

Puppy Love

August 2016

Newsletter of *Belle Amore Dachshunds*

Volume 6, No.8



Through Their Eyes

Dogs do have a unique way of seeing the world, but despite what you might have heard, the canine perspective isn't black and white, dogs can see color. Both dogs and humans see the world in color because of color receptor cells, or cones, in their eyes. The human eye has three cones and is sensitive individually to red, green and blue light. The three colors seen by human eyes are put together in the brain to create the full-color world we enjoy every day. However, the dog has only two cones in their eyes and the color range they perceive is limited compared to what we see. The canine color field consists mostly of yellow, blues and violets. Jay Neitz, PhD, a vision scientist at the University of Washington conducted research that found a dog's perception of color is similar to that of a person who is red-green colorblind. In addition, dogs have a higher concentration of receptor rods in their eyes enabling them better at detecting motion than humans. The bottom line is that tossing an orange ball onto green grass may look like yellow against yellow to your dog, but his acute motion-detection ability will help him fetch the ball anyway. Surprisingly, through the process of evolution, the creature with the most vivid color spectrum is the mantis shrimp with its sixteen vivid color receptors.

How the Spectrum Looks to Dogs and People

The Dog's View



The Human's View



700 600 500 400

WHAT I SEE



WHAT MY DOG SEES



A dog judges others not by color or creed or class, but by who they are inside.



Ollie made his way home to his wonderful and loving family in Massachusetts.