



# AMSCOPE

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

April 2017

Volume CB30

Issue 4

## SPECIALTY WINS

### CACTUS STATE MSC

March 3, 2017 - Morning

#### PUPPY-SWEEPSTAKES

**Judge: Stephanie Davis Rae**

BIS ... Carmel Just in Case /Ewer

BOSS ... King's Court Jewel in the Crown/Welton

#### VETERAN-SWEEPSTAKES

BVSD ... GCH Rockyhill Icee's Bkup Plan

Just in Case/Cooper/Reidhead

BVSB ... CH North Pine Maiden Arizona/Palmer

#### REGULAR CLASSES

**Judge: Mr. Darryl Vice**

WD/BOW ... Carmel Just in Case /Ewer (5 pts)

RD ... Dreamaker Raptor /Allen

WB/BOS ... Car\*Benz Slip Slidin' Away (3 pts) /  
Atterbury

RB ... King's Court Jewel in the Crown/Welton

BOB ... GCH Minuteman Justified /Boechler/  
McMillan

SD ... GCH Gaston's Legend /Terrazas

AOM ... GCH North Pine Hitz the Jackpot/Cooper

### CACTUS STATE MSC

March 3, 2017 - Afternoon

#### PUPPY-SWEEPSTAKES

**Judge: Ginny Maese**

BIS ... Carmel Just in Case /Ewer

BOSS ... King's Court Jewel in the Crown/Welton

#### VETERAN-SWEEPSTAKES

BVSD ... GCH Rockyhill Icee's Bkup Plan

Just in Case/Cooper/Reidhead

BVSB ... CH North Pine Maiden Arizona/Palmer

#### REGULAR CLASSES

**Judge: Mr. Richard V Miller**

WD/BOW ... Bachi's High Commander(5pts) /  
Ingram/Hafner

RD ... Carmel Just in Case /Ewer

WB/BOS ... Car\*Benz Slip Slidin' Away (3 pts) /  
Atterbury

RB ... Minuteman Dead Flowers /McMillan

BOB ... GCH Gaston's Legend /Terrazas

SD/AOM ... CH Allaruth Carmel Kidding Around V  
Sole Baye /Ewer

**The deadline  
for the May issue is  
April 15**

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## Become a better pet photographer with these six tips

You know your dog is the most handsome canine on planet earth, but how do you prove it to the world? With today's smartphone technology, taking fantastic pet photos is a snap. Here are some pro tips on how to get the perfect holiday shot of your perfect pet.

### Set the scene

Go outside. The best lighting for photography is on a sunny day out of direct sunlight. Smartphones have great cameras, but they perform best in good lighting. Since dogs aren't so great at holding still, sunshine can make a huge difference in the processing speed of your phone. Try posing your pup under a tree, or next to a wall with a little natural shade. Flash is not recommended for dogs since it can scare them and/or give them creepy demon eyes (not so cute).

### Please feed the models

It may sound obvious, but a well-placed treat can focus your dog's eyes right where you want them. This trick is especially helpful for multi-dog shots like this one here. Grab an assistant and some chicken and you'll be well on your way to Instagram stardom in no time.

### Learn the rule of thirds

Remember the rule of thirds when taking photos. The rule of thirds is a photography technique in which you divide your image using two horizontal lines and two vertical lines. Basically the rule of thirds is all about keeping the subject slightly off center in the frame. Nothing is more boring than a photo with the subject smack square in the center. If you're using an iPhone, take advantage of the grid setting and use it to align your dog's face with one of the middle focal points. Offsetting a focal point helps create a more interesting image.

If your pet is a fidgety little guy, burst mode is your best friend. Most smartphones have this setting, which allows you to capture a rapid series of photographs in one easy shot. The end result is a gem like this, instead of a bunch of blurry hair.

Okay, you tried the burst and it just didn't work. When your wriggly dog refuses to pose, there is still another option. This app, Perfect Pic, lets you turn your videos into still frame photos. Scroll through each frame of your video and save your favorite shots to your camera roll. This technique is infinitely easier than trying to screenshot that perfect moment. You can also try Lively. This app does the same thing but also lets you make live photos if your phone has the capabilities to do so.

### Learn some easy edits

You don't need to be a Photoshop expert! Simple Instagram filters and edits can transform a photo into something special. Use your favorite filters and tools to add drama and color to your best photos while bringing contrast to areas of the photo that your phone couldn't capture. You may also want to re-crop the image to take advantage of the rule of thirds. Improve a blurry photo using Instagram's "edits" using the app's sharpen or structure features. If you're already an Insta edit pro, you can try upgrading to a more advanced photo app that lets you do even more. Try the SnapSeed app to up your pup game.

Are these tips working for you? We'd love to see the results! Tag @linkakc in your Instagram or Facebook photos for a chance to be featured on our social channels.



# 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

Jacquelyn Ebersbach  
424 45th Street

West Palm Beach, FL 33407  
saxonyms@comcast.net

\*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 Bulleting Committee.**

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**Nobody can pull you  
out of the water if  
you have not paid  
your dues!  
So sorry to see you  
go.!**

## DAN KIEDROWSKI

Such a great loss for the Miniature Schnauzer Community...Dan was like a cornerstone for the breed, always there, always publishing all of the news, always happy to do whatever was needed to make Schnauzer Shorts a complete success...I savor every issue and have quite a collection...I also have Dan's books, and they are treasures that I look at often to see what history came before, where it all started and the greats who made it all happen...We have lost a great ambassador of the breed... Rest in Peace Dan, you were loved by many and will be missed by all of us...God Speed Sweet Dan...



### June Glover, Garnet Rock

On February 18, 2017, the Miniature Schnauzer community lost a treasured show breeder and especially, friend. June was part of a circle of hobby/breeders showing in the northeast who were noted for their friendliness, kindness, support of each other, and inclusion to anyone. Handlers from outside the area were astonished when invited to crate and groom with them and even more so when this northeast crowd sat ringside during the Terrier Group cheering for the team that had just defeated their dogs! And then they were invited back to June's camper for dinner with a crowd of other show people and the day's events were replayed and the talk was all dogs. This genuine kindness was led by June and her husband Bob and this was the circle I was invited into when June entrusted me, a beginner, with a beautiful show prospect puppy I named Bernie. Bernie was the first of her Garnet Rock puppies to seriously take part in companion/performance events and what a career he had and how proud she was of his accomplishments! When Bernie went to the AKC National Obedience Invitational in Long Beach, CA, June sent me a check to pay for his entry fee and plane flight. That gesture touched me more than I could ever tell her. June used him 3 times in her breeding program and she would kiddingly remonstrate me for all his titles (46) because they wouldn't fit on his puppies' registration papers. June was a conscientious breeder as proud of the dogs she placed as pets as she was her show dogs. I believe she placed good health, good temperaments and good homes ahead of what she hoped to gain for herself in the breed ring. June leaves behind her husband Bob and a wonderful, close-knit family as well as hundreds of people who are grateful for the beautiful dogs she bred who then became part of our families.

## Help Your Dying Pet End Life in a Kind and Gentle Way

By Dr. Becker

Dr. Alice Villalobos. "Dr. Alice," as she is known, is a University of California-Davis graduate, the director of Pawspice in Hermosa Beach, and she also runs the Animal Oncology Consultation Service in Woodland Hills.

Dr. Villalobos is a founding member of the Veterinary Cancer Society, the Association for Veterinary Family Practice, and the International Association for Animal Hospice and Palliative Care. She's also the past president of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics and founder of the Peter Zippi Memorial Fund for Animals, which has found homes for 14,000 pets since 1977, primarily cats.

Dr. Villalobos is editor-in-chief for several veterinary-related journals, and she has authored textbooks including *Canine and Feline Geriatric Oncology: Honoring the Human-Animal Bond*. She also writes a column titled *The Bond and Beyond* for *Veterinary Practice News*.

Dr. Villalobos has received the Leo Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year award, the UC Davis Alumni Achievement award for her pioneering role in bringing oncology services to companion animals, and a Distinguished Practitioner of the National Academies of Practice award. She lectures worldwide on veterinary oncology, companion animal quality of life issues, and "pawspice," or veterinary hospice, which is the topic of our discussion today.

**Dr. Villalobos made the decision when she entered private practice to see her cancer patients through to the end of their lives.**

I asked Dr. Alice, since she has been a veterinarian for many years, how soon into her career she realized there was a huge gap in end-of-life care services for pets.

She explained that she was still in veterinary school when she decided to practice oncology, and her animal patients had their end-of-life experiences right there at UC Davis. So Dr. Villalobos was able to see the gap in services first-hand while still a vet student.

When she went into private practice, she made the decision to see her patients all the way through to the end of their lives, unlike what happened back in those days (1970s) in human medicine, when no one wanted to discuss death. This predated the human hospice movement and the concept of helping people die peacefully, without pain.

Dr. Alice decided to work with her animal patients and their families right through to the very end of the journey. Fortunately, we are able to help pets have a very peaceful passing because society condones euthanasia for animals. Dr. Villalobos made it a point to talk

about the subject with each family from the first day she felt euthanasia was inevitable for their pet.

Next I asked Dr. Villalobos who she sought counsel from originally, since back in the 1970s there weren't any mentors or role models for treating pets at the end of life. She answered that in the late 1960s and early 1970s at UC Davis, there was a very special pioneer in the field of animal oncology, Dr. Gordon Theilen.

Dr. Theilen wrote the first two textbooks on veterinary cancer medicine. Dr. Alice considers him a great role model who is filled with compassion. She mentions Leo Bustad as a role model as well. He was also a part of the UC Davis team and was responsible for the term "human-animal bond."

Dr. Villalobos noticed that pet owners would come into her practice wanting to keep their dog or cat with them for as long as possible. They didn't want a replacement. They wanted to get treatments for their pets and when the time came, they wanted to insure their animals were able to pass on in the right way – at home, with the best of care, surrounded by their human family. Dr. Alice looked into what was being done with pediatric oncology. She interviewed human patients and asked questions like, "You have this cancer. How does it feel?" Part of the reason for her research was because at vet school, she was taught animals don't experience pain on the level they actually, in fact, do. Back in those days, rather than being given pain medications, animals were restrained for procedures and prevented from moving after surgery. Fortunately, all that has changed.

As a member of the International Veterinary Association of Pain Management, Dr. Alice knows that veterinary hospice practitioners must have extensive knowledge and expertise in pain management, because it is one of the biggest problems for cancer patients (both human and animal) at the end of their lives.

**Taking treatment of terminally ill pets and end-of-life care to the next level.**

I asked Dr. Villalobos if, when she first got started, she was met with conflict. Were her colleagues confused? Did they question her? She replied, "Dr. Becker, I'm still pulling the arrows out of my back."

I asked her to expand on the conflicts and confrontations she has encountered. Dr. Alice explained that back in the early 1970s, treating a cat with both leukemia

and FIP was "almost blasphemy." People thought, "What is she doing?" But at UC Davis, they treated cats with lymphoma, and the most likely cat to have lymphoma was also positive for the leukemia virus.

Dr. Theilen was the doctor who isolated the three subtypes of the leukemia virus that ultimately resulted in a vaccine. UC Davis was working extensively with leukemias and lymphomas in felines. In fact, Dr. Niels Pedersen of UC Davis is the person who characterized the FIP virus and discovered the feline immunodeficiency virus.

Dr. Alice explains she was surrounded by fantastic researchers and a wonderful atmosphere. When she finished vet school, she was actually in the midst of a "mock" residency with Dr. Theilen who wanted to put a veterinary student through a clinical oncology program. So Dr. Villalobos actually began her residency while still a sophomore in vet school, and she continued that work for Dr. Theilen through her next three years of school. So in addition to the stigma attached to treating viropositive animals, Dr. Villalobos also had a passion for helping them die well. I asked her what kind of response she received. She answered that most of her colleagues felt they were already doing that – providing animals with a good end of life experience. But as she further explains, it requires a certain expertise. Palliative medicine is a specialty. She expects at some point it will become a specialty in veterinary medicine just as it is in human medicine. Dr. Alice goes on to explain that hospice is another area of expertise. She views it as, "The types of psychology that we need to know to help comfort the bewildered, bereft, grieving, and the anticipatory grief that comes through, even suicide. People feel that they can't go on another day."

When a pet dies, veterinary professionals need to be well versed in all these forms of psychotherapy, comfort care and grief counseling. It's a necessary service, but in a busy practice, when a DVM isn't accustomed to working with end-of-life care patients and clients, it just doesn't happen.

**Dr. Alice's "pawspice" concept and the HHHHMM quality of life scale.**

End-of-life care hasn't been taught in vet schools. Students are taught how to euthanize animals, but that's about it. I do think palliative medicine is coming, though, and certainly pain management is even farther along, thankfully. But putting all those pieces together to offer truly thoughtful, heartfelt support isn't there yet.

I asked Dr. Villalobos if she thinks vet school courses are addressing some of these skills today. She replied she believes they are coming along. She says that after her textbook arrived in 2007, vet schools quickly took the

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## DYING...from. p. 3

book into their libraries, and some of the programs that were developed even taught pawspice.

Dr. Alice explains she wanted to call pet hospice "pawspice" because the word hospice is actually very confusing for those who want to adapt the concept for veterinary medicine. She says that in human hospice, the arrival of death isn't slowed down. Patients receive pain management, but what everyone is doing is simply waiting for the patient to die. In veterinary medicine, we can apply a quality of life scale to each patient. In fact, a scale that Dr. Villalobos proposed in 2004 went viral. It went everywhere. It's the HHHHMM scale. It's designed to be easy to remember. The five H's are for:

...no Hurt  
 ... good Hydration  
 ... no Hunger  
 ... good Hygiene  
 ... Happiness

### NEW APPLICANTS

#### Carol Ann Blackert

8 Lancaster Court  
 Mechanicsville, N.Y. 12118  
[cbkert@aol.com](mailto:cbkert@aol.com)  
 518-541-3110

**Carol** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 16 years, she is not a breeder... She has been showing in Obedience for 2 years...She attends approximately 10 shows or events a year... She has applied for membership with Albany Obedience Club, Albany, N.Y. Carol is retired and is interested in assisting the club with Rescue, Education, Obedience and Agility...**Carol's sponsors are Marcia Dawson and Sonny Lelle.**

#### JUDY ORENA

201 Southwest Avenue  
 Windsor Locks, CT 06096  
[Judy.Orena0824@yahoo.com](mailto:Judy.Orena0824@yahoo.com)  
 413-537-5532

**Judy** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 10+ years, with 3 Miniature Schnauzers. Judy is not a breeder. She has been doing Obedience for 10 years and Conformation for 2 years. Judy attends 10-20 dog events (shows) per year. She is a member of the Paul Revere Miniature Schnauzer Club. Judy works as an IT Billing Analyst. She is interested in helping the club out with Awards/Trophies, Event Planning, Obedience and Health. Judy is working on a Grand Champion Title with her youngest Miniature Schnauzer, enjoys hiking and is a part time groomer. **Judy's Sponsors are: Robin Ohrt and George Vacca**

Hurt, Hydration, Hunger, Hygiene, and Happiness. These are the five basic areas that pawspice professionals must be able to talk to their clients about.

The first M is for Mobility. This is extremely important for large pets, for example, Great Danes. If a Great Dane can't move around on his own, it's over unless there are some very strong family members who can physically move the dog as often as necessary. In smaller animals, mobility isn't such a huge factor. On the quality of life scale, they can have a score of 0 all the way up to 10 and still be okay. It's similar to people in wheelchairs – they can have great quality of life even though they don't have full mobility.

The second M is for More good days than bad days. This is something the pet's family has to focus on. Is this a good day for Buddy? Or is this a bad day? If there are more bad days, say two or three or four in a row and no really good days, it's time for the family to consider the gift of euthanasia.

Our pets only think in present time. They exist in the now. Even if you're five hours late coming home, they are still full of joy and not mad at you. They're just happy to see you now, because they exist in the now. If they're suffering now, that's all they know, and if there are too many times of suffering, frustration builds up.

Sometimes people don't understand this. It can be difficult to understand things from a pet's viewpoint. When there are more bad days than good days, our pets welcome the gift of euthanasia. They don't need to live for the graduation of a niece or nephew. They're not looking back with regret and hoping to reconcile with someone before they die. The human hospice philosophy simply doesn't apply at the end of an animal's life. They're here to enjoy the moment. If their quality of life is poor, it's up to us as their protectors not to make them endure further suffering.

This is the way Dr. Alice talks to her clients, "You are his protector. Buddy needs you to make the decision to help him, you know, change worlds." She says Barbara Myers, a pet loss consultant, uses that beautiful phrase, "Let's help them change worlds." It's often comforting to families to use euphemisms like "transitioning," or "crossing the Rainbow Bridge." It's not necessary to use tough words when talking about the death of a beloved companion animal. Families, and especially children, welcome thoughtful, loving words to describe what will be happening to their pet.

**End-of-life care/pet hospice is the fastest-growing specialty in veterinary medicine today.**

Next I asked Dr. Alice about her passion for teaching and consulting other professionals and vet schools about end-of-life care for pets. She explained that she has taught all over the world, and her textbook is translated into Spanish and Portuguese. When she goes to Portugal, Spain, or South America, she's treated like a celebrity!

Dr. Villalobos is also well known in the U.S. for being one of the leaders of the pet hospice movement. She says her decision to treat pets with cancer in vet school was pivotal in creating a specialty service for animals in the final stages of life. She says it's the fastest-growing specialty service in all of veterinary medicine. New veterinarians in particular are really embracing pet hospice.

Dr. Villalobos says one of the reasons for its popularity is that DVMs can set up an independent practice. They can do house calls. This is especially attractive to young DVMs who may not be able to find a practice they really like, or who work at a practice in which the owners want them to work more hours than they can handle while raising a family. Going the house call route has worked out very nicely for many of these young vets.

Dr. Stephen Withrow of Colorado State University's Flint Animal Cancer Center has incorporated hospice and end-of-life care chapters written by Dr. Villalobos in his textbook, and she says his students call her all the time for help. She says CSU has set up a wonderful hospice service, as have a number of other veterinary colleges in the U.S. It's also a growing movement in Canada, South America and France.

### Helping pet owners give their animals a good quality death.

Dr. Villalobos is also passionate about using the term "pawspice" for pets to alleviate the confusion and negative impression many people have of hospice services for humans.

As she explains it, when a pet owner has arrived at those final moments, she or he is often paralyzed with doubt or fear about causing the pet's passing by making that final decision to euthanize. Dr. Alice sees her job, and the job of all professionals in the specialty, to help comfort those pet owners by letting them know it's actually a vet's duty by the oath he or she takes to prevent suffering. In my practice, I tell clients that the decision to help their pet transition is, of course, the most difficult decision they may ever make. But I also explain that as their veterinarian, the most important thing I can do is to help their pet die well rather than poorly. I ask them, "Do you want to rip the Band-Aid off really fast, or really slow?" I explain that they will be heartbroken either way, but for their pet's sake, we can help

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## DYING...from. p. 4

by offering a good and peaceful transition. A good quality of death.

Dr.

Villalobos believes quality of life/quality of death questions should also apply to humans. She says that if any of you listening or reading here today have a family member or a child with a terminal disease, you should advocate for a quality passing for that person.

In human medicine, it's all about what can be done – we can do this, and we can do that, and we can do something else. Even at the end of the road with, say, a cancer that has been resistant to all forms of treatment, someone will come up with yet another treatment that is usually more risky. The patient has an adverse reaction, winds up in the ICU, and has a bad death. One of the things I'm so grateful to Dr. Alice for is helping veterinarians understand it's okay to tell a pet owner, "We've pushed this animal far enough." It's human nature, especially for optimists like me, to say, "We can try this and this and this" when our patients no longer want to keep going and their bodies are tired. I tell my clients that sometimes the body becomes a cage for the soul, and the body doesn't work, so they need to think seriously about setting the soul free. Animals can become frustrated or depressed, and there comes a point where we should stop pushing, which actually takes all the pressure off the pet.

Sometimes we need to give clients permission to say, "You know what? We're going to stop and we're going to voluntarily withdraw all treatment." Instead of trying to cure or change the disease situation, we're going to switch our focus to helping the animal have a peaceful, good quality death.

### The role of palliative medicine in end-of-life care.

Dr. Alice has really helped veterinarians understand and be able to talk about dying well versus just euthanasia. There's a gap between the two. When we have a terminal patient and we know euthanasia is coming, there are things we can do to prepare the family, the pet, and our hearts. Dr. Villalobos has paved the way for veterinarians in this regard and I'm really thankful to her for that.

She explains that one of the reasons pawspice is different from hospice is that it incorporates palliative medicine, which is a very misunderstood area in human medicine, especially in the U.S. There's this idea that palliative medicine is "giving up," but it is not. It is simply taking care of symptoms that cause anxiety, distress and pain. Dr. Villalobos stresses that we use standard medicine inside palliative medicine.

She says that when a pet patient is diagnosed with a life-limiting

cancer, with pawspice what she does is select standard therapy for that patient that will hopefully bring a period of welcome remission. But the therapy isn't one that will be hard on the animal. It will be something that brings only good days – and few if any bad days. Dr. Alice avoids medications, therapies, treatments and regimens that will result in adverse events for the patient.

For example, she may use a strong drug, but split it to give in two doses instead of one. The techniques she uses are in her textbook, and many DVMs are adopting them. Dr. Villalobos says it has evolved into something called metronomic therapy, which is a continuous low-dose treatment that reduces the formation of new blood vessels, which all tumors need in order to grow. Sometimes she just tries to control the tumor, maybe slow down the growth a little, while preserving the patient's level of happiness and quality of life.

Since not all veterinarians are providing hospice care, I asked Dr. Alice where my Healthy Pets listeners and readers can go to learn more about end-of-life care. She invites everyone to visit her [Pawspice](#) website, where you can find lots of information and links to other resources.

## LOOKING AHEAD to MONTGOMERY COUNTY

In an effort to get an early jump on planning for Montgomery County week, hotel reservations are already being accepted. After investigating a number of reasonably priced, comfortable hotel options within reasonable distance to show grounds, restaurants and other amenities, it was determined we'd continue to use the Homewood Suites Valley Forge, 681 Shannondell Blvd, Audubon, PA 19403. The room rates and available configurations are:

\$134 for studio suite (1 King bed with pullout)  
 \$154 for one bedroom suite (1 King or 2 Queen with pullout rooms)  
 \$189 for two bedroom suite (1King and 2 Queen with pullout)  
 Additional 10% room tax applies.

Guests may book one of two ways:

1. Call the hotel at [610-539-7300](tel:610-539-7300) and mention you are booking with the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, group code **AMS**
2. Go online to [www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com](http://www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com) and under the reservations tab enter the group code **AMS**.

Barbara Donahue  
 215-896-9666

## TROPHY DONATIONS!

Dear AMSC Member,

The annual AMSC trophy committee is soliciting your help. To ensure the success of this very important fundraiser, we are asking that you take a few moments to read this and consider making a contribution to help defray the costs associated with procuring trophies for our three national specialties and our supported companion event trial.

Generous donors like you are the key to our success and make it possible for the AMSC to provide the earned recognition these awards furnish to deserving individuals and their canine companions/athletes. We hope that we can count on your support to help us meet our 2017 goal of \$5000.00! Your donation will be acknowledged in show catalogs to recognize your generosity to this worthy cause. Please mail your donation to the AMSC Treasurer, Bonnie Keyes 511 River Terrace, Endicott NY 13760 and memo it for the trophy fund to pledge your support. You may also donate online using paypal.

The paypal link is on the AMSC trophy donation page:

<http://amsc.us/trophy-donations>

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
 Your Trophy Committee

## How to Help Older Family Members Keep Their Pets

### By Samantha Drake

There's no denying that cats and dogs benefit seniors emotionally and physically. For people over age 60, the physical and emotional benefits of having a cat or dog have been well documented.

According to the American Heart Association, owning a pet reduces the risk of heart disease, likely due to increased exercise and socialization, while researchers at the State University of New York at Buffalo found that people taking medication for hypertension saw their blood pressure response to stress cut in half if they owned a cat or dog. In addition, a study by researchers at Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio, published in the journal *The Gerontologist* found that a strong emotional bond between people over age 60 and their pets encourages more social contact with other pet owners while decreasing doctor visits due to increased exercise from walking their dogs.

While the overall benefits are pretty obvious, the reality is that caring for a cat or dog comes with increasing challenges as people age. Some elderly individuals may experience decreased physical mobility, memory problems, and the restrictions that come with a fixed income. It's important for senior citizens and their families to understand what's involved in taking care of a cat or dog—from food and medical costs to the amount of attention the animal requires, to who will care for the pet if its owner passes away, says Susan Kurowski, executive director of Pets for the Elderly in San Tan Valley, Arizona. Seniors benefit from having a strong support system in place to help care for their pets.

#### How to Help Seniors Care for Pets

Taking the following steps can help keep both senior citizens and their cats and dogs healthy and happy:

Evaluate the senior citizen's situation. Family and/or friends with pets and staff at shelters with programs for senior citizen adopters can help ask the right questions, including how much help is needed and will help be available on a

regular basis? Does the person's housing allow pets and is the housing suitable? For example, if a senior citizen lives in a high-rise building, a dog that needs to be walked several times a day may not be a good fit, notes Kurowski.

Family members should also be realistic about the senior citizen's mental and physical capabilities. Everyone ages differently, Kurowski points out, and should be evaluated on an individual basis.

Choose the right pet. Do cats or dogs (or parakeets or guinea pigs) make the best pet for senior citizens? Each comes with pros and cons. Kurowski admits 60 percent of adoptions through Pets for the Elderly's participating shelters are cats. Not having to walk a cat is a big reason they're more popular than dogs, but taking a dog for regular walks is a great way for mobile senior citizens to get exercise and outside interaction.

An older, more sedate pet can make a great companion for an older person. "You don't want a puppy with a 92-year-old using a walker," Kurowski notes.

Some animal shelters have their own programs that specialize in matching senior pets with senior adopters. For example, PAWS, an organization in Lynnwood, Washington, has a state-wide program called Seniors for Seniors that matches senior citizens with cats and dogs over age 7 for a reduced adoption rate of \$35.

Ensure day-to-day assistance is available. This could be as simple as buying lighter-weight litter for seniors with cats or stopping by regularly to check on how the senior citizen and pet are doing. Kurowski suggests taking advantage of vets that have mobile pet clinics who will come to senior citizens' homes to provide pet care. Some mobile clinics even deliver pet food.

One resource for senior citizens on fixed incomes is the Meals on Wheels Loves Pets Grant Program that supports Meals on Wheels programs nationwide to help homebound senior citizens keep their pets. Funding is used to deliver pet supplies to clients including pet food and cat

litter, and provide services including grooming and veterinary care.

Take advantage of financial assistance. Financial aid for seniors and for pet owners in general is available from organizations large and small around the country. One example of a small group helping local seniors is Seniors for Pets Inc. in Englewood, Florida, which provides small grants to eligible senior citizens in southwest Florida to cover certain veterinary costs including annual exams and vaccines.

Similar organizations and programs exist at both the local and national level, so pet owners and their families should do research and discover if they are eligible for financial aid. To start, the Humane Society of the United States' (HSUS) state-by-state list of pet financial aid related organizations is worth exploring.

Plan for the future. When senior citizens adopt older pets, their families must confront the issue of "who outlives who," notes Kellie Roberts of Animal Friends' Golden Age Retrievers program, which matches people age 60 and over with older pets. Families that don't plan ahead can end up bringing the cat or dog back to a shelter. "We see a good number of pets come in because the family doesn't know what to do with them," she says.

Therefore, it's important to decide who will care for the pet if he or she outlives the senior owner or the person is no longer able to care for the animal due to illness. Further, senior citizens can allocate a portion of their estate to cover the pet's care, Roberts says. Making such decisions now will eliminate confusion and heartache later on.



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# American Miniature Schnauzer Club

## NOMINATIONS OF JUDGES

FOR SPECIALTIES AND SWEEPSTAKES  
SPRING 2019 SUMMER 2019 FALL 2019

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 this 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 30, 2017. 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.**

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Regular

Sweepstakes

**Do Not Nominate these People**

Carole Weinberger  
Linda More  
John Cole  
David Alexander  
Peggy BiseI McIlwaine  
Geraldine Kelly  
Terry Stacy  
John Constantine  
Joan Huber

Jan Taylor  
Mary Paisley  
Linda Drost  
Mary Strom-Bernard  
Patty Ledgerwood  
Martin Marks  
Vicki Kubic  
Kim Griffin  
Susan Atherton

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Regular Classes

Sweepstakes Classes

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (3pts) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts)  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (2pts) 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (2 pts)  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt) 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (1pt)

**MEMBER SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINTED NAME OF MEMBER: (REQUIRED)** \_\_\_\_\_

Return Ballots to: Carma and Galen Ewer  
8882 Easthills Drive  
Sandy, UT 84093

**Ballot deadline: April 30, 2017**

For questions please email Carma and Galen at [carmelms@comcast.net](mailto:carmelms@comcast.net)



# AMSCOPE

Carla M. Borrelli, Editor  
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## UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Lone Star MSC, Dallas July 6, 2017  
Regular Classes Margo Klingler  
Sweeps TBD

Milshore MSC July 29 17  
Sweeps: Randahl Hoffman  
Reg classes : Brian Bogart  
Reg classes : Nancy Liebes  
Back to Back Shows

## AMSC SPECIALTIES

Great Western June 25, 2017  
Regular Classes: Peggy Beisel McIlwaine  
Sweeps: Patty Ledgerwood

Montgomery County Oct. 8, 2017  
Regular Classes: Geraldine Kelly  
Sweeps: Martin G. Marks

Roving specialty-Perry GA. April 15, 2018  
Regular Classes: Terry Stacy  
Sweeps: Vicki Kubic

Great Western June 24, 2018  
Regular Classes: John Constantine  
Sweeps: Kim Griffin

Montgomery County October 7, 2018

**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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