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Volume 9, Issue 4

Fourth Quarter 2017

Part I: Develop Your Dog Adoption Criteria

By Kimberly Hackler
MSRH Volunteer

A new pet is on your radar, and you decided to save a rescue schnauzer instead of going through a breeder. That's excellent!

Adopting a dog is a decision that should be made with care and deliberation. A dog is not a toy or a clothing accessory; it's a living creature. The decision to adopt a dog should be treated with the same careful attention that you would use if you were deciding where to live, to have children, or whether to get married. It's important that your family and a prospective pet is well yoked. Otherwise the new family member can be a source of household tension. So, before you start the search, gain some consensus amongst the household about the type of pet you want.

Your whole future with your prospective new dog is ahead of you, and all things are possible. You may have visions of agility, obedience, or therapy work. Perhaps you're looking for companionship or a friend for your children.

Let's start with two important considerations.

Expenses. Whatever your reasons for adopting, bringing a new dog into your home is a major undertaking and commitment. Adoption fees may have a comparatively low-price tag, since Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston ("MSRH") provides vaccinations and spay/neutering, it's still a long-term financial investment. Years of food, medical care, supplies, grooming, and boarding are the essentials and add up over a dog's lifetime.

Lifestyle Constraints. The other expenditure is your time and energy. Any dog, regardless of age, requires love, time, consistency, training, socialization, play, and companionship. Regardless of age, there is an adjustment period in which your new pup will need help learning the ropes. Where do I sleep? What can I chew on? Where do I go potty? What's the daily routine? Can I play with Fido? Consistent training and positive reinforcement means you have to be at home consistently to help him/her succeed.

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Our Vision

Every Schnauzer a home,
one adoption at a time.

MSRH Mission Statement

Within the organization's scope and reach, MSRH is dedicated to rescuing every abandoned or lost Miniature Schnauzer that we can and migrating them to a loving forever home.

Behind the Scenes

In the interim period, between rescue and adoption, our all volunteer team provides temporary homes in a safe and loving environment while we search for an adoptive home that is the right match for each Schnauzer. We never forget that most adopters see only a snapshot of our overall organization. As such, we strive to ensure a perfect experience to give that snapshot exceptional clarity. Every perfect adoption experience requires a network of committed volunteers, veterinarians, partners, loving foster families and friends who pay the love forward with gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We want every Schnauzer to have a home. At MSRH, we make it happen . . . one adoption at a time.

Part I: Develop Your Dog Adoption Criteria continued from Page 1

If both your wallet and calendar can make the commitment, how do you determine which one will be the right match for your family? Like humans, there isn't a perfect dog, but there are steps you can take to help you make a wise, educated choice and increase the odds that you will find the dog you hope for.

To start, engage the entire family in discussions about the characteristics you want. If you live alone, do some reflection before the search begins.

Age. Puppy? Adolescent? Adult? Senior? Puppies, though adorable and quick to learn, need lots of love and attention, can be a handful; especially with small children in the home, must be housetrained, and taught basic obedience. For at least a year, you'll need to be a doting dog "parent."

An adolescent might already know some basics and have decent housetraining skills (though he will still need to be acclimated to your home). Don't forget that adult & Senior dogs can be fantastic too. If you're at work all day, or unable to commit to round-the-clock training, a Senior may be the right fit. These mature pets still have a lot of love to give, and their personality/physical stature are established so there aren't as many surprises. Housetraining is often stable, and the energy of youth has abated into a more laid-back countenance. If they've made it this far, chances are they are good dogs simply dealt a tough break. Deciding in advance what ages you'll consider can help prevent an impulse adoption.

Personality. When selecting a new dog, it is vitally important to consider how that dog's energy will harmonize with your own. When energy levels conflict, resulting frustrations on the part of both human and dog can create tensions and issues with dramatic repercussions.

If you have an active lifestyle, intend to take your dog on lots of walks or jogs, have a home with a yard (MSRH requires it be fenced) in which to play, you could opt for a more energetic dog.

You might choose a lower energy adult/senior pet if your home is small, lifestyle is more sedate, schedule is demanding, or you're a senior citizen.

Either way, it helps to have a picture of your ideal temperament in mind.

Health. MSRH has a robust volunteer foster program that allows the time for medical care and adjustment from the storm in which the schnauzer came from. The foster also gets to know the health and temperament of the dog while they share the same roof. If you're considering opening your home to a health and/or behaviorally challenged dog, be aware that they can require a massive commitment of time, energy, and financial resources.

Organize Your Dog Criteria List. Now it's time to organize your thoughts and to get clear about the attributes you hope to find in a new schnauzer family member. Write down your likes and dislikes in columns headed by these categories:

- Must Have
- Would Like to Have
- Would Be Okay With
- Would Prefer Not to Have &
- Absolutely Not

Take the list with you when you go to the adoption events or meet a prospect through an MSRH foster. You don't necessarily have to rigidly hold yourself to all of them, but if you are tempted by a dog who has few of your family's "must have" traits, and many of your "would prefer not" traits, at least you will be reminded that you are making a conscious choice to step outside the lines you have drawn. Also, the list may be useful if you need to remind other family members that they agreed to certain criteria (no puppies, no dogs over 9 pounds, etc.).

The Next Step. The primary way to meet several available schnauzers at once is our regularly scheduled adoption events. Don't fall in love with a face before understanding the personality and any possible health considerations! Thorough screenings help prevent mismatches.

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Part I: Develop Your Dog Adoption Criteria continued from Page 2

Don't be afraid to ask MSRH event volunteers, or better yet the MSRH foster, about a prospective dog. Depending on how long the schnauzer has been in our care, we may have a lot of information or very little.

Does he/she get along with other dogs? How does he/she act at mealtime? What is he/she like when people come by to view? Medical considerations? Basic questions, like these, help in the decision-making process and may give you a better idea of what he/she would be like with your family at home.

At our adoption events, walking a dog is an excellent litmus test. Take him/her out for a spin down the sidewalk and see how the two of you get along. Not only will you get an early idea of how you work together in a pack-oriented activity, but you'll get a better understanding of his underlying temperament once you've drained away the frustration and pent-up energy he/she has from being in a cage.

Keep in mind that rescue dogs, though loved and cared for once secured through MSRH, have gone through a very stressful time and their personality can change greatly once they're permanently settled in with you.

Please understand that once a dog is under our care, they're in a loving and stable foster home until they find their furever home. We don't focus on pushing dogs out the door at any cost; we're matchmakers and are dedicated to finding the right home for our rescues.

In closing, most importantly, do your best to leave your emotions at the door. You will have plenty of time to bond with your new dog once you've brought him/her home and incorporated them into your family. For their sake and yours, don't let your empathy influence a hasty adoption. It's crucial for you to choose the right dog, and doing anything less than a good match won't benefit either of you in the long run.

Sources: Whole Dog Journal, Modern Dog Magazine, and Cesar's Way, Inc.



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Have you registered for the Kroger Community Rewards Program yet? If not, please click on the link below:

<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

If you use your phone number at the register, rather than present your card, you can call (800) 576-4377 and select Option 4 to get your Plus card number. There will be a place for you to enter MSRH's Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number which is: **80020**

To verify that you have enrolled correctly, you will see 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston' on the right side of your Account Summary page. You will also see "Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston, Inc." at the bottom of your grocery receipt each time you shop.

For the past few years, MSRH has received about \$2,000 annually from Kroger, thanks to each of you who have signed up for this program.

Fourth Quarter 2017 Adoption Statistics

MONTH	INTAKES	ADOPTIONS	TOTAL IN RESCUE
October	21	16	34
November	24	14	31
December	20	29	42
Total	65	59	

2017 Annual Adoption Statistics

INTAKES	ADOPTIONS	TOTAL IN RESCUE
311	255	42

Our intakes this year came from the street, owner surrenders, shelters in Harris, Montgomery, and Galveston counties, and other Texas cities, such as Austin, Dallas, Edinburg, San Antonio, Longview, Beaumont, Bryan, Conroe, Fort Worth, Garland, Lufkin, Mesquite, Midland, Harlingen, and Paris. Also, we have taken in dogs from two rescues in Oklahoma this year.

Most of our adopters come from the Houston area and other Texas cities, but some adopters came from as far away as St. Petersburg, FL; Walker, LA; Weston, MA; Lebanon, NH; Bailey, CO; and Lakeville, MN.

OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

GRANT WRITER

Do you have grant writing experience? MSRH is looking for a volunteer to analyze our organization for grant competitive qualities to help us qualify for foundation grants. Once any corrective actions have been taken to improve our competitiveness, then the grant writer would research grant opportunities and prepare applications to include a budget and budget narrative. Other MSRH volunteers will work with the Grant Writer to help gather required information for applications. Time required for this position will vary. If you are interested, please email volunteercoordinator@msrh.org or call (281) 336-1163 and leave a message.

NEED FOSTER HOMES EXPERIENCED WITH TREATING DOGS FOR HEARTWORMS:

If you are knowledgeable and experienced with heartworm treatment, have a quiet home environment, and time for required visits to the vet, we want to talk to you. Please email volunteercoordinator@msrh.org or call (281) 336-1163 and leave a message.

WILLING TO LEARN HOW TO CARE FOR DOGS GOING THRU HEARTWORM TREATMENT? WE'LL TRAIN YOU!

DEAR SOPHIE: Is it okay for me to eat bones?

Dear Sophie:

We dogs are often thought of as loving to chew on bones. I mean real bones. Not the ones you buy at Pet Smart. There are cartoons of us with bones in our mouths. Many of our toys are shaped like bones. Even songs are sung about it—"with a knick knack paddywack, give a dog a bone . . ." However, I have heard that bones are not good for us. Is it true that we should NOT eat bones? Please clear up this confusion once and for all.

Sincerely,

I. Adora Femur

Dear Adora:

No bones about it, there is a popular idea that it is natural for us dogs to chew on bones, but it is a dangerous practice that can cause serious injury to us. Some folks think the large bones, like from a roast or ham are okay, but they are wrong. Bones of any kind or size are unsafe, and if you eat them, you could end up at the veterinarian's office, possibly for emergency surgery. Worst case, you could even die.

Any time your human parents have left-over bones from one of their meals, they should dispose of them in the trash and carry it out right away, putting them in a place where you cannot possibly get to them when they are not looking. When you are out for a walk, your parents should steer you away from any objects lying in the grass. If you still manage to get a hold of something, your parents should take it away from you ASAP.

Here are 10 reasons why bones are dangerous for dogs:

1. Broken teeth. This may call for expensive veterinary dentistry.
2. Mouth or tongue injuries. These can be very bloody and messy and may require a trip to the veterinarian.
3. Bone may get looped around your lower jaw. This can be frightening and/or painful and usually means a trip to the veterinarian.
4. Bone gets stuck in the esophagus. You will gag trying to bring the bone back up, and guess what—another trip to you-know-where.
5. Bone gets tuck in the windpipe. This can occur if you happen to inhale a piece of bone. This will be an emergency trip to the vet, because you will have trouble breathing.
6. Bone gets stuck in the stomach. It may go down just fine, but the bone may be too big to pass out of the stomach and into the intestines. This means endoscopic surgery, where your veterinarian uses a long tube with a built-in camera and grabbing tools to try to remove the stuck bone. Holy cow!
7. Bone gets stuck in intestines. This will cause a blockage requiring surgery to clear.
8. Constipation due to bone fragments. You'll have a hard time passing the bone fragments, because they are sharp. They'll scrape the inside of your large intestine or rectum as they move along causing severe

pain. This may require another trip to the veterinarian.

9. Severe bleeding from the rectum. Aside from being messy, it'll be painful. At the risk of sounding redundant, you'll be back at the vet's office.
10. Peritonitis. This nasty bacterial infection of the abdomen is caused when bone fragments poke holes in your stomach or intestines. This will be an emergency trip to the veterinarian. This is difficult to treat, and it can kill you!

As you can see, bones are just not worth the high risk! If you must chew on something, your parents should ask your veterinarian about alternatives to bones that are made of materials safe for you. AND, you should always be supervised while enjoying any chew product. Your parents should NEVER give you anything you could possibly choke on while they are at work, gone shopping, or away from home for any other reason. There are always squeak toys, Kongs stuffed with your kibble or peanut butter, stuffed animals (made for dogs), etc. that you can play with while your parents are away. ALWAYS STAY SAFE, NOT SORRY!

Sincerely,

Sophie



January is National Walk Your Dog Month

February is National Spay & Neuter Month (February 23 is Spay Day USA)

March 23 is National Puppy Day

WAYS TO GIVE TO MSRH WITHOUT SPENDING ONE EXTRA PENNY!

When you shop at Kroger—Got a Kroger Rewards card?

Go to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Follow the instructions to register. You'll need your Plus card number, but if you don't have your card, call (800) 576-4377 and select Option 4 to get it. Once registered, log on to your account. There will be a place for you to enter MSRH's Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number, which is **80020**. If done correctly, you'll see 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston' on the right side of your Account Summary Page. When you shop, you'll also see 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston' on the bottom of your grocery receipt.

When you shop at Randall's—If you have a Randall's Remarkable Card, go to the Customer Service Desk and ask to participate in their Good Neighbor Program. They'll give you a form to complete where you will provide your Remarkable Card number and our charity number, which is **11942**. Once you do that, they'll link your card with our charity number in their system. Thereafter, a portion of your grocery bill will be donated to MSRH.

When you purchase NuVet Labs vitamins and joint therapy—We understand that not everyone purchases these products for their dog, but NuVet guarantees that their products can eliminate most ailments, such as allergies, skin and coat problems, scratching, itching, biting, hot spots, arthritis and joint problems, etc. These products are not available to the general public without this order code: **52564**. A portion of your purchase is donated to MSRH. Call (800) 474-7044 or order online at www.nuvetlabs.com.

When you purchase products through Amazon—nearly everybody these days makes purchases from Amazon. Now there is a way to have 0.5% of your purchase (excluding shipping and taxes) donated to MSRH. Just go to www.smile.amazon.com. Once you're on this website, you'll be given a chance to select a charity. Type in 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston'. Then, you'll be redirected to the regular Amazon website where you log on with your usual username and password and start shopping.

When you buy or sell a home—Robin Slack with RE/MAX has agreed to donate 20% of her commissions to MSRH for any clients who are our volunteers, donors, or adopters. So, if you are ready to buy a home or sell one, call Robin direct at (713) 540-7553 or email robin@sellinghouston.com and tell her MSRH sent you.

When you purchase medications for your pets—for every purchase you make through Pet Rescue RX, a licensed veterinary pharmacy, Pet Rescue RX will donate 100% of their profits after they pay their bills, employees, and overhead costs. When you register at www.petrescuerx.com, you will be asked to complete information about your pets, your veterinarian, and the rescue group you wish to receive donations (Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston). If your order is for prescription-only medications, such as Trifexis, Comfortis, Heartgard, etc., Pet Rescue RX will contact your veterinarian to get his/her approval.

Just about every time you shop online—go to www.igive.com/rMsg3U to register. Then, install the iGive button on your browser bar by following the instructions. You'll see the little orange flower icon on your browser once you're done. Then, every time you shop, click on this icon first. Select the store you're wanting and you'll be re-directed there to start shopping like you always do. All your favorites are there, like Chico's, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Apple Store, Petco, Petsmart, Ulta, Shoebuy, Macy's, etc. The store will donate a portion of your purchase to MSRH (each store has their own percentage amount that they donate).

When your beloved pet crosses the Rainbow Bridge—If cremation is your choice, go to www.liveoakpetservices.com. We service the Houston and surrounding area and exclusively Texas A & M Veterinary Teaching Hospital, The Houston SPCA, North Houston Veterinary Specialists, and Animeals on Wheels. We will donate 20% of the fee you pay us to MSRH, so if you choose to use our services for your pet, please let us know that your pet was adopted through or was a foster of MSRH.

If you want your pet's photo converted into an oil painting—go to www.timelessartsoncanvas.com. Click on 'Commissioned Art Agreement and Ordering Details' for more information. The artist, Astrid, will donate 10% of the painting cost, excluding tax and shipping, to MSRH, so be sure to tell her you were referred by us.

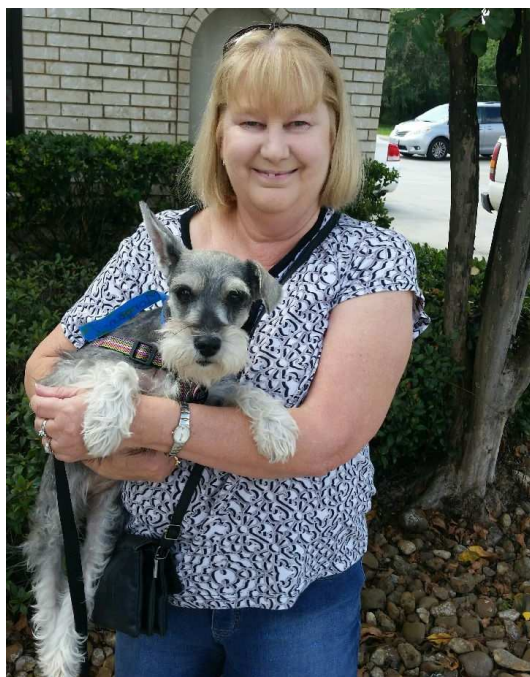
HAPPY TAILS

Shelby

New dad, Russ, writes: "At a time in my life, after sustaining the loss of my partner, Shelby has brought some laughter back into my life. She is so sweet and loving and is now my shadow. Just today I had made a sandwich and chips for lunch and placed them on a TV tray by the sofa. I got up to take care of something and when I turned back around my lunch was gone. I told her she was a bad girl, and I got a look that said, "Well you put it right in front of me. What did you expect I was going to do". I know she and I are going to have many happy moments in the years to come. Thank you..."



Dad with Shelby.



Morgan with Mom.

Morgan

New mom, Mary, writes: "Morgan has settled in quite nicely we are looking forward to many years with her."



Jessica with her toys.

Jessica

New mom, Lynne, writes: "This is our Jessica!! We are so happy with her. She is loved!!"

HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 7**Murphy (formerly Carter)**

New mom, Tenna, writes: "Murphy is quite a character. He is super smart and has a neat personality. We are happy that he is part of our family. "



Murphy with his new Mom and Dad.

Laia (formerly Lea)

New mom, Elizabeth, writes: "We LOVE her!! She is already part of the family. Thanks again, for all you do to help find forever homes for our four-legged friends!"



Laia with Mom and human big sister.

Jodie

New mom, Karen, writes: "Jodie Flanagan is loving her new home. She has been on many adventures to the park, coat shopping at Petco, mini road trips to the hill country and her spa days at the groomers. She enjoys playing with her brother Jax and loves to kiss and get loved on by mom and dad. Jodie wakes up every morning to the sound of our alarm and jumps in bed to get her extra minutes of cuddle time before work. She enjoys watching Disney movies and curling up on the couch. Jodie is my Jodie Bear, and I can't imagine life without her. So grateful that Jax has a sister that loves and protects him and that we get to call her family."



Jodie (right) with Dad, Mom, and canine brother, Jax.

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HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 8

Oscar with Mom and Dad.

Oscar (formerly Astro)

New mom, Jamie, writes: "Oscar is doing great. I think he may be part mountain goat. He can jump up on most anything in the house.

He sits like a little king on the throne on the couch.

He is very vocal. All kinds of sounds come out of his mouth. He has decided he is our lookout and protector.

He chases birds out of a bush several times a day.

He is very sweet—understands the word no, sit and if I ask him if he wants to go outside, he twirls around three times and runs to the patio door.

Someone taught him a lot. We are very happy we have him. You picked out a good one for us. Thank you."

Abby (formerly Jere)

New mom, Terri, writes: "She is doing great!!! We love her to death and she is even getting to be a loving cuddly baby 😊. Her new name is Abby. And she even answers to it now. I will try to get a video tomorrow morning of her and Coco chasing around the bedroom. It is so cute."



Abby with Mom and sister, Coco.

DID YOU KNOW YOUR EMPLOYER MAY MATCH YOUR DONATIONS TO MSRH?

Many corporations match donations made by employees to a wide range of nonprofits to support employee charitable giving and to extend corporate philanthropy. Many nonprofits, like MSRH, miss out on revenue simply because many donors are unaware of their employer's gift matching programs.

To find out if your employer will match your donations to MSRH (double them), go to the following link:

<http://www.msrh.org/matching-gifts>

HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 9

Molly snoozing on the couch.

Molly (formerly Mercy)

New mom, Angie, writes: "I just wanted to give you a quick update on Molly (Mercy). She is doing wonderful! It only took a day for Molly to come out of her shell. She is a very happy dog and loves playing with the other dog and cat. Molly went with us to Galveston over the weekend and had a great time with her cousin, another Schnauzer dog. Molly is spoiled rotten and a true lap dog, just what I wanted! Thanks again."

Stewie

New mom, Jill, writes: "Stewie is giving me a lot of joy already! Thanks for all the good work that your organization does."



Stewie with Mom.

SAVE THESE DATES

Houston Pet Expo — May 12 & 13

NRG World Series of Dog Shows — July 18-22

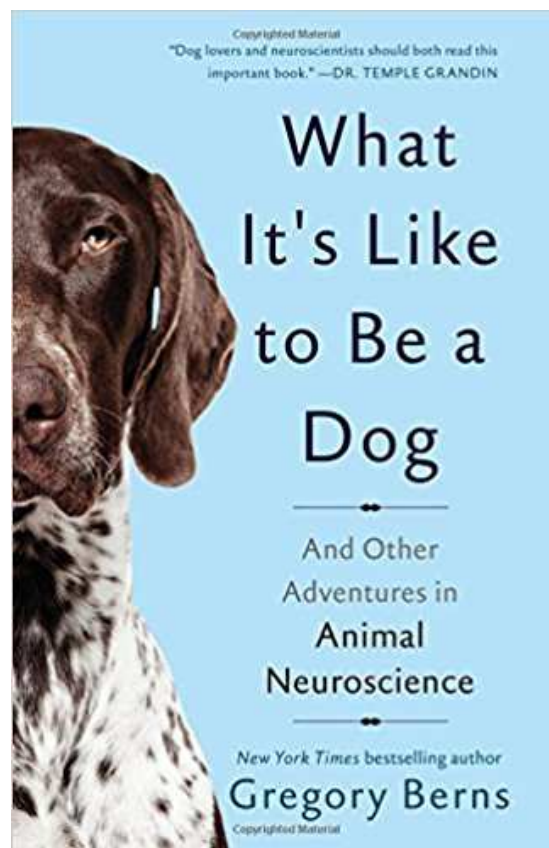
BOOK OF THE MONTH

“What It’s Like To Be A Dog”

By Gregory Berns

Does your dog really love you? Neuroscientist Gregory Berns used an MRI machine to find out. Dr. Berns and his team taught dogs to go into an MRI scanner—completely awake and to be still. That was no small accomplishment! They discovered what makes dogs individuals with varying capacities for self-control, different value systems, and a complex understanding of human speech. Then, he expanded the study by training the dogs to do simple tasks that required decision making. And dogs were just the beginning. In this book Berns explores the fascinating inner lives of wild animals from dolphins and sea lions to the extinct Tasmanian tiger. Much as *Silent Spring* transformed how we thought about the environment, so *What It's Like to Be a Dog* will fundamentally reshape how we think about—and treat—animals. Groundbreaking and deeply humane, it is essential reading for animal lovers of all stripes. His conclusions were that dogs and other mammals do have some limited abilities to think, make decisions, and even experience regret.

This book, published September 5, 2017, has received 21 reviews with 14 of them being 5-star and 3 being 4-star. As of this writing, it can be purchased from Amazon in hard cover for \$19.04 or Kindle edition for \$16.99.



Dr. Berns at the MRI machine

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gregory Berns, MD, PhD is the Distinguished Professor of Neuroeconomics at Emory University, where he directs the Center for Neuropolicy and Facility for Education & Research in Neuroscience. He is also a Professor in the Psychology Department and a founding member of the Society for Neuroeconomics. Dr. Berns specializes in the use of brain imaging technologies to understand human – and now, canine – motivation and decision-making. For the last 3 years, Berns has pursued his dream of using MRI to decode what dogs really think. Partnering with a dog trainer, Berns' group has trained a team of volunteer dogs to hold still in the MRI. The data they are collecting is revealing startling insights about how the brains of our canine friends work, and they are finding proof that they really do love us. In the process, they have broken new ground in elevating the rights of dogs.

Berns is the co-founder of Dog Star Technologies – a company using neuroscience to enhance the dog-human partnership. Berns' book, *How Dogs Love Us*, was published in October 2013 and became a WSJ and NYT bestseller. His latest book, *What It's Like to Be a Dog*, was released in September 2017. He has received numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and the Department of Defense, as well as published many peer-reviewed articles and other books too numerous to mention here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY

JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 17—MARCH 17
(EVERY THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH)

KENNEL CLUB MEET & GREET

Where: 9040 Highway 6 North
Houston, Texas 77095-2303
(Between Hwy 290 and West Road)

Kennel Club phone: (281) 809-7748

Website: www.kennelclubhouston.com

Time: 10AM to 1PM

Chair: Brenda Kennedy

Tel: (281) 336-1163

* Beware of construction on Hwy 290.

REMEMBER—NO ONSITE ADOPTIONS!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING, PLEASE COMPLETE AN ONLINE ADOPTION
APPLICATION IN ADVANCE AT:

WWW.MSRH.ORG/ADOPTION-FORM/ OR CALL (281) 336-1163.

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

BARKUS & MEUX MARDI GRAS PARADE

Where: Galveston, Texas

Parade Start Time: 1:30PM (get there early)

MSRH will once again be marching in the 2018 Krewe of Barkus & Meoux Parade for Mardi Gras in Galveston. Bring your mini dressed in his or her Mardi Gras best! If you want to order an MSRH krewe shirt for yourself, contact:

mona@msrh.org.

Go to the parking lot at Willie G's and Olympia Grill on Pier 21. Cost is \$20. Enter from Harborside Dr. at 21st Street (not the parking at Fisherman's Wharf at 22nd Street and the cruise terminal). Parade starts at 20th Street at Harborside. Look for us in the purple MSRH Krewe t-shirts. We'll have a blast!



Miss Jenny Bella relaxing on the couch.

Adoption Fee: Considering my age and my special needs, MSRH is willing to discuss a mutually agreeable arrangement for my adoption. MSRH's main goal is to find the right permanent home for me where I can be loved, feel safe, and thrive.

If you are interested in meeting me, complete an online [Adoption Form](#) or call (281) 336-1163 and leave a message with your phone number stating that you are interested in me, Jenny Bella. Someone will contact you to discuss. Please note that there is no obligation.

Featured Pet—Jenny Bella

Hello, folks! I am Jenny Bella. I am eight years old (approximate birthday 04/09/2009) and weigh 13 lbs. I have natural ears and a docked tail. I am charcoal grey in color. I am housetrained and crate trained. I am also leash trained and enjoy walks around the neighborhood. I enjoy squeaky toys and hanging out with my foster mom. I sleep next to her at night and don't make a sound until she is ready to get up in the morning. While I am comfortable around calm dogs, I would probably do best in a home where I am the only dog. You see, I am 100% blind from a genetic disorder, so I get anxious and defensive when other dogs try to interact with me. I am a smart girl, though, and will quickly learn the layout of your home. I will stand by the door when I need to go outside to potty. If you don't see me, I'll give a quick bark to get your attention. I'll also let you know when I am hungry or want out of my crate.

I am on an inexpensive Phenobarbital pill twice a day (because I am prone to seizures) and eat Purina Pro Plan Kidney Function food. My food is slightly more expensive than regular food, but not much. I'm not too fond of bath time or being groomed, but I am getting better about it. It just takes me a little time to feel safe and comfortable. That's why I need a patient and experienced owner to give me a forever home. Will it be you? I can hardly wait to meet you!

From the Editor

Dear Readers:

Happy New Year to all of our adopters, fosters, donors, and volunteers. Thank you for making 2017 a great year for MSRH and the little Schnauzers who in many cases are beginning the new year with a new forever home.

We are beginning a new year also with new tax rules. I know many of you who have made charitable donations in the past have itemized your deductions, but now that the standard deduction has been increased, you may not continue to itemize. However, charitable donations per se are not affected by the new law, so if you decide it is still beneficial to itemize, you can still take the charitable donation deduction just as you always have in the past. And, thank you, by the way for your donations. We couldn't make it without them. We are blessed by your support year after year.

January is the birth month of The Schnauzer's Paw newsletter, which began January 2009—Happy 9th Birthday to us!



Linda with Gertie Sutton

Until next time,

Linda