



# AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club

April 2022

Volume 42

Issue 4

## The Surprising Limits of the Human-Dog Bond

Analysis by Dr. Karen Shaw Becker

The human-dog bond is undeniably strong, but researchers are still trying to pin down the ins and outs of a typical relationship between a guardian and their dog. It's known that dogs can show helpful or prosocial behaviors that benefit others when it comes to helping other dogs. They've been found, for instance, to pull a tray of food toward a familiar canine friend or choose a token that would reward a familiar dog in an adjacent enclosure.<sup>1</sup>

These prosocial behaviors are prerequisites for reciprocity and cooperative behavior. Dogs have even been found to be helpful to animals of other species, but when it comes to humans, researchers from the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna, Austria, found that dogs aren't always altruistic.<sup>2</sup>

### Dogs Didn't Reciprocate Food-Giving to Humans

In order to investigate whether dogs reciprocate the receipt of food from humans, researchers trained 37 pet dogs to dispense food by pushing a button. The dogs were then paired with two humans they did not know. One of them helped the dog by dispensing food into the dog's enclosure, while the other person was unhelpful and did not dispense food for the dog.

The set-up was then reversed, giving the dog a chance to dispense food into the human's enclosures. No difference was found in how often the dogs dispensed food to the helpful or unhelpful human. In a second study, the dogs

were able to freely interact with their owner and the human partners they had interacted with for the previous study.

Again, there was no difference in the time the dogs spent with, or the time it took to approach, the helpful or the unhelpful human.<sup>3</sup> The results appear to show that dogs weren't interested in reciprocating the receipt of food from a human, with the researchers noting, "In our study, pet dogs received food from humans but did not return the favor."<sup>4</sup> However, there could be explanations why the study didn't show reciprocity in dogs, including "methodological inadequacies." According to the study:<sup>5</sup>

*"Although our results suggest that dogs do not reciprocate help received from humans, they also suggest that the dogs did not recognize the cooperative or uncooperative act of the humans during the experience phase.*

*It is plausible that aspects of the experimental design hindered the emergence of any potential reciprocity. However, it is also possible that dogs are simply not prosocial towards humans in food-giving contexts."*

### Dogs Rescue Their Owners

The featured study findings are surprising given past research that has shown dogs exhibit **emotional contagion**, which is regarded as a basic form of empathy. In one example, dogs were more likely to **rescue their owner** from a wooden box when they showed signs of stress than when they were calm. About half of the dogs in the study also spontaneously tried to rescue their owners even though they hadn't been trained to do so.

According to the study, which was published in the journal *Animal Cognition*, "Neither was this behavior motivated by obedience nor by the motivation to re-establish social contact with the owner. We conclude that emotional contagion is a plausible mechanism

underlying dogs' rescue behavior in the present protocol."<sup>6</sup>

Dogs are also known to give food to dogs that have shared food with them previously,<sup>7</sup> so it's possible that the featured study didn't ask the right questions, or in the right way.

### Study Highlights the Difficulties of Animal-Human Research

Dogs, for instance, rely more on sense of smell than sight, so slight changes in the study design could lead to a different outcome. Speaking with *Smithsonian* magazine, Jeffrey Stevens, a psychology researcher at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, explained:<sup>8</sup>

*"The key thing is, are we asking the question in the right way that the animals understand? Dogs in particular, they have a completely different world than we do right there ... You want to make sure that you've really tried to set up a situation where the animals have the best opportunity to demonstrate their abilities."*

Another possibility is that the dogs may have shown reciprocity if the study used a different scenario, such as helping a person in danger,<sup>9</sup> or it could be that the dogs didn't fully understand the experimental setup.

So before assuming that your pup isn't as loyal as you thought, it's worth considering that the experiment may have **set up the dogs to fail** for the simple possibility that dogs don't consider themselves to be providers of food for humans.<sup>10</sup> As *Gizmodo* reported:<sup>11</sup>

*"The authors note that our relationship with dogs tends to go one way when it comes to food; it's not them giving us their dinner scraps. In a different context, like helping people trapped or in danger, a sense of charity among dogs might be there."*

**The deadline  
for the May issue is  
April 8**

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# 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  
Grass Lake, MI 49240  
Phone: 517-522-4173  
sercatep@yahoo.com

Report all changes to the Roster to [treasurer@AMSC.us](mailto: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:

Password is: 2020Schnauzer

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.

## American Miniature Schnauzer Club Board Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2022

### CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Date: January 18, 2022 Time: 7:03 p.m. EST By: Vicki Kubic

### Approval of Minutes

October 18, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes motion for approval by Sonny Lelle, seconded by Bonnie Keyes. Approval passed unanimously.

### Report of the President – Vicki Kubic

Well, here we go! I'm honored and proud to be your next President. Let's work together in support of the perpetuation of our wonderful breed, its health and all the events that showcase Mini Schnauzers! Welcome to our new board members! Carla Nickerson, Sonny Lelle, Stephanie Davis-Rae and Patti Henderson.

Tentatively scheduled board meetings

**Tues., April 5, 2022 at 7 pm EST via ZOOM - DATE CHANGE**

Tues., July 12, 2022, 7 pm EST via ZOOM

Fri., Oct. 7, 2022 at 7 pm EST – Face-to-Face at Montgomery Host Hotel

Any additional urgent business should be discussed via the board list. Please get your committee reports and agenda items submitted at least 2 weeks in advance of each meeting and please thoroughly read each report before the meeting. If Board members have questions, they are requested to bring those questions to the Board List prior to the meeting. If a committee has any motions, they should be contained in the report and will be voted on at the meeting. The goal is to basically only have new and old business to go over at the meetings.

**Report of the Secretary – Carol Hafner**  
REMINDER: If there will be any changes to local club officers, they should be updated/reported to the AKC and the Secretary, especially any changes in local club representatives to the AMSC. Thank you, Mount Vernon for the officer update:

Shawne Imler – President  
Leslie Cromer – Vice President  
Kelly Radcliffe – Secretary  
Barbara Donahue – Treasurer

Board of Directors:  
Denise Baker  
Tatiana Myers (also AMSC Delegate)  
Cindy Sanders  
Paula Tibbs

### Correspondence

Jason West's first children's book, *The Misadventures of Lord Baxter Dewclaw & Captain Blake Stallion*, has been released. Published and marketed by Barnes & Noble Press™. Naturally, dedicated to the late, great Mr. B. Meet Lord Baxter Dewclaw and Captain Blake Stallion, two miniature schnauzers who are sure to steal any dog lover's heart. This simple story is a reminder that through new beginnings, we can count on trust and love — and sometimes, that's more than enough with a companion by your side! Fresh design art by Natalia Zubets will make this a favorite. Get ready to be charmed by these two schnauzers' adventures! The author will donate 100% of book royalties to Guide Dogs of America. GDA raises and trains guide dogs for individuals who are blind/visually impaired and service dogs for veterans and children with autism.

Registry inquiry from Noralyn Ripps in Texas for black and silver female with white, blue merle, black parti, liver pepper, liver tan, liver and sable in the pedigree. Explained that we are not a registry, contact AKC.

Notified by Linda Wahlquist-Soos that the Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club has been dissolved.

### Report of the Treasurer – Bonnie Keyes

Nice profit from the magazine and huge donations for trophies boosted the profit for the club. Budget for 2021 was in line with projected expenditures and revenues. Budget requests for 2022 from Committees and Board officers should be submitted to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

**Membership:** As of 12/31/2021 we have 2 Life, 383 Voting, 28 Non-Voting, Total 413

### Report of the AKC Delegate – Barbara Donahue

Because of the length of the delegate reports, discussion with President about putting the delegate reports on the Members section of the AMSC website and just putting a reference in the meeting minutes to save space. Reports would be available to all members through the website. Donahue does consolidate down the committee reports before it comes to the Board for the AKC reports and 8 committee reports. Delegate information is not public information. Not all AMSC members are active on the AMSC-L. The AMSC Members section could be used as an archive for things like Minutes, Delegate report and Health Committee report. Notifications to the AMSC-L would be given to inform members of new reports available in the Members section of the AMSC website as well as archived information. Donahue will publish

**MINUTES...**cont'd on p. 5

# 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.<sup>1</sup> 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 desserts.

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 resi-

dues 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

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**SCRAPS...from p. 3**

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 function, 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.

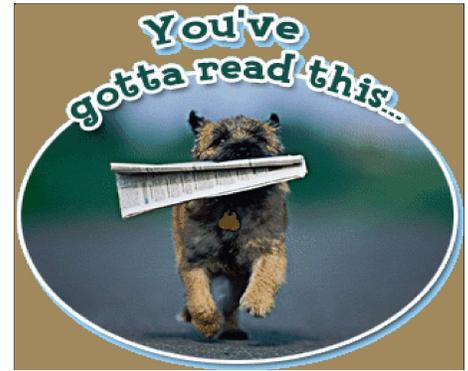
15. Raw nuts (almonds and Brazil nuts) — These nuts, served in moderation and very small portions, are safe for dogs. Many nuts are not — especially tree nuts — so stick with these 2 to be on the safe side.

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.

**NEW APPLICANTS****Dr. Damien L Cuffie, DDS,MPH**

824 N. Prieur St.  
New Orleans, LA 70116

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

Dr. Damien is applying for regular membership so he can be a contributing member of breed club which his dogs belong. He would also like to increase his network and knowledge within the breed. He has read both the Code of Ethics and Breed Standard and agrees to comply with both. He has bred four litters in the past five years and is involved in Conformation, attending five to seven shows per year. Dr. Damien has also applied to Lone Star Miniature Schnauzer Club of Dallas. He started in the breed in 2011, mentored by Dr. Karl Barth. He will use his science and health background to provide assistance in the health aspect of the Miniature Schnauzer.

Sponsors: Carol Benson, Nita Ainsworth

**Glendora Norwood**

2651 Skillman Lane  
Petaluma, CA 94952-6443  
707-762-5898

[Glwood4@aol.com](mailto:Glwood4@aol.com)

Glendora was a member for almost 30 years. Her membership lapsed and she is required to reapply. She says her dogs get a lot of attention as well as being shown, often by herself. She is a Breeder of Merit and has read the Code of Ethics as well as the Breed Standard. Glendora is a breeder of Miniature Schnauzers and has been for over 50 years. She has exhibited Giant Schnauzers in Obedience. She attends more than a dozen events per year and is a member of the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Northern California Sir Francis Drake KC. Her skill is helping other people.

Sponsors are Cheryl Dugan and Stephanie Davis-Rae

MINUTES...from p. 2

Delegate report to the AMSC-L soon. Archiving will be worked on.

### Committee Reports

#### **AMSC-L Group** – Vicki Kubic

On November 11, 2021, a vote was taken on the approval of the AMSC-L Committee Guidelines. The vote was taken on the Board list and there was 100% participation. The guidelines were unanimously approved by the Board. The AMSC-L Group guidelines can be found on the AMSC website.

#### **AMSCOpe** – Carla Borrelli

Requested that Board Minutes be condensed to save on costs of reproduction.

#### **Awards** – Sue Ratz

### **AWARD COMMITTEE GUIDELINES**

Guidelines can be found on the AMSC website. Motion to accept Awards Guidelines written by Sue Ratz/January 2022 as submitted was made by Patti Henderson, seconded by Sonny Lelle. Passed unanimously.

#### **Good Dog/AKC Marketplace** – Kaye Kirk

Kaye has reviewed the Miniature Schnauzer breeders claiming to breed according to breed standards and have found the following do not do so and has informed Good Dog:

1. Schnauzer Society - Lindsay Bayles, St. George, UT - Shows a parti colored schnauzer as the "dad".
2. Shadow River Schnauzers - Jill Land - Magna, UT - Shows a white schnauzer as the mother.
3. Lindy Ferrell, Darling, GA - has white and liver schnauzers
4. MapleCreek - Rosilyn Shryer, Woodland, WA - has parti schnauzers
5. Shannon Johnson, North Carolina - has white schnauzers
6. Schnauzer & Boston Terrier Pups - Connie Richardson, Whiteville, TN - has white schnauzers
7. Sassy Schnauzers - Kassadie Cardounel, Branson, FL has parti schnauzers
8. Mamie's Minis, LLC - Daphne Havis, Monticello, MS has parti schnauzers
9. Tennessee Schnauzers - Savannah Mangus - has Liver, parti, maybe merle schnauzers

Good Dog acknowledged the receipt of the information and they will pass these

concerns along to their team to look into and make any appropriate changes.

**Guidelines** – LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER!!!

**Historian & Public Records** – LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER!!!

**Judges Education/Overall Education** – John Constantine-Amodei

John will be giving a judges' seminar in March over the Tarheel Circuit as part of a "Terrier Institute". Also making a motion to amend the current Standing Rule, "AMSC official Judges' Education Seminars may only be given during Specialty or Supported Entry Clusters" to be "AMSC official Judges Education Seminars may only be given during Specialty or Supported Entry Clusters, or when an Approved AMSC presenter is giving the seminar as part of a Judge's Group multiple breed seminar event." The Standing Rule change request was tabled until clarification for wording changes can be received from Constantine-Amodei.

**Publications & Literature** – Patricia O'Brien

As of December 31, 2021:

**Total Income \$ 182.00 Total Expenses \$ 77.50 Profit \$ 104.50**

**Ways & Means** – Carol Henning and Jackie Harris

Planning to do another apparel fundraiser this spring!

**Website/Social Media** – Jackie Harris

**Website:** Jackie is currently contacting web designers to get quotes on overhauling the AMSC website. The main goals are to improve the usability of the website and to make it easier to make updates to the website that can be accomplished internally rather than having to outsource. The timeframe is currently unknown as the companies she reached out to in December asked her to reach out again in January and none would currently commit to a schedule. However, Jackie is hopeful she can get a budget and plan put together to present within the next couple of months.

**Social Media** – The overall response to the AMSC social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) continues to be positive. We currently have 66.7K likes to our Facebook page, with 67% of the audience being from the US.

### Special Committees

**AMSCOPE Magazine** - Vicki Kubic, Kate McMillian, Krystal Mason

We have 2 issues under our belt. They have been extremely well received and financially successful! We will review the AMSCOPE magazine and 3 issue financials at our next

Board meeting in April and vote on the continuation of the Magazine. We also need to consider raising dues to ensure the financial success of the Magazine. A complete proposal will be submitted prior to the April ZOOM meeting for questions and discussion. There may be some confusion amongst members that thought to continue to receive the magazine that they would need to pay 2022 dues for the mailed version of the AMSCOpe newsletter which is unrelated to the magazine.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### **New Members Application Approvals**

New membership was approved for Patricia A. Case-Standing, James Campbell & Kathy Tam, Sandra Peveto and Susan Coulter.

**Committee Chairs and Members** – Vicki Kubic

Approval is needed for the following committee listing.

#### **AMSC 2022 Committee Chairs**

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EMAIL ADDRESS

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oj@idahoit.com

AMSCOpe Newsletter  
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AMSC-L Group  
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Awards – Versatility  
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Historian OPEN

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**SPECIALTIES**

2022 Roving  
 Stephanie Davis-Rae  
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**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

AMSCOPE Magazine  
 Kate McMillan  
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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Crop Grants – Patti Henderson**

This issue will be linked with Dock and Crop Committee. In communication with Kate Baccus with the Doberman Pinscher club (DPCA) about the mentorship and grant program. An email will be sent out to the membership to ask for those people that the members/breeders, especially would like to be included as someone who they would be willing to recommend for crop and dock. Those people would be individually contacted to see if they would like to be involved in serving as a mentorship for a graduate or student with the DPCA would provide a stipend for them to do that. Next will be a letter to the AMSC list to ask who they would recommend for cropping and docking.

**Nominating Committee – Vicki Kubic**

The Board selected the following members by unanimous vote for the committee:

Kaye Kirk – Chair

Jackie Harris

Kristen Murphy

Sue Quinn

Stella Van Cleave

Patty Ledgerwood – 1<sup>st</sup> alternate

Mary Paisley – 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate

**AMSC Educational Program on DNA Testing – Patricia O'Brien**

This will be an ongoing process and Patricia O'Brien will be the point person on this issue. Information gathering will be done and are trying to get information together and not recreate the wheel. Any recommendation from the Health Committee that goes out includes the verbiage that just because you have a carrier that does not mean that the dog needs to be removed from a breeding program. In fact, if not life threatening, even affected dog does not need to be removed as long as they are mated to clear dogs. Some information will be forthcoming. Donna Hills will be asked to help too. Veterinary AMSC members will be involved to as much as possible as consultants. Hoping to have YouTube videos with the information available in the future.

**Shortening of Board Minutes for Publication – Carol Hafner**

Requests that reports be bulleted and condensed for easier publication in the AMSC newsletter and magazine. Hafner stated that Committee Chairs would be worked with to condense their reports in the future. Financial information will be excluded from the Minutes for publication and will eventually be included in the Members section of the AMSC website. Guidelines will not be published through the Minutes in the future for publication. Guidelines will be available through the Members section also.

**Parent Club Donor Request from Dog Judges Educational Foundation, Inc. – Carol Hafner**

The Foundation is in western New York with Dr. Gerard Penta as current President. They were forced to shut down their training facilities due to Covid. Funding levels vary. Training sessions are still moving forward, well done program and well attended per Wyoma Clouss. There are other judges' groups that provide training also, so the club will need to keep that in mind if funding requests are received. Wyoma will reach out to the other judges' groups. Motion to donate \$250 to the Dog Judges Educational Foundation, Inc. was made by Barbara Donahue, seconded by Sonny Lelle. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Board meeting will be Tues., April 5, 2022 at 7 pm EST via Zoom.**

## DO DOGS DREAM?

A Jack Russell terrier puppy dreaming about their pawrent.

For many pet parents, the feeling you get when you catch your pup enjoying a nice long nap is indescribable. How do they always manage to look so cute curled up in a furry ball?

Sometimes in these sleepy moments you may notice your furry friend's paws twitch, tail wag, and even make silly barking noises. If this sounds familiar, you've probably found yourself wondering, "are they dreaming?"

It can be hard to know what our dogs are thinking or feeling since they can't use words to tell us. Thankfully, there is some research out there that can help us get to the bottom of whether or not dogs can dream.

### The Research

In 2001, researchers at MIT's Center for Learning and Memory conducted a study in hopes of better understanding the connection between Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep and dreams. In the study, they monitored the brain activity of rats while they ran around a maze. After the rats were tuckered out, the researchers then monitored their brain activity while they slept.

MIT found that during REM sleep, the areas of the rats' brains that lit up while they were in the maze also lit up while they were asleep. This suggests that the rats were most likely dreaming about the maze. In fact, researchers were even able to use the data they collected to determine exactly where in the maze the rat was "seeing" themselves.

So, what does a study about rats have to do with dogs? The MIT researchers concluded that by proving rats dream, it is safe to assume most animals – especially ones more cognitively advanced than rats – also dream.

### What Do Dogs Dream About?

Stanley Coren, a professor emeritus of psychology at the University of British Columbia and the author of "Do Dogs Dream? Nearly Everything Your Dog

Wants You to Know," has studied various findings and has come to the conclusion that, "...dogs dream doggy things." What exactly does that mean? According to Coren, it means that, "...pointers will point at dream birds, and Dobermans will chase dream burglars..." and other types of dreams occur that make sense for each specific breed of dog.

Neuroscientist Matt Wilson agrees with Coren that a dog's dreams can be traced back to their favorite experiences and activities throughout their day. If you took your furry friend to the park, they would probably dream of the park. If you played a game of fetch that afternoon, there is a good chance they will dream of fetch.

The reason dogs have these types of dreams is because sleep helps animals understand and categorize the events of the day. When you take your pup on a long walk where they are chasing squirrels, playing, and sniffing around, it's likely these experiences will pop up in their dreams.

If you are like most pet parents, though,



you may still be wondering if your pup ever dreams of you. Dr. Deirdre Barrett, a teacher and a Clinical and Evolutionary Psychologist at Harvard Medical School, suggests that, "Since dogs are generally extremely attached to their human pet parents, it's likely your dog is dreaming of your face, your smell and of pleasing or annoying you."

Studies also suggest that the size of a dog may also impact their sleep patterns and both what and how often they dream. Smaller dogs like poodles and pugs experience more frequent but shorter dreams—about 60 seconds of dreaming once every 10 or so minutes. Larger dogs, like Great Danes and Labs, have longer but less frequent dreams – 5 to 10 minutes of dreaming once every hour.

### What To Do When Your Dog is Dreaming

Much like us humans, dogs need their beauty sleep. Adult dogs can sleep anywhere from 12 to 14 hours a day, while puppies can snooze for as much as 18 hours a day.

Not only is it healthy for your furry friend to get their z's, but studies have shown that dogs who sleep more are happier. Our suggestion is that if you find your pup is taking a midday snooze, it is best to let them be and not interrupt their sleep cycle.

The next time you see your pup fast asleep and twitching, running, or barking, you can rest assured that they are simply dreaming about what they love most!



# 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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