

AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB
Member of the American Kennel Club

April 2012

Volume CB21

Issue 4

SPECIALTY WINS

Chicago MSC
February 28, 2012

Regular Classes

Judge: Mr. Peter Green

WD... Repitition's Rockafella/Garmaker
RWD... Drydock Traveler/Pletsch
WB/BOW/BOS ... Amaya's Whiskey
Lullaby/Hillman
RWB... Wards Creek's Taylor Made/
Schnetzer
BOB... GCH Allaruth Just Kidding V Sole
Baye/Phelps/Ziegler
SEL... GCH Rampages Fast and Furious/
Gonzalez/Ramel/Hudziak
BPuppy... Myla's I Hope You Dance/
Sicurella/Garmaker

PLEASE NOTE

We are changing the Judge's balloting process this year by putting the ballots in your AMSCOPE. This is being done to help keep costs down. The balloting process costs the club in excess of \$700/year.

Please....be sure to mail in your ballot

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Dogs Get Cancer Like People, and Hold Clues to Cures

By AMY DOCKSER MARCUS

Researchers hoping to develop a promising new approach to treating cancer in people are trying it in another group: pet dogs.

The aim of personalized medicine is to design an optimum cancer therapy after analyzing genes in a patient's tumor. Dogs, which have strong genetic similarities with humans, get many of the same types of cancers as people and have similar responses to cancer-fighting drugs. When diagnosed, dogs often have a shorter survival time than humans, allowing researchers to see if a drug is making a difference in a shorter period.

In people, it can take three to five years from the time they are diagnosed until the disease reaches an advanced stage. But in dogs, trials testing whether novel drug therapies extend survival can be finished in six to 18 months, says Melissa Paoloni, director of the Comparative Oncology Trials Consortium at the National Cancer Institute.

Canine patients also are easier to enroll in clinical trials. When cancer researchers last year wanted to do a genetic study of cocker spaniels, a breed at relatively high risk of getting melanoma, and Great Pyrenees, who are at risk for osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, they contacted PetSmart Inc., the Phoenix-based national chain of pet stores. Making use of its big database, PetSmart sent out 117,000 emails to cocker spaniel and Great Pyrenees owners who had entered contact information after bringing in their pets for grooming. The request: Has your dog been diagnosed with cancer and would you be willing to have your dog's genetic information analyzed?

Within a week, nearly 300 pet owners responded with an offer to send saliva samples to be analyzed. That kind of large and speedy response in a human study is very difficult to achieve, says Jeffrey Trent, who organized the pet study. Dr. Trent is president and research director at Translational Genomics Research Institute in Phoenix, which is participating in a privately funded effort to develop personalized treatments for people with certain types of melanoma. If the personalized medicine approach

"makes a difference in treating the canines," Dr. Trent says, "it can readily be moved into trial in humans."

All cancers are believed to have genetic features, though what particular mutation or other aberration is involved with each type of tumor often isn't known. When this information is discovered, through genetic sequencing, for example, tests can be done to see if the tumor responds to any of various drugs or combinations of drugs.

Although the cost of sequencing a genome has plummeted, it is still expensive and therefore not readily available to the vast majority of patients. And, in line with accepted standards of care, new agents are traditionally tried only in people who have advanced disease or have failed to respond to traditional therapies. With dogs, drugs and different drug combinations can be tried in newly diagnosed animals.

The use of so-called targeted therapies to treat some cancers is considered an early form of personalized medicine. For example, women with a certain kind of breast cancer in which testing shows the Her2 gene is over-expressed are given the drug Herceptin. Last year, the Food and Drug Administration approved a drug to treat patients whose melanoma tumors express a BRAF gene mutation.

One question researchers face is whether a patient's tumor can be analyzed, and a treatment recommendation formulated, quickly enough to allow doctors to make clinical decisions. Working with dogs, Dr. Paoloni and colleagues conducted a pilot study last year to see if they could accomplish this in less than a week. The researchers enrolled 31 dogs with different types of cancer, including lymphoma and melanoma. The result: A genetic analysis of each dog's cancer and a report listing which chemotherapy agents might best treat it, was generated for each dog in under five days, a "feasible" time frame for treatment, says Dr. Paoloni.

Researchers, including those at the Na-
Cont'd on p.3, col. 3... **CANCER**

LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change.

*DECALS & PINS. You can get AMSC decals (\$1.00) and Replacement pins (\$7.50) from:

Mary Ann Shandor
2302 Cumberland Court, SW
Decatur, AL 35602
256-351-6942
tuckarry@aol.com

*LOCAL CLUBS...please be sure to include *all* information when sending Specialty tear sheets for inclusion in AMSCOPE e.g. Judges, dates, entry, obedience.

* LOCAL CLUBS...PLEASE send a copy of your newsletter to the following members of the Local Club Bulletin Committee:

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The deadline for the May issue is April 18.

President's Message

Happy spring! I hope many of you will be at our 2012 Roving Specialty in Fort Worth this month. Kim Griffin and Laurie Darman-Owen have done a great job organizing this event. Sonny Lelle has put together another Obedience national for us there.

**** We are changing the Judge's balloting process this year by putting the ballots in your AMSCOPE. This is being done to help keep costs down. The balloting process costs the club in excess of \$700/year. ****

Start planning now for our 2013 Roving, which will be a combined all-Schnauzer, only-Schnauzer weekend with the Standard and Giant parent clubs. We are calling it Schnauzapolooza. It will be special; do not miss it. More info will be in AMSC very soon.

I want to thank all of the members that voted on our Standard Change initiative. We needed as close to the full membership to vote as possible and we were able to succeed at that with 79% of the membership responding. Your Board and I really appreciate it. I want to thank Bev Verna, Vicki Kubic, and Gloria Lewis for their great efforts of outreach to the membership to remind us to vote.

The results of our balloting for our 2 proposed Standard Changes which closed on 1/31/2012 are below. As mandated in our bylaws 2/3 of the entire membership must approve a change to our standard. We have 537 voting members. 358 affirmative votes were needed to pass each amendment. Both changes passed.

Proposed Change #1: Tail - set high and carried erect. It is docked only long enough to be clearly visible over the backline of the body when the dog is in proper length of coat. **A properly presented Miniature Schnauzer will have a docked tail as described; all others should be severely penalized.**

Fault: Tail set too low.

358 for ; 63 against; 116 non-returned

Proposed Change #2: COLOR: The recognized colors are **Allowed colors:** salt and pepper, black and silver and solid black. All colors have uniform skin pigmentation, i.e. no white or pink skin patches shall appear anywhere on the dog **and the nose must be solid black.**

Disqualifications: **Color-solid-white Dogs not of an allowed color** or white striping, patching, or spotting on the colored areas of the dog, except for the small white spot permitted on the chest of the black. The body coat color in salt and pepper and black and silver dogs fades out to light gray or silver white under the throat and across the chest. Between them there exists a natural body coat color. Any irregular or connecting blaze or white mark in this section is considered a white patch on the

body, which is also a disqualification. **Nose any color other than solid black.**

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Dogs or bitches under 12 inches or over 14 inches.

Color-solid-white Dogs not of an allowed color or white striping, patching, or spotting on the colored areas of the dog, except for the small white spot permitted on the chest of the black. The body coat color in salt and pepper and black and silver fades out to light gray or silver white under the throat and across the chest. Between them there exists a natural body coat color. Any irregular or connecting blaze or white mark in this section is considered a white patch on the body, which is also a disqualification.

Nose any color other than solid black.

404 for ; 17 against; 116 non-returned

This has been sent to AKC for final Board approval and a date to go into effect, which should be mid-year.

GWTA ACOMODATIONS

Block rates are available at the following hotels under GWTA.

Queen Mary, 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach, CA. 562.432.6964. Special rate \$119.00 per night. A one time non-refundable pet fee of \$75.00.

Due to the popularity of this hotel, the busy travel season and the overwhelming demand for hotel rooms on board the Queen Mary, an early cancellation policy will be in effect for The Queen Mary. If for some reason you are unable to keep any part of your hotel reservation, please keep in mind you MUST make all cancellations by 5 P.M. local time on Wednesday May 23, 2012.

HOTEL CURRENT 5325 East Pacific Coast Hwy, Long Beach, CA 562.597.1341 or 800.990.9991
SPECIAL RATE: \$89.00 per night.

No Pet deposit. Reservation deadline May 30, 2012. Make reservations directly with hotels.

The following motels and hotels also allow dogs. Some require a non refundable pet deposit.

The Marriott, Long Beach Airport: 4711 Airport Plaza Drive, Long Beach: 562.425.5210

Holiday Inn, Long Beach Airport, 2640 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach: 562.597.4401

CANCER...cont'd from . p. 1, col 3

tional Cancer Institute, plan to launch three clinical trials later this year in dogs with osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, angiosarcoma, a blood-vessel cancer, and melanoma, the deadly skin cancer. The trials will test combinations of medicines based on the genetics of the dogs' tumors. They also will try to analyze whether drug regimens based on personalized tumor data can prevent cancer from spreading to other organs and lead to longer survival.

The researchers say they believe that trying to understand how to stop metastasis in dogs' cancer will offer insights into the process in human cancers as well.

Stephen Gately heads a group at Translational Genomics that is setting up clinical trials on personalized medicine for people. Dr. Gately wanted his dog, Bob, to benefit from the approach after the pet got cancer last year. Working with colleagues, he had a biopsy from the dog's cancer in one of his lymph nodes analyzed for genetic information.

It took a while for Dr. Gately to realize that Bob, a Bernese Mountain Dog, was sick. "Dogs with cancer are very good at covering up when they are not feeling well," the Scottsdale, Ariz., resident says. But one day, Bob came in from outdoors coughing and seemed to have difficulty breathing. The vet found enlarged lymph nodes in Bob's neck and a biopsy revealed he had lymphosarcoma, an aggressive form of lymphoma that is prevalent in dogs.

Bob was treated with the same drugs humans get for lymphoma. The pet's disease progressed so rapidly, however, that after a family celebration at Christmas time, they decided to put the dog to sleep. He was never enrolled in a formal personalized medicine trial.

"I know we can do better than the old drugs," says Dr. Gately. Bob's data are being studied at the institute and will be used to help develop future personalized-medicine trials, Dr. Gately says.

ERRATA: Last month, it was announced that Raja, Mythago's Moonlight Mirage, was the first triple champion MS.Raja is not a Triple Champion even though she has 3 titles. In order to be a Triple Champion, the dog has to have either a Herding or TD title for one of the Triples. Raja is the 1st CH,OTCH MACH Miniature Schnauzer and about #34 in All Breeds to have achieved all three titles. A wonderful achievement

States Cracking Down On Dogs Behind The Wheel

by Ross Kenneth Urken

The Danger For Pets On The Road

If it's any indication of the danger free-roaming pets face in a vehicle, New Hampshire, the country's only state that does not have a mandatory seat belt law, actually requires dogs to buckle up.

Live free or die, goes the state's motto, but Spike and Spot don't have that liberty. And with due reason. Seven other states, Connecticut, California, Massachusetts, Nevada, Washington, Oregon and Rhode Island require owners to kennel or tether animals because of the severe danger the sudden stops and potential collisions pose to pets. An unrestrained dog can land you with a ticket between \$50 and \$200.

Animal lovers would almost always rather take their pet with them to run errands or on a road trip than leave them at home or at a pet motel. But for all that love for canines, most drivers have seen "dog people" take things too far, driving with their dogs in their laps or lying around their shoulders like a neck pillow and, yes, sometimes at the wheel.

And it's a double dose of danger: for the distracted driver and the unrestrained animal.

"If you make a sudden stop, your dog can be thrown through the windshield," said Loretta Worters, spokesperson for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. "He could also be thrown to the floor and interfere with access to gas and brake pedals."

The epidemic is so high that some insurance companies like Progressive and State Farm are offering collision coverage for customers' dogs or cats at no additional premium cost. The insurance will pay up to \$1,000 if a customer's dog or cat suffers injury or death.

Even a few innocent doggie licks can be like sending a text message, removing your attention from the task at hand.

"If you get into an accident, an unrestrained pet is launched forward like a missile, through the windshield and outside the car," said Dr. Kat Miller, Director of Applied Science and Research for the ASPCA. "If he survives he'll make a run for it, out of fear and pain."

Traveling while holding them in your lap isn't any safer. If the car has airbags and the pet is in the front seat, he will be

crushed by the airbag when it deploys, and he will also crush your own chest if he's still on your lap between you and the airbag.

According to BarkBuckleUp.com, when driving 35 mph, a 60-pound unrestrained dog can cause an impact of 2,700 pounds, slamming into a car seat, windshield or passenger. Talk about letting the dogs out.

An injured or scared pet may bite someone trying to help.

Perhaps the most distressing for dog lovers is the familiar southern sight of dogs riding in the back of an open pick-up going down the highway at 60, 70, 80 miles per hour. It boils down to simple logic: driving with a dog loose in the car is stupid. People who will go bananas to get the perfect doggie treat for Fido, but might do well to consider his sensitive cerebral cortex instead.

Bouquets & Biscuits

* **Am.Can.Ch. Minuteman Metropolis** finished his AKC title on January 18th, 2012, going Best of Winners at the Portland MSC under Jeri Muntis, in a brief title quest that included Best of Winners at AMSC Mont.Co. "Gotham" was bred, owned, and handled by Catherine McMillan and Karen Prokopetz and is the second champion for Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Locomotion and Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Madrid.

*On March 17th, 2012 new **Am.Can.Ch. Minuteman Safety Last** completed his title at the Evansville KC. "Sprite" finished in only 6 shows, at which he was Best of Winners or better at 5. Handled by his co-owner Krystal Mason, he was bred by Catherine McMillan and Karen Prokopetz and is the third champion for his sire, Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Locomotion and dam, Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Madrid.

Babies Who Live with Pets May Have Fewer Allergies

By Dr. Becker

Until fairly recently, many people assumed exposing children to dogs and cats is what creates pet allergies. But according to a number of recent studies, if exposure takes place during the first year or two of life, it can actually protect children against future development of allergic sensitivities. And what's especially interesting is exposure to pets in infancy can not only reduce the risk for allergies to pet hair and dander, but to certain other environmental allergens as well.

2011 Study: Infants with Cats in the Home Have 50 Percent Fewer Cat Allergies

A study published last year in the journal *Clinical & Experimental Allergy* followed over 550 kids from birth to the age of 18, and regularly gathered data from the children's families about the presence of indoor pets.

At the end of the study, blood samples were taken to test the study participants for allergies to cats and dogs.

The kids who had a cat at home during their first year of life were 50 percent less likely to be allergic to cats than the children not exposed from birth to one year.

And a decreased risk of allergy to dogs was revealed in boys who had dogs in the home during their first year.

The same protective effect against dog allergies wasn't as strong in the girls in the study.

Researchers concluded exposure to pets at later ages didn't make much of a difference.

It was exposure during infancy that was important, leading study authors to conclude, *"The first year of life is the critical period during childhood when indoor exposure to dogs or cats influences sensitization to these animals."*

2009 Study: Kids with Both Cats and Dogs Less Likely to Have Allergies at Age 13

In a 2009 study², pet ownership between birth and age 9, and between 18 and 32 was investigated. Allergy (skin prick) tests were performed on study participants at 13 and 32 years.

Study results showed children who lived with both a cat and a dog were less likely to have allergies at 13. However, living with just a cat or a dog did not provide the same benefit. For the kids who were not allergic by age 13, having both a dog and cat in adulthood resulted in lower risk of new allergies by age 32.

2008 Study: Living With a Dog in Early Childhood Protects Infants Against Inhalant Allergies

The objective of a study published in 2008 was to determine if the effects of exposure to pets on immune development and allergies in young children could be explained by changes in exposure to innate immune stimuli in settled dust.

The study authors' conclusion: *Exposure to dogs in infancy, and especially around the time of birth, is associated with changes in immune development and reductions in wheezing and atopy [allergic hypersensitivity]. These findings are not explained by exposure to endotoxin, ergosterol, or muramic acid.*



Another 2008 study published in the journal of the European Respiratory Society investigated the link between contact with dogs and exposure to endotoxins during infancy, and the development of allergies up to 6 years of age.

Researchers concluded children exposed to a dog in the home during early childhood had a significantly lower rate of mixed pollen and inhalant sensitivity from birth to 6. Interestingly, this study did not find that these children had less sensitivity to dogs despite early exposure.

Kids who had regular contact with dogs, but who did not actually live with one, did not have reduced rates of pollen and inhalant sensitivity similar to the children who lived with dogs in the home.

Study results did not link house dust endotoxin exposure during infancy and development of allergies.

The researchers concluded living with a dog during early childhood protects against inhalant allergies.

2005 Study: Early Cat Ownership Significantly Lowered Cat Allergy and Allergic Rhinitis

A study of children with respiratory symptoms living in Liguria, Italy looked at the link between early cat ownership and development of allergic rhinitis.

This study, published in 2005, concluded

early cat ownership significantly lowered the risk of developing allergies to cats. It was also linked with a significantly lower risk of allergic rhinitis than cat ownership later in life, or no cat ownership.

Study authors' conclusions: *Cat ownership in early childhood can play an important role in preventing sensitization to cat and in lowering the frequency of allergic rhinitis, at least in children with the characteristics of the population studied.*

2002 Study: Infants Exposed to 2 or More Dogs or Cats During Their First Year Had Fewer Allergies to Pets, Dust Mites and Ragweed

A study published a dozen years ago in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* evaluated the link between dog and cat exposure in the first year of life and allergic sensitization at the age of 6 to 7.

Researchers concluded children exposed to two or more dogs or cats during their first year were less likely to develop allergies to not only dog and cat hair, but also dust mites and ragweed.

Pet Allergies and the Hygiene Hypothesis

The theory of the hygiene hypothesis, born in the late 1980's, is that the huge increase in allergic disorders in the last century is due in part to our somewhat obsessive cleanliness standards.

Since the advent of anti-bacterial products for every conceivable use, we've become hyper vigilant in trying to avoid every germ in the environment. On the surface this might seem like a sensible approach, but not everyone is convinced.

It is thought that early exposure to bacteria and parasites prepares immature immune systems to fight dangerous infections. Further, this 'priming' of the immune system also helps it learn the difference between serious health hazards like a pneumonia infection, and harmless irritants like pet dander and pollen.

According to the hygiene hypothesis, when the immune system remains naïve from lack of exposure to real pathogens, it is more likely to mount attacks against benign environmental triggers.

It's possible, then, that exposure to pets in the home during the first year of life helps a child's immune system become balanced in terms of recognizing pet hair and dander for what it is — harmless.

WHAT IS A FUTURITY

A futurity is a contest for which the prize consists of stakes contributed by the various competitors. It's a bit like making a bet (nomination fees) that your unborn litter will produce a high quality individual who can win the money. The fun and challenge in a futurity is that the litter is nominated after its bred but before it is born. Or in our case up to 30 days after birth for a higher fee. This then allows all puppies from that litter to be eligible for nomination individually for the competition. The greater the participation the higher the stakes winnings. The winnings will be broken down into classes and placements with the largest portion going to the BREEDER of the futurity winner. Many breeds hold both sweepstakes and futurity shows. Breeds with very large entries have stakes winning in the thousands of dollars sometimes. Ours with good participation could have a stakes winner of several hundred dollars. I like to think of a futurity as a sweepstakes with "ATTITUDE"! Sounds like fun right? I hope you all will consider supporting our first ever futurity by placing litter nominations starting now. For detailed information please read all of the futurity rules and nomination forms provided in the AMSC yahoo group files that were published earlier.

AMSC FUTURITY 2013!!

We are officially announcing another exciting opportunity for AMSC members.

A futurity stakes competition will be held at the roving national specialty during the week long activities at Purina Farms in St. Louis Missouri in 2013!

Litter nominations have opened and can be received now. Futurity rules and both litter and individual nomination forms can be viewed and down loaded from the AMSC yahoo groups files or the AMSC website.

Any questions regarding the futurity can be directed to me Beth Santure, Futurity Chair. at: bjasanture@peoplepc.com

The larger the participation, the larger the stakes prizes to be won and the more exciting the competition will be.

Please support our clubs first ever National Futurity by nominating that special litter which is in whelp now or planned to whelp between now and November 9, 2012.

Black Ribbons

Ch. Repitition's Race To Destineez

March 14, 1999 - March 10, 2012

Breeder - Kurt Garmaker

Owners - Terrie Houck & Cathy Pendleton

We will never forget the beautiful black and silver face that greeted us at Kurt Garmaker's house 13 years ago, when we arrived to pick out a show prospect. We knew right away that she was the one! Tail up, substance, leg, body, expression...and so much more. Little did we know what the future would hold in terms of the legacy she would leave behind. She was a top producer...most notably the dam of Ch. Destineez Running Brave (24 champions), Ch. Destineez Texas Ranger (13 champions). We always talked about putting her in to agility because she was so athletic. We miss seeing her jump around like a bunny rabbit with a toy in her mouth...something we see in puppies who come down from her...and something that will make us smile even more when we see it in future generations. Picabo...you were so very brave in the end...Rest in Peace beautiful girl.

NEW MEMBER APPLICANT

for JUNE 2012 AMSC Great Western Board Meeting

Millicent C. Conover
597 Decanter Circle
Windsor, CA 95492
Phone: 707-838-0358

Sponsors: Marcia Dawson
Jeri Muntis

Email: mcc7221@comcast.net

Millicent Conover has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers since 2004 and is involved in both Conformation and Agility. She attends approximately 24 agility trials each year. She is a member of the Giant Schnauzer Club of America and she does not breed her dogs. She is a Compliance Specialist and her areas of interest in AMSC is Agility and Health.

TROPHY DRIVE... please don't forget the trophy drive.

Sharon Edwards
21301 Golf Estates DR.
Laytonsville, MD 20882

Trophy Fund Drive, http://amsc.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=

[view&id=131&Itemid=44&mosmsg=Thanks+for+your+submission](http://amsc.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=131&Itemid=44&mosmsg=Thanks+for+your+submission)

GET READY FOR.....MONTGOMERY COUNTY

It's time to begin making your travel plans for Montgomery County 2012!

There are a few changes that Sharon Edwards and I would like to share with you (I'm the "used car salesman" and she's the "closer"):

Due to a change in management, the Doubletree Hotel & Suites in Plymouth Meeting will no longer be a dog friendly establishment. We were one of the first clubs to hear about this (thank you, Brian Bogart) and so began the (frantic) scramble to find another host hotel that would meet the needs of the AMSC.

We have contracted with the Homewood Suites by Hilton @ Philadelphia-Valley Forge as our host hotel in 2012. This award winning spacious all suites hotel is located

near historic Valley Forge National Park, Valley Forge Convention Center, and the King of Prussia Mall. They offer a complimentary hot "Suite Start breakfast" daily, and a complimentary "Welcome Home Reception" which includes a light meal and beverage Monday through Thursday evenings. You will also enjoy complimentary high speed internet access in your room and in all public areas of our hotel.

The studio suites (\$119 per night) are one large open room and the one bedroom suites (\$129 per night) have a wall between the living room and the bedroom. We have an equal number of king/two queen beds being offered to us in the one bedroom suites (first come-first served). All suites have living rooms (with sofa beds) and full

kitchens.

This is a dog friendly hotel. Should you choose to keep your dog in your room, a \$75 non-refundable pet fee is required. There is plenty of outside area for the exercising of your dogs. PLEASE be respectful of the hotel property and pick up after your dogs! Enough said. (We are the only dog club staying at this hotel ... and we want to be asked back next year!)

You are encouraged to begin making your reservations now – please reference the code AMS in making your reservation:

www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email (cathi.rohrer@bcbsnc.com) or call me at 919-656-8834.

Saying No to Poor Quality Pet Food... Even When It's Recommended by Your Vet

by Dr. Becker

Recently the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) added a fifth 'vital health assessment' for veterinarians in determining the health status of their cat and dog patients.

The four existing assessments are: temperature, cardio function, respiratory health, and pain.

The new "5th Vital Assessment"¹ is nutrition.

Per Michael Cavanaugh, DVM, and executor director of the AAHA: *"Incorporating nutritional assessment into the routine examination protocol for every patient is important for maintaining optimal health, as well as their response to disease and injury."*

The goal of the new guidelines is to provide a framework for the veterinary practice team to help make nutritional assessments and recommendations for their patients."

Integrative and holistically-oriented vets have always done nutritional assessments on our patients.

In fact, I view species-appropriate nutrition as the first and most influential of the three pillars of health - the other two pillars being a sound, resilient body and a balanced, functional immune system.

And while I applaud the traditional veterinary community's addition of a nutritional assessment in determining the well-being of dogs and cats, I'm a little concerned with where this initiative could be headed.

Here is how the AAHA introduced their new "5th Vital Assessment" initiative in October 20102:

DENVER — Nutrition is integral to optimal pet care. However, the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) found through its Compliance Study that only seven percent of pets that could benefit from a therapeutic food were actually on such a regimen.

The compliance discrepancy along with the many factors considered in assessing the nutritional needs of a healthy dog or cat, as well as the pet with one or more medical conditions, led to the development the AAHA Nutritional Assessment Guidelines.

The phrase 'therapeutic food' gives me pause, especially when I see that a major manufacturer of 'therapeutic' pet food has provided an educational grant to print the AAHA Nutritional Assessment Guidelines for Dogs and Cats³ in several languages.

Coming Soon to a Veterinarian Near You

... a big push to switch your pet to a 'therapeutic' dog or cat food.

My discomfort with the therapeutic food angle grew when I came across a PetfoodIndustry.com article in January of this year.

According to the article, the same pet food manufacturer who provided an educational grant to the AAHA "... will make regular visits to more than 22,000 veterinary hospitals and clinics to help build support for and implement nutritional recommendations as the '5th Vital Assessment' in pet healthcare."

To accomplish this the pet food company plans, among other things, to add sales staff to call more frequently on vet offices across the country in order to sell more therapeutic pet foods.

Then I came across another PetfoodIndustry.com news item, also from January, announcing that a pet health insurance provider is adding coverage for therapeutic pet food.

According to the article, "... coverage now includes half the cost of therapeutic pet foods purchased through a veterinarian to assist in care of a pet for two months."

'Therapeutic' Pet Food Ingredients

Revealed

The following is a list of the first five ingredients in some of the therapeutic pet foods you may hear a sales pitch for the next time you take your pet to the vet for a wellness exam.

A can of dog food to improve cardiac health in senior dogs:

- Water
- Corn Flour
- Pork Liver
- Rice Flour
- Beef By-Products

Dry dog food marketed for canine renal health:

- Brewers Rice
- Pork Fat
- Dried Egg Product
- Flaxseed
- Corn Gluten Meal

Regular readers here will immediately recognize the remarkably inferior, species inappropriate ingredients in these pet foods.

For the uninitiated:

· By-products are what are left after all the good stuff is harvested for the human food industry. Beaks, feet, feathers, wattles and combs are chicken by-products. There

could be something beneficial thrown in, like the heart or gizzard, but because there's such potential for undesirable pieces and parts in 'by-products,' it's better to avoid them altogether.

· Corn in any form (including corn gluten meal, whole grain corn, corn flour, etc.) is an extremely allergenic food and difficult to digest. It's also one of the three crops most highly contaminated with aflatoxins.

· Brewers rice is a low quality ingredient that also happens to be a by-product. In addition, it's a grain. Grains are not species-appropriate nutrition for carnivores.

Read here for the secret to cracking the code on your dog's (or cat's) pet food label.

Just Say No to 'Therapeutic'

Pet Foods

Unfortunately, veterinary students don't learn much about nutrition in their coursework. They graduate, go into practice, and become easy targets for pet food companies eager to fill their reception areas and storage closets with inferior quality 'prescription' diets for dogs and cats.

Now that the AAHA has added nutrition as the 5th vital assessment of a pet's health, I think many pet owners will be hearing more about diets during vet visits. I also suspect many of these conversations will end with a recommendation to buy a 'prescription' (therapeutic) pet food to take home with you.

I absolutely do not recommend the extremely low quality, species-inappropriate pet food formulas being sold through vet practices as 'therapeutic.'

I encourage my Natural Pet clients and all of you reading here to learn everything you can about the vital importance of biologically appropriate, high quality nutrition to the health and longevity of your pet.

I believe the more informed pet parents are about the type of food dogs and cats need to thrive, the less vulnerable they'll be to a sales pitch for low quality pet food - even when it's recommended by a veterinarian.

FLEECE VESTS

also

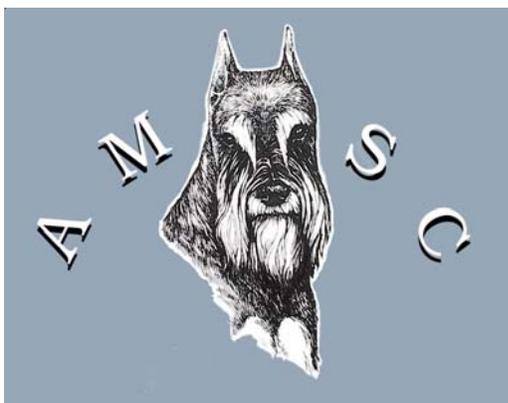
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Unisex sizes S-XXL

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These high quality polar fleece vests have the new logo embroidered on the left side of the vest. They come in men's sizes in two colors-royal blue and light grey. The women's sizes come in two colors-raspberry and heather.

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new logo on floor mats and vests

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These striking logo mats are dye injected and are made of high quality nylon and are 100% launderable in cold water. They can be used indoors or outdoors, since they can be washed but will last longer if not subjected to extreme weather. They will be perfect for grooming room, offices, motor homes, condos, or to stack your puppies on. They measure 22" X 33".

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This beautiful colorful woven 100% cotton afghan of Miniature Schnauzers in a garden setting will be a keepsake. Black, Salt/Pepper and Black/Silver Minis are at home on green grass with colorful shrubs, trees and flowers in the background. Lori Bush and Mildred Shultz collaborated with the artist at We Love Country on this very unique design.

\$75. Includes Shipping

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stone, red or royal

\$25. includes postage



NEW GYM BAGS

water-resistant fabric
outside and end pockets
bright red color

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SWEATSHIRT in STEEL BLUE
SIZES: SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE,
XL, XXL

\$45. includes postage

FRONT



BACK



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SWEATSHIRT	_____	_____	@\$40.00 =	\$ _____
AFGHAN	_____	_____	@\$75.00 =	\$ _____
GYM BAG	_____	_____	@\$55.00 =	\$ _____
APRON	_____	_____	@\$25.00 =	\$ _____
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Shipping Overseas add \$10.00 (US)



AMSCOPE

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UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

CSMSC April 5, 2012
Regular Classes: Mrs. Chris Levy
Sweepstakes: Mr. Pat Jacobs

MSC of Atlanta April 15, 2012
Regular Judge: Mrs Chris Levy
Sweeps Judge: Mrs. Gwyn Mathis

Gateway MSC May 3, 2012
Regular Classes: Merle Taylor
Sweepstakes: Teresa Handlen
Obedience: Bill Oxandale

Greater Cincinnati MSC May 24, 2011
Regular Classes: Judy A Smith
Sweeps : William (Jim) Livsey ,III

Centennial State MSC June 1, 2012
Regular Classes: Michael Dougherty
Sweeps: Kathleen Dvorak

CMSC/GLATA June 16, 2012
Regular Classes: Richard Miller
Sweeps: Chris Walkowicz

MSC of Southern California June 22, 2012
Regular Classes: Desmond Murphy
Sweeps: Yvonne Phelps

MSCSC/GWTA June 23, 2012
Regular Classes: David Kirkland
Sweeps: Patricia O'Brien

Milshore MSC July 27, 2012
Regular Classes: Connie Clark
Sweeps: Michael Obradovich

Twin Cities MSC August 24, 2012
Regular Classes: Pat Hastings
Sweepstakes: Sunny Lambert

AMSC SPECIALTIES

Great Western June 24, 2012
Regular Classes: Lynda Berar
Sweepstakes: Santos Diaz

Montgomery Co. October 7, 2012
Regular Classes: Ken McDermott
Sweepstakes : Linda Drost

Roving, Grays Summit, Mo. May 11, 2013
Regular Classes: Clay Coady
Sweeps: Brian Bogart
Futurity: Amy Gordon

Great Western June 23, 2013
Regular Classes Michelle Billings
Sweeps: Patty Ledgerwood

Montgomery Co. October 6, 2013
Regular Classes Penny Hirstein
Sweeps Joan Huber

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: The following information is given to help conduct AMSC business more efficiently. Please remember that the Secretary and the AMSCOPE editor should **BOTH** be notified of address changes, club officers and specialty results.

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NOMINATIONS OF JUDGES
for Specialties Regular Judges and Sweepstakes
Spring 2014 Summer 2014 Fall 2014

Please nominate three (3) judges for Regular Classes and three (3) different judges for the sweepstakes classes. The full name of each nominee must be shown. **DO NOT** use nicknames or professional names. Addresses are not required. It is requested that, where possible addresses for the Sweepstakes nominees be provided on the back of ballot to aid the committee in contacting them.

BALLOTS MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED, SIGNED BY THE AMSC MEMBER, AND RETURNED TO THE CHAIRPERSON BY April 17, 2012. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ALL INSTRUCTIONS AS PROVIDED HEREIN WILL CAUSE YOUR BALLOT TO BE DISCARDED.

DO NOT NOMINATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR EITHER THE REGULAR CLASSES OR THE SWEEPSTAKES CLASSES. THEY WILL HAVE JUDGED THESE CLASSES WITHIN THE PRECEDING THREE (3) YEARS AND ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION AT THIS TIME.

REGULAR CLASSES

SWEEPSTAKE CLASSES

DO NOT NOMINATE THESE PEOPLE

Dale Miller
Geraldine Kelly
Wyoma Clouss
Carole L. Weinberger
Lynda Berar
Ken McDermott
Clay Coady
Michelle Billings
Penny Hirstein

Lisa Sarvas
Martin Marks
Susie Atherton
Jan Taylor
Santo Diaz
Linda Drost
Brian Bogart
Amy Gordon
Patty Ledgerwood
Joan Huber

REGULAR CLASSES

SWEEPSTAKE CLASSES

- 1. _____ (3 pts)
- 2. _____ (2 pts)
- 3. _____ (1pt)

- 1. _____ (3 pts)
- 2. _____ (2 pts)
- 3. _____ (1 pt)

MEMBER SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

PRINTED NAME OF MEMBER (REQUIRED) _____

- 1 _____ (3 pts)
- 2 _____ (2 pts)
- 3. _____ (1 pt)

- 1. _____ (3 pts)
- 2. _____ (2 pts)
- 3. _____ (1 pt)

MEMBER SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

PRINTED NAME OF MEMBER (REQUIRED) _____

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BALLOTS POSTMARKED AFTER APRIL 17, 2012 WILL BE DISCARDED