

# New Jersey Schnauzer Rescue Network, Inc.

Winter 2010 | Volume 2, Issue 1

## Dear Friend of NJSRN,

If you visit our website regularly or receive updates from us, you know about the Maryland dogs. Our final count - between dogs we picked up and puppies delivered once in rescue - was 64 additional rescues. We are thrilled to tell you that only 10 of these dogs remain to be adopted. The rest have started their new lives with wonderful families. We have already posted some photos on the Happy Endings page of our website, and will continue to post updates as we receive them.

We have sent individual Thank You's to all who responded to our plea for help, but couldn't let this opportunity pass without again acknowledging your donations. Many of your kind notes brought tears to our eyes and your generosity was overwhelming. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful friends!

## *The Members of NJSRN*

## In This Issue

**Thundershirt - Calming Anxious Dogs**

**Are you Social?**

**Click Here to Donate Now!**

**The Training Corner**

**NJSRN Out and About**

**Penn Vet 2011 Pet Lovers Lecture Series**

**Holiday Tips for Pet Owners**

## Thundershirt - Calming Anxious Dogs

Anxiety and fear are serious problems for many dogs, especially those that have experienced the distress of being rehomed. Having rescued more than 1,700 Miniature Schnauzers, NJSRN has often been told a dog is being surrendered because the owner can't manage the dog's fear of fireworks and thunder, separation anxiety, fear of car travel, reactivity to dogs and people (often confused with aggressiveness), severe leash pulling, and/or problem barking. Perhaps you've seen one of these symptoms in the adorable Schnauzer you share your home with and are wondering how to deal with the problem without the use of medications or negative training techniques.

NJSRN is pleased to share information with you about a relatively new product that can be used on any dog to help reduce or eliminate these

## NJSRN Out and About



Rolfe, a puppy from the Maryland rescue, and NJSRN member Renee were a big hit at Braxton's Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 26, 2010 in Malvern, PA.



NJSRN participated in the American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC) booth at the AKC Meet the Breeds event on October 16-17, 2010 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City. More than 39,000 people attended the event and kept us busy as they learned about Miniature Schnauzers and the rescue work done by NJSRN. Pictured, left to right to left, are Barbara and Nadine of NJSRN and AMSC, and Sandy of AMSC.

## Penn Vet 2011 Pet Lovers Lecture Series

The University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School (VHUP) is recognized for its cutting edge research and emergency medical

problems ... the **Thundershirt**. The Thundershirt is made of a stretchy fabric that wraps around the dog and applies firm, steady pressure to the dog's body, resulting in a calming effect for most dogs that are anxious, fearful, extremely shy, or over-excited. Using pressure to relieve anxiety has been a common practice in treating children with autism or behavioral problems, for swaddling inconsolable babies, and administering vaccinations to cattle.

The Thundershirt is simple to use and requires no training for most dogs. Simply put the Thundershirt on your Schnauzer prior to the activity that stresses the dog - at the first sign of a storm, before going for a walk or car ride, or in advance of company arriving at your home. More complicated cases may benefit from using a Thundershirt as part of a program overseen by a licensed animal behaviorist.



Slammer in his Thundershirt

Slammer, owned by a member of NJSRN, is a confident dog but began demonstrating fear of fireworks and thunder at approximately five years of age, and he's uneasy when going for car rides. His owner was familiar with pressure techniques used in various holistic programs and decided to try the Thundershirt. The \$36 investment proved to be worth every penny when a thunderstorm passed through their area the day the shirt arrived in the mailbox. That evening, as the thunder roared in the background, Slammer calmly wore his Thundershirt as he laid on a dog bed in the family room instead of shaking in fear and searching for a hiding place.

**Thundershirt has graciously arranged for NJSRN to receive \$15 for every shirt purchased for a two week period from Monday, December 6 to Monday, December 20. When you or friends order a Thundershirt, enter the code "NJSRN" in the on-line order form found at [www.thundershirt.com/OrderNow/](http://www.thundershirt.com/OrderNow/) or call 866-892-2075 and provide the code to the customer service representative. Plus, order now and shipping and handling is free!!**

Thundershirts make a great present for your own Miniature Schnauzer or your dog-owning friends and family. Miniature Schnauzers typically wear an XS (10-18 pounds) or S (15-25 pounds); sizing charts are available on the company's website.

Help dogs naturally manage fear and anxiety while helping NJSRN to raise funds to offset medical expenses for homeless Schnauzers in our care!

care. Most of us don't think about VHUP until our vet refers us to them for diagnosis or treatment of our pets' illness. NJSRN wants you to know that VHUP also provides a wealth of information to help us keep our pets healthy and better understand issues we'll all encounter as pet owners.

The Animal Lovers Lecture Series is a wonderful service provided by VHUP. Faculty and staff present insight and guidance on important issues that effect us and our pets. The lectures are free; registration is required and is available on-line at <http://tinyurl.com/yatusuf>.

Three programs are currently scheduled for 2011:

**Quality of Life; Getting Your Dog Involved** by Drs. Cindy Otto and Illana Reisner, on Sunday, January 20, 2011, from 2-4 pm at the Dog Training Club of Chester County (DTCCC) in Exton, PA. The doctors will explain how a happy dog is a healthy dog. DTCCC will be accepting toy and treat donations for its Toys for Pups collection program that benefits area animal rescue organizations, including NJSRN.

**Care and Feeding: Basic Check-up** with Drs. Magi Casal and Kathy Michel, on Thursday, May 18, 2011 from 7-8:30 pm at the New Bolton Center in Kennett Square, PA. The doctors will share their insight on nutrition and wellness.

**Caring for Older Pets** by Drs. John Marcus and Scott Martens, on Thursday, June 2, 2011 from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Rago Arts and Auction Center in Lambertville, NJ. The program will address the difficult topics of geriatric and end-of-life healthcare issues.

**Thundershirt - a great gift idea for your dog and dog-owning friends and family! All purchases made between Monday, December 6 and Monday, December 20 benefit NJSRN!**

## Are you Social?

Social networking is no longer a trend; it's become a way of life for technology savvy teens, youngsters, and adults. If you tweet or Facebook, you can help the many wonderful Schnauzers we have available for adoption by adding them to your own Facebook page or tweeting about a dog. Simply click on the Facebook or Twitter icons found on each individual dog's profile on our website at [http://www.njsrn.org/available\\_for\\_adoption.html](http://www.njsrn.org/available_for_adoption.html). Every time you click for one of our available Miniature Schnauzers, you are helping that dog come closer to finding its new forever home, so Tweet and Facebook often!

## Click Here to Donate Now!

NJSRN is an all-volunteer organization. We have no shelter, no employees, and no overhead expenses. All donations go toward the care and re-homing of Miniature Schnauzers in need. Your donations cover the costs of spay/neuter surgeries; vaccinations; testing and treatment for heartworms and other internal parasites; dental cleanings and extractions, if necessary; and urinalysis to check for infections or stones.

NJSRN has received tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3), which means that contributions made to NJSRN may be claimed as charitable deductions on your federal income taxes. (Please check with your tax advisor.)

Financial donations of any amount are always appreciated. If you would like to help, but can't send a financial donation right now, there are [other ways you can help](#).

## The Training Corner

### I'm a good dog ... really!!

Catch your dog doing something right and acknowledge it; all creatures like positive reinforcement.

Dogs do what works; they will do what brings them rewards (food, toys, petting). Not giving them attention lets them know a behavior is unacceptable.

Teach your dog to pay attention to you, not everything else in the area. Schnauzers are alert dogs, wanting to watch everything going on around them, so this is particularly challenging. Whenever you ask for their attention and get it, immediately reward.

Reduce stress; if you or your dog are feeling stressed during a training session, stop! Train when you and your dog are feeling upbeat and functioning well as a team.

Set your dog up for success. Make the environment trouble proof; especially if they will be alone. No food on counters, remote controls on low tables, shoes or laundry with your wonderful scent on the floor, etc.

Keep training sessions short and positive. TV commercial breaks are the perfect length of time to work on an exercise. And just think how many training sessions (aka commercials) there are in one evening of watching television!

### Training Treat Tips:

Use your dog's breakfast or dinner kibble (hard dog food) as training rewards when training in your home.

## Holiday Tips for Pet Owners

The holidays are happiest when spent with family and friends. Unfortunately, those closest to us don't always live around the corner. Many of us love taking our Schnauzers with us for the holidays and PetTravel.com has an [informative article](#) that may help with planning your next trip. They have also put together some [useful tips](#) and a [helpful checklist](#).

Remember ... for your safety and that of your Schnauzers, crate or harness all dogs, make certain they wear name tags, and put emergency information tags on crates.

## A Few of the Maryland Dogs Today



Bentley



Jo-Jo

The more distractions (*i.e.* a training class), the greater the need to use high value rewards like boiled chicken, roast beef, and chicken or turkey hotdogs. Do not use cheese with Miniature Schnauzers.

Treats should be small, approximately half the size of your pinky finger nail.

Dogs don't know if they are getting a big treat or a small one, but they do know that eating five small treats, one at a time, is more exciting than eating only one big treat, so make treats small, give them one at a time, and give more of them.

Anything a dog consumes has calories and counts toward his/her daily food consumption. Do not over-feed your Miniature Schnauzer; overweight dogs are prone to diabetes and other health problems.



Colby

Join Our Mailing List!



Copyright 2008-2010, New Jersey Schnauzer Rescue Network, Inc. (NJSRN)  
NJSRN is a federally registered 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. Financial and other information on NJSRN may be obtained from the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey by calling 973-504-6215, or found on-line by clicking [here](#) (enter "Schnauzer" in the search box). Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement.



Try it FREE today.