

"And a Brag for the Min Pin!"

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Editors Note: Thank you to Velda Pearson for spotting this article about our favorite breed. Congratulations to MPCA Member Michael F. Widhalm, La Vista, NE and Shansu. The following item is courtesy of Michael F. Widhalm, LaVista, NE. He is justly proud of his little Shansu and a big round of congratulations are due him for his super accomplishments!

"In one of your columns for Front and Finish, you mentioned that you rarely hear of the accomplishments of the "other" Toy dogs. I have been training with a Miniature Pinscher for about 7 years. We started our show career in Oct. of 1992.

This has been my first experience in training a dog and until then, I did not even know there was a sport of dog obedience. I have been learning the art of obedience training at the same time as I have been training my Min Pin.

We progressed through Novice easily and earned our CD in the first three shows we entered. The Open exercises took a while to master, but again we managed to earn a CDX in three straight shows. We continued to show in Open B while we tackled the grueling task of learning the Utility exercises. We weren't quite as successful in Utility and it took us eight shows for a UD.

While preparing for our Utility debut, we collected a U-CD and U-CDX with 5 UKC HIT's (High In Trials) and one perfect 200.

We started our campaign for UDX in June of 1997 and 23 shows later, we picked up that title--in Oct 1998--from the same show sponsor that gave us our start. Other trainers may say that six years is a long time, but during that time I have learned a great deal about dogs, dog training, and developing trust and teamwork.

I am very proud of our accomplishments--especially since U-CDX Shansu UDX is the first and only miniature Pinscher in the country to earn the Utility Dog Excellent title. And we are not finished yet!

Thanks for letting world know that Toy dogs can do as much as the "Big Dogs."

Michael F. Widhalm.

Congratulations, Michael, on a job well done. Not too many dogs of any breed or size can claim a 200!

Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.