

The Dachshund Friendship Club[®]

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The Dachshund Friendship Club (www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com) is a non-competitive club. Our purpose is to promote responsible pet guardianship, to introduce dogs and their guardians to each other, and to encourage a friendly interaction.

Small Steps Lead to Perfection: Dachshunds at Westminster



Perfection comes in all shapes and sizes when we're talking dachshunds. Those of us who have ever shared our lives with a smooth, wirehaired or long-haired dachshund know this to be true. And the 132nd Annual Westminster Dog Show held February 11 and 12 at Madison Square Garden showed a perfect combination of great looking doxies. My goal was to "really get down" with my favorite dogs, and I tapped the talents of photographers Mary Bloom and Maddy Miller.

Perfection was in the house starting early Monday morning in the benching areas where all the dogs scheduled to show that day could be viewed. The first beauty that caught our eye was DC Siddachs Carmen, a wirehaired wonder that was being primped by her owners DFC member Sidney Stafford and John Merriman. We then visited with another DFC member, Emma Jean Stephenson and her champions, Wirehaired Ch EJ's Gunner's Grandson and the very smooth Ch EJ's CC Rider. That is when this singer/songwriter, yours truly, went into a short rendition of Mitch Ryder's classic blues song, "CC Rider," as well as a very abridged version of our own "Dachs Song," part of which was filmed on New York's CBS-TV.***



From noon, waiting in the wings were long-haired contestants like the appropriately named Ch Dachshire Hey Good Lookin' and Ch Phil's Aneas of Love Call Seven and the wonderful Ch Solo's Drag-Queen, who not only won Best of Breed, but later went on to win second place in The Hound



Clockwise from above, Ch Solo's Drag-Queen SL with handler Carlos J. Puig; Ch Daybreak's Awesome Blossom; Ch Brodny Schoolhouse Rocketman with Pamela Destrosiers, AFC Registered Handler/PHAW; previous photos by Mary Bloom. Spring line-up; Emma Jean with Gunner's Grandson; Ch EJ's Gunner's Grandson; photos from Maddy Miller.



Division. We sat and watched, oo-ed and ahh-ed at Ring 6 as all the long-haired, wirehaired and smooth beauties began to strut their stuff. The other winners besides Ch Solo's Drag Queen were Ch Brodny's Schoolhouse Rocketman in the smooth category and Ch Daybreak's Awesome Blossom in the wirehaired group. We dachshund admirers, the true, the few, the enlightened, know that all of our doxies, whether purebred or otherwise, are champions! —Furry Murray Weinstock, February 11, 2008

Continued on page 2

THIS YEAR'S DACHSHUND SPRING FIESTA WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 26, AT 12 NOON IN WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK, NEW YORK CITY. WE USUALLY MEET BY THE ARCH BUT THEY ARE RENOVATING THE PARK AND MUCH OF IT IS CLOSED OFF. SO THIS YEAR WE WILL MEET ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE PARK NEAR THE STATUE OF GARIBALDI. SEE YOU THERE!



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Be sure to check out our web site at:
www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com.

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Dachshund Friendship Club Newsletter:
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Waldo's Big Adventure

A friend who was staying at our place in Florida called me to let me know that a raccoon tried to push in the screen of the window just above his bed. It was midnight and quite scary. So Craig called "Critter Control" and they brought two cruelty-free spring traps to the yard.

I arrived two days later and insisted that the trap doors be closed in the day so Waldo would not go into one of them. They contained bait that was a mixture of dog and cat food. We do not let Waldo in the back yard at night because there are also possums and I do not want him to tangle with them.

The next day I went out into the yard and Waldo slipped through the door as it was closing. He immediately ran to the bushy area where the

trap was placed. I heard him barking furiously and ran over to the trap. Inside was a rat. Waldo kept circling the cage terrifying the rat. Suddenly the rat pushed it's way through a one inch square opening and as he was almost out Waldo grabbed him by the neck and strangled him. He then dropped him on



Waldo

the ground and saw that the rat was still wiggling. Waldo immediately dispatched him. This was not the first rat he had killed. Last year he got

one that was running along the fence and fell off. The minute he hit the ground Waldo killed him.

Over the next few days several rats were trapped but I made sure not to let Waldo out until the Critter Control guy came and took the trap with the rats away. I asked what would happen to the rats and he said that he would feed them to a Burmese python they had trapped. I could not understand why they were keeping this python alive as several of these snakes have crept into the Everglades and are killing the native animal species. Finally, on the fourth day, a raccoon was caught, and taken away by the exterminator.

Vermis are not Waldo's only prey. Throughout the day he is chasing small lizards that thrive in abundance in Florida. Occasionally he has caught one and unfortunately he toys with the lizard. So, our eleven pound dachsie has earned his hunting stripes.

Westminster (continued from page 1)

Author's note: Speaking of our champions, my wirehaired rescue, Lucia, seen here, was photographed for the 2008 Bergdorf Goodman Spring Catalog wearing a silk tiara (the money paid to her went into her school fund).

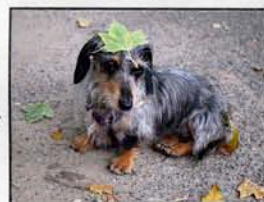


Photo by Maddy Miller

Editor's note: There is a link to the CBS-TV report on UNO, Westminster's 2008 Winner of Best in Show, where you can also see Emma Jean Stephenson and Murray singing "The Dachs Song" at www.dogtunes.com. You can also watch a snippet of the performance by going to the link below, click on the arrow left of "UNO" just above "You're watching.." and it starts with a short commercial at: http://209.85.207.104/searchq=cache:5tb8Bx1xksUJ:www.keytv.com/news/local/story.aspx%3Fcontent_id%3D7c3f7c39-0a3f-42a2-bbef-113836a99b0+caroline+dowell&hl=en&ct=chnk&cd=2&gl=us.

HOW TO FIND A RESPONSIBLE BREEDER

The Dachshund Club of America (www.dca.org) maintains a breeder-referral service, and can also put you in touch with your local club. Referrals are a great way to find a puppy. If you see a dachshund you like, find out where it came from. Ask about health problems and temperament, and how well the breeder was to work with. If this breeder does not have a puppy, she may be able to refer you to someone with similar lines. Dog shows and performance trials can also be a good place to meet breeders, and they certainly are a terrific place to see a lot of dogs. However, showing requires concentration and lots of hard work, so don't expect breeders to stop their preparations and talk with you for too long. While there, watch the dogs, and enjoy the show. Later you can contact some of the breeders listed in the program. To find a show or trial near you, contact your local dachshund club or the DCA.

—Sheilah Webster Boneham, Ph.D.
Remember: Don't buy from the Internet or pet stores. Be particularly aware that Missouri and Pennsylvania have the greatest number of puppy mills in the country.

