



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

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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...

THE NOSE KNOWS

Working and Playing with Your Dog's Powerful Sense of Smell By Pat Miller

If you are frustrated by your dog's insistent stopping and sniffing while you're trying to take a purposeful, brisk walk around the block, rest assured you are not alone. Dog owners the world over struggle with their dogs' propensity to read the pee-mail on every bush, mailbox and fire hydrant, and check out possibilities for squirrel, groundhog and bunny trails.

Dogs sniff because they can. Estimates on a dog's scent capabilities range from 10,000 to as much as 100,000 times as powerful as the human nose. Their world is virtually exploding with a splendor of odors that constantly tempt their sensitive noses. They must wonder sometimes why we humans are so oblivious to the rich world around us.

Since we humans are the supposedly more intelligent species, we can apply our brains to figure out how to work with our dogs' noses instead of against them. Nose games abound in the dog training world, and include everything from a very simple Beginner Find It exercise that every dog can do, to the heroic Search and Rescue work that highly trained dogs perform after disasters.

Beginner Find It

This is actually one of my favorite games to play with dogs because it's so easy. You can use it to exercise your dog, help him relax when he's stressed, keep him busy when he's bored, draw his attention back to you when he's distracted, and lay a foundation for

more advanced scent work.

All you need is a handful of tasty treats and a dog. Stand with your dog in front of you, on leash, or off if it's safe to do so, and toss a treat five feet off to your right. Be sure your dog sees you do this. As you toss the treat say "Find it!" and let him run after it and eat it. Just as he finishes swallowing, toss the next treat five feet off to your left and say "Find it!" Repeat until all your treats are gone. If you and your dog want to keep playing, grab another handful and do it again. Or feed him his entire meal this way. Could a game be any easier?

Note: If you have multiple dogs it's best to play this game with one dog at a time to avoid any potential for arguments over who gets the treat.

The Next Step

If your goal is to have your dog find hidden (or lost) stuff, your next step is to leave your dog on a "Wait," or "Stay," walk 10-15 feet away, and let him watch you place a treat on the floor. You can remind him to wait if necessary, or if he doesn't have a strong enough Wait or Stay, have someone hold him until you return.

Return to your dog and pause, facing toward the treat, then release him with your "Find it!" cue. If he doesn't race right out to eat the treat, encourage him. Next time you may have to put the treat a little closer to help him figure it out - although most dogs get the idea pretty

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quickly. Vary the length of time you pause before sending him so he doesn't start to anticipate the cue and dash off before you release him. When he does find it, click (or use a verbal marker such as "Yes!") and hand him another treat. The click-and-treat will orient him back to you after a find.

When he's solid with waiting for your cue, and happily dashing out to get the treat in response, let him watch you "hide" a treat in an easy location - behind a chair leg, or on the edge of a coffee table rung, under the edge of a throw rug... Return, cue him to "Find it!" and click and treat after he eats it. After a half-dozen of these, hide two treats in different spots, and have him find them in succession. After you click and treat the first find, cue him to "Find it!" again, and let him find the second. Then graduate to hiding several, clicking and treating each time he finds one.

Now it gets really fun. Stash your dog behind a barrier - an exercise pen or crate covered with a blanket, or in another room with the door closed. Hide a treat. Bring him back into the room to the general area where the treat is hidden, and tell him to "Find it!" If he hasn't already, now you will see him *really* begin to work his nose. He'll snuffle to cause air to move, he'll lift and turn his head to catch the scent. Suddenly you'll see him pause, and you'll know he's caught the scent. Now he'll focus on that area until he zeros in on the hidden treat. He's working his nose... click and treat! This is the most exciting moment for me - when you begin to get a glimpse of how he uses his incredibly powerful sense of smell, and what that means for future nose play for the two of you.

As he works his nose, resist the temptation to help him. You can indicate a general area, but don't point, or otherwise try to focus him on the specific spot. Dogs *do* love to use their noses, but it can be hard work, and if they discover you'll help them, some dogs will take the easy way out and wait for you to point. Then when something's hidden and *you* don't know where it is either, you'll both be lost if he's come to depend on you for hints. If he's stuck and simply can't find one or more of the treats, end the exercise for the moment, put him back behind the barrier, remove the treat, and hide it again, perhaps in a slightly easier spot.

When he can find one treat with ease, hide several, re-cueing him after each click-and-treat to find the next one.

Just the Beginning

This is just the beginning of a whole new world for you and your dog's nose. You can walk around the block first (or hike through the woods) without your dog and hide treats, then go back and get him and play "Find it!" each time you're nearing one of your treat caches. You can hide treats in a kiddie pool full of dog toys and tell him to "Find it!" You can have your child go out of sight and tell your dog to "Find Bobbie!" You can have *someone else* hide the treats so *you* don't know where they are, and really test your skills as a team.

Of course, all the different applications of nose play beg for more in-depth training programs: teaching him to discriminate between one scent and another and find the specific scent you ask for; teaching him to indicate to you when he's found the scent; adding a cue to search a specific area - there is so much more beyond simple play, if you chose to really investigate your dog's nose potential. Look for a good positive

trainer in your area who offers nose training. Who knows, maybe the two of you can someday find your neighbor's missing cat, or rescue a real-life Timmy from a well.

SIDEBAR: DOGS WITH NOSE JOBS

Just as some lucky humans find work that encompasses their favorite interests, some lucky dogs have occupations that encourage them to use their noses. Here are just a few of the exotic jobs that dogs today are doing with their powerful sense of smell:

Search and Rescue: Finding humans lost in disasters, missing children and adults www.nasar.org/nasar/specialty_fields.php

Lost Pet Rescue: Finding missing animal companions www.missingpetpartnership.org

Narcotics Detection: Identifying illegal drugs in luggage and shipments at airports and harbors, in vehicles, in homes, on persons www.nndda.org

Landmine/Explosives Detection: Identifying dangerous explosives and buried mines at home and abroad www.landminedogs.com and www.bombdog.org

Fugitive Tracking: Finding persons who are fugitives from the law www.uspcak9.com and www.npca.net

Illegal Plant Importation Detection: Identifying illegal drugs in luggage and shipments at airports and harbors www.scribd.com/doc/1689199/USDA-detector-dog

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Endangered Species Detection: Locating endangered plants and identifying the scat of endangered animals as part of endangered species conservation programs www.king5.com/on-tv/evening-magazine/Detector-dogs-saving-endangered-species-97019954.html and www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/oregon/about/art25670.html and green.yahoo.com/blog/care2/3/dogs-find-endangered-species-by-smelling-their-poop.html

Termite, Bedbug and Mold Detection: Finding termites, bedbugs and mold for pest control, home inspection and health purposes <http://wddo.org> and www.fsik9.com

Cancer Detection: Identifying the presence of cancer before otherwise medically detectable www.newscientist.com/article/dn8549-xd-dogs-as-good-as-screening-for-cancer-detection.html

I'm willing to bet there are many more current dog-scent jobs in place, and many more to come as humans get more and more creative about how to use the power of their dogs' noses. If they can smell it, they can be trained to find it!

SIDEBAR: NOSE WORK COMPETITION

Tracking has long been the king of canine nose work competition, where a track is laid and the dog must follow the track to find the person at the end. The American Kennel Club offers titles in tracking, as do several other groups including the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) and the American Mixed Breed Obedience Registration (AMBOR). As participants will tell you, it takes a large commitment and lots of assistance, space and stamina - to lay trails (often on cold, wet, muddy mornings), train the dog to follow them, and earn the coveted TD titles.

Couch potatoes, rejoice. A new canine nose sport has hit the scene, and is being received with much excitement in the dog training world. K9 Nose Work is brain child of a pair of trainers in Southern California, who say "The sport of K9 Nose Work is designed to develop your dog's natural scenting abilities by using their desire to hunt and their love of toys, food and exercise." Although it requires a significant amount of activity to train for and compete in Nose Work events, it's not nearly as rigorous or demanding as tracking.

Nose Work founders Ron Gaunt, retired from the Inglewood Police Department, where he worked with three K9 partners and Jill Marie O'Brien, Certified

Professional Dog Trainer, and veteran narcotics dog trainer, also created the National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW), which sets the standards governing the sport of canine nose work. In Nose Work Odor Recognition tests and competitions dogs must identify a specific scent (birch) in a variety of locations, indicating one box from many that contain the scent, as well as in general building, outdoor and vehicle searches. It's a popular activity that is already catching on like wildfire. For more information on Nose Work, go to: www.nacsw.net.

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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.

SIGN UP FOR KROGER'S 2011 NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR PROGRAM!

For the 2010 program year, MSRH received over \$1,900, because MSRH friends and family enrolled in the program. The 2011 program year starts July 1, so if you haven't already enrolled, sign up today! All you need to do is go to:

www.msrh.org/category/resources/vendor-donations-discounts/

Download the Kroger Customer Letter and print it, take it with you to the store checkout stand and ask the checker to scan the barcode on the letter together with your Kroger Plus Card. That's it. You're set.



CUTE SCHNAUZER MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

What better way to treat yourself or a special Schnauzer loving someone than with the gift of a Schnauzer Christmas ornament, picture frame, or pen/pencil holder? All ornaments and the picture frame are designed to have that special Schnauzer's name printed on them. See the pictures below of the merchandise available. By the way, we can special order this merchandise for any breed of dog, if you are interested.



Schnauzer Holding Picture Frame
 2-1/2" X 3-1/2"
 Available with cropped ears or
 uncropped ears
 \$12.00



Schnauzer with Name Plaque
 (grey cropped)
 \$8.00



**Schnauzer Ornament with Dangling
 Legs (shown with uncropped ears)**
 \$10.00



Schnauzer with Name Plaque
 (black cropped)
 \$8.00



**Schnauzer Ornament with Dangling
 Legs (shown with cropped ears)**
 \$10.00



Schnauzer with Name Plaque
 (grey uncropped)
 \$8.00



Schnauzer in Doghouse Ornament
 Available with cropped ears or
 uncropped ears
 \$8.00



Schnauzer Pen/Pencil Holder
 Available with cropped ears
 \$15.00

To purchase, please contact:

Paula Tolbert
 E-mail: pjtolbert@yahoo.com
 Home: (281) 358-2874
 Cell: (281) 798-7920

Paula will meet you to deliver your merchandise. All proceeds will be donated to MSRH. Thanks always for your support!

2011 SECOND QUARTER ADOPTION STATISTICS


Table 1: 1st Qtr Adoption Comparison 2008—2011				
Month	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jan	22	13	18	34
Feb	24	12	21	19
Mar	15	11	17	20
Apr	20	12	19	27
May	22	16	15	18
Jun	21	28	34	26
Total	124	92	124	144

Table 2: 2011 1st Qtr Intakes vs. Adoptions			
Month	Intakes	Adoptions	Foster Pool (+/-)
Jan	31	34	-3
Feb	23	19	+4
Mar	26	20	+6
Apr	28	27	+1
May	16	18	-2
Jun	23	26	-3
Total	147	144	+3

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

If you look at the adoption figures for the first half of 2011, we've placed more dogs in their forever homes in this same period of time than we ever have! While that's wonderful and we're proud of it, we still took in 3 more than we placed. We might as well face the fact that the supply will probably never be less than the demand, and if it is, it won't be for long. It is just an unfortunate fact of life.

And, so it is because of this fact, that we must always appeal to you to consider fostering one of our dogs waiting for a forever home. When we don't have enough foster homes, we have to board them in a kennel and, therefore, incur daily cost. If for some reason you are unable to become a foster volunteer, then please consider making a donation to help defray our boarding costs. Go to either: <http://www.msrh.org/volunteer/> or <http://www.msrh.org/donate/>



Parker Road Animal Hospital & Pet Resort
 6740 Airline Drive
 Houston, Texas 77076
 Tel: (713) 694-0552
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 Animal Hospital

Benefits for you & Benefits for MSRH

As a 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**

Featured Pet—Winston Oliver



Winston Oliver—a well trained boy!

Hi! I'm Winston Oliver. I'm a male dark salt and pepper Miniature Schnauzer with natural ears and a docked tail. I'm about 8 years old and weigh 23 lbs. I'm good with other dogs and enjoy romping in the yard, but I can be equally content being by myself. I like your attention, and I love to be petted. I'm crate trained, doggy door trained, and house trained, too! I'm also pretty good on a leash. So, not much for you to concern yourself with, except becoming my best friend! Whaddya say let's get started on that today!

Adoption Fee: \$250

GET YOUR PHOTOS IN FOR THE 2012 CALENDAR CONTEST !!!

Entries are being accepted for the 2012 calendar contest. Keep your cameras at the ready to capture those special moments nestled in the spring wildflowers, in a summer garden, among the Halloween pumpkins, around the Christmas tree—all those wonderful times throughout the year that make each season so special!



Heather & Hydee Meadors
2011 Calendar Page Winners for July

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!!

Deadline for entries:

August 1, 2011

Winners will be announced by:

October 1, 2011

Calendars will be mailed by:

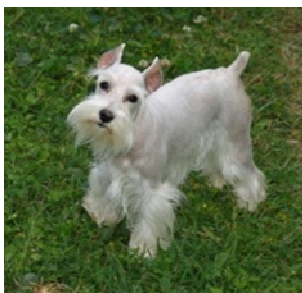
December 1, 2011

For contest info and to submit your entry, go to:

<http://www.msrh.org/category/resources/calendar-contest/>

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—SANDRA BOARD

My name is Sandra Board. I began fostering and volunteering for fundraising events for MSRH in late 2003. Ever since I can remember, I have always had a passion for Miniature Schnauzers, something about those old man beard's, inquisitive eyes and human-like personalities just takes ahold of my soul. Although I didn't know about and/or join MSRH until 2003, it all began for the Board house in 2001 when we rescued, or should I say my heart was rescued by a sweet little



Kandi Kane

white girl whom we named Kandi Kane from a backyard breeder. Although they just gave her to me because she was too small to breed I still consider it a rescue on both accords. Then in January of 2003 we rescued another sweet little white girl whom we named Lucy from the same backyard breeder. Unfortunately, she had heartworms so bad that she didn't make it through the treatment. This pretty much stopped us in our tracks as we had never experienced something so dramatic and devastating. It's a shame that there are so many cases of heartworm positives out there when prevention is simple and fairly inexpensive. When I started volunteering for MSRH we had Kandi, another Miniature Schnauzer named Misty (which is another heartworm positive deadbeat owner rescue story for another day) and a Rat Terrier named Prissy. We

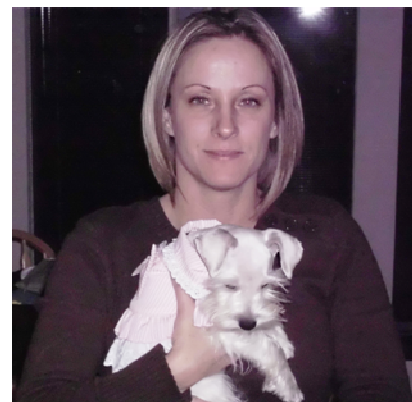


Shadow

wanted to open our hearts and home to a foster child and this is where it all began. Shadow AKA "Bear" became part of our family during the Thanksgiving holiday of 2003. His owners decided that they wanted to travel and dumped him at the Montgomery County Humane Society. They adopted him 5 years prior from the same place, so you would think they knew what the concept of "humane society" was, but apparently not. He had been there longer than expected, and MC wanted desperately to find a home for him so they contacted the Schnauzer Rescue Message board. Once he was posted it was overflowing with requests to get this little guy out of jail as his time was running out, and it was approaching the Thanksgiving holiday. I watched it closely and just couldn't bear to think of him sitting in a cold lonely cage while the festivities were going on. Although I had just recently joined MSRH and had never fostered before, my friend and rescue volunteer, Bev,

encouraged me to go pick him up. She also knew we were looking for another Schnauzer to add to our family. So my son, Brenden, and I headed out to pick him up. He was posted as an owner surrender, solid black neutered male about 5 years old, and his picture looked absolutely gorgeous. When we arrived to get him, much to our surprise, he was overgrown and

stunk to high heaven. Boy, oh Boy, we really didn't know what we were getting ourselves into. You see that's what sets us as volunteers apart from everyone else, even though we really don't know what we are getting ourselves into. We continue to say "bring it on". Well, that's my story and I am sticking to it, and at the end of the day, I can pat myself on the back and be proud of what I stand for. For those of you reading this, you should, too. With that, I salute all of you who dedicate your lives to saving this breed and your time and efforts to this rescue. As Sherry always says, *Saving one Schnauzer may not change the world, but it will certainly change the world for that one Schnauzer.*



Sandra with Lynndi Lane

Dog ownership is like a rainbow. Puppies are the joy at one end. Old dogs are the treasure at the other.

—Carolyn Alexander

BOOK OF THE MONTH

"LAST DOG ON THE HILL: THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF LOU"

By Steve Duno

The Extraordinary Life of Lou
**LAST DOG
ON THE HILL**



Born of guard dogs on a secret marijuana farm in Mendocino County, Lou truly was one dog in a million. On the winter day that the ailing, tick-infested feral pup was rescued by Steve Duno, neither dog nor man had a clue as to what they were getting into, or where the relationship would lead.

"Last Dog on the Hill" tells the story of an indigent young Rottweiler mix who, after abandoning his pack and the hills of his birth, went on to change the lives of hundreds of people and dogs, including the author's, whose career as a behaviorist and writer was made possible through Lou's extraordinary intelligence and heart. Lou won the respect of gang members, foiled an armed robbery, caught a rapist, fought coyotes and kidnappers, comforted elderly war veterans and Alzheimer patients in their final days, taught hundreds of aggressive dogs and saved them from euthanasia. He was also a clown, consummate performer, and Steve's best friend for sixteen years. His story will make readers laugh and cry in equal measures.

"Last Dog on the Hill" may be purchased through <http://www.amazon.com>. As of this writing, it has received 50 customer reviews, with 48 of them 5-star. It is available in hardcover for \$16.49, paperback for \$6.36, and Kindle for \$11.99.



Author and pet behaviorist Steve Duno has trained thousands of dogs, cats and their owners. His eighteen pet care books address a wide variety of topics, including breed-specific behavior, environmental enrichment, basic obedience training, behavior modification and nutrition. His new book, Last Dog On The Hill, tells the story of Lou, a legendary dog and his greatest student. A former school teacher, Steve lives in Seattle with his family, his ditzy shepherd mix Flavio, and Rico, his mixed-breed tornado.

Do You Know Where The Nearest After Hours Emergency Vet Clinic Is?

If your pet were to be seriously injured or were to become seriously ill after your veterinarian's office has closed for the day or on a weekend, do you know where to go for help? If you aren't so sure, call your veterinarian's receptionist and ask. The receptionist should be able to give you the name of the clinic, the hours of operation, the street address, and phone number. Keep this information in a safe place where you know you can find it.

You should take a test drive to this clinic at your earliest convenience, so that in the event that an emergency occurs, finding the emergency clinic is one less thing you have to worry about and precious time will not be wasted.

MSRH COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

MSRH wishes to thank everyone who submitted recipes and photos for the cookbook fundraiser. Also, we wish to thank those who purchased ads to help finance our cookbook. We received an overwhelming response and now can hardly wait for the finished product. You're going to love it!



Chef Moose



Chef Oliver

First, we'd like to announce the winners of the Cover Dog Contest. We actually have two, because after all, there is a front cover and back cover. The "front cover" dog is **Chef Moose McConnell**, adopted by Adele McConnell in April, 2011, and the "back cover" dog is **Chef Oliver Attar**, adopted by Dina Attar and Richard Lacap in November 2010. Both winners will not only have their photos on the two covers, but they will also have a full page inside dedicated to their adoption story. Chef Moose will have his name included in the cookbook title, "**Schnauzerly Yours II, Recipes from Moose's Kitchen**".

In addition to the cover dogs, there are 16 other photos that were submitted that will be used on the fronts and backs of the category divider pages.

So, in addition to just being a book of recipes, this will also be a photo album of adorable Schnauzers; it will tell about MSRH's beginning and history; it will acknowledge the folks who helped get MSRH started and the companies and veterinarians who support it today; and it will also include all of the things that you, the adopters, have written in about your special relationship with your dogs. It will be a keepsake.

COOKBOOK PRE-ORDERS HAVE BEGUN

We have begun taking pre-orders for the cookbook. The price is \$22.50 per book, including shipping. If you would like to place your order, you may do so by: 1) check or 2) Paypal

1) **If paying by check**, please make your check payable to **MSRH**, cut out, and complete the following form:

Name:	
Street or P. O. Box:	
City:	
State:	
Zip:	
Tel:	
No. of Books:	
Amt. Enclosed:	

Mail form and your check to:
 Linda Love
 MSRH
 801 East Beach Drive #BC500
 Galveston, Texas 77550

2) **If paying by Paypal**, email the same information requested in the form above (your mailing instructions, phone, and number of books you wish to order) to linda.love0326@gmail.com. Then, go to: <http://www.msrh.org/donate/> At the bottom of the page, fill in the amount of your purchase, click 'Donate' and you will be directed to the Paypal screen. In the "Note to Seller", please indicate that the donation is for 'cookbook purchase'.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday—Sunday
July 21—24, 2011**

34TH ANNUAL RELIANT PARK WORLD SERIES OF DOG SHOWS

Chairs: Paula Tolbert and Sherry Eitel
Where: Reliant Park, One Reliant Center, 8400 Kirby Drive, Houston, Texas 77054
Hours: 10:00AM to 5:00PM each day, except Sunday (short day)
Tel: Paula (281) 358-2874; Sherry (713) 298-4999
E-mail: pjtolbert@yahoo.com or sherry@eitel.com

Volunteers are needed to assist with set up Thursday morning, 7/21, or pack up Sunday afternoon, 7/24, or to man the booth each day of the event. Attention foster families: We would love to have you bring your foster Mini to the booth, including the seniors, for a few hours. If you are interested in volunteering or bringing your foster, please contact either Paula or Sherry, so they can work out the schedule. As always, there will be no on site adoptions.

SAVE THE DATE!
FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2011
YAPPY HOUR

Chair: Martha Sarrack
Where: Animal Tales
Hours: 6—8PM
Tel: (281) 829-3293
E-mail: minimarti65@gmail.com

Mark your calendars for this event. Contact Martha to arrange to bring your fosters out to meet the public and help with passing out flyers.

SAVE THE DATE!
**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 &
 23, 2011**
PETFEST

Chair: Karen Coleman
Where: Old Town Spring
Hours: TBD
Tel: (832) 277-4904
E-mail: houstonschnauzerrescue@yahoo.com

Mark your calendars for this event. More details to follow as event approaches.

SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011
PET ADVENTURE DAY

Chair: Need Chair—if interested, contact Sherry Eitel
Where: Ella & Friends Dog Park—500 W. 13th St., Deer Park, Texas
Hours: 10:00AM to 2:00PM
Tel: (281) 358-7303 or (713) 298-4999
E-mail: sherry@eitel.com

Mark your calendars for this event. More details to follow as event approaches. We have booth application form. There is no charge.

Many Thanks To Our June Transport Volunteers!

MUCH APPRECIATION GOES TO: **Diana Houston** for picking up Gus , an owner abandon, on 6/2/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up George at BARC on 6/2/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Beau & Chaz at Harris Co. Animal Control on 6/2/11; **Carol Harrington** for picking up Brodie at Pasadena Animal Control on 6/3/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Harrison & Melanie at Harris Co. Animal Control on 6/16/11; **Angela Palmer** for picking up Theodore at Copperas Cove Animal Shelter on 6/16/11; **Wendy Velez-Rodriguez** for picking up Gracie at San Antonio Animal Care Services on 6/17/11; **Connie Seagroves** for picking up Mesha at Town Lake Animal Center on 6/17/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Trudi, an owner surrender, on 6/20/11; **Janet Pickard** for picking up Maverick at Bay City Animal Services on 6/22/11; Good Samaritan **Rebecca Bass/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Vanna, a stray, on 6/22/11; Good Samaritan **Dianna Shaw/Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Dianna, a stray, on 6/22/11; **Donna Papparazzo** for picking up Kelso at Harris Co. Animal Control on 6/24/11; **Carol Harrington** for picking up Jasmine, an owner surrender, on 6/27/11; **Janis Laughlin** for picking up Kobe and Chloe, owner surrenders, on 6/27/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Wendy & Lilly at Harris Co. Animal Control on 6/28/11; **Sherry Eitel** for picking up Kirby at BARC on 6/28/11; and **Marilyn Malaney** for picking up Denny on 6/30/11.

From the Editor

Dear Readers:

I have great news! Texas now has its first puppy mill law. On Friday, June 17, 2011, Governor Rick Perry signed into law the Commercial Dog and Cat Breeders Act, which establishes minimum standards for the humane handling, care, housing and transportation of dogs and cats kept by large-scale Texas breeders. Up until now, these breeders have always operated free of oversight meaning the animals under their "care" were unprotected by any laws. Because of this, Texas was becoming a haven for bad breeders.

Beginning this September, however, any breeder who maintains 11 or more breeding females and sells 20 or more animals per year will have to obtain a license and open their doors to state inspections. The breeders would be required to comply with certain humane standards, including:

- Providing adequate amounts of wholesome food and clean water for dogs and cats;
- Providing confined dogs and cats with enough space to easily sit, stand, turn around and lie down in a normal manner;
- Ensuring adequate sanitation conditions within the living spaces, including good drainage;
- Providing proper handling, treatment and veterinary care.

The law is not perfect. For example, the animal containment systems can still be wire cages that can be stacked. However, the new law is a start and certainly better than nothing at all. Over time, hopefully, the shortcomings will be addressed. Texas is not Missouri, although there are certainly those groups who are in opposition to this law in Texas. Among the supporters are the Texas Veterinary Medical



Linda with Sophie & Barkley

Association and the Texas Animal Control Association.

State Representative Senfronia Thompson sponsored this legislation in the Texas House. We owe her our gratitude, as well as to many others, such as the ASPCA and the Humane Society of the United States, who spend countless hours promoting awareness of animal rights in each and every state.

Sincerely,
Linda

I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent, devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source.

—Doris Day