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Second Quarter 2017

## High Tech—Not Just For Humans Anymore

By Linda Love

If you think technology is just for us humans, think again! Technology has spread to even our pets these days---it feeds them at meal time, monitors them when they are home alone, dispenses treats, and tracks their health and fitness. Then, there are GPS trackers for when they get lost, interactive toys, doggy doors that only open for them (no other animals can sneak through), and now Dog TV. Dogs can even initiate a call to you on your smartphone while you're at work (I can just imagine sitting in the boss's office when the phone rings). With so many products out there, there isn't enough space in this newsletter to tell you about them all, so here are a few examples that will blow your mind:

### Automatic Feeders

Automatic pet feeders have become increasingly popular recently for good reasons. Many pet owners work outside the home and worry about leaving their pets home alone for long periods, especially on those days when they must work late. The advancements in technology now provide pet parents with peace of mind by being able to feed their pets automatically, either by manual timer or from your smartphone. Beyond convenience, automatic feeders can help prevent bloat by enabling the scheduling of multiple feedings in smaller quantities. All feeders work for both dogs and cats, but some are cat specific. There are lots of these to choose from, but here are some examples:

- Feed and Go Pet Feeder:** This innovative and functional feeder has 6 easy to clean food trays that can dispense food multiple times a day or multiple days. For example, you could fill some with regular meals, others with a treat or two, or even medications. Cleaning is easy, because it is dishwasher safe. Unlike other feeders, it is low profile to prevent dogs from knocking it over and breaking it. The



Feed and Go Pet Feeder

### Our Vision

Every Schnauzer a home,  
one adoption at a time.

### MSRH Mission Statement

Within the organization's scope and reach, MSRH is dedicated to rescuing every abandoned or lost Miniature Schnauzer that we can and migrating them to a loving forever home.

### Behind the Scenes

In the interim period, between rescue and adoption, our all volunteer team provides temporary homes in a safe and loving environment while we search for an adoptive home that is the right match for each Schnauzer. We never forget that most adopters see only a snapshot of our overall organization. As such, we strive to ensure a perfect experience to give that snapshot exceptional clarity. Every perfect adoption experience requires a network of committed volunteers, veterinarians, partners, loving foster families and friends who pay the love forward with gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We want every Schnauzer to have a home. At MSRH, we make it happen . . . one adoption at a time.

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food compartments are airtight to keep food fresh, including both wet and dry food, although it is not recommended to keep wet food in it over 24 hours. There is a built-in webcam and voice recorder, so you can check on your dog or cat to ensure they ate the food. You get real-time notifications on your phone to let you know your pet has been fed. This handy little device is not cheap. It will set you back about \$200, but may be worth it over time. You can purchase through Amazon, Petco, and Best Buy. Out of 212 Amazon reviews, 85% of them were 5-star. For more information, go to [www.feedandgo.com](http://www.feedandgo.com).

- PetSafe Healthy Pets Simply Feed:** This feeder uses a patented conveyor dispenser to reliably feed your pets while minimizing the chance of food getting clogged. It accommodates dry and semi-moist foods, but no wet food. There are no “tech savvy” features, such as app-controlled feeding or voice recordings; however, PetSafe perfected the bare bones food dispensing system. This product simply works. Also, there are a few different sizes to pick from depending on the size of your dogs or cats. This feeder is portion controlled and contains preset meal portions dispensed twice a day at 8am and 5pm. However, the user option allows you to customize the feeding schedule for up to 12 meals each day with meal portions ranging from 1/8 cup up to 4 cups, giving you the best way to manage your pet’s feeding routine. It even has a ‘slow feed’ mode that dispenses food over a 15-minute period to prevent vomiting or bloat. Other modes are ‘pause feed’ and ‘immediate feed’ to allow you to change your plans and portions for the right fit. The feeder stores up to 24 cups of food in its translucent hopper, so you can see when your pet’s food is running low. It has a locking lid and pet-proof dispenser to keep your pet from accessing the stored food. Price on this one is \$130. You can purchase through Amazon, Petco, Chewy, and Bed Bath & Beyond. Out of 1,151 reviews, 65% were 5-star, and 22% were 4-star. PetSafe has multiple feeder models. Check them out at [www.petsafe.net/feeders](http://www.petsafe.net/feeders).



**PetSafe Healthy Pets Simply Feed**

- CleverPet Hub:** This pricey feeder doubles as a puzzle toy for your dog to keep both his tummy full and his mind engaged. This is a great alternative for a dog who is alone at home while his parents are at work. The CleverPet Hub uses advanced cognitive and behavioral science techniques to alleviate boredom. This is not a toy that your dog will figure out within 10 minutes. With a little help getting started, high-energy dogs that are food motivated (what dog isn’t) will most likely progress the fastest. First, CleverPet encourages your dog to eat from the Hub, as the dog continues to interact, he’ll learn how to solve progressively complex challenges developed by animal behavior experts. There are 50 to 300 plays per day that adjust to your dog’s skill level. It works with an iPhone or Android app, which connects the Hub to Wi-Fi. It monitors your dog’s progress and allows you to schedule the hours when you want your dog to play. Dogs who eat their daily meals through the Hub are the ones who will get the most out of it. The Hub allows up to 2.5 cups of kibble (18mm or smaller) at a time, dispensed in a stainless steel bowl. CleverPet allows a 60-day “engagement” guarantee to give you enough time to work with your dog in order to get him self-motivated to engage the Hub on his own. If your dog is not interested within 60 days from the date your Hub was delivered, CleverPet will give a full refund. The CleverPet Hub can be purchased through Amazon or directly from CleverPet for about \$300 (ouch!). And, for that price it’s good to know that out of 32 Amazon reviews, 91% were 5-star. For more details, go to [www.cleverpet.com](http://www.cleverpet.com).



**CleverPet Hub with Smartphone App**

### Video Monitors

Pet cams are growing in popularity. After all, via technology, we can stay connected like never before to our human family and friends. So, why not stay connected to our pets, too, through video monitoring. There are so many pet video cams on the market now with different bells and whistles, so picking the right one for you is bound to be a bit confusing. Also, because of this, I cannot possibly include them all in this article. So, to narrow it down, I’ve only included the following to get you familiar with what’s out there:

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- Pawbo Life Wi-Fi Pet Camera:** This pet cam has HD live streaming video with a 130-degree wide angle lens with 720p HD and 4X digital zoom. The audio is two way, so your pet can hear your voice, and you can hear your pet, as well. It has a built-in laser, so you can interact with your pet manually or automatically with your smartphone. It has a treat dispenser that you also can control with your phone. It has “snap and share”, which enables you to take a photo of your pet and instantly share it on social media. You can record videos and store them on your Google Drive or in Dropbox. There are multiple ringtones to get your pet’s attention. You can have one designated especially for treat dispensing to get them to come running to the camera. You can mount it on the wall, which is recommended, to prevent them from knocking it over to get to the treats. Unfortunately, this cam has no night vision, but there are others that do. This pet cam goes for \$169.00. The best places to purchase it are through Amazon or directly from Pawbo. Out of 53 Amazon reviews, 94% were 5-star. To reach the Pawbo website for more information, go to [www.pawbo.com](http://www.pawbo.com).



**Pawbo Life Wi-Fi Pet Cam**

- PetChatz HD:** This one is the “crem dela crem” of pet cams with a price to go with it, but I must tell you about it for its jaw dropping features. The PetChatz system starts with the two-way HD video unit with full color LCD display, which allows you to be there with your pet from anywhere in the world. This one even works in low light conditions, so you can check in on your pet even at night. You can reward them with treats or comfort them with PetChatz Scentz® calming aromatherapy from your smartphone, tablet or computer. It is Wi-Fi and Bluetooth enabled. It has a motion and unusual sound detector with alerts, and is specially engineered to pick up dog sounds. It has a full frequency speaker designed so your dog or cat can hear every whisper. It has an optional accessory called Paw Call, which allows your pet to call you on your smartphone and play games when you’re away. It streams DogTV (see below), a new 24/7 digital TV channel with dog-friendly programming scientifically developed to provide just the right company for dogs when left alone. It attaches securely to your wall with no corners, edges, or cords to chew. You can record and share each high-quality chat with your dog to enjoy immediately or enjoy later. The main unit costs a whopping \$379. To add the Paw Call accessory will cost another \$99.99. It will allow your pet to get in touch with you while in ‘Call Mode’ and allows you to engage with them using ‘Game Mode’. There are other accessories available like PetChatz treats, optional stand, calming essential oil, and Scentz pads to put the oil on all for an additional cost, of course. You can purchase the



**PetChatz HD with Paw Call**

PetChatz video camera and accessories at either Amazon or directly from PetChatz. Out of 148 Amazon customer reviews, 76% were 5-star. Check this out further at [www.petchatz.com](http://www.petchatz.com).

- Petzi Treat Cam:** Here is another app-controlled, Wi-Fi connected remote pet treat dispenser and camera, which allows you to see, speak, snap a photo, and give a treat to your pet when you are away from home. This one has a wide-angle camera with night vision. Cost for this unit is about \$170. You can get it direct from Petzi or from Chewy, Walmart, Amazon, Best Buy, or Petco. Out of 475 Amazon reviews, 68% were 5-star, and 16% were 4-star. Go to [www.petzi.com](http://www.petzi.com) for more information.



**Petzi Treat Cam**

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### Dog TV

The Dog TV network was first launched commercially in February 2013. It is available on Direct TV and Xfinity as a subscription for \$4.99 per month. The programming is divided into three content categories: Relaxation, Stimulation, and Exposure. This programming is patented and was designed and developed by the world's leading pet experts to support the dog's natural behavior patterns after three years of research on dog vision, hearing, and behavior. Each show is 3 to 6 minutes long to accommodate a dog's short attention span. There are even some shows for humans, which air on weekends. The goal of this special programming is to result in a happy dog with less stress, separation anxiety, and other related problems. To learn more, go to [www.dogtv.com](http://www.dogtv.com).

### Activity/GPS Monitors

Lots of folks have fitness trackers for themselves these days, such as the popular Fitbit, but did you know there is one for your dog? From GPS tracking and fitness monitoring to goal setting and comparing your dog to others of the same breed, you're going to be amazed by all the cool features in these new high-tech devices.

Dog activity monitors do just what you think they would do. They monitor the activity level of your dog from tracking when he played, napped, or walked over the course of a day to finding him when he's lost. You can even keep tabs on who is hanging out with him while you aren't around, such as pet sitters, dog walkers, etc.

- **Fitbark:** This cute little device comes in a bone shape that fits on your dog's collar. It comes in five different colors, is waterproof, and small enough where even little dogs can wear it. It works with an app on your Smartphone and syncs via Bluetooth and the internet. Battery life is 14 days, and it can recharge without removing it from the collar. You can monitor your dog's everyday activity 24/7 and set health goals, explain changes in behavior (rest, active and play time), compare with similar dogs and even yourself (because you can link it to your own Fitbit), and make better health decisions with your vet. It is especially helpful for dogs with health conditions. Multiple users, such as family members, dog sitters, or your vet, can share your dog's profile. There are no monthly fees with this little device, and it has a 30-day return policy and one-year limited warranty. Cost is about \$70.00. It can be purchased at Chewy, Amazon, Best Buy, Walmart, or directly from Fitbark. Out of 248 Amazon reviews, 74% were 5-star, and 11% 4-star. Go to [www.fitbark.com](http://www.fitbark.com) for more information.



FitBark

- **Whistle 3 GPS Pet Tracker and Activity Monitor:** This is probably the best all-in-one GPS location and activity tracker for both small dogs and cats. It combines GPS, cellular, and Wi-Fi technology to give you nationwide accurate and comprehensive tracking through an app on your smartphone. Is your dog or cat an escape artist? Or, one who loves unlimited adventure? Then, this little device may be the answer to your prayers. You can design your customized "safe place", like the confines of your own yard. If your pet strays outside of that defined "safe place", you get a notification on your smartphone that "Fluffy has left his safe place" immediately before he gets too far away. It's waterproof, so stays working even if your pet goes through mud, rain, or snow. The tracker keeps a record of the last 24 hours where your pet has been and when. It can tell you when he was active and when he was resting to help you keep him in great shape for his age, weight, and breed. You can set custom goals and receive notifications when there are significant changes to his activity routine and sleep habits. Battery charge lasts about 7 days, and it only takes about 2 hours to recharge. You get a 90-day guarantee period to check it out. If you don't like it, you get a full refund. The cost of the system, including the monitor, collar attachment (fits collars up to 1" wide), and USB charging cable, ranges between \$65 and \$80, plus a subscription plan through Verizon. Depending on which plan you choose, the subscription plan runs between \$7 and \$10 per month. This tracker can be purchased through Amazon, Best Buy, Chewy, and directly from Whistle. Out of 125 Amazon reviews, 63% have been 5-star. For more information, go to [www.whistle.com](http://www.whistle.com).



Whistle 3 GPS Tracker & Activity Monitor

amazon reviews, 63% have been 5-star. For more information, go to [www.whistle.com](http://www.whistle.com).

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- Link AKC Smart Collar:** This device is very similar to the Whistle 3 above, but has a few more bells and whistles, including a higher price. It is the winner of the Consumer Technology Association's CES 2017 Best of Innovation award. Like the Whistle 3, it combines GPS, cellular, and Wi-Fi technology to give you that same nationwide tracking through a smartphone app. The collar comes in sizes small, medium, large, and extra large to fit all dogs (not sure about cats). In addition to the activity, sleep patterns, and customized safe zones, you can store your dog's vet records and get reminded when shots are due. Also, unlike the Whistle 3, you can set the temperature that is best for your dog, and when the environment gets too hot or cold, you receive an alert. Even more cool, the collar has a remote turn-on light, so you can see your dog in the darkness. If you are concerned that your dog has gotten into a poisonous substance while out on his adventure, the app provides you with complimentary access to the ASPCA's Pet Poison Hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This normally costs \$59 per incident. The cost of the Link AKC Smart Collar ranges from \$179 to \$199, plus the subscription plan through AT&T. Subscription plans range from \$7 to \$10 per month. There is a three-year limited warranty. Included in the box: tracking unit, base station, carrier, collar, and app. Battery charge lasts 2 to 3 days. The unit is water resistant up to 3 feet. This smart collar can be purchased through Amazon, AT&T, and directly through Link AKC. Out of 103 Amazon reviews, 56% were 5-star. For more information, go to [www.linkakc.com/dog-collar](http://www.linkakc.com/dog-collar).



Link AKC Smart Collar

### Smart Interactive Toys

- GoBone:** Here's a toy you can operate remotely with your smartphone that will wear your dog out while you're at work. It can also operate manually. The device has a bonding mode designed for timid dogs that will ease them into becoming comfortable with the device. It has an 8-hour rechargeable battery life, so should last most of the time you're gone. The GoBone moves around the room on its own to stimulate your dog's "prey" drive. With the app on your phone, you can take control and navigate the GoBone with your dog in hot pursuit, record and share a video of your dog playing with the device, and schedule playtimes. The GoBone is not yet available in stores or via the usual websites, but you may be able to purchase or pre-order it directly from GoBone's website for about \$170. Go to [www.mygobone.com](http://www.mygobone.com) for more information.



GoBone

- PupPod:** This is a modified high-tech version of the Kong toy. It is a fun, interactive puzzle game that gives your dog the mental stimulation he needs and automatically keeps challenging him as he learns. The PupPod uses a combination of sensors, lights, and sounds to encourage your dog to use his body and his brain to solve a puzzle and get a reward. The reward can be his kibble or a treat and can be earned directly from you or from the optional Bluetooth dispenser called the Pet Tutor. The puzzles are simple at first, and then automatically get harder as your dog gets smarter. With an app on your smartphone, you can control the PupPod, receive progress updates, and share achievements on social media. In addition to the exercise and mental stimulation, this toy will hopefully reduce separation anxiety, excessive barking, and behavioral issues. The optional Pet Tutor uses an app on your smartphone or tablet for the remote OR you can add the Smart Clicker accessory. It holds 5 cups of kibble or treats. The plastic parts are food safe and dishwasher safe, except for the electronics pack. There are 3 mounting options for the Pet Tutor: 1) hanging from the handle on a wall hook or kennel 2) optional floor base for setting on the floor or counter and 3) optional crate mount for outside the crate. Now for the cost: PupPod is \$179. Optional Pet Tutor is (you better sit



PupPod

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down) \$299. The PupPod has a 30-day money back guarantee and 1-year warranty. I am not sure about the Pet Tutor, but if you are considering purchasing it, please verify with the seller. For more information and to purchase, go to [www.puppod.com](http://www.puppod.com). No independent reviews available at this writing.

### Cool Pet Doors

Depending where you live, I suppose it is a rare occurrence when an uninvited four-legged visitor enters your home through the doggie door, but I have heard stories about it actually happening. However, because of the sheer “coolness” of the following doors, I just have to tell you about them!

- High Tech Pet Fully Automatic Motor-Driven Door: I actually have had this pet door since 2012, so can speak from experience. High Tech Pet claims they manufacture the best pet doors on Earth! They offer several different kinds to meet every possible need and every size dog or cat, but what I have is the PX-1 Power Pet Door for pets up to 30 lbs. Because



PX-1 Power Pet Door

traditional doggie doors leave your home vulnerable to intruders, stray animals, and weather, this state-of-art pet door opens only with the sensor from the coordinating High Tech Pet Microsonic collar. As your pet approaches, the door quickly and quietly opens upwards, meaning your pets no longer have to push through swinging flap type doors. The automatic deadlock keeps it extra-secure, and custom settings allow you to adjust the inside and outside range, allow “in” only or “out” only or both ways. It comes with an A/C adapter, but we prefer using the proprietary rechargeable battery with charger. We got an extra battery, so that when the battery in the door needs recharging, we’ve already got another charged battery ready to pop in for uninterrupted operation. The door comes with only one collar, but if you have a multi dog household, you can buy additional collars. It’s really the transmitter on the collar that you need, though. The actual collars are cheesy. We made our own more attractive collars and then threaded the transmitter on to it. You can find supplies to make your own collar at [www.countrybrookdesign.com/](http://www.countrybrookdesign.com/).

I keep a separate collar for my dogs that have their rabies tags, etc., that I put on them

whenever we go anywhere away from home, because the collar with the microsonic transmitter will not work properly with their tags attached to it. The cost of the door, A/C adapter, and 1 collar is \$300. Batteries are \$36 each, charger is \$60, and extra collars with a microsonic transmitter are \$50 each. Out of Amazon 347 reviews, 48% were 5-star, and 19% were 4-star. And, if I were to review it, I would give 5 stars. We have been very pleased with it. And, by the way, if you have a sliding glass patio door, they make a power pet door that inserts into it--pretty cool. We cut an opening in our wooden door that goes to the backyard. You can buy the High Tech Pet Power Pet Door and most accessories from Chewy, Petco, Home Depot, Amazon, and, of course, directly from [www.hitecpet.com](http://www.hitecpet.com).

- SureFlap Microchip Pet Door: Here’s another option on a pet door that keeps intruders out! This one doesn’t need a special transmitter on the collar. It reads your pet’s microchip instead--smart idea! It is compatible with all microchip formats worldwide. If you have multiple pets, this door can store up to 32 microchip numbers in its memory. It does have the option of a collar RFID pendant, and they supply you with one in the package. With this door, you can set a “curfew” mode, which programs the door to lock and unlock at specified times. It operates on 4 C cell batteries that can last up to 1 year, depending on usage. It can be installed in doors, windows, and walls. An optional mounting adapter is required for glass installations, and one or more Door Tunnel Extenders may be required for wall installations, depending on the thickness. Also, something to understand



SureFlap Pet Door Installed In Glass

is that this door is meant to restrict which pets can come in. Any animal can go out. The way it works is that there is a ‘tunnel’ facing the outside. When a pet sticks his head in the tunnel, sensors in the tunnel attempt to read the pet’s chip or the RFID pendant. If it can, it unlocks the door, so the pet can come in. This door comes in both white or brown to match your décor. The white door costs \$150.00, while the brown one costs \$171. You can purchase it and all accessories at Amazon, Chewy, and Petco. Out of 156 Amazon reviews, 60% were 5-star, and 15% were 4-star. For more information, go to [www.sureflap.com/en-us/pet-doors/microchip-pet-door](http://www.sureflap.com/en-us/pet-doors/microchip-pet-door).

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I promised myself that I would try to never have an article over 5 pages long in this newsletter, but researching this article was fun. It was hard to know when to quit! I just had to give you some great examples of this amazing technology! And, there is so much more out there than what I have been able to tell you. However, I must state a disclaimer: Except for the PX-1 Power Pet Door, I have never personally tried any of these gadgets, and because of their lofty prices, I encourage you to do your homework before acquiring any of this stuff. I would call the companies involved to verify the guarantee and warranty periods and make sure of the terms and conditions that must be met. Good customer service is another thing to investigate if possible.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about all of this as much as I did. Wow! Just think, if high tech for pets is just on the threshold, think about what the future will be like!



### DID YOU KNOW YOUR EMPLOYER MAY MATCH YOUR DONATIONS TO MSRH?

Many corporations match donations made by employees to a wide range of nonprofits to support employee charitable giving and to extend corporate philanthropy. Many nonprofits, like MSRH, miss out on revenue simply because many donors are unaware of their employer's gift matching programs.

To find out if your employer will match your donations to MSRH (double them), go to the following link:

<http://www.msrh.org/matching-gifts>

If your employer matches, and you are currently giving \$50 per month, for example, MSRH will then start receiving \$100 per month.

## OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

### GRANT WRITER

Do you have grant writing experience? MSRH is looking for a volunteer to analyze our organization for grant competitive qualities to help us qualify for foundation grants. Once any corrective actions have been taken to improve our competitiveness, then the grant writer would research grant opportunities and prepare applications to include a budget and budget narrative. Other MSRH volunteers will work with the Grant Writer to help gather required information for applications. Time required for this position will vary. If you are interested, please email [volunteercoordinator@msrh.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@msrh.org) or call (281) 336-1163 and leave a message.

### NEED FOSTER HOMES EXPERIENCED WITH TREATING DOGS FOR HEART- WORMS:

If you are knowledgeable and experienced with heartworm treatment, have a quiet home environment, and time for required visits to the vet, we want to talk to you. Please email [volunteercoordinator@msrh.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@msrh.org) or call (281) 336-1163 and leave a message.

**WILLING TO LEARN HOW TO CARE FOR DOGS  
GOING THRU HEARTWORM TREATMENT? WE'LL  
TRAIN YOU!**



Are you ready for the MSRH 2018 Calendar Contest? Last year's competition was such a huge success that we're expecting nothing less this year! If you haven't already submitted your photo, you should do it as soon as possible, so that your rescue can start getting votes. The rescue with the most votes wins. Each vote costs \$1.00.

**When is the contest?** The contest began June 12, 2017, and will end on July 29, 2017, at 9:00PM. Voting is only open during this window.

**How do I prepare?** Keep your camera within arm's reach to capture special moments of your fur baby racing across a field, or resting in a colorful bed of wildflowers, snorkeling in the Bahamas, skateboarding, snuggled up in a warm blankie by a roaring fire, driving a Ferrari in the Grand Prix, surfing the big wave, on safari, climbing a tree, skydiving, leading a conga line, or just romping with their furry friends. If you need additional ideas, check out our [MSRH home page](#) to see photos scrolling at the top of the page. Those were calendar contest entrants submitted from previous years.

Please go to the following link: <http://www.gogophotocontest.com/msrh>

Here you will find the following:

- How to enter the contest
- Contest rules
- Prizes
- How to vote

Be sure to pass the above link on to your family and friends to let them know that you are participating in this year's MSRH Calendar Photo Contest and would like their vote.

## DEAR SOPHIE: How Often Should Mom Wash My Water & Food Bowls?

Dear Sophie:

Just how often should my food and water bowls be washed? Lots of people have different opinions, but what is really the right answer? Neither I or my family members want to get sick.

Sincerely,  
Hygiene Harry

Dear Harry:

Food bowls should be washed every day with hot soapy water. Water bowls can go about two days between washings, but your parents shouldn't get lax on that. The dishwasher will do this cleaning job just fine. The important thing is that the bowl doesn't have residual food or film stuck on it whether it is hand washed or washed in the dishwasher, because food residue left on the bowl even after washing can still harbor bacteria that will go on multiplying. Also, it is a good idea to have multiple food and water bowls on hand, so you'll always have a clean one ready.

If you feel the need to carry this one step further, a solution of one tablespoon of unscented chlorine bleach in one gallon

of water will provide additional sanitization to washed surfaces and utensils. Also, it is a good idea for whoever is feeding you to wash their hands before and after handling your food to help prevent passing any contamination—just like they should do with their own people food.

Another must is to not leave food out too long, especially wet food. Just like people food, pet food that is left out too long can grow bacteria.

Because we eat directly from our bowls, microbes that normally live in our mouths can be transferred to any leftover bits of food in the bowls we eat and drink from, creating an area where the bacteria can flourish. The kinds of bacteria depends on factors of the environment, exposure, and our oral hygiene. Examples include Staphylococcus aureus, Pasteurella multocida, and different species of Corynebacterium, Streptococcus, Enterobacteria, Neisseria, Moraxella, Bacillus, and occasionally Salmonella and Pseudomonas. Yuck! Some of these microbes are potentially dangerous to pets and humans, and can be especially dangerous to the very young, the very old, and immunosuppressed people.

Uneaten or open canned or moist food

should be covered and refrigerated as soon as possible. As a general rule of thumb, wet or moist food shouldn't sit unrefrigerated either in our bowls or on the kitchen counter for more than two hours. This is when bacteria can multiply rapidly and lead to foodborne illness.

Dry food and dishes should be handled similarly to canned or moist food. The FDA recommends storing dry pet food in its original bag inside a clean, dedicated plastic container with a lid, keeping the top of the bag folded closed. Ideal storage conditions are a cool, dry place.

Harry, if your parents follow the hygiene practices described above, you and everyone in your family should be safe from foodborne illnesses. These practices are easy to follow, so there should be no excuses.

Sincerely,  
Sophie



## Second Quarter 2017 Adoption Statistics

MONTH	INTAKES	ADOPTIONS	TOTAL IN RESCUE
April	22	19	55
May	18	28	43
June	23	15	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>62</b>	

## WAYS TO GIVE TO MSRH WITHOUT SPENDING ONE EXTRA PENNY!

### **When you shop at Kroger**—Got a Kroger Rewards card?

Go to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Follow the instructions to register. You'll need your Plus card number, but if you don't have your card, call (800) 576-4377 and select Option 4 to get it. Once registered, log on to your account. There will be a place for you to enter MSRH's Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number, which is **80020**. If done correctly, you'll see 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston' on the right side of your Account Summary Page. When you shop, you'll also see 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston' on the bottom of your grocery receipt.

**When you shop at Randall's**—If you have a Randall's Remarkable Card, go to the Customer Service Desk and ask to participate in their Good Neighbor Program. They'll give you a form to complete where you will provide your Remarkable Card number and our charity number, which is **11942**. Once you do that, they'll link your card with our charity number in their system. Thereafter, a portion of your grocery bill will be donated to MSRH.

**When you purchase NuVet Labs vitamins and joint therapy**—We understand that not everyone purchases these products for their dog, but NuVet guarantees that their products can eliminate most ailments, such as allergies, skin and coat problems, scratching, itching, biting, hot spots, arthritis and joint problems, etc. These products are not available to the general public without this order code: **52564**. A portion of your purchase is donated to MSRH. Call (800) 474-7044 or order online at [www.nuvetlabs.com](http://www.nuvetlabs.com).

**When you purchase products through Amazon**—nearly everybody these days makes purchases from Amazon. Now there is a way to have 0.5% of your purchase (excluding shipping and taxes) donated to MSRH. Just go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). Once you're on this website, you'll be given a chance to select a charity. Type in 'Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston'. Then, you'll be redirected to the regular Amazon website where you log on with your usual username and password and start shopping.

**When you buy or sell a home**—Robin Slack with RE/MAX has agreed to donate 20% of her commissions to MSRH for any clients who are our volunteers, donors, or adopters. So, if you are ready to buy a home or sell one, call Robin direct at (713) 540-7553 or email [robin@sellinghouston.com](mailto:robin@sellinghouston.com) and tell her MSRH sent you.

**When you purchase medications for your pets**—for every purchase you make through Pet Rescue RX, a licensed veterinary pharmacy, Pet Rescue RX will donate 100% of their profits after they pay their bills, employees, and overhead costs. When you register at [www.petrescuex.com](http://www.petrescuex.com), you will be asked to complete information about your pets, your veterinarian, and the rescue group you wish to receive donations (Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of Houston). If your order is for prescription-only medications, such as Trifexis, Comfortis, Heartgard, etc., Pet Rescue RX will contact your veterinarian to get his/her approval.

**Just about every time you shop online**—go to [www.igive.com/rMsg3U](http://www.igive.com/rMsg3U) to register. Then, install the iGive button on your browser bar by following the instructions. You'll see the little orange flower icon on your browser once you're done. Then, every time you shop, click on this icon first. Select the store you're wanting and you'll be re-directed there to start shopping like you always do. All your favorites are there, like Chico's, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Apple Store, Petco, PetSmart, Ulta, ShoeBuy, Macy's, etc. The store will donate a portion of your purchase to MSRH (each store has their own percentage amount that they donate).

**When your beloved pet crosses the Rainbow Bridge**—If cremation is your choice, go to [www.liveoakpetservices.com](http://www.liveoakpetservices.com). We service the Houston and surrounding area and exclusively Texas A & M Veterinary Teaching Hospital, The Houston SPCA, North Houston Veterinary Specialists, and Animeals on Wheels. We will donate 20% of the fee you pay us to MSRH, so if you choose to use our services for your pet, please let us know that your pet was adopted through or was a foster of MSRH.

**If you want your pet's photo converted into an oil painting**—go to [www.timelessartoncanvas.com](http://www.timelessartoncanvas.com). Click on 'Commissioned Art Agreement and Ordering Details' for more information. The artist, Astrid, will donate 10% of the painting cost, excluding tax and shipping, to MSRH, so be sure to tell her you were referred by us.

# HAPPY TAILS

## Ella

New Dad, Frank, writes: "We are so thankful for Ella and feel blessed that she came to us. As a schnauzer family, before Ella we had three wonderful buddies, Jenny, Josie and Murdoch. They each had a different personality and gave us years of love and fun. Ella is different. She is so sweet and gentle and very smart. She thinks our backyard is her Disneyland and would like to spend most of the day outdoors. Although very gentle and sweet with people, her hunting instincts are well suited for our yard. She will patiently wait for a squirrel to make a wrong move and attack. So far no results but she is an avid hunter."

I just wanted to thank you again for our precious Ella."



Ella on squirrel alert!

## Rex

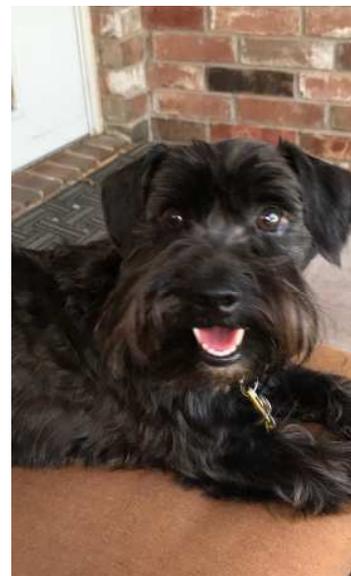


Rex lovin' to play in the snow!

New Dad, Steve, writes: "Rex is an awesome dog & I'm blessed to have him. Thank you."

## Reggie

New Mom, Gean, says, "Reggie is a wonderful addition to our family!"



Reggie, such a handsome boy!

Continued on Page 12

## HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 12

### Kolby

After being found running loose in May 2016 and unwanted by his owner, Kolby, a black full blooded schnauzer was turned over to our rescue group. He had some health issues that were addressed as was the need to remove 16 teeth.

Very soon a family that had lost their 14 year old schnauzer, Pepper, called wanting Kolby as a companion for their remaining 7 year old rescue schnauzer, Lil Bit.

The rest is a positive and happy ending for Kolby in his forever home with his Dad, Dwayne.

Here we have Kolby with his little sister, Lil Bit. After a few weeks adjustment last summer they have become friends although are still jealous at times. Both dogs frequently join in for an early morning chase of two squirrels in their backyard.



Lil Bit (on left) and Kolby with Dad.

### Cooper (formerly Auggie)



Cooper with his parents and siblings.

New parents, Sandra and Bob, write: "Our latest rescue Cooper is doing spectacular. Your work is appreciated. God Bless."

### Daisy

New Mom, Debbie, writes: "Daisy is a pure joy!!!!"



Daisy with her new parents

## HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 13



LauraLeigh Kay going on a car ride.

### LauraLeigh Kay (formerly Julietta)

New Mom, Alisa, writes: "Being a first time full time puppy mom, I was very nervous about doing things correctly with LauraLeigh Kay. However, as she is 5 and an experienced mother herself, she has been very patient with me.

LauraLeigh Kay is a blessing. She is so funny, and we have such a good time together. It feels like we have been together much longer than our seven months. It is also neat to see her personality and confidence continue to come into light. I will admit that LauraLeigh is very spoiled. She even has her own Christmas tree and every night she eats dinner next to me off an antique plate in the living room. I can't help but spoil her. She is so sweet. As for things we do together, we are pretty much inseparable. We often garden and work on outside projects—me working, her sunbathing... She has also become my little sous chef. We spend a lot of time together cooking, and she is quite engaged. She is a lot of fun."

### Barney (formerly Max Trudeau)

New Mom, Brenda, writes: "We feel that we are the blessed ones. Dan says 'Barney is the gift that keeps on giving'. It is so true . He gets better and happier everyday. I get so excited talking about him! We can never thank you all at MSRH enough."



Barney in his cool shades riding in the convertible with Mom.



Freckles with his new family.

### Freckles

New Dad, John, writes: "Freckles is doing outstanding!!! What a beautiful dog !! You folks do a great job..."

### HAPPY TAILS continued from Page 13



Maggie with her new parents!

### Maggie (formerly Itze)

New mom, Deborah, writes: “We have been wracking our brains for a name. This morning, it just came to me.....Maggie.....I think it fits her. Fortunately, Russ agrees with the name. So, now the trick is to familiarize her with her new name.

She is absolutely "smitten" with Russ and follows him everywhere.....it makes me think she was raised with a dominant male figure.

We took her to our vet on Tuesday to familiarize her with Maggie and to have her checked out. All is well.

She seems to be adjusting to her new 'pad' and we are loving having her!"

### Rally

New mom, Lisa, writes: “We are so lucky to have Rally. He completed his first day of obedience training this weekend and is proving to be an amazingly smart dog. He’s sweet, loves all people, and is very social with other dogs. He’s a winner!!”



Rally with Lisa and human sibling, Joseph.



Luna with dad, Jason (right), and friend

### Luna (formerly Winnie)

New dad, Jason, writes: “Luna is doing well and adjusting very nicely to her new home!”

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### ***“Will’s Red Coat: The Story of One Old Dog Who Chose to Live Again”***

By Tom Ryan

A true story of acceptance, perseverance, and the possibility of love and redemption as evocative, charming, and powerful as the New York Times bestseller *“Following Atticus”*.

Drawn by an online post, Tom Ryan adopted Will, a frightened, deaf, and mostly blind elderly dog, and brought him home to live with him and Atticus. The only owners Will ever knew had grown too fragile to take care of themselves, or of him. Ultimately, Will was left at a kill shelter in New Jersey.

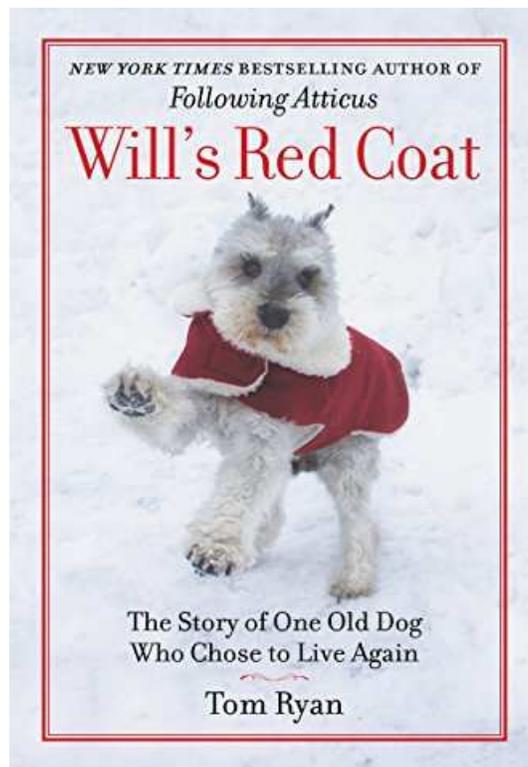
Tom hoped to give Will a place to die with dignity, amid the rustic beauty of the White Mountains of his New Hampshire home. But when Will bites him numerous times and acts out in violent displays, Tom realizes he is in for a challenge.

With endless patience and the kind of continued empathy Tom has nurtured in his relationship with Atticus, Will eventually begins to thrive. Soon, the angry, hurt, depressed, and near-death oldster has transformed into a happy, gamboling companion with a puppy-like zest for discovery. Will perseveres for two and a half years, inspiring hundreds of thousands of Tom and Atticus’s fans with his courage, resilience, and unforgettable heart.

A story of a dog and an indelible bond that is beautiful, heartbreaking, uplifting, and unforgettable, *“Will’s Red Coat”* honors the promise held in all of us, at any stage of life.

*“Will’s Red Coat”* includes eight pages of color photographs.

This book, published April 25, 2017, may be purchased on Amazon in Kindle edition for \$12.99 or hardcover for \$15.26. As of this writing, it has received 99 reviews, with 98% of them being 5-star. The other 2% were 4-star.



Tom with Atticus

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tom Ryan is the founder of the Newburyport, Massachusetts newspaper, *“The Undertoad”*, and served as its publisher and editor for over a decade. In 2007, he sold the newspaper and moved to the White Mountains of New Hampshire with his dog, Atticus M. Finch. Over the last several years, Tom and Atticus climbed more than 450 4,000-foot peaks.

After raising thousands of dollars for Angell Animal Medical Center in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, the pair was inducted into the Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) Hall of Fame as co-recipients of the “Human Hero of the Year Award”.

Sadly, in May 2016, Atticus passed away from cancer at the age of 14. At Tom’s request, donations in Atticus’s memory poured in to the Conway Area Humane Society (CAHS) near Tom and Atticus’s home. The CAHS’s Annual Walk for Animals has now been renamed The Atticus M. Finch Memorial Walk for Animals in honor of Atticus’s memory.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOTICE

Due to the summer heat and vacations, Meet & Greets at Kriser's in the Heights will be suspended until Saturday, October 7, 2017, from 10AM to 1PM.

During July, August, and September, all Meet & Greets will be held at the Kennel Club as indicated below.

**SATURDAY**

**JULY 15—AUGUST 5—AUGUST 19—SEPTEMBER 9 —SEPTEMBER 23**

**KENNEL CLUB MEET & GREET**

Where: 9040 Highway 6 North  
Houston, Texas 77095-2303  
(Between Hwy 290 and West Road)  
Kennel Club phone: (281) 809-7748  
Website: [www.kennelclubhouston.com](http://www.kennelclubhouston.com)

Time: 10AM to 1PM  
Chair: Brenda Kennedy  
Tel: (281) 336-1163

\* Beware of construction on Hwy 290.

**REMEMBER—NO ONSITE ADOPTIONS!**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING, PLEASE COMPLETE AN ONLINE ADOPTION APPLICATION IN ADVANCE AT:  
[WWW.MSRH.ORG/ADOPTION-FORM/](http://WWW.MSRH.ORG/ADOPTION-FORM/) OR CALL (281) 336-1163.

**UPCOMING EVENTS continued from Page 14****THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY, JULY 20—23  
HOUSTON WORLD SERIES OF DOG SHOWS**

Where: NRG Center  
Houston, TX 77054  
Website: <http://houstondogshows.com>  
Time: Thursday—Sunday 8AM to 6PM  
Chair: Mona Harris  
Tel: (281) 336-1163

Your pets are welcome, but must be on a fixed (not retractable) leash and must have proof of vaccinations. Also, you must bring your own water for your dog and be prepared to clean up after him.

Parking is \$12 cash only. Two-day ticket passes may be purchased through Ticketmaster two weeks prior to the event. Tickets purchased at the door are cash only, as NRG does not take credit cards. Check the event website for ticket prices. FYI, there is an ATM in the lobby.

Contact Mona if you would like to help man our booth.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 & 20****AUSTIN PET EXPO**

Where: Palmer Events Center  
900 Barton Springs Rd.  
Austin, TX 78704  
Website: [www.austinpexpo.com](http://www.austinpexpo.com)  
Time: Saturday 10AM to 5PM; Sunday 11AM to 4PM  
Chair: Geri Chaney  
Tel: (281) 336-1163

Your pets are welcome, but must be on a fixed (not retractable) leash and must have proof of vaccinations. There will be water stations for pets, but to avoid any contagious illnesses, it would be wise to bring your own bowl and water for your dog. Also, please bring poop bags to clean up after your dog.

Admission is free.

Contact Geri if you would like to help man our booth.



Mercury enjoying a summer day in the backyard!

## Featured Pet—Mercury

Hi, my name is Mercury. I am a gorgeous 11 lb. blue merle, purebred, 3.5 year old Miniature Schnauzer. My only requirements are that I have access to a doggy door and fenced yard, that I am not crated, and that I be fed Science Diet food, because I have a sensitive stomach. I spin in circles when I get super excited or anxious, but a quick correction settles me out of it. I am the snuggliest dog on earth. I love to nestle my big beard in your neck. I get along with my canine foster brother and sister, but I'm not fond of young children. I am still learning how to walk on a leash, so it will take some patience on your part until I figure out how to walk a straight line, instead of circling around your legs. I love to sleep in the big bed with my humans and will cuddle next to you all night. I love to lounge on my back with my legs in the air while you're watching TV. My foster mom says I'm a wonderful little dog.

If you are interested in meeting me, complete an online no-obligation [Adoption Form](#) and ask for me, Mercury. An adoption counselor will put you in touch with my foster mom for more information. If you would like to meet me in person, arrangements will be made.

**Adoption Fee: \$450**

## From the Editor

Dear Readers:

I am in the process of reading "Will's Red Coat", our book of the month. Tom Ryan is a special angel to adopt an old deaf and almost blind dog abandoned at a kill shelter. Tom tells us that Will reacted violently towards him and bit him many times, and he struggled with what do about Will. However, he hung in there, took the lemons and made lemonade to give Will the best love and care possible until his dying day.

Will's story is one that we here at MSRH know all too well, and the story has repeated itself several times over for us. Those seniors lucky enough to be taken in by a rescue group like ours are truly blessed, because the alternative is, well, you know. Believe it or not, we know some of these special angels like Tom ourselves. Although these special angels are few and far between, they seem to appear out of nowhere sometimes to give these abandoned senior dogs (some with difficult behavior problems) a loving forever home to live out the remainder of their lives either through fostering or adoption.

With a world gone so crazy these last several years that it makes one not want to even turn on the TV news, we here at MSRH have found a little corner of sanity and goodness through our rescue work. Those of you who support us through volunteering, adopting, fostering, and donating make it possible, of course. Thank you so much!



Linda with Gertie Sutton

Until next time,

Linda