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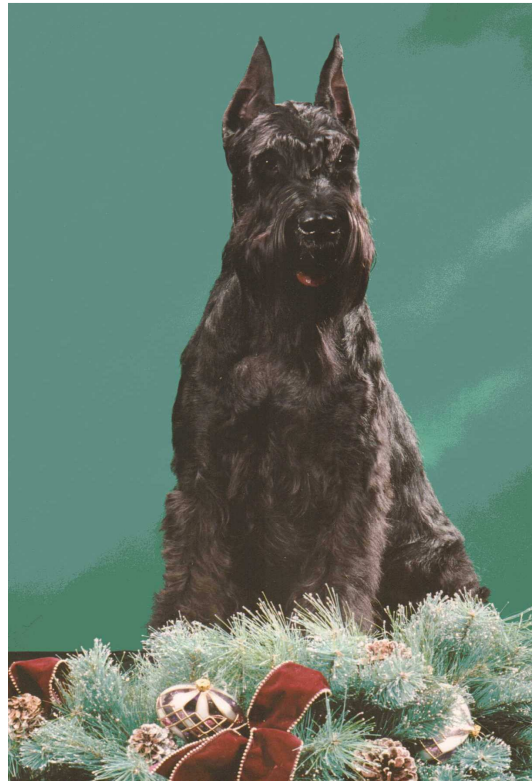
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**REMEMBER, your donation is TAX DEDUCTABLE!**

# HT-Z Rescue RoundUp!



**Christmas 2011**

HT-Z Giant Schnauzer Rescue

*Happy holidays from the HT-Z family to yours!  
Message From The President*

*This has been an exciting year for HT-Z Giant Schnauzer Rescue. First a thank you to all who so generously supported HT-Z throughout the year. In these challenging economic times it is good to know that you still have continued to support HT-Z in whatever amount. The support of our raffle far exceeded our expectations.*

*Your positive response, comments and suggestions for the Rescue RoundUp! have been wonderful also and I know our Director of Communications and Information, Lisa Armitage, looks forward to bringing you more stories and news in 2012,*

*As the holiday season approaches and we all get busy with the rush that has become the "holidays", take a few minutes from the hustle and bustle and just sit with your Giant, give them a hug and just RELAX!*

*I, as well as the rest of the HT-Z organization volunteers wish you and yours a joyous and peaceful holiday season and a Happy New Year!*

*Carolyn Janak*

*President and Founder*

*HT-Z Giant Schnauzer Rescue, Inc.*

# Helpful Hints For a Safe Holiday Season

## Holiday Safeguards

The winter season brings lots of fun holiday festivities, but pet-owners should keep in mind the following special precautions:



- The holidays are not ideal for introducing a pet into your family. New puppies and dogs require extra attention and a stable environment, which the holiday season doesn't permit. Also, a puppy is not a toy or gift that can be returned. Instead, the AKC suggests giving a gift representative of the dog to come, such as a toy, a leash, or a bed.
- Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia plants are pet poisons! Make sure they are kept in places your dog cannot reach.
- Review holiday gifts for dogs to make sure they are safe. Items such as plastic toys and small rawhide sticks may be dangerous.
- Remove holiday lights from lower branches of your tree. They may get very hot and burn dogs.
- Watch out for electrical cords. Pets often try to chew them and may get badly shocked or electrocuted. Place wires out of reach.
- Avoid using glass ornaments. They break easily and may cut a dog's feet and mouth.
- Refrain from using edible ornaments. Your dog may knock the tree over in an attempt to eat them. Also, commercial ornaments may contain paint or toxins in the preservatives.
- Whether your tree is live or artificial, both kinds of needles are sharp and indigestible. Don't leave your dog unattended in the room with the tree.
- Tinsel is dangerous for dogs. It may obstruct circulation and, if swallowed, block the intestines.
- Alcohol and chocolate are toxic for dogs, even in small amounts. Keep unhealthy, sweet treats and seasonal goodies out of reach.
- The holiday season is a stressful time for dogs. Try to keep a normal schedule during all the excitement.

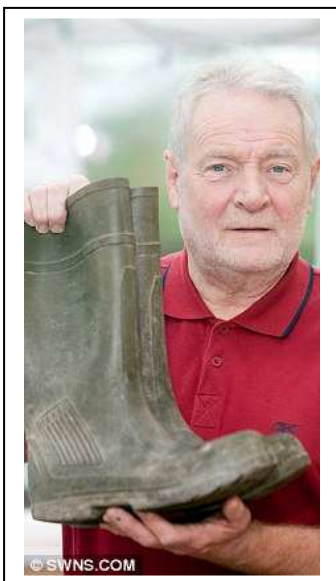


## *Hero dog drags his owner home after he is knocked unconscious by lightning bolt*

*Editor's Note: This story is being reprinted in this month's Rescue RoundUp! in lieu of a Success Story. We thought this was such a wonderful story to remind us how great this breed truly is.*



Saviours: Ian Thomas with Monty at his home in Redruth, Cornwall, and the wellington boots



A faithful dog rescued his owner by dragging him home after he was struck by an enormous lightning bolt.

Ian Thomas, 64, was taking his German schnauzer Monty out for an early morning walk when he was struck by a bolt so powerful he would have been killed if he had not been wearing wellington boots.

The bolt threw Mr. Thomas, who is the Mayor of Redruth in Cornwall, into the air and knocked him out.

He regained consciousness when five-year-old Monty, who had also been struck, began licking his face.

Mr. Thomas struggled to stand but only managed to stagger several paces before he collapsed.

He managed to wrap his arms around Monty, who responded by dragging him the 100 yards home.

Mr. Thomas' shocked wife Sharen, 42, then took him straight him to hospital.

He told the Daily Mirror: 'I heard what seemed like an explosion in my head and the dog scream.

'I knew I wasn't dead because I could feel excruciating pain. I just trusted my instincts, reached out and grabbed hold of Monty'.

When Mr. Thomas stumbled through the door his terrified wife thought he was having a heart attack.

Mrs. Thomas, 42, told the Daily Express: 'He just walked in the front door and collapsed. I just knew we had to get him straight to hospital.

'He was confused and looked in pain. Monty was frightened too and ran into the house and covered his face with his paw'.

Doctors said the electrical charge of the bolt that hit Mr. Thomas on October 17 was so huge that it would have killed him if it were not for his rubber wellies.

Mr. Thomas suffered burns to his head and hip and had to spend four days in hospital but has since made a full recovery.

*By Nadia Gilani*

## *Winter Care Tips for Canines*

### **General Concerns**

Winter's cold air brings many concerns for responsible dog owners. Keep the following precautions in mind:

- Don't leave your dog outside in the cold for long periods of time. Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature, and limit its time outdoors.
- Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your dog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.
- Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes, rivers or ponds. Your dog could slip or jump in and get seriously injured.
- Groom your dog regularly. Your dog needs a well-groomed coat to keep properly insulated. Short- or coarse-haired dogs may get extra cold, so consider a sweater or coat. Long-haired dogs should have excess hair around the toes and foot pads trimmed to ease snow removal and cleaning. If you do the trimming, take care not to cut the pads or other delicate area of the foot.
- Feed your dog additional calories if it spends a lot of time outdoors or is a working animal. It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary.
- Towel or blow-dry your dog if it gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean its paws, too. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.
- Don't leave your dog alone in a car. If the car engine is left on, the carbon monoxide will endanger your dog's life. If the engine is off, the temperature in the car will get too cold.



### **Health Tips**

Dogs cannot talk to us when they are sick. As a responsible dog owner, it is important to pay special attention to your dog's well-being during the winter season. Remember the following health concerns:

- Antifreeze, which often collects on driveways and roadways, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, it can be lethal.
- Rock salt, used to melt ice on sidewalks, may irritate footpads. Be sure to rinse and dry your dog's feet after a walk.
- Provide plenty of fresh water. Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer. Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.
- Frostbite is your dog's winter hazard. To prevent frostbite on its ears, tail and feet, don't leave your dog outdoors for too long.
- Be very careful of supplemental heat sources. Fireplaces and portable heaters can severely burn your dog. Make sure all fireplaces have screens, and keep portable heaters out of reach.
- Like people, dogs seem to be more susceptible to illness in the winter. Take your dog to a veterinarian if you see any suspicious symptoms.
- Don't use over-the-counter medications on your dog without consulting a veterinarian.