



# AMSCOPE

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

March 2017

Volume CB30

Issue 3



**So long, farewell,  
auf wiedersehen,  
adieu...adieu...adieu...  
to you and you ...  
who have not paid your  
dues.....  
DUES ARE DUE....**

**Make checks payable to  
AMSC and send to  
Bonnie Keyes**

P.O. Box 35  
Wellsburg, NY 14894-0035  
(607)742-3828  
treasurer@amsc.us

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

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## Lost Dog Alert:

### What To Do If Your Dog Goes Missing

A dog going missing is absolutely heart wrenching, but if you do ever find yourself in this situation try to remain calm. Here's a plan to help you effectively recover your lost dog.

#### Ask Yourself Why

Quickly try to imagine why your pet may have taken off. Are they overly curious by nature, or easily frightened by loud noises? Are they unneutered and searching for a mate? Were they recently rehomed? If there's an obvious answer to any of these questions, it could lead you to your pet's location. For example, a recently rehomed pet may have taken off in search of their former family. An unneutered male may be on the scent of a female in heat. A timid dog may be hiding beneath the porch cowering in fear of a fireworks display. If you can't think of a reason, don't worry. Begin your search near the last place your dog was seen.

#### How To Search

If your dog is missing, immediately begin searching within the two-mile radius of where he or she was last seen. Recruit family and friends to help you comb the neighborhood and pay special attention to spots your dog is fond of. Try to keep your voice as calm and positive as possible. A dog who fears that he or she is in trouble is unlikely to respond to panicked voices. In addition to their name, use familiar words and commands that the dog responds positively to such as "treat," or "wanna go for a walk?...car ride?" etc. Take a moment to think about your dog's favorite walking spots or destinations. Send a friend that your dog is familiar with to those places while you continue to search the vicinity.

#### Who To Notify

If your immediate search is not success-

ful, start notifying any pet recovery services you may be signed up with. Here's a useful lost pet service provided by AKC Reunite. It's a good idea to set them up now and save their number in your cell phone. If your dog is microchipped, contact the company that monitors the information. Next, file a report at your local police stations and at all of the shelters and humane societies within a 50-60 mile radius. Be ready to send in a clear photograph and description of your lost dog.

#### Enlist the Help of your Community

Share your dog's photo on social media and print as many posters as you can. Consider offering a reward to greatly increase your chances of enlisting the help of strangers. Large color photos that display your dog's face are usually best. Include clear, easy-to-read contact information and do not overload your flyer with unnecessary text.

A dog becoming lost can happen to even the most attentive and mindful owners. Getting spooked by a loud truck driving past or darting after a squirrel across the street are accidents that no one can anticipate. What you can do however is be prepared. Here's a checklist we put together of things to do if your pup goes missing.

#### Lost Dog Checklist:

Stay calm.

Try to think of some reasons why your dog may have run off.

cont'd on p. 2, col 2...**LOST DOG**

# 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  
saxonymys@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  
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Report all changes to the Roster to **treasurer@AMSC.us**  
**Bonnie Keyes**  
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## LOST DOG...from p.1

Start your search in the last place your dog was seen.  
Enlist the help of friends and family.  
Check the places your dog likes to hang out.  
Use words and commands your dog will recognize in a calm voice.  
Search a 2 mile radius.  
Call lost dog service, file police report, visit local shelters.  
Print out posters with color photos of your dog.



Remember these?  
George Armstrong has a brand new extra one.  
[sundownms@att.net](mailto:sundownms@att.net)

## LOOKING AHEAD to MONTGOMERY COUNTY

In an effort to get an early jump on planning for Montgomery County week, hotel reservations are already being accepted. After investigating a number of reasonably priced, comfortable hotel options within reasonable distance to show grounds, restaurants and other amenities, it was determined we'd continue to use the Homewood Suites Valley Forge, 681 Shannondell Blvd, Audubon, PA 19403  
The room rates and available configurations are:  
\$134 for studio suite (1 King bed with pullout)  
\$154 for one bedroom suite (1 King or 2 Queen with pullout rooms)  
\$189 for two bedroom suite (1King and 2 Queen with pullout)  
Additional 10% room tax applies.  
Guests may book one of two ways:  
1. Call the hotel at **610-539-7300** and mention you are booking with the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, group code **AMS**  
2. Go online to [www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com](http://www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com) and under the reservations tab enter the group code **AMS**.  
Barbara Donahue  
215-896-9666

### The log in information for the Members section is as follows:

User Name is: AMSC#1

Password is: Schnauzer2015

Here's the link to the Members Section:

<http://amsc.us/members-log-in>

Please write down or save the User Name and Password as there is quite a bit of pertinent information in our Members Section.

### DUES.... DUES ARE OVERDUE

Memberships not paid or post marked by March 1 will lapse.

**You don't want to miss any issue of AMSCOPE, do you? PAY YOUR DUES!!**

## What Happens When Your Dog Cracks a Tooth

When your dog breaks a tooth, the pulp — which is the sensitive nerve inside — can be exposed. Not only is an exposed nerve extremely painful, it can also lead to a deep infection and root abscess.

Most pets with tooth fractures don't show obvious signs of pain, but sadly, many suffer silently for weeks, months or even years before the situation progresses to the point where they can't eat comfortably and lose their appetite. The longer a broken tooth goes untreated, the worse it gets.

Oral bacteria can invade and infect the tooth pulp and cause it to die. Next, the infection often moves from the root tip to the bone, destroying it. In severe cases, the infection moves past the bone into the skin, forming a facial fistula (a whole in the face through which the infection drains).

Fortunately, not all broken teeth are so serious. If only the enamel has been fractured, the tooth can often be smoothed to remove sharp edges.

However, if x-rays indicate the tooth is dead, if pulp is visible or if the tooth has turned from white to pink, purple, grey or black, treatment typically involves either extraction or root canal therapy.

It's important for every dog parent to understand that a fractured tooth requires prompt veterinary care.

### Antlers and Other Hard Chews Result in Lots of Fractured Teeth

I spend a lot of time with dog parents going over detailed recommendations for appropriate recreational bones.

Some of my clients think I'm overplaying the importance of choosing the right type of bone for their dog, but part of the reason I'm so detailed and thorough is to avoid fractures and other chew bone-related catastrophes.

There are some dogs for which no bone or chew is appropriate because they are just too aggressive, or they've already broken too many teeth. The veterinary dentist I work with, Dr. Stephen Juriga, sees hun-

dreds of cases of fractured teeth as a result of inappropriate raw bones, and not just from my practice.

He notes that antlers are often a problem, as are Nylabones. Anything you can't put a dent in with your fingernail has the potential to fracture the crown of your dog's tooth.

It's very important to pair the personality, breed, age and tooth condition of the dog with the right type of chew. One size does not fit all when it comes to recreational chews and bones.

### The Type of Chew I Recommend for Forceful Chewers

The first thing to ask yourself: "Is my dog an aggressive chewer?" This type of chewer is more interested in eating the bone than leisurely gnawing on it. She wants to consume the chew in its entirety, and the sooner, the better.

Many aggressive chewers fracture their teeth. They acquire multiple slab fractures in their eagerness to break the bone down as quickly as possible. These dogs get hold of a bone and chew like mad, fracturing or wearing down their teeth very quickly.

If this describes your dog, needless to say, she shouldn't be given hard bones like antlers or marrowbones smaller than the size of her head. I also advise against thin or narrow bones that fit nicely into her mouth, allowing her to apply a strong vertical bite force.

My pack includes pit bulls who are very powerful chewers. They're not into swallowing their bones, but they're very passionate chewers. Offering them small, narrow femur rings or antlers would be a really bad idea, because the vertical bite force as they chomped down on an antler could easily break teeth.

What I offer my pitties are big, raw knucklebones. Raw knucklebones are much softer than rock hard antlers and

are gentler on the teeth. I also monitor their chewing very closely, because they can whittle a large bone down to the size of a ping-pong ball in about an hour.

Once a bone is that small, it's too small to be safe, so I watch my dogs closely and when they've worked a bone down significantly, I take it away.

### Are Antlers Appropriate for Any Dog?

If your dog happens to be a soft chewer who just enjoys holding or gently gnawing on a bone, antlers may be a good choice. You can purchase elk, moose or deer antlers, and they're very economical because they last forever.

Antlers come in a variety of sizes and can be split, cut or whole, but again, you don't want to give a small antler to a large dog because of the potential for tooth fracture. Giving small antlers to small dogs and big antlers to big dogs is fine, but first you want to make sure they're gentle chewers.



**Nobody can pull you  
out of the water if  
you have not paid  
your dues!**

## NEW APPLICANTS

### ANGELA CHRISTOPHER

2700 SW Wilkin Lane  
West Linn, OR 97068  
971-281-4230

[christopher.angela1@gmail.com](mailto:christopher.angela1@gmail.com)

**Angela** has owned Miniature Schnauzers for over 25 years. She currently owns and co-owns three (3) Miniature Schnauzers. Angela is not a breeder. She has done conformation showing for 11 years. She attends 15 – 20 dog events per year. She belongs to: Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club (PMSC), Portland, OR. Where she is current Club Treasurer, Board Member and Constitution Committee Chairperson. She is also working on 2017 National Roving Specialty and Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events. Angela is retired since 2015 from a leadership position with Coca Cola Co. She is interested in Legislative Issues, and Ethics. **Angela's Sponsors: Rene Wigan and Laurie Moore**

### JAN M. VAN SYCKEL

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603-370-1307

**Jan** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzer for eight (8) years. She has done Obedience, Agility and Conformation. Jan is not a breeder. She attends 30 + dog events per year. Jan belongs to The Agility Club of NH and Paul Revere Miniature Schnauzer Club. Jan is employed in Information Technology, Identity Mgmt., and Security. **Jan's Sponsors are: Lynn Baitinger and Kaye Kirk**

### KARIN KINNIAN

1040 Pinyan Lane,  
Canton, GA 30115

[DISLIC@comcast.net](mailto:DISLIC@comcast.net)

603-321-5782

**Karin** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 21 years and Scottish Terriers for 11 years. She is not a breeder. She has done Agility for 21 years and Conformation for 3 years. Karin attends about 30 dog Agility Trials per year and 2 Seminars. She belongs to Canine Capers, Norcross, GA and serves as an Agility Instructor. When still living in NH, she previously served as Treasurer for Agility Club of NH, before relocating to GA. Karin is a retired US Probation Officer. She is interested in Rescue, Agility and Health.

**Karin's Sponsors are Lynn Baitinger and Kaye Kirk.**

### SUSAN CHURN

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Cogan Station, PA 17728

[scritterss@aol.com](mailto:scritterss@aol.com)

570-971-5864

**Susan** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 40 years and with cocker Spaniels for 20 years. She is not a breeder. She does Obedience (14 years) and Agility (13 years). Susan attends approximately 25 dog events per year. She is a member of the Williamsport Dog Training Club, Williamsport, PA. serving as Agility Trial Chair and President of the club. Susan is retired. She is interested in Agility and Health. She loves training and competing in Agility and is just getting starting in Barn Hunt. In 2016 Susan made and donated a quilt for Miniature Schnauzer Rescue at the Montgomery All Terrier Trial in PA.

**Susan's Sponsors are Lynn Baitinger and Kaye Kirk.**

### THEONE L. HUTCHMAN

23213 NE 105<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98682-9716

[Thutchman2@aol.com](mailto:Thutchman2@aol.com)

360-896-2027

**Theone** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 32 years, doing conformation showing, and also breeding (5 litters). Theone attends 10 – 15 dog events per year. She belongs to the Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club, where she serves as President and Board of Directors and also the Greater Clark County Kennel Club, serving as Secretary and Board of Directors. Theone is currently a groomer and retired from being self-employed as a Fromm Food Distributor. She is interested in Rescue, Education and Ethics. She loves to mentor on grooming, structure, and sportsmanship. Theone also co-partners the Maple Creek Miniature Schnauzer Rescue Organization.

**Theone's Sponsors are: Rene Wigen and Laurie Moore**

### DEBBIE HOY and JEFF HOY

(co-applicants)

1754 Rattlesnake Pike

Julian PA 16844

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**Debbie** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for approximately fifteen (15) years. Debbie is not a breeder. She has participated in Agility and Obedience. MACH 2 Mighty Max and MACH 6 Gala Run for the Roses and has a puppy Loneacre Intergalactic Princess Mia.

Debbie attends about 30 dog events per year. She belongs to Nita Nee Kennel

Club, in State College PA and is a Board Member of same club. Deb is a retired clerical

worker and Jeff is a Forester. They both participate in Obedience, Agility, Rally and Barn Hunt. Their dog "Rosie" qualifies for the Nationals each year...They both help with the organization of the MONTCO Terrier Trials for the Miniature Schnauzer participants. Debbie's special skills fall in the category of Clerical and Organizational...They are both interested in Obedience and Agility. Their sponsors attest to their willingness to help and take part in anything that needs doing. **Their sponsors are Lynn Baitinger and Kaye Kirk.**

### CATHY FARR

241 Springbrook Drive,  
Palmyra, PA 17078

717-512-1081

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**Cathy** has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 11 years. She is not a breeder. She has participated in Agility for 8 years, Obedience for 2 years and Therapy Dog for 10 years. Cathy attends about 12 dog events per year. She is a member of: TDI, Dauphin Dog Training Club and York county Training Club. Cathy is a retired teacher. She is interested in helping the club with Awards and Trophies, Education, Obedience and Agility. Cathy has worked with her Therapy Dog at the Hershey Medical Center, comforting sick persons. Is starting a new puppy in Agility, Rally and Obedience. Cathy is especially interested in helping with the Companion Sports Committee.

**Cathy's Sponsors are: Lynn Baitinger and Barbara Donahue**

### CONNIE KROHN

PO Box 17

Vonda, Saskatchewan

Canada

306-258-0020

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**Connie** is a Canadian resident applying for Foreign Membership. Connie has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 20 years. She is a breeder and has produced four (4) litters from her bitch and 40+ litters from her stud dogs in the past 6 years. She has been showing in Conformation for 20 years. She has had 6 Best in Show winners, two of which were home bred. She also competes in Rally, Agility and Barn Hunt and has gain titles there also. Connie attends 25 – 30 dog events each year. She is a member of the Canadian Kennel Club. She is a Professional Do Handler and an Artist. **Connie's Sponsors are: Patty Ledgerwood and Patti Henderson**

## NEW APPLICANTS

### Tyler Rath

2204 Arizona Ave,  
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712-363-2432

[Tylerrath2009@gmail.com](mailto:Tylerrath2009@gmail.com)

Tyler has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 5 years...

Tyler is not a breeder...Tyler competes in Obedience, and has attended 8 events in the past year...Tyler is a Driver Manager...Tyler is interested in helping out the club with Newsletter, Rescue, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies, Education, Membership, Health, Obedience and Agility...

**Tyler's Sponsors are: Fiona Macken and Teresa Handlen**

### Carol Ann Blackert

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Mechanicsville, N.Y. 12118

[cbkert@aol.com](mailto:cbkert@aol.com)

518-541-3110

Carol has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 16 years, she is not a breeder... She has been showing in Obedience for 2 years...She attends approximately 10 shows or events a year... She has applied for membership with Albany Obedience Club, Albany, N.Y.

Carol is retired and is interested in assisting the club with Rescue, Education, Obedience and Agility...**Carol's sponsors are Marcia Dawson and Sonny Lelle.**

### JUDY ORENA

201 Southwest Avenue  
Windsor Locks, CT 06096

[Judy.Orena0824@yahoo.com](mailto:Judy.Orena0824@yahoo.com)

413-537-5532

Judy has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 10+ years, with 3 Miniature Schnauzers. Judy is not a breeder. She has been doing Obedience for 10 years and Conformation for 2 years. Judy attends 10-20 dog events (shows) per year. She is a member of the Paul Revere Miniature Schnauzer Club. Judy works as an IT Billing Analyst. She is interested in helping the club out with Awards/Trophies,

Event Planning, Obedience and Health. Judy is working on a Grand Champion Title with her youngest Miniature Schnauzer, enjoys hiking and is a part time groomer.

**Judy's Sponsors are: Robin Ohrt and George Vacca**

## Extremely Lethal to Pets Yet Found in Most Homes and Often in Harm's Way

One pill from your medicine cabinet, dropped on the floor or mislaid on a coffee table, can be deadly to your pet. In addition, while some medications are used in both animals and humans, you should not give your pet a medication that was prescribed for you, as the dose or ingredients could be dangerous to your pet.

Pet poisoning from accidental ingestion of human medications account for one-quarter of calls to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Animal Poison Control Center (APCC). Many pet owners are not aware that even over-the-counter medications can poison their pet.

### 10 Common Human Medications That Can Poison Your Pet

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AFMA) reported the top 10 medications that are most often involved in pet poisonings reported to the ASPCA's APCC hotline.<sup>1</sup> If you have any of these in your home, be sure they are kept safely out of your pet's reach at all times.

#### 1. Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)

Ibuprofen, such as Advil and Motrin, often has a sweet outer coating that seems tasty to pets. If ingested, it can cause stomach ulcers and kidney failure. Ibuprofen is just one type of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) that may harm your pet.

Such drugs can be harmful to your pet even in very small doses. Symptoms of poisoning include digestive upset, vomiting, bloody stool, increased thirst, increased frequency of urination, staggering and seizures.

#### 2. Tramadol (Ultram)

Tramadol (brand name Ultram) is a pain reliever that's sometimes prescribed to pets as well as people. However, if your pet consumes too much, it can lead to sedation, disorientation, vomiting, tremors and seizures.

#### 3. Alprazolam (Xanax)

This anti-anxiety medication is sometimes prescribed as a sleep aid as well. In pets, ingesting it may lead to sleepiness (or in some cases agitation), drops in blood pressure, weakness and collapse.

They pose a significant risk because many people keep them on their nightstands in order to take them just before bedtime.

#### 4. Adderall

Adderall contains amphetamines and is often prescribed to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children.

It acts as a stimulant in pets, however, and may lead to life-threatening elevated heart rate and body temperature, hyperactivity, tremors and seizures. The ADHD medications Concerta and Ritalin may have similar effects.

#### 5. Zolpidem (Ambien)

This is another sleep aid that many pet parents leave on their nightstand to take before bedtime. If your cat decides to sample it, it could lead to sleepiness and make him wobbly. If a dog consumes it, it may lead to severe agitation and elevated heart rates.

#### 6. Clonazepam (Klonopin)

Clonazepam, brand name Klonopin, is prescribed as an anticonvulsant and anti-anxiety medication as well as a sleep aid. It may lead to sleepiness and wobbliness in pets, as well as low blood pressure, weakness and collapse.

#### 7. Acetaminophen (Tylenol)

Even acetaminophen, common in many U.S. households, is extremely dangerous to pets. Cats, in particular, are very sensitive to its effects; just two extra-strength tablets can be fatal for felines. Acetaminophen can cause liver damage as well as red blood cell damage at higher doses.

The latter may make the cells unable to carry oxygen, which can be deadly. Symptoms of acetaminophen poisoning are leth-

cont'd on p. 6, col.1...LETHAL

**LETHAL...from p 7**

argy, trouble breathing, dark-colored urine, diarrhea and vomiting. Many over-the-counter medications contain acetaminophen, including sinus and cold formulations.

**8. Naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn)**

This over-the-counter pain reliever can lead to stomach ulcers and kidney failure in cats and dogs, even at very small doses.

**9. Duloxetine (Cymbalta)**

This antidepressant, anti-anxiety drug may lead to agitation, vocalization, tremors and seizures in pets.

**10. Venlafaxine (Effexor)**

Venlafaxine (brand name Effexor) is an antidepressant that may cause agitation, vocalization, tremors and seizures. According to the AVMA, "For some unknown reason, cats love to eat the capsules,"<sup>2</sup> but consuming them may lead to severe neurologic and cardiac side effects.

If your dog or cat ingests an antidepressant, symptoms can include listlessness, vomiting, and in some cases, a condition known as serotonin syndrome. This condition can cause agitation, disorientation and an elevated heart rate, along with elevated blood pressure and body temperature, tremors and seizures.

**How to Keep Your Pet Safe From Medication Poisoning**

The best way to avoid this preventable form of poisoning in your pet is to keep all medications stored safely out of your pet's reach. Even natural products, including herbal supplements, should be kept safely stowed away. Medications and supplements may be metabolized very differently in your pet than they are in a human, leading to unexpected, and sometimes deadly, consequences.

Keep in mind, too, that dogs can quickly chew through a pill bottle to reach its contents while cats can be quite clever at removing lids. Store medications in a cabinet that is either too high for your

pet to reach or impossible for him to open (some cats and dogs can open cabinets, too, so plan accordingly).

Avoid storing medications on your nightstand or leaving them out on your kitchen counter or coffee table. If you accidentally drop any, be sure to pick up every pill immediately. Also, store your pet's medications in a separate spot from human medications to avoid mix-ups.

Finally, if you think your pet has ingested a potentially poisonous medication, call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 and bring your pet to an emergency veterinary facility immediately.



AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB, INC.



November 1, 2016

Member of American Kennel Club

**2017 DUES & TROPHY DONATION**

By renewing your dues you acknowledge you have read and will abide by the **AMSC Code of Ethics**.

**2017 Membership** dues are due by January 1, 2017. Dues will be in arrears after that date and will lapse if not paid before March 1, 2017.

Members receiving AMSCOpe by **Email** (soft copy) - **\$30 individual, \$52.50 joint**

Members receiving AMSCOpe by **regular mail** (hard copy) - **\$55 individual, \$75 joint**

**Pay Online** by secure credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) or PayPal.

Foreign payments must be payed in US dollars.

Go to the AMSC website ([www.AMSC.us](http://www.AMSC.us)) Click on Members box at top of page, login to the Members Only section.

(The ID is: AMSC#1 Password is: Schnauzer2015)

Click on the "Buy Now" button for the type of Dues you are paying.

**Payment by check payable to the AMSC** to the address below. Foreign checks must be a bank draft or certified check in US dollars.

Bonnie Keyes

email: [Treasurer@amsc.us](mailto:Treasurer@amsc.us)

511 River Terrace

phone: (607) 742-3828

Endicott, NY 13760-5054

**Review** the AMSC roster to confirm the accuracy of your address/phone/email. The roster is available in the Members section of our Website. Send any changes to your contact information to [Treasurer@amsc.us](mailto:Treasurer@amsc.us) or send a note with your check.

**Make your 2017 Trophy Donation now.** Send a check or pay via PayPal. PayPal payment is in the Members section of our Website. When paying by Check or PayPal please notate 2017 Trophy Donation.

Regards, **Bonnie Keyes**, Treasurer

## Humans' Love Affair With Dogs Dates Back to Prehistoric Times

By Dr. Becker

Intriguing research has uncovered biological underpinnings of the [human-dog bond](#). Research published in the journal *Science* last year revealed, for instance, spikes of the “love hormone” oxytocin are triggered by mutual gazes between a dog and its owner.<sup>1</sup>

Not only does it appear that humans are hardwired to bond with dogs, but the feeling, and the hard wiring, may be mutual. This strong of a relationship doesn't develop overnight, of course.

Archeological digs by anthropologist Robert Losey, Ph.D., of the University of Alberta and colleagues have revealed that humans have been strongly bonded with dogs for thousands of years.

### Prehistoric Humans Had Strong Bonds With Ancient Dogs

At an excavation site in Siberia, Losey found dog remains between 5,000 and 8,000 years old buried alongside humans. The find shows early evidence of dog domestication as well as displays the close bond between the people and the dogs. Losey explained:<sup>2</sup>

*“The dogs were being treated just like people when they died ... They were being carefully placed in a grave, some of them wearing decorative collars, or next to other items like spoons, with the idea being potentially that they had souls and an afterlife.*

*... Globally you can see that there are more dog burials in prehistory than any other animals, including cats or horses. Dogs seem to have a very special place in human communities in the past.*

*As soon as we see skeletal remains that look like the modern dog — say 14,000 years ago — we see dogs being buried.”*

Chemical analysis of dog bones showed that they ate similar foods as humans, which suggests the humans may have fed the dogs their “table scraps.” It's thought that dogs were bred for specific purposes even early on, including as working dogs.

Ancient dogs likely helped ancient humans in their daily tasks along with providing companionship. Ancient Romans, for instance, were known to have lapdogs thousands of years ago.

### Ancient Dogs Found Buried With Bones, Bowls

As Losey pointed out, there have been many discoveries of ancient dogs buried alongside

humans, sometimes with bones placed next to their noses or bowls nearby.

In one prehistoric dog unearthed in the Moravian region of what is today known as the Czech Republic, a mammoth bone was found in his mouth — and thought to have been placed there by a human.

Also noteworthy, dogs buried at the sites had holes in their skulls, which may have been part of a burial ritual done to release the animal's spirit from its body. Such finds have been discovered at sites around the world.

For instance, Dody Fugate, an assistant curator at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico, maintains a database of hundreds of prehistoric dog burials found in the Southwestern U.S. Such burials appear to have been most common between 400 B.C. and A.D. 1100.

Fugate has asked archaeologists to take special note of dogs at burial sites, as at one point they weren't given much significance in the field (animal bones at archeological sites are typically there as evidence of what the humans were eating, but such is not the case with dogs).

Dog burial sites, and the fact that they're often found alongside humans, gives important insights into how prehistoric peoples actually lived and what was valued. As reported by *National Geographic News*:<sup>3</sup>

*“Throughout the region, dogs have been found buried with jewelry, alongside adults and children, carefully stacked in groups, or in positions that relate to important structures, [Fugate] said ...*

*Fugate has conducted an ongoing survey of known dog burials in the area, and the findings suggest that the animals figured more prominently in their owners' lives than simply as pets, she said.*

*‘I'm suggesting that the dogs in the New World in the Southwest were used to escort people into the next world, and sometimes they were used in certain rituals in place of people,’ Fugate said.”*

### Other Unusual Dog Burials Show Long Connection With Humans

Egypt is the site of a large number of ancient dog burials. One of the most unusual included

five dogs found in burial jars in Abydos, a royal monument.

One of the dogs was so well-preserved that his long, brown-auburn-colored fur was still largely intact. He was so large that researchers couldn't figure out how he fit inside the jar, earning him the nickname Houdini. Salima Ikram, Ph.D., professor of Egyptology at the American University in Cairo, told *Seeker*:<sup>4</sup>

*“Sealed and buried in layers of protective sand, and cocooned in their jars, the animals' bodies were well-preserved so that they could serve as vehicles for their spirits, or kas, for eternity.”*

Also in Egypt was the discovery of dog catacombs containing 8 million mummified puppies and dogs, which are thought to have been offered to Anubis, the jackal-headed god of death. Unlike in the other burials, in which dogs appeared to have been valued for companionship and work contributions, the catacombs provide evidence that dogs in the area were probably bred or “farmed” for the purpose of being sacrificed. Ikram said:<sup>6</sup>

*“You don't get 8 million mummies without having puppy farms. And some of these dogs were killed deliberately so that they could be offered. So for us, that seems really heartless. But for the Egyptians, they felt that the dogs were going straight up to join the eternal pack with Anubis. And so they were going off to a better thing.”*

### When Dogs Evolved From Wolves Remains a Mystery

It's thought that modern dogs have one common ancestor — the Eurasian grey wolf. Although up for debate, sometime around 30,000 to 40,000 years ago, it's thought a subspecies of wolf began interacting with humans, perhaps foraging for food around human campsites.

Humans soon learned the animals were valuable for companionship and work purposes and began to selectively breed them. When, exactly, dogs emerged is unclear, but as anthropologist Losey put it, perhaps it's not when that matters most but how their relationships with people evolved. One thing's for certain — dogs made an imprint on human hearts long ago and that imprint will likely never fade.



# AMSCOPE

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Sweeps: Brenda Fishburn  
Obedience : Jim Comunale

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

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

Roving specialty-Perry GA. April 15, 2018  
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Sweeps: Vicki Kubic

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