



AMSCOPE

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

March 2012

Volume CB21

Issue 3

HURRY!

**LAST
CHANCE TO
RENEW
YOUR
DUES!!!!**

TROPHY DRIVE...

please don't forget
the trophy drive.

**Sharon Edwards
21301 Golf Estates DR.
Laytonsville, MD 20882**

Here is the link to the page for the
Trophy Fund Drive, [http://amsc.us/
index.php?option=com_content&task=
view&id=131&Itemid=44&mosmsg=
Thanks+for+your+submission](http://amsc.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=131&Itemid=44&mosmsg=Thanks+for+your+submission)

Table of Contents

Author Saved by Dog	9
Black Ribbons	11
Bouquets & Biscuits	2
Can A Dog Die From...	8
Canine Heartworm Disease ...	1
Clinical Manifestation...	9
Dogs Looking Out Windows	4
DUES NOTICE	11
First Triple Champion MS	3
From the President	2
Futurity	11
HC Position Statement	4
Letter From.....	4
Montgomery Cty 2012	10
New Applicants	10
Risk Analysis Protocol	6
Roving Specialty	3
Standard Changes	8
Using Relative Risk Analysis....	7
Versatility Award	2

Canine Heartworm Disease Update

Amy D. Shojai

The thought of our canine companions having worms is more than disgusting, especially when the parasite is deadly. It becomes even more scary if treatments to keep dogs safe don't work, or become unavailable.

Heartworm, a type of roundworm parasite, was first identified in 1922 and are found all around the world. Although they can affect cats, they are particularly fond of dogs. This parasite *Dirofilaria immitis* lives in the right heart chambers and lungs and causes severe damage and even death.

Heartworm Life Cycle

The complete life cycle of heartworms lasts approximately seven months and requires the help of another ugly parasite. A dog catches the disease from a mosquito that has already bitten an infected dog. The mosquito swallows baby worms—called microfilariae—when it sucks the dog's blood. Then it transmits the disease to other dogs, cats, coyotes and wildlife it subsequently bites. The baby worms go through several development stages until it migrates to the heart and pulmonary arteries where it matures.

Mature worms can reach twelve inches long, and dogs can have dozens of them. As many as 250 worms have been found in just one dog. Worms can live for five years, and can shed 5000 microfilariae each day into the dog's bloodstream. Even the baby worms can live for up to three years, but they need the mosquito to complete their destiny and infect another dog.

Preventing Canine Heartworms

Any dog can get heartworms, even puppies. But dogs that live near swamps or standing water that breeds mosquitoes are at the greatest risk. But infected dogs travel and so do mosquitoes. Heartworms have been diagnosed in every state.

Heartworm disease is much easier and cheaper to prevent than to treat once a dog becomes infected. There are several heartworm preventive medications available, some in chewable tablets and others combined with flea or other parasite preventive products as a spot-on treatment. Puppies should begin preventive treatment at six-to-eight weeks and be tested annually to be sure they're still heart-

worm-negative. Ask your veterinarian to recommend the best option for your dog.

Drug-Resistant Worms

Dr. Wallace Graham, the president of the America Heartworm Society, says that even though we faithfully dose dogs with preventive, in rare cases the pet STILL gets heartworms. In fact it's not unusual for parasites like roundworms to develop resistance to the medications designed to get rid of them. When a handful of worms survive a given drug, for example, the survivors get to have babies and pass on that resistance.

Shorter-lived intestinal roundworms, though, don't pose as big a health risk as heartworms. Dr. Mark Rishniw, a researcher of genetics at Cornell University, studies heartworm DNA, because resistance may have to do with different families of heartworms that come from different parts of the United States.

Diagnosing Heartworms

Dogs with only a few heartworms may seem fine at first but symptoms worsen over time. You'll notice reluctance to exercise, shortness of breath and coughing. Dogs can faint from overexertion. Eventually, untreated dogs develop congestive heart failure, and dogs can collapse and die.

The vet bases diagnosis on several things, including blood antigen tests that detect female worms, X-rays and sonograms to look at the heart and lungs, and urinalysis. Since heartworm disease gets worse the longer the infection continues, infected dogs are categorized as low risk with few symptoms; moderate risk with more signs but still pretty healthy; and more severely affected with the greatest damage and symptoms.

Heartworm Treatment

Treatment first targets the babies swimming in the blood and the adolescent heartworms migrating in the skin. The regular preventive medications given at home by the owner for two or three months eliminates the babies before going after the adult heartworms.

Cont'd on p.5, col. 1... **HEARTWORM**

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:
Mary Ann Shandor
 2302 Cumberland Court, SW
 Decatur, AL 35602
 256-351-6942
 tuckarry@aol.com

***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 Bulletin Committee:**

Cindy Moileri (chair)
 26406 S. Brentwood Drive
 Sun Lakes, AZ 85248
 480-832-2495
 cmoileri56@gmail.com

Ron Azzanni
 P.O. Box 1239
 Florissant, MO 63031-0239
 314-706-8500
 azzanni@charter.net

Kelly Radcliff
 13 Cornell Drive
 Camp Hill, PA 17011-7638
 717-761-1751
 ms_resq@comcast.net

Report all changes to the roster to:
treasurer@AMSC.us
Sharon Edwards
 21301 Golf Estates DR.
 Laytonsville, MD 20882

From the President...

We have included in this AMSCOPE some important information from your Health Committee concerning Systemic Mycobacterial Infections (colloquially known as Avian TB). We, as breeders, need to be acutely aware of this issue and the protocol that should be used when breeding our dogs that could have a familial susceptibility to producing it. This is, in my opinion, the most serious health issue faced by our breed due to the fact that it can potentially cause issues within the human population as well. As you probably know, humans with similarly compromised immune systems can contract Avian TB from dogs. Because of this, we need to be unconditionally open to all about the potential or real status of our dogs. This is not the time for denials or ignorance. Understand your dog's potential.

We have also included a letter from a family that purchased a dog from one of our members. Please read it as well. You will see how serious this is. While AMSC has done nothing to help breeders hide the fact that they have dogs producing this issue, our reputation as an organization is jeopardized by the few members that do hide this and continue to breed dogs with high potential to produce the problem or even dogs known to have produced it. This is unconscionable behavior.

If you are not sure of your dog's potential to produce this problem, the Health Committee may be able to help you understand. Remember, the Health Committee always works under confidentiality, but I urge you to disclose and allow the committee to use data that you share. We need to get a hand on this and work to rid our breed of this. If you do not help, you are hurting our breed, if not jeopardizing its survival.

In closing, I applaud those breeders that have freely shared information, but urge those that have not to please do so.

John Constantine
 President, AMSC

(See pages 4 and 5)

The deadline for the April issue is March 18.

2011 Versatility Awardee:

LYNN TAMMS AND FINCH -VAX

MACH Southcross Vote for Me, VCD2, UD, GO, RN, NF, ME

Finch was bred by Sonny Shanks Lelle and is owned, and trained by Lynn.

Lynn and Finch are only the 4th recipients of this prestigious award and the only VA/VAX awardees for 2011.

Bouquets & Biscuits

*** Southcross Road Rage NA NAJ RN UD** (by CH Wards Creek's Extreme Commitment x CH Classic Southcross Eclipse CD RN) earned her Obedience Utility Title at the St. Cloud Granite City Trial on December 10, 2011. Fury loves her Obedience work and completed her Novice, Open and Utility Titles in just 16 months. Fury was bred by Sonny Lelle (Austin, TX), and is owned, loved and trained by Louise Botko (Mpls. MN).

RENTALS FOR ROVING SPECIALTY

Woodpeckers
 821 Willow Ct
 Saginaw, TX 76179

phone: 817-232-3067
 show site phone: 817-233-6073
 fax: 817-306-0259

COST OF RENTALS PER DAY

CRATES	2000	\$8.
	3000	\$9.
	4000	\$12
	5000	\$15

X-PENS	30"	\$8.
	36"	\$9.
	48"	\$12.

TABLES	30 X 18	\$14.
	36 X 24	\$17.
ARM/CLAMP		\$5.

20 DRYER	\$25.
-----------------	-------

Daily rates are subject to change. Daily rental of any other items will be determined by the Lessor.

2012 Roving Specialty in Texas! Ya'll come join us!



Lone Star MSC Specialty

March 23-25, there will be 4 big shows in 3 days!

Friday we will have the AMSC specialty in the morning and the LSMSC specialty in the afternoon. AMSC will sponsor a box lunch for exhibitors that day. Saturday and Sunday will be an all breed show hosted by the Ft Worth KC.

* AMSC judges are:

Sweeps: Janet Taylor-Sweeps
Regular classes: Carol Weinberger*

LSMSC judges are:

Sweeps: Manuel Itriago
Regular classes: Penny Hirstein

* Judge for Saturday : Sally George

* Educational Seminar on Saturday.

* AMSC Board Meeting

Saturday at 6:30

Will Rogers Memorial Center, Ft Worth

All members are welcome to attend and observe *

LSMSC dinner TBA

* Judge for Sunday: JoAnn McCann (AUS).

The AMSC has blocked rooms at a discounted rate at the Residence Inn Ft Worth University 1701 South University Drive, Fort Worth, TX, 76107, (817) 870-1011

Event name:

American Miniature Schnauzer Club.

Room rates are \$119.00/night for studio,
\$139.00/night for double.

There are many hotels in the Ft Worth area to choose from but this one is very close to the show site and very "doggie" friendly with lots of grassy areas for exercising.

NEED a Grooming Table? SEE PAGE 2

Kim Cox Griffin (daystar@doglover.com)
and Laurie Darman-Owen

Y'all head SOUTH when you're tired of winter!! Please make plans to join your friends in Fort Worth, TX on March 23, 2012 for the AMSC Obedience Trial being held in conjunction with the Roving Specialty! Our obedience trial will be held in the morning and Joyce Morgan will be judging. We will offer all regular classes plus the titling classes and veterans class! Mark your calendars, and come on down for a FINE TEXAS WELCOME!!!

FIRST TRIPLE CHAMPION MS

RAJA

Mythago's Moonlight Mirage

FIRST CH. OTCH MACH Miniature Schnauzer
& U-UD, UDX4, OM2, Can. CDX

Pat's story in her words:

I have so many people to thank that helped and encouraged me to keep going in this journey of Conformation, Obedience and Agility.

When we go to look at a litter, we wonder what puppy will be the best for me. In my case, I went to the home of Lisa Martin. She had a litter of puppies, born October 21st, 2000 and had a black, female Mini Schnauzer, which was what I was looking for. The puppies were running around and out she came, with a tennis ball in her mouth!!! Already trained, she was darling! I made my decision to take her after Debbie Herrell felt she was show quality and off we went preparing her for breed. Thanks to Mary Paisley, Raja finished her Championship in Rapid City, N Dakota, 2003.

In the meanwhile, I was training her for Obedience and Agility. She learned everything so quickly, it was like she had been here before. Her next big title was the MACH in 2004, which is the Masters Agility Championship. She is the FIRST CH. MACH Miniature Schnauzer and was

only 3 years old when she earned it. Then I had to concentrate on Obedience.

OH my, what a journey. In Canada, Raja got a 200 score in Novice B under Jim Ham, who had only ever given out 4 -200's, 3 Golden's and Raja. What an honor. The month after she got her CH, she got her AKC- UD in 2003. She has many High in Trials and High Combined titles.

Then on to the OTCH, which is, an Obedience Trial Champion. The requirements are, 3, 1st places in Open or Utility, 2 in one and 1 in the other class, and 100 points which can only be earned in first or second place. If the class is big enough AKC now gives points for 3rd and 4th place. Which is where Raja got most of her points two here two there which is why it took 7 years. Raja earned her OTCH on Friday, April 29th, 2011 in Lewisburg, West Virginia, the 24th Miniature Schnauzer to earn an OTCH, the 1st to earn a CH, MACH, OTCH and the 33rd dog to get those titles on the ALL BREED list of dogs that have earned that triple title.

I have to thank Lisa Martin, Anne Petitt and Judy Long for breeding CH. Hycourt Mythago's Double Take to Can CH. Cobony's I Will that produced this wonderful dog.

Many thanks to Linda Brady, Moe Foley, Connie Cleveland, Sandra Ladwig, who kept me in the right direction and my friends, Lisa Chomic, Lynn Baitinger, Debby Orsburn that gave me the encouragement not to give up.

My HEART DOG, RAJA

Pat Heinzelman

Fenton, Michigan



AMSC Health Committee Position Statement and Recommendations Regarding Systemic Mycobacterial Infections in Miniature Schnauzers

February 6, 2012

The AMSC has received additional disclosures of cases of mycobacterial infections in Miniature Schnauzers in the past 3 -4 months that suggest the mutation suspected of predisposing certain dogs to infection is increasing in frequency (or reporting) within the breed population. Along with the increase is the number of reported cases in the last 2 years, pedigree analysis indicates this mutation, believed at this time to be an autosomal recessive, has been lurking through multiple generations and is now infiltrating the breeding programs of an increasing number of kennels both in Northern America and abroad. The result is an increasing number of currently active breeding animals being implicated as carriers of this recessive mutation, as we trace pedigrees back to the progenitors already identified as having produced this defect as outlined in the March 2011 committee report (AMSCOPE, May 2-11, MINUTES...see page 9 for clinical manifestations). Over the past 10 years, instead of a decline in cases and the removal of producing stud dogs from the breeding population we have seen evidence of dogs with 50% risk of being carriers bred to bitches with risk of being carriers. Sometimes these matings are conducted by breeders who are "in the know" and accept the calculated risk but more often than not, risky matings are effected by breeders who were not advised of the risks when they bred to or purchased a dog owned or bred by someone else. We have also seen producing stud dogs exported to become popular stud dogs elsewhere, thereby inevitably increasing the carrier and disease rates in other countries. We are beginning to now hear of cases in other countries and are able to trace lineage to these exported U.S. dogs. It may be practical and feasible to manage certain non-lethal genetic defects and some congenital defects by appropriate risk-reduction breeding methods, especially for those defects where the mode of inheritance is known and the defect is congenital and identifiable by the breeder before the dog is placed. This type of management ensures puppy buyers and other breeders are not unwittingly purchasing a dog that will become sick later. However, for a recessive lethal adult-onset defect with the potential for zoonosis, such management strategy is impossible and irresponsible using dogs identified as producers of such defect. The AMSC Health Committee recognizes that there are

many dogs within the population that descend from known producing dogs and not every dog or bitch descending from these dogs is necessarily a carrier. Pedigree analysis is a helpful tool for assessing a dog's risk of being a carrier. Effective management of these dogs within their breeding programs is imperative to protect the public and to preserve breed health.

Given the potentially zoonotic nature (**able to be transmitted from dogs to humans**) of this disease and the evidence discovered through these most recent disclosures as well as the history of this disease in Miniature Schnauzers , the AMSC Health Committee is compelled to address this serious issue with breeder members directly. Our position and recommendations are based on evidence collected over the last 14 years and the corroborated statistical analysis of a large group of Miniature Schnauzers strongly supporting a simple autosomal recessive trait. Our committee members have not failed to recognize that these recommendations will potentially impact many breeding programs and are offering to provide confidential assistance and pedigree evaluation to help breeders understand their risk of producing affected dogs and to help them understand how the continued open breeding of dogs with risk will impact the future health of our breed. Our committee position is that until a DNA test is available to detect the genetic status of a dog in regard to this mutation, in consideration of the serious impact this disease has on breed health, the following measures should be taken:

1. The AMSC Health Committee has sent and will continue to send all owners of any sire or dam notification that their dog/bitch is the parent of an affected dog when an owner-disclosure of a confirmed case of systemic mycobacteriosis is received by the committee
2. The AMSC Health Committee recommends all dogs/bitches that produce even one offspring that is documented to be affected with systemic mycobacteriosis be retired from public use immediately upon notification of the owner.
3. The AMSC Health Committee strongly discourages the continued use of producing dogs/bitches in private breeding programs, but at a minimum, breeders who choose to continue to use these dogs/bitches privately should consult with the health committee for guidance and risk analysis to prevent the production of

affected offspring.

4. The AMSC Health Committee recommends that any breeder who participates in the subsequent private or public breeding of such identified dogs/bitches with the intent of selling the offspring as pets or breeding animals advise the purchasers in a written contract of the risk that the dog they are buying is a carrier for this mutation or may become infected with a lethal opportunistic pathogen such as mycobacteria or aspergillosis. The seller should also provide the buyer with available information on the signs of such diseases and the information on how to participate in current research activities should the purchaser's dog become ill.

5. The AMSC Health Committee urges the owners of dogs/bitches that are identified as producers to notify all breeders who have bred to such stud dog or purchased the offspring of such dog/bitch for breeding purposes that such dog/bitch has produced an affected offspring. This notification should occur not later than 30 days from the date the owner was first notified of their animal's producing status by the AMSC Health Committee.

6. The AMSC Health Committee may at any time deem it necessary to contact breeders who have offspring of dogs/bitches identified as confirmed producers to help educate them on the risk that their dogs/bitches may be carriers for the mutation.

7. The AMSC Health Committee perceives its role in protecting breed health at the breeder level as primarily educational and for data collection, but we realize that as part of our role in protecting breed health it may become necessary to address actions that demonstrate a deliberate disregard for the health of the breed. As part of this role, the committee will maintain appropriate records in the unfortunate event such activities require the attention of the board of directors.

8. The AMSC Health Committee will make confidential risk analysis available to all breeders at their request. This analysis will be made providing the owner with a percent chance their dog is a carrier and a percent chance of producing an affected based on a proposed breeding. These analyses will be based on information available to the committee at the time of service and are a tool for breeders, but must not be considered a guarantee. Individual dogs within the pedigree cannot be identified regarding their status unless a public disclosure has been submitted for such dog by the owner or the

Cont'd on p.5, col. 1.. **AMSC HEALTH...**

AMSC Health...ont'd from p.4, col. 3

owner has announced the dog's status publicly via a club venue such as a board meeting or club newsletter.

9. The AMSC health Committee strongly encourages open dialogue among breeders regarding this defect so that all breeders will have access to pertinent information. Our committee has developed these recommendations with the best interests of our breed and our breeders in mind. We see no other means of curbing what appears to be an increase in our carrier and affected rates for this devastating and potentially zoonotic disease in the absence of a DNA test. Research efforts continue at the University of Pennsylvania to isolate this mutation in the hope of developing a DNA test. Those interested in providing samples for this research can contact Dr. Urs Giger as giger@vet.upenn.edu or any health committee member at amschealthgroup@yahoo.com

HEARTWORM...

continued from p.1, col. 3

Treating the adult worms is painful and expensive and can require hospitalization. Once adult worms are treated, the dog's exercise must be restricted until the dead worms can be absorbed by his body. Exercise could cause dead worm debris to move into the blood stream and cause a blockage-embolism-that damages the lungs or prompt heart failure.

Drug Unavailable

Adult worms are killed with a series of two or three injections of melarsomine dihydrochloride, a poison related to arsenic. But in August 2011, the only FDA-approved heartworm treatment, Immiticide (made by Merial) became unavailable.

That makes giving your dog preventative medication even more important. Be careful not to be late giving your dog his monthly pill, because that can open a window for mosquitos to infect your dog. If you've adopted a dog that's already infected or discover your pet has gotten sick, there are interim procedures for managing the disease. The American Heartworm Society currently provides veterinarians with recommendations for alternative heartworm management until the drug again is available.

*Amy D. Shojai is a certified animal behavior consultant and the award-winning author of 23 pet care books, including [Pet Care In the New Century: Cutting-Edge Medicine and Complete Care for Your Aging Dog](#). Amy also appears on *Animal Planet's CATS-101* and *DOGS-101*, writes on behavior for cats. [About.com](#), and lives in North Texas.*

Letter from an owner of an affected dog

Dear Mr. Constantine:

I am writing you today to ask you for your help and the help of the Health Committee of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club. My wife and I have owned four miniature schnauzers as family pets over the last 24 years. Our first lived 14 years and led a happy, healthy life until the very end. Our second died of complications from Cushing's after 7 years. Our third is a happy, healthy 5-year-old. And our most recent is a 2-year-old, Lola, who became seriously ill late last year.

Lola has been diagnosed by a veterinary specialist as having a mycobacterial infection, which is likely fatal. The diagnosis was confirmed by Auburn University. The first concern, which resulted in not being able to have our family visit our home during Thanksgiving and Christmas, because the fear was that the mycobacterium type was such that it involved tuberculosis and that it may be zoonotic (a word we had never heard before).

When we found out about the seriousness of Lola's illness, we began to reach out to breeders, authors of articles about mycobacterial infections that we found on the internet, the AKC, and the AMSC. We have even reached as far as Europe in the hope of finding help for Lola, but to no avail. Our hope was to find treatment modalities that might extend Lola's life, or, in the best case, find a method by which Lola's illness might be put into remission. Simply put, to this point, we have failed, and Lola's health has continued to deteriorate. We also learned at that time that Lola may be currently the only living dog in the world known (or at least reported to anyone) to have the infection.

What we innocently discovered was surprising, disturbing and demoralizing. First, as you and your committee members know, it appears that the fatality rate is probably 100%, due to either the illness itself, or euthanasia due to different fears about how communicable - to other dogs or humans - the disease might be. But the most shocking and demoralizing thing we learned was that breeders who were afraid that if it were discovered that they had produced pups that had the recessive gene, it would adversely affect their sales, so pups were euthanized and owners were encouraged to remain silent, thereby continuing both the propagation of the disease and a fraud perpetrated on unsuspecting owners who had invested trust in breeders' knowledge. Worse still, dogs known to have the recessive gene are still being mated to produce pups.

While Lola remains our primary concern, we are also now concerned about

what we believe to be a systematic cover-up by breeders intent upon keeping the public from knowing about this infection and how it comes to be, through the continued production of pups with recessive genes. So, in tandem with our efforts to provide Lola with comfort, we have decided to pursue literally every avenue available to help eliminate the possibility of continuing to breed pups with the recessive gene. We're not interested in publicity. We are interested in a solution. We hope that your health committee will be the instrument by which a reform of the system and a clean-up of the breeding stock will occur. We believe that the AMSC has the ability and responsibility to move quickly and aggressively to cure the problem, and that will ultimately eradicate the disease. Please let us know how we can help, and please keep us apprised of your efforts to end this terrible disease in the breed we all love. —

Thanks!
XXXXXXXXXXXX, Louisville, KY

Dogs Looking Out Windows



There's a lot you can learn from a dog. But perhaps one of the healthiest is one we consider near and dear to our hearts: Dogs are pros at unplugging and recharging!

When they're not sleeping or eating, dogs just want to play — whether it's fetch, tag or "Squirrel!". But even when they can't run around, they always are sure to enjoy a few relaxing minutes to themselves looking out the window. A few minutes of serene gazing may not seem like a big deal, but the de-stressing benefits can help everything from your hair to your heart and more.

Not to mention that many of us have jobs where we're required to look at computer screens for many hours a day, causing eye strain in as many as 70 percent of computer workers, according to CBS. An easy solution? The 20/20/20 rule. Every 20 minutes, spend 20 seconds looking at something 20 feet away, the Mayo Clinic explains. In other words, look out the window!

AMSC Health Committee Risk Analysis Protocol for the Mycobacterial Susceptibility Defect

February 2012

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The AMSC health committee will provide the service of relative pedigree risk analysis for the defect that increases susceptibility to mycobacterial infections, which is presumed to be a simple autosomal recessive trait.

This analysis will provide an estimated percent risk or chance that a specific dog is a carrier of this mutation. This assessment only serves as a tool for breeders and does not define a dog's genetic status.

Under current circumstances, members do not have access to all the necessary information to make informed breeding decisions; this is the only tool we have available to us until a DNA test is available. The potential for zoonosis from affected dogs and the lethal nature of this defect, coupled with the spread of this mutation create an imperative that we as a breed deal with this issue now, to prevent the further production of affected dogs and to curb the rise in the carrier rate within our population. The following protocol will enable breeders to understand their own dogs' risks of being carriers of this mutation and enable breeders to better manage the potential risks within their breeding programs. Recommendations within the protocol are designed to facilitate the sharing of information so breeders can effectively avoid producing affected offspring and progressively reduce their dogs' carrier risk through selection. We do not advocate, and in fact warn against the wholesale removal of all at-risk dogs. Retention or culling of at-risk dogs should be done on the basis of their overall quality and their unique genetic potential. Retained dogs should be managed properly to prevent the production of affected dogs and their use should be controlled by the owner in a responsible fashion until their genetic status can be determined through a DNA test. The wholesale removal of an entire family of dogs would have a significant negative impact on the breed. Breeders should proceed with caution and educate themselves on how best to manage this or any recessive trait without damaging the gene pool.

This initiative is designed to:

1. Enable breeders to have access to information pertaining to a dog's risk of being a carrier
2. Enable breeders to make breeding choices that will essentially eliminate the risk of producing affected dogs
3. Place important genetic health information and the sharing of such information in control and under the responsibility of breeder

HOW IT WORKS

1. Dog owners can send an email or written request to the AMSC health committee for risk analysis for any dog they own. asmchealthgroup@yahoo.com
2. All requests must include some official document identifying the submitter as an owner of the dog, either a registration certificate, litter certificate, etc.
3. A Risk Analysis Report will be sent to the submitter indicating either their dog's percent risk/chance of being a carrier or that there is "no detectable risk".
4. The Risk Analysis Report will have a unique report number for future reference. All report numbers will be entered into the Progeny database for each dog, so that if new dogs are identified as carriers, the committee can access those files to revise any reports affected by new information.
5. Any modified reports will be sent to the original submitter so they are made aware of their dog's revised risk, if applicable.

LIMITATIONS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

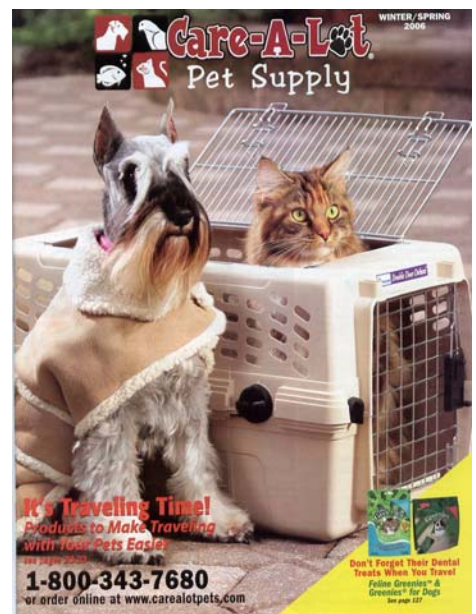
1. We cannot guarantee any risk analysis is 100% accurate due to the fact that the committee may not have received disclosures on all producing or affected dogs.
2. Due to the zoonotic potential and the lethal nature of this disease we do not recommend the breeding of any dog with risk to another dog with risk.
3. We will not perform risk analyses pertaining to the chance of producing affected dogs from the breeding of 2 at-risk dogs. Breeders bear the sole responsibility for the outcome of conducting risky breeding practices.
4. We strongly encourage all breeders to ask for a copy of a Risk Analysis Report from the owner for any dog you are considering using or purchasing for breeding. This will help breeders identify the potential risk of a proposed breeding so informed decisions can be made. This will also potentially eliminate the continued use of known producing dogs.
5. We will not perform any risk analysis for spayed/neutered dogs. We respectfully request pet owners who will not be breeding their dogs not ask for an analysis. This is intended as a tool for breeders.

Risk Analysis Protocol

1. Need a 5-7 generation pedigree (preferably 7) or confirmation that the pedigree on Amcestry is correct
2. Need official proof of ownership (AKC registration or other) of said dog as pedigree analysis will be done only on dogs owned by the requestor
3. Pedigree, AKC Official name plus proof of ownership sent to AMSCHealthgroup@yahoo.com. Results will returned in about a week documented on an official form
4. We are using the formula used by Padgett in his book "Control of Canine Genetic Diseases" ref Chapter 6
5. Assessment is based on known carriers (producers) and obligate carriers (presumed carriers thru pedigree analysis)
6. We cannot guarantee result as 100% accurate as there may be producers/carriers that have not been publically disclosed of which we are unaware. As more cases are identified and disclosed the HC will revise pedigree analysis for each ensuing change in status.

This is just a start but it does provide breeders with usable tools to continue their breeding programs until a test is developed or other avenues can be used. Please help us move forward.

Patti Henderson



Care-A-Lot
Pet Supply

WINTER / SPRING 2008

It's Traveling Time!
Products to Make Traveling with Your Pets Easier

1-800-343-7680
or order online at www.carealotpets.com

Don't Forget Their Dental Treats When You Travel! Follow Greenies' & Greenies® for Dogs

Using Relative Risk Pedigree Analysis and Open Health Registries to Plan Matings

By Jerold S Bell, DVM, Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine

(This article originally appeared in the "Healthy Dog" section of the July, 2002 AKC Gazette)

Breeders strive to balance selection for the positive aspects of their dogs with selection against genetic disorders. Unfortunately, at this time most hereditary disorders do not have genetic tests for carriers. With polygenic disorders, or those with an unknown mode of inheritance, breadth of normalcy in the pedigree is the best selection tool. (See "Breeding Strategies for the Management of Genetic Disorders" in the "Healthy Dog" section of the November 2001 AKC GAZETTE.) Without tests for carriers, the most objective tool for selection against recessive disorders is relative risk pedigree analysis based on the knowledge of proven carrier and affected dogs in the pedigree.

Successful use of relative risk pedigree analysis requires a proven recessive mode of inheritance, confirmed diagnoses for the condition, and verified pedigrees. The best way to work with this information is through a breed club supported open health registry. Many national breed clubs maintain health registries through the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), the Institute for Genetic Disease Control (GDC; which has now merged with the OFA), the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC), or through their own club or health foundation.

For relative risk analysis to be useful, the knowledge of all affected and carrier dogs is necessary. This requires an open health registry, relying on an atmosphere of cooperation and understanding between breeders, for the benefit of the breed. Breeding practices do not cause defective genes. No one wants to produce affected dogs, or propagate a genetic disorder. If breeders are reluctant to identify affected dogs, then the usefulness of relative risk analysis will be limited.

With a simple autosomal recessive genetic disorder, pedigree analysis can be used to compute relative risk factors for carrier and affected status. The following are the objective risk factors for a simple autosomal recessive gene: Parent of affected (and therefore a carrier) = 100% (chance of being a carrier); offspring of affected = 100%; non-affected full-sibling to affected = 67%; full-sibling to carrier = 50%. Similar risk factors can be calculated for x-linked recessive disorders.

Sometimes breeders want to add risk factors for each parent of proven carriers. Only one parent of a carrier needs to pass on the defective gene, but it often cannot be determined which one is a carrier. Assigning carrier risk to both parents falsely places selective pressure against dogs based on their matings, and not their proven genetic background. Therefore, risk can only be assigned when the parents of

confirmed carriers are mated together.

Determining relative risk in a pedigree involves identifying every individual with objective risk from the above categories and calculating the risk from the oldest ancestors in the pedigree down to the individual whose risk you want to identify. To calculate the risk, use the number designation (.50) versus the percentage (50%). From one generation to the next, if the risk is coming from only one side (either the sire or dam), then the offspring's risk is one-half of the risk from the parent. If there is calculable risk coming from both the sire and dam, then formulas must be used. The risk of being affected is one-half the sire's carrier risk times one-half the dam's carrier risk. (Example from the pedigree: Half the sire's carrier risk is .0625 and half the dam's carrier risk is .0838, so the chance of producing an affected dog is .0625 x .0838 = .0052 or 0.52%.)

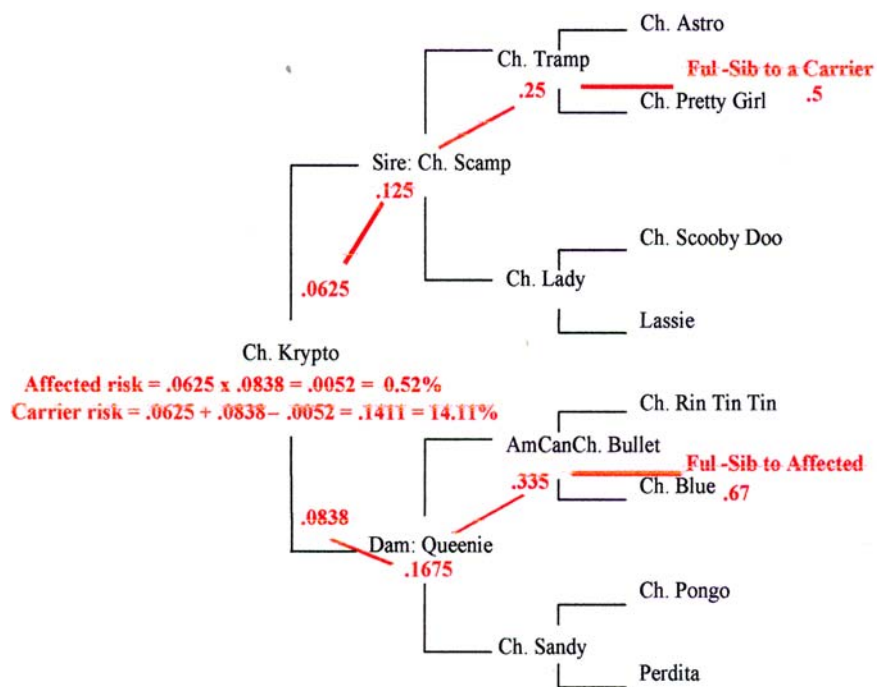
Computing carrier risk depends on whether it is known if the dog or ancestor whose risk you are computing is affected or not. If it is not known whether the individual in the pedigree is affected, then the carrier risk is one-half the sire's carrier risk plus one-half the dam's carrier risk, minus the affected risk of the dog. From the prior example: .0625 + .0838 - .0052 = .1411 or 14.11% chance of being a carrier. If it is known that the dog is not affected, then there is a more complicated formula: $(S + D - (2SD)) / (1 - SD)$ where S = one-half the sire's carrier risk, and D = one-half the dam's carrier risk.

The goal of relative risk pedigree analysis is to plan matings below the average of the breeding population. This in turn will lower the carrier rate for the breed. Calculating and averaging the relative carrier risk of the breeding dogs in the population determines the average carrier risk. The use of the Hardy-Weinberg law to determine the average carrier risk of the population (based on the percentage of proven affected dogs) is not valid. It can only be applied to randomly bred populations, where there is no selection of breeding stock, and all offspring have an equal chance to produce the next generation.

Some breeders feel that all dogs with unknown carrier risk should be assigned the average risk of the breeding population; i.e., if it is estimated that 14% of the population are carriers, then anyone without computable risk will be assigned a risk of 14%. This is an incorrect use of relative risk analysis, as breeders would lose the ability to select matings below the breed average.

If a breeder has a quality dog with a higher than average relative risk, it can be bred to a mate with a low relative risk. A lower-risk offspring that exceeds the higher-risk parent in quality should replace the higher-risk parent in the breeding program. The number of breeding offspring from higher-risk parents should be limited, so that you avoid the possibility of multiplying a defective gene in the breeding population.

Relative risk assessments only take into



Continued on p.8, col. 2... USING....

Can A Dog Die From Eating Chocolate?

Dogs and Chocolate
Will Chocolate Really Poison Your Dog?

The answer is a qualified yes. The level of toxicity depends on the weight and age of the dog, the kind of chocolate and the quantity of the chocolate ingested. Just in case, don't ever give your dog chocolate. Why take the chance?

The bad guys in chocolate are theobromine and caffeine, and in sufficient quantities can harm, even kill, your dog. Theobromine is a form of caffeine. It affects the nervous system, the kidneys and the heart. Some symptoms to look for if you suspect your dog has eaten chocolate are:

Vomiting
Diarrhea
Thirst
Increased urination
Restlessness
Increased heart rate
Muscle tremors
Hyperactivity

The dog will display the first of these symptoms within the first few hours of ingestion. The latter symptoms show up as the dog continues to metabolize the chocolate.

Kinds of Chocolate

There are five kinds of chocolate:

White chocolate
Cocoa
Milk chocolate
Semi-sweet chocolate
Baker's chocolate

These go from least toxic to most toxic.

Toxic Levels

White chocolate has the least amount of theobromine, and so the dog may be all right. It takes .3 ounces of cocoa, one of the least toxic chocolates, to harm a dog. For milk chocolate it works out to 1 ounce per pound of dog; for semi-sweet it's 1 ounce per 3 pounds. Baker's chocolate, the most toxic, takes 1 ounce per 9 pounds.

Baker's chocolate is often used to make brownies, and many recipes list two 1-ounce squares for one small batch of brownies. If a dog gets hold of a batch of brownies, cooling on the stove perhaps, he's in big trouble. As we know, the dog won't stop eating them until they're gone.

Treatment

If you even think the dog has eaten chocolate, call the vet. If you know what kind of

chocolate, tell the vet. There is no antidote for chocolate poisoning, but there are things you can do and the vet certainly will do.

The first thing is to make the dog vomit even if you have to stick your fingers down his throat. This will get the undigested food out of his stomach. It's a good thing chocolate digests slowly. It takes up nearly a full day for the chocolate to reach its highest level of toxicity. If something isn't done within that time, your dog can suffer damage to the kidneys, the central nervous system and the heart.

If the dog has diarrhea, keep him on plenty of water. To keep his temperature stabilized, try the Mylar blanket in the first-aid kit. When you get to the vet's, he or she will probably give the dog activated charcoal, which, to put it simply, gets the chocolate to adhere to the charcoal and pass harmlessly. Also, the dog may need an anticonvulsant, oxygen, IV medications and more fluids.

Every household has chocolate of some kind, and you must take care that chocolate doesn't find its way into the dog's stomach. When vigilance wasn't enough, call the vet and tell him or her exactly what kind of chocolate the dog ate, so the vet can advise what the next course of action is. Your dog's life depends on it.

Using Relative Risk Pedigree Analysis....con't from p.7, col. 3

account the identified carrier and affected individuals in the pedigree. Therefore, these estimates determine the *minimum* risk based on the information available. If additional affected relatives to the pedigree are diagnosed, the computed risk will rise. Pedigree analysis can never clear a dog of being a carrier. If there is no known risk behind a dog in the pedigree, the relative risk of the dog is not zero; it is unknown.

Relative risk pedigree analysis will select against whole families of dogs based on their relationship to known carrier and affected dogs. Therefore, genetically normal dogs will be selected against. However, for breeders with dogs at high risk of being carriers and no genetic test, it is the only tool that objectively allows them to lower the risk of their breeding stock and minimize the risk of producing affected dogs.

Standard Changes

I wanted to let you know the results of our balloting for our 2 proposed Standard Changes which closed on 1/31/2012. Below are the results. As mandated in our by-laws 2/3 of the entire membership must approve a change to our standard. We have 537 voting members. 358 affirmative votes were needed to pass each amendment. Both changes passed.

Proposed Change #1: Tail - set high and carried erect. It is docked only long enough to be clearly visible over the backline of the body when the dog is in proper length of coat. **A properly presented Miniature Schnauzer will have a docked tail as described; all others should be severely penalized.**

Fault: Tail set too low.

358 in favor; 63 against;
116 non-returned

Proposed Change #2: COLOR: The recognized colors are Allowed colors: salt and pepper, black and silver and solid black. All colors have uniform skin pigmentation, i.e. no white or pink skin patches shall appear anywhere on the dog **and the nose must be solid black.**

Disqualifications: Color solid white Dogs not of an allowed color or white striping, patching, or spotting on the colored areas of the dog, except for the small white spot permitted on the chest of the black. The body coat color in salt and pepper and black and silver dogs fades out to light gray or silver white under the throat and across the chest. Between them there exists a natural body coat color. Any irregular or connecting blaze or white mark in this section is considered a white patch on the body, which is also a disqualification. **Nose any color other than solid black.**

Disqualification: Dogs or bitches under 12 inches or over 14 inches.

Color solid white Dogs not of an allowed color or white striping, patching, or spotting on the colored areas of the dog, except for the small white spot permitted on the chest of the black. The body coat color in salt and pepper and black and silver fades out to light gray or silver white under the throat and across the chest. Between them there exists a natural body coat color. Any irregular or connecting blaze or white mark in this section is considered a white patch on the body, which is also a disqualification.

Nose any color other than solid black.

404 in favor; 17 against;
116 non-returned

This has been sent to AKC for final Board approval and a date to go into effect.

Arizona Author Bethe Bennett Saved By Dog Who Brought Her Phone and Paper

An elderly Arizona woman and author who suffered a harsh fall last Friday is alive and recovering at a nearby hospital thanks to her service dog Danny, who not only helped her regain consciousness but also brought her the tools she needed to call for help

An author and dog-lover from Glendale, Ariz., Bennett writes stories about the foster dogs she takes in under the penname "Bessie Mac," according to ABC News 15 Arizona.

Last Friday, one of the foster dogs — a Miniature Schnauzer named Danny — returned Bennett's favor by saving her life.

After slipping on a tile floor and breaking her femur on Friday, Bennett lay unconscious on the floor of her home.

She woke up after being licked by Danny and remembered that no visitors were scheduled to arrive until the following Tuesday.

"I was scared. I really thought I was going to die," Bennett told ABC News.

That's when Danny sprang into action, knocking over the telephone and nudging toward Bennett. When she asked him to bring her paper, Danny brought over five pieces, including one with neighbors' phone numbers.

Bennett called 911 and then neighbors, who located a spare key and let paramedics into the house. She was then rushed to Banner Thunderbird Medical Center in Glendale, where she is now in recovery.

Now she plans to tell Danny's story in the next installment of her "Forever Home" series

According to the series' website, Bennett has been an animal-lover since childhood and after taking in foster animals from the Arizona Schnauzer rescue. In a blog post, Bennett wrote of the joy she experiences taking in dogs like Danny: The joy and love that each of [the dogs] has brought to my life is unexplainable. It is always hard to let them go on to their forever homes, but when they come to you sad, broken-hearted dogs and leave as happy, playful dogs to their forever homes, it's such a great feeling. My volunteering friend sent me on a journey that has truly been a blessing. Fostering rescue dogs has given me a greater depth of understanding the true meanings of unconditional love, loyalty, responsibility, and trust.

From the MINUTES of May 2011 AMSCOPE.....for clinical manifestations

Mycobacterium Avium Report Carole Weinberger (Bandsman) reported to the Board that new cases of Mycobacterium avium have been diagnosed in Miniature Schnauzers in the US. Recently, two (2) confirmed offspring have been identified from 2 different bitches bred to Am CH Bandsman's Time Square. There are 3-5 other cases, at least one of which has been confirmed, in Europe- lineage for these cases is unknown at this time.

Dr. Urs Giger, Director of Metabolic Genetics Screening Laboratory and the Josephine Deubler Genetic Disease Testing Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania is currently conducting research on *Mycobacterium avium* and will be submitting a new grant request through the AKC Canine Health Foundation to continue this work in earnest.

It is felt that the mode of inheritance is autosomal recessive and the dissemination of this defect among miniature schnauzers and other breeds, such a Bassett Hounds, is much wider than initially thought. Dr Giger feels that he has identified a candidate gene which he believes is strongly implicated. With the advent of new technologies, we are encouraged that our chances for focused research to identify the causative gene and hopefully a DNA test are higher than ever before.

Dr. Giger has been in contact with the Health Committee and we are providing assistance with historical and updated genetic pedigree information.

Errolyn Martin will serve as the AMSC Health Committee's Liaison to Dr. Giger and Carole will be actively collaborating with the Health Committee. The AMSC Health Committee has pledged its full support to any effort devoted to developing a DNA test. It is imperative that diagnosed dogs have DNA material sent to Dr, Giger to assist in research and development of a DNA test. We also encourage disclosure to the Health Committee to allow us to provide

assistance to Dr Giger but it is paramount at this juncture is to get DNA of suspected affected dogs to Dr. Giger.

For your information, the most common clinical manifestations of this disease are Lymphadenopathy (enlarged lymph nodes) and anorexia. However, other manifestations reported include intermittent lameness, fever, and vomiting.

In addition, the veterinary literature and case reports describe other possible signs such as skin lesions or involvement of internal lymph nodes, kidney or liver. *Mycobacterium avium* will ultimately become systemic. Furthermore, ANY Miniature Schnauzer who is suspected of having lymphoma, histiocytosis, Lyme's Disease or any general inflammatory response involving lymph node enlargement should be investigated thoroughly to rule out possible *Mycobacterium avium* infection. Breeders are urged to share this information with their veterinarian so the proper diagnoses can be made. Due to the possibility of zoonosis (can be transmitted to humans), expedient diagnoses is recommended using the PCR test, however, cultures can be performed but usually take much longer to get results.

If your dog is diagnosed with *Mycobacterium avium*, you should immediately contact your own physician to discuss your own immune status and your risk for exposure. To date there are NO reports of affected miniature schnauzers transmitting this disease to the owner , however, it does have the potential to be transmitted to humans especially those who are immune compromised.

The members of the Health Committee applaud the courage and the integrity displayed by this very public disclosure made by Carole Weinberger, Bandsman Miniature Schnauzers. We implore every member to be actively involved in supporting this effort – it is our chance to make a difference.

HMM. . . did I remind you to

send your dues in?????

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS For MARCH Board Meeting

Helen Carter
921 Limewood Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Phone: 386-738-2327

Sponsors: Carole Weinberger
Florence Bessemer

Helen Carter has owned Miniature Schnauzer for 6 years. She does not breed her dogs. She is active in Conformation and Obedience, attending approximately 12 dog events each year. She belongs to the Central Florida Miniature Schnauzer Club and is the Vice President and to the Obedience Club of Daytona. She is an Office Manager.

Nancy T. Owen
Edwin A. Owen
19411 Conquistador Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375
Phone: 623-521-5649

Sponsors: Debbora Nestle
Dee Ann Simpson

Email: EANTOWEN@cox.net

The **Owens** have had Miniature Schnauzers for 12 years and Std. Schnauzers for 15 years. They do not breed their dogs. They are active in Conformation attending approximately 12 dog events yearly. They are members of the Cactus State Miniature Schnauzer Club serving as Treasurer and Hospitality and Raffle Chairs. Mrs. Owen is in Real Estate and Mr. Owen is a retired DDS and in Real Estate.

Donna Welborn
9101 Lemona Drive
St. Louis, MO 63123
Phone: 314-544-6863

Sponsors: Debbie McDowell
Gale Schnetzer

Email: d.welborn08@hotmail.com

Donna Welborn has had Miniature Schnauzers for 2 years. She is not a breeder. She has been active in Obedience for 20 years and Agility for 1 year, attending approximately 20 shows each year. She is a member of the Jefferson county Kennel Club and the Gateway Schnauzer Club. She is retired.

Janet C. Smith
652 Gerhard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19128
Phone: 215-849-7290

Sponsors: Alice Gough
Sharon Edwards

Email: smithjc@alumni.upenn.edu

Janet Smith has two Miniature Schnauzers and does not breed her dogs. She is active in Obedience and informal Therapy at her Mom's nursing home. She attends Montgomery County, Devon and Hatboro each year. She is a member of the Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club. She is retired and is a Consultant. Areas of interest in AMSC are the Newsletter, Electronic Media, Public Awareness, Education and Membership.

Krystal Mason
321 Main Street East
P.O. Box404
Merrickville, ON K09 1 NO, Canada
Phone: 613-269-3015

Sponsors: Catherine McMillan
Lisa Sarvas

Email: krystal@maihams.com

Krystal Mason has had Miniature Schnauzers for 5 years. She is not currently a breeder but plans to start a breeding program in the future. She has been active in Conformation for 4 years attending approximately 10-12 dog events each year. She is a member of the Miniature Schnauzer

Club of Canada, BC All Terrier Club, Rideau Terrier Club and the Ottawa Kennel Club. Her occupation is a Judicial Assistant. Areas of interest in AMSC are Newsletter, Education, Obedience and Health

Leslie & Paul Mendelsohn
105 Elderberry Court
Lexington, SC 29072
Phone: 803-917-0804

Sponsors: Donna Hills
Paula Steele

Email: zrules426@aol.com

The **Mendelsohn's** have owned Miniature Schnauzers since 1995. The do not breed their dogs. They have participated in Conformation for 2 years, attending 15-20 shows yearly. They are members of the Columbia Kennel Club, the Schnauzer Club of Great Britain and the UK Miniature Schnauzer Club. Paul is a Nuclear Engineer and Leslie a Compliance Manager, Health Care. Areas of interest in the Club are, Newsletter, Public Awareness, Awards/Trophies, Education, Membership, T-Shirt Designs, etc.

Nora Ylikyla
Vetikontie 5
21280 Raisio, FINLAND
Phone: #358495367088

Sponsors: Terrie Houck
Hilda Hankenson

Email: cheantake@cheantake.com

Nora Ylikyla has owned Miniature Schnauzers for 11 years. She does breed her dogs, producing 8 litters from her bitches in the past 5 years, and 20 litters from her stud dog in the past 5 years (including her own litter and the litters bred by others. She is active in Conformation, Agility, Obedience and Tracking attending approximately 20 dog events Yearly. She is a member of the Finnish Kennel Club, Finnish Miniature Schnauzer Club, SUKOLA (Finnish dog breeders Association) and Agility Team Turku.

Kristen Murphy
325 N. Country Road
Sound Beach, NY 11789
Phone: 631-965-0904

Sponsors: Joan Huber
Vickie Kubic

Email: sidraseven@yahoo.com

Kristen Murphy currently owns 3 Miniature Schnauzers; a neutered male and 2 show dogs. She previously owned Siberian Huskies. She is planning her first litter this year and will have only an occasional litter. She is active in Conformation, Agility and Obedience events, attending approximately 50 Conformation Show each year. She is in the process of joining the local all-breed clubs. She is an Insurance Account Rep & Nursing student.

Katerina Cechova
Pia Nissen
Nygaardsvej 25
Denmark, 4573
Phone: +4561341803

Sponsors: Vicki Stevens
Kim Cox Griffin

Email: sternenhoch@gmail.com
www.ugly-duckling.dk

Katerina Cechova & Pia Nissen have had Miniature Schnauzers for 23 years. They list themselves as breeders having produced approximately 20 litters out of their studs, and 10 litters from their bitches, in the past five years. They attend approximately 20 dog events each year. They are members of the Czech Schnauzer Club where Katerina is a member of the Health/Breeding Committee and of the Danish Miniature Schnauzer Club where Pia is the President. Katerina Cechova is a Groomer/Designer and Pia Nissen is a Groomer, Dansommer Controller.

GET READY FOR.....MONTGOMERY COUNTY

It's time to begin making your travel plans for Montgomery County 2012!

There are a few changes that Sharon Edwards and I would like to share with you (I'm the "used car salesman" and she's the "closer"):

Due to a change in management, the Doubletree Hotel & Suites in Plymouth Meeting will no longer be a dog friendly establishment. We were one of the first clubs to hear about this (thank you, Brian Bogart) and so began the (frantic) scramble to find another host hotel that would meet the needs of the AMSC.

We have contracted with the Homewood Suites by Hilton @ Philadelphia-Valley Forge as our host hotel in 2012. This award winning spacious all suites hotel is located

near historic Valley Forge National Park, Valley Forge Convention Center, and the King of Prussia Mall. They offer a complimentary hot "Suite Start breakfast" daily, and a complimentary "Welcome Home Reception" which includes a light meal and beverage Monday through Thursday evenings. You will also enjoy complimentary high speed internet access in your room and in all public areas of our hotel.

The studio suites (\$119 per night) are one large open room and the one bedroom suites (\$129 per night) have a wall between the living room and the bedroom. We have an equal number of king/two queen beds being offered to us in the one bedroom suites (first come-first served). All suites have living rooms (with sofa beds) and full

kitchens.

This is a dog friendly hotel. Should you choose to keep your dog in your room, a \$75 non-refundable pet fee is required. There is plenty of outside area for the exercising of your dogs. PLEASE be respectful of the hotel property and pick up after your dogs! Enough said. (We are the only dog club staying at this hotel ... and we want to be asked back next year!)

You are encouraged to begin making your reservations now – please reference the code AMS in making your reservation:

www.homewoodsuitesvalleyforge.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email (cathi.rohrer@bcbsnc.com) or call me at 919-656-8834.

AMSC FUTURITY 2013!!

We are officially announcing another exciting opportunity for AMSC members.

A futurity stakes competition will be held at the roving national specialty during the week long activities at Purina Farms in St. Louis Missouri in 2013!

Litter nominations have opened and can be received now. Futurity rules and both litter and individual nomination forms can be viewed and down loaded from the AMSC yahoo groups files or the AMSC website.

Any questions regarding the futurity can be directed to me Beth Santure, Futurity Chair. at: bjasanture@peoplepc.com

The larger the participation, the larger the stakes prizes to be won and the more exciting the competition will be.

Please support our clubs first ever National Futurity by nominating that special litter which is in whelp now or planned to whelp between now and November 9, 2012.

WHAT IS A FUTURITY

A futurity is a contest for which the prize consists of stakes contributed by the various competitors. It's a bit like making a bet (nomination fees) that your unborn litter will produce a high quality individual who can win the money. The fun and challenge in a futurity is that the litter is nominated after its bred but before it is born. Or in our case up to 30 days after birth for a higher fee. This then allows all puppies from that litter to be eligible for nomination individually for the competition. The greater the participation the higher the stakes winnings. The winnings will be broken down into classes and placements with the largest portion going to the BREEDER of the futurity winner. Many breeds hold both sweepstakes and futurity shows. Breeds with very large entries have stakes winning in the thousands of dollars sometimes. Ours with good participation could have a stakes winner of several hundred dollars. I like to think of a futurity as a sweepstakes with "ATTITUDE"! Sounds like fun right? I hope you all will consider supporting our first ever futurity by placing litter nominations starting now. For detailed information please read all of the futurity rules and nomination forms provided in the AMSC yahoo group files that were published earlier.

Black Ribbons

MACH Carbor Talk of the Town MXP2 MJP2 XF JE

9/22/01 - 9/26/11

"Sometimes a dog comes into your life and changes everything."
Spenser, My Novice A to MACH dog. He loved agility and playing with me so much that he forgave me all of my mistakes and we formed a bond that was beyond any of my hopes or dreams.

If love could have saved him he'd still be here, whomping on my head to claim his 60% share of my pillow, curling up on my lap and tucking his nose into my hand.

Instead, I am left - too soon -with empty arms and a heart with a ragged edged Spenser sized hole. I miss him so much.

Judy (and John) Russell

(PS - Thank you Carla for this incredible dog.)

Ch Dry Dock Regatta Time

My first home bred champion,

died Feb 1 of cancer. He was almost 11 yrs old. March 27, 2001 - Feb 1, 2012.

Race was out of my foundation bitch Ch Liebestraum Easy Come Easy Go and the late Ginny Rice's stud Ch Liebestraum One More Time.

Race was the top B/S in 2002 and #5 in rankings, shown by me to his championship and Kurt Garmaker and me as a special. Race lived out his life with me.

Marie Pletsch

2012 Membership Dues

AMSC dues are payable by January 1, 2011. Notification has been sent to each one of you individually, and if you have not already paid and you want to beat the holiday rush, details are below.

There is no change in the amount of dues this year - dues will continue to be based on the method by which you receive the newsletter. All members who wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter sent through regular mail will continue to pay an increased amount to offset the additional costs for printing and postage.

*Members receiving AMSCOpe by **Email** - **\$30 individual, \$52.50 joint**

*Members receiving AMSCOpe by **regular mail (hard copy)**
\$55 individual, \$75 joint

New members (voted into membership Oct. 2010) and Life members do not need to pay

Payment may be made either online or by check.

Online payment is made by secure credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) or PayPal transaction by using the following link. Note this link is only available directly, and cannot be accessed through the AMSC web site or through PayPal. You must have a PayPal account in order to pay via PayPal. Foreign members can pay with currency conversion to US dollars from most countries. Online dues payment: <http://amsc.us/dues.html>

Payment by check may be made by sending a check **payable to the AMSC** to the address below. Foreign payments must be a bank draft or certified check in US dollars.

Sharon Edwards

21301 Golf Estates Drive
phone 301 947-8811

Laytonsville, MD 20882
email: Treasurer@amsc.us



AMSCOPE

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

UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

- CSMSC April 5, 2012
Regular Classes: Mrs. Chris Levy
Sweepstakes: Mr. Pat Jacobs
- MSC of Atlanta April 15, 2012
Regular Judge: Mrs Chris Levy
Sweeps Judge: Mrs. Gwyn Mathis
- Gateway MSC May 3, 2012
Regular Classes: Merle Taylor
Sweepstakes: Teresa Handlen
Obedience: Bill Oxandale
- Greater Cincinnati MSC May 24, 2011
Regular Classes: Judy A Smith
Sweeps : William (Jim) Livsey ,III
- Centennial State MSC June 1, 2012
Regular Classes: Michael Dougherty
Sweeps: Kathleen Dvorak
- CMSC/GLATA June 16, 2012
Regular Classes: Richard Miller
Sweeps: Chris Walkowicz
- MSC of Southern California June 22, 2012
Regular Classes: Desmond Murphy
Sweeps: Yvonne Phelps
- MSCSC/GWTA June 23, 2012
Regular Classes: David Kirkland
Sweeps: Patricia O'Brien
- Milshore MSC July 27, 2012
Regular Classes: Connie Clark
Sweeps: Michael Obradovich
- Twin Cities MSC August 24, 2012
Regular Classes: Pat Hastings
Sweepstakes: Sunny Lambert

AMSC SPECIALTIES

- Fort Worth March 23, 2012
Regular Classes : Carole L. Weinberger
Sweepstakes: Jan Taylor
- Great Western June 24, 2012
Regular Classes: Lynda Berar
Sweepstakes: Santos Diaz
- Montgomery Co. October 7, 2012
Regular Classes: Ken McDermott
Sweepstakes : Linda Drost
- Roving, Grays Summit, Mo. May 11, 2013
Regular Classes: Clay Coady
Sweeps: Brian Bogart
Futurity: Amy Gordon
- Great Western June 23, 2013
Regular Classes Michelle Billings
Sweeps: Patty Ledgerwood
- Montgomery Co. October 6, 2013
Regular Classes Penny Hirstein
Sweeps Joan Huber

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

Mr. John Constantine
2165 West Chester Rd
East Fallowfield, PA 19320
215-527-0056
john@adamis.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Carole Weinberger
5897 Buford St
Orlando, FL 32835
407-822-8103
(Cell) 407-375-7623
bandsman@earthlink.net

SECRETARY

Ms Amy Gordon
342 Putnam Ranch Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
aragonms@worldnet.att.net
secretary@amsc.us

TREASURER

Sharon Edwards
21301 Golf Estates Drive
Laytonsville, MD 20882-5109
301-947-8811
rtesle@comcast.net
treasurer@amsc.us

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Ann Shandor
2302 Cumberland Court
SW
Decatur, AL 35602
Phone: 256-351-6942
tuckarry@aol.com

AMSCOPE EDITOR

Carla M. Borrelli
1799 South Creek Rd.
Derby, NY 14047-9729
Phone :716-627-3206
cborr@aol.com

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

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