



AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB
July 2020 Volume 40 Issue 8

Can Dogs Get Coronavirus?

By AKC Staff

In early March 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 novel coronavirus is a global pandemic. In the panic over the spread of the virus, people are worried not only about their own health but the health of their dogs, cats, and other pets. According to the Centers for Disease Control, "there is no evidence that pets play a role in spreading the virus in the United States. Therefore, there is no justification in taking measures against companion animals that may compromise their welfare."

It's important to clarify the facts currently known about the coronavirus, and the big question on dog owners' minds: can dogs get coronavirus?

Can dogs contract COVID-19?

Dogs can contract coronaviruses, most commonly the canine respiratory coronavirus. This specific novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is not believed to be a health threat to dogs, but dogs can test positive for the virus.

A Pug named Winston in Chapel Hill, North Carolina is the first known case of a dog testing positive for COVID-19 in the United States. Three family members who lived in the home, two of whom are front-line health care workers, had tested positive for COVID-19. As part of a study at Duke University, the family and pets were tested, with only Winston testing positive out of two dogs, a cat, and a lizard in the household. The dog experienced mild symptoms and is recovering well. "(The dog) licks all of our dinner plates and sleeps in my mom's bed, and we're the ones who put our faces into his

face," one family member tells NBC News affiliate WRAL.

Two pet dogs in Hong Kong tested positive for COVID-19, and both dogs lived in homes with COVID-19 positive owners. Local health officials characterize the cases of the two dogs in Hong Kong as "likely to be a case of human-to-animal transmission," and neither dog showed any signs of illness from the virus.

Hong Kong health officials have continued to test dogs and cats owned by people infected with the coronavirus. Officials there have stated that cases of infection in dogs appear to be infrequent. As of March 25, Hong Kong's Agriculture, Fisheries, and Conservation Department "conducted tests on 17 dogs and eight cats from households with confirmed COVID-19 cases or persons in close contact with confirmed patients, and only two dogs had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus."

Hong Kong officials stress that "these findings indicate that dogs and cats are not infected easily with this virus, and there is no evidence that they play a role in the spread of the virus."

Can other animals contract COVID-19?

Two pet cats in New York have tested positive for the coronavirus. One cat displayed mild respiratory symptoms, and lived with an owner who had previously tested positive for COVID-19. The other cat also showed mild respiratory signs, and according to the CDC, "no individuals in the household were confirmed to be ill with COVID-19. The virus may have been transmitted to this cat by mildly ill or asymptomatic household members or through contact with an infected person outside its home." Globally, two pet cats, one in Hong Kong and one in Belgium, tested positive for COVID-19. Both of these cats lived in homes with COVID-19 positive owners.

A four-year-old female Malayan tiger named Nadia at New York's Bronx Zoo was the first known case of COVID-19 in an animal in the United States. A total of eight big cats are confirmed by the Wildlife Conservation Society that operates the Bronx Zoo to have been infected with the coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2. "All eight cats continue to do well. They are behaving normally, eating well, and their coughing is greatly reduced," according to WCS. Nadia was tested under anesthesia in order to obtain nose, throat, and respiratory

tract samples. The other cats were tested through fecal samples.

All of these big cats are believed to have been infected by a zoo staff person who was not showing symptoms of COVID-19, or before that person developed symptoms. Dr. Jane Rooney, a veterinarian and USDA official, tells the Associated Press, "There doesn't appear to be, at this time, any evidence that suggests that the animals can spread the virus to people or that they can be a source of infection in the United States."

The American Veterinary Medical Association also reports on preliminary results of "experimental infection" of domestic cats, ferrets, hamsters, and dogs in China, but cautions that these results don't represent real-world circumstances and should not be overly interpreted.

Can dogs spread COVID-19?

The World Health Organization states, "There is no evidence that a dog, cat or any pet can transmit COVID-19. COVID-19 is mainly spread through droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or speaks. To protect yourself, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly." Covering your face with a cloth face covering can also help reduce the possibility of spreading droplets.

The CDC says that "while this virus seems to have emerged from an animal source, it is now spreading from person-to-person." Because of this type of spread, "there is no reason to think that any animals or pets in the United States might be a source of infection with this novel coronavirus."

In households where a person has tested positive for the virus, the CDC recommends avoiding contact with pets and other animals.

How can dog owners protect dogs from COVID-19?

Healthy pet owners in the U.S. should follow basic hygienic precautions such as washing their hands with soap and water before and after contact with any animal, including dogs and cats. If you test positive for COVID-19 or believe you have been exposed to the virus, the CDC

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**The deadline
for the August issue is
July 10**

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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

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Report all changes to the Roster to

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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.

AMSC Board Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2020

7:14 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Board Members present: John Constantine-Amodei – President, Vicki Kubic – Vice President, Bonnie Keyes – Treasurer, Kaye Kirk – Secretary, Barbara Donahue – AKC Delegate, Patti Henderson, Patricia O'Brien, Beth Santure, Shirley Fry Shawn Imler, Cathi Rohrer, Sharon Edwards, Carma Ewer, Sue Ratz, Wyoma Clouss, Debbie Herrell, Laurie Moore, Stella Van Cleave, Mary Paisley

Guests present – Carole Henry, Marcia Feld, Lynn Batinger, Renee Wigen, Carol Henning

President John Constantine-Amodei read the Conference Call Protocol.

Montgomery County – John C-A reported that the application have been submitted and signed judges contracts sent to MCKC.

Approval of agenda – Patti Henderson moved to approve the agenda and Barbara Donahue seconded. The Agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes from the Montgomery County meetings were approved.

BOARD REPORTS:

Report of the President – John C-A Reported that the Roving Specialty in Sacramento was cancelled. The trophies can be reused, so we won't lose those expenses. He proposed that we hold the 2022 Roving back in Sacramento, if the club is still interested. John C-A moved that we do that, and Patti H. seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer Bonnie Keyes provided a proposed Budget and financial reports. Shirley Fry moved to accept and Patti H. seconded. Reports accepted. Vicki K moved that we make an recurring annual donation for Membership in NAIA. Currently membership is \$250 annually, Patti H seconded. This will no longer need annual Board approval unless a change in the adopt is needed. Motion passed. Treasurers Report – Bonnie reported Income of 40,635.98 and Expenses of 40,336.16 to date for the year ending in September 30, 2019. Giving the club a net profit of \$299.82.

AKC Delegate – Barbara Donahue - I was unable to attend the March 9/10 Delegate meeting. The AKC Board election results were posted to AMSC-L and AMSC-Board. I continue to share information sent to Delegates that is appropriate for our members or for Board discussion if guidance is required.

Committee Reports – AMSC-L - Vicki Kubic – We stand at 286 members which represents about 68% of our entire membership.

AWARDS - Sue Ratz – AMSC Annual Breeder Awards: The 2019 AMSC Breeder Award winners for all categories have been determined and the recipients notified. The awards have not been ordered yet. **New Business: Rally Award:** Currently, the AMSC sponsors awards in two performance categories: Obedience and Agility. The proposal is to expand the performance categories to include Rally. The AKC now provides a competitor report that calculates and ranks dogs that earn RACH (Rally Championship) points. To receive the award the recipient must be a member of AMSC in good standing and the breeder of the highest ranked dog according to the AKC Rally Competitor report for the previous year. If the Board passes this proposal, the Top Breeder of the Top Rally Dog would be included with the other 2019 award recipients.

Versatility Awards – Lynn Batinger – Lynn B and Beth Santure submitted proposed changes to the Versatility Awards. Scentwork was added with Tracking and a variety of titles were added in a miscellaneous list. Any or all of the miscellaneous list will count as one point towards the award, but it does not count as one of the three or four categories required. Points have changed for some of the items on the previous VA. Sue R. moved to approve the changes and Barbara D. seconded. Motion passed and the new forms will be uploaded to the members' section of the website. Lynn B. also reported that the first Versatility Award was issued in 2003 and in 17 years there have been 86 dogs to receive the award.

Montgomery County Hospitality – Amadeos Caterer has been secured for a member meeting dinner to be held at Homewood Suites. If members are happy with the meals, I'll attempt to secure this caterer and the Jeffersonville Golf Club for 2021. Hotels secured for MCKC week; Residence Inn, Langhorne, PA and Homewood Suites, Audubon, PA. Information has been shared via email, AMSCOpe, website and AMSC-L with club members. Obtaining headcount of board members attending Oct 2 meeting so appropriate sized room can be contracted and dinner meeting arrangements completed.

Education: John Constantine: Julie Cooper had applied to be a mentor. John moved that she be approved and Patti H. seconded. Julie was accepted unanimously. John advised that he will be presenting a Judges Education webinar put on by AKC. We will be presenting as part of the Terrier Group AKC Advanced Judges Institute at the National **MINUTES...cont'd on p. 3**

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Championship in Orlando.

Ethics – no report, but with the passing of Margo Klinger, the committee is one member short and has no chair.

Health Committee Report- Patti Henderson - AMSC Health Committee's active engagement over the past few months has included discussions concerning the following

1. PRA testing considerations evidenced by Lohi study and reported to the Board and Members at the conclusion of his research at the end of 2018 and summarized as follows:

Report to Grant Sponsor from Investigator: We have studied a clinically investigated sample cohort in Miniature Schnauzers (MS) with PRA to identify its genetic cause. We found two different types of PRA in the breed, type 1 and type 2. We mapped the chromosomal region that harbors the causative gene for type 1 PRA. Various genetic analyses revealed a causative variant in a novel PRA gene. This is a major breakthrough and enables the development of a diagnostic test for breeding purposes. This is critical since another recent study (Murgiano et al. G3, 2018; doi:10.1534/g3.118.200859) suggest a different gene (PPT1) and risk variant with incomplete penetrance, which we do not believe is the correct one. Our study will be submitted for publication early 2019.

Recently the research paper was published in PLOS Genetics which has made the testing methodology available for commercial use. The AMSC has been a strong supporter of Dr Lohi's research and has enjoyed a collaborative relationship throughout. The Health Committee is asking the University of Minn DNA Research Labs to begin using this testing methodology for PRA. More Later. Additional information below
<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/article?id=10.1371/journal.pgen.1008659>

2. PMDS remains an enigma of sorts as to what the ultimate action should be. We continued to gather information and recommendations previously published remain viable. Pockets of affected/carrier dogs is essentially self-contained and limited. suggestions to avoid removing dogs from the gene pool are encouraged using prescribed careful breeding strategies. Following.

3. A CATARACT cluster has been reported in one family in a specific geographic location. The breeder is involved with the Health Committee and work continues. This was reported to the There has been one report of SLO (symmetrical lupoid onychodystrophy), another auto-immune manifestation but fortunately a rare occurrence in Miniature Schnauzers. One

case of FACTOR VII DNA deficiency (Carrier status) has been identified. This was found quite by happenstance and has no clinical significance in this dog.

4. NON-SELECTIVE DNA Testing is the newest concern surprisingly brought about by the move of Optigen to multiple testing capability through a new lab, Wisdom Health. As a result, the AMSC was and now continues to investigate breeder education possibilities directed toward "indiscriminate" testing which may add additional gene pool pressures that are not entirely obvious. Population genetics is a subset of traditional genetics that breeders need to understand, the role of Epigenetics plays an important role that remains difficult to define but nevertheless impacts our small and contracting gene pool. Educational information, seminars, discussion panels as well as other educational tools on using DNA testing and interpreting results will be developed for Breeders

Judge's selection – Bonnie Keyes -With a decision on where the 2022 Roving will be, Bonnie will get the information out.
Legislative Liaison – Vicki Kubic – Kelly Radcliff has been instrumental in posting AKC legislative alerts to the AMSC-L list. Most pet bills have been pushed to the background because of Covid-19. However, they will come back to the forefront once this is behind us.

Membership – Debbie Harrell 2019 3 new member packets and one denial letter mailed after being voted on at the October meeting. 50-year pin was missed at October meeting for Lynda Berar. Pin will be sent to Linda. Dr. Ward "re-application" dues returned. He lapsed in 2017 and was informed that he needs to go through the application process again. He has not followed up.

2020 Several active member applications and membership dates are missing from our files. I will attempt to bring their membership dates up to date. There have been a few individuals inquiring about membership after visiting our website. Some are first time pet owners and are interesting in learning about the breed. I sent them the requirements and the name of a member near them.

Publications: Patricia O'Brien – Inventory:

Grooming Charts	22
Illustrated Standards	208
CDs	5

Income:

Grooming Charts	\$ 126
Illustrated Standards	\$ 12
CD	\$ 20

Total Income: \$ 158

Expenses:

Postage	\$ 15.95
Grooming Charts 9@	\$5.50 \$ 49.50
Illustrated Standards 1@	\$2.40 \$2.40
Total Expenses:	\$67.85
Profit:	\$ 90.15

Trophies Medallion engraving and purchase of class prizes were done prior to the Roving being cancelled. Class prizes will be used for MCKC; engraved medallions will be added into back-up inventory. Rosettes and other trophies had not yet been ordered/shipped. We are holding off on ordering trophies until we are more confident the MCKC week shows will happen.

Roving Specialty –The 2022 Roving Specialty will be with the Northern California Terrier specialties in April 2022.

Ways & Means – Carol Henning – Carol reported that there still some items available from the Sacramento Specialty.

Website/Social Media – Vicki Kubic - I'm keeping the website up to date based on the updates supplied to me. We are trying to keep our Facebook page a safe and friendly place to be during these troubling times. We see and hear enough bad news that I feel it's best to keep our page upbeat and happy. I am proud to report that we now have over 51K followers!!!!

Statistics Committee – Patti Henderson – Kate McMillan has been added to the Statistics Committee. The committee will put as much information as possible on the members' section of the website.

New Business:

1. Meet the Breeds scheduled for Philadelphia has been cancelled. Will not have MtB at Orlando this year either.

At this point, due to interference on the phone line, Barbara D. moved to table the rest of the meeting until 7 pm EDT on Wednesday, April 5th. Shirley F. seconded, motion passed.

The Meeting reconvened at 6:05 pm EDT on April 5, 2020.

In attendance: John C-A, Vicki K, Bonnie K, Kaye K, Barbara D, Patti H, Sonny Lelle, Patricia O, Beth S, Shirley F, Stella VC, Mary P, Sue R, Wyoma C, Debbie H and Laurie M

Election of New Members:

Janet Smith and Kathy Lejeune were presented for membership. Sonny L. moved acceptance, Bonnie K seconded. New members were accepted.

New Business Continued:

2. Historian records – Barbara D. – still going through boxes and shredding some documents and saving others to determine what might need to be scanned. A proposal will be presented at the next meeting.

3. Pet Disaster Trailer – AMSC donated to

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this project in the past, board did not feel there was a need to do anything further.

4. Rally Award – Sue R. – Statistics are available to add this to the Breeder awards and moved that we add this to the 2019 awards, Sonny L. seconded. Motion passed.

5. Top Dog Award – Patti H. – Formerly used SS points to determine, will now use MS points to determine award.

6. Pupdate – new program from AKC. Currently our website can not support this program. Barbara D moved to table until June to see if our website can be modified, Vicki K seconded. Proposal tabled.

7. Cruft's Qualifier – since they do not accept cropped and docked MS, Barbara D moved that AMSC not accept the qualifier, Patti H seconded. This will be the board policy going forward.

8. Levels of Membership – Vicki K – This has been examined before and voted down by the board, but Barbara D advises that the Mount Vernon Club has associate membership. John appointed a committee to explore further. Vicki K will chair, other members will be Debbie H, Sonny L, Wyoma C, Barbara D and John C-A. Sonny L moved to approve the committee and Patti H seconded, motion passed.

9. AMSC Equipment Check out – We are in process of putting together an inventory of the equipment and/or items that should be included. Patti H moved that we form a check out system and Barbara D seconded. Motion passed.

10. Imported rescue dog warning – Vicki K – We have updated the rescue portion of the website with this information.

11. Acceptable colors – It has been reported that the Pug club was able to get AKC to limit the colors available on registration. Discussion was that we don't believe we want to do that, because then the off colors would simply be reported as one of the three acceptable colors and we would not know what colors were in the pedigree.

12. Sue R suggested that we look into Zoom or another service for our teleconferences.

13. Nominating Committee- (this was done via the AMSC Board List Voting feature after the meeting). The Board appointed the following Nominating Committee:

- Marie Murphy (Chair)
- Gale Schnetzer
- Kelly Radcliffe
- Stephanie Davis Rae
- John Constantine-Amodei
- Alternates (Carole Weinberger, Sylvia Soos-Kazel)

John C-A thanked everyone for their participation and entertained a motion to adjourn. Sonny L moved to adjourn and Shirley F seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 EDT.

Next meeting scheduled for June 24, 2020 and will be via conference call.

COVID-19...from p. 1

has provided guidelines for pet care:

When possible, have another member of your household care for your pets while you are sick

Avoid contact with your pet, including petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food or bedding

If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wear a cloth face covering and wash your hands before and after you interact with them

To help reduce the spread of all germs, you may also consider wiping your pet's fur and feet when they come in and out of the house with grooming wipes. Dogs do not need a face mask to protect against COVID-19.

And the most important protection of all for your dog is this: Under no circumstances should owners abandon their dogs, cats, or other pets because of COVID-19 fears.

Is it safe to pet my dog?

According to the AVMA, petting a dog's fur is a low risk. The AVMA's Chief Veterinary Officer Gail Golab says, "We're not overly concerned about people contracting COVID-19 through contact with dogs and cats." And there's science behind that: "The virus survives best on smooth surfaces, such as countertops and doorknobs," Golab says. "Porous materials, such as pet fur, tend to absorb and trap pathogens, making it harder to contract them through touch."

Dr. Jerry Klein, Chief Veterinary Officer for the AKC, urges common sense best practices when it comes to our pets: "If you have children, you wouldn't have them touch a puppy and put their fingers in their mouth, because they can have fecal contamination," he says. "The general practice of washing our hands after touching a puppy or a dog—that's normal hygiene."

Additionally, the CDC has provided guidelines on interactions with pets (your own and those belonging to other people) during the pandemic:

Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the household

Keep cats indoors when possible to prevent them from interacting with other animals or people

Can I walk my dog?

The CDC's guidelines also include recommendations for walking your dog:

Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least six feet from other people and animals

Avoid dog parks or public places where a large number of people and dogs gather Physical and mental exercise are extremely important for dogs and dog owners alike.

Before taking a walk, check your local regulations and abide by any stay-home orders. If your area allows it, dog owners who feel healthy and well should plan to continue walking their dogs daily, albeit in accor-

dance with CDC guidelines for maintaining social distancing and wearing a cloth face covering over the nose and mouth. Observe any local ordinances concerning curfews, even if that means adjusting your dog walking schedule.

Practice social distancing measures by walking your dog in uncrowded areas, and maintaining a minimum of six feet between other people and other animals. Fortunately, the average leash is six feet long, so you've got a built in measure to help you stay a safe distance from others. Don't allow anyone to pet or touch your dog while you're out on your walk.

If you live in a large city or heavily populated area, opt to take your dog down less-heavily-trafficked blocks, or try adjusting walks to less busy times of day and night. Even if dog parks in your area remain open to the public, the CDC's revised guidelines recommend avoiding them.

Owners should always wash their hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds before and after each walk. Consider carrying around a pocket-sized bottle of hand sanitizer during your walks.

Should my dog be tested for coronavirus? You do not need to have your dog tested for COVID-19. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, "at this time, routine testing of animals is not recommended. Should other animals be confirmed positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the United States, USDA will post the findings." Any tests done on animals do not reduce the availability of testing for people.

If you are still concerned or notice a change in your dog's or cat's health, speak to your veterinarian so he or she can advise you.

The AKC is here to help dog owners adapt to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Find answers to all your coronavirus concerns, plus at-home activity ideas, training tips, educational resources, and more at our 'Coping With Coronavirus COVID-19' hub.

Hatboro Dog Club Sept 30 October 2, Morris and Essex. October 1, Devon Oct 3 and Montgomery CKC on Oct 4. Are still very much on!

M&E is aware of a rumor on the street that their show is cancelled. But that is not true as of yesterday.,

And remember that the weekend after MCKC is Mount Vernon MSC's specialty. Be sure to hang around the week after Montgomery for the shows at Catonsville Kennel Club in West Friendship, MD.

12 Science-Based Reasons Why Pets Improve Our Lives Analysis

by Dr. Karen Shaw Becker

In the mid-1970s, the Delta Society was founded to serve as a clearinghouse for studies into animal-assisted therapy and the human-animal bond. Then came Pet Partners, which provided the first comprehensive, standardized training program in animal-assisted activities and therapy for healthcare professionals and volunteers. In 2012, the Delta Society formally changed its name to Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program. From the program's website:

"The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that positively influences the health and well-being of both. While many of us intuitively understand the benefits of positive interactions with animals in our lives, an emerging body of research is recognizing the impact the human-animal bond can have on individual and community health."¹

12 Science-Backed Reasons Pets Make Us Healthier and Happier

According to Pet Partners, the following are just a few evidence-based examples of the benefits of the human-animal bond to both pets and people:²

A therapy dog has a positive effect on patients' pain level and satisfaction with their hospital stay following total joint arthroplasty.

Fibromyalgia patients spending time with a therapy dog instead of in an outpatient waiting area at a pain management facility showed significant improvements in pain, mood and other measures of distress.

A walking program that matched sedentary adults with therapy animals resulted in an increase in walking over a 52-week graduated intervention with the participants stating their motivation for adherence was "the dogs need us to walk them." The presence of an animal can significantly increase positive social behaviors among children with autism spectrum disorder.

Children made fewer errors in match-to-sample categorization task in the presence of a dog relative to a stuffed dog or human. Similar studies may indicate presence of a dog serves as both a source of motivation and a highly salient stimulus for children, allowing them to better restrict their attention to the demands of the task. Therapy animals in pediatric cancer stud-

ies improved motivation to participate in treatment protocol, to maintain their motivation over time, and to want to "get better" or stay optimistic.

Pet ownership, perhaps by providing social support, lowers blood pressure response to mental stress.

Pet owners have higher one-year survival rates following heart attacks.

Recognizing and nurturing the connection between animals and humans has potential implications for individual stability and health, improved economic outputs and healthcare cost savings. This conclusion was based on a number of studies.

Pet ownership, particularly dog ownership, may be reasonable for reduction in cardiovascular disease risk.

Pet ownership was associated with a reduced risk for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and diffuse large cell lymphoma.

Human health savings of \$3.86 billion over 10 years have been linked to pet ownership as related to a decrease in doctor visits in studies in Austria and Germany.

Whether it's a dog who prompts his human to get outside for daily exercise, a cat who provides cozy company for a shut-in, or a therapy pet who helps her person manage anxiety, animal companions have a tremendous positive effect on human health and happiness.

Pet Parents and the Bond They Share With Their Animal Companions

In 2016, the Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI) sponsored an online survey of 2,000 pet owners to learn more about how their knowledge of the health benefits of the human-animal bond impacts pet care and welfare. Some key findings from the survey:³

98% of pet owners agree that their pet is an important part of their family

Up to 55% of pet owners reported physical health improvements from pet ownership in themselves or friends or family members

Up to 75% of pet owners reported mental health improvements from pet ownership in themselves or friends or family members

Up to 88% of pet owners are aware that pets reduce stress, depression, and anxiety, increase our sense of wellbeing, and help with conditions like PTSD in military veterans

Up to 68% of pet owners are aware that pets support health aging, help with conditions like autism and Alzheimer's disease, and improve heart health

Up to 47% of pet owners are aware that pets support child cognitive development and reading skills and classroom learning, and help prevent childhood allergies

95% of pet owners could not imagine giving up their pet for any reason

How the Bonding Magic Happens
Research on the human-animal bond indicates there is genuine chemistry between

dogs and their humans. Daily interactions with your canine companion have a measurably positive effect on your biochemistry, thanks to the hormone oxytocin.

Oxytocin goes by a number of nicknames, including the "hug hormone." Oxytocin is what makes skin-to-skin contact feel good; it's what makes a great meal so satisfying. This amazing hormone can also act as a natural painkiller and can lower stress levels and blood pressure. It's a well-known fact that human-to-human contact, for example, bonding with children or partners, triggers the release of oxytocin. But studies also reveal that bonding with a completely different species also promotes release of the "love chemical."

A 2009 study of 55 dogs and their owners showed that the people whose dogs gazed at them for two minutes or longer showed higher levels of oxytocin than owners whose dogs gazed at them for less time.⁴ A 2011 study found that owners who kissed their dogs frequently had higher levels of oxytocin than other owners.⁵

And in a study published in 2003, dog owners were put in a room and asked to sit on a rug on the floor with their dogs.⁶ For a half hour, the owners focused all their attention on their dogs, talking softly to them, and stroking, scratching and petting them. The owners' blood was drawn at the beginning and again at the end of the 30-minute session.

The researchers found that the dog owners' blood pressure decreased, and they showed elevated levels not only of oxytocin, but also several other hormones. These included beta-endorphins, which are associated with both pain relief and euphoria; prolactin, which promotes bonding between parent and child; phenylethylamine, which is increased in people involved in romantic relationships; and dopamine, which heightens feelings of pleasure.

Incredibly, all the same hormones were also elevated in the dogs, which suggests that the feelings of attachment are mutual.

These studies and others are really just the tip of the iceberg. Understanding the mechanisms of the relationship between humans and animals, and their implications for all species, will keep researchers occupied well into the future.

In the meantime, if you're a dog parent and need a little boost — or if your dog seems to — try engaging her in a long, loving gaze. If she's the shy type, give her your undivided, loving attention for a half hour. You'll both feel healthier and happier for it!

American Miniature Schnauzer Club

NOMINATIONS OF JUDGES FOR SPECIALTIES AND SWEEPSTAKES SPRING 2022 / FALL 2022

Please nominate two (2) judges for Regular Classes and two (2) different judges for the Sweepstakes classes. The full name of each nominee must be shown. **Do not** use nicknames or professional names. Addresses are not required. It is requested that, where possible, addresses for the Sweepstakes' nominees be provided on the back of this ballot to aid the committee in contacting them.

BALLOTS MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED, SIGNED BY THE AMSC MEMBER, AND RETURNED TO THE CHAIRPERSON BY JULY 15, 2020. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ALL INSTRUCTIONS AS PROVIDED HEREIN WILL CAUSE YOUR BALLOT TO BE DISCARDED.

DO NOT NOMINATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR EITHER THE REGULAR CLASSES OR THE SWEEPSTAKES CLASSES. THEY WILL HAVE JUDGED THESE CLASSES WITHIN THE PRECEDING THREE (3) YEARS AND ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION AT THIS TIME.

~~~~~  
**Do Not Nominate these People**

**Regular Classes**

David Kirkland  
Brian Bogart  
Bergit Kabel  
John Wade  
Bruce Schwartz

**Sweepstakes Classes**

Patricia O'Brien  
Carla Nickerson  
Cheryl Coffman  
Linda Drost  
Tatiana Myers  
Martin Marks

**Regular Classes**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Sweepstakes Classes**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(REQUIRED)**

**PRINTED NAME OF MEMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(REQUIRED)**

Return Ballots to: Bonnie Keyes  
511 River Terrace  
Endicott, NY 13760-5054  
Or by email: [maplewynd@gmail.com](mailto:maplewynd@gmail.com) or Text: 607-742-3828  
**Ballot deadline: JULY 15, 2020**  
For questions please email me at: [maplewynd@gmail.com](mailto:maplewynd@gmail.com)

## AMSC/AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

Each year, the AKC offers to provide a Sportsmanship Medallion to each AKC parent club to be awarded to one of the club's members. This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of our club.

Only AMSC members in good standing are eligible for nomination. In a one typed page or less, nominations submitted by AMSC members need to include the name of the nominee, a description of how the individual has demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship during the previous calendar year, and the name of the individual endorsing the nomination. No additional weight is given to a nomination with multiple endorsements.

Written nominations must be submitted to the AMSC Awards Chairman by August 1, 2019 for consideration by the Board in the current year. (See attached 2020 AMSC/AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Nomination form). The AMSC Board will review all applications and seek clarifications from endorsers if necessary. The Board will then decide, in executive session, if any of the candidates shall be given the Award during the current year. The Award Chairman will be informed of the Board's decision and will proceed to work with AKC to procure the AKC medallion in time for official presentation at the AMSC Annual meeting.

This is not intended as an annual award, but will be given only on those occasions when clearly merited. The recipients of the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award are presented with the AKC Medallion at the Annual Meeting.

Sue Ratz  
Chairman AMSC Awards Committee  
sue.k.ratz1@gmail.com  
267-905-4351

### **AMSC/AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Nomination Form**

*Nominees for this award may be any Regular, Foreign, Junior or Life member of the AMSC. Any Local Miniature Schnauzer Club may submit a nomination. Nominations will be reviewed by the AMSC Board and the winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Nominator must have known the Nominee a minimum of 3 years.*

**NOMINATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINEE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why should this person be awarded the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award? Please give specific examples. You may continue on the back of this form.**

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**Mail or Email all entries to:**

Sue Ratz  
3382 E Buck Road  
Pennsburg, PA 18073

Or email to [sue.k.ratz1@gmail.com](mailto:sue.k.ratz1@gmail.com)

**ALL Nominations must be postmarked by**

**August 1, 2020 for consideration in the current year.**



® **AMSCOPE**

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

**AMSC SPECIALTIES**

**Montgomery County 2020**  
Regular classes - Mrs Bergit Kabel  
Sweepstakes - Cheryl Coffman

**Montgomery County October 3, 2021**  
Sweeps: Tatiana Myers  
Regular: Bruce Schwartz

**NEW APPLICANTS**

**Melissa Lorincz**

107 Walnut Dr.  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734-2347  
732-241-5995  
[marshpup1997@aol.com](mailto:marshpup1997@aol.com)

Melissa would like to join AMSC to learn more about and to help promote our breed. She owns three Miniature Schnauzers, one is ten and a half years old and retired, one is a nine-year-old rescue and the third one is a puppy from Riversong. She has exhibited in Agility and Rally for nine years and plans to show the puppy in Conformation, Agility and Rally. She belongs to JAG (Jersey Agility Group) as a member of the seminar committee. Melissa has read the Code of Ethics and the Breed Standard and agrees to comply with both. She teaches High School Science and enjoys knitting and running 5Ks and is interested in helping the club with Agility and Rally.

**Sponsors are Barbara Donahue and Vicki Kubic**

**Brian Pollock**

**Maggie Pollock**

604 Briarwood Ln  
Lewiston, NY 14092

[brianpollock@roadrunner.com](mailto:brianpollock@roadrunner.com)  
[maggiopollock@roadrunner.com](mailto:maggiopollock@roadrunner.com)

Their interest in showing started with a Mini purchased from Carla Borrelli. They began showing him in conformation about 2 years ago. They have read the Breed Standard and the Code of Ethics and agree to comply with both. They are not breeders and have not raised a litter but have had dogs as pets over the past 30 years. They also have a Bouvier from a breeder. Brian became interested (hooked) on exhibiting their dog when Carla wasn't able to go in the ring so Brian took "Chuckles" in. He loved the experience as well as the dog. He is skilled in data management. Maggie and Brian are both retired.

**Their Sponsors are: Vicki Kubic and Carla Borrelli**

**STAY WELL!**

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

**PRESIDENT**

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**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Vicki Kubic**  
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[vickikubic@aol.com](mailto:vickikubic@aol.com)

**SECRETARY**

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**AMSCOPE**

**Carla Borrelli**  
1799 South Creek Road  
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Phone: **716-572-7010**  
[cborr@aol.com](mailto:cborr@aol.com)

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

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