



AMSCOPE

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

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BEST IN SHOW

AmGCh.CanGCh.Minuteman Justified was Best In Show at the Fargo-Moorehead KC in Fargo, ND, under judge Peggy Beisel-McIlwain on Sunday, June 4th. "Raylan" is owned by Vickie Boechler and Kate McMillan, and was owner-breeder handled to his win. Co-bred with Terrie Houck.

SPECIALTY WINS

Metropolitan Cleveland MSC
May 27, 2017

Sweeps Judge: Dr. Alan Dorfman

BSW...Carbor Lookin' Good/Borrelli
BWSW...Am/Can CH Carbor Hot on the Trail/
Weixlmann



13 year old veteran,
Clouseau

BOSVSW...Carbor Marching Time/Lynn/
Borrelli

Regular Classes: Judge: Karen Wilson
WD/BOW/BOS...Majestic Zare Fancy Pants
of Sarius/Durst/Cromer
RWD...Carbor King of Clowns/Borrelli
WB...Dimension Dow's Divine Inspiration/
Hafen/Williams
RWB...Ebonheir's Penny for Your Thoughts/
Deer
BOB...CH Evenstar Midnight Legacy/Tibbs

**The deadline
for the August issue is
July 15**

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Pets Are Germ Carriers - But Is That a Blessing or a Curse?

By Dr. Becker

Given the time and passion most of us devote to cleaning our surroundings, our two- and four-legged family members and ourselves, it's hard to imagine a situation in which we might be too clean. However, there's a very intriguing theory called the hygiene hypothesis that suggests we could be overdoing it.

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

Since the advent of anti-bacterial products for every conceivable use, we've become hyper-vigilant in trying to avoid every germ in the environment.

On the surface this might seem like a sensible approach, but not everyone is convinced. It is thought that early exposure to bacteria and parasites prepares immature immune systems to fight dangerous infections.

Further, this "priming" of the immune system also helps it learn the difference between serious health hazards like a pneumonia infection, and harmless irritants like pet dander and pollen.

When the immune system remains naïve from lack of exposure to real pathogens, it's more likely to mount attacks against benign environmental triggers.

Babies in Homes With Dogs Have More Diversified Gut Bacteria

There's a growing body of research that seems to support the hygiene hypothesis. For example, multiple studies over the last 20 years suggest that children raised in households with dogs have less allergies and asthma than kids who grow up in homes without pets.

In 2013, a team of researchers led by pediatric epidemiologist Anita Kozyrskyj, Ph.D., of the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, evaluated the fecal samples from two-dozen 4-month-old babies, including 15 who lived with at least one dog or cat.

The researchers observed that the babies liv-

ing with pets had a wider assortment of gut microbes than those without pets (which is a good thing). The development of the immune system is directly impacted by the gut microbiome, which is the vast population of bacteria that live in the digestive tract.

Children who grow up with inadequate exposure to microbes, for example, the bacteria found on a pet dog's coat or tracked in on his paws, are more likely to have immune systems that view such harmless bacteria as foreign invaders and mount an attack, which manifests as allergies and/or asthma.

Very recently, Kozyrskyj published the results of an expanded study involving 746 babies, half of which lived in homes with pets (primarily dogs).² Confirming the findings of her smaller study, she found that 3-month-old infants living with pets had a greater diversity of gut microbes than babies in homes without animal companions.

Also interesting was that the babies living with pets had higher levels of two types of microbes linked to a lower incidence of both allergies (Ruminococcus bacteria) and obesity (Oscillospira bacteria).

School-Age Kids With Dogs Have Significantly Lower Rates of Asthma

In a 2015 study, a team of Swedish researchers set out to try to quantify the reduced incidence of asthma in kids who grow up with dogs. The researchers looked at the medical records of over 1 million children born in Sweden between 2001 and 2010.

There were around 275,000 school-age children included in the 1 million, and the researchers found that school-age kids who had dogs at home had a 13 percent lower rate of asthma than the children from homes without dogs. According to Sujata Gupta writing for the journal Nature:

con't on p.2.... Germ Carriers

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.

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

Germ Carriers ...from p. 1

"The idea that pets can enhance the microbiome makes even more sense when viewed in light of the old friends hypothesis, a refinement of the hygiene hypothesis. In this view, humans' co-evolution with livestock and animals has made us dependent on their microbes for our health and even survival.

Losing contact with these 'old friends' might tip the delicate evolutionary balance."

Some researchers speculate that because humans and canines have such a long history working and living together, our microbiomes may be somehow intertwined. It could be that a baby without a dog — or a puppy without a human — is on some level incomplete, according to Gupta.

Human Members of Dog-Owning Families Have Similar Skin Bacteria

So how, exactly, is friendly bacteria exchanged between dogs and humans? No one's really sure yet.

A study conducted at the University of Colorado-Boulder demonstrated that dog owners have both more and different skin bacteria than non-dog owners. The microbes in question are a blend of harmless bacteria from doggy tongues (betaproteobacteria) and paws (actinobacteria).

Study participants included 159 people and 36 dogs from 60 families, separated into four groups, including families with children aged 6 to 18, families with no children but one or more dogs, families with both children and dogs and families with no kids and no dogs.

The researchers collected samples of skin (from the forehead, palms or paws and tongues) and stool samples from all the participants (two- and four-legged) to determine what bacteria were present in each location.

Analysis of the samples showed that human family members share similar microbes in the stool, on the skin and in the mouth.

The researchers found that the skin microbiota of people in families with a dog were more similar to each other than the microbiomes of members of dog-free homes. This suggests it was the dogs spreading friendly microbes around.

The researchers noted that much of the common bacteria shared between humans and their dogs happens through licking. Another method of transmission occurs when dogs track bacteria in from outdoors and humans in the household pick it up.

The paws and foreheads of dogs are a rich source of a great number of diverse microbes.

Does Having Dogs Around Benefit Adult Gut Bacteria?

Whether or not the microbiomes of dogs influence not just children's but also adult microbiomes is unclear. A small study conducted by psychiatrist Dr. Charles Raison of the Raison Research Group suggests there is no effect once a person has reached a certain age.

Raison's study involved 20 adults between ages 50 and 80 who were given shelter dogs to care for over a three-month period (with the option to adopt at the end of the study). The study participants' blood, skin, saliva and stool samples were tested before they received the dogs, and again at one-month intervals for three months.

Interestingly, while the temporary dog guardians experienced a number of emotional and physiological benefits from having the dogs around, their microbiomes were unaffected. "The dogs clearly impacted people's emotions and immune systems, but not through the microbiome," said Raison. These findings align with prior studies showing that in humans, the gut microbiome forms within the first few years of life.

Bouquets & Biscuits

***Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Groupie Doll** finished the requirements for her AKC title going Best of Opposite at the Northern California MSC on April 14th. "Groupie" was sired by Am.Can.Ch.Minuteman Up With The Birds and is the second AKC champion for her dam, Kampfer's Fata Morgana. Owned, bred and handled by Catherine McMillan.

***CH Sumerwynd Sister Act** secured a last Major to complete the requirements for her AKC Title at the Central, New York KC Show in Syracuse, NY on March 31, 2017. "Whoopie" is the first Champion for her dam Ch Sumerwynd Spaced Out and the 5th for her sire Ch Bella's Cassanova Twist. She is the 66 AKC Conformation Champion for Sumerwynd and was bred by Wade Bogart and co-owned with Margo Dupre.

Canine Influenza Virus - Differences between cleaning vs disinfection?

Cleaning is the first important step in your dog's environmental health. Disinfecting gets what the eye can't see because today's germs and airborne viruses are stronger and more prevalent than in the past. To disinfect you need a new weapon. A small Atlanta, Georgia, based company, called Pathogen of Georgia has a safe low-cost solution. It is EPA approved and it reaches areas missed by traditional cleaning. The process is a hydrogen peroxide solution that is Eco-friendly and leaves no residue. It is 99.999999 % effective against bacteria, viruses, protozoa etc. Their product is used in hospitals and is safe around pets and people. For more information, call (678) 575-2889 or visit their site at Pathogend.com.

The AKC just reported an alarming number of confirmed cases of canine influenza in dogs. This virus has a 2- 5-day incubation period. Signs include: fever, poor appetite, coughing, sneezing, runny eyes/noses. Two strains are now in 40 states (H3N8 and H3N2). The secretions escape into the environment by way of coughing, barking and sneezing, where they are inhaled by a new canine host. Dogs spread it through contaminated objects and the environment like water bowls, collars, kennel surfaces (walls, ceilings) or through contact with people who have had direct contact.

The best way to prevent your dog from contracting the flu is to keep him away from public places or kennels with recently reported cases of dog flu. If you come into contact with a dog that you suspect has recently been exposed to the dog flu, wash your hands, arms, and clothing before touching your own dog. This will reduce the risk of transmission from you to your dog. You might try contacting Pathogen of Georgia.



Ignoring This? Please Don't - It's Like Dropping a Bomb on Your Pet's Health

Estimates are that around 80 percent of dogs 3 years of age and older have [oral disease](#), typically involving the gums. The problem affects all breeds, but small dogs are more prone to gum disease because they have a lot of teeth crowded into a small space, making cleaning more difficult.

Plaque Buildup Can Lead to Gum Disease When plaque isn't removed from your dog's teeth, it collects there and around the gum line and within a few days hardens into tartar. Tartar sticks to the teeth and ultimately irritates the gums. Irritated gums become inflamed — a condition known as gingivitis.

If your dog has gingivitis, the gums will be red rather than pink and his breath may be noticeably stinky. If the tartar isn't removed, it will build up under the gums, eventually causing them to pull away from the teeth. This creates small pockets in the gum tissue that become repositories for additional bacteria.

At this stage, your pet has developed an irreversible condition, [periodontal disease](#), which causes considerable pain and can result in abscesses, infections, loose teeth and bone loss.

How quickly this process takes place in your dog's mouth depends on a number of factors, including his age, overall health, diet, breed, genetics and the frequency and quality of dental care he receives.

Gum Disease Can Lead to Heart Disease

When periodontal disease is present, the surface of the gums is weakened. The breakdown of gum tissue allows mouth bacteria to invade your pet's bloodstream and travel throughout his body. If his immune system doesn't kill off the bacteria, it can reach the heart and infect it.

Studies have shown that oral bacteria, once launched into the bloodstream, seem able to fight off attacks by the immune system.

What many dog parents don't realize is there's an established link between [gum disease](#) and endocarditis, which is an inflammatory condition of the valves or inner lining of the heart.

Researchers also suspect certain strains of oral bacteria may lead to heart problems. Some types of bacteria found in the mouths of dogs produce sticky proteins that can adhere to artery walls, causing them to thicken.

Mouth bacteria are also known to promote the formation of blood clots that can damage the heart.

5 Steps to Keep Your Dog's Mouth Healthy

1. Feed a [nutritionally balanced, species-appropriate, fresh food diet](#), and feed it raw if possible. When your dog gnaws on raw meat, it acts as a kind of natural toothbrush and dental floss.

2. Offer [recreational bones](#) and/or a fully digestible, high-quality dental dog chew to help control plaque and tartar. The effect of dental chews is similar to raw bones, but safer for power chewers or dogs that have restorative dental work and can't chew raw bones.

3. Brush your pet's teeth, preferably every day. If every day is too tall an order, commit to do it several times a week. A little time spent each day [brushing your dog's teeth](#) can reap tremendous rewards in terms of his oral health and overall well-being.

4. Perform routine mouth inspections. Your dog should allow you to open his mouth, look inside and feel around for loose teeth or unusual lumps or bumps on the tongue, under the tongue, along the gum line and on the roof of his mouth.

After you do this a few times, you'll become aware of any changes that occur from one inspection to the next. You should also make note of any differences in the smell of your dog's breath that aren't diet-related.

5. Arrange for regular oral exams performed by your veterinarian. He or she will alert you to any existing or potential problems in your pet's mouth, and recommend professional teeth cleaning under anesthesia, if necessary.

If you're vigilant about your dog's dental home care and she doesn't have any special situations that predispose her to tartar build-up or other dental issues, she may never need a professional cleaning by a veterinarian. However, pets with extreme tartar build-up, badly inflamed gums or oral infections need extra help.

What to Expect When Your Dog Has a Professional Oral Exam and Teeth Cleaning

Prior to the oral exam and cleaning, your dog should undergo a physical exam and blood tests to insure she can be safely anesthetized for the procedure. The day of the cleaning, she'll be sedated and a tube will be placed to maintain a clear airway and so that oxygen and anesthetic gas can be given.

An IV catheter should also be placed so that fluids and anesthesia can be administered as appropriate throughout the procedure. If you're wondering why pets require general anesthesia and intubation for a seemingly simple procedure, there are a number of benefits:

cont'd on p.5, **PLACQUE**

NEW APPLICANTS

BRENDA GRASSLEY

10324 Falls Church Avenue,
Las Vegas, NV 89144
702-285-5006

bjgkcmo@gmail.com

Brenda has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 4 years with Obedience and 2 years with Conformation activities. She is a breeder and has bred two (2) litters, between 2014 and 2016. She

presently owns three (3) Miniature Schnauzers. She is a member of the Cactus State Miniature Schnauzer Club, Phoenix, Arizona. Brenda is employed in the Contract Administration and Accounting field. She would like to help the club with Awards/Trophies, Education, Obedience, and Health. Brenda enjoys educating others about the breed, and has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America for 25 years.

Brenda's Sponsors are Jeri Muntis and Brooke Walker

ARTHURA (ARTI) WINSTON

823 Fox Hollow Lane
Golden, CO 80401-0908

artij@comcast.net

303-215-9858

Arti has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 45 years and presently has one Miniature Schnauzer. She competes in Agility, Barn Hunt, Rally and starting Nose Work. Arti is not a breeder. She participates in about 24 - 36 Agility Trials per year and all of the Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club Specialty Shows and Training Programs, which equals about 4 - 6 Training Events. Arti belongs to the Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club (CSMSC) since 2010 (General Member, V.P. and 3 year Board Member. Arti also belongs to the Rocky Mountain All Terrier Club, Denver, CO. Arti is retired from Education endeavors. She is interested in assisting the Club with Newsletter, Public Awareness, Education, Membership, and Agility.

Arti's Sponsors are Carol Luzovich and Leanne Teasey

JOY WEEKS

2465 Hucklberry Lane,
Langley, WA 98260-8215

joyjoy2006@yahoo.com

360-395-8765

Joy has been involved with Dogs for 24 years...She has owned 6 Miniature Schnauzers. She has shown in

Conformation as well as Obedience. She is a breeder of 10 litters. Joy attends 3-5 events a year. Joy belongs to the Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club, Portland, OR. Joy's occupation is Dog Grooming. She would like to help the club out with Education and Health.

Joy's Sponsors are Elizabeth Alfano and Laurie Moore

JERENE WEIS

38996 Groshong Rd., N.E.

Albany, OR 97321

weisacre_jerene@yahoo.com

541 990-8286

Jerene has been associated with Miniature Schnauzers 3 ½ years. She is not a breeder.

She has previously been showing Afghan Hounds since the early 70s. She currently owns four (4) Miniature Schnauzers. She has shown in conformation for 7 years.

Jerene belongs to the Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club and is currently their Club Secretary. She is retired. She is interested in helping our club with the Newsletter. Jerene is currently showing two (2) of her Miniature Schnauzers and just finished her boy at the AMSC Roving Specialty in Portland, OR

They are now on a quest for his Grand Championship.

Jerene's sponsors are Rhonda Smith and Stella Van Cleave

BRENDA GRASSLEY

10324 Falls Church Avenue,
Las Vegas, NV 89144

702-285-5006

bjgkcmo@gmail.com

Brenda has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 4 years with Obedience and 2 years with Conformation activities. She is a breeder and has bred two (2) litters, between 2014 and 2016. She

presently owns three (3) Miniature Schnauzers. She is a member of the Cactus State Miniature Schnauzer Club, Phoenix, Arizona. Brenda is employed in the Contract Administration and Accounting field. She would like to help the club with Awards/Trophies, Education, Obedience, and Health. Brenda enjoys educating others about the breed, and has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America for 25 years.

Brenda's Sponsors are Jeri Muntis and Brooke Walker

Masami Uryu

5 - 20 - 21 Uosugi

Edogawa, Tokyo 132-0022

masami_jokerland@gmail.com

+81 90-9680-7770

Masami is applying for Foreign Membership. Masami is a breeder and has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 36 years, Wire Fox Terriers for 30 years and Norfolk Terriers for 30 years.

He has bred more than 120 JKC, FCI and AKC Champions in total, some being AKC Grand Champions.

He has shown in Conformation, and is a Judge. Masami is a JKC Judge, so in Japan, he cannot show dogs by himself. Masami's dogs are shown 30 times a year. He shows them himself 2 to 3 times in the US and UK combined. Masami is President of the JKC Tokyo East Advanced Miniature Schnauzer Club.

Masami owns a Grooming School and Grooming Salon.

He is interested in helping the club with Newsletter and Health.

Masami has many skills to share with AMSC, among them judging, handling and grooming.

Masami's Sponsors are: John Constantine and Barry Day

LYN FOSTER

232 Lake Marina Ave, Unit 10 C
New Orleans, LA 70124

ronlynfoster@yahoo.com

504 915-8888

Lyn has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 10 + years. She has competed in Conformation, Agility, Rally, Obedience and Barn Hunt and has achieved many titles She attends 12 - 24 dog events per year. She belongs to the Swamp Dog Agility Club, New Orleans, LA. She is not a breeder. Lyn is retired from her own business. She is interested in assisting the club with Newsletter, Membership, Obedience, Agility and Health.

Lyn's Sponsors are: Robin Ohrt and Gay Oltjenbruns.



PLACQUE...from p. 3

Anesthesia immobilizes your dog to insure her safety and cooperation during a confusing, stressful procedure

- It provides for effective pain management during the procedure

- It allows for a careful and complete examination of all surfaces inside the oral cavity, as well as the taking of digital x-rays, which are necessary to address issues that are brewing below the surface of the gums that can't be seen and could cause problems down the road

- It permits the veterinarian to probe and scale as deeply as necessary below the gum line where 60 percent or more of plaque and tartar accumulate

- Intubation while the patient is under general anesthesia protects the trachea and prevents [aspiration](#) of water and oral debris

While your pet is anesthetized, her teeth will be cleaned with an ultrasonic scaler as well as a hand scaler to clean under and around every tooth. Your vet will use dental probes to measure the depths of the pockets in the gum around each tooth, and x-rays should be taken.

Once all the plaque and tartar is off the teeth, your dog's mouth will be rinsed and each tooth will be polished. The reason for polishing is to smooth any tiny grooves on the teeth left by the cleaning so they don't attract more plaque and tartar. After polishing, the mouth is rinsed again.

The oral exam, x-rays and cleaning with no tooth extractions usually takes about 45 minutes to an hour. The cost will depend on where you live, and typically ranges from around \$200 to \$1,000. [Veterinary dental specialists](#) often charge more. Extractions are typically priced according to the type of tooth and the time and work needed to remove it. There are simple extractions, elevated extractions and extractions of teeth with multiple roots, which tend to be the priciest.



The liver is a vital organ. That means your dog can't live without it.

Yet a staggering number of dogs suffer from liver disease, affecting not just their overall wellbeing, but their survival.

When your dog's liver is working well, you don't really think about it. But you should be thinking about the health of your dog's liver ... before problems happen.

Here's why liver health is important

...Your dog is exposed to toxins from his vaccinations and other drugs, flea, tick and heartworm preventatives, poor quality foods, the cleaning products you use in your home, as well as fertilizers and pesticides outside his home. Even if you don't use these products, your neighbors probably do. Eliminating these chemicals and using natural, non-toxic alternatives is an important first step to protect your dog's liver.

The second step is recognizing when your dog's liver may be out of balance. Let's talk about the signs of liver imbalance and the steps you can take to help ... but first, let's look at some of the things the liver does.

How Your Dog's Liver Protects Him

Most of us think of the liver as the detox organ because it helps remove toxins from the body. But it does much, much more than that.

The liver has at least 500 different functions in the body, so it's so critical to good health. In Traditional Chinese Medicine, the liver is known as the Official of Strategic Planning because it's in charge of so many operations. The liver metabolizes everything your dog swallows, inhales or absorbs through his skin. It filters out excesses as well as toxins and it makes nutrients and hormones that the rest of your dog's body needs

One of the liver's many important functions is to produce bile. Bile is stored in the gallbladder and is used to digest foods, especially fats. Bile also helps your dog's body eliminate

toxins by carrying waste products through the body so the liver can detoxify

The liver produces glucose, which it stores in the form of glycogen, ready to be used when the body needs it for energy.

The liver makes cholesterol, which the body needs to produce hormones and metabolize fats.

The liver produces proteins that are important in blood clotting.

It stores vitamins A, D, K, B12 as well as the minerals iron and copper, and releases them into your dog's body when they're needed.

And of course, the liver is vitally important in gently detoxifying natural metabolic wastes from the body.

Get the step-by step guide to safely detox your dog from harmful toxins.

When The Liver Is Out Of Balance

There are symptoms you'll want to watch for ... they can mean your dog's liver is out of balance. Here are some of the more common signs:

Mood

Your dog may be irritable or even show aggressive behavior. He may show overly controlling behavior, acting like a hall monitor.

Digestion

He may experience digestive disorders such as gas and bloating ... even if he's on a healthy raw food diet. You may see alternating constipation and diarrhea.

Nails

When you trim his toenails, you may find they're dry and brittle; the nails may fray or even get infected.

Pain

We don't think of dogs as getting headaches, but they can. You may notice your dog's eyes are dull and he doesn't feel good, perhaps lying with his head on his paws. If you can feel heat on his head, that can mean a headache, especially if you see other symptoms of liver imbalance.

Gently rub the area where the head meets the neck (called the occiput); if you feel the heat go away that can help relieve your dog's headache.

Eyes

Eye issues like a discharge or pink eye, and even more serious eye problems like corneal or retinal disorders, can also suggest liver imbalance.

Other signs that the liver is out of balance can be sinus problems as well as ligament and tendon issues.

If you start to notice any of these symptoms in your dog, it's a good idea to add some

How to Treat Tick Bites



A dog in the wrong place at the wrong time can be bit by dozens or even hundreds of ticks. Deer ticks go through three stages of life (larva, nymph, and adult), and feed only once in each of these stages; a blood meal ends each stage. Larval ticks dine on mice and other small rodents, but nymphs and adults are a threat to dogs. Because they are small and their bites don't itch, ticks are easily overlooked, especially adult deer ticks and the nymphs of any species. Ticks prefer warm, moist conditions, so double-check under collars and around ears. If you aren't sure what a lump or bump is, inspect it with a magnifying glass. Warts, similar skin growths, and nipples can feel like feeding ticks. Be careful when removing a tick to grasp it with tweezers firmly at the head, as close to the dog's skin as possible, and slowly pull straight back. Never twist, press, burn, or apply irritating substances like kerosene to an attached tick because doing so can cause the parasite to expel the contents of its digestive tract, creating an unwanted hypodermic effect. Three-percent hydrogen peroxide, the common disinfectant, is recommended for tick bites because the oxygen it contains destroys the Lyme disease bacteria. Hydrogen peroxide can be liberally poured over bites on light-haired dogs (keep away from eyes and apply directly to the skin) but because it's a bleach, this method is not recommended for black or dark-haired dogs. Using an eyedropper to apply hydrogen peroxide directly to the bite helps prevent unwanted bleaching.

LIVER...from p. 5

foods that can help strengthen and protect his liver.

Foods For Liver Support

Many of the foods that support the liver are seasonal in the spring. In Traditional Chinese Medicine, the liver is associated with spring – a time of renewal and growth.

This means spring is an especially good time to give your dog some extra nutritional support with foods that are fresh and in season. Below are some herbs and foods recommended by homeopathic veterinarian Dee Blanco DVM to help strengthen and protect your dog's liver from liver disease.

Dandelions

Don't get rid of those dandelions in your yard! Dandelions are a great way to strengthen your dog's liver. As they start to come up in spring, pick some of the young leaves. Try to harvest the leaves in early spring before the plant buds; once the buds appear the leaves will taste bitter.

Dr Blanco suggests just chopping a few fresh leaves and adding them to your dog's food.

Herbalists Gregory L Tilford and Mary L Wulff recommend drying the leaves before using them. You can do this outdoors by placing the leaves on a drying screen (or use a window screen covered with cheesecloth) in the shade (do not place in direct sunlight), for three or four days. If you want to dry the leaves indoors, tie them in a bundle and hang them in a dry airy spot until they're crackly-dry. Feed your dog 1 teaspoon of the dried herb daily per 20 lbs of your dog's body weight, stirring it into your dog's food.

You can also make a tea, using 1 teaspoon of dried leaf in 1 cup of boiling water. Steep it for 3 to 4 minutes, then strain, and let it cool before giving it to your dog. Or you can use organic unsalted meat or vegetable broth instead of water to make a tastier drink for your dog.

Give 1/3 cup of tea per 20 lbs of body weight up to 3 times a day.

Caution: Only use dandelions from your yard if you don't spray pesticides or herbicides. Otherwise, you can buy fresh dandelion leaves, dried herbs, tinctures and teas at many health food stores.

Foods

There are many foods you can add to your dog's diet to support his liver:

Sprouts like clover, alfalfa or radish.

Lemon and apple cider vinegar: your dog may not like the taste of lemon but many will tolerate a few drops of apple cider vinegar added daily to their water.

-Greens, especially spring vegetables like spinach, broccoli rabe, celery or asparagus. Greens help support the detox mechanisms in the liver. Give them to your dog any way he likes them – chopped, pureed, steamed, mashed, or even with a little butter!

Liver: eating liver supports liver health, so feed chicken, beef or lamb liver. If you can, buy organic liver from, grass fed, naturally raised animals.

-Dairy foods like yogurt, sour cream, butter and cream, preferably from pasture raised animals. Fermented foods like kefir or fermented vegetables.

Exercise

Walking your dog and getting out in nature is one of the best ways to enjoy time with your dog. Brisk walks, especially in the morning, will stimulate his liver and gallbladder health.

Spring Detox Bath

You can also give your dog a detox bath to help him shed his winter coat in the spring (although any time is a great time). This will help to open up the pores to release toxins on the skin, in the hair and in his blood.

With a little effort, you can protect your dog's liver so it can continue protecting him. Try these tips and watch your dog glow with good health, inside and out!

About the Author Julia Henriques. Julia Henriques is Managing Editor of Dogs Naturally Magazine. A former international banker, she lives in Chicago with her partner Marc and two rescue Samoyeds. She volunteers on the board of Playing Again Sams (Wisconsin Samoyed Rescue).

If You Know Where To Look...

by [Susi](#) on December 5, 2013 DogKnoblt

Recently, I was a vendor at a craft show. I'm a little embarrassed by this tiny business of mine. I regard myself as a Writer to the bone, and there's just nothing cool about making breed specific doorknob signs even though my writing is what sells them. Nevertheless, the signs help buy dog show entry fees and keep my dogs in their favorite treats. The business is Internet based, but a couple of times a year I attend craft shows for the sole reason of chatting with John and Jane Q Public. The Publics aren't dog fanciers, animal rights zealots, or morally superior rescue advocates. They're just everyday pet owners, many of those pets purebred dogs. By chatting with these people, I get a sense of what they know - or don't know - about issues that matter to dog fanciers. As it turns out, it's not much.

PETA has passed its "sell by date" and most people now dismiss the group as a bunch of kooks.

The Humane Society of the United States, however, continues to bamboozle the general public. A lot of us have come to regard the core of HSUS as a group of shrewd, well dressed suits who've glommed on to the money and power to be had through an animal rights agenda, but the public doesn't see that. I can't help but speculate, however, that as influential as the HSUS has become, excessive lobbying activities, deceptive fundraising, "creative" tax returns and a change in political fortunes will tarnish its halo in time. If and when it does "lose its bloom," there are those ready to step in its place.

Interestingly, the "recycled dog" movement fills any gaps left by HSUS, and in some ways, I sense that rescue advocacy may equal, if not eventually surpass the HSUS as a threat to ethical, responsible purebred dog ownership and breeding. Presently, the rescue world is mired in layers of unaccountability, inaccuracy (see Humane Relocation and "Overpopulation"), and money-making schemes dressed up as altruism. Seductive because it **feels so good** to save animals, this movement is harder to pinpoint precisely *because* it doesn't have a Wayne Pacelle or Ingrid Newkirk.

At its core, HSUS has gone corporate and uses emotional bait to drive its minions and fund itself. Nevertheless, it has a soft underbelly bloating with greed, and I suspect (and fervently hope) that its tactics will make it vulnerable with time. The core of rescue activism, however, is emotionally and

ideologically charged, its advocates tougher to reach with facts as they wonder how *any* of us can love animals and still be indifferent to the suffering of rescue dogs? As yet less organized than the HSUS, rescue groups have a grassroots "feel" and are harder to incriminate. There is but one Humane Society of the United States, but hundreds, if not thousands, of rescue groups, and money **is** being made by many of them in the name of rescue. Pet relocation is big business, but when a company like [P.E.T.](#) is described as "safely transporting dogs from rescue groups to their new homes," who with a heart could object? "Adoption" is a loaded word when rescue dogs are being sold at "humane sourcing" venues where pet stores partner with rescue groups. In reality, many shelters and rescue groups have become unregulated pet shops, and yet in many states like my own, "overpopulation" shelter numbers are going up because dogs are being brought in from out of state.

The general public doesn't know **any** of this.

The people I run into at a craft show go to work, pay their bills, raise their kids, feed the dog, and on weekends they might watch football or NASCAR on TV (or go to a craft show). They are not like "us," presuming that most of "us" who are reading this right now are plugged into the dog world in some way. They don't go to dog shows or participate in performance competitions. They don't read dog publications, join dog clubs or talk with other "dog people." A couple of times a year, they might watch a dog show on TV; *maybe* they'll attend a puppy kindergarden class at PetSmart when they get a new dog - but honestly, are they likely to run into any of **us** there? They're busy with their lives, and unless something threatens their interests, they don't much *want* to know.

The average pet owners. We need them.

These are the people we need on our side if we're to protect dog ownership in general, and the dog fancy culture in particular. **We need them.**

How can they help if they don't know what we know? How can they know if we don't tell them? And if *you* can't share what's bad about HSUS or shelter zealots in the time it takes an elevator to go from one floor to another, perhaps it's time to educate yourself so that you can. Visit [NAIA](#), [Humanewatch](#), and the [AKC](#) legislative pages to arm yourself with factoids.

It's increasingly apparent to me that our fight with the animal rights agenda will not be won

by any one organization, or even by organizations joining forces with each other. Animal rights groups have had too much time to go unchallenged and they've successfully impacted veterinary schools, law colleges, the media, and legislation. On our own, it will take us at least as long to effect the same influence. As I see it, we need average pet owners with us if we're to reclaim the conversation about purebred dog ownership, and it falls upon each of us to make that happen. I talk with my customers at craft shows. You can talk with your in-laws, a neighbor, or the person buying dog food at the grocery store. It might be one sentence that worms its way into a brief conversation (I see you've got a Collie. A shame what animal rights groups are doing to Collie breeders). It might be three words: "HSUS. They're bad!" But say something you must. If not you, then who?

Our purebred dogs are our best PR, and there's no better way to engage people than by getting out among the public with them. They are natural conversation starters and a dandy way to guide a conversation in the direction that talks about groups that threaten their existence. Some people might not listen, of course, and a few might challenge you, but they'll hear. The next time they see an HSUS commercial on TV, they'll have the memory of someone telling them that less than 1% of donated money actually helps dogs. The next time they consider adopting a rescue dog, they'll recall that someone told them that lots of shelter dogs are imported from Mexico, Europe and Puerto Rico - and that one litter of imported puppies was found to have been spayed and neutered before their eyes were even open! (a sickening piece of information I learned at the recent NAIA conference).

Who will breed the future generations of these breeds the way hobby breeders do?

As dog fanciers and hobby breeders, what we do is a lifestyle. If ethical hobby breeders are legislated beyond reason, they'll stop. If we can't sell our well-bred, carefully socialized, health tested puppies because the market is saturated with rescue dogs, we'll stop. Once our dogs die of old age, we won't replace them, we'll sell the van or motorhome, and we're out. We say we love our breeds, but if we're not breeding them the way only hobby breeders do it, what will happen to our breeds?



AMSCOPE

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

UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Lone Star MSC, Dallas July 6, 2017
Regular Classes Margo Klingler
Sweeps Ms Clark Pennypacker

Milshore MSC July 28, 2017
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: TBA

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

Montgomery County October 7, 2018
Regular Classes: Joan Huber
Sweeps: TBA

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

Bldv, 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 and under the reservations tab enter the group code **AMS**.

Barbara Donahue
215-896-9666

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: 919 247-2090 cell
sletex@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: **716-572-7010**
cborr@aol.com

AMSC Web page: <http://amsc.us>

AKC home page: <http://www.akc.org/akc/>