



# MSRNT Newsletter

July 2009

Volume 1, Number 1

## Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of North Texas “Opt to Adopt”

MSRNT is a Non-Profit  
Organization 501(c)(3)

Contact Us:

P.O. Box 112341  
Carrollton, TX 75011

206-333-0156

<http://www.msrint.com>

### Inside this Issue:

Spotlight on  
Schnauzer Stars  
Page 2

Happy Tails Page 3

Doggie Dash Board  
Page 4

Joy of Fostering  
Page 5

Call for Fosters &  
Volunteers Page 6

*Welcome to the first edition of the new Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of North Texas MSRNT newsletter. This newsletter will be published periodically to stay in touch with those who have provided “forever homes” to our Schnauzers, reach out to our Schnauzer friends and other supporters, as well as those interested in learning more about MSRNT rescue.*

### “Sipping for Schnauzers” a Huge Success



Our second annual “Sipping for Schnauzers” wine tasting and fund raiser was held in April at Premier Wines of Plano and brought out the finest wines and tons of dog lovers. Many thanks to the great crowd, who attended the event, donated or purchased items in our largest silent auction ever, and enjoyed some great wines and appetizers.

The time and place for “Sipping for Schnauzers – 2010” will be communicated this coming fall, and this annual event is a “must” for all A-list lovers of dogs, wine and fun! Of course all proceeds go directly to the dogs—we mean the great Miniature Schnauzers who are rescued by MSRNT and given the chance to find “forever” loving homes.

### MSRNT Website

Our website is a great place to learn about adoptable dogs and the MSRNT organization. Be sure to check out some of the latest enhancements to our website at [www.MSRNT.com](http://www.MSRNT.com). Check out our newest feature **Happy Tails** we invite all our past adopters to send us their story and a photo to [donations@msrint.com](mailto:donations@msrint.com) for publication on **Happy Tails**.

Our **ICU** and **Donations** pages have been enhanced to show your name and donation instantaneously both under the **ICU Dog** and on the **Donations Honor Roll!** Also our **Events Calendar** has been enhanced so you can scroll through all our **Events** and even purchase an **Event Ticket on Line**.

If you are searching for a dog to adopt look at our new layout for **Adoptable Dogs** section if you see a dog that captures your attention, be sure to read his biography to see if this might be the dog for you. You can fill out an adoption application online, and read more about what’s involved in the adoption process.

## Spotlight on Schnauzer Stars!

### Meet our Adoption Coordinator!



Sheryl

The **MSRNT** motto, “Opt to Adopt” is the heart of our rescue efforts. In 2008, **MSRNT** found “forever homes” for more than 150 Miniature Schnauzers. With so many dogs--each with a different personality and each prospective adoptive family unique--how does **MSRNT** decide which dog is right for each home?

Meet Sheryl, **MSRNT**'s Adoption Coordinator, and the ultimate matchmaker. “Our philosophy is not to simply put a roof over a dog’s head, but to find the right home for each and every dog we rescue, where they will not only be well cared for, but become a loved and cherished family member,” says Sheryl. “That’s why we have a high success rate in our placements.”

Starting with the completed application from the interested adopter, Sheryl carefully reviews all of the information they provide, checks the vet and personal references they have listed, and interviews the prospective adopter. She is usually the first point of contact with adopters, who will hear “So tell me about why you want to adopt a Schnauzer?” She learns about what the family is looking for in a pet, what it knows about the breed, and asks about their lifestyle and the activity level in the home. Sheryl also asks about who will be living in the home, and what other pets reside there.

After learning as much as she can about the family and its preferences, Sheryl turns to the **MSRNT** foster Moms and Dads to see if any of the current foster dogs may be the right match for the family. Because **MSRNT** requires each dog to spend time in a foster home before it is adopted, the foster parent learns a great deal about its personality, needs, behavior, and any issues it may have before it is adopted. “We are able to give the new family a first-hand account of what the dog is like, and how it behaves in a home environment and interacts with others,” say Sheryl. “And, we share with them any areas we observe where the family may need to give the dog special attention or training.”

Prospective adopters must complete an **MSRNT** home inspection (to check fences, and look for any potential pet hazard) to make sure that the home provides a safe, clean environment for the dog. A “meet and greet” is then arranged for the family to meet the dog and interact with them. If all goes well, adoption papers are signed and the dog says goodbye to its foster family and moves into its new “forever” home.

So how did Sheryl, a retired Verizon executive, end up “going to the dogs”? She joined **MSRNT** in 2006, and initially volunteered as a driver to transport dogs from shelters and bring them into the rescue program. After she retired from corporate life, she also became a Schnauzer foster mom, and later the Adoption Coordinator. Sheryl is one of the three members of **MSRNT**'s Board of Directors, the group that oversees the work done by the all-volunteer, non-profit organization. Sheryl describes her role in **MSRNT** as “the most rewarding job I’ve ever had!”

## HAPPY TAILS - CHLOE



After she was adopted in March 2006, Chloe knew that she had a loving Mom and a great home, but what she didn't know was how her life was going to be transformed in just a short period of time--going from a homeless stray, to **MSRNT** rescue dog, to obedience title holder and certified therapy dog. Chloe, who was about three years old when adopted, is proof positive that an

adult dog can learn new tricks!

Jan, Chloe's new Mom, said that Chloe was an extremely energetic dog, who was a bit hyperactive when she was adopted. Chloe only understood the sit command when Jan brought her home, but she worked with her to teach "stay" by having her wait before diving into her food at mealtime. Jan knew that she could channel Chloe's energy in a positive way with obedience training, and they soon enrolled at a PetCo class, learning the basic commands—sit, stay, down, come, and leash skills.

Chloe and Jan both enjoyed the obedience training, and Chloe's behavior was greatly improved. Jan set out to find out what else they could do together, and discovered the Dog Training Club of Dallas County, located in Duncanville. They became active in the group, and as they learned new skills Chloe thrived on the attention and the time spent with Jan and other dogs and their owners. Chloe was soon ready to put her training to the test, and earned her AKC Canine Good Citizen Certificate—passing the test on her first attempt.

Looking for new experiences to share with Chloe, Jan decided to pursue Therapy Dog certification for Chloe. After the two completed the training process and Chloe passed her certification test, they joined local groups of Therapy Dogs in visits to senior living facilities, and visiting children at the Ronald McDonald House. "Chloe has never met a stranger, and as a Therapy Dog she has brought a lot of joy to the people we visit," says Jan. "It's wonderful to see how both seniors and children react to her."

Jan and Chloe continue to pursue "higher education." She and Jan are involved in dog "Rally" competition, which involves running a course and performing the tasks outlined on signs along the way. Chloe has received three Rally titles, and recently earned her AKC Novice Obedience certificate.

Jan is a big believer in animal rescue, and says that one day she may also adopt a sibling for Chloe. "I've had the time of my life with her," says Jan. "I don't know what I'd do without her—she's the delight of my life."

For more information on Canine Good Citizen training and other dog activities, go to:  
[http://www.akc.org/dog\\_owners/index.cfm?nav\\_area=dog\\_owners](http://www.akc.org/dog_owners/index.cfm?nav_area=dog_owners)

**MSRNT always loves to hear about your adventures!**

Remember photos you send are shared with all of the MSRNT family! Please keep in touch, drop us an email at [donations@msrnt.com](mailto:donations@msrnt.com) let us know what's new with you!

# Doggie Dash Board

*Celebrating Adoptions, Events & Applauding New Adopters*

*This feature displays pictures from our events, recent adoptions & photos sent to us by our adopters.*

## Contest!

The newsletter needs a name - would you like to contribute by giving us your suggestion on a catchy name for the MSRNT Newsletter! If so, send your suggestions to: [donations@msrnt](mailto:donations@msrnt)

The winning name will receive a \$25 gift certificate to either PetCo or PetSmart.



**Irish Festival Dallas 2009 MSRNT Volunteer EllenMarie & Megan**



**Santa & MSRNT Volunteer Tami holding Charlie her adopted schnauzer**



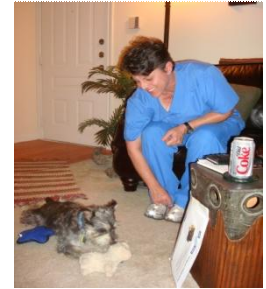
**Ranger MSRNT Alumni qualified Therapy Dog & K-9 Good Citizen**



**Volunteer Carole at PetCo event - October 2008**



**Is there a schnauzer hiding in there?**



**Angie adopting Brody!**

**Jamie's new family!**



**Volunteer April at Schnauzer Round Up October 2008**



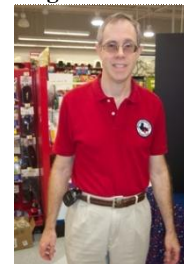
**Jingles in the snow!**



**Volunteers Ilene & her son Stern**



**BFF Schotzie & Quentin Hanging Out BFF**



**Volunteer Cliff at PetSmart**



## JOYS OF FOSTERING

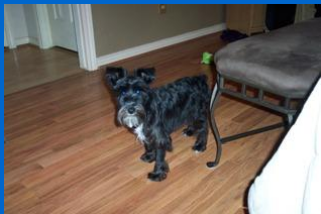
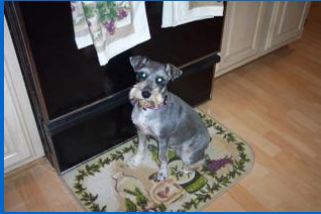
*Barbara and Richard are Schnauzer foster parents and active volunteers in MSRNT. This is Barbara's account of what it's like to be a Schnauzer foster Mom.*

Every time we have an adoption, the adopter will ask Richard and me “how can you do it? Don't you get attached? Don't you hate to give them up?” These are very good questions which we even ask ourselves. But the reason we are willing to foster becomes quite clear when we see the joy on the faces of a new adoptive family who just adore their new member of the family. That's what makes it all worthwhile. I think if you take a vote from the other foster parents with MSRNT, they will agree. We take these homeless and sometimes fearful little Minis and give them TLC to get them through the transition period from shelter or abandonment to a new “forever home”. I'm really not sure who gets more fulfillment out of fostering – the foster dog, or the foster parent.

In April 2008 Richard and I happened upon an [MSRNT](#) adoption event at our local PetCo. It was there that we first met volunteers April and Tami who got us thinking about fostering. Over the last 20 years we had four beautiful Minis of our own. We weren't sure we wanted to make the commitment for a new family member, so fostering seemed to fit our lifestyle very well. Before the end of that month we were fostering our first Mini – Chip. He was such a wonderful little boy that I was sure I had to keep him, but since he was already promised to a wonderful couple in Plano, I had to keep my commitment. That's when we discovered the joy we bring to adoptive families. Chip is the love of their life, and what's great is that they stay in touch with us by sharing pictures and periodically coming to our events.

We have to admit that we get sentimental when we leave our foster with their new family. And yes, we miss our foster very much. But then there is always another dog right around the corner that needs your love and affection. In the 15 months that we have been fostering, we were involved in 25 adoptions and currently have 2 little girls in our home that we will love until they find their “forever home”.

I think foster parents have a very important role in breaking barriers for these wonderful little ones .... I know that both Richard and I will always be grateful that we happened upon MSRNT that April afternoon.



Come visit us at our **monthly events** at the following locations:

### Garland PetSmart

5401 N. Garland Ave

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MSRNT is proud to be at PetSmart on the **First Saturday** of each month for a "Meet & Greet" where you can visit with the MSRNT Foster Parents and meet our adorable Schnauzer fosters available for adoption.

### Frisco PetCo

5177 Eldorado Pkwy

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

MSRNT is proud to be at PetCo on **Third Sunday** of each month for a "Meet & Greet" where you can visit with the MSRNT Foster Parents and meet our adorable Schnauzer fosters available for adoption.

### Dallas PetCo at Prestonwood

5301 Beltline Rd. #106

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MSRNT is proud to be at PetCo on the **Fourth Saturday** of each month for a "Meet & Greet" where you can visit with the MSRNT Foster Parents and meet our adorable Schnauzer fosters available for adoption.

## Got talent? Got Time? We Need You!



Sam the Schnauzer Says  
"MSRNT wants you!"

**MSRNT** is recruiting **Fosters** in the **Carrollton** area! What does it take to Foster?

F = Food, Fun & Family for the Foster Dog

O = Observation, Organization, Open Communication

S = Sensible Expectations for Shelter & Stray Schnauzers

T = Time to Train and Teach

E = Experience and Enthusiasm for the Breed

R = Reliability, Rides to the Vet and Adopters

If you are interested please apply at  
<http://www.msrrnt.com/html/fostering.html>

**MSRNT** also needs Auxiliary Volunteers to donate your talents to Rescue!

A few of the tasks that need Auxiliary Volunteers:

- Creating Scrapbooks of Adopted Dogs
- Photo Framing of Rescued Dogs for our Shelter Allies
- Making Dog Bandanas & Christmas Stockings
- Creating On Line Photo Albums
- Dog videos & Photos
- Making give aways for our Booths
- Creating Prints and Schnauzer Items to Sell

If you are interested please apply at  
<http://www.msrrnt.com/html/volunteer.html>