

REPORT TO RRCUS BOD - JANUARY 2018

RRCF began 2017 by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Canine Health Foundation to study Ventricular Arrhythmia in Rhodesian Ridgebacks at North Carolina State University. This research will study the "characterization of at-risk age" for Ventricular Arrhythmia in Rhodesian Ridgebacks. The study will take three years to complete. RRCF made the first of two payments to CHF of \$18,000 August of 2017. The second payment is due in the first half of 2018.

The Foundation also answered the call for help in rescuing dogs caught up in the storms and floods that plagued the country by donating \$1000 to the AKC Reunite fund. As a side note, RRCUS has their logo on one of the disaster trailers owned by the AKC because of a gift made by RRCUS a couple of years ago.

RRCF had a booth at the National Specialty in Portland. We felt that we optimized the opportunity to bring information and awareness to the mission of the Foundation while at the NS. Helping us convey our mission, Diane Brown DVM, PhD, DACVP, Chief Executive Officer of CHF spoke at the RRCUS Annual Meeting.

We tried a new approach this year by offering a small gift to anyone who filled out an information form about what areas they would like the Foundation to consider in the grant process. The results indicated that IVA, Epilepsy, Tick Bourne Disease and Cancer were the areas of importance to those participating. Susan Newman and Judy Abels ran this project and we appreciate their effort which brought lots of folks to our booth!

Rosann made every effort to write a personal note to everyone who contributed to the Foundation regardless of how large or small the amount. I am sure we missed a few but we always want those who contribute to know how much they are appreciated.

A digital brochure for Estate Planning was designed and is now available on our website. This is an area where Foundations over time receive a large portion of their revenues. We are always eager to discuss the options to leave a living legacy to assure the health and welfare of the breed for generations to come. Please visit our website to discover the various options for leaving a future gift.

Our website is managed by Pat Hoffmann and we are grateful for all she does! We recently moved from PayPal to Shopify as they have a special rate for 501(c)3 groups. Our hope is that it will help us track donations better and make the process of donating easier for those who donate.

The majority of the 4th quarter was spent identifying grants to contribute to. Following is a list of the three grants we selected:

1. CHF Grant #2323. Efficacy of Cannabidiol (CBD) for the Treatment of Canine Epilepsy. Principal Investigator; Stephanie McGrath, DVM,MS Colorado State University. Total grant amount: \$356,022 Grant Period from 12/1/2017-11/30/2020.

2. CHF Grant #2249. Studying the role of the Gastrointestinal Tract in Canine Epilepsy. Principal Investigator Karen R. Munana, DVM, MS North Carolina State University. Total grant Amount: \$14,994 Grant Period from 6/1/2016-2/28/2018
3. CHF Grant #2284-A. Lyme Disease in Dogs: Prevalence, Clinical Illness, and Prognosis. Principal Investigator: Jason Stull DVM PhD; Ohio State University. Total Grant Amount: \$14,148. Grant period 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

We contributed \$20,000 distributed equally between the three grants. All of our dollars were matched by the AKC.

Foundations rely on private donations from groups of interested people, individuals or corporate gifts. In return (according to IRS standards) they must return 5% annually in grants. RRCF returned 39% in 2017!

The RRCF board is extremely grateful for the commitment made by RRCUS to establish and support the Foundation. It ensures a legacy for our breed. RRCF raised over \$60,000 in addition to the support given by RRCUS Also, we acknowledge and are grateful for all of those who have. Large or small, each gift supports the legacy.

I personally would like to thank the Foundation board for their time and commitment. They are a dedicated and generous group. I would especially like to recognize Kiki Courtelis for her matching contributions.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Jane Missimer, President
Judy Lichtman, Secretary
Chris Demery, Treasurer
Chris Abraham, Director
Kiki Courtelis, Director

Mary Lynn Elliott, Director
Pat Hoffmann, Director
Susan Newman, Director
Rosann Sexton, Director