



# AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB

Member of the American Kennel Club

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Issue 10

## 10 Lessons from 45 Years as a Breeder

### Memorial Service

The Montgomery County Kennel Club (MCKC) will conduct a memorial service to honor the memories of those in the fancy that have been lost since their 2014 show.

It will be on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at 7:00am. The location is the Bell Tower on the campus of the Montgomery County Community College, where the dog show is being held.

The memories of our AMSC Members, Laurese Katen, Barbara Mazgail, Jerry Reidy, Barbara Schulenberg, Beverly Verna and Joan Williams will be remembered.

All are welcome to attend and may read passages from the Bible, Tanakh, Koran etc., sing spiritual songs or share cherished memories of the newly departed if they so desire.

Contact Brian Bogart at [sumerwyndb@aol.com](mailto:sumerwyndb@aol.com) or 716-984-0012 for more information.

**The deadline for the November issue is October 16.**

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### Advice from a long-time dog breeder. *By Kathy Lorentzen |*

Difficult as it might be, do not let sentimentality enter into your breeding decisions. Photo by Isabelle Francais.

these questions may bring you to the conclusion that he is not at all the right dog for your bitch.

**1. Start slow.** Regardless of how much you think you know, you probably don't know very much when you are a fledgling dog breeder. The faster you go, the more mistakes you will make and the more messes you will have to clean up. Plan your first few litters with great care and a lot of help from your mentors, and take the time to watch them grow up before you breed again. Waiting and watching those first litters will fill you with knowledge that you didn't realize you were missing.



**2. Believe in survival of the fittest.** This is one of the most difficult lessons a dog breeder must learn but also one of the most critical. Going to great lengths to save a puppy that nature says was not meant to survive brings nothing but heartache. I have yet to see a happy outcome at the end of a monumental attempt to save a dog at all costs.

**3. Listen to the opinions of your peers.** An opposing opinion from a successful breeder may give you something completely different to think about. Nobody says you have to do what other people tell you, but by all means be open to what they have to say.

**4. Don't succumb to Frequently Used Sire syndrome.** It happens all the time. Ten other people bred to a dog, so you think you should breed to him too. Stop and ask yourself why you think you should breed to that dog. Are you familiar with several generations of the dogs in his pedigree? Does he have ancestors in common with your bitch that were strong for the characteristics you are looking for from your litter? Have you had your hands on the dog and a number of his children? Does he (and do his children) have the strengths you are looking for? If he is a total outcross for you, is he even the same style as your bitch? Are you comfortable with not only his health clearances but also those of his parents, grandparents and siblings? Forcing yourself to honestly answer all of

**5. Listen to your gut, not to your heart.** Difficult as it might be, do not let sentimentality enter into your breeding decisions. I don't care if your best friend has a dog that she wants you to breed to; if he isn't the right dog, say no. I don't care if you raised a singleton puppy and are incredibly attached to it; if it isn't of the quality to move you forward in your breeding program, find a pet home for it. I don't care if you have two dogs of your own that you absolutely love; if they are not the right match, then don't breed them to one another. If someone wants to buy a dog from you but your gut is telling you it's a bad idea, then I will bet you that it is a bad idea. Just say no. Learning to say no is very important. Do not get sucked into anything that your head and your gut tell you is wrong. You can be nice and say no at the same time. It is a word that will serve you well.

**6. Create your own stud force.** Having watched the most successful breeders in many breeds for 50 years, I firmly believe that your family of dogs will be better if you create your own stud dogs to breed to your own bitches. Make two lines of dogs that are loosely related yet far enough apart so that you can breed them back and forth to one another. Keep the characteristics that you consider critical in your breed prominent in both lines, but differ the style of the two lines  
**Cont'd on p. 2, col. 1...Breeding..**

# LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change

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

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

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

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

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## BREEDING...from p. 1

somewhat. Example: You cannot keep breeding elegant to elegant without eventually losing size and substance. If your breed should be strong yet elegant, you can maintain size and substance and also keep the correct amount of elegance if you breed two lines back and forth where one is more elegant and one is more compact, bigger boned and ribbed. The blending of your two lines of dogs will result in a family that has a specific look that will be recognizable as having come from your kennel. Your dogs will breed more true and consistently higher in quality than if you just keep a few brood bitches and continually breed them to the stud dogs around the country that are the flavor of the month.

**7. Know how to add new blood to your program.** Obviously, you will eventually have to **introduce** at least a partial outcross into your family of dogs. I learned long ago from a very savvy breeder that the way to do this is to buy the right bitch to bring in to breed to your own stud dogs. Choose very carefully. Buy one that is the same style as your dogs, from a pedigree that has some common ancestors with your dogs and make certain that she (hopefully) will be useful to breed to at least two of your own stud dogs. If you are looking to introduce a characteristic that you think is somewhat lacking in your breeding program, be absolutely certain that not only does the bitch have that characteristic but that she is from a pedigree filled with dogs that had it. Then when you breed her to your dogs, select those that have the characteristic and breed those back into your lines. In this manner, your dogs will not lose their "look," and you will have introduced some new blood and a new strength to your bloodlines.

**8. Look back often, but never go backward.** Advances in the use of semen from dogs long dead have given breeders options never before available. It's one thing to use **frozen semen** from a dog that was your own or a dog you knew well. It's quite another to use frozen from a piece of breed history that you never laid eyes on. Predicting the outcome of such a breeding is not possible, and it could be a giant step backward. I also have watched while some breeders have used semen from one of their own deceased dogs over and over and over, which results in a program that never moves forward. The outcome of someone using a particular dog over and over is a decrease in the general

quality of their family of dogs. Breeding programs are meant to move forward with each generation, in my opinion, and while an occasional dose of a long-deceased dog might be a wonderful thing to have, I believe that too much can lead to ruination.

**9. Deal with your mistakes.** Everybody makes mistakes, but it's what you do about fixing it and trying to never make that same mistake again that defines you as a dog breeder. Keep the best interest of your breed, not just your own dogs, foremost. Follow that path and you will leave your breed healthy, sound and full of quality for the next generation of dog breeders. Honesty is always the best policy in dog breeding. If you create a problem, own up to it and perhaps you will save someone else from the same fate.

**10. Be objective about judging.** The first thing I would ask you all to do is to remove the word "dumped" from your vocabulary. Just because your dog did not win does not mean that it got dumped. I have always disliked that word and never use it in reference to **judging**. Train yourself to understand what individual judges are looking for. Different people have different priorities, and understanding those priorities will help you decipher their judging. If you feel that you have a legitimate question about why another dog defeated yours, there is nothing wrong with approaching the judge when on break (with your dog in tow, please) and asking. Please do not open the conversation with, "What didn't you like about my dog?" Instead, ask why the other dog placed over yours. Try to make the conversation a positive learning experience. If you find that dogs from a particular family consistently defeat yours, sit down and watch those dogs, and try to understand why. If your dogs don't win, do not immediately think politics. The great majority of the time, it simply isn't. School yourself in your breed, how to condition, trim and present it to its absolute best, and take a step back and ask yourself if your dogs are truly worthy of winning in good competition. Ask seasoned, successful breeders for advice. We want you to stay in our sport, not get frustrated and leave because your dogs don't win. We want you to learn, have good dogs and develop into the next generation of knowledgeable dog breeders so that we can breathe easy when we hand the reins of our breed over to you.

*From the February 2015 issue of Dogs in Review magazine.*

## Always Ask Your Vet This Question, No Matter How Minor the Surgery

By Dr. Becker

The next time your canine companion needs a surgical procedure, you might want to ask your veterinarian if he or she administers IV fluids during every surgery, no matter how minor.

A recent study performed at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine points to the importance of administering IV fluids during even minor surgery on pets.<sup>1</sup> This is currently the recommended standard of care, but isn't practiced routinely in many veterinary hospitals.

For the study, the UPenn researchers focused on the effect of IV fluids on the network of small arterioles, venules, and capillaries that directly feed an animal's tissues and cells. Collectively this network of small vessels is known as the microcirculation.

The researchers used a video microscope to capture the blood flow of dogs undergoing spays and discovered that increasing the amount of IV fluid they received improved the number of vessels receiving blood flow.

### Monitoring Blood Flow at the Cellular Level

Your dog's circulatory system transports oxygen and nutrients to the cells and tissues of his body, and removes waste products and carbon dioxide. Arteries and veins travel to and from the heart, lungs, and other organs, and these larger vessels branch off into smaller arterioles and venules that contract and expand to allow blood to flow to and from the capillaries. Cells reside inside the network of tiny capillaries.

Depending on his hydration level, metabolism, hormones, and other factors, your dog's body can regulate when and how much blood travels to different parts of his circulatory system. Anesthesia can inhibit the body's ability to regulate blood pressure, and the combination of fluid loss and anesthetic drugs can result in a decrease in blood flow to and from the cells of your pet's body.

According to lead study author Deborah Silverstein, an associate professor at UPenn in the School of Veterinary Medicine's Department of Clinical Studies:

"When we monitor a patient's blood pressure

or oxygen levels, we're not always able to discern what is happening at the cellular level. Sometimes there are tissues and cells that are getting a surplus of oxygen while other cells or tissues are in need of more, but our measuring the big things, like blood pressure, doesn't tell us that.

The only way we figure that out is when the patient develops organ dysfunction or new complications arise following anesthesia."<sup>2</sup>

What Silverstein is saying is that vital sign monitoring procedures used during surgery don't give a complete picture of how things are going in the cells and tissues fed by the microcirculatory system.

In human medicine, it's routine during even the most minor surgical procedures to administer an IV drip to offset fluid loss. The same standard of care is recommended by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP), however, it isn't uniformly practiced by all veterinarians, probably because of the added cost.

### Study Involved 49 Dogs Undergoing Spay Surgery

The UPenn researchers set out to learn whether administering IV fluids during minor veterinary procedures in a healthy animal would affect microcirculation. They also wanted to determine the amount of fluid needed to achieve optimal results.

The researchers studied 49 healthy pet dogs undergoing spay surgery to evaluate how varying levels of IV fluids (lactated Ringer's solution, a commonly used fluid in veterinary medicine) affected their blood flow. The dogs were separated into three groups. One group received no fluid, one group received 10 milliliters per kilogram weight per hour of IV solution, and the third group received 20 milliliters per kilogram weight per hour.

The video microscope mentioned earlier, which magnifies blood vessels 326 times onto a computer monitor, was placed against the dogs' gums to assess blood flow in vessels of various sizes before the procedure, and 30 and 60 minutes after the dogs were anesthetized.

### Study Results Indicate That IV Fluids Affect Circulation During Veterinary Surgical Procedures

When they reviewed the videos, the researchers found no differences among the three groups in the number of vessels receiving

blood flow or the amount of blood flow. To their surprise, they also found no differences among the groups in the tiny capillaries that are less than 20 micrometers in diameter.

The researchers did, however, see a difference in the blood vessels larger than 20 micrometers. The dogs in the group that received the highest level of fluids had greater densities of these blood vessels than the other two groups.

These results suggest that fluids do affect circulation, but more research is needed to better understand what this information means, as well as the optimal rate of fluid delivery. According to researcher Silverstein:

"The larger vessels are the ones that are constricting and dilating to feed the microcirculation. And it appears that the animals that got the highest rate of fluids in this study – which may not be the optimal rate – are the ones that seemed to have the greatest recruitment of arterioles and venules."

During their spay surgeries, about a third of the dogs in the study had a drop in blood pressure that required an infusion of fluids, which further emphasizes the need for constant blood pressure monitoring as well as IV fluid support.

Silverstein noted that some of the dogs might have gone into surgery slightly dehydrated after spending the night in the hospital and possibly refusing to eat or drink due to stress.

### The Microcirculatory System: So Small, But So Important

The researchers hope to conduct future studies using different types and amounts of IV fluids to test their impact on the microcirculation. She also plans to continue her study of microcirculation in animals with diseases such as sepsis to see if measuring blood flow to the smallest vessels can be used to better detect or predict outcomes.

Silverstein says she loves being able to focus on something so small, but so important. "The microcirculatory system is one of the largest organs in the body but impossible for the naked eye to see," she said.

Cont'd on p. 5...ASK YOUR VET

### MiniPalooza Schedule

(As of August 17 2105)!

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**Wednesday, March 30!**

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

!  
**Thursday, March 31!**

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

!  
**Friday, April 1!**

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

!  
**Saturday, April 2!**

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

!  
**Sunday, April 3!**

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

**JUDGES:**

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

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

### How Fast Is Your Dog Aging? That Depends... So Consult This Handy Chart

By Dr. Becker

All of us who love dogs are acutely aware that the lifespans of our canine companions are short – much too short. And while the years we spend with a beloved pet seem to fly by, dogs don't just suddenly die when they reach a certain age. They grow older in stages just as we do, but at a tremendously accelerated rate compared to humans. Your four-legged friend may still look and act like a puppy much of the time, but there are age related changes taking place inside him despite his youthful good looks and high energy level.

The lifespan of a dog depends primarily on his size, breed (or breed mix), and health status. As a general rule, giant breed dogs are considered senior citizens at 5 years of age, and dogs under 20 pounds move into the range at about 7.

Of course, every dog is a little different, but this is a good general guideline to determine your dog's age in human years, as well as when he's considered a senior, and the age at which he enters the geriatric stage of life:

**Your Dog's Age in Human Years**

Dog's Age	Up to 20 lbs	21 – 50 lbs	51 – 90 lbs	Over 90 lbs
5	36	37	40	42
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123
17	84	92	104	
18	88	96	109	
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	

**Ages in yellow = Senior**

**Ages in blue = Geriatric**

Chart developed by Dr. Fred L. Metzger, DVM, State College, PA. – Courtesy of Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook, 4th Edition  
Chart developed by Dr. Fred L. Metzger, DVM, State College, PA. – Courtesy of Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook, 4th Edition  
Vet, Pet Owner Perspectives Differ on When Dogs Enter Senior and Geriatric Stages of Life

If you're surprised to learn the age at which your dog is considered senior or geriatric, you're

## NEW APPLICANTS

### Kathleen M. Rager

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Stockton, AL 36579  
251-597-8133  
[vonruhr@gmail.com](mailto:vonruhr@gmail.com)

Kathleen states that she is currently a breeder of Miniature Schnauzers. She has bred 5 litters in the past 5 years. She has been involved in Conformation and breeding for 20+ years, first with Great Danes from 1970-1991 and since 2000 with Miniature Schnauzers. She uses a handler, so she only attends 10-12 shows per year, while her dogs attend 25-30 yearly. She is a member of the Pensacola Dog Fanciers Club in Florida and has served as Membership chairman and Assistant Trophy Chairman. Kathy has finished 5 champions, 3 of which were homebred. She is currently training one of her boys in OB and Rally. Kathy states that she is a "people person" and would be happy to serve the Club in any way needed.

### Dustin Wyatt

224 Mayflower Rd  
Portsmouth, VA 23701  
757-535-9394 [Dustin.Wyatt@verizon.net](mailto:Dustin.Wyatt@verizon.net)

Dustin states that he has had Schnauzers for 10 years and has bred one litter. He is involved in Conformation, Agility, Obedience, Breeding, and attends 30-40 shows per year. He also has a Welsh Terrier. He states that he is skilled with web design and photography and could help the club in those areas. Dustin states that he recently owner handled a nine month old home bred male Miniature to his Championship.

### Pam Opanowitz

641 Meadowbrook St  
Allen, TX 75002  
214-649-9270  
[Quigsis@gmail.com](mailto:Quigsis@gmail.com)

Pam states that she has one Miniature Schnauzer, Lucy, who is 5 years old. She shows her in Agility, Tracking Barn Hunt, and Nosework, and judges Barn Hunt. She attends 25-40 events per year. She is involved with the North Texas Barnhunters, in Allen, Texas as Treasurer, Judge, and Trial Secretary. She also is a member of DAWG, in Dallas, and SPOT in Dallas/Ft Worth. Pam says that her experience in Performance will be useful to the AMSC, because of her knowledge of the sport.

### Ms Joanne Ridley

208 NE Balsam Way  
Jensen Beach, FL 34957  
772-225-7740  
[RID500@aol.com](mailto:RID500@aol.com)

Joanne states that she has had Miniature Schnauzers since 1988. She has had two litters from her Stud and one from her bitch. She is involved in Conformation and Breeding and attends around 75 dog shows per year. Joanne is a Retired Teacher and Coach. She is interested in Legislative issues and Education and feels she has good teaching skills. She currently has five Miniature Schnauzers.

### Mrs. Patricia Milburn

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Ogden, UT 84403  
801-391-4041  
[patmilburn@aol.com](mailto:patmilburn@aol.com)

Pat states that she has owned Miniature Schnauzers for 40 years. She currently has 6 Schnauzers. She has been involved in Agility, Obedience, Tracking and LURE (CAT) for two years. She will compete for 61 days of agility this year, but has not decided how much to compete in obedience. She also attends seminars. Pat is currently the Vice-President of the Golden Spike Dog Obedience Club, in Ogden, Utah, the Pocatello Kennel Club, in Pocatello, ID, the Salty Dogz Agility of Utah, in Salt Lake City and the Barn Hunt Club of Northern Utah. Pat is a retired Ski Instructor and counts among her skills, extensive experience in Performance events. She would enjoy working with the Club as we continue to encourage performance skills in our dogs.

### Ms Carol Reid

1564 NW Spruce Ridge Drive  
Stuart, FL 34994  
772-485-5752  
[Retfla2@aol.com](mailto:Retfla2@aol.com)

Carol states she has had Miniature Schnauzers since 1965. She has had two litters born from her stud dog, and one from her bitch. She is interested in Conformation and states that she attends 75 dog shows each year. She presently has 6 Miniatures. Carol is interested in Public Awareness and Health and states that she can write fairly well as a retired Teacher.

**Lloyd Amodei** Sponsors: John Constantine  
3001 Foxx Lane Terrie Houck  
Philadelphia, PA 19144  
215-570-6674  
[LJAmodei@comcast.net](mailto:LJAmodei@comcast.net)

Lloyd states that he is a breeder of Boston Terriers for 27 years and Miniature Schnauzers for 4 years. He has bred 1 litter in the last 5 years. Lloyd states that he has been a judge for 2 years and judges 15 breeds, including all the Schnauzers. He attends at least 150 dog shows and events each year. Lloyd states that he is a member of the Penn Treaty Dog Club, the Greater Philadelphia Dog Club, Hatboro Dog Club, the Triangle Boston Terrier Club, the Boston Terrier Club of America, and the Liberty Brussels Griffon Club. He says that he is interested in Legislative Issues, Awards/Trophies, and Education. He has experience in organizing and putting on Specialty Shows.

## Bouquets & Biscuits

**Carbor Call of the Wild MX MXJ XF T2B** (Am/Can CH Carbor Hot on the Trail X Am/Can CH Carbor Prim and Proper) earned his Time 2 Beat title at the AMCA trial at Syracuse NY on August 28, 2015. He earned it with a minimum required of runs and with his usual joy and flair. He celebrated with an extended session of howling in the parking lot! He was bred by Carla M. Borrelli, is owned by Judy Russell and is handled by John Russell.

**GCH CH Abacus Profit Margin RN OA AXJ OF CGC RATI V-BJA** "Emmy's" Versatility Award from the American Miniature Schnauzer Club. I am so proud of this little girl. She has taught me so much. The best is yet to come. Yes, LOVE those titles on both ends. So very, very proud of her and just goes to show that you are never too old to learn something new - Emmy was born when I was almost 61 years old and I just turned 66 years old. Emmy and I learned Agility, Rally, Barn Hunt and the CGC together. Come out everyone - do a lot of things with your dog - you and your dog will love it. I believe that Emmy may be the first Grand Champion Miniature Schnauzer to earn the award. Linda Wahlquist-Soos

**Daree's Saving Grace BN, RN** (CH Daree's Notice Me x Daree's Sweet Springtime) finished both her Beginner's Novice and Rally Novice titles on Sept 6, 2015 at the Gt. Falls Dog Training Club trials in Gt. Falls, MT. Gracie is 1 yr. old and it was her very first trial. She qualified 7/7 runs with nice scores, finishing the weekend with four 2nd placements in obedience and a 3rd place in rally. It was especially fun to finish under Judge Louise Botko, another Mini Schnauzer competitor. Gracie was bred by Cynthia Mulheron-Klein and Kami Soehl, and is owned, trained and greatly loved by Dianne Armstrong.

**AGING...cont'd from p.5**

not alone. According to information collected by VetStreet, while most veterinary professionals consider all dogs seniors at 5 to 7 years of age, a majority of pet guardians believe 7 to 9 years is more accurate.<sup>1</sup>

Owners of small dogs don't consider them senior until around age 11, medium-sized dogs around age 9, and large and giant breed dogs around 7. This is slightly at odds with veterinary professionals, who consider small, medium, and large dogs senior at around 7, and giant breeds at around 5.

When it comes to using the G-word to describe patients, veterinary professionals tend to view small and medium dogs as geriatric around 11, large dogs around 9, and giant breeds around 7. Contrast that with dog parents, who feel small dogs aren't geriatric until they reach age 13, medium dogs at 11 to 13, large dogs around 11, and giant breeds at around age 9.

So if you're shocked to hear your veterinarian refer to your canine companion as "senior" (or, less likely, "geriatric"), try not to worry or take offense. Just like humans, as pets get older their healthcare needs change. Rest assured your vet isn't so much labeling your dog as putting her in a special care category to insure her wellness exams cover potential age-related health challenges.

And this is a good thing, because for purposes of supporting her health, mental status and quality of life as she ages, it's really not a bad idea to think about ways you can take extra-special care of your pet as she crosses the 7 year threshold and beyond.

**Three Important Ways to Help Your Dog Age Gracefully**

Provide physical and emotional comfort. Twice-yearly vet visits are very important for older pets, as they insure you and your veterinarian can stay on top of any physical or mental changes that may indicate an underlying disease process.

Keeping your dog at a healthy weight and physically active will help control arthritis and degenerative joint disease as he ages. Chiropractic adjustments, stretching, water exercises, and acupuncture can also provide enormous benefits in keeping dogs comfortably mobile in their later years. Regular massage can help keep your pet's muscles toned and reduce the slackening that comes with aging.

There are also supplements that can be added to your dog's diet to help maintain healthy tendons, ligaments, joints, and cartilage. These include glucosamine sulfate with MSM and egg-

**PINS AWARDED AT MONTGOMERY**

The following AMSC members will be awarded their official AMSC silver, 25 year pins in recognition of continuous twenty-five year membership status. The pins will be announced at our Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. Pins will be awarded to members from the years 2011 (1986), 2012 (1987), 2013 (1988), and 2014 (1989), which were apparently missed in those presentations, and the current year, 2015 (1990).

**2011**

Patrick Glenn  
Alma Contrino  
Paulette Dawson

**2012**

Janet L. Taylor

**2013**

Norma Carver  
Connie Hawk  
Leslie Kubik  
Suzanne Moenter  
Gale Schnetzer  
Beth Santure

**2014**

Nancy Banas  
John Constantine  
Lois Ann Cruce-Pasley  
Patricia O'Brien  
Shirley Reynolds  
Lisa Sarvis  
Margaret Doty  
Nell LaCroix  
Carla Nickerson  
Nancy Banas

**2015**

Louise Botko  
Sharon Bloss  
Janet Corpin  
Linda Drost  
Kay Grimes  
Judith Hughes  
Linda Jacobs  
Sonny Lelle  
Thalia Puncocher  
Suzanne Steele  
Roxanne Snow  
Lynn Tamms  
Judy Wrynski

In recognition of those with five continuous years of membership, the following members will be receiving their official AMSC bronze, 3 year pin. They will be mailed during September and we hope to see you at Montgomery wearing yours. Both 2014 and 2015 are included here.

**2014**

Fran Balsis  
Carol and Carl Benson  
Douglas Crowe  
Sandra Daggett  
Donna Giles  
Louise Gross  
Rachael Hoffman  
Teresa Janssen  
Jose Jasso  
Fiona Macken  
Carol Ann and Ron Meitzler  
Heather Payne  
Lee Pinter  
Becky Raines  
Kirsty Sanders  
Patricia Sheffer  
Laurie Sicurella

**2015**

Brian Beitz  
Ginny Fagan  
Michael S. Herschler  
Stacy Kaaki  
Jana King  
"Joy" Aramis Lin  
Tatiana K. Myers  
Irina K. McDunnell  
Rene Wigen  
Cathy Williams  
David O. Williams  
Daphne Young

**AGING...cont'd from p.6**

shell membrane, perna mussel, omega-3 fats (krill oil), ubiquinol, supergreen foods like spirulina and astaxanthin, and natural anti-inflammatory agents (herbs, including curcumin, proteolytic enzymes, and nutraceuticals).

Provide high-quality dietary protein. Contrary to what many pet guardians and even veterinarians believe, studies indicate dogs (and cats) need more protein as they age, not less. The reason many senior dog food formulas boast reduced protein content is because the poor-quality protein they use is difficult to digest, especially for older dogs. The rendered protein sources used by most major pet food manufacturers put chronic strain on the kidneys and liver, so by the time a dog is into her senior years, her organs can no longer do their job efficiently. This is why commercial reduced protein diets for senior pets were created.

It's an unfortunate situation, because your dog actually needs more protein as she ages – not less – in order to maintain healthy lean muscle mass and good organ and immune function. But the type of protein most dogs thrive on is whole, unprocessed, and preferably raw.

Provide exercise, socialization, and mental stimulation. No matter your dog's age, she needs daily exercise to be optimally healthy in body and mind. Your older dog obviously can't exercise or compete at the same level as a youngster, but she still needs daily walks and other age-appropriate physical activity. Your aging dog also needs regular social interaction with other pets and/or people. Much like her human family members, if your dog doesn't stay active and involved in life, the world can become a confusing, even threatening place. She needs regular exposure to other pets and people, ideally through short periods of socialization and playtime in controlled situations.

Enriching your pet's environment can help alleviate or forestall the mental confusion and decline of cognitive function that often come with age. Sticking to a predictable daily routine can help reduce anxiety and mental uncertainty. Puzzle toys and interactive games provide fun and mental stimulation.

Supplements that can help improve mental decline in aging dogs include S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe), apoaequorin, vitamin B6, vitamin E, resveratrol, ginkgo biloba, and phosphatidylserine.

## Top 5 Things You Need To Know About Hypothyroidism and Your Dog

by Julia Henriques in Holistic Care

### Dodds Thyroid

If your normally sweet natured dog has suddenly become snappy or even unexpectedly aggressive, you naturally wonder what's going on.

So, you take him to the vet to rule out any illness or injury. Your vet does a physical exam and can't find anything that might be causing pain or discomfort. and they suggest putting him on anti-anxiety medication to see if that helps.

But you feel there must be another reason for your dog's behavior change ... and you're probably right.

What many vets may not consider is the possibility that your dog's suffering from hypothyroidism.

### Hypothyroidism And Its Causes

The thyroid is a butterfly shaped gland in the neck that regulates the metabolism of the body's cellular functions by producing hormones such as thyroxine (T4). Hypothyroidism occurs when the thyroid doesn't produce enough T4.

Dr Jean Dodds and Dr Marty Goldstein are two leading veterinary experts in thyroid issues.

Dr Dodds states that in nearly 90 percent of cases hypothyroidism is an autoimmune disorder. According to Dr Marty Goldstein, autoimthyroid to function. But the pituitary gland gets its "orders" from hormones released by the hypothalamus so these three glands can't work properly without proper input from the others; the thyroid might be normal, but is not receiving the messages it needs to function.

Dr Dodds warns that a tight or prong collar on a dog who pulls a lot can also cause extensive thyroid damage so using a harness will avoid injury when walking him.

### Hypothyroidism Symptoms

The classic symptoms of hypothyroidism are familiar to many: weight gain, sluggishness, bad skin, hair loss and dislike of the cold. If we saw these symptoms, we'd probably think about getting our dog's thyroid tested. These are the symptoms veterinarians are trained to look for too.

But according to Dr Jean Dodds, these classic clinical symptoms don't occur until 70 percent of the thyroid is already damaged! And once the thyroid is damaged, it doesn't regenerate. So, instead of waiting for these symptoms to appear, it's really important to recognize the early symptoms that may indicate a damaged thyroid.

### Early Symptoms

So, getting back to the grumpy dog we talked about at the beginning of the article ... it turns out that a key early symptom of thyroid damage is – guess what – behavioral problems!

Adult dogs who suddenly start snapping are a good example of the kind of change you might observe. Your dog might start being fearful out of the blue, or displaying aggression. You might see submissive or obsessive compulsive behaviors.

Dogs who gain weight when they're not being overfed (known as idiopathic obesity) are also displaying early symptoms of thyroid damage.

You might also see changes in your dog's face. The eyes may look different, the brow can look furrowed, or you may even see a cleft above the eyes. Dr Dodds recommends taking regular photos of your dog so you can see the changes that take place!

So if you see a sudden behavior change in your dog, perhaps along with some weight gain without any change in diet, it's a very good idea to have your dog's thyroid tested.

### What To Ask For

The right kind of testing is important when diagnosing hypothyroidism. Be careful! Many vets will just test the T4 level and diagnose based on that alone.

Both Dr Dodds and Dr Goldstein warn that the T4 test alone is useless because it can be affected by many other factors such as diet and medications. Diagnosis should never be based on T4 alone.

Instead, make sure you get a complete thyroid antibody profile, measuring at least T3, T4, Free T3, Free T4, and TgAA. If your vet doesn't offer a full thyroid profile, ask her to draw the blood for you and send it yourself to Hemopet (Dr Dodds' diagnostic laboratory – visit [hemopet.org](http://hemopet.org) for more information) or another lab that offers this testing.

### Treatment Options

If your dog is diagnosed with hypothyroidism, there are many natural therapies that may help before resorting to conventional synthetic thyroid replacement.

Be sure to consult a holistic vet about dietary changes as well as nutritional, nutraceutical and glandular therapies that can support your dog's thyroid function.

For more detailed information, watch the video *What's New in Thyroid Disorders with Dr Dodds and Queenechie*



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