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AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB
April 2021 Volume 41 Issue 4

How Do Dogs Find Their Way Home?



By Dr. Wailani Sung

There are plenty of amazing stories about how certain dogs are able to find their way back home after being lost on a trip or after wandering away.

How do they do that? Do dogs have a good sense of direction like some people do? Do they navigate by watching the stars like sailors in the past, or have an internal compass? Are they in tune to the magnetic fields of the earth?

Although there is no research on the homing ability of dogs, there is speculation that dogs most likely rely on two of their five dog senses: their sight and sense of smell.

Dog Sense of Smell and Scent Markers

The dog sense of smell is more highly developed compared to a human's sense of smell. Dogs have more olfactory neurons than humans—about 220 million to 2 billion,

versus the measly 12 to 40 million that humans have.

Every time you take your dog on a walk in your neighborhood, he gets more familiarized with the sights, sounds and smells distinctive to your house and the streets around you. And every time your dog takes a step, he leaves behind a distinct scent from his paw pads. Each of these scent deposits that your dog leaves behind creates a bigger chemical signal that essentially says, "Rex was here."

If he travels the same paths over and over again, he renews the scent markers on his trail and probably picks up other scent markers that other people and animals leave behind, which may help with his orientation.

Dog Visual Acuity and Visual Markers

On your walks, you may have noticed that your dog does not walk with his nose directly on the ground the entire time. Although there are a ton of lovely aromas for his sensitive nose to pick up, he may also be looking around, doing some visual orientation.

This helps dogs create a mental map of their visual surroundings. Research on wolves has indicated that they use visual landmarks to help guide their way around their territory. Researchers have also found that some wolves have taken shortcuts to get from one point to another.

Even though a dog's visual *acuity* is about 3 to 4 times worse than humans, they can still

recognize and remember visual cues that they may find meaningful.

When I walk my dog down my street after exploring our local neighborhood, he perks up as he gets closer to our house. When I have dropped the dog leash, he has gotten right up to the front door on his own. If I try to walk past the house when he is tired and he wants to go inside, he has pulled back on the leash to indicate where he wanted to go—home.

What does my dog clue in on? Does he recognize the sight of the house or the smells that our feet and his paws have left behind? It is probably a combination of both.

Maximize Your Chances of Your Dog Finding His Way Home

After extolling the marvelous senses our dogs have, let's not forget that, in reality, many pets get lost each year that never make it home. Whether they were picked up by other people, suffered a tragic accident on their way back or are unable to orient themselves through their dog senses, the chances of them making it back home safe are low. The best chance you have of reuniting with your dog if he ever gets lost is by making sure he has a microchip and a dog ID tag and collar.

The deadline for the April issue is March 8

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"They're bred to stare all day."

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

Debbie Herrell
13445 Phal Road
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sercatep@yahoo.com

Report all changes to the Roster to
treasurer@AMSC.us

Bonnie Keyes
511 River Terrace
Endicott, NY 13760
(607)742-3828

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

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It is case sensitive.

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.

UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Roving – Grays Lake, IL
June 19, 2021

Regular Classes: Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine
Sweeps: Linda Drost

Montgomery County
October 10, 2021

Regular Classes: Bruce Schwartz
Sweeps: Tatiana Meyers

Roving – Northern Calif Terrier Assn April
16, 2022

Regular Classes: Marcia Feld
Sweeps: Amy Gordon

Montgomery County
October 9, 2022

Regular Classes: Bergit Coady-Kabel
Sweeps: Cheryl Coffman

Should You Feed Your Pet Table Scraps? You May Be Surprised

Analysis by Dr. Karen Shaw Becker

Have you ever noticed that conventional veterinarians and many other presumed experts on companion animal nutrition give a universal thumbs-down to feeding "table scraps" to pets? Most also extend this to any and all people food as well. Instead, they want you to offer your dog or cat only processed pet food from a bag, can or pouch twice a day, every day, for a lifetime.

However, as regular visitors here know, in my experience, a species-appropriate, nutritionally balanced, fresh diet of "people" (i.e., real, human grade) food — not processed pet feed — is the best way to nourish your dog or cat for optimal health and a long life. But back to the dreaded table scraps for a minute — a table scrap is defined as "a piece of food left over from a meal," according to the Free Dictionary.¹ It seems to me that if the food you eat is species-appropriate and safe for your dog or cat to eat, and your pet isn't overweight, and you count those calories as part of his or her optimal daily calorie intake, then feeding a few "table scraps" now and then isn't a problem.

In fact, it may be the healthiest food they've ever consumed. I'm a huge advocate of sharing all your fresh leftovers (again, as long as they're safe for dogs and cats and species-appropriate) with your pets, as it will improve their health!

To Share or Not to Share?

Whether or not you share your meal with your pet really depends on what the meal consists of and what ingredients are used. Obviously, fried/fatty, sugary, highly spiced and processed foods are a bad idea.

Since Thanksgiving is right around the corner and serves as a good example, offering your pet cooked turkey meat and a few fresh cooked veggies served plain is fine. Examples of holiday people food you want to avoid giving your pet include dressing, bread, rolls and other starchy grains, processed or sugary foods; dishes containing raisins, grapes, onions, leeks or chives and all deserts.

It's important to note that rather than feeding your pet at the table, it's a better idea to replace up to 15% of feed-grade kibble with fresh people food in his bowl. Offering food from your plate at the table, or in the kitchen during meal preparation or cleanup, can quickly turn your dog or cat into an incurable beggar.

Food-Grade and Feed-Grade: Opposite Ends of the Quality Spectrum

You should assume your pet's processed diet is made from feed-grade raw materials, unless the website and/or bag specifically

states, "made with human edible ingredients." The vast majority of pet foods are made with raw materials not fit for human consumption. The differences between "animal feed" (what's in your pet's bowl) and human food are the quality of raw materials, inspection and what's allowed to be used.

The FDA has allowed "compliance policies" (essentially a pass to break the law) for pet food companies to use contaminated raw materials, including ingredients tainted by pesticides, industrial chemicals, filth, microbes and unpermitted drug residues. Here's a screen shot from the FDA's website about the use of diseased animals allowed in pet food (courtesy of TruthAboutPetFood.com):

Yuck. As more and more pet parents recognize that every brand and prescription food (except Darwin's Intelligent Design Veterinary Meals) sold at veterinary hospitals, most online pet food retailers and big box pet stores falls into this category, they are beginning to understand why I'm such a huge proponent of balanced, homemade pet food or shelling out the cash for human grade brands (less than 1% of the current pet food market).

The greater the amount of healthy table scraps you share from your refrigerator as treats, the better! Here's a link to my TEDx talk on this subject. Of course, if you opt to replace your pet's entire bowl of feed-grade food with real, human-grade food, it should be nutritionally balanced for dogs or cats. If you decide to replace a portion of your pet's processed food with appropriate table scraps, you need to remove the calories added by swapping (not adding), so your pet doesn't gain weight.

You can safely replace up to 15% biologically appropriate, healthy, human food (fresh meats and veggies) without rocking the nutritional balance of your pet's bowl. If you opt to replace more, follow a nutritionally balanced recipe to make sure you're providing all micronutrients needed to maintain health.

More Foods and Snacks Safe to Share With Your Dog or Cat

Most of the following foods will be more popular with dogs than cats, but they're safe for both; be sure to serve them plain (no sugar, salt or spices, butter or other additives), in moderation and in small portions. Organic food provides fewer contaminants and residues to you and your

pets.

1. Apples — Apples contain powerful antioxidants and vitamin C. Serve apple slices to your pet, but never the core or seeds.

2. Asparagus — Asparagus is an excellent source of vitamin K, A, B1, B2, C and E, along with the folate, iron, copper, fiber, manganese and potassium.

3. Blueberries — Fresh or frozen, blueberries are loaded with phytochemicals, and their deep blue hue is the result of anthocyanidins, which are powerful antioxidants. Blueberries are also a good source of healthy fiber, manganese and vitamins C and E. Introduce blueberries slowly to your pet — too much too soon can cause digestive upset.

Blueberries are available all year and make great training treats for dogs. A good rule of thumb is 2-4 blueberries as treats for every 10 pounds of dog a day. Replacing one of the processed treats you feed each day with fresh or frozen blueberries is a great way to increase antioxidants in your pet's diet.

4. Broccoli — Broccoli supports detoxification processes in your pet's body; contains healthy fiber to aid digestion; is rich in beneficial nutrients like potassium, calcium, protein and vitamin C; has anti-inflammatory properties; supports eye health; helps repair skin damage; and supports heart health.

I always prefer local organic produce, however, conventionally grown broccoli is one of the cleanest (most pesticide-free) foods you can buy, so eat up! Your pet may prefer broccoli steamed, although many dogs eat florets fresh without a problem. Chopped broccoli stems make great detox treats, too.

5. Carrots — Carrots are low in calories and high in fiber and vitamins. Many dogs enjoy snacking on a fresh crunchy carrot, and some will even eat the green tops.

6. Chia — Chia is a seed derived from the desert plant *Salvia hispanica* that grows abundantly in southern Mexico. It is a source of plant-based omega-3 fatty acids and also antioxidants. And unlike flax seeds, chia seeds don't need to be ground. Chia seeds also provide fiber, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, manganese, copper, iron, molybdenum, niacin, and zinc. Try sprinkling some chia seeds on your dog's meals or mix some with a little coconut oil for a super nutrient dense bedtime snack.

7. Cottage cheese — Plain organic cottage cheese is high in calcium and protein.

8. Fermented vegetables — Fermented foods are potent detoxifiers and contain very high levels of probiotics and vitamin. Beneficial gut bacteria provided by probiotics break down and eliminate heavy metals and other toxins from the body and perform a number of other important functions.

Adding 1-3 teaspoons of fermented veggies to your pet's food each day (depending on body weight) is a great way to offer food-based probiotics and natural nutrients. Find out more about this powerhouse addition to your pet's diet.

9. Green beans — Fresh, locally grown green beans are a source of vitamins A, C, and K. They also provide calcium, copper, fiber, folic acid, iron, niacin, manganese, potassium, riboflavin and thiamin, as well as beta carotene.

10. Kale — This dark green cruciferous vegetable is loaded with vitamins (especially vitamins K, A and C), iron, and antioxidants. It helps with liver detoxification and also has anti-inflammatory properties. Add 1-3 tablespoons of minced or chopped kale to your pet's food daily, depending on body weight, as a great source of fiber, nutrients and whole food antioxidants.

11. Kefir — Kefir is a fermented milk beverage that contains beneficial probiotics that support the immune system. Although regular, pasteurized cow's milk can be irritating to your dog's GI tract, fermented milk is different. One of the best and least expensive ways to add healthy bacteria to your pet's diet is to convert raw milk to kefir yourself.

All you need is one-half packet of kefir starter granules in a quart of raw milk (preferably organic), which you leave at room temperature overnight. Add 1-3 teaspoons of this super probiotic to your dog's food 1-2 times daily for overall improved GI defenses.

12. Mushrooms — Mushrooms range from life-saving to poisonous, so obviously you'll want to choose medicinal mushrooms only. Non-toxic, beneficial varieties include shiitake, reishi, maitake, lion's mane, king trumpet, turkey tail, and himematsutake mushrooms. All mushrooms that are safe for people are safe for pets.

Mushrooms can help regulate bowel func-

tion, but even better, they also contain potent anti-cancer properties and immune system enhancers. You can either lightly cook the mushrooms in a very small amount of olive or coconut oil before adding them to your dog's meal, or try out my mushroom broth recipe.

13. Pumpkin — Fresh pumpkin, either steamed or boiled (or canned 100 percent pumpkin), is relatively low in calories and high in soluble fiber. Pumpkin helps regulate bowel function, which relieves both diarrhea and constipation. It's also an excellent source of potassium, vitamin A and antioxidants.

14. Pumpkin seeds (raw) — Pepitas or raw pumpkin seeds, are a rich source of minerals, vitamin K, and phytosterols. They also contain L-tryptophan and are a good source of zinc, vitamin E, and B vitamins. Research suggests pumpkin seeds can prevent calcium oxalate kidney stones, reduce inflammation caused by arthritis, and support prostate health.

15. Raw nuts (almonds and Brazil nuts) — These nuts, served in moderation and very small portions, are safe for dogs. Many nuts are not — especially tree nuts — so stick with these 2 to be on the safe side.

16. Sardines — Fish are a rich source of omega-3 fatty acids, which are essential to your dog's well-being. If you supplement your pet's diet with fish, I suggest you use sardines packed in water. Sardines don't live long enough to store toxins in their bodies, and they're a terrific source of omega-3s.

17. Spinach — This green leafy vegetable helps has anti-inflammatory properties and can help support heart health.

18. Sweet potatoes — Steamed sweet potatoes are rich in beta-carotene and antioxidants and are also high in vitamins A and C. Sweet potatoes with purple flesh have potent antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties that may lower the risk from heavy metals and oxygen radicals.

19. Yogurt — Plain organic yogurt is high in protein and calcium, and most pets love it.

Hotels for June Roving Specialty

La Quinta Inn & Suites Chicago
Gurnee
5688 Northridge Drive,
Gurnee, IL, 60031
847-662-7600
\$99.99
Rooms reserved under "John
Constantine"
Block will be released June 2

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Libertyville
- Mundelein
510 East IL Route 83
Mundelein, Illinois 60060
847-949-5100
\$109 (kings only)
Block will be released May 26

Use this link to make reservation or
call referencing "American Miniature
Schnauzer Club"

[https://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/
groups/personalized/C/CHIMUDT-
AMS-20210616/
index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG](https://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CHIMUDT-AMS-20210616/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

The Portland MSC
will be holding its
Designated Specialty with the
Southern Oregon Terrier Asso
ciation
on **July 16 2021**
at **Bandon High School in**
Bandon, Oregon
Judge is Philip Freilich
Sweepstakes Judge is Laura
Reeves



Dear AMSC Member,

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

Generous donors like you are the key to our success and make it possible for the AMSC to provide the earned recognition these awards furnish to deserving individuals and their canine companions/athletes. We hope that we can count on your support to help us meet our 2021 goal of \$5000.00!

Your donation will be acknowledged in show catalogs to recognize your generosity to this worthy cause. Please mail your donation to the AMSC Treasurer, Bonnie Keyes 511 River Terrace, Endicott NY 13760 and memo it for the trophy fund to pledge your support.

You may also donate online using paypal.

The paypal link is on the AMSC trophy donation page:
<http://amsc.us/trophy-donations>

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Your Trophy Committee

Popular flea collar linked to almost 1,700 pet deaths. The EPA has issued no warning.
SERESTO

Montgomery/MCKC Show Week

Hotel Reservation Information Morris & Essex Hotel Edison Red Roof

860 New Durham Road
Edison, NJ 08817
732-248-9300 (hotel direct)
1. Block Name: B194AMSC.
2. To make your reservation: Call 1-800-733-7663 to book your room; open 7 days a week, 8AM-1 AM EST
3. Block room rate available until Friday, 9/3/2021; unclaimed rooms will then be released and group discount unavailable
4. Group rate is available for 10/3/2021 - 10/5/2021, combination of Deluxe 2 Bed and Superior King rooms, non-smoking, \$67.99 - \$80.74 per night, 14.6% tax not included
5. You must change or cancel by 9/3/2021 to avoid first night billings
MCKC/Hatboro/Devon Hotel
Homewood Suites Philadelphia/Valley Forge

681 Shannondell Blvd
Audubon, PA 19403
610-539-7300 (hotel direct)
1. Block Name: AMS
2. To make your reservation:
a. Click or copy this booking link:
<https://tinyurl.com/rbetrp96>
b. Call 1-610-539-7300, option "0"
3. Block room rate available until Sunday 8/29/2021; unclaimed rooms will then be released and group discount unavailable
4. Group rate is available for 10/5/2021 - 10/11/2021, combination of 1 Bedroom Suite Kings (\$149), 2 Bedroom Suites (\$199) and Studio Kings (\$129), non-smoking, 10% tax not included
5. \$75 non-refundable pet fee

Member Meeting and Social 10/9/2021
At this time, we are planning to have the member meeting and social at the Jeffersonville Golf Club, a short drive from the hotel. Additional information will be

available closer to the event.
Any questions, contact me at
barbaramd_2000@yahoo.com or 1-215-896-9666.
Barbara Donahue
MCKC Hospitality

NEW APPLICANTS

Murray Clark
30 Lioba Drive
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M1L 4V4
murray.clark@bell.net
416-873-5777

Murray is a non-US resident applying for Foreign Membership. He has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers since the 1970s. His parents were the breeders and he was the handler until 1990 when he took over the breeding as well. He enjoys exhibiting in the American shows and would like to be able to contribute. He agrees to abide by the AMSC Code of Ethics and Breed Standard. Murray has bred ten litters in the past five years, and he attends approximately thirty dog events per year. He is willing to share his long-time experience with breeding and handling and anywhere else he can be of service to the club. Murray is a C.P.A.
Sponsors: Lynda Berar and Heather Orr

Tricia Carmack
19176 Tarman Rd
New Paris, IN 46553
blessinhausms@yahoo.com
574-238-1977

Tricia has wanted to join for a few years. She agrees with what AMSC stands for. She believes that in order to preserve our breed we need to be held at a higher standard to ensure keeping to the breed standard as closely as we possibly can and in an ethical way. She agrees to abide by the Code of Ethics and Breed Standard. She has six dogs and most are Champion or Grand Champions. She has been involved in Agility and Obedience for thirty years and Conformation for eleven years. She has been breeding for four years. She is also a 4-H dog club trainer for nine years. Tricia attends 12-24 shows per year and belongs to Michiana Kennel Club, Northern IN/Southern Michigan and is Recording Secretary for Greater Columbus Miniature Schnauzer Club. She owns a dog grooming shop and is a dog trainer.

Sponsors: Gale Schnetzer and Carma Ewer



Shirley Ann Cole

Shirley Ann Cole was lovingly greeted by the Lord, on February 8, 2021, after a brave battle with cancer. Galaxy miniature schnauzers joyfully welcomed her at the Rainbow Bridge.

Shirley was born on July 31, 1937 in Belleville, Illinois to Harold and Myra Knipp. As the oldest of five children, she was a natural born leader and so very beautiful. In high school, Shirley met her true love, Ken Cole. Married for 64 years, they celebrated the birth of their sons Chris and Ron, the establishment of Galaxy's Canine Center (a grooming and supply store), and then, a move to Scottsdale, Arizona.

Shirley's high standards and passion for dogs led her to become an accomplished AKC dog show judge following decades of training and producing champions. She was a member of the Sun Country Terrier Club, co-founder of the Cactus State Miniature Schnauzer Club, and volunteered for the Valley Fever Center for Excellence. Shirley was an enthusiastic mentor, a gifted groomer, and had boundless energy and a desire for perfection in all of her work.

Shirley's extraordinary life and adventures are remembered by her husband Ken; siblings Connie and Terry; sons Chris and Ron; granddaughter Kendra and her husband Brandon; great grandson twins Braxton and Brantley; and dear friends of Galaxy miniature schnauzers across the country. Shirley was predeceased by her parents, and siblings Don and Doris.

Tips for Dogs That Hate The Rain

The saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers," so it's time to pull out those umbrellas and rain boots. Preparing for inclement weather is something that we as humans are used to. While some dogs may jump at the idea of romping through puddles, others are less than enthusiastic to head outside in the rain.

Whether you're potty training or trying to break a habit, getting your dog used to the rain is a great way to prepare them for a future passing shower or even down-pour. Here are some tips:
Start by taking your dog out on a leash and holding a large umbrella over them. Yes, you should make sure the umbrella is covering your pup at the expense of your own dryness. You have a raincoat on, they don't! Bring some treats and praise your dog when they do their business.

Try getting your dog used to the feeling of having wet paws and fur. On sunnier days, invite them to play in the sprinkler or feed them outside on some wet grass. Get them to associate the rain with positive things like praise and treats. If your first time is unsuccessful, try, try again. Bring them back inside but keep them on a leash and try again in 20 minutes or so. Don't give them the opportunity to make a mistake inside the house.

If all else fails, get them a raincoat of their own! Yes, they make raincoats AND booties for dogs. Many dogs don't like getting their head wet so try to find one that has a hood.

Once your walk is over, make sure you have a towel waiting at the door to dry them off. There are companies out there like Soggy Doggy that sell door mats, towels, and shammies that are designed to absorb water right from your pup's fur and paws! Get your dog used to having their paws touched by giving them paw massages when they are comfortable and lounging around the house. This desensitization will make it easier for when you need to dry off their paws after a walk in the rain.



AMSCOPE

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FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: The following information is given to help conduct AMSC business more efficiently. Please remember that the Secretary and the AMSCOPE editor should **BOTH** be notified of address changes, club officers and specialty results.

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