



# NYC Schnauzers e-Newsletter

October 2006

## Schnauzer Playgroup Playmakers

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## IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

**ASPCA**  
American Society  
for the Prevention  
of Cruelty to Animals  
[www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org)

**The Humane Society  
of New York**  
[www.humanesocietyny.org/](http://www.humanesocietyny.org/)  
(212) 752-4842

**Animal Haven**  
[www.animalhavenshellter.org/](http://www.animalhavenshellter.org/)  
(718) 886-3683

**Animal Poison  
Control Center**  
[www.asPCA.org/apcc](http://www.asPCA.org/apcc)  
(888) 426-4435



*From left: Savannah w. Quincy and Stephanie w. Angel. Stephanie is one of our newest playgroup members. She came all the way from Queens! Yay!*

## Schnauzer Sunday

It was a beautiful and warm day for our monthly Schnauzer Sunday event. We had about 35 Schnauzers in attendance and they all romped and played in the sun, while human companions gathered for friendly conversation and cordial introductions.

The dog days of summer are long gone, but we gave out free dog sweaters in preparation for the upcoming Fall/Winter playdates we host outdoors. Schnauzers also went home with tasty carob candy bars. All the goodies were donated by Jennifer and her Schnauzer Benny, owners of The Dog's Business ([www.thedogsbusiness.com](http://www.thedogsbusiness.com)); she bakes wonderful dog treats and creates doggie birthday party kits in her home in Brooklyn.

Our NYC Schnauzers members came from far and wide to attend our Schnauzer social at Washington Square Park, dog owners came from Staten Island, Long Island, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and all over Manhattan. Thanks to everyone who endured the travel to hang out with us on Sunday!

*(continued ...)*

## GIVE A DOG A HOME:

**NJ Schnauzer  
Rescue Network**  
[www.petfinder.com/  
shelters/njsrn.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/njsrn.html)

**Find Breeders**  
[www.breeders.net](http://www.breeders.net)

## DOGS ON THE WEB:

**New York City  
Schnauzers**  
[http://groups.yahoo.co  
m/group/nycschnauzers](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nycschnauzers)

**Meetup**  
[www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com)

**New York Tails**  
[www.newyorktails.com/](http://www.newyorktails.com/)

**Animal Fair magazine**  
[www.animalfair.com/](http://www.animalfair.com/)

**Urban Hound**  
[www.urbanhound.com](http://www.urbanhound.com)

**Dogster**  
[www.dogster.com](http://www.dogster.com)

**Animal Planet**  
[www.animalplanet.com](http://www.animalplanet.com)

**The Dog Whisperer/  
Cesar Millan Center**  
[www.dogpsychologyce  
nter.com/](http://www.dogpsychologycenter.com/)

**Mayor's Alliance  
for NYC's Animals**  
[www.animalallianceny.  
org](http://www.animalallianceny.org)

Did you miss this event? No problem! There are plenty of chances to have fun with your Schnauzer or Schnoodle this month.

## **UPCOMING NYC SCHNAUZER SOCIALS**

### **NYC Schnauzers Love Central Park Saturday, October 14**

It's time for NYC Schnauzers Love Central Park Country Fair! Well, it's really called The 5th Annual My Dog Loves Central Park Country Festival, but you get the idea. Haha!

**\*\* YOUR HOSTS: Savannah & Quincy. \*\***

Come join hundreds of other dog lovers on Saturday, October 14, 2006 as we celebrate Central Park and the dogs who love it! From 11 a.m.-4 p.m., midpark at 72nd Street (near the mall and sheep's meadow), there will be booths and events ranging from low cost microchipping to agility to the best tail wagging contest! **FREE ADMISSION \*\*Meet at the Sheep's Meadow Café\*\***

This is an awesome event, you're sure to bring home free goodies and have a lovely time on a beautiful fall day in Central Park! Newcomers and children are very welcome!

So let's have a good showing of Schnauzer Power!

For more info: <http://www.centralparkpaws.net/> or e-mail your host Savannah: [savannah\\_banana\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:savannah_banana_1@yahoo.com)

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### **NYC Schnauzers Play Uptown! Sunday, October 15**

It's time for Uptown Schnauzers and Schnoodles to romp and play! Come join us for fun and frolics at the small dog run at 72nd Street & Riverside Drive in Manhattan. **FREE**

Bring your dogs, friends, and get ready for a good time.

What to Expect: While the dogs play and socialize, you'll meet a group of friendly Schnauzer and Schnoodle enthusiasts who discuss everything from their favorite pet carriers, best groomers, and you may even spot a Giant Schnauzer!

Come be a part of the pack!

*(More events ...)*

## QUOTABLE:

"Beauty without Vanity,  
Strength without  
Insolence, Courage  
without Ferocity, and all  
the Virtues of Man  
without his Vices."  
~ John Cam Hobhouse

## GOT NEWS?

Please e-mail Corris  
your dog's birthday  
news, important  
milestones, or any  
special moments, and  
we'll congratulate  
your dog on a job well  
done.

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## NYC Schnauzers Play in Brooklyn Sunday, October 22

It's time for a Schnauzer/Schnoodle playdate in doggie paradise.

Get up early with other Schnauzer enthusiasts for off leash fun and frolics with your dog. Prospect Park is a beautiful place with plenty of wide-open spaces to roam freely and explore.

Bring your friends, family and furry friends. It's going to be a howling good time!

YOUR HOSTS: Jennifer and her Schnauzer Benny.

Jennifer is the new organizer of our Brooklyn Schnauzer playdates and owner of a company inspired by her Benny (<http://www.thedogsbusiness.com>) she also donates to dog-related charities and causes. FREE TREATS FOR THOSE WHO ATTEND!

\*\*\* Meet at the dog beach in long meadow at 8 a.m. \*\*\*

For more info, e-mail Jennifer: [jendancn@yahoo.com](mailto:jendancn@yahoo.com)

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## For Single Schnauzers

Schnauzer enthusiasts are being offered a free upgraded membership courtesy of online dating service **DateMyPet.com**.

Whether you are looking for a life partner, or just someone to hang out with, here you'll be able to find exactly who you are looking for--pet lovers like yourself. It's fun, interactive, safe, and anonymous--until you decide to take it further. DateMyPet.com members are adults of all ages, backgrounds, and religions with a common love for animals.

To join online, visit [www.datemypet.com](http://www.datemypet.com). New York City Schnauzers members who join their online community can e-mail the discount code **DMP Schnauzer** to [support@datemypet.com](mailto:support@datemypet.com) once you have an approved profile. You'll receive the membership upgrade within 24-48 hours.

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## Wanted: Volunteers

New York City Schnauzers is seeking several volunteers to post our flyers in various neighborhoods, on streetlamps, pet supply stores, bulletin boards, and at animal hospitals. Flyers promoting our free playdates are needed all over the Manhattan area and beyond. To volunteer, please e-mail: [corris68@yahoo.com](mailto:corris68@yahoo.com).

**Thanks for helping to promote The NYC Schnauzers Playgroup!**



## What a Wonderful Life It's Been

I don't even know where to begin in telling Rebecca's story. I guess I'll start from the end and work forward.

My beloved Rebecca passed away on October 23, 2005. Twenty months prior, she was diagnosed with hemangiosarcoma, which should have taken her young life within three to seven months. Knowing the tenacity of my little angel and telling her over and over again that "death was not an option," she survived 20 months.

When she was first diagnosed, I made a promise to Rebecca that as long as she had the will to fight, I'd provide her with the ammunition, and I kept my promise.

Oh, there were some difficult days and don't let anyone tell you that dogs do not experience the side effects from chemotherapy because they do. She lost her hair, which kind of made her look more like a Jack Russell than a Schnauzer, got nauseous and had, uhm, some gastrointestinal problems. None of those side effects, though, could slow her down, and she took her treatments, went into remission for a full year, took more treatments after she came out of remission, and even had a blood transfusion.

In July, 2005 prior to the blood transfusion, she had a few bad days (side effects from the chemotherapy) and was at the hospital. Her vet's told me she had a 50/50 chance of surviving the night. I stayed with her, sleeping on the floor of the hospital, and do you know that little girl refused to lie down! She sat up all night, yet was so tired she could barely keep her eyes open and almost toppled over when she did start to fall asleep! I constantly found myself in awe of her and her determination and will to survive!

(continued...)

Rebecca's 10th birthday was fast approaching – October 10, 2005 – and she and I were determined that she was going to celebrate that milestone. She did and the entire family was there with her to celebrate and a good time was had by all. Thirteen days later, she was gone. Somehow, we both knew (but dare not verbalize anything negative) that this would be the last birthday we'd be celebrating together.....in this life any way.

The last week of her life, she developed congestive heart failure and could not rebound. This was more difficult on her than her cancer. She stopped eating and was in and out of the hospital. It was just getting more difficult for her to get better, and her vet told me it was "time" to start thinking about euthanizing her as she would very soon start to lose some of her dignity.

You have to understand the relationship the vet had with Rebecca. He had seen her through the worst of times, her miraculous recovery, and watched her as she bounced back time and time again. He called her his "miracle patient." As devastated as I was at this turn of events, on a certain level, so was he.

I always thought of myself as a self-centered individual, that was, until this magnificent creature's quality of life was put in my hands. As much as I would have liked to keep her alive, which would have required taking her to the vet everyday for fluids and, at some point, a feeding tube, I just couldn't...she was ready to die and let me know she was ready.

On the day Rebecca passed, I brought her home one last time, and her two doctors came to my apartment. She was surrounded by those who loved her most – Rachel (my other Schnauzer), her grandma and grandpa, and their Yorkie, Victoria. I held this wonderful, generous, loving creature in my arms, and we looked intensely into each other's eyes as she passed. It was peaceful, and I couldn't have asked for a better gift.

My brother once told me that the birth of his children was the most exciting, magnificent, surreal event he's ever experienced. That's how I describe Rebecca's passing....while you can't call death exciting or magnificent, it is so personal – a bonding experience, and I was so blessed to be there with her, to hold and comfort her, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Rebecca's entrance into my life was non-descript. My mom and I were walking around the City and couldn't help but stop at a local pet shop (the same place I got Rachel), plus after a year of living without a sibling, I was debating about getting a sister for Rachel. Not wanting to commit to another dog in my apartment, I "encouraged" my parents to get Rebecca. She was tiny and looked like a cat, and you could immediately tell she wanted to come home with us. I spent the entire time carrying her around and immediately took her over. Oh, my parents had her live with them out on Long Island for almost a year, but when I'd leave the house after the weekend was over, she'd cry for Rachel and myself, and I mean cry...Rebecca was no wallflower and didn't keep her feelings to herself. So, I moved out of my old apartment and into another apartment and Rebecca came home with us permanently.

Rebecca was a typical schnauzer – a barker and territorial. She was fiercely loyal and the alpha dog in our household. She would be the "lookout" when Rachel was doing something horrible in the house, like destroying something, yet was never destructive herself.

(continued...)

She loved to be carried around, kissed, and cuddled like a baby. I think she must have bitten every member of my family and it took them years (yes, years) to win her over by filling her up with dog treats. Yet, she was a happy dog and that tail was always wagging and she'd get so excited when someone she liked would come for a visit.

About five years ago, I tried to get a handle on her barking at other dogs, and her intense dislike for children, so I took her to a dog psychiatrist, who not only made me feel like a failure as a parent, but also noted in her chart that the prognosis for her "passive aggressive" behavior was only fair. She never did overcome her "passive aggressive" behavior.

While Rachel was the "terminator," Rebecca would be the one who would go outside and roll in dead bugs or excrement, or she would run and jump over a citronella candle on the patio out on Long Island and be covered in wax and it didn't even faze her.

Rebecca was a little dog, but her presence made her larger than life.

I am a changed person, and I grieve every day for Rebecca and there was so much more to her than just the last 20 months of her life. I choose to keep her alive by talking about her, displaying her pictures, and telling funny stories of her antics. I encourage my family/friends to do the same because what better tribute is their to one's life than to remember that life.

On October 23rd, I ask you to join me in celebrating and remembering Rebecca.

***Many thanks to Stacey for this touching tribute to a well-loved dog.***

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## Grief Counseling Available

Fifth Avenue Veterinary Specialists (FAVS), New York City's newest specialty referral and 24-hour emergency care facility, is now offering bereavement and companion animal loss counseling.

To attend their grief counseling program visit or call Fifth Avenue Veterinary Specialists at (212) 924-3311 or [www.fifhavevetspecialists.com](http://www.fifhavevetspecialists.com).

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## Make Your Schnauzer Snazzy!

Lucky for us, Savannah, a member of the New York City Schnauzers Playgroup, is a dedicated Schnauzer groomer. She grooms Schnauzers in the Hell's Kitchen area and her prices are very reasonable. Savannah is now accepting appointments and can provide references and dog grooming photos upon request. She regularly grooms many of the Schnauzers in our doggie playgroup, including her own lovely dog Quincy.

E-mail Savannah: [savannah\\_banana\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:savannah_banana_1@yahoo.com)

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## Cageless Dog Boarding

Hello, My name is Carol and I do cageless dog boarding in my home in Chelsea. I am the owner of two Chihuahuas. I have been doing this for over 11 years. I can watch your dogs while you are away on vacation or business from one day up to one month. I will be offering a discount (reduced to \$40 from \$45 per night) to anyone who boards their dogs and mentions the NYC Schnauzers. My Web address is [www.carolspetcare.com](http://www.carolspetcare.com). There is also a link on my Web site which is a paw that will take you into my eBay store, where I sell custom made clothing & accessories. If you mention that you are a member of the NYC Schnauzers, I will offer you 10% off. My phone # is 212-741-1218 and my e-mail is [carol7326@earthlink.net](mailto:carol7326@earthlink.net)

Thanks! Carol

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## Show Your Schnauzer Pride!



**Obey The Pure Breed** is the brainchild of Kevin McCormick. He shows off his artistic talents and funny bone with his collection of dog illustrations. He showcases several dog breeds, including our snazzy Schnauzers and Schnoodles, as part of a pure breed revolution series. Kevin sells various dog breed tee-shirts, tote bags, mugs, and even baby gear!

Visit his Web site: [http://www.cafepress.com/dogs\\_of\\_war?pid=4164610](http://www.cafepress.com/dogs_of_war?pid=4164610)

***A portion of the proceeds (20%) from this link go to support Schnauzer rescue.***

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## Got News?

The NYC Schnauzers newsletter is always looking to highlight news from our playgroup members. Send birthdays, milestones, and stories to: [corris68@yahoo.com](mailto:corris68@yahoo.com)