Subclinical and acute. In the subclinical stage, dogs are infected, but do not show outward signs of the disease, though they may have laboratory test abnormalities. These dogs may recover quickly.

In the acute stage, dogs may have a variety of clinical signs, which can mimic many other diseases. These include a loss of appetite, fever, depression, pain in the muscles and joints, swollen lymph nodes, and edema (fluid accumulation) in the face and legs. Some animals develop pneumonia or heart arrhythmias, which can lead to sudden death. Some dogs have gastrointestinal signs, such as vomiting and diarrhea. Most dogs have neurological signs (dizziness, depression, stupor, seizures) and these can sometimes become very severe. Most dogs develop hemorrhages in the retina of the eye, and may also have blood in the stool or nose bleeds. Renal failure can occur. Most of these signs appear 2 to 14 days after the tick bite. The dogs may have slight anemia, a low number of platelets (platelets help blood to clot), and increased liver enzymes as measured by a blood chemistry panel. Some dogs develop ulcerations of the mucous membranes and extremities.

#### How is Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever diagnosed?

Several blood tests are available which test for the dog's antibodies (proteins produced to fight off the infection) to *R. rickettsii*. Since we need to look for a change in the antibody levels, usually two tests will be done 2 weeks apart and the results compared. Dogs with an active infection will show a significant

rise in the amount of antibody present.

A test is also available which detects antigens (protein parts) of *R. rickettsii*. This test can become positive as early as 4 days after the tick bite. This test is not a blood test, but a small biopsy of the skin at the site of the tick bite that is tested.

Dogs with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever will have a low white blood cell count early in the course of infection, and then the cell numbers may increase. During the most severe phase of the disease, the white blood cell counts may again drop, along with the red blood cell counts and platelet numbers. Other organs may be damaged, so liver enzymes, and kidney function tests may be at abnormal levels.

#### How is Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever treated?

The antibiotics tetracycline, doxycycline, or enrofloxacin are used. Treatment is for 10-14 days. Some dogs can develop severe disease and must be treated for shock or severe nervous system symptoms. If treated within the first several days, most dogs will recover completely—some dogs actually show improvement within hours of starting the antibiotics. Dogs who have severe damage to their nervous systems may not recover completely. German Shepherds and certain lines of English Springer Spaniels tend to have a more severe form of the disease.

Continued on Page 5

**Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever**  
continued from Page 4

**How can I prevent my pet from getting Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever?**

Tick control is the main way to prevent Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Products which repel and kill ticks, such as those containing permethrin are excellent choices. Tick collars containing the active ingredient amitraz are also used, sometimes in conjunction with permethrin products in those areas with high tick infestations.

It appears that dogs who have had Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and recovered are immune to reinfection for years.

Because rodents play a role in the life cycle of the Dermacentor ticks, rodent control is important, as well.

There is no vaccine for Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

**Can people get Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever?**

Yes. The common symptoms in people include a rash, fever, chills, headache, and muscle aches. Other less common symptoms include nausea, abdominal pain, and swollen lymph nodes.

People do NOT get infected directly from a dog, but through a tick bite or the contents of a tick. This is why it is very important not to remove a tick from a pet with your bare hands.

© 2010 Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc.  
Reprinted as a courtesy and with permission from PetEducation.com  
(<http://www.peteducation.com>)  
On-line store at  
<http://www.drsofostersmith.com>  
Free pet supply catalog:  
1-800-323-4208

**Featured Pet—Skip**



**Skip, needing that special human's love**  
I'm crate trained and house trained with a doggy door. I also love to play with other dogs.  
Adoption Fee: \$350

Hi, I'm Skip. I'm a salt and pepper Schnauzer boy with natural ears and a cropped tail. I weigh 18 lbs. It is often said of me that I am quite handsome. However, I've had a really rough experience with humans in my past, and I have some trust issues I need help with getting over. I'm in no way mean or aggressive. I'm just very shy. You see, I need someone to really love me and have patience with me. I hope that special someone is you. Please consider taking me home and giving me a chance to know what love is.



Parker Road Animal Hospital & Pet Resort  
6740 Airline Drive  
Houston, Texas 77076  
Tel: (713) 694-0552  
[www.parkerroadpetresort.com](http://www.parkerroadpetresort.com)

Be sure to mention that you are associated with MSRH when you board your dog at Parker Road Pet Resort and a donation of \$1 per day per dog will be made to MSRH. Not only will your dog be treated like royalty, but MSRH will be receive a benefit, as well.

✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓  
✓ Parker Road Pet Resort ✓  
✓ donated \$130 to MSRH as ✓  
✓ a result of boarding stays ✓  
✓ at their pet resort from ✓  
✓ October through Decem- ✓  
✓ ber, 2010! Thanks for be- ✓  
✓ ing a customer of Parker ✓  
✓ Road Pet Resort !!! ✓  
✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓

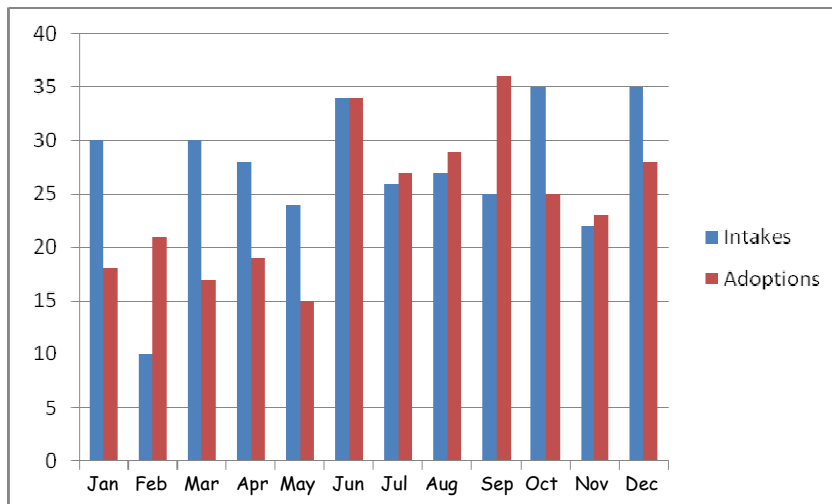
**DON'T FORGET TO ENROLL IN THE 2010 KROGER NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR PROGRAM!**  
**A PORTION OF YOUR GROCERY BILL WILL BE DONATED TO MSRH.**  
**QUESTIONS? SEND E-MAIL TO NEWSLETTER@MSRH.ORG**

## 2010 YEAR END ADOPTION STATISTICS

Table 1: Adoptions Comparison 2008-2010			
Month	2008	2009	2010
Jan	22	13	18
Feb	24	12	21
Mar	15	11	17
Apr	20	12	19
May	22	16	15
Jun	21	28	34
Jul	19	27	27
Aug	12	22	29*
Sept	14	17	36
Oct	16	16	25
Nov	20	18	23*
Dec	24	19	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>292</b>

Table 2: 2010 Adoptions Vs. Intakes			
Month	Intakes	Adoptions	Foster Pool (+/-)
Jan	30	18	+12
Feb	10	21	-11
Mar	30	17	+13
Apr	28	19	+9
May	24	15	+9
Jun	34	34	0
Jul	26	27	-1
Aug	27*	29	-2
Sept	27*	36	-11
Oct	35*	25	+10
Nov	22	23*	-1
Dec	35	28	+7
<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>+34</b>

\*Corrected number over what was previously reported.



Graph 1: 2010 Intakes vs. Adoptions Comparison

**Analysis of Graph 1:** Note that for the first time since we have been keeping these records, MSRH has had an equal number or more adoptions than intakes for 6 months out of 12 in 2010—February, June, July, August, September, and November. This is awesome news, but the outcome is even better than this. See more charts and analysis on Page 7.

2010 Adoption Statistics continued from Page 6

Table 3: Intake Comparison 2009 Vs. 2010			
Month	2009	2010	% Change
Jan	17	30	+76.5%
Feb	17	10	-41.2%
Mar	22	30	+36.4%
Apr	26	28	+7.7%
May	38	24	-36.8%
Jun	26	34	+30.8%
Jul	11	26	+136.4%
Aug	26	27	+3.8%
Sep	21	27	+28.6%
Oct	25	35	+40%
Nov	28	22	-21.4%
Dec	8	35	+337.5%
Total	263	326	<b>+24%</b>

Table 4: Adoption Comparison			
Month	2009	2010	% Change
Jan	13	18	+38.5%
Feb	12	21	+75%
Mar	11	17	+54.5%
Apr	12	19	+58.3%
May	16	15	-6.3%
Jun	28	34	+21.4%
Jul	27	27	0%
Aug	22	29	+31.8%
Sep	17	36	+111.8%
Oct	16	25	+56.3%
Nov	18	23	+27.8%
Dec	19	28	+47.4%
Total	211	292	<b>+38.4%</b>

Table 5: 2009 Vs. 2010 Total Intakes Vs. Adoptions				
Year	Intakes	Adoptions	Foster Pool (+/-)	Adjusted (Adoptable) Pool*
2009	263	211	+52	+27
2010	326	292	+34	+4

Table 3, Intake Comparison, 2009 Vs. 2010, shows that overall we took in 24% more dogs this year than 2009, yet Table 4, Adoption Comparison, 2009 Vs. 2010, shows that overall we adopted 38.4% more dogs over 2009.

Table 5: 2009 Vs. 2010 Total Intakes Vs. Adoption: \*What makes these numbers even more meaningful is the fact that out of the intakes in 2009, those making up the 52 in the foster pool at the end of the year include 20 that passed away due to fatal illness during that year, 3 that became forever fosters, and 2 that were transferred to another rescue group, resulting in a net reduction in the adoptable foster pool to 27. In 2010, we had 22 pass away due to fatal illness, 4 that became forever fosters, and 4 that were reclaimed by their owners, thus reducing the adoptable foster pool to only 4 (WOW!). These adjusted numbers really give the true picture of our adoption placement effectiveness, and 2010 has been the most successful year in our history! We also took in more dogs than ever before--326!!!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MSRH TEAM FOR THIS MOST AMAZING YEAR EVER!**

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—PAUL & LESLE ALLI

When Paul married Lesle in 2003, he knew he was marrying a family of three - Lesle and her two dogs --Bailee, a Springer Spaniel and Ally, a Cocker Spaniel. Bailee was getting up in age, and they felt that soon Ally would need a new playmate. So, off they went to the Houston SPCA. That day, they came home with Mister, a 4-year old salt-and-pepper Miniature Schnauzer . . . and that's how it all got started.

Since then, Paul & Lesle have loved Miniature Schnauzers. When it was Ally's time, they decided the only kind of dog they would get would be a Mini. So, they contacted MSRH to see what the organization was all about. It didn't take long for them to fall in love with Doc - a parti Schnauzer. Doc was 18 months old when Paul & Lesle adopted him, and today he's a healthy, rambunctious, playful 3-year old "parti" animal!

The Alli's also "rescued" Buddy when he was a puppy. Buddy, their little special needs dog - as they call him - is a small, black and silver Schnauzer.



Paul & Lesle with Buddy, Doc, & Mister



When they saw him being sold on the side of the road, something told them Buddy needed to be in their home. After a few months of owning him, they learned he has a collapsed disk which prevents him from running and jumping. Buddy is slow except when it comes to food. They think he saves up his running specifically for dinner time!! But don't let his small size and slowness fool you. When he starts barking, it sounds like someone has let an attack dog out of its pen. But make one step towards him, and he's looking for the nearest place to hide.


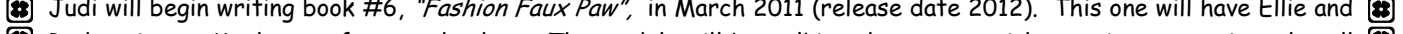
Paul and Lesle have volunteered at many MSRH events and try to help whenever they can. They have fostered two Minis in the past few months - Casper and Jax - who are now in their forever homes, as well as helped out with a couple of transports. They are thankful for the organization and want to continue helping in the future.

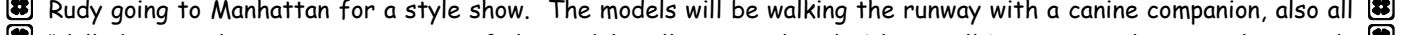
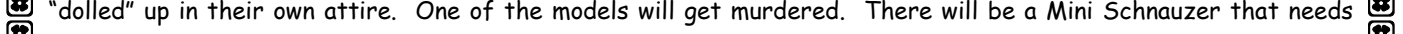
Paul recently hosted a surprise birthday party for Lesle and requested all of the guests to bring donations to MSRH in lieu of gifts. The birthday party donations raised a total of **\$700** (awesome!) for which MSRH is so grateful!

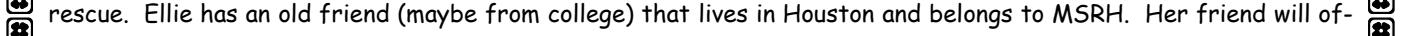
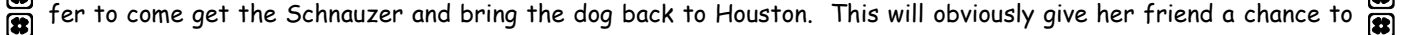
Lesle did receive at least one birthday gift, however—a pair of Schnauzer slippers! Too cool! Check those puppies out!

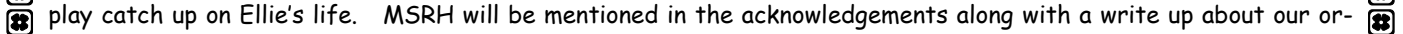



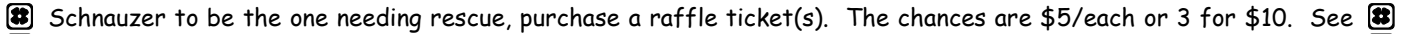
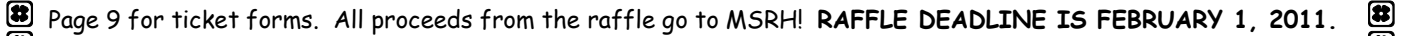

**YOU AND YOUR DOG COULD BE CHARACTERS IN JUDI McCOY'S 6TH BOOK! HERE'S HOW!**





 Judi will begin writing book #6, "*Fashion Faux Paw*", in March 2011 (release date 2012). This one will have Ellie and
 




 Rudy going to Manhattan for a style show. The models will be walking the runway with a canine companion, also all
 




 "dolloed" up in their own attire. One of the models will get murdered. There will be a Mini Schnauzer that needs
 


 rescue. Ellie has an old friend (maybe from college) that lives in Houston and belongs to MSRH. Her friend will offer
 


 to come get the Schnauzer and bring the dog back to Houston. This will obviously give her friend a chance to
 


 play catch up on Ellie's life. MSRH will be mentioned in the acknowledgements along with a write up about our organization.
 


 In order for a chance to be Ellie's Houston friend (can use any name you choose in the book) and your
 


 Schnauzer to be the one needing rescue, purchase a raffle ticket(s). The chances are \$5/each or 3 for \$10. See
 


 Page 9 for ticket forms. All proceeds from the raffle go to MSRH! **RAFFLE DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 1, 2011.**




NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston Says:

"Thank You Judi McCoy!!"

Raffle Tickets: \$5 each OR 3 for \$10

Make checks payable to: "MSRH"

Mail tickets to:

MSRH

1827 Ash Meadow

Houston, Texas 77090

Judi McCoy is the author of "The Dog Walker Mystery Series" and is offering you an opportunity to have YOU and YOUR PET featured in her sixth book,

*"Fashion Faux Paw"*

due out in 2012. All proceeds benefit MSRH! If you win, you'll be contacted to provide the names for Judy's newest book! **Raffle Deadline February 1, 2011**



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston Says:

"Thank You Judi McCoy!!"

Raffle Tickets: \$5 each OR 3 for \$10

Make checks payable to: "MSRH"

Mail tickets to:

MSRH

1827 Ash Meadow

Houston, Texas 77090

Judi McCoy is the author of "The Dog Walker Mystery Series" and is offering you an opportunity to have YOU and YOUR PET featured in her sixth book,

*"Fashion Faux Paw"*

due out in 2012. All proceeds benefit MSRH! If you win, you'll be contacted to provide the names for Judy's newest book! **Raffle Deadline February 1, 2011**



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston Says:

"Thank You Judi McCoy!!"

Raffle Tickets: \$5 each OR 3 for \$10

Make checks payable to: "MSRH"

Mail tickets to:

MSRH

1827 Ash Meadow

Houston, Texas 77090

Judi McCoy is the author of "The Dog Walker Mystery Series" and is offering you an opportunity to have YOU and YOUR PET featured in her sixth book,

*"Fashion Faux Paw"*

due out in 2012. All proceeds benefit MSRH! If you win, you'll be contacted to provide the names for Judy's newest book! **Raffle Deadline February 1, 2011**

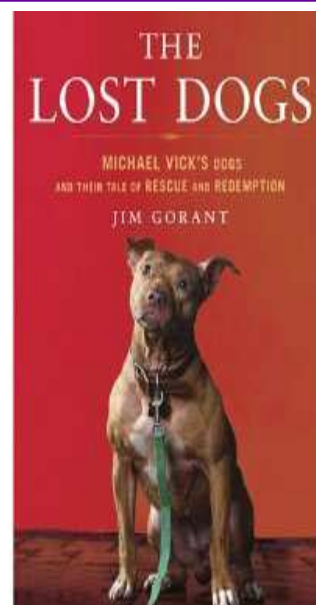
## BOOK OF THE MONTH

# "The Lost Dogs: Michael Vick's Dogs and Their Tale of Rescue and Redemption"

BY Jim Gorant

If you were just about to forgive Michael Vick due to his awesome performance on the football field this season, not so fast! This book will remind you of what you need to stay focused on. Jim Gorant has expanded on his *Sports Illustrated* cover story by offering a chilling investigation into Vick's dog fighting operation and the men and women who brought him to justice and rehabilitated the rescued dogs. Gorant tells the story of the rise of the Bad Newz Kennels by describing in sometimes painful detail the abuse, torture, and execution of the animals. You will be amazed by the legal challenges and obstacles created by local politics that law enforcement officers and investigators had to maneuver through to the point of risking their jobs in order to convict Michael Vick and his colleagues. They are true heroes as is Mr. Gorant for documenting this case in such accurate detail. This is the story, not only about the crime itself, but also about the success stories of these dogs. Once rescued, they were evaluated as individuals. Almost all of them were then rehabilitated to the point where they were able to be adopted into loving homes. The rescuers and trainers are also heroes, of course—many heroes to every aspect of this story!

As of this writing, this book has received 140 reviews on Amazon, with 132 of them 5 star. Hardcover may be purchased for \$15.60, Kindle edition for \$12.99. There is no paperback version out yet.



© JIM GORANT

Robb Report, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer Sunday Magazine*, among many others. As an editor he's tinkered with the scribbling of everyone from Mike Lupica to Dan Quayle and worked on two SI books, *Tiger 2.0* and *The Golf Book*.

Jim's original SI cover story on the dogs of the Bad Newz kennels won the Humane Society's Genesis Award for magazine writing. He is also the recipient of the John Southam Award and of multiple writing awards from both the Golf Writers Association of America and Boating Writers International. Prior to *The Lost Dogs*, Jim authored *Fanatic: 10 Things All Sports Fans Should Do Before They Die*, a title that despite its length doesn't come close to capturing the book's essence (it's not a list book), and he is also the co-author of *Fit For Golf* (with Boris Kuzmic).

Shortly after his birth in Brooklyn, New York, Jim's family decamped for the greener pastures of northern New Jersey. Other than the four years when he escaped to college in the distant metropolis of Philadelphia, he's spent his entire life in the Garden State, where he still lives with his wife and two children. Despite the legacy of his residence, none of his friends or family have been captured on or accurately represented by reality TV programming.

Copyright © 2006 All rights reserved

## Dear Sophie: Do you have any updates on arthritis treatment?

Dear Sophie:

In your May 2009 issue, I wrote to you asking about natural remedies for relieving my arthritis pain. I still take Rimadyl on occasion, but I try not to take it too often to avoid potential liver problems. I have tried your suggestions. They have helped me a great deal. However, my arthritis keeps getting worse. Do you have any updates to your previous advice?

With creaky joints,  
Achy Artie

Dear Artie:

It is nice to hear from you again. It just so happens I do know of something else that you must try. As long as your veterinarian agrees that you

are a good candidate for this, there is a drug that is administered two times a week for four weeks. It is injected intramuscularly to be sure that it reaches the critical parts of the joint. It goes to work in the joint in about two hours and stays in the joint for about three days. It is called Adequan® Canine. You should start to see results in about four weeks.

What this drug does is help keep the cartilage in your joints from wearing away by keeping it healthy and intact. There is no other drug available that does this.

[For you new readers that have come on board since May 2009 that would like to read my original response to Artie with other tips on dealing with arthritis, please go to this link:

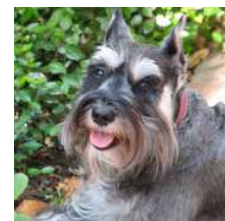
[www.msrh.org/category/resources/publications/page2/](http://www.msrh.org/category/resources/publications/page2/)

Scroll to the bottom of the webpage for the May 2009 issue.]

I know, Artie, that your original request was for natural remedies, which do help, but they can only go so far. Many times they must be combined with traditional medicine.

I know the cold weather makes those joints hurt even more than ever. Ask your Mom or Dad to take you in to see your veterinarian to ask about Adequan® Canine. The sooner you can get started on this program, the better you're going to feel.

Sincerely,  
Sophie



### MSRH LOSES DEAR FRIEND, BEN HARRINGTON

The Miniature Schnauzer world lost one of its best friends on New Year's Day. Ben Harrington and his wife Carol have been Schnauzer lovers for over 35 years and volunteers for MSRH for over 8 years. They first adopted a 12-year old Mini named Oscar from MSRH back in 2003 and finally lost Oscar to old age in January 2009. The Harringtons have adopted five other rescues, as well as fostered for MSRH. In addition, Carol has done many transports and owner surrender pickups, as well as bathed and groomed many dirty, matted Minis, taken them to the vet, and done whatever we needed. All the while, Ben was there to support Carol in all of these selfless efforts.

Ben had been battling cancer for the past two years and finally succumbed to congestive heart failure. He was a big guy with a big heart, who never met a stranger. He loved life, he loved his wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and he loved his Schnauzers, whom he considered his children, too.

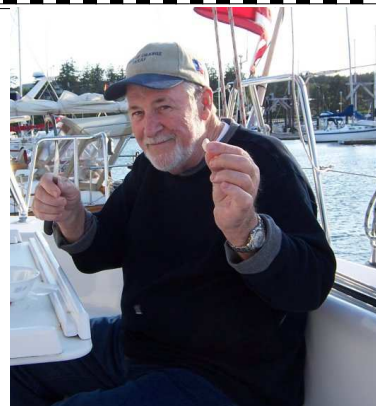
Carol has asked that in lieu of the usual remembrances to please send donations in Ben's memory to MSRH.

Please send donations to:

Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston  
1827 Ash Meadow  
Houston, Texas 77090

Please send cards to:

Mrs. Carol Harrington  
1002 Hackberry  
LaPorte, Texas 77571



Benjamin "Ben" Peter Harrington  
March 22, 1938—January 1, 2011

# A LOOK BACK AT 2010—THE WAY WE WERE



**Beverly Mattocks, Gabriela Garcia, Marilyn Malaney, Jim Gwinn, and Bea Alfonso**  
H.A.P.I. Heights Meet & Greet  
May 1, 2010



**"Dear Sophie" makes an event appearance.**



**Laura & Dennis Virgadamo, Ivonne Palacios, Marilyn Malaney, Leslie Alli, Karen Coleman, Paul Alli, Byron Townsend, Gabriela Garcia, and Rick Meidel**  
MSRH 10th Anniversary Wine Tasting  
May 12, 2010



**Jim Gwinn, Laura Yokel, Donna Paparrazzo, and Marilyn Malaney**  
H.A.P.I. Heights Meet & Greet  
June 5, 2010



**Sherry Eitel and Paula Tolbert**  
Reliant World Series of Dog Shows  
July 23, 2010



**Byron Townsend and Donna Paparrazzo**  
H.A.P.I. White Linen Night  
August 7, 2010



**Laura Virgadamo, Sherry Eitel, Gwen Tokar, and Karen Coleman**  
White Linen Night at MSquared  
August 7, 2010



**Sandra Plunk and Judi McCoy**  
Pet Fest  
October 24, 2010



**Regina Schroeder, Martha Sarrack, Crystal Cook, Jim Gwinn, and Joanne Sapp**  
MSRH Fall Garage Sale  
November 6, 2010

## Many Thanks To Our December Transport Volunteers!

MUCH APPRECIATION GOES TO: **Susanne Ramos** for picking up Curly Sue & Noel at Pasadena Animal Control on 12/1/10; **Joanna Dominguez/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Luke, a stray, on 12/1/10; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Dickens, Timmy & Velvet at Harris Co. Animal Control on 12/2/10; Good Samaritan **Margo Adams** for picking up Spencer Bear, a stray, on 12/3/10; **Mason & Janie Honeycutt/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Buddy James & Fane at Town Lake Animal Control on 12/3/10; **Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Jenkins at BARC on 12/4/10; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up George & Hamilton at BARC on 12/6/10; **Kara McClain** for picking up Noe at Alvin Animal Control on 12/7/10; **Brandi ?** for picking up Frosty, an owner surrender, on 12/7/10; **Donna Sanchez/Tricia Wilkerson/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Charla, Dario, Harlan, John, Kane, Merv, Paul, Titan & Townsend at Harker Heights Animal Control on 12/8/10; **Tricia Wilkerson/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Arlo at Town Lake Animal Control on 12/11/10; **Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Cambria at Harris Co. Animal Control on 12/13/10; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Lanee at BARC on 12/15/10; **Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Hilda at Harris Co. Animal Control on 12/17/10; **Douglas Stoves/Eileen Mahoney/Thecia Taylor/Cheryl Martinez/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Dee & Sandra from Harlingen Animal Control on 12/19/10; **Carol Harrington** for picking up Joey, an owner surrender, on 12/22/10; **Thecia Taylor/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Marita & Morrigan at Brownsville Animal Control on 12/26/10; **Karen Coleman** for picking up Conner, an owner surrender, on 12/27/10; **Sherry Eitel/Beth Bedar** for picking up Delsie at Pasadena Animal Control on 12/30/10; and **Sherry Eitel/Beth Bedar** for picking up Cody Bear, an owner surrender, on 12/30/10.

## From the Editor

Dear Readers:

I am pleased to have been made aware of the adjustments to the intake figures when I was putting together my adoption statistics for the year! What a difference those adjustments made to reporting our success in placing adoptable dogs in forever homes. Unfortunately, the biggest adjustment to the intake figures is due to the deaths of those little ones who were so ill when they came into rescue that they just couldn't recover. It is a sobering fact that we who volunteer for animal rescue groups must face, and it is why we never give up on our mission.

Because I am an admirer of the work the ASPCA does on so many levels, I am a member of their Guardian program. Among the legislative victories that they played an important part to bring about in 2010 were the following:

**Federal:** Signed into law December 9 the Crush Act to prohibit the sale of videos depicting extreme cruelty, such as burning, drowning or crushing animals. The original law was struck

down by the Supreme Court in April claiming it violated free speech, but a more narrowly constructed version of the law was passed based on the fact that these videos flat out promote violence.

**Missouri:** On November 2, the citizens of Missouri voted in support of Proposition B, the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act. Effective in 1 year, it will restrict commercial breeders to no more than 50 breeding female dogs, increase the size of the dogs' living space, and require annual veterinary exams.

**New Hampshire:** Governor John Lynch signed the Greyhound Protection Act into law July 8 to end Greyhound racing in that state forever.

**Tennessee:** Both chambers of the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation to prohibit persons convicted of certain violent and drug-related felonies from owning dogs deemed vicious and requires any dog in the possession or custody of a violent felon be spayed/neutered and microchipped. The goal is to make it tougher for these dogs to be bred and trained for



Linda with Sophie & Barkley

fighting.

**Connecticut:** This state passed a law that went into effect on October 1 that prohibits the dangerous and inhumane chaining/tethering of dogs.

I am finding that most animal rights legislation is passed at the state level, and I have a feeling it is best enforced that way. After all, what good is a law if it is not enforced.

At any rate, I thought you might be pleased to know that legal progress is being made (slowly, but surely) to protect our furry best friends we love so much.

Sincerely,

Linda