



AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB

Member of the American Kennel Club

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SPECIALTY WINS

Metropolitan Cleveland MSC

May 24, 2014

Sweepstakes Judge:

David Owen Williams

Best in Sweeps...Markworth Shining Star/Marks

Regular Classes: Judge

Mary Jane Carberry

WD...Bella's Greek God V

Christensen/Catalina-Meschi/
Christiansen

RWD...Brookhaven's Edward

Scissorhands/Argaza/Walker

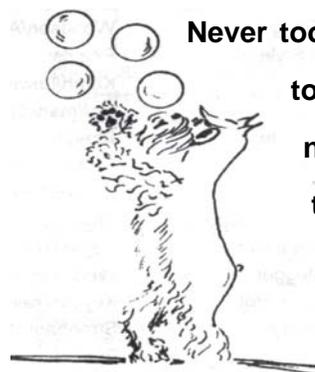
WB/BOW/BOS...Blythewood Lea

Sophia/Wallace/Huber

RWB...Manit's Someone Like You/
Itriago

BOB...GCh Evalill Excaliber Gus/
Forwell

Select...Ch. Blythewood Sack the
Quarterback/Lindsay/Hall-Labb



Never too old...

to learn

new

tricks!

**The deadline
for the August issue
is July 16.**

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Parvovirus: This Can Kill Your Dog in Less Than 72 Hours

By Dr. Becker

If you're a dog owner, you probably know that canine [parvovirus](#) is a very serious disease seen primarily in unvaccinated puppies and immunocompromised dogs. It is highly contagious and can be fatal. A parvo infection causes hemorrhagic gastroenteritis, which is characterized by vomiting and bloody diarrhea.

The disease is easily transmittable from one dog to another through contact with infected feces. It can also be spread by direct dog-to-dog contact, and contact with contaminated environments or people. Parvo can infect kennels, food and water bowls, collars and leashes, and the hands and clothing of people who handle sick dogs. The virus is highly environmentally stable and can remain infectious in soil for at least a year.

Test Now Available to Detect New Parvo Strain 2c

As with most diseases, the sooner a case of parvo is identified, the better the dog's chances for recovery. In fact, survival can depend on how quickly and accurately the virus is diagnosed.

According to Richard Oberst, professor of diagnostic medicine and director of the Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory in the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, many tests currently available can't detect the newer strains of parvovirus 2c, which has led to false negative results in infected dogs.

The 2c strain is a newer, emerging strain of canine parvovirus that was first detected in Italy in 2000, and has also been reported in Asia, South America, and Western Europe. It was first reported in the U.S. in 2006, and is now considered the most common strain of the disease. Parvovirus strain 2b is also prevalent in this country; the 2 and 2a strains are very rarely seen.

Fortunately, a new diagnostic test developed by researchers at KSU's Diagnostic Laboratory can now identify the

2c strain of parvo. It's a real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test that detects all strains simultaneously and points to which strain or strains might be causing the infection.

Veterinarians can send samples for testing to:

Kansas State Veterinary
Diagnostic Laboratory
1800 Denison Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66506

Samples should be shipped in the same manner as all other diagnostic specimens. For more information, DVMs can contact the laboratory at 866-512-5650 or visit www.ksvdl.org.

Symptoms and Treatment of a Parvovirus Infection

Parvo causes similar symptoms in all infected puppies and dogs, including vomiting, severe and often bloody diarrhea, lethargy, fever, and loss of appetite. In dogs infected with the virus, dehydration is a constant concern and can occur very quickly as a result of the vomiting and diarrhea. This is especially dangerous in very young puppies.

Most deaths from parvo occur within 48 to 72 hours after the onset of symptoms, which is why it's critical that you take your dog to a veterinarian or emergency animal hospital immediately if he shows any signs of the infection.

There is no specific anti-viral therapy for parvovirus 2c (or any of the other strains). Treatment of an infected dog consists of immediate delivery of supportive care, including replacing fluids and electrolytes, controlling vomiting and diarrhea, and preventing secondary infections. Since the disease is so contagious, affected dogs should be isolated to minimize spread of infection.

The goal of treatment of parvovirus involves supporting your dog's organs and body systems until her immune response

Continued on p. 2, col. 2 ... **PARVO**

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

Stephanie Davis Rae
148 Dover Way
Vacaville, CA 95687
luvwaltdisney@att.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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Laytonsville, MD 20882

PARVO.....con't from p. 1, col.3

can conquer the infection. There are some homeopathic and herbal remedies that can be useful in treating the symptoms of parvo. I recommend you work with a holistic veterinarian to determine what natural therapies are advisable for your sick pet, and consider hospitalization until your dog is stable.

Protecting Your Dog from Parvo Through Proper Vaccination

I think you'll agree that the best way to treat a parvo infection is to prevent it from happening in the first place. The parvovirus is nothing to fool around with. It is very much alive and thriving in our environment, and it frequently ends the lives of dogs who become infected.

Over-vaccination is an ongoing problem in the veterinary community, but in my professional opinion, providing baseline protection (two puppy vaccines) against parvo provides your pet with lifetime immunity – and provides you with peace of mind.

The protocol I follow in vaccinating puppies against parvo (the vaccine protects against all strains) is a parvo/distemper shot before 11 weeks of age (ideally at 9 weeks), and a booster at about 14 weeks. I then titer between 2 to 4 weeks after the second shot to insure the puppy was not only vaccinated, but immunized. This is a core vaccine protocol that provides the basic minimum number of vaccines to protect against life threatening illnesses, without over vaccinating.

Since the job of vaccines is to stimulate antibody production, if a puppy is exposed to parvo (or another virus for which he's been vaccinated), he has some level of circulating protection. Vaccines stimulate antibody production, but it takes 10 to 14 days after the vaccination for adequate protection to occur.

A small percentage of dogs known as "non-responders" will not develop immunity and will remain susceptible to parvo for a lifetime. This is very important information for dog owners to have, which is another reason I titer after the second round of shots.

In addition, some puppies retain a level of immunity from their mother's milk that interferes with the effectiveness of vaccines. Titering gives us the information we need to be confident the pup has been immunized effectively, or if he hasn't, to determine why, and what further action should be taken.

Toxic Jerky Treats Responsible For More Than 1,000 Dog Deaths, FDA Says

Be careful what you feed your dog.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently issued another warning about toxic jerky treats, and it seems the poisonous pet snacks are still a problem.

As of May 1, more than 1,000 dogs have died as a result of the toxic treats. The FDA has received 4,800 reports of pet illnesses since 2007, 1,800 of which were submitted in the months following the agency's last warning in October 2013. Even though 25 percent of these complaints were "historic" claims — meaning the illness occurred some time in months or years past — the jerky products appear to be an ongoing source of sickness for both cats and dogs.

So far, the FDA has been unable to pinpoint why so many pets are getting sick and developing kidney-related diseases. However, the majority of cases appear to derive from consumption of a jerky treat that was imported from China.

Though pet owners could avoid Chinese-made nibbles, that's not a surefire way to avoid the toxic treats since ingredients in the product could still be produced abroad, Fox 5 News reports.

Since there is not one particular brand that has been singled out as the main culprit, the agency is asking owners who feed their dogs jerky treats to keep a close eye on their pets. (The Humane Society keeps a running list of recalled pet food and treats on its website.)

If symptoms such as decreased appetite, increased water intake, vomiting or diarrhea show up and persist for more than 24 hours after a dog or cat has consumed a jerky treat, pet owners are urged to contact a veterinarian immediately.

Pet owners who have a cat or dog may have consumed a toxic jerky treat may report their findings to the FDA by calling 1-888-INFO-FDA.

STAND FOR EXAM Lynn Tamms

For this month's column, I interviewed Sue Phillips. She and her miniature schnauzer Rudi (MACH Rudi Eile Phillips of Prairieland CDX BN MXS MJG XF T2B2 THD) recently competed in the Purina ProPlan Incredible Dog Challenge where they earned second place.

Sue, tell us a little about the Incredible Dog Challenge

The Incredible Dog Challenge is sponsored by Purina ProPlan/Carson Events. There are two regional competitions which include competition in disc dogs, dock diving, lure coursing, Jack Russell races and agility. Finalists participated in the Finals at Purina Farms at the end of April.

What was your event?

Rudi and I competed in the Small Dog Agility Competition and the 30 Weave Pole Challenge. I have always wanted to participate in the IDC because Rudi is so much fun to run. She is entertaining to watch. (From Lynn: I can attest to that. Sue and I are in the same jump height class and I always make sure to watch them.)

**How did it go?**

Rudi and I placed Second, missing first place by one second. We had a little collision when I called a blind cross after the first jump when she came out of the tunnel. It was a fun but competitive atmosphere. (Readers can check out the Carson Events Facebook page to see the competition or see it on TV sometime between 5/3 and 6/29. <http://www.proplan.com>.)

That's wonderful Sue! Tell us a little about Rudi.

Rudi is 4 years old and was bred by Joanne Toft and Teresa Handlen of Prairieland Kennels in Lincoln IL. I had fallen in love with black minis the first time I saw one. When I went to look at her litter, Rudi picked me! She has already earned her MACH title (Master Agility Champion) and is well on her way to MACH2. In addition to agility, Rudi and I take obedience lessons and she has her CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) title and is training for Utility.

Have you trained other dogs, Sue?

I have had five miniature schnauzers in my life so far. Two have been rescue dogs. My most recent rescue came with a load of fear aggression issues so we sought training help. Our trainer suggested we try agility to funnel some energy and build confidence. It changed her life....no, it gave her a life. Gretchen is now 10 years old and is still doing agility. Gretchen is not perfect, but she has come a long way. She has two MACH titles and two PACH titles. (Preferred Agility Champion)

Any training tips Sue?

Consistency is important in training. Sometimes it is so easy to let those "cute" misbehaviors go by when they are so cute and small. If you're training with treats, make sure your dog is not getting overfed. Sometimes using one of the dog's meals as training

treats helps curb overfeeding.

About Sue

Sue lives in Columbia IL and is a retired music teacher. Sue says, "Music is a life long art, so I still direct two church youth handbell choirs, direct a small band and professionally play trumpet."

Thank you Sue for sharing your adventure at the Incredible Dog Challenge. Good luck in the future.

Dear AMSC Member,

The annual AMSC trophy fundraiser is soliciting your help. In order 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 2014 goal of \$7,500.00.

Your donation will be listed in the appropriate show catalog to recognize your generosity to this worthy cause. Please mail your donation to the AMSC Treasurer Sharon Edwards, 21301 Golf Estates Drive, Laytonsville, MD 20882-1935 and designate it for the trophy fund to pledge your support. You may also donate online using PayPal. Please send to treasurer@amsc.us and indicate in the notes field that it is for the trophy fund. We thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Your Trophy Committee

MEDS.....cont'd from p.3, col 3

level spikes in your dog or cat.

Signs of toxicity include loss of appetite, vomiting, increased urination and excessive thirst due to kidney failure.

8. Fluorouracil topical

Just a tiny amount of this drug, used externally to treat actinic keratosis, basal cell carcinoma and other minor skin cancers, can quickly prove lethal to your dog. Symptoms of poisoning: severe vomiting, seizures and cardiac arrest.

Brand names for topical fluorouracil include Efudex, Carac, Fluoroplex

9. Isoniazid

Isoniazid, brand name Nydrazid, is a drug used to prevent and treat tuberculosis in humans.

Dogs, in particular, aren't able to metabolize this medication. Ingesting it can rapidly bring on life-threatening seizures.

10. Baclofen

The drug baclofen, a muscle relaxant, can damage your dog's or cat's central nervous system. Symptoms of ingestion/toxicity include disorientation, vocalization, seizures and coma, which can be fatal.

Brand names for baclofen include: Co Baclofen, Kemstro, Lioresal, Liotec, Nu-Baclo

The best way to keep your beloved pets safe from the dangers of ingesting drugs intended for humans is to make a habit of keeping all your medications in sealed containers, preferably in your bathroom medicine cabinet well out of the reach of your dog or cat.

Call your veterinarian, an emergency clinic or a [pet poison helpline](#) immediately if you suspect your pet has ingested one of the 10 drugs listed above, or any medication intended only for humans.



The ONLY MS in Competition!

Well this was a heck of a trip and not for the reasons one might think. We didn't come home with any medals, stand on any podiums or have the national anthem played for us, but what we did do is run our butts off and show the world how wonderful a mini schnauzer can be at agility. I didn't realize until we all got together for our team picture that the team consisted of 3 papillion's, 2 jacks, 4 shelties, 10 border collies and ONE MINIATURE SCHNAUZER!! Now some people are offended by the term "off breed" but I have always been proud of that. Being a non typical agility breed in a even more rare in the 16" jump height of USDAA/IFCS.

With all our twists and turns on our lives leading up to the trip the one thing I was most nervous about was not the courses, or the pressure, or the international stage but I wanted Krusher to run like I know he could run with no issues with his pad. Since we completed radiation treatment in early February we had not run a whole bunch, mostly running only one day and mostly on dirt.

Dirt surfaces were the best on his pad not very abrasive. About two weeks before our trip I decided that his pad was doing well enough to try a little training at home. Well what I didn't realize was how abrasive the dry Texas grass/clay dirt was on his pad. So after about 15 mins of work he had burned a small part of his pad.....sigh. So I thought about what to do with this. We needed some practice on a few things and I wanted to make sure he was handling the 16" jumps ok since all the time off. So we wrapped his foot in vet wrap and went to work. This was a good confidence booster for me as we were able to train hard without me worrying about damage to his foot.

So off we went to the Netherlands . Travel was not problem for him and we stayed at an awesome bed and breakfast in Amsterdam while we did a bit of sight seeing.

Then we drove from Amsterdam to the

location of the event. The first day was practice. The USA had the first practice time and this was our first look at the surface. This was my biggest concern as 4 days were going to be hard on his pad if the surface was not good. Well much to my relief the surface was amazing. Sand/textile horse surface that was very soft on his pad. Practice went well all though I did vet wrap his foot for practice just to make sure we didn't tear it up before we started. That evening was opening ceremonies and the team dinner.

So day one was Individual Jumpers and Snooker. The first course had a tricky weave entry and other than the refusal at the entry that I caused by not trusting my dog to weave, we had a great run 33rd place. Then on to snooker. I love this game and we had a great plan and I got to excited at the 7 in the close and pulled him off the tunnel but we closed three 7's and got though the 6 for a 21st place. I was very happy with how he looked and everyone said he was running great!!



So day 2 was the long day with Biathlon Jumpers, Team Jumpers and Individual Gamblers. We were clean in Biathlon Jumpers 15th place. I was super excited to get selected to run on team as not everyone was asked to run this class. For Team Jumpers and a

16th place finish. We smacked down the Individual Gamblers opening and were the only 16" dog on the US team to get the 8 point gamble and we were super close to the 20 point gamble. 12th place finish for Gamblers.

So after our 15 hour day 2 we went back to the hotel and rested ready for day 3. Here we ran Individual Standard and Team Standard. This was not our best day. I handling the opening in a way I was not most comfortable with and ended up with an E with an off course dogwalk but the rest of the run was smoking. Then on to Team Standard, this was the most difficult

Cont'd on p. 5 **..ONLY MINI**

ONLY MINI...con't from p. 4, col.3

course we had seen yet. As he came out of the tunnel leading into the difficult jump sequence, he was three legged. Now I didn't panic as he had done this before. Sometimes in a tunnel I am assuming the ribbing of the tunnel hits his foot wrong and makes it feel like it would if you stepped on a rock with your bare foot. Owie but now permanent damage. I got him over the next two jumps and he was back to running full speed but sadly I was out of place. While trying to manage all the correct obstacles he bumped into to me and the E'd us for contact that aided performance.

So now on to day 4. So now my concern was how Krusher was going to act the next time he went into a tunnel. He is the kind of dog that tends to remember when something caused an owie. Well the Biathlon Standard course was first and had a bunch of tunnels. After he flew through the first one all my worries when away and I concentrated on handling the course. When we crossed the finish line we were clean!! That gave us 2 clean round in Biathlon which was a combined between the Jumpers and Standard. This morning was the first time I went to look back at the results and I was wowed by the fact that we ended up 13th in Biathlon!! I was thrilled.

Last was team relay, I was honored to be able to run in this class and I love the pressure and the rush of the team relay. All though our team didn't make any podium Krusher smacked down his part of the relay. I really felt good about every single one of our performance. We were not perfect but we left it all out there and I was really pleased with all of our runs!!

Yes we did well, yes we had 2 clean runs, yes we got to be part of team but my two favorite memories have nothing to do with the agility part. One was when I was on the practice jump. One of the Russian team approached me. It was a little bit intimidating since the Russians had been very dominate over the whole event and they are "very serious handlers". I figured that she was walking up to tell me she needed the practice jumps. She said something to me and I had to ask her to repeat it as I though she said "You make father" pointing at Krusher.....hmmmmm she said it again and picked up the camera she had around her neck. Then I realized that she said "you make picture". Ah wow, they wanted a picture of Krusher!! She in her limited

amount of English told me she had a standard schnauzer and she was really impressed with how well Krusher ran. She took a couple of pics of him then asked me to get in the picture too!! I was shocked that this amazing Russian handler wanted a picture of me and my dog!!

The 2nd memory and my favorite by far was my interaction with the Ukraine handler. He was running a black mini schnauzer and had over the 4 days come by to see Krusher a couple of times. At day 2 I had asked him as best I could if he was going to be interested in trading Jerseys . And I was pretty sure he said yes all though I am not sure he understood much if any English. On Sunday when we got there in the morning the trading had already begun. I traded for an Australian jersey and a Canadian jersey, but I was saving the one I had on for the Ukrainian. Well as we were winding things up I realized that they had packed up all their things out of the crating area and I though they might have left, so when one of the Spain team asked to trade I gave up my last jersey to them. So all I had left was the extra jacket I had ordered so I would have one to trade. Now usually you trade jacket for jacket as the jackets were more expensive. So as I grabbed my jacket to see who I might could trade with, up walked the Ukrainian handler. He had his jersey in his hand. As he handed me the jersey I never hesitated as I gave him my jacket. He said "Really" and I nodded yes!!! He started jumping up and down and grabbed my hand and kissed it all while thanking me over and over. The look on his face is one that I will never never forget. He was so excited to show the other two team mates what he had gotten!! Then I took Krusher over their to get a picture of us and our two schnauzers. The picture is attached.

Stacy Bols and the schnauzer pack + BC

Roanoke, TX

MACH5 ADCh-Gold Krusher the Braveheart "Krusher" (mini schnauzer) LAA-Gold, MXS2, MJG2, MXF, TOX, TM-Platinum, PTM-Bronze, SCH-Platinum, JCH-Gold, SACH-Gold, GCH-Gold, RCH-Gold, TFE-II, FDCh-Silver, 2011 AKC Nationals 12" FINALIST, 2011 AKC Invitational 12" FINALIST, 2012 USDAA PGP Finalist 5th place

Bouquets & Biscuits

***Carbor Call of the Wild AX AXJ XF** (Am/Can CH Carbor Hot on the Trail x Am/Can CH Carbor Prim and Proper) earned his Excellent Standard and Excellent Jumpers titles at the Nita-Nee Kennel Club trial at Northumberland PA on May 31, 2014. Jack was bred by Carla M. Borrelli, is owned by Judy Russell and Carla Borrelli, and is handled by John Russell. Jack celebrated his two title day by racing outside the building to sing at the top of his lungs with anyone who would join him!

***CH. Lande's Encore by Kody (Kory)** by GCH Gough's Classic Landmark X CH. Lande's Desert Frost finished the requirements for his AKC championship on May 13 2014 at nine months old, at the Coronado K.C., Albuquerque, N.M. under Barbara D. Alderman. He was bred by Marilyn A. Lande and is owned by Marilyn Lande and Lyle Harstad. "Kory" has been shown exclusively by Jorge and Susie Olivera.

I'm so pretty...oh, so pretty!



Renal Disease in Adult Miniature Schnauzers

Miniature Schnauzers are one of several breeds of dogs with a juvenile-onset renal disease that is thought to have an inherited basis. Using funds provided by the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, renal tissues from Miniature Schnauzers with renal disease were identified. Using light and electron microscopy, this proteinuric renal disease has been identified as focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS). In the early stages of this disease, dogs with FSGS have protein in their urine but are otherwise asymptomatic. An award from the Gray Lady Foundation is being used by the Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to conduct urine testing free of charge in Miniature Schnauzers in order to identify animals with FSGS. The goals of this study are to determine prevalence of proteinuria in this breed and to identify affected animals that could benefit from early treatment to slow its progression.

Submission of urine samples for Urine Protein to Creatinine ratio (+/- urinalysis)

A urine protein to creatinine ratio (UPC) will be determined on each urine sample. If the UPC is elevated, a urinalysis (microscopic examination) will also be done to rule-out a urinary tract infection, inflammation, or hemorrhage as a cause of the proteinuria.

1. Voided free catch urine is adequate for this testing. Alternatively, urine may be collected via cystocentesis or catheterization.
2. Collect urine into a 10 ml clot (red top – no SST) tube. You may also use plastic cups with screw-on lids or plastic conical tubes (clean, but do not need to be sterile). If collected by cystocentesis, the urine may be submitted in the syringe **with the needle removed** and the end sealed.
3. A minimum volume of 3 ml is preferred; smaller volumes may suffice if a urinalysis is not required.
4. After collection, refrigerate the sample and send, with a cold pack, overnight UPS or Fed Ex to the Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Please include the attached submission form.

Send samples to:

Dr. Cathy Brown

501 D.W. Brooks Dr.

Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Georgia

Athens, GA 30602-7388

Contact information:

cathybro@uga.edu

706-542-5568

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER RENAL STUDY URINE SUBMISSION FORM

Veterinarian: _____ Owner: _____

Clinic Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone/email/fax: _____

Date of Urine collection: _____

Manner of collection (check one) ___ Free catch (voided) ___ Cystocentesis ___ Catheterization

Animal Information

Name: _____

Sex: _____

Age: _____

AKC registration number (preferred but not required): _____

History: 1. Has this dog been diagnosed with renal disease or any other health issues? If yes, please describe briefly below.

2. Have any related dogs been identified with renal disease? Yes ___ No ___ Unknown (check one). If yes, please provide details of relationships among dogs if known.

Colour Genetics in the Miniature Schnauzer – an important update by Catherijne McMillan

Over the past decade, rapid progress has been made in research into the inheritance of canine coat colour. Many of the genes that were once the subject of theory have been mapped, and the chemical pathways by which they produce the colours have been detailed.

These advances have resulted in new dna tests for coat colour, offered by a number of facilities around the world. Tests are now available for most of the major color loci that are applicable in all breeds, while a handful of others apply to certain breed specific mutations. (ie. The harlequin colour unique to Great Danes).

One of the leading researchers in this field is Dr. Sheila Schmutz at the University of Saskatchewan.

Due to my proximity to the institution, I've had the pleasure of contributing dna samples from my dogs to assist in her efforts over the years, as well as arrange for samples to be collected from Mini Schnauzers from other reputable kennels. In 2011, Dr. Schmutz's team published research into the gene series that is known as "agouti". (Dreger et al. 2011). Found on Chromosome 24, agouti genes determine the placement and timing of the two pigment types (eumelanin and phaomelanin) that can be produced by mammals. In Schnauzer parlance, agouti is the "switching gene" that determines where the black and tan banding in salt and pepper hairs begins and ends. Agouti also determines where on the dog's body that black vs tan pigment will appear, creating the pattern known as "tanpoint", for example.

There are four alleles of the agouti series. In order of dominance:

Ay (agouti yellow) > aw (agouti wild) > at (agouti tanpoint) > a (recessive black)
Ay is the most dominant of the series, and produces the mostly yellow shades, sometimes with black tipping – the sable collie, Rhodesian ridgeback, fawn Great Dane are examples of Ay sable.

aw – agouti wild is a pattern that includes banded hairs, as found in coyotes, keeshonds – and salt & pepper schnauzers.

at – agouti tanpoint is a very common pattern in purebreds, found in Dobermans and Rottweilers.
Saddle tan breeds such as Welsh Terriers also test as tanpoint.

aa – recessive black. This type of black without tan points has been identified in only a handful of breeds, most of them herding dogs. (German shepherd, Shetland sheepdogs).

(Further discussion of the ins and outs of agouti expression isn't relevant to this article, so won't be covered further here.) Due to selective breeding and closed gene pools, most breeds have only one or two of the agouti alleles available in their gene pool. (In some breeds the genes of the agouti series are "turned off" by other colour loci, but regardless of whether they are expressed or not – all canines of all breeds will have two alleles at this locus.)

Prior to the era of molecular research, the assumption by genetic theorists was that Miniature Schnauzer breed possessed only two – agouti wild (salt & pepper) and agouti tanpoint. (black & silver).

(They also believed – wrongly – that dominant black was also on this series). When the agouti series was finally mapped at the University of Saskatchewan, something unexpected happened. Contrary to all expectations, black & silver Minis didn't test positive for tanpoint. Instead, the results showed them to be homozygous wild - 'aw-aw'. This included black & silvers and b/s carriers alike. All tested as genetic "salt & pepper"!

When Dr. Schmutz shared the results, she told me that no one was more surprised than the researchers themselves. They had no explanation for the finding – possibly some unknown factor was transforming s/p Minis into a form of black & silver tanpoint. But as puzzling as the findings were, there were no plans for further research on behalf of our breed. So it remained a mystery.

A site that details the findings of this paper (written in lay language) can be found at <http://www.genomia.cz/en/test/locus-a-dog/>.

As much as I admire and trust Dr. Schmutz, the findings didn't make sense. Our breed derives its origins from older, tanpoint breeds – the Miniature Pinscher most notable among them. The black & silver pattern was classic tanpoint, and the recessive inheritance pattern identical to other breeds with the pattern.

Nonetheless, this was the finding of a world class lab, and I updated my colour genetics materials accordingly.

Fast forward to April of 2014. I had a lovely black bitch I was conditioning for summer shows. As she was out of two black parents, I asked the owner if she'd be interested in testing to determine if she was heterozygous or homozygous black. (Dominant black was mapped to chromosome 16 in 2007). She agreed, and we ordered the test offered at UC of Davis. Out of curiosity, I ticked off a second box – requesting the sample also be tested for agouti. I mentioned the test with a breeder in Europe, and she decided to test

a black and silver bitch (of American breeding) for the agouti alleles as well. That test went to a lab in Europe.

About two weeks later I received an email from the University of Davis lab – the bitch was homozygous black at the K locus (and will produce all black litters) and at the agouti locus she had one gene for salt & pepper (aw), **paired with 'at' — the gene for tanpoint.**

Just one day later I received word from my friend in Europe. The test performed in Europe indicated her black & silver bitch to be at-at, homozygous tanpoint at the agouti locus!

I have forwarded these results to Dr. Schmutz along with 5 more dna samples taken from black & silver Miniature Schnauzers representing three different families, and expect that she will be revisiting this issue in the near future. While we await those results, the logical conclusion is that there was an error in processing the Schnauzer samples in the original research, and that the tests performed at UC Davis and in Europe are accurate.

What does this mean for our breed? For starters, we can finally update our breed knowledge with definitive scientific study.

Meaning YES! – it is possible for a Miniature Schnauzer to carry "all three colours". Not all dogs do, of course – but it is possible. The whispers leveled at breeders who produced three colour litters from two blacks, or black to b/s mating can finally be put to rest.

Secondly – breeders can now test their blacks and salt/pepper dogs to determine their hidden genetic status. For the breeder of black & silvers looking to expand their genetic options, the test will indicate which black sires have hidden black & silver genes to offer, and if they are heterozygous or homozygous for that trait. That dark s/p can be tested to see if he really is a b/s carrier or not.

(In coming weeks, I plan to test a few dark faced dogs for the presence of Em "mask" – this may shed new light on those dark coated salt/peppers, so stay tuned.)

In closing, it's important to stress that the genes for colour as described here are only the "basic instructions" of colour.

The agouti series doesn't control the shades of salt and pepper, only the placement of the pigments. The gene for dominant black is not responsible for the quality or retention of black colour – these traits are controlled by other genetic factors.

Thus, the frequent caution about perils of "colour mixing" is unwarranted, insofar as crossing the main patterning genes are concerned. If it's intensity or clarity of color that the breeder seeks to improve, they must look to the many other genetic factors that influence colour shade, intensity, and greying. But that's an article for another day.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

— AKC's True Fans —

New York, NY – If you're anything like my wife and I, it all started the day you brought that one dog into your life. For us, it was Caesar - our first Bullmastiff. Since there was no Internet back then, we found him through the classifieds in our local paper. He was a great dog, just not a great Bullmastiff. But that didn't matter to us. We loved him - and lost him much too early. But in that short time, he made us fall in love with the Bullmastiff breed. We researched the breed and breeders, learned about conformation events, attended dog shows, and began to collect that array of breed paraphernalia that somehow invades every corner of your home. I imagine many of you are wearing your breed on you somewhere right now – pins or jewelry or clothing or even, I would wager, some have a tattoo. In short, we, like you, became fans of a breed and fans of our sports.

I like being called a fan, don't you? I like what it stands for, even though some people believe the idea of "fans" came from "fanatics" - a usually pejorative word. Actually, The Dickson Baseball Dictionary cites William Henry Nugent's work asserting that "fan" was derived from "the fancy," a term from England referring to the enthusiasts of a specific hobby or sport – like dog shows. The word came into common usage in America in 1889, just five years after the launch of the American Kennel Club. Coincidence? I think not.

It is an accepted fact in sports that your fans can have a demonstrable impact on performance. In football, which allows 11 players on the field, the assemblage of fans in the stadium is collectively referred to as the "12th man." A researcher from Harvard University discovered that the home team achieved a tenth of a point advantage for every 10,000 fans in the stadium.

Imagine the advantage we could have for purebred dogs, for breeders, and for our sport with a much larger active fan base. We have already begun to do just that with Facebook.

There are lots of numbers associated with Facebook, but the most important are those that identify your true fan base. There is a simple equation that does that: the number of "people talking about this" divided by the total number of "likes" which

is called "engagement." According to experts, an acceptable engagement rate, or true fans, is in the range of one to two percent.

Two baseball teams with very strong fan bases are the New York Yankees and the New York Mets. The Yankees have an engagement rate of 4% and the Mets have 6%. Both are doing better than acceptable in growing their fan base.

Apple, one of the world's strongest and best-liked brands, is at 1.4%

HSUS is at 1.6% and ASPCA is at 4%.

The AKC's engagement rate – the measurement of true fans – is an astounding 30%! The actual number of true fans is 535,000 – higher than any of those I just mentioned by a multiple. In fact, we have 16 times more true fans than HSUS.

You cannot manufacture a fan base. You cannot buy a fan base. You create it by telling stories about the many things that happen in our world, throughout the day, throughout the years. Sometimes it is about winning, but mostly it is about unique, emotional experiences that can only happen when dogs and people come together. Those stories are best when told by fans - people like you. As Napoleon said, "Ten people who speak make more noise than ten thousand who are silent."

At the Delegates Meeting on Monday, Chris Walker presented an informative guide to utilizing social media to help your clubs. It will be posted on AKC.org. I'll reiterate the conclusion of the presentation: We need you to talk - promote yourselves, promote your dogs and promote the sport of purebred dogs. And educate people about

responsible dog ownership. Be proud of the love and service you have given the sport over the years and nurture new people into the sport.

In short, spread the truth.

There are people and organizations that don't want the truth about the AKC to be known. Hate may attack it and ignorance may ridicule it, but in the end, the truth is irrefutable. While yawns, laughter, and germs are infectious, the most powerful infectious thing is spreading the truth.

As true fans, we will stay strong, stand up for dogs, and speak out for our values. And we won't stop until every critic becomes a fan.

Sincerely,
Alan Kalter, Chairman



The regional contacts for Breeder Referral :

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<i>Gloria Lewis</i>	<i>South Eastern States</i>	GloriaLewis@bellsouth.net
<i>Marcia Feld</i>	<i>Central States</i>	mfeld@prodigy.net
<i>Carla Nickerson</i>	<i>Rocky Mountain States</i>	nicknack2@cableone.net
<i>Buzzy Alfano</i>	<i>Western States</i>	minishnzs@aol.com

Susan Quinn

48226 Revere Drive
Macomb, MI 48044
Phone: 586-532-0725
Email: quinnndixie@gmail.com

Sponsors: Beth Santure, Diane Gardner
Susan currently owns two Miniature Schnauzers. She is not a breeder. She has been involved in conformation for two years, agility for sixteen years and obedience for eighteen years. Susan attends approximately 25 events per year. She belongs and has served as President of the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan. She has also served as Vice President, Education Chairman and Board Member. Susan is interested in Obedience and Agility. She enjoys competing in Obedience and Agility with her Mini's and states that she's also competed in Lure Coursing and Earthdog events. Susan says that she's recently begun showing her youngest Mini in conformation and that she looks forward to learning from other members.

Brian P. Kruse

Colin M. Graham
463 Goodwin Road
Campbell River, BC Canada
Phone: 250-702-1690
Email: Brian@krusekennels.com
website: <http://www.krusekennels.com/>

Sponsors: Vicki Stephens, Ken Allen
Brian had his first Miniature Schnauzer 22 years ago and has been breeding for the past 8 years. He also owns a Giant Schnauzer. He is a breeder and has had five litters in the last five years. His stud dog has been used 5 times. Brian has been involved in conformation for 22 years, breeding for 8 years and obedience for 2 years (Brian bred GSP and Shelties since 1993, but now just breeds Mini's). In the past year, they have not attended many events as they have had two litters and stayed home to raise them. In the past, they have attended shows each month, if not more per month. Brian and Colin belong to the Canadian Kennel Club, the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Canada, Brian is past President and has been Show Chair for the Comox Valley Kennel Club from 2002-2007. Brian is a business owner and Colin is an RN. They are interested in Newsletter, Electronic Media, Legislative Issues, Awards/Trophies, Education, Ethics and Health. They enjoy spending free time with their dogs and travelling to shows together. They have decided that they want to spend more time in the States showing their dogs in the future and wish to be members of the AMSC. Brian has been a club president for 8 years as well as a show chair and will also be starting the process to get his judges license. Colin

NEW APPLICANTS

is a hard worker who is always willing to help even over distance. They believe these skills would be helpful to the AMSC.

Michael J. Randall

19 Rosemount Drive Willowvae,
Queensland, Australia 4209
phone: 0755466129
email: the_durrants@bigpond.com
Sponsors: Caroline Lindenberg, John Constantine

Michael has owned many Miniature Schnauzers over the years, too many years to list, he says. He is a breeder and has had ten litters in the last five years. He has been involved in conformation for 69 years and Judging for 15 years. He has gone to approximately six events in the past year due to ill health. Michael belongs to Dogs Queensland, he is a life member of the UK Kennel Club (69 years), he is a past President of Schnauzer Club N.S.W, and past President of Schnauzer Club Queensland. Michael is retired and is interested in Newsletter, Education and Health. He has shown and bred dogs since the age of 7 - Miniature Schnauzers since 1960 in UK - since 1966 in Australia.

Christopher M. Castle

3105 Lake St.
Lake Charles, LA 70601
phone: 337-274-2908
email: mc903@ymail.com
Sponsors: Marie Deshotels, Patti Henderson

Christopher has four Miniature Schnauzers. He is not a breeder. He is involved in agility and attends approximately seven events per year. He belongs to Calcasieu Kennel Club of Lake Charles, LA. Charles works as a financial advisor for New York Life. He says he is very active with his dogs and training them for agility. He enjoys training, raising and grooming them to perfection. He is a self employed father of two boys who will eventually handle his dogs with him.

Dr. Mary K. Summers

1819 Forest Lane
Crown Point, IN 46307
phone: 219-671-4001
email: msummers12@comcast.net
Sponsors: Mary Paisley, Nancy Banas

Mary has two dogs. She is not a breeder. She has participated in conformation for 25 years, breeding 20 (she no longer breeds, she used to breed Newfoundlands), obedience 6 years and agility 4 years. Mary attends approximately 50+ events per year. She does not belong to any clubs at this time, but she used to be a member of the Newfoundland Club of

America for 20 years. Mary is a retired Clinical Psychologist. She is interested in Newsletter, Education, Obedience, Agility and Health. Mary says she has time available and is willing to support others and work in the background.

Leslie Cromer

4937 Shepherdstown Pike
Shenandoah Junction, WV 25442
(304)283-7726
email: lesliecromer@aol.com
website: majesticallymadminiatureschnauzers.com (under construction)
Sponsors: Shawn Imler, Debi Durst

Leslie has had Miniature Schnauzers for 37 years. She presently has 6 Mini's and one Saint Bernard. She is a breeder and is involved in conformation, agility, obedience and breeding. Leslie attends approximately 20 events per year. She does not belong to any other clubs at this time. As stated above, Leslie began with the breed 37 years ago, purchasing a breeding pair from George Jacobus 5 years ago and have since enjoyed rally and agility competitions. Shawn Imler is currently showing a bitch that Leslie co-owns with Debi Durst. Leslie is employed as a riding instructor and her interests with the club lie in education, obedience, agility, ethics and health.

**Please, Please
Donate for My Trophy**



There are two ways to make your donation:

**1. Mail a check, payable to AMSC (note Trophy Fund) to:
AMSC Treasurer, 2131 Golf Estates Drive, Laytonsville, MD 20882**

or

2. At PayPal.com; must have a PayPal account and pay in US currency

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Carla M. Borrelli, Editor
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UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

MSC of Southern CA June 20, 2014
Regular Classes: Robert Black
Sweepstakes: Tammy Colbert
MSC of Southern CA June 21, 2014
Regular Classes: Claudia Seaberg
Sweepstakes: Janet Allen
Lone Star MSC of Dallas July 3, 2014
Regular Classes: Wood Wornall
Sweepstakes: Della Highley
Milshore MSC July 25, 2014
Sweeps: Brook Berth
Reg Classes: Dale Miller

AMSC SPECIALTIES

Great Western June 22, 2014
Regular Classes Marcia Feld
Sweeps: Kim Cox Griffin
Montgomery Co. October 5, 2014
Regular Classes Margo Klingler
Sweeps Carla Nickerson
Roving Specialty- Denver Feb.15, 2015
Regular classes, Wyoma Clouss
Sweeps-Kurt Garmaker
Great Western June 21,2015
Regular classes, Judy Smith
Sweeps-Shawne Imler
Montgomery Co. October 4, 2015
Regular classes: Michael Dougherty
Sweeps:Sharon Edwards .

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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2014 AMSC Outstanding Sportsmanship Nomination

The nominee and nominator may be any Regular, Foreign, Junior, or Life Member of the AMSC. Any Local club may also submit a nomination. Nominations will be reviewed by the committee and the winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Nominator must have known the Nominee for at least 3 years.

Nominator:

Nominee:

Why should this person be awarded the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award? Please give specific examples. Use additional sheets, if needed

All Entries must be postmarked by September 20, 2014

**Mail all entries to: All Entries must be postmarked by
Kathy Colby September 20, 2014
3202 Iowa Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
or email to kwicminis@yahoo.com**