



AMSCOPE

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

February 2017

Volume CB30

Issue 2

SPECIALTY WINS

Central Florida MSC

December 16, 2016

Judge: Mr John Constantine

WD/BOW...Tajinastes Keep Calm/ del Rio
Alas/del Rio Alvarez
RWD...Kelly's There's Something About
Henry/ Kelly

WB...Evenstar Midnight Legacy/Tibbs
RWB...Repetition's Mona Lisa/Harris/
Garmaker

BOB...CH Repetition's Simply Spectacular of
Hardinhaus/ Harding/Murphy/
Garmaker

BOS...GCHB Destineez Wild Blue Yonder/
Houck/Pendleton

Select Dog...GCHB Sparx Sun Worshipper
NJP OAP/ Henning

Select Bitch... GCHS Myla's Cast a Spell on
WardsCreek/Schnetzer

Best Puppy...Evenstar Midnight Legacy/Tibbs

Best BBE...Kelly's There's Something About
Henry/ Kelly

HEY...DUES ARE DUE!!!

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

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Doing This Will Help Your Dog's Brain Sing With Joy

By Dr. Becker

In the first-ever study of how a dog's brain "hears" human speech, researchers have concluded our four-legged friends are listening to both what we say, and how we say it.

When you praise your dog, her brain's "reward center" perks up if your words match your tone of voice. These findings suggest the ability to process words evolved much earlier than was originally thought, and it isn't a talent unique to humans.

According to Phys.org, "It shows that if an environment is rich in speech, as is the case of family dogs, word meaning representations can arise in the brain, even in a non-primate mammal that is not able to speak."

Lead researcher Attila Andics, Ph.D., of Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest explains:

"During speech processing, there is a well-known distribution of labor in the human brain. It is mainly the left hemisphere's job to process word meaning, and the right hemisphere's job to process intonation.

The human brain not only separately analyzes what we say and how we say it, but also integrates the two types of information, to arrive at a unified meaning. Our findings suggest that dogs can also do all that, and they use very similar brain mechanisms."

Dogs Use Both the Left and Right Hemispheres of Their Brains When We Talk to Them

For the study, 13 dogs were trained to lie completely still for (non-invasive) func-

tional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) brain scans so the researchers could analyze their brain activity as they listened to their trainer talk.

It's important to note that the dogs were "volunteers" and could leave the experiment at any time.

The trainer, speaking in Hungarian, praised the dogs using words and phrases such as "good boy," "super" and "well done." The words were spoken in both an upbeat tone and a neutral tone. The trainer also used neutral conjunction words like "however," and "nevertheless" that meant nothing to the dogs.

While the trainer spoke, the researchers checked the scans for regions of the dogs' brains that were able to differentiate between praise words and meaningless words, as well as praise and non-praise (neutral) tones of voice.

The researchers observed that the dogs used the left hemisphere of their brains to process meaningful — but not meaningless — words, and the right hemisphere to process vocal tones.

"This was the same auditory brain region that this group of researchers previously found in dogs for processing emotional non-speech sounds from both dogs and humans, suggesting that intonation processing mechanisms are not specific to speech," according to Phys.org.

When You Praise Your Dog, cont'd on p. 2, col 2...**JOY**

LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change

* **DECALS & PINS.** You can get AMSC decals (\$1.00) and replacement pins (\$7.50) from

Jacquelyn Ebersbach
424 45th Street

West Palm Beach, FL 33407
saxonyms@comcast.net

***LOCAL CLUBS...**please be sure to include all information when sending Specialty tear sheets for inclusion in AMSCOPE e.g. Judges, dates, entry, obedience.

***LOCAL CLUBS...PLEASE** send a copy of your newsletter to the following members of the Local Club Bulleting Committee.

Chair: Laurie Moore
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JOY..from p.1

Double His Pleasure by Using an Upbeat Tone

The research team also observed from the scans that the reward center (the region of the brain that processes enjoyable sensations) of the dogs' brains was strongly triggered by praise — but only when the praise was spoken in an encouraging, upbeat tone.

All other combinations of words and vocal tones resulted in much less reward center activity. For example, when the trainer said "good boy" in a neutral tone, or "however" in either a positive or neutral tone, the result was the same — the dogs' reward centers didn't light up.

Now, if you have a habit of calling your dog a not-so-nice nickname like, say, Stinky Face, but you always say it lovingly, your dog probably responds as if he's being praised because he's learned to associate the words "Stinky Face" with your affectionate tone of voice. According to Andics:

"It shows that for dogs, a nice praise can very well work as a reward, but it works best if both words and intonation match.

So dogs not only tell apart what we say and how we say it, but they can also combine the two, for a correct interpretation of what those words really meant. Again, this is very similar to what human brains do."

The researchers hope this and subsequent studies can be used to enhance communication and cooperation between dogs and humans.

Processing Words Doesn't Always Mean Understanding Them

It's important to note there can be a difference between a dog processing words for their familiarity and actually understanding the words as we intend. As study co-author Adam Miklosi, Ph.D., head of the Family Dog Project told Scientific American magazine:

"'Understanding' is a tricky word. Studies using brain imaging technology cannot firmly say that the activation of a specific brain area indicates 'understanding.'

For sure, dogs in this study reacted to the meaningful words, that is, to those words that their owners often use when they want to attract the dog's attention or provide a positive feedback for the dog. So in this sense our dogs recognized these words as familiar and probably meaning something good."

An important feature of the study is that it demonstrated the left hemisphere of dogs processed meaningful words separate from the vocal tone. This suggests your dog may understand that "good dog" is praise regardless of the tone of voice you use when you say it.

"We think that intonation is important," says Miklosi. "Owners should learn how to praise a dog, and then use the same expression in similar way. Consistency in praising and in general in communication with the dog is important."

Bouquets and Biscuits

***Jofor's No Rules CD, BN, RE, NAP, AJP, AXP,MJP**, "Chance", was very busy to the last day of 2016.

On Dec. 16, Chance earned his AXP in agility with a second placement. On Dec 30, Chance earned his MJP title in agility with another second placement.

Chance was bred by Joanne Forster and Debbie Herrell. Chance is forever owned, loved and trained by Joanne McCallum.

DUES...

DUES ARE OVERDUE

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

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

Understanding Your Dog's Vocal Communications

Barks, growls, howls, whines, and whimpers - your dog is talking to you, and he's got a lot to say!

This baying hound is speaking his mind; he's seen another dog in the distance and is expressing a challenge. He's also a tad frustrated at not being able to go greet the dog.

Barking

Dogs bark for many reasons, including alert (there's something out there!), alarm (there's something bad out there) boredom, demand, fear, suspicion, distress, and pleasure (play). (For more about dealing with barking, see "Modifying Barking Behavior," WDJ July 2007.)

The bark of a distressed dog, such as a dog who suffers from isolation or separation distress or anxiety, is high-pitched and repetitive; getting higher in pitch as the dog becomes more upset. Boredom barking tends to be more of a repetitive monotone. Alert bark is likely to be a sharp, staccato sound; alarm barking adds a note of intensity to the alert.

Demand barks are sharp and persistent, and directed at the human who could/should ostensibly provide whatever the dog demands. At least, the dog thinks so. Suspicious barks are usually low in tone, and slow, while fearful barking is often low but faster. Play barking just sounds . . . playful. If you have any doubt - look to see what the dog is doing. If he's playing, it's probably play barking.

Baying

Baying is deep-throated, prolonged barking, most often heard when a dog is in pursuit of prey, but also sometimes offered by a dog who is challenging an intruder. The scent hounds are notorious for their melodic baying voices.

Growling

Growls are most often a warning that serious aggression may ensue if you persist in whatever you're doing, or whatever is going on around him. Rather than taking offense at your dog's growl, heed his warning, and figure out how to make him more comfortable with the situation. (See

"5 Steps to Deal with Dog Growling," WDJ October 2009.)

Dogs also growl in play. It's common for a dog to growl while playing tug - and that's perfectly appropriate as long as the rest of his body language says he's playing. If there's any doubt in your mind, take a break from play to let him calm down. Some dogs also growl in pleasure. Rottweilers are notorious for "grumbling" when being petted and playing, and absent any signs of stress, this is interpreted as a "feels good" happy sound.

Howling

Howling is often triggered by a high-pitched sound; many dogs howl at the sound of fire and police sirens. (Two of my own dogs howl when our donkey brays). Some dog owners have taught their dogs to howl on cue, such as the owner howling.

Howling is generally considered to be communication between pack members: perhaps to locate another pack member, or to call the pack for hunting. Some dogs howl when they are significantly distressed - again, a common symptom of isolation and separation distress.

Whimpering/Yelping

A whimper or a yelp is often an indication that a dog is in pain. This may happen when dogs play, if one dog bites the other dog too hard. The whimper or yelp is used to communicate the dog's distress to a pack member (or human) when they are friendly. The other dog or human is expected to react positively to the communication. Whimpers can also indicate strong excitement such as when an owner returns at the end of a long workday. Excitement whimpering is often accompanied by licking, jumping, and barking. Whimpering is softer and less intense than whining.

Whining

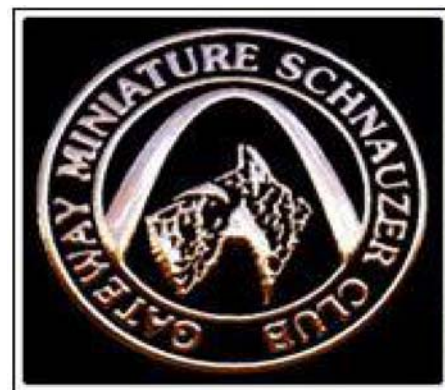
Whining is a high-pitched vocalization, often produced nasally with the mouth closed. A dog may whine when it wants something, needs or wants to

go outside, feels frustrated by leash restraint, is separated from a valued companion (human or otherwise), or just wants attention. It is usually an indication of some increased level of stress for the dog.

Speaking Words?

Some dogs are capable of replicating human speech sounds. When these sounds are selectively reinforced, dogs can appear to be speaking human words, sometimes even sentences. It is most likely that the dogs have no concept of the meaning behind the words they are "speaking" - although as we learn more about canine cognition, one can't ever be too sure. (See "What Does the Dog Think?," WDJ July 2011.)

It's interesting to note that one of the phrases most frequently taught to dogs by their owners is some version of, "I love you..."



GMSC 2017 Specialty Show

March 3rd 2017

Purina Event Center-Gray Summit, MO

For information see-
www.foytrentdogshows.com

Conformation Judge: Mrs. Patricia Hastings

Sweepstakes Judge: Brenda Fishburn

Obedience Judge: Mr. James Comunale

Saturday Judge: Mrs. Mareth K. Kipp Breed

and Group

Sunday Judge: Mr. Edd Bivin

Breed and Group

NEW APPLICANTS

ANGELA CHRISTOPHER

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West Linn, OR 97068
971-281-4230

christopher.angela1@gmail.com

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

JAN M. VAN SYCKEL

31 Bean Road,
Fremont, NH 03044

jvan.schnzr@comcast.net
603-370-1307

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

KARIN KINNIAN

1040 Pinyan Lane,
Canton, GA 30115

DISLIC@comcast.net
603-321-5782

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

SUSAN CHURN

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570-971-5864

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

Susan's Sponsors are Lynn Baitinger and Kaye Kirk.

THEONE L. HUTCHMAN

23213 NE 105th Street
Vancouver, WA 98682-9716
Thutchman2@aol.com
360-896-2027

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

DEBBIE HOY and JEFF HOY (co-applicants)

1754 Rattlesnake Pike
Julian PA 16844
Debhoy1754@gmail.com
814-355-0075

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

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

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

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

CATHY FARR

241 Springbrook Drive,
Palmyra, PA 17078
717-512-1081

farnnear@comcast.net

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

Cathy's Sponsors are: Lynn Baitinger and Barbara Donahue

CONNIE KROHN

PO Box 17
Vonda, Saskatchewan
Canada
306-258-0020

connie@conniekrohn.com

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

NEW APPLICANTS

Tyler Rath

2204 Arizona Ave,
Iowa City, IA 52240
712-363-2432

Tylerrath2009@gmail.com

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

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

Tyler's Sponsors are: Fiona Macken and Teresa Handlen

Carol Ann Blackert

8 Lancaster Court
Mechanicsville, N.Y. 12118

cbkert@aol.com

518-541-3110

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

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

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

User Name is: AMSC#1

Password is: Schnauzer2015

Here's the link to the Members Section:

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

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

How to survive doggy cabin fever this winter.

Let's face it - there are few things more enjoyable on a cold winter's day than to curl up inside and stay warm. Don't give in to the couch temptation though, at least until after you've spent some quality exercise time with your best friend. Finding ways to stay active in winter is tough, for you and your pup. Here are some fun ways to survive the winter cold and keep you both in shape.

If the weather conditions permit, go for a short morning run together, aerobic exercise is good for both of you.

Play indoor fetch, only if you have enough indoor space, long hallways are ideal.

Stimulate some doggy brain cells with a game of indoor hide the treat.

Teach your dog a new trick this winter. Your dog will love to learn and it's a great way to spend time together. A great trick is to teach your dog how to give the high five.

Take a class together - anything from obedience training and agility to doggy yoga. Your local pet store is a great place to find out what's on in your area.

Set up some Puppy Play Dates, either at your house or in the local dog park.

If you live in an area that gets snow and are feeling particularly adventurous you could try out Skijoring. You will need snow, skis and a dog that loves snow, is fit, healthy and suitable to pull you through the snow.

Tips for keeping you and your dog safe in the winter cold:

Make sure you both wear reflective clothing, arm-bands or LED collar lights if you are outside during winter.

Watch your dog for signs that it is getting too cold - have they slowed down, are they lifting their paws up and down or whining? A dog sweater or water-resistant jacket to keep your pup warm, especially if they are short-haired, on the small side or a little older.

Keep your pup's paws dry with some dog booties. These will also help keep salt and ice away from paws.

Make sure you dry off your dog with a warm cloth when you get home to remove any salt or ice from his coat. Pay special attention to his legs and belly (and paws if he doesn't like wearing booties).

To: AMSC Officers, Governors, Committee Chairs, and Local Club Delegates*

From: Carole Weinberger, President
Carol Hafner, Secretary

Date: January 13, 2017

Subject: Teleconference Board Meeting,

Thursday, February 23, 2017 @ 5:00 pm
PST/8:00 pm EST

Special Instructions: This meeting is a phone conference call. The number to call is (515)

739-1225. The participant code is 406153#

Your participation is requested on this conference call of the Board of Governors of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc. **All committee Chairs are requested to update, if needed, their January report to the President and to the Secretary to arrive no later than Monday, February 6, 2017**, for inclusion in the written agenda and the Secretary's minutes. By sending a written report in advance, it assists in the accuracy of committee business in the minutes. Please send by email or by email attachment as soon as possible.

Per the Constitution and By Laws of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Article II, section 4; Participation of the Board Members. It is considered essential that all persons elected to serve as members of the Board must be active participants in the work of the board. Any board member who does not attend at least **one meeting** of the board or participate in other work of the Board during a Club year shall be notified that their non-participation will be an item on the agenda of the last regular Board meeting of the year.

Please make every effort to participate on the conference call. If there are feedback issues from a particular phone line, I will be monitoring the conference and will mute a phone line if needed, so that conversations can be heard and recorded clearly. I will inform you if you have been muted on the call. Remember to state your name clearly when you call-in. Thanks.

***Local Club Delegates are strongly urged to attend AMSC board meetings. If you no longer represent your local club as the AMSC delegate, please send this information on to the correct person and update the change with the AMSC Secretary. Thanks!**