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Volume 4 Issue 1	<i>The Golden Scoop</i>
February 2002	“The Whole Scoop and Nothing But the Poop”

A Message From the President

It's a new year for SJMSC and as this year's president, it seems a daunting task to improve on efforts of the past president and board, but we're going to try! Your board this year will continue to focus on American Kennel Club (AKC) accreditation as a key objective because it will allow us to strengthen our support of AKC recognized programs and broadens our ability to serve our members. We're working on increasing the number of activities you can participate in with your dog and I'd like to talk about two that I'm really excited about.

One idea is to ask those of you with favorite places to walk your dog to lead an outing, "Walkin the Dog". This would be an informal outing of about an hour with the member familiar with that park or area serving as the host. As host you'll provide date, place, and start time where you'll be walking your dog and include directions and any rules. We'll publish it in the Events Calendar and we can begin developing a list of local places that members have already checked out and recommend. This seems to me to be a great way to increase informal dog-related activities for members and offers the added benefit of increasing our knowledge of places to go with our dog. Imagine a Saturday morning walk with a group of 10 or so other Schnauzer owners... a wonderful sight for Schnauzer lovers! Please help get this program started by calling Brenda Couey of our Events Committee at 707-995-6004 and volunteering to host a walk in your favorite place.

The Breeder/Handler Committee is establishing a club Awards Program to recognize member dog efforts throughout the year. Although the program was initiated because of member involvement in AKC conformation and performance events, it will also recognize the efforts of member dogs that serve in community related activities like therapy dogs. You'll see more detail about this in upcoming newsletter issues and on the web site. It's another program I'm very excited about because it's another way to recognize member efforts with their dogs that demonstrate the versatility and contributions of our breed.

Finally, we're like every other non-profit organization; we need your involvement to make these two programs, ANY of our programs, successful. You are critical in making anything we do successful. We want your participation and leadership to help make this our best year yet!

Events Calendar

Date	Contact	Location	Time – Event/Activity
March 16 (Tentative)	Brenda Couey (707) 995-6004	Danville, CA	Health Clinic – nutrition; general care; health care
July 28	Pam Satlof (925) 427-2808 or Cleo Home (925) 838-0220	Martinez, CA	“Dog Day Afternoon” Club Picnic, Board Meeting, General Meeting, Picnic, Fun & Games for families and their dogs!
August 3	Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club	Portland, OR	“Schnauzer Walk” (more information to follow) k

General Meeting and Health Clinic

March 16, 2002 11:00 to 2:00

Please bring your dog and join us for the first general membership meeting and Health Clinic of 2002. The two events will be in Danville at Cleo and Marty's house on Saturday, March 16. . Please bring a crate or exercise pen for your dog for use during the clinic portion. Member attendance is free, non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of \$5 each. Please help us make this first clinic a success!

Please RSVP to Cleo Home at cleohome@yahoo.com or call 925-838-0220 by Friday, March 8.

Directions: From Interstate 680 North or South take the El Cerro exit. Coming north, turn right at the light and immediately turn right again on to Adobe Drive. Come over the hill and turn right at Highbridge (at tennis courts). Turn left at Stowbridge Court and come to the end of the cul de sac to 106, the street dead

ends into the driveway. From the south, turn left at the light and come under the freeway. Stay to the right and follow the directions for north beginning with turning right on to Adobe Drive.

11:00 to 12:45 – General Meeting, brown bag lunch and social time with members and dogs (bring your own lunch and drink, the club will provide dessert)

1:00 – 2:00ish – Health Clinic – Dr. Michael Floyd of Orinda Veterinary Dental Service and Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry will discuss teeth care and disease, emphasizing the particular challenges Miniature Schnauzers have with dental health. He'll also discuss nutrition and have an open question/answer period. If you have not had the opportunity to work with Dr. Floyd or hear him speak, please don't miss this opportunity. He uses slides and a friendly style and dialogue approach that creates a wonderful environment to learn about doggie dental health.

COMING UP

Health Clinic – We're currently working on having a behaviorist and alternative veterinary health professional at the next health clinic. We welcome your ideas for future clinics!

Begin planning now **for Dog Day Afternoon, 2002** scheduled July 28!

EVENTS CALENDAR

Watch the club Events Calendar to keep abreast of club activities and events. If you have any questions or ideas for club events that you'd like to recommend, please call Brenda Couey, your Public Awareness/Education Chair at 707-995-6004.

At The Shows
With Congratulations To All !!!

April 13, 2001 - N.C.T.A.

Dunnigan's Mr. Axle Extraordinaire – HIT - Final Leg - New CD!

Owned by Michele McCormick

May 26, 2001 - Hangtown K.C.

Dunnigan's Queen Petra – 1st Place, 1st Leg UD

Owned by Michele McCormick

September 1, 2001 – Gold Country K.C.

Dunnigan's Queen Petra – First Place, 2nd Leg UD

October 6, 2001 – Donner Trail K.C.

Dunnigan's Mr. Axle Extraordinaire –2nd Place, 1st Leg UD

Dunnigan's Queen Petra – 1st Place, 3rd Leg UD – New UD!

October 13, 2001 – Chico D.F.

Goldhome-Carlina Kiss N Tell – WB, BW and BOS – 3 Pt. Major!

Owned by Cleo Home and Brenda Couey

October 20, 2001 – M.S.C.N.C. Specialty

Carlina-Goldhome Talkabout It – WB, BOS – 4 Pt. Major!

Owned by Cleo Home and Brenda Couey

October 27, 2001 – Sacramento Valley D.F.

Carlina-Goldhome Just Doin' It – WD, BOW – 4 Pt. Major!

Owned by Cleo Home and Brenda Couey

November 24, 2001 – Golden Valley K.C.

Goldhome-Carlana Kiss N Tell – WB, BOS

December 2, 2001 – San Mateo K.C.

Dunnigan's Mr. Axle Extraordinaire – 1st Place, 3rd Leg UD – New UD!

January 13, 2002 – Skyline D.F. #1

Fairwind's Obsidian Order – WD, BW, and BOB from the Puppy Classes

Owned by Dan Durigan and Carol Hafner

January 13, 2002 – Skyline D.F. #2

Fairwind's Obsidian Order – WD, BW, and BOB

Fairwind's Obsidian Butterfly – WB from the Puppy Classes

Owned by Dan Durigan and Carol Hafner

Educational Note

Identifying Heritable Risks of Cancer

Cancer, the leading cause of disease-related death in dogs, was the focus of an international conference titled "Genes, Dogs and Cancer: Emerging Concepts in Molecular Diagnosis and Therapy" held in May at Keystone, Colo.

Sponsored by the American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine Health Foundation and Heska Corp., the conference also received support from the American Boxer Club Charitable Trust, the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America Charitable Trust, the Flat

Coated Retriever Society of America, the Golden Retriever Club of America and the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America.

The AMC Cancer Research Center in Denver served as the host of the meeting in collaboration with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. More than 100 scientists and veterinarians from the United States, England, Japan, Ireland, Germany and, Hungary attended the conference, which also included health club representatives from several AKC national parent breed clubs. Jaime Modiano, Y.M.D., Ph.D., a scientist at AMC who coordinated the meeting, says the conference helped to establish a network of scientists who are leading the effort to understand, prevent and treat canine cancer. "Advances in veterinary health care mean that dogs are living to an older age, which is when most cancers occur with greater incidence," he says. "Thus, there is a new emphasis to learn more about genetic and environmental factors that influence cellular and molecular changes in canine cancer."

Cancer describes a large number of diseases whose only common feature is uncontrolled cell growth and proliferation. Cancer is a polygenic disease, which means it is caused by abnormalities in many genes. Once a tumor is detectable clinically, it may consist of many cells with dozens or possibly hundreds of abnormalities. Though cancer occurs in dogs of any age and breed, scientists have learned that some kinds of cancer are more prevalent in certain breeds, suggesting heritable risk factors may play a role in the development of tumors.

Modiano and his research team at the AMC Cancer Center are working to identify specific genes that contribute to the development of tumors and whether these genes might also be part of a heritable risk. Much of their work focuses on studying how tumor suppressor genes, or rather the inactivation of these genes, are important in the origin and progression of tumors.

For simplicity, some researchers group tumor suppressor genes into three categories. One group is responsible for controlling DNA repair; they ensure that potentially hazardous cells with mutations do not divide unless and until the errors in their DNA sequence are repaired. Another group controls cellular aging by preventing further replication when cells have reached a finite number of divisions. The third group of tumor suppressor genes generally serves to prevent cell division and/or to promote cell death.

On the other side of the genetic spectrum, proto-oncogenes are those that promote cell growth and survival. Thus, tumor suppressor genes and proto-oncogenes are important components of the machinery that control life, death and reproduction in cells. In most cases these genes are turned "on" and "off" as needed to maintain an adequate balance of cell division. However, when proto-

oncogenes are targets of mutation, they may gain independent function that could lead to cancer.

Mutations that disable tumor suppressor genes might similarly lead to the development and progression of cancer. "Tumors arise from cells that accumulate mutations," Methane says. "These mutations tip the balance toward uncontrolled growth and survival, so that cells that carry such mutations can divide faster and better than normal cells, overcoming the first obstacle in the process of tumorigenesis."

Inactivation of one or more tumor suppressor genes is an essential step in the development of cancer. "Every tumor carries mutations that inactivate at least one tumor suppressor gene," Modiano says. "However, loss of selected tumor suppressor genes seems to occur in more than half of all the tumors of any given type, suggesting that these genes may be frequent targets for inactivation. In addition, those tumors that retain the function of these particular tumor suppressor genes may respond more favorably to therapy". Mutations of tumor suppressor genes may be acquired or heritable. A dog receives two copies of every gene, called alleles, one each from its sire and dam. Alleles are located at the same spot on a chromosome pair. Most individuals have two normal alleles for each tumor suppressor gene. These genes can be inactivated by acquired mutations due to naturally occurring processes of life or environmental factors.

These mutations are random, but loss of both copies of the gene, usually in sequential fashion, is necessary for cancer development. In the event that a normal copy was inherited from one parent, and a mutant copy from the other parent, the normal copy would be sufficient to maintain function, but it still would be susceptible to undergo mutation because of environmental factors. This gives rise to heritable or familial cancer syndromes.

The inheritance of a mutant copy or allele of a tumor suppressor gene leads to a noticeable increase in an individual's risk to develop cancer, and tumors tend to appear at a young age and on multiple sites. The magnitude of the risk depends on the gene; more than 20 such genes have been identified in heritable and familial cancer syndromes of people. However, heritable or familial cancer syndromes have not yet been identified in dogs.

Part of the focus of Modiano's research program is to identify heritable risk factors in canine cancers. "Do certain canine families carry mutant tumor suppressor genes and pass them on in a heritable fashion similar to what has been shown to occur in people?" he asks. "One of our goals is to determine if there are patterns of inheritance that may define a dog's heritable cancer

susceptibility. We also are looking at whether loss of function of these genes might predict poor response to therapy and shorter survival times.

"It is very important to note that, as is true with most ambitious research programs, the work is part of a large, collaborative effort involves scientists at our institution and elsewhere, and that is why creating more of such collaborations was a major goal of the meeting we organized," Modiano says.

Ralston Purina Co.
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Breeder. Issue 38

Note From Your Webmaster

*Doggie Door Flap Replacement
Website*

You noticed that your doggie door flap needed to be replaced. You ventured to your local hardware store to get a replacement only to find out that the company that made your doggie door is out of business. Buy and install a new door as the friendly hardware store person suggests. NO!

Thanks to the assistance of club members Mark and Meredith Mullins you may not need that new door. When I told them of my venture to the hardware store, they offered that they, too, had been through the replacement issue last year. Their solution was to visit the website:

<http://www.doggie-door.com/>

This site specializes in doggie-doors and their replacement parts. Yes, they may have that flap you need for your no-longer-manufactured doggie door. Check them out. I did and the replacement works as good as the original.

Do you have a similar dog story that the Internet solved? E-mail the club Webmaster with your dog related story/site to be shared with all club members.

New Members

There are no new member applications at this time.

Meeting Minutes

SJMSC Board Meeting, December 8, 2001

The board meeting was called to order at 11:25 AM by the president, Martin Goldberg, at his home in Danville, CA. The recording secretary was present. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes of the last meeting: Pam Satlof motioned to accept the Minutes of the July 29, 2001 meeting minutes as published and Dan Durigan seconded; motion passed.

President's Report: This will be last meeting as president. It's been an enlightening experience. Thanks to those who have served and those who are stepping in as new officers.

Corresponding Secretary: Dan Durigan reported. Dan received correspondence from Michelle McCormick that her two dogs have both attained their Utility Dog AKC awards. Congratulations Michelle and Axel and Petra!

Treasurer: Pam Satlof reported. The club continues to do well. Club activities essentially fund themselves and this enables the club to remain solvent. Dues requests have gone out for 2002 membership. A detailed finance report is filed.

Newsletter: Dan Durigan reported. Members who elected to receive their club newsletters have really helped the club lower expenses. Currently, 15 members receive paper copies of the newsletter and 76 members have email and have elected to receive the newsletters online. We were the first specialty breed club to introduce this innovative way to distribute club newsletters and other

information. Dan was in contact with our parent club, The American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC) and that club adopted this method as well.

Public Education/Events/Fun Matches: Brenda Couey reported. The committee has framed the first half of 2002 programs. The grooming seminars and workshops sponsored by the Breeder/Handler Committee continue to be requested and the committees are working together on that portion of the schedule. We also have received a request from professional groomers to hold a special grooming seminar for them led by Dan Durigan. Dan has agreed and Cleo will work with him to arrange time and place. One of the events being worked on is a Health Clinic tentatively scheduled March 16 that will discuss nutrition and general care. There was general discussion around having more events like Dog Day Afternoon, but not as formal, where members can socialize with their dogs. Activities like Dog Day help members feel more a part of the club, get to know each other, and have fun with their dogs. The committee will research and report back.

Cow Palace – This is the club's major public education opportunity for the club. Our booth was successful last year due to membership participation. If you would like to volunteer this year we'll coordinate with you so you don't have to pay the admission. Please call Brenda Couey at 707-995-6004 or Cleo Home at 925-838-0220 to volunteer.

Rescue: Pam Satlof reported. We have rescued 11 dogs this year. Look at the web site for pictures and stories. Thank you Nora Oden for your generous donation – your kindness helps the committee help other dogs in need reach homes as loving as yours.

Nominations Committee: Marty Goldberg reported. The proposed slate of officers was sent out and the returned ballots certified and results posted. The following is your 2002 Board of Directors.

President: Cleo Home
Vice-President: Beverly Verna
Treasurer: Pam Satlof
Recording Secretary: Carol Carney
Corresponding Secretary: Dan Durigan
Director: Dorothy Anderson
Director: Don DeWald
Director: Brenda Couey

Unfinished Business

The 2002 Annual General meeting is scheduled on Dog Day Afternoon, July 28.

Installation of new board – welcome!!

Pam Satlof motioned to make Dorothy Anderson an honorary member and Dan Durigan seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Club Award Program: Marty Goldberg worked with a club member, Michele Copeland of American Trophies in Antioch, to investigate the cost and develop a possible design for a club award. This is the result of a tabled discussion at a previous board meeting about establishing an awards program to recognize member efforts in competing in AKC recognized events and other possible award categories. Cleo Home motioned to establish an inventory of 100 club logo medallions to be used for club related awards at a cost of up to \$550 and not to exceed \$600, from American Trophies. Pam Satlof seconded; motion passed. Cleo Home motioned that the Breeder/Handler Committee establishes and manages a club awards program to recognize earning AKC recognized awards. Dan Durigan seconded; motion passed. Cleo Home and Pam Satlof will serve as the subcommittee to design the club award plaques and frame the awards program. There was discussion on establishing a cumulative club sponsored award that would record AKC recognized awards annually. Pam and Cleo will include this in their research and bring a recommendation to the board.

Board Open Discussion: Dan Durigan stated that he initially wasn't sure about endorsing a club that didn't primarily focus on breeder/handler participation. He completely supports the club's philosophy now that he has seen the success and difference the club has made by including ALL types of Miniature Schnauzer owners. Don DeWald added that the participation of breeder/handlers adds credibility to the club. The symbiotic relationship between all the types of dog owners has made our club a richer experience for all of us and validates the mission of the club to safeguard the breed and promote responsible dog ownership while we enjoy our dogs in a variety of ways.

Pam Satlof motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dan Durigan seconded; passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

General Membership & Board Meetings

The next Board Meeting will be held on March 16 in Danville.

The next General Meeting will be held on March 16 in Danville.

San Joaquin Miniature Schnauzer Club Board Meeting Agenda	San Joaquin Miniature Schnauzer Club General Membership Meeting Agenda
Call to order Minutes of the last Meeting Report of the President Report of the Corresponding Secretary Report of the Treasurer Reports of the Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Finance · Membership · Newsletter · Fun Matches /Specialty Show · Program/Public Education · Rescue · Judges Coordinating · Nominations · Information Technology · Liaison with the AMSC and the AKC · Bylaws · Breeder/Handler Unfinished business Schedule next Board and General meetings New business Adjournment	Call to Order Minutes of the last Regular Meeting Report of the President Report of the Corresponding Secretary Report of the Treasurer Reports of the Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Finance · Membership · Newsletter · Fun Matches /Specialty Show · Program/Public Education · Rescue · Judges Coordinating · Nominations · Information Technology · Liaison with the AMSC and the AKC · Bylaws · Breeder/Handler Unfinished business New business Adjournment

Club Information

Officers

President - Cleo Home
Vice President - Beverly Verna
Treasurer - Pamela Satlof
Recording Secretary – Carol Carney
Corresponding Secretary - Dan Durigan

AMSC/AKC Liaison

Beverly Verna

Web Site

<http://www.sjmsc.com>

Directors

Brenda Couey, Don DeWald and
Dorothy Anderson

Newsletter Editor

Dan Durigan
<mailto:newsletter@sjmsc.com>

Membership Chairperson

Ilene Hirsch
(925) 258-0259
<mailto:membership@sjmsc.com>

Change of Address/E- Mail

Dan Durigan
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Fairfield, CA 94585