



MAGS at Westminster!

Congratulations Diana & Odet!

Many MAGS members were glued to their TVs to watch one of our own compete at the Westminster Dog Show in NYC in February. Diana Gartz and Odet competed for BOB on the famed green carpet at the country's most prestigious dog show. Everyone was delighted to watch Diana lead Odet to win Select Bitch. Social media was littered with HUGE CONGRATULATIONS for Diana and Odet for this great accomplishment.



Enjoy Diana's story about the journey that led her and Odet to the green carpet!

MAGS at Westminster!
Journey to Westminster

President's Message

Action Items

Members of the Month

**"Cuckoo for Swissys!"
T-Shirt Sale**

K9 Library

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Breeder Directory

Membership Application

Your Support is Needed!
The Club has an inventory of
t-shirts that we need to sell.
Please order yours today!



Our Journey to Westminster

Diana Gartz

It all started when we got Odet (Kismet's Once Upon a Time) two and a half years ago. I wanted to show at Westminster one day and hoped that Odet would get us there. After traveling to many shows along the East Coast for the past two years, the day finally came. Along the way we met some pretty great people; Swissy people of course! And now we were off to NYC to the Westminster Kennel Club dog show.

Our Journey to Westminster, *continued*

Diana Gartz

We didn't really know what to expect when bringing a dog to the city. With all the craziness of a big city and so much going on all the time, we were pleasantly surprised at how well the hotel and transportation was set up for dogs. I have been to NYC before but it is very different when you bring your 4-legged kid with you!

We took a walk Monday night from the hotel to Times Square in the snow with Odet. She absolutely loved all the people that walked by and petted her. On a funny note, our friend, Jess, wanted her picture taken with "Batman" along with Odet. He was a little afraid of Odet and wanted to make sure she wouldn't bite. A week later we found out that "Batman" was arrested for robbing a tourist!

Once back at the hotel, we ventured to the basement for the "potty room". It was quite the setup, equipped with fire hydrants and treadmills.



It's show day and we are off to the Piers. Odet took her first bus ride and though she was a person, sitting in the seat next to me. We met some people during our ride and Odet was quite popular, getting her photo taken frequently.

Once at the Piers, it was definitely a little overwhelming. We found our benching area, got set up and took a walk through the vendors and ring area. Odet was pretty happy to be there, hanging out with the spectators and Swissy friends, as was I. Some of the people we met on the bus stopped to say "hi" and visited with us. One of the couples actually live near us. I was thankful for Swissy friends who told me where to go to get the bracelet I needed to get into the ring area.



Our Journey to Westminster, *continued*

Diana Gartz

Now it was time to relax and wait for our ring time; 12:45 p.m. My goal in the ring.... Not to look stupid! The show is broadcast live and people I knew would be watching or watching reruns. Including myself. I knew I would critique everything I did in the ring.

I sometimes forget that showing our girl is a hobby that I love and is supposed to be fun, but at this event I was reminded and remembered to do just that... Have a good time.! I was so busy having fun, I forgot to be nervous!

After the first go-around, I felt hood about showing well,, with encouraging nods from my husband, Eric, and my friend, Jess. Now the final go-around and a final look from the judge. He chose BOB and BOS, then Select Dog, then the judge pointed to us!

I never expected Odet to be chosen as Select Bitch at Westminster. Our first time at Westminster was definitely a fantastic experience. And YES, we would go again!



Action Items In This Newsletter

- Support MAGS by sending in your order form for “Cuckoo for Swissies” t-shirts.
- Save the K9 Library! Submit a book review for the next newsletter.
- Complete the Handler Entry Form attached to this newsletter for the Spring Pack Hike. Contact Danyelle: userboo9845@gmail.com
- Follow MAGS on Facebook. “Like” us at: facebook.com/Mid-Atlantic-Greater-Swiss-Mountain-Dog-Club-205483106165315/?fref=ts
- Register for Swissy Fun Day by April 8th. Contact Danyelle: userboo9845@gmail.com



**AS I WATCHED THE DOG
CHASING HIS TAIL,
I THOUGHT DOGS ARE
EASILY AMUSED.
THEN I REALIZED I WAS
WATCHING THE DOG CHASE
HIS TAIL.**

From the President

Doreen Holly

Swissies. They are an amazing breed. They are my breed for life. However, with that comes the pain when they pass. The heartache is so great because the love was so amazing. The friendships we make because of these dogs is also incredible.

The Board has recently voted to sponsor another Specialty Show in 2016, pending approval from the National Club. Details will be forthcoming.

There are many MAGS events on the horizon and I hope to see you all soon!

Titan

**Ch. Seavaridge's Victorious Titan, CD, CGC, NRPD, RE, Therapy Dog
5/31/2004—01/07/2016**



Editor's Note: Thank you to Doreen's Mother for donating \$50 to the MAGS Club in memory of Titan.

From the President

Doreen Holly

My Favorite Memories of Titan

Searching for a Dog

Titan was my first Swissy. I thought I was interviewing Blanche Roberts, but she grilled me for two hours. She convinced me to try dog showing. I was awkward, but we finished his championship and he kissed a number of judges along the way.

With Children

My niece, even when she was tiny, could walk Titan on a loose lead. He played with children as they were sledding at my house and he helped a young boy overcome his fear of dogs.

With Rhea and Vago

I knew when they were up to no good because Titan would tattle and let out a woof. They slept in a pile; and now a piece is missing.

Pack Hike

He'd start like it was the worst thing in the world, but then you better be ready. He would surge to the front like a seasoned racehorse.

Getting his CD

Titan earned his CD in just three legs. The first two ere in the 190s and first place finishes. In fact, the second judge said she had heard about the Swiss. Talk about pressure! The third was 171. It was a tie for third so we had to go in again. He was AMAZING on the off lead patter. The judge, Nancy Withers, said, "Why didn't you do that the first time?" Ummmm.

Therapy Work

Titan did years of therapy work. Once we were on an Alzheimer's floor. There was a man frozen in his wheelchair with one arm splayed towards the ground. I asked him several times as I approached if he wanted a therapy dog visit. No response. Titan licked his hand. He smiled.

My Dad

Titan would play a game whenever my Dad would get out of his leather chair. He would seize the moment and jump into the chair, though he hardly fit. My Dad would laugh and say, "Titan!...". I took the chair after my Dad passed, but Titan never sat in it again.

Run free my friend!

Members of the Month

Each issue of the MAGS newsletter features one or two Members of the Month. It's a great way to get to know fellow MAGS Members. Members of the Month are randomly chosen by the editor and those selected are notified at least a month in advance. So when YOU are chosen as a Member of the Month, please respond with photos and information about yourself, your family, and your Swissy(s).

Members of the Month

The Caputo Family – Frank, Jackie, Isabella, Gabriella

Who would have thought a 25lb cotton ball of black, white, and tan would change our lives? Through this cotton ball, we have made great new friends, our kids have learned new responsibilities, and we have become part of a community.

Our 25lb cotton ball, aka Seavaridge Herbie the Love Bug, is now ingrained in every aspect of our lives and is now 103 pounds. He has become a great little brother to our Lucky, a 10 year old Jack Russell and our girls Isabella and Gabriella.

Jackie and I met in our college freshman year and for me (I'll assume for her as well) it was love at first sight. Nine years later we were married and bounced from apartment to apartment and state to state for the next 10 years while I finished my training. Along the way, we had two children: Isabella (10 years) and Gabriella (8 years), as well as Lucky, our JRT (10 years).

While Jackie has always loved the small dogs and me the big dogs, what better compromise than a JRT (BIG DOG in a small body!). What a great boy he is: obedient, faithful, protective, and loving. When we finally moved back to NJ, we bought a house with some land and were hoping to find a "little" brother for Lucky to play with.



Members of the Month, The Caputo Family – Frank, Jackie, Isabella, Gabriella

We have always loved the Swissys since our first introduction by Erin McWilliams who taught us how to teach Lucky to be the dog we wanted him to be 10 years ago in Rockaway, NJ. Through our journey in finding a Swissy, we met some awesome people. Through multiple telephone calls and conversations, we finally got our phone call that we had a puppy. Dr. Chris Gisewhite had a boy for us. It was the right time and eight weeks later, our boy was asleep in the back of my car with my two daughters.

But the story doesn't end there.



Chris encouraged us to get involved with MAGS and to consider showing Herbie. Well, I considered showing him myself or getting a handler, but after about a month it became apparent: Herbie belonged to Isabella and Isabella belonged to Herbie.

They took puppy class together and he loved being with her. She then started taking handling classes with him.

We were thrilled and were so happy to hear the encouragement from others.

Members of the Month, The Caputo Family – Frank, Jackie, Isabella, Gabriella



We just came back from our first show and while we still have a lot to learn, I was amazed at the camaraderie of everyone and how helpful everyone was.

Often when joining a new group of people, you feel like an outsider, but due to people like Chris Gisewhite, Susan Spaeth, Erin McWilliams, Denise Mitterando, Laurie Carmody, Carol Gehret, Doreen Holly, Gina Aurichio, Janie Hecker, and of course Santa, it feels like family.



Swissy T-Shirts Cuckoo for Swissies!

The Club has an inventory of t-shirts that we need to sell. If you're "Cuckoo for Swissies" you have to have one of these shirts!



These great quality t-shirts are 100% cotton, available in short or long sleeves. They come in unisex sizes:

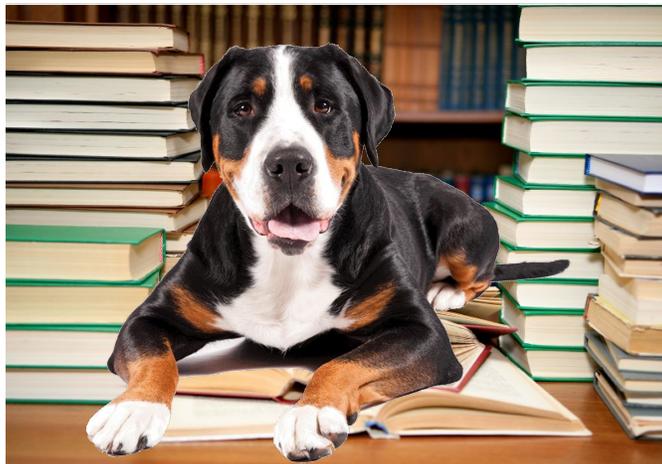
Small Medium Large Xtra Large 2XL 3XL

Since they are 100% cotton, it's a good idea to order up one size, especially for the short-sleeved shirts.

The order form is also attached to this newsletter as a separate item for easier download.

Please support this fundraiser for the Club by purchasing your t-shirts and sharing the Club's t-shirt sale with all of your friends who are "Cuckoo for Swissies!"

K9 Library



The K9 Library section of the newsletter is for you to share any interesting dog books that you've come across. If you're like me, you're always trying to learn more about dogs and sometimes you may come across some really good books worth sharing with the membership.

Please submit a book review of any good books from your K9 Library to share with the membership!

We'll maintain a list of all recommended books on our web-

Rut-Row! We don't have any book reviews for the K9 Library this month. Please submit your book reviews for the next newsletter edition. Otherwise, this section will be removed from the newsletter.

Read a Book ~ Save the K9 Library!



Follow the Mid-Atlantic Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club on Facebook!

“Like” the Mid-Atlantic Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Atlantic-Greater-Swiss-Mountain-Dog-Club-205483106165315/?fref=ts>

- Information about Club events can be found on the page under Events!
- Checkout the photo albums of Club events
- Share pictures and information

Upcoming Events



Spring Pack Hike

March 26th 2016 8:30 am

Trexler Land Preserve

5150 Game Preserve Rd, Schnecksville, PA 18078

10 mile one day hike

Entry fee: \$15.00 payable to MAGS

Earn a Leg (10miles) or hike for fun (any distance)

Everyone is welcome

Hope to see you!

Contact: Danyelle @ userboo9845@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

MAGS Luncheon

March 26th (during Edison, NJ dog shows)

Harold's Famous Deli Restaurant

1173 KING GEORGES POST RD., EDISON, NJ 08837

Enjoy huge portions of terrific food, lots of fun, and a great opportunity to socialize. Join Us... regardless of whether or not you enter the Edison dog shows. The cost is \$20 per person, \$5 for children 12 and under. Check out Harold's Famous Deli at www.haroldsfamousdeli.com.

R.S.V.P. to Gina Aurichio at: ginathehorsegirl@yahoo.com

AKC Sanctioned Match

Berks County Kennel Club

Sunday, April 3

1238 County Welfare Road, Reading, PA

Conformation, Junior Showmanship, Obedience, & Rally

Raffles and Great Food!

Classes for 3-6 month puppies

Pre-Entry: \$8

Day of Show Entry \$10

See attached flyer for details and contact information!

Swissy Fun Day!

April 23rd 2016, starting at 10am
Kerber Dog Training
81 S. Park Ave. Mertztown PA 19539

Intro Activities include: Agility, Rally, Nosework, Tricks, possibly Carting. Potluck Lunch.

Cost: \$25.00 per dog

Come on out and try some new activities with your dog!

Contact / RSVP Danyelle at userboo9845@gmail.com if you are interested by April 8th, 2016.

Upcoming Events

All-Breed Draft Test

Sponsored by Chesapeake & Potomac Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club

April 30th & May 1st

765 New Hope Road, Cross Junction VA 22625

Phone: 540-664-3946

Entry Fee: \$35 per team, per entry

Ring prizes + Qualifier prizes + Lunch = Provided!

Save the Date!

Premium List coming soon www.cpggreaterswiss.com/events



Upcoming Events



C & P 2016 Spring Fling!!

April 30th
756 New Hope Road
Cross Junction, VA 22625

Come Out and try new activities with your Swissy!

Weight Pull, Pack Hike, Rally, Drafting, Agility, Conformation, Therapy
Newcomers encouraged!!

Free Fun Day! Lunch Provided!

Kindly RSVP to Cathy Cooper: cocooper@sitestar.net



Upcoming Events

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club Of America

2016 Eastern Region Specialty
& Supported Entry Shows
June 11 & 12, 2016

Held in Conjunction with
**The Greenwich Kennel Club and
The Longshore-Southport Kennel Club
All Breed Shows**

Taylor Farm Park
Canfield Avenue
Norwalk CT 06855

The Greenwich Kennel Club Show offers
All Breed Conformation, Rally and Obedience

Special Attractions include:
Misc & FSS Breed Parade
Doggie Fun Zone
Rookie Agility Course & Barn Hunt Run Thru's
Caricature-Cartoon Artist



Additional Details to follow.

Cheryl Gerzabek
alastairgsm@comcast.net
&
Deanna Never
Deanna_Never@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

All About Dogs Day

June 25, 2016

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sinking Springs Fire Company Grounds
Reading, PA



All About Dogs Day is an educational event hosted by the Berks County Kennel Club. It has become a real crowd pleaser over the last few years with great display, demonstrations, fun, food, and games for everyone.

We're asking MAGS Club members and families to participate with your ideas and your Swissies! Come out and enjoy fellowship with other MAGS members, the public, and other breed and rescue groups.

Our goal is to educate and inform the public about our magnificent breed. At last year's AADD, we chose to focus on young people and included a "Pin the Tail on the Swissy" game at our breed booth with prizes for all participants.

Please contact us with your ideas for another successful year at the AADD and plan to join us on June 25th!

Contact Carol Gehret: cabro53@windstream.net

Jim Hauptly: swisscateers@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

Bark in the Park

June 28

Bridgewater, NJ

Bring your dog to the ball game with the Somerset Patriots in Bridgewater, NJ. Pooch parade starts at 6:30 p.m. Game and dinner starts at 7:05 p.m. Cost is \$26 pp and includes your game ticket, an hour and a half All U Can Eat Buffet (burgers, chicken, salad, chips, cookies, fountain drinks, and water). Advance reservations and payment are required. Please contact Gina now.

Contact Gina Aurichio at: ginathehorsegirl@yahoo.com

Annual Swissy Picnic and Club Meeting

August 13

Katie & Randy Markley's house in Elizabethtown, PA

The annual Swissy Picnic and Club Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 13th in conjunction with the Harrisburg, PA dog show. Details will be published later.

Bark in the Park

August 14

Trenton, NJ

Bring your dog to the ball game with the Trenton Thunder in Trenton, NJ at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$26 pp and includes your game ticket, an hour and a half All U Can Eat Buffet (burgers, chicken, salad, chips, cookies, fountain drinks, and water). Advance reservations and payment are required. Please contact Gina now.

Contact Gina Aurichio at: ginathehorsegirl@yahoo.com

MAGS Brags!

MAGS Brags is for you to highlight your dog's achievements, no matter what they are! Everyone with a Swissy has something to brag about and everyone would enjoy seeing your accomplishments and photos here. Remember, anything your Swissy does that you're proud of is a Brag.; from ribbons in the show ring, to new tricks learned at home, to graduation from training classes, to overcoming a behavior issue, to just being your best friend!



Thor ~ A Real Working Dog!

Jim Hauptly

Thor delivering the news to the farm neighbor.

Great Job Thor!

Thor giving our farm neighbor a break.



MAGS Brags!

Tobler!

Michelle Sheppard

Tobler recently passed his TDI certification. I'm so excited to start therapy visits with him. He took the class with a pug - they were the most adorable odd couple ! 😊



Congratulations Michelle & Tobler!

MAGS Brags!

New Therapy Dog!

Denise Mitterando



TwinPeak's Puppy Chuck has certified with Denise Mitterando to do pet therapy through the Creature Comfort Pet Therapy group in Morris Plains, NJ.

He scored 100% on his test!

Congratulations Denise & Chuck!

MAGS Brags!

Klara Celebrates Her First Birthday

Janie Hecker



Klara [Kismet's Blazing Fire On The Mountain Lady Klara] turned one year old on February 19t. She celebrated in style with a festive party that was attended by companions Toby and Heidi, a German Shepherd. Klara donned a rose pink "Birthday Girl" scarf and a special pin that said "My First Birthday". She had a specially created cake made from premium vanilla ice cream with a ground dog cookie center. The cake had her picture recreated on top. She immediately charged the cake licking off all the ice cream including her picture on the top. The cake was then cut so all the canines had a share which they ate with great enthusiasm.

Happy Birthday Klara!



MAGS Brags!

Meet the Breeds Booth

Denise Mitterando

Caboo and Denise Mitterando, along with Cheryl and David Gerzabek, had the pleasure of participating in the AKC's Meet the Breeds event in NYC in association with the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.



Terrific Looking Booth ~ Great Job!

MAGS Brags!

Toby & Klara at Celebrate Virginia Cluster

Janie Hecker

Toby [GCH Kismet Captain Avery's Toby] and Klara [Kismet's Blazing Fire On The Mountain Lady Klara] went to the Celebrate Virginia Cluster from January 13 through the 17th. Toby was Best of Breed on January 13th and January 16th. He took Select Dog on January 14th, 15th and 17th. Klara was BOS on the 13th, 14th and 15th and Reserve Winners on the 16th.



In January, Toby was ranked #9 Swissy in the country!

Yeah Toby!

Congratulations Janie & Klara!



MAGS Breeder Directory

Looking for a puppy? Check with the following breeders who are MAGS Members. Breeders are a valuable resource for our Club. We hope a MAGS Membership Application goes home with each new puppy!

Cabro Swissies

Carol Gehret
cabro53@windstream.net
Alburtis, PA 18011

www.mycabroswissies.com

Dahlgren Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Jenna Starr
jennastarr@hotmail.com
Knoxville, MD 21758

www.dahlgrenswissys.com

Double Q Swissies

Mary Jo & Jim Rasmussen
mjrasmus@gmail.com
Falls Church, VA 22042

www.doubleqswissies.com

Kismet Swissies

Carol & Joe Neuman
kismetwissies@aol.com
Birdsboro, PA 19508

www.kismetwissies.com

Majestic Woods Swissies

Donna & Greg Rollins
bosco.rollins@gmail.com
Grand Island, NY 14072

www.majesticwoodsswissies.com

Matterhorn Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Laurie Carmody
lcarmody@aol.com
Menseville, NY

www.matterhornsgmd.com

Seavaridge

Dr. Christie Guisewhite
seavaridge@gmail.com
Lewistown, PA 17064

www.seavaridge.com

SwissKiss Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Katie & Randy Markley
Katie@swisskissgreaterwiss.com
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

www.swisskissgreaterwiss.com

Attention Breeders!

Be sure to download the **NEW MAGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**, attached to this newsletter.

Our NEXT Newsletter!

Katie Markley

The next MAGS newsletter will be published during the 1st week of May, 2016. Please submit all information for the March newsletter to Katie Markley by April 30th. Email your information and photos to:

Katie Markley @ ktmarkley@comcast.net

I hope to hear from many more Club members for the March newsletter. If you haven't submitted anything lately, better do so now before I start "Hounding" you!



Newsletter Distribution

Some members have elected not to receive messages sent over the MAGS Google network. The newsletter is sent directly to individual email addresses so even members who don't want to see every post on the network can keep up to date on Club activities.



We have a new MAGS Membership Application which reflects the increased membership dues for 2016. The new membership dues are \$30 a year for a Family Membership and \$20 a year for an Individual Membership. The new rates are effective as of January 1, 2016 for new members and will be effective on the July 1, 2016 renewal date for current members.

Be sure to download the new MAGS Membership Application that's attached to this newsletter and use it in place of the old one to recruit new members to our Club.

