



AMSCOPE

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

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Issue 2

SPECIALTY WINS

Central Florida MSC

12/11/15

Regular Classes

Judge: Ann Hearn

WD/BOW...Tajinastes Keep Calm/Alas/Alvarez
RWD...Rivers Calm Before the Storm/Scott
WB ...Blackwitch It's Time/Beagle/Beagle
RWB ...Blythewood Lady Godiva@Ernhart/
Imler/Huber
BOB ...Ch. Destineez Wild Blue Yonder/Houck/
Pendleton
BOS...GCh Kwik Slick Uptown Chick/Colby/
Valverde
SEL... GCh Lande's Chairman of the BoardEsq/
Lande/Arstad
SEL... Ch Wake's Hear Me Roar/Wake/Wake
BBBE...Kelly's All Eyes on Me/Kelly/Reid/
Ridley

Shoot Your Dog!

Take pictures like the professionals do.

BY STEPHANIE COLMAN

A picture is worth a thousand words, and when it comes to our beloved canine companions, we can never have too many memories preserved in perpetuity.

Like people, dogs have unique personalities. Learning to capture your dog's attitude, spirit and charm can make the difference between a so-so photo and a memory you just have to blow up and frame. The following tips will help you take your best shot.

When you want jaw-dropping photos, it never hurts to let the true professionals work their magic by scheduling a professional photo shoot for your pet. Not only do professionals have the know-how and the equipment to achieve stunning images, working with a professional gives you the opportunity to be photographed with your pet.

While we strongly believe and have seen ample evidence that it's worth the cost to arrange for some once-in-a-life-time professional photographs of your dog, we've also learned that, with just a little knowledge and a lot of practice any dog owner can learn to take terrific, memorable pictures of their dogs. One of the advantages you have, after all, is your familiarity with your dog; no one else will have as many opportunities to capture his unique personality.

And *that* is the key to a great portrait. Ask professional photographers and dog lovers Rachele Valadez and Amy VandenBerg of Artis Photography in Snohomish, Washington, the difference between a good photo and a great one, and their answer is emphatic: Personality

"I think a lot of times people don't take the time; they get a beautiful dog portrait, but it's not their dog. It's a dog.

It's a beautiful portrait of a Dalmatian, but it's not 'Echo,'" says VandenBerg. Whether shooting pets or people, capturing a subject's unique personality is the team's main goal. To help achievethis with pets, they often ask owners to engage their dogs in a favorite game in order to capture the joy of being a dog: running full tilt after a ball, jumping for a Frisbee, rolling in the grass, or chewing sticks. Similarly, Seth Casteel of Little Friends Photo in Los Angeles and Chicago (and who frequently tours the country taking portraits), specializes in lifestyle pet photography "embracing the at-ease mentality of pets on-location in their natural settings."

"Each photo shoot I do is a unique challenge," he says. "My goal is to showcase the dog's personality through an image or series of images. Once I meet the little friend I am photographing, I find inspiration and ideas start to generate. I let the little friends tell me what kind of pictures best represent them." While posed pictures are nice, Casteel says a little creativity goes a long way to help unleash your pet's inner rock star. Sometimes simply observing your dog in action (or in a state of inaction!) can help identify photographable moments. "Try something different," says Casteel. "Play hide-and-seek with your dog. Ask him to sit and go hide in the house. Bring your camera and wait to be discovered."

The last time Casteel tried something different, he was underwater photographing a diving dog. His underwater diving photos have since become a media sensation, going viral on the Internet and becoming the subject of his forthcoming book and 2013 calendar, both titled, *Underwater Dogs*.

Casteel dove into underwater photography quite by accident while shooting an on-land photo shoot with "Buster," a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who wanted to spend his time chasing his ball into the backyard pool. "I thought, 'I wonder what he looks like in

continued on p. 2, col 1...**SHOOT**



Who are you?

**The deadline
for the March issue is
February 16.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Bouquets and Biscuits</i>	5
<i>New Applicants</i>	3
<i>Save a Life</i>	5
<i>SHOOT</i>	1



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

Stephanie Davis Rae
148 Dover Way
Vacaville, CA 95687
luvwaltDisney@att.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.

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SHOOTfrom p.1

there," recalls Casteel, who was so curious, he ran out and bought a waterproof point-and-shoot camera to capture Buster's antics. Liking what he saw, and sensing he was on to something creatively, he decided to save up for a waterproof housing to protect his professional gear.

"It was a happy accident," he says.

ENJOY THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Shooting outdoors offers the benefit of myriad backdrops and the advantage of natural lighting, which pros favor at certain times of day. When planning an outdoor photo adventure, consider shooting during what photographers call "the golden hour," the hour or so just as the sun is rising or setting. The light during this period is softer and offers warm, flattering hues. Also, because the sun is lower in the sky, it reduces the degree of overhead shadow. Avoid shooting midday when the sun is directly overhead, as it creates harsh shadows that distort the image. If your dog decides to be a perfect poser in the park at high noon, look for a well-shaded area to help filter overhead sun.

Even cloudy days offer certain advantages, according to Los Angeles photographers Kim Rodgers and Sarah Sypniewski, authors of *Dog Photography for Dummies*. "Don't write off a cloudy day," they write. "Thinking that you can't get good photos on a cloudy or overcast day is a misconception. In fact, this is sometimes the best light you can hope for, especially if you're photographing a black dog. Clouds can act as a giant softbox that filters the sun to an even and dispersed state, so take advantage of those clouds and forget about the 'high noon rule' on a cloudy day."

Dog photographer Ida Kucera of Lerum, Sweden, takes the "cloudy day effect" one step further and frequently photographs pets in inclement weather for a naturally dramatic effect. Her dynamic photos have also been seen making the rounds on Facebook.

"Don't be scared of doubtful weather," says Kucera. "Even a good blizzard or sand storm creates great effects in lighting and casts dramatic shadows. I enjoy a good, extreme weather situation - it brings natural drama and takes the pet 'back to nature' a bit."

PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS

Whether using a simple point-and-shoot camera, or a more complex DSLR (digital single lens reflex) camera, understanding a few basic concepts can help improve your

at-home photo shoots.

- **RULE OF THIRDS** - This is a basic composition principle that splits the frame into a tic-tac-toe board with two vertical and two horizontal lines. Rather than position your subject directly in the center, place his face at one set of intersecting lines. Whether you use the top or bottom set depends on what you want to highlight. To highlight something in the background, place your subject on one of the lower intersecting points; to highlight the subject in the foreground, use the upper intersecting points. The rule of thirds is a subtle, but powerful way to make images more interesting.

- **CHOOSING A BACKGROUND-** To help make your pet the star of the shot, watch out for distractions in the background. Pick up unnecessary items that don't contribute to the story you're trying to tell, and watch out for unsightly objects (for example, a dirty dumpster). Pay attention to items that appear to be "growing" from the subject, such as a light pole directly behind his head.

When photographing dogs outdoors, Casteel recommends looking for the "wall of magic," a bank of attractive green bushes that can be especially flattering when the sun is ~hining through, yet the bushes create a shady spot for the dog. You can also look for colors that complement your dog, or patterns that are interesting, but not overly distracting (such as the repeating pattern of a brick wall or wood fence).

- **A NEW ANGLE** - For most pet portraits, shooting at eye-level produces the most flattering image. Get down on the ground and experience the world from your dog's point of view. Extreme angles, such as shooting down on your dog from up high, or shooting up from ground-level offer fun, creative results, so don't be afraid to experiment; it's one of the biggest benefits of digital photography (you don't have to pay for film and processing!). Also, don't be afraid to rotate the camera from the traditional horizontal position to a vertical orientation to add additional variety to your pictures.

- **FLASH** - Most pros agree that using a camera's built-in flash leaves a lot to be desired when it comes to pet photography. The burst of light reflects off the subject's retinas, and creates an alien-like image of dogs with red and green laser beams as eyes. If your camera has a fixed flash, it's best to avoid using it. If using a DSLR, consider investing in an external flash unit or a lightscop. Both attach to the camera's "hot shoe" (the square port on the top of the

continued on p. 4, col 1...**SHOOT**

NEW APPLICANTS

John Rowe

936 Arbor Green Drive
St. Charles, Mo. 63304

636-300-0369 Jrowe12@wans.net

Sponsors – Beth Santure, Lynn Baitinger
John has been involved in Miniature Schnauzers since 1994. His Wife, Sandra Daggett is a current member of the AMSC. John is not a breeder. He has done Agility for 11 years and Obedience for 2 years and attends approximately 35 events per year. He belongs to the Gateway M.S. Club of St. Louis, Mo., where he did Agility Demos and served as Trial Chair and also worked with the AKC Dog Museum. John also belongs to Gateway Agility Club, St. Louis, Mo., where he was a past President. John is presently employed as an executive in IT Support. His interests are Agility and Health Issues, and would like to serve the AMSC in those areas. John's special skills are Trial Organization and Course Building.

Marija Kuncic

Box 73, Site 1, RR6
Calgary, Alberta, Canada TAM 4LS
403-809-7722

Mini.schnauzer@outlook.com

Sponsors: Catherine McMillan, Marilyn Lande

Marija has been involved in Miniature Schnauzers for 25 years and showing for 3 years. She has participated in Conformation events and attends 5 – 10 events per year. She has bred 4 litters. She is a member of the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Canada and Calgary Associated Dog Fanciers. Marija is a Verified Management Accountant. She is interested serving the AMSC in the areas of Newsletter, Legislative issues, Rescue, Electronic Media, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies, Education, Membership, Obedience, Agility, Ethics, and Health. Her special skills are financial/Accounting.

Paula Tibbs

35 Barclay Lane,
Stafford, VA 22554
540-295-9802

schnauzermom@hotmail.com

Sponsors: Sharon Edwards, Shawne Imler
Paula has been involved in Miniature Schnauzers for 22 years and has been participating in Conformation and has bred 2 litters. Paula has belonged to the Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club for 5 years and has served as President, Board Member and Trophy Fund. Paula attends approximately 40 events each year. She is a homemaker. Paula is interested in serving the AMSC in the areas of Newsletter, Rescue, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies Education and Health Issues...Paula's special skills are Administrative.

Liz Hawkins

1005 South 21st Street
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

515-955-8992 glshawkins@hotmail.com

Sponsors: Janet Taylor, Barbara Koscielski...

Liz has owned Miniature Schnauzers for 26 years and competes in Agility, Obedience, Rally, Barn Hunt, Earth Dog and is active in Therapy and Community Education and attends 20 – 25 events a year. Liz is not a breeder. She belongs to Fort Dodge Kennel Club and participates in many of their club activities. She has served as Treasurer, Show Chair, Obedience Chair, Trophy Chair and Training Director. Liz is self employed as a dog groomer. She is interested in serving the AMSC in the areas of Obedience, Awards/Trophies and Education. She is also a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Evaluator and is pursuing a Barn Hunt Judging License.

Heather Orr

Box 1704
Kemptville, Ontario, Canada

613-258-6378 tuxtails@gmail.com

Sponsors: Silvia Soos-Kazel and Catherine Mc Millan

Heather has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 37 years...She has owned approximately 30 dogs over the years...She is a breeder and has had 20 litters from stud dogs and 9 litters from bitches over the past five years...Heather attends about 150 shows a year and concentrates on conformation...She is a member of the Canadian Kennel Club – Ontario and the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Ottawa and the Rideau Terrier Club...Heather is retired and has been widowed for the past five years...Her interests lie in mentoring and would like to help others get started in the sport...

Lynn J. Barbour

2704 Bayview Circle
Algonquin, Illinois 60102

312-720-2735 lynnjbarbour@aol.com

Sponsors: Dale Miller and Marcia Feld

Lynn has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for 15 years...She has just purchased a "Foundation Show Bitch" from Lisa Sarvas of Beauideal Miniature Schnauzers and will co-own the bitch with Lisa...Lynn attends about 6 shows a year and has taken a dog through Obedience Training and CGC training...She belongs to the Chicago Miniature Schnauzer Club...She has had experience with working on preparing the MONTCO Show Booklet and was invited to be on the board of the Chicago Miniature Schnauzer Club...Lynn is a retired former educator and has had some Sales Exec. Experience...She would like to be involved in the Newsletter, Electronic Media, Public Awareness, Education, Membership and Conformation...She has strong organizational skills as well as good writing skills and good speaking skills...She is computer literate on WORD, EXCEL, POWER POINT on MAC as well asPC...

MiniPalooza Schedule

(As of August 17 2105)!

!

Wednesday, March 30!

- AMSC Board Meeting!
- Seminars (Purina Center)!
- Eva Furrow, DVM, 2014 AKC Canine Health Foundation Clinician-Scientist Fellow from the University of Minnesota Presentation on Calcium Oxalate stones and Hyperlipidemia!
- Mini Schnauzer Coat Rolling Demo/ Workshop!
- OB/Rally fun runs!
- Informal Welcome/Meet & Greet Party at Purina (Evening))!

!

Thursday, March 31!

- Greater Cincinnati MSC Specialty and Sweepstakes !
- Barnhunt Intro!
- Companion Schnauzer Grooming Demo/ Workshop!

!

Friday, April 1!

- Mini Schnauzer only Barnhunt!
- Gateway MSC Specialty and Sweepstakes !
- AMSC National Specialty Agility (Mini Schnauzer only)!
- Gateway MSC Obedience & Rally Trial!
- Schnauzer of the Year Competition (Evening)!

!

Saturday, April 2!

- Mini Schnauzer only Barnhunt!
- All-Breed AMSC Agility !
- Twin Cities MSC Specialty and Sweepstakes !
- Twin Cities MSC Obedience & Rally Trial!
- AMSC Cocktail Party @ hotel (Evening)!

!

Sunday, April 3 !

- AMSC National Specialty and Sweepstakes !
- AMSC National Obedience & Rally Trial!
- Presentation of the "MiniPalooza Total Dog" Award!
- All-Breed AMSC Agility!

JUDGES:

Cincinnati MSC - Lloyd Amodei
Gateway MSC - Margo Klingler
Twin Cities MSC - David Kirkland
AMSC - Carol Weinberger

In addition, health testing will also be included during the week. Timing for that is being finalized. More detailed information on the events and hotel info will be posted soon in AMSCOPE and on the website. We have a full week so plan and ahead!

SHOOT ...from p.2

camera) and allow you to bounce light off the ceiling so it falls back on your subject from a softer angle.

- **FILL THE FRAME-** Don't be afraid to get close to your subject. Filling the frame with your subject, either by physically getting closer or using the lens to zoom in, creates stronger composition by highlighting the subject and helping to eliminate the possibility of clutter. For an artistic effect, you can even try filling the frame with one part of your dog - like the pads on his foot or his snout.



- **BLACK AND WHITE DOGS** - Predominately black or white dogs pose a special challenge for your camera's automatic mode because the light meter attempts to adjust the exposure to a setting that represents the middle tone of a particular scene. As a result, details are often lost on dark dogs, and white dogs appear washed out.

When using a point-and-shoot camera or the automatic setting on a DSLR, the best bet is to avoid direct, midday sunlight in favor of an evenly lit shady spot or a cloudy day. Direct sunlight will cast shadows that destroy detail. If shooting indoors, daytime shots often work better because you can fill the room with natural light. For both black and white dogs, an external flash or lightscoop can be used to bounce light off the ceiling to help light the subject. Many photographers also use an external flash when shooting outside, especially in brighter sunlight, because the additional light can help "fill" areas lost visually to shadow.

Even with the help of an external flash, it often takes some tinkering with the exposure compensation feature to produce a properly exposed photo of a black or white dog.

Exposure compensation is a sliding scale, usually represented by -2.0 on the left and +2.0 on the right. When set at "0," the camera

What you can do ...

- For most portraits, shooting at eye-level produces the most flattering image. Get on the ground and experience things from your dog's point of view.
- Use a helper. If you're staging a photo, it's much easier with a helper who guides the dog into position while you remain poised and ready to shoot.
- Just do it! Photos don't have to be award-winning images to hold a special place in your heart.

is exposing the photo without any input from the photographer. Adjusting to the left (negative) makes the next photo you take darker; adjusting to the right (positive) makes the next image lighter. Exposure is a great tool to experiment with; a solid understanding of how exposure affects images can help you create far better photos - especially of dark or light dogs.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR EQUIPMENT

The better you understand your equipment, the more creative muscle you can flex in your photographs. Manuals can be daunting, but it can help if you investigate just one issue at a time.

For example, if your photos are always a little bit blurry, look in your camera's manual for more information about shutter speed - the length of time that your camera exposes its digital sensors (or film!) to the subject that you are photographing. The faster your dog is moving, the faster your shutter speed will need to be to capture him in a nice, sharp image. If you are using a point-and-shoot, look for a "sports" or "kids and pets" mode, often depicted by a running stick figure or a child and an animal. These modes automatically selects a faster shutter speed, which will help freeze the action of your subject.

Or perhaps you'd like an artistically (and purposely) blurred photo of your dog running or jumping? Then you need to know how to slow the exposure. Check your manual to learn how to override your camera's automatic features.

As another example, if you want an image where your dog is in focus, but the background is no more than an attractive blur, you will need to learn a bit about "depth of field," which is the range of components



in a scene that remain sharp, and how to adjust it using different apertures (the size of the hole in the lens, which, when combined with shutter speed, controls how much light gets into the camera) on the camera's lens. In general, the larger the opening on the lens, the shallower the depth of field in the photo. On a point-and-shoot, this effect can be accomplished by switching from the fully automatic mode to "portrait" mode (usually marked with the image of a face or head). A shallow depth of field is great for photographing stationary subjects you want to stand out against the background.

RECRUIT A FRIEND

Having a second person to help you handle your dog goes along way toward creating a successful photo shoot. Dogs move quickly and their facial expressions can change in the blink of an eye. You're much more likely to catch the moment you're looking for if you keep your eye behind the camera and your shutterfinger at-the-ready. Ideally the helper is someone your dog already knows and is comfortable with, but if not, let them get to know each other (treats and toys can

work well to shorten introductions) first. During the photo shoot, the helper's job can range from guiding a dog into position to displaying an array of antics to help elicit a bright expression.

Humans are drawn to photos where the subject is looking directly into the camera - and to those where the subject is looking completely sideways to the camera. The problem with taking photos in which the dog is making eye contact with the camera is that many dogs, like my Whippet, are uncomfortable looking into the camera - or looking at you when you have a camera obscuring your face!

Have your helper perform her squeaky noises or toy-waving right behind your head, so it looks as much like your dog is looking into the camera as possible. Alternatively, position your dog, yourself, and your helper so that you get a beautiful profile, with your dog looking toward

continued on p. 6, col 1...**SHOOT**



How to Access the MEMBERS ONLY section of the AMSC website

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

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

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

Bouquets & Biscuits

Southcross Double Feature CDX BN GN RN AX OAJ SE RATO CGC AMSC VA NW2 "Violet" has had a busy summer and fall earning our OA, OAJ, and AX agility titles. Along with our first MACH points, 2 legs toward our Graduate Open Obedience title, our first Utility Dog Obedience leg, and passing both the K9 NoseWork ORTs for Anise and Clove. Vi also earned her K9 NoseWork NW2 title in Columbia, MO on December 20, 2015. She earned her NW1 title on April 18, 2015. In August we were awarded the prestigious AMSC Versatility Award!! I am so thankful for this very special little girl, she never ceases to amaze me! Violet was bred by Sonny Shanks Lelle and Richard Lelle. Loved, owned, and trained by Christine Carter of Florissant, Mo.

This Maneuver Could Save Your Pet's Life

By Dr. Becker

Just like humans, pets (typically dogs) occasionally choke on things. Fortunately, it's uncommon for an animal to choke, especially to the point of unconsciousness, but if your pet ever does, knowing how to perform the Heimlich maneuver could save his life.

Signs and Causes of Choking in Pets

It can sometimes be difficult to tell whether a dog is choking or just coughing. However, a choking dog will have trouble inhaling, whereas a dog who is just coughing will breathe relatively normally.

If your dog is choking, she's suffocating, and she will get panicky. Also watch for pawing at the mouth.

The most common cause of choking in pets is ingestion of an object that lodges in the airway, including things like hard rubber balls, meat gristle, and chew sticks that swell when they become moist.

Heimlich Maneuver in 9 Steps

Open your pet's mouth and check for a foreign object. If you can see something in his mouth or throat, try to remove it with your fingers, or grip his tongue and pull it toward you to try to dislodge the object.

Alternatively, move your finger around inside your dog's mouth to try to feel and dislodge any foreign object. (There is obviously a risk of being bitten, so take appropriate precautions anytime you put your fingers in your pet's mouth.)

cont'd on p. 6, col.3...SAVE A LIFE

We will be having 2 new things at MiniPalooza.

1. To celebrate and recognize our multi-talented Mini Schnauzers, we are proud to offer the "Total Dog Award", a beautiful rosette for dogs that place, qualify or JAM in any three of the five areas of competition offered at the 2015 Specialty. Qualifying classes: Agility – Obedience – Rally – Sweeps/Conformation – Barn Hunt - This is Beth Santure's idea and she is chairing it

2. "Schnauzer of the Year" Competition- This is a competition open to any Miniature Schnauzer that in the year 2015 was in the top 20 (Schnauzer Shorts system), won a Specialty or all-breed best in show. This will be held one evening and will be a "formal dress" affair. Music selected by each exhibitor will be played as each dog is exhibited. There will be 4 judges chosen the evening of the competition randomly. One judge will be a breeder, one will be a professional handler, one will a multi-breed judge, one will be a breeder-judge. Each judge will score each dog independently. The dog having the highest score added up from all 4 judges will be crowned "Schnauzer of the Year", win a commemorative Rosette, as well as 1/2 of the total entry fees.

Here are the formal "rules" for the Schnauzer of the Year event. We will also be offering a "special" Agility event just prior to this that evening. It is still being finalized.

"Schnauzer of the Year" Competition

Friday April 1, 2016 at 7:00PM
Purina Event Center

Eligibility: Any Miniature Schnauzer that in the year 2015 was in the top 20 (Schnauzer Shorts system), was Best of Breed at an AKC Specialty, or AKC all-breed Best in Show.

Limit: First 20 entries received
 Entries Open: 2/1/16, Close: 3/16/16
 Entry fee: \$50

Judges: Four judges to be chosen via a random drawing of those entering their names in the following categories:

- Miniature Schnauzer Breeder
- Miniature Schnauzer Professional Handler
- Miniature Schnauzer Breeder-Judge
- Multiple-Breed Judge

Judging Methodology: Each dog will enter the ring individually and gait around. Each judge will examine the dog. All four judges will watch the dog go down and back. Each judge will then score the dog 1 - 5 in the following categories:

General Appearance
 Substance & Proportion
 Head, Neck, Topline, and Body
 Forequarters, Hindquarters
 Coat & Color
 Gait
 Temperament

People's Choice - Each spectator will be given a ballot to vote for their favorite dog. The dog winning the most votes will be the winner.

Prizes: Top 20 Winner - Framed Rosette and 65% of the entry fees. People Choice - Framed Rosette

This is a "Formal Dress" affair for exhibitors. Music suited to the dog or the exhibitor's theme will be played during the dog's gaiting. All dogs will be brought back into the ring prior to the Awards.

SHOOT ...from p.4

the sun, so that her eyes fill with light and sparkle.

HAVE FUN WITH IT

When it comes to getting the right "look" from your canine companion, don't be afraid to look or behave ridiculously - and be creative! Come to the shoot prepared with lots of props. Some dogs light up at the sound of a squeaky toy. Some dogs prefer toys that rattle or grunt. Some dogs are easily captivated by the crinkle of a plastic wrapper- the sure sound that a treat is nearby. With many dogs, tossing the treat or toy in the air and catching it piques their interest. Others light up if you playfully pretend to stalk them or ask the ever-popular questions, "Where's the kitty?" or "Wanna go for a walk?"

Whatever techniques you use, remember to reward your dog for his participation, don't forget to take frequent breaks, and watch for signs that your dog is becoming stressed. Frequent lip-licking, yawning, panting, or averting his gaze and refusing to look at the camera are all signs that your dog is becoming stressed by the situation. Rather than try harder to get his attention, it's time to take a break.

TRAIN, DON'T COMPLAIN

Photo shoots, whether at home or in a professional studio, go a lot more smoothly when everyone is relaxed. In your quest to preserve precious memories, don't forget your responsibility to keep your dog physically and emotionally safe. If he's generally nervous in new places, consider building his confidence before expecting him to sit calmly in a photo studio full of strange people pointing strange equipment in his direction.

Similarly, consider brushing up on his basic skills before a photo session.

"If people want good pictures of their dogs sitting still and looking at the camera, a good 'sit' and 'stay' goes a million miles," says VandenBerg. "It starts with training, for sure." Whether you plan to shoot at home or in a studio, make sure you practice any skill or behavior you know you want from your dog in the weeks and days before the shoot.

"Do not stress, do not yell, do not get frustrated," says professional photographer Julie Poole, of Julie Poole Photography in Knoxville, Tennessee. That will only torque up the dog." Poole, who breeds and shows Whippets, has been photographing pets since 2006. "I started in animal photography because I was showing horses and enjoyed photographing them even when I wasn't showing," she says. "Being a competitor, I knew more of what people wanted to see in their shots, and what not to shoot."

A love of and familiarity with the subject is a huge advantage of working with a

professional photographer who specializes in animal photography. Not only are they more likely to be patient with and attuned to the special needs of non-human subjects, they understand how to bring out the best in the animal.

"There's something good about every subject that's put in front of you. It's up to you to bring it out in them," says Poole.

JUST DO IT

"People take photos for many reasons," Poole says. "The most important one is to preserve memories. At some point, the dog will be gone and memories are all that is left. It doesn't have to be a Picasso or a Pulitzer to mean the world to you." VandenBerg agrees. "Document your dog throughout his life. Don't wait," shesays. "I can't count how many clients who have called and said, 'I'm so glad you photographed my dog because we lost him the next day, or next week.' Whether you choose to use a professional photographer or not, you just can't have enough pictures."~

Stephanie Colman is a writer and dog trainer in Los Angeles. She shares her life with two dogs (whom she enjoys photographing), and actively competes in obedience and agility.



Don't be afraid to get in close and fill the frame! Sometimes, you get some arresting images, like this one.



Give yourself a lot of time for the shoot, so it can be leisurely. Sometimes, the best opportunities for photos take place after the shoot is declared "over" and everyone relaxes.

SAVE A LIFE...from p. 5

If you have no luck dislodging the object by manually removing it, pick your dog up and place his back against your chest. Put both hands under his waist area behind the ribs. Make a fist with your hands, place them behind the last rib, and rapidly push up and in 5 times.

If your dog is too heavy to lift, stand behind him, place your arms around him under the rib cage, make a fist with both hands, and pull in and upward rapidly 5 times.

If your dog is unconscious and too heavy to lift, lay him on his right side. Kneel beside him with his legs pointing toward you. Place one hand on the other and place the palm of the bottom hand right behind his ribs. Push in and up 5 times rapidly.

Open your dog's mouth again and look for any foreign object dislodged during the abdominal thrusts you just performed. Move your finger around in his mouth to dislodge and remove the object.

If the object still hasn't been dislodged, with your dog on the ground, put your hands in front of his hips, then lift and suspend him with his head toward the floor.

If he's too heavy to lift, lift his back feet, until his head is lower than his hips.

Recheck your pet's mouth and use your finger to feel for the object and remove it.

If this doesn't work, put your dog in a sitting or standing position and use the palm of your hand to deliver 5 sharp blows to his

SAVE A LIFE...from p. 6

back between the shoulder blades.

Open your dog's mouth to check again for a foreign object. You might want to use a small flashlight to get a better look inside. Use your fingers to try to find and clear the object.

Until the object is dislodged, continue to repeat the above steps. If your dog loses consciousness, give him 5 breaths followed by 5 abdominal thrusts and continue these 2 steps (breaths and thrusts) until the object is dislodged.

As soon as the object is dislodged, check your dog's airway, breathing, and heart rate. Perform CPR if necessary and get your dog to your veterinarian or an emergency animal hospital immediately.

How to perform the Heimlich maneuver on a cat (or small dog):

Keeping Your Cool in a Pet Choking Emergency

During a pet emergency it's very important to remain calm. Your animal companion can sense your fear, which will raise his stress level and decrease the chance for a good outcome.

In the event of any crisis involving your pet, I recommend you call your veterinarian or a local emergency animal hospital right away (or an animal poison hotline if you think your dog or cat has ingested a poison). However, if the situation is immediately life-threatening, such as a choking incident, taking matters into your own hands may be necessary to save your pet.

**MINIPALOOZA
RV/Trailer Rental**

MiniPalooza 2016 attendees may be interested in housing alternatives to local hotels and find that renting an RV or trailer and staying on the Purina Farms grounds is an attractive option. Rental RV's and trailers are delivered to Purina Farms upon your arrival and then picked up upon your departure. Please contact any of the companies below for rental information.

- Byerly RV** (closest) **M.B. Thomas RV**
Eureka, MO (delivers & picks up)
(636) 938-2000 St. Louis, MO
(800) 392-5655
- St. Louis RV & Bus**
O'Fallon, MO
(314) 743-3939

In addition to the rental fee, there is a parking fee of \$40/night for full service that includes water, sewer and electric (30 and 50 amp). This is in addition to the RV rental fee. All questions about RV/trailer rentals must be directed to the above companies; Barbara Donahue (barbaramd_2000@yahoo.com) is only managing RV parking reservations.

**AMSC MiniPalooza 2016 RV
Reservations**

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Cell Phone _____
Email _____

RV Parking
Fee is \$40/night with electric, water and sewage hookups in Purina's camping area directly adjacent to the Arena Building.
NOTE: Campers wishing to be together should send in their reservations on separate forms but submit all forms by one person.

Contact person:
Barbara Donahue,
P.O. Box 578
Exton, PA 19341

Cell 215-896-9666
Email: barbaramd_2000@yahoo.com

Make checks payable to AMSC and mail to the above address, or send payment via Paypal to barbaramd_2000@yahoo.com
Outside USA reservations: All outside US requests will be paid through Paypal.
Conversion to US Dollars to cover \$40/night is required.

Check if Handicap Parking is required _____

State & License of Unit _____

Type of unit: Class A _____ Class C _____

Fifth Wheel _____ Travel Trailer _____

Pop-Up _____

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Number of Nights __ @ \$40 = \$ _____

Amount enclosed for RV Parking \$ _____

**Host Hotel Information:
(10 miles from Purina Farms)
Holiday Inn Six Flags**
4901 Six Flags Road
Eureka, Missouri 63025
Tel: 636-938-6661 (Front Desk)

Reference "AMSC" Block Rate:

- Two Queens or One King—\$109.95 plus tax / Family Room—Two Rooms/ One Bath—Two Double Beds and One King Bed—\$189.95 plus tax
- \$35 one-time non-refundable dog fee
- Maximum of 4 dogs per room
- One month prior to arrival all guests will be required to pay a \$100 deposit that goes towards the balance of their stay
- No penalty for cancellations prior to two weeks before arrival

Contact Person: Cathi Rohrer -
919-656-8834 /
cathi.rohrer@bcbsnc.com



AMSCOPE

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UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Centennial State MSC Feb. 11, 2016
Sweeps judge. Mrs. Linda L. Reese
Regular Classes: Mrs. Rosalind Kramer.
Cincinnati MSC March 31, 2016
Regular Classes: Lloyd Amodei
Sweepstakes: Richard Isley
Lone Star MSC July 7, 2016
Regular Classes: Sally George
Sweepstakes: Darlene Davis
Portland MSC January 18, 2017

AMSC SPECIALTIES

Gateway MSC April 1, 2016
Regular Classes: Margo Klinger
Obedience: Virginia Kinion
Sweeps: Brian Bogart
Roving Specialty-Purina Farms Apr.3 2016,
Regular classes, Carol Weinberger
Sweeps-Janet Taylor
Great Western June 26,2016
Regular classes, Linda More
Sweeps-Mary Paisley
Montgomery Co. Oct.9, 2016
Regular classes: Jon Cole
Sweeps:Linda Drost
Roving Specialty-Portland Jan 21,2017
Regular classes: David Alexander
Sweeps: Bonnie Keyes

Great Western June 25, 2017
Regular Classes: Peggy Beisel McIlwaine
Sweeps: Patty Ledgerwood

Montgomery County Oct. 8, 2017
Regular Classes: Joan Huber
Sweeps:Brian Bogart

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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