



AMSCOPE

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

July 2016

Volume CB28

Issue 7

American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc Income Statement

For the Five Months Ending
May 31, 2016

Income - all Sources	\$52,855.45
Expenses - all Sources	\$48,779.23
2016 Profit or (Loss)	\$4,076.22

Any AMSC member may upon request of the Treasurer receive a detailed copy of this Financial Report.

Nominating Committee Report:

Our slate of Officers, Board of Governors (Class of 2020) and AKC Delegate is

Officers

Carole Weinberger – President
Sharon Edwards – Vice President
Carol Hafner – Secretary
Bonnie Keyes – Treasurer

Governors

Patti Henderson
Sonny Lelle
Patricia O'Brien
Beth Santure

AKC Delegate

Barbara Donahue

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 WAYS TO BE RICHLY	3
FROM HEALTH COMMITTEE	5
GENETICS 101	1
NEW APPLICANTS	4
PET OWNERS BEWARE	6
STEALING JOY....	7

Genetics 101

Daphne L. Young

Stadtler Miniature Schnauzers

Milford, Pennsylvania

In recent days we in the Miniature Schnauzer world have received wonderful news from Dr. Giger at Penngen and the American Miniature Schnauzer club with regards to a possible DNA test for MAC. I firmly believe that within a few years we are also going to be hearing that we have one for Congenital Cataracts and PRA Type B as well.

That said, there will be two schools of thought. One school is find the carriers and say "Spay and neuter them all". Then there is the school of thought that will say "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater". Here is where I feel a basic genetics course needs to be given so that all may understand the fundamentals of genetics. I am not going to get into huge terminology and make your eyes roll back in your head. There are those of you who understand genetics and say "Why am I reading this, I know this already", clearly this is not for you but humor me and read to the end. I have noticed over the years that some people think they understand enough about "dominant and recessive genetics" and who really don't, and those who don't understand at all but would like to know. This is for you. We will call this course "Basic Genetics 101 for the Uninformed".

First of all DNA stands for a complicated sounding term known as Deoxyribonucleic Acid. It is what is known as a "double helix". For you to visualize think of it as a winding circular staircase with the "runs" of the staircase made of polynucleotides known as guanine (g), cytosine (c), adenine (a)

and thymine (t) as well as some other things we don't need to get into here. A lines up with T and C lines up with G. How they line up is what makes the backbone of DNA. Each parent contributes exactly one half of this combined double helix to make up their new offspring. In that new combination are a conglomerate of dominant and recessive traits, hopefully most will be magic, but there will be those that are deleterious to this new offspring.

I want to explain in what I feel is the easiest way for most to understand and that is by using human eye color as an example. We are not going to get into the various shades and how they are expressed. Human genes for the expression of eye color are Brown (let's call it big "B") and blue (let's call it little "b"). The gene for Brown eyes is what is known as a dominant trait and for blue is known as a recessive trait.

Now let's assume that BOTH parents each carry BOTH genes for Brown eyes. ALL of the offspring will not only express the color for Brown eyes since it is dominant, but they will also carry BOTH genes to pass on to their potential offspring.

Now let's assume that one parent who expresses the color for Brown eyes also carries the gene for blue eyes and they pair with a parent that carries BOTH genes for Brown eyes. Statistics say that while ALL offspring will express the color for Brown eyes, at least ONE-HALF will also carry the gene for blue eyes. If both parents each express Brown eyes but each carry the gene for blue statistics say that ¾ of the offspring will express the color for Brown, ½ of the offspring will carry the gene

cont'd p. 2, col 2.. **GENETCS 101**

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 Bulletin Committee.

Chair: Laurie Moore
1785 Ocean Blvd. #312
Coos Bay, OR 97420
swdesign@ymail.com

Kennalea Pratt
535 East Woodland
Springfield, MO 65807-3607
kennalea@mindspring.com

Marilyn Oxandale
10117 Maeborn Terrace
St. Louis, MO 63126-1814
oxandale@aol.com

Report all changes to the Roster to
treasurer@AMSC.us
Bonnie Keyes
511 River Terrace
Endicott, NY 13760
(607)742-3828

GENETCS 101 ..from p. 1

for blue eyes and ¼ will express and carry BOTH genes for the color blue.

Now let's pair a person who expresses brown but carries the gene for blue eyes with a person who is recessive for blue (in other words both of their genes for eye color are blue and are expressed in its many shades). Statistics also say that ONE-HALF of the offspring will express the color Brown but carry the gene for blue eyes. While also ONE-HALF will not only express the color for blue eyes but also carry both genes for that trait to pass on to their offspring.

Finally for those parents who not only carry but also express the genes for blue eyes, well its recessive, they are only capable of producing one of the many shades of blue eyed offspring. Think of it like a black & silver Miniature Schnauzer, two black & silvers can only produce black & silver.

Now, with the exception of those parents who carry BOTH dominant genes for Brown eyes and BOTH recessive genes for blue eyes statistics only sort of hold true! Whether you believe in creation or evolution, God or nature can have a funny or sick sense of humor! Genes don't ALWAYS line up according to statistics. ANY of those pairings may not produce what is expected. Just like those who test bred for cataracts or PRA type B with AFFECTED animals (I'm not talking about breeding with carriers only affected) and got 10 clear puppies. It unfortunately is STILL possible for an affected parent and a carrier to produce 10 clear puppies (NOT EXPRESSED) but STILL be carriers. It is also possible for a males to have 200 or more puppies and not have an issue and then hit the magic 8 ball and suddenly produce a problem! It is also possible for several bloodlines who breed back & forth together for decades and not have one issue and suddenly get hit. A person I know has an older male who is 12 generations away from the "popular Pennsylvania sire" they believe was the start for Myatonia Congenita and found out that this male was a carrier. Not only did

he carry, but he passed it to all but one of his show prospect offspring! DON'T panic – it IS possible to breed a carrier to a non-carrier and get absolute magic! One of their friends bred a bitch that carried the gene to a male that was clear and got two beautiful puppies who were perfectly clear!

So now you know where I stand on "throwing the baby out with the bathwater"! It might not happen the first time you pair a clear animal with a carrier, it might take a couple tries after all God has a sense of humor at times that we just don't get. But here is the REAL big some since I got up at an ungodly hour to start dogs. I picked up one of the many show magazines that cluttered the motorhome floor and started to read. One of the articles was about a breed (I don't remember the name of that breed) that had finally found a genetic test for their form of PRA. What happened next happened because they were uninformed about lack of genetic variation in a given population. Apparently they all had made a pack to spay and neuter ALL carriers for PRA. BAD IDEA!!! They had a moderate population prior to testing, not like our breed, but not bad. Over some time a problem developed that they had not intended, with lack of genetic diversity they created a fatal genetic illness in their breed!

We need to learn from human genetic history. During the Egyptian empire the Pharaohs and their family only married and reproduced with their own families, sometimes as tightly as brother and sister. As a result horrific genetic abnormalities ensued. This is a practice that has continued in Arabic culture to some extent today, only with cousins and also uncles with nieces to the point that family groups are heavily related on both sides. And there are other examples in the Roman Empire and also in the Royal families of Europe with the most famous genetic issue being that of Hemophilia dating back to Henry VIII's son.

The best example in modern day America can be found in the Mennonite and Amish communities that can be found in

Cont'd on p. 3.. **GENETCS 101**

GENETCS 101...from p. 2
 many northern, central and upper south east states. For those of you who do not know the Mennonite and Amish communities are Christian religious communities of Germanic backgrounds from the 16th century who live more simply and are isolated from the “English” (non-members not necessarily of English decent). While they are friendly with their neighbors and those with whom they do business and they live without modern amenities such as electric and cars. The Amish more so than the Mennonite. BOTH do not marry outside the community and remain segregated. As a result there is very little genetic variation in a given regional community. All are in some way and also many ways related to each other with both close and distant relations on both sides of the family tree in the same regional community. Many communities can trace their lineage back to the same small group of 89 founders.

As a result many genetic abnormalities have been noted. From an “x” linked night blindness to a more deleterious genetic conditions known as severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). It is most certainly one of a combination of genetic disorders found in the community where any of a host of childhood illnesses that are both bacterial and or viral cannot be fought off without a bone marrow transplant that is compatible. Without a suitable match for bone marrow, these children die before their first year of life. All from lack of genetic diversity.

So there is my answer to spaying and neutering dogs and bitches who are carriers (NOT affected).

For God's sake DON'T, put a rubber band on your wrist and snap it before you do that and keep snapping it until you get that thought out of your head!!! It is

possible to breed a dog or a bitch who is a carrier to a non-carrier and get normal offspring who will be both unaffected and non-carriers. It will sometimes take a few times to find the magic 8 ball, or maybe a couple generations of doing that. Continue to do genetic testing of the offspring you wish to keep. But it is IMPOSSIBLE for a dog or bitch who is a carrier but won't be affected (recessive genes only) to produce an animal who will be affected when bred to a NON-CARRIER!!! Those offspring MIGHT be carriers but they WON'T be affected. Please don't be afraid to breed to someone's dog or bitch that IS a carrier when these DNA tests are available. IF you have done your due diligence and tested you have the proof that your dogs are clear.

We need ALL of the clear dogs and the carriers to make a healthy breed. Spaying and neutering carriers of even MAC can be detrimental to the survival of our beloved breed. Good luck to all of you in your endeavors! By the way, IF I heard correctly PennGen will be offering BOTH tests for Myatonia Congenita and MAC for \$100/dog. PLEASE don't assume that just because your dog is NOT related to the “popular Pennsylvania sire” that your dogs are clear. Years ago Dr. Giger wrote a paper in a scientific journal that a southeastern bloodline “UNRELATED to the popular Pennsylvania sire” produced Myatonia Congenita. The normal DNA test for Myatonia is \$75/dog and can be done with two to three simple cheek swabs per animal. If BOTH tests will cost \$100/dog then that's a huge deal!



5 Ways to Be Richly Rewarded by Your Pet

I'd like to reflect on the gifts our animal companions bring to our lives not just during the holidays, but every day of the year.

Five Gifts Our Pets Give Us

Connection

Our pets stay connected to us no matter how bad we feel or behave. They're right beside us every step of the way, every minute of the day. During those times when we feel ignored and disengaged from the world, our pets offer unconditional connectedness.

Communication

Close, connected relationships evolve from clear, consistent communication. When communication is untrustworthy or used in a harmful way, the relationship breaks down.

Our pets “talk” to us constantly through their body language and behavior. It's our job to learn the language they speak, and to communicate clearly to them what we expect and appreciate about their behavior.

Staying in the moment

As humans, we spend considerable time feeling regret for something in our past, or feeling anxious about the future. It's not time well spent, but most of us tend to live in the past or the future rather than the present moment.

Our pets, by their example, help us to stay present – to live for today. Our animal companions experience each moment as it arrives with enthusiasm and joy, and so can we if we follow their lead.

Forgiveness

Most of us can remember a time when we ignored our pet, or lost patience and spoke too sharply. We also remember that our animal companion forgave us the very next second.

Our pets don't hold grudges. They don't punish themselves or us by clinging to past insults. They offer instant forgiveness and an open heart.

A life in balance

Our animal companions are at their best when we provide them with consistency in the form of healthy nourishment, daily exercise, structure to their daily routine, and lots of love.

These are the “simple things in life” that are the foundation for a balanced, less stressful, and more joyful existence.

NEW APPLICANTS

Heather Orr

Box 1704

Kemptville, Ontario, Canada

613-258-6378 tuxndtails@gmail.com

Heather has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 37 years. She has owned approximately 30 dogs over the years. She is a breeder and has had 20 litters from stud dogs and 9 litters from bitches over the past five years. Heather attends about 15 – 25 shows a year and concentrates on conformation. She is a member of the Canadian Kennel Club – Ontario and the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Canada and the Rideau Terrier Club – Ottawa and has served as their past Secretary and present Vice President. Heather is retired and widowed for the past five years. She would like to help others to get started in the sport.

Heather's Sponsors are: Janet Smith and Catherine McMillan.

Eduardo Mendez

925 Fillmore Ave.,

Ogden, Utah 84404

801-621-8132 Eduardo8485@hotmail.com

Eduardo has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 6 years. He has owned approximately 3 Miniature Schnauzers over the years. He is a breeder and has had 5 litters over the past 5 years. Eduardo attends about 8 dog events per year and concentrates on conformation as well as obedience events. He is a member of the Group IV Terrier Club, Salt Lake City, Utah. Eduardo works in Administration and his special skills lie in the Computer. He is interested in helping the club with Newsletter, Rescue, Education, Membership, Ethics, and Health. **Eduardo's Sponsors are: Galen Ewer and Jane Nielsen.**

Tim Selfridge

1869 East 5725 South

Ogden, Utah 84403

801-695-3804 amistadt@msn.com

Tim has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 26 years. He has owned approximately 3 Miniature Schnauzers over the years. He is a breeder and has had 5 litters over the past 5 years. Tim attends about 8 dog events per year and concentrates on conformation events. He is a member of the Group IV Terrier Club, Salt Lake City, Utah. Tim is retired. His areas of expertise are computer skills and wood working. He would like to help the club out with Electronic Media and woodworking for trophies. **Tim's Sponsors are: Carma Ewer and Laurie Moore.**

Karen S. Hoffmann, D.V.M.

17520 Hardy Road,

Mt. Airy, Md. 21771

410-375-0178 kshoffmann@gmail.com

Karen has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 50 years. She has owned many Miniature Schnauzers as well as Golden Retrievers, Border Collies, Belgian Tervurens, and German Shepherds. She is a breeder and has bred 7 litters from her bitches and 12 from G Ch. Earthsong Remedy for the Blues. Karen attends about 5 – 10 dog events per year and her concentrations are Conformation and Obedience events. She is a member of the Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club. Karen is a Veterinarian. She is interested in serving the club in the areas of Newsletter, Education, Obedience, Agility, Ethics, and Health.

Karen's Sponsors are: Shawne Imler and Carol Beagle.

JoAnne Scott

23100 M 78

Battle Creek, Mi. 49017

269-964-6462 ja.scott@comcast.net

JoAnne has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 40 years. She has owned at least 5 Miniature Schnauzers over that time, and is not a breeder. She has participated in Agility for 14 years and Obedience for 35 years and also Rally and Barn Hunt. JoAnne attends approximately 80 dog events a year. She belongs to the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Michigan where she is on the Top Lines and Publicity committees and writes a column called "Performance Corner" for their newsletter. JoAnne is retired. She would like to help the club out with Newsletter, Awards/Trophies, Education, and Agility. Her special skills are knowledge in positive training techniques, good communication skills and excellent organizational skills.

JoAnne's Sponsors are: Beth Santure and Lynn Baitinger.

Katherine ("Kathy") Means

373 Rockinghorse Drive,

Grants Pass, Or. 97527

541-479-549 meansplace50@aol.com

website: Sugar Pine Miniature Schnauzers **Kathy** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 2 ½ years. She owns 3 Miniature Schnauzers. She is a breeder and has bred and whelped 3 litters. Kathy has participated in Conformation for 2 years. She has attended and participated in many conformation events. She belongs

to Southern Oregon Terrier Association and Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club. Kathy is a Registered Nurse. She would like to help the club out with Public Awareness, Education and Health.

Kathy's Sponsors are: Lynda Berar and Laurie Moore.

Cindy Bankston

33413 S.E. Brooks Rd.,

Boring, Or. 97009

971-570-1506 cbarkston@yahoo.com

Cindy has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 27 years. She has owned 3 Miniature Schnauzers over the that time and presently has 2. Cindy is not a breeder. Cindy participates in Agility (9 years), Obedience/Rally (9 years), Earth Dog and Barn Hunt (4 years), as well as participating in Canine Freestyle and Tracking Classes and Workshops. She attends 25 – 30 dog events per year, and at least 2 weekends a month. Cindy belongs to South Oregon Terrier Association, Columbia Agility Team, Portland, Or., (Awards Chair, CPE Championships) and Performance Schnauzers Yahoo Group since 2007. She works as a Non – Profit Department Manager. Cindy would like to help the club out with Newsletter, Legislative Issues, Rescue, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies, Education, Obedience, Agility and Health. Cindy's special skills are in event planning and coordinating, writing and editing skills, and advocating with legislators on various issues.

Cindy's Sponsors are: Lynn Tamms, Cynthia Mulheron Klein, Millicent Conover, Kaye M Kirk, Marcia Dawson, Robin Ohrt, Barbara Donahue

Kerrie Rousey

670 Sausalito Blvd.,

Casselberry, Fl. 32707

321-299-6180 KerrieRousey@yahoo.com

Kerrie has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 2 ½ years. She owns a male Miniature Schnauzer that she has competed in conformation and has finished his Championship herself. She also owns a Chinese Crested, a Bichon and a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. Kerrie does grooming competitions with several of her dogs and also has a Dog Grooming Business. She attends approximately 50 dog events per year. Kerrie is not a breeder. Kerrie is interested in Canine Education and Health. Kerrie is a member of the Central Florida Miniature Schnauzer Club, the Soft Coated Wheaten Club of Tampa, Fl. And National Dog Groomers of America.

Kerrie's Sponsors are: Carole Weinberger and Amy Gordon.

NEW APPLICANTS, cont'd

from the Health Committee.....

Mary McArdle

686 Red Deer Road,
Franktown, Co. 80116-8735
303-791-0106
ms.mca3920@gmail.com

Mary has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 14 years. She has owned two Miniature Schnauzers, one for 14 years and one for 6 years to date. She is not a breeder. She has participated in Agility, Rally and Barn Hunt Events. Mary takes part in approximately 24 Agility Trials per year and 4 to 5 Rally Events so far this year. She has just achieved a Novice Title in Barn Hunt. She belongs to Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club, Denver, Co., where she held office and has been on many committees, and sponsors the CMSC Yearly Picnic. Mary also belongs to the Rocky Mountain All Terrier Club, Denver, Co. Mary is retired and would like to help the club in Performance Events: Agility, Rally and Barn Hunt. She will be a good promoter of the breed. **Mary's Sponsors are: Judith C. Hughes and Carole Alex**

Amy McGovern

4201 Brookfield Drive,
Norman, OK 73072
405-606-9459
dramymcgovern@gmail.com

Amy has been involved with miniature schnauzers all her life, as she grew up with them...She personally has had four of her own which she obtained from the Blythewood, Ruedesheim and Aristo Kennels...Amy is not a breeder...She participates in Agility and Barn Hunt with her schnauzers...Amy does approximately 8-10 Agility Events a year, does home shows 6 times a year and participates in video trials 2-3 times a month...Amy belongs to the Canine Sports Academy, Norman, Ok and Lickety Split Agility, Oklahoma City...Amy is a Professor...She is interested in helping out the club with Newsletter, Electronic Media, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies, Education, Agility and Health...Amy is a computer scientist and has lots of computer skills to offer...She is also a skilled photographer and has helped with the AMSC webpage including the recent "Stairway to Heaven" which appeared in the publication...**Amy's Sponsors are: Patti Henderson and Kaye Kirk**

Unfortunately Disclosure/Open Registry cannot be made mandatory –it has to be voluntary. We have to hope that as people feel more comfortable disclosing that they are not going to get ridiculed, the reluctance may turn around –we should lead by example. We must support each other and that includes differences in opinions but at the same time we must all be monitors to make sure that discussion never turns to accusation and impropriety– we must all remind each other when we get out of hand. And moreover, it can be done in manner that does not put people on the defensive.

Also –we have to remember that Future Shock got this from somewhere and there are several cases where we actually could not find Newsprint or his mother in the pedigree –so we must as breeders insist on knowing with certainty the MAC status even if Newsprint is not in the pedigree –if the breeding dog/bitch is not on the "MAC list" you should ask for the results of the MAC DNA test. Having said that ANY test is subject to human error & tests can sometimes yield false results –we will work closely with breeders to try to reconcile any issues. We intend to be in this for the long haul and we need to operate from a position of knowledge and not innuendo.

Here is what we plan to do as part of this process.

The Health Committee has planned a series of genetic articles in Amscope which will also be on the website – we have already published one in the series. Eight (8) articles are planned and the outline for these articles was published in the minutes of the recent Board meeting. We have documents that have been reviewed by Dr Giger and others that will address what to do now that there is a DNA test geared especially to ensure that we do NOT bottleneck the genepool by removing dogs who have truly outstanding attributes just because they are carriers. This is extremely important.

The DNA Test is not the end-all —we have to **< i>use it properly and correctly.** The AMSC Health Committee has prepared for this training by arranging seminars for the membership - Dr Carmen Battaglia will be addressing the membership at the GWTA (and it will be video taped and made available to all with slides) ; Dr. Giger will be speaking at MCKC in October and by that time should have some information on prevalence etc for us. MAC largely occurs before 2 years old although there have been older cases but it is felt these are outliers. Therefore Dr Giger fully expects to identify dogs who test homogeneous for the mutation (meaning affected) but have not displayed any clinical signs. I can hardly imagine what that be like for a breeder but we will need to come together in positive way and I cannot stress that enough.

I hope we go gently through this dark night and with your support we will. We are counting on it!

Patti Henderson

HERE IT IS...WHAT EVERY-ONE HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR:



How to Access the MEMBERS ONLY section of the AMSC website

Click the Members tab in the top right hand section of the website

Username is: AMSC#1
Password is: Schnauzer2015
Type carefully - case sensitive!

Once in you will have access to AMSCestry and many other items of interest to our members!

Pet Owners Beware: These Inadvertent Blunders Can Make Your Pet Miserable

By Dr. Becker

Even the most well-intentioned pet guardian drops the ball every now and then when it comes to caring for a dog or cat. But we want to avoid mistakes as much as possible – especially when they might hurt an animal companion's health or quality of life.

The following are a few common blunders many pet owners make and suggestions on how to correct those mistakes.

Mistakes with When to Feed, How to Feed, and What to Feed

One big mistake many pet owners make is to provide their dog or cat with an all-day, all-you-can-eat buffet, also known as free feeding. This practice has contributed in a big way to the current epidemic of pet obesity in the US and elsewhere.

Free feeding turns natural hunters into grazers, which goes against nature. Your cat or dog is a carnivore whose instinct is to hunt his food. In the wild, your pet would catch, kill, and eat prey. Hunting is not grazing. Dogs and cats aren't built like horses, cows, or other grazing animals that require a constant supply of food in their digestive tracts.

The natural instinct of a carnivore is to eat a small amount of food followed by a fast, followed by another small amount of food and another fasting period. Cats and dogs provided with a constant supply of available food turn into grazers who eat too much and move too little. In addition, the only type of food that can be left out 24/7 is dry processed kibble, which is biologically inappropriate nutrition for dogs and cats. Bottom line: free feeding is a bad idea because it makes pets fat, and because it isn't the most nutritious diet for dogs and cats.

To ensure your pet is getting the food he was designed to eat, my first recommendation is to prepare pet meals yourself, with ingredients you select, based on balanced, species-appropriate recipes. Alternatively, I recommend buying from small pet food companies that offer fresh, whole, species-appropriate, and preferably organic, non-GMO diets for dogs and cats.

To ensure your pet isn't overfed, serve portion-controlled meals on a consistent schedule. Feeding two portion-controlled meals a day, one in the morning and one in the evening at about the same time each day, works well for most dogs and cats and also fits conveniently into the daily schedule for most families. If you're home during the day, you can opt to feed several small meals instead, as long as you don't exceed your pet's recommended daily caloric intake.

Mistakes with Punishment and Training

When you find a "present" left behind by a furry family member or pet-related damage

to your belongings, your instinctive reaction may be to yell at your dog or cat. But it's important to keep in mind that yelling and other forms of punishment are more harmful than helpful, and in some cases, can actually reinforce undesirable behavior.

When an animal is punished, she often has no idea what she's being punished for, because dogs and cats have a very limited ability to understand cause and effect. All your pet takes away from her punishment is that you aren't consistently safe to be around. If she feels afraid and intimidated in your presence, it can permanently damage the bond between you.

Another problem with punishment is that your pet doesn't learn a better behavior with which to replace the undesired behavior. Consequently, the bad behavior will reappear or other unwanted behaviors will take its place. In addition, the punishment must be increased in intensity over time, because your pet will grow desensitized to it. And if all that wasn't bad enough, animals trained using punishment methods tend to have higher rates of aggression and biting.

A growing number of studies show that positive reinforcement training is much more effective than training that involves dominance and punishment. Positive reinforcement training is based on the simple notion that rewarding your dog for desired behavior will encourage more of that behavior.

Your goal training your pet should be to encourage "more of this" (desirable behaviors) and "less of that" (undesirable behaviors). It's impossible to reach that goal when what the animal is primarily learning is what NOT to do. Doesn't it make sense, if the objective is to share your life with a well-mannered animal companion, to spend at least as much time letting her know which behaviors earn her praise, attention, and affection?

Mistakes with Collars, Harnesses, and Leashes

Many pet guardians don't realize the importance of choosing the right type of collar, harness, and leash for their animal companion. You may not be aware that selecting the wrong type of equipment can endanger your pet's safety and health.

Certain dogs, for example, should never be leashed or even handled by the collar. These include dogs that pull or lunge while on a leash, dogs prone to tracheal collapse, dogs that have a seizure disorder, and pets with chiropractic issues involving the neck and/or back. These animals should wear a harness, and their collars should be used strictly for identification purposes.

Choke collars should never be used. These collars can cause pain and injury to your dog's neck, and in extreme cases, strangulation.

For walks, training sessions, and whenever your dog will be on leash, I recommend either a head collar or no-pull harness. Even if you're very careful not to jerk or yank your pet's leash during a walk, he can pull against a regular collar-leash combination and potentially cause injury to his neck or cervical disk.

I'm also not a fan of retractable leashes due to their potential to injure both dogs and their owners. I recommend flat leashes no longer than six feet.

If you're owned by a kitty, does she wear a collar? Sadly, very few cats – less than 2 percent -- find their way home if they run off or are lost. This includes indoor-only kitties in addition to indoor-outdoor pets. So if you share your life with a cat, she should wear a collar, and make sure her ID tag or information is on the collar.

The type of collar you choose is really up to you and your feline companion. Types of cat collars include buckle collars typically made of nylon, leather or fabric; reflective collars that can be seen in the dark; elastic collars that slip on and off; and breakaway safety collars designed to allow kitty to get out of the collar if it gets caught or hung up on anything.

Mistakes with Cleaning Teeth and Clipping Nails

Two pet care chores many owners don't pay enough attention to are cleaning teeth and clipping nails.

You should brush your pet's teeth if not every day, then several times a week at a minimum. Most pets over the age of 3 have some degree of gum disease, and the situation only gets worse with time. Not only are dental and gum problems painful for your dog or cat, they can trigger other health problems, and they can put a hurting on your pocketbook as well.

You should also clip your pet's nails regularly. How often depends on how fast they grow and how much time he spends on surfaces that grind them down naturally. If you can't bear to do the clipping yourself, I encourage you to make a standing appointment with a groomer or veterinarian who will do it for you. Dogs too often develop serious paw and toe problems from nails that have grown too long. And kitty claws can become deadly weapons if they're not clipped regularly.



CAN YOU
TELL THAT I
WENT SHOP-
PING?

Stealing Joy and Stealing Thunder....

Posted by grandiosepointers

These are some things that have been on my mind lately. The world of show dogs can be a wonderful, encouraging, loving, supportive place at times.....and a nasty venomous snake pit other times. I had someone steal my joy at a recent show. It upset me to the point where I felt I couldn't even brag about something that my puppy had accomplished that made me feel so happy. I've gone through a lot just to stay in this breed, especially recently – and for my puppy to have done well made me incredibly happy and proud, of her, and of myself. And someone stole that from me completely. Still hurts over a month later.

This article, written a few years back, sums up "stealing joy" better than I could at this point –

DON'T YOU DARE STEAL MY JOY

by Connie Cleveland

On the occasion of my tenth anniversary, my husband asked me how I wanted to celebrate. I asked that we take a very dear friend, my adopted grandmother and one of the greatest of all the great southern ladies, out to dinner with us.

At dinner, my husband, Brian, presented me with a diamond ring. It was gorgeous and I was speechless, but even as I thanked him, I worried about the expense and extravagance of such a gift. As if he knew that the next line belonged to my grandmother, my husband excused himself from the table. He was barely out of sight when she reached across the table and grabbed me by the shoulder, "I know what you're thinking, I know you think he couldn't afford it and it's too extravagant. I don't care if he had to put a second mortgage on the house to buy it, don't you steal his joy! It's beautiful. Accept it as the token of his love that it is and say nothing about how he shouldn't have bought it for you." Then she repeated, "Don't you dare steal his joy!"

That was the end of the conversation. She sat back in her seat, smiled at my returning husband, and we had a lovely dinner. I took her advice and put my reservations out of my mind. The ring has never come off my finger, but most importantly, I learned a wonderfully important lesson, never to steal another man's joy.

Are you a joy stealer?

"You know if my dog hadn't gone down on the sit, I would have won the class", said, unfeelingly, to the winner. "I sure didn't think your dog worked that high a score."

"I can't believe you placed, I thought Jane Oneup and her dog would beat you."

"I thought I had that class won! My dog had a great performance," said to the winner.

"Isn't that judge an idiot? I can't believe the dogs he put up!" said to the winner.

"Boy, aren't you glad Mrs Winallthetime

wasn't here today or you might not have won." "You passed that Master test because the water blind was so easy." "That was the stupidest set of water marks I've ever seen. No trial should end that easily," said to the winner.

Do you discourage or encourage fellow competitors? Do you tell them their goals are too lofty and their dreams too big? Are you trying to be helpful or trying to keep them from accomplishing something that you never had the ability or perseverance to do yourself? It is equally as harmful to steal joy by destroying the dream.

"No Basset Hounds get UD's," said to the owner of the Basset in Utility class. "I've never seen a Rottweiler that could do fronts and finishes", said to the owner of the Rottweiler practicing fronts and finishes. "Do you have any idea how hard it is to get a UD and a Master Hunter? Do you know how few people have ever done it?" said to the first time dog owner setting out to do both.

When FC AFC OTCH Law Abiding Ezra had both his field championships and 65 OTCH points including all the necessary first places, someone had the guts to come up to me, his owner, trainer and handler and say, "No dog will ever be a field champion and an obedience champion." My jaw drops when I think about it. Isn't it unfortunate that I remember this attempt at stealing my joy much more than I remember all the cards and letters and congratulations I received when those last 35 points were earned?

If you are willing to destroy someone's dream, perhaps you don't realize that it is the JOY of pursuing the dream that keeps the dreamer motivated, not just reaching the accomplishment.

My husband and I travel and compete together. I remember an event, early in our relationship when I watched his Doberman fail articles. "Darn it," I said, as he came out of the ring, "she didn't even try to find the right one!" "Oh", he replied, "but, weren't her heeling and signals wonderful?"

Unknowingly, I had almost stolen his joy. He was celebrating the improvement on the exercise that had been giving him trouble, and I was focused on the failure. Since that experience, Brian and I have learned that the best response to a questionable performance, "What did you think?" That way, if the handler is excited about some aspect of the performance, you can share that excitement. If the handler is disappointed in another aspect, you can share the disappointment. You are safely removed from being a joy stealer.

I hope you have a lot of dreams and goals for your dogs in (the coming year). Undoubtedly there will be moments of disappointment as you venture through the landmines of injury, failures and other setbacks. Remember that the joy of the journey is worth the difficulties along the way and don't let anyone steal that joy. Guard it well and at the end of the road

you can own it and revel in it with all the other memories of the trip.

On a similar, but slightly unrelated subject is stealing peoples thunder. Social media has made it easy for us to keep up with each other. Made it easy to figure out who is breeding what, who is winning what, who is showing where, etc etc etc. It has also made us rude. Its become a race to see who can find out the best results the fastest and get them posted online, or who can congratulate the winners the fastest. We do a lot of thunder stealing on Facebook.

If you find out the results from a show, especially important shows or events, and you just cant help but want to congratulate the person on their win, send them a private message. Give the person a chance to brag themselves BEFORE you post congrats to their wall, BEFORE you post the results online for all of FB to know. Give them a chance to have their own 15 minutes in the spotlight for their win before you take it from them. For some people, the best part of the win is being able to share it with the world. When someone else does it for you, it takes the wind out of your sails. If it is not your brag to share, DONT SHARE IT until the person has a chance to do it themselves. If it is someone who never brags, then ask them if you can do it for them. If it is someone who usually brags, then leave it be and wait for them to do it themselves. Not everyone has a chance to run straight out of the ring and get on FB and brag to the world. Some of us have other dogs to show, people to talk to, pictures to take, puppies to walk, other things to do. Period. Some of us wont brag until the day is done. Some people like to wait until they have a photo of the win to brag with. If its not your brag, dont steal someone elses thunder by having to be the first to congratulate them online when they have not bragged themselves yet.

Be considerate. Think about how YOU would feel if you just got your very first BIG win with your puppy, only to check your phone 5 minutes later and someone else has already done all the bragging for you. Someone completely unrelated to your dog.

Think about how YOU would feel if you just won something and walked out of the ring to someone telling you that the judge knows nothing about a good dog or the judge had to choose you due to political reasons or whatever other joy stealing thing they could say. Honestly, this goes back to "if you cant say anything nice, then dont say anything at all"....

Off my soapbox for today...I've got a bunch of happy puppies to go play with

BASKET OF CHEER!





AMSCOPE

Carla M. Borrelli, Editor
1799 South Creek Road
Derby, NY 14047-9729

UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Chicago MSC June 18, 2016
Regular Classes: Robert Hutton
Sweeps: Mrs Betty Pump
Milshore MSC (back to back) July 29, 2016
Regular Classes: Mareth Kipp
Jay Richardson
Sweepstakes: Janice Wavra
Lone Star MSC July 7, 2016
Regular Classes: Sally George
Sweepstakes: Darlene Davis
Portland MSC January 18, 2017

AMSC SPECIALTIES

Great Western June 26, 2016
Regular classes, Linda More
Sweeps-Mary Paisley
Montgomery Co. Oct. 9, 2016
Regular classes: Jon Cole
Sweeps:Linda Drost
Roving Specialty-Portland Jan 21, 2017
Regular classes: David Alexander
Sweeps: Bonnie Keyes
Great Western June 25, 2017
Regular Classes: Peggy Beisel McIlwaine
Sweeps: Patty Ledgerwood
Montgomery County Oct. 8, 2017
Regular Classes: Joan Huber
Sweeps: Brian Bogart

Malcolm Beauchamp, long time member, died tragically on Memorial Day.

Many have been asking about arrangements. He will be at the Nolan-Taylor Funeral Home, 5 Laurel Ave., Northport, NY on June 25th and can be viewed between 11 and 3.

A musical scholarship fund is being set up at the High school where he worked. More details later.

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.

PRESIDENT
Carole Weinberger
5897 Buford St,
Orlando, FL 32835
Phone: 407-822-8103
bandsman@earthlink.net

VICE PRESIDENT
Sharon Edwards
21301 Golf Estates Drive
Laytonsville, MD 20882
Phone: 301-947-8811
lonestarms@verizon.net

SECRETARY
Carol Hafner
576 East Quincy Avenue
Fresno, CA 93720-2125
(559) 435-6207
cnhafnish@sbcglobal.net
secretary@amsc.us

MEMBERSHIP
Jacquelin Ebersbach
424 45th Street
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Phone: 561-644-8420
saxonyms@comcast.net

TREASURER
Bonnie Keyes
511 River Terrace
Endicott, NY 13760
(607)742-3828
treasurer@amsc.us

AMSCOPE
Carla Borrelli
1799 South Creek Road
Derby, NY 14047
Phone: 716-627-3206
cborr@aol.com

**AMSC Web page: <http://amsc.us>
AKC home page: <http://www.akc.org/akc/>**