

## About MSRH

MSRH is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization sponsored entirely by donations. We are dedicated to the never-ending task of saving the lives of abused, abandoned and/or unwanted Miniature Schnauzers who have lost their homes. Many of our dogs come to us healthy. Others are sick or injured. They may come to us from shelters, from the streets, from puppy mills or from owners who cannot, or will not, care for them any longer. In almost all cases, they have not been loved nor have they felt the security of a loving home. Our goal is to ensure these dogs get healthy, never again face life in a dangerous situation and, instead, live in a safe, loving and secure "forever" home! Until that time, our dogs live in a loving, foster home. MSRH does not operate a shelter.

I'm Karen Gayeski Coleman, Founder & President of MSRH. My first Miniature Schnauzer was a rescue named Gretchen and it didn't take long for me to realize that this was the breed for me. One year later, Gretchen escaped after someone opened the gate. During the long search, I contacted shelters, boarders, vets and groomers. I never found her....and it broke my heart. But within the tragedy, and through all my contacts, I found my purpose. On February 1, 2000, Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston was born.

In the beginning, MSRH operated using my own inheritance funds. In our first year, we rescued 75 dogs. The number of rescues has continued to grow and MSRH now relies on adoption fees as well as donations from people who love the breed and generously support our efforts. Countless donations, in amounts both big and small, help us rescue nearly 300 dogs per year while providing veterinary services to these dogs totaling over \$115,000 per year! Since its inception, MSRH has rescued well over 2,000 Schnauzers and helped orchestrate their "New Beginnings".

Visit our web site at [www.msrh.org](http://www.msrh.org) - to learn about the breed, meet our dogs and see how to make a donation or volunteer to help support our cause! Call us at 713-513-7811.

**A special THANKS to our generous sponsors for their continued support & commitment to MSRH!**

### **Parker Road Animal Hospital**

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

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

### **Happy Tails Dog Spa**

[www.dogdaycare.com/houston](http://www.dogdaycare.com/houston)

### **Bingle Vet**

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

### **Companion Animal Hospital**

[www.companionanimalhospital.net](http://www.companionanimalhospital.net)

### **Animal Hospital of Humble**

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

### **Gosling Road Veterinary Clinic**

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

### **Briarcrest Veterinary Clinic**

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

### **Gulf Coast Animal Eye Clinic**

713-461-3132

### **South Congress Veterinary Clinic**

512-442-7444

My future is so bright  
I need to wear shades!



**Miniature Schnauzer  
Rescue of Houston, Inc.**  
[www.msrh.org](http://www.msrh.org)

***Saving one Schnauzer may  
not change the world, but it  
will certainly change the  
world for that one Schnauzer.***



**Schnauzer Success Stories (2008)**

## **Volunteer Opportunities at MSRH**

We are always in need of kind-hearted people willing to lend their time, talents and/or treasures.

Our most important group of volunteers, **and our most urgent need**, is our Foster Families. These are single or multi-person homes - pet owners or not - that are willing to share their home until our 'children' can be adopted. Foster families provide care and companionship while the dogs are with them. This includes food, water, grooming and trips to the veterinarian. Some of our dogs require medical treatment and so we've developed a program with certain veterinarians so that vet expenses can be covered by MSRH.

Our Groomers are primarily MSRH members who have honed their schnauzer cutting skills over the years. If you are a Groomer, or just know how to groom schnauzers, we can always use your volunteer or low-cost services.

Our Transportation volunteers use their own vehicles to move dogs from the shelters to veterinarians and from there to the foster homes. Though we primarily focus our efforts in the greater Houston area, it is not uncommon for us to get requests to rescue dogs from Austin, Dallas, Beaumont and Louisiana.

The Adoption Application team pre-screens adoption applications, verifies information, coordinates vet reference checks and conducts telephone interviews to ensure that adopters know expectations of them as Schnauzer parents.

The Home Visit volunteers travel to potential adopter homes to conduct a home survey. This survey helps ensure that the new home is dog safe both inside and out. The team evaluates basic items like fences, pool safety and plant safety. We don't look for "dust bunnies". We always need more Home Visit volunteers.

Finally, we can always use your Monetary or Other Donations. Even small donations help. When your donation is combined with those of other MSRH friends, it can really add up! Please see our "Donate!" section on our web site. Donations of food & supplies are also welcomed!

At MSRH, we appreciate your interest in learning more about the Schnauzer breed. We hope this section provides you with useful information as you work to make an informed decision as to the dog breed that best fits your family's lifestyle and personality. We think you'll agree - the Miniature Schnauzer is a special breed complete with many enduring qualities. And we thank you for considering adopting one of our rescues who, through no fault of their own, find themselves without a loving family. Would you consider adopting one of our Schnauzers? Thank you!

## **The Miniature Schnauzer**

The typical Miniature Schnauzer is relatively small in size but in no way toyish or delicate. When you pick him up you will discover he is sturdy, heavy, and muscular — a ruggedness combined with the elegance and beauty of a pure-bred. He makes an excellent companion because he is extremely obedient and quick to learn, is devoted, playful and affectionate. His alertness makes him an excellent guard dog. He is spunky and fearless but not aggressive so that he can run with other dogs. And, like other terriers, he will go to ground to attack vermin of all kinds. One must become aware of these characteristics lest he be lost, stolen, or a victim of an accident. In the suburbs he should be fenced in or walked on a leash. He is as much at home in the city with a small amount of exercise as he is in the country where he appears tireless. And, he easily adapts to any change of condition or climate. His deepest need, however, is to live as a part of the family, going where they go, doing what they do. Sleeping on the bed, or in his own, beside his owner is his greatest joy. The Miniature Schnauzer does not generally shed, so he often can be enjoyed by people who are allergic to other breeds of dogs. In return, the owner must keep him groomed to maintain his handsome appearance.

**Source: American Miniature Schnauzer Club**

### **Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston**

**MSRH, Inc.**

Phone: 713-513-7811

Website: [www.msrh.org](http://www.msrh.org)

E-mail: [rescue@msrh.org](mailto:rescue@msrh.org)

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Where does the Miniature Schnauzer come from?** The breed originated in the late 1800's in Germany, as a smaller version of the Standard Schnauzer, that could live more easily as a house pet but still hunt vermin.

**Aren't there different sizes of the Schnauzer?** The Miniature, Standard, and Giant Schnauzers are distinct breeds though their conformation is very similar. The Standard Schnauzer was bred to keep the vermin population down on the farm, herd and guard the farm. The Giant Schnauzer was bred to do all those things plus pull carts and also has been used for police work. The Miniature, Standard, and Giant Schnauzers have similar but distinct personalities. Note: there is no recognized breed named the Toy or Teacup Schnauzer.

**Is the Miniature Schnauzer good with children?** Miniature Schnauzers are generally good with children if raised with them from a young age. Each is an individual with an individual temperament and socialization experience. Young children need to be introduced carefully to dogs and no young child should be left unsupervised with a dog of any breed. The breed is generally very good with older children and teenagers, joining in all sorts of games. Sometimes there is an instinctual reaction from the dog with young children. Don't forget they were bred to react to quick actions and high pitched noises. As far as adopting an older dog, how they react to younger children depends mostly on their former experiences. Those that have been used to younger children usually are more tolerant than those that have not.

**Will my Miniature Schnauzer chase animals?** All dogs love to pursue prey, whether they do so for hunger or not. The games puppies play as they grow to maturity feature aspects of hunting and pursuing. Miniature Schnauzers have a keen interest for small animals of the rodent variety but they also show an interest in birds. If you have birds or hamsters as pets, they should be slowly introduced to the dog in a controlled manner so the dog begins to understand that the animal is friend, not foe.