

REPORT TO RRCUS BOARD JANUARY 11, 2020

RRCF ended the year by donating over \$19,000 to four research projects addressing the health of Rhodesian Ridgebacks and dogs in general.

They are as follows:

CHF GRANT #02659 MSU Breed Specific Ranges for Thyroid Testing Project	\$5000
CHF GRANT #02553 Targeted Next Generation Sequencing Panel for Testing of Vector-Bourne Pathogen	\$2500
CHF GRANT #02528 Developing a Next Generation Sequencing Platform for Tick-Bourne Diseases	\$2500
CHF MOU GRANT #02323 IVA study at NC State	\$7000
National Specialty Seminar Avidog	\$1240
Transfer To MSU Thyroid Study	\$930
SSRRC Banner for Ridgeback Booth at National Show	\$250
TOTAL:	\$19,420

In 2019 Kiki Courtelis finished her term on the RRCF Board. She made an impressive impact on the foundation helping us form a Memorandum of Understanding (CHF MOU GRANT 02323) with the Canine Health Foundation. The grant addresses Infantile Ventricular Arrhythmia at North Carolina State University with Katherine Meurs DVM as chief investigator. This study has been fully funded by RRCF and is due to be completed in early 2020. We are very grateful to Kiki for her contribution to this effort and her leadership in stewarding it to fruition.

RRCF has elected Tammy Lynch to fill the vacancy left by Kiki. Tammy has vast experience with Ridgebacks under the Adilli kennel name. She brings an understanding of health & genetics to the board. We are pleased to welcome her! Also joining our board is Karen Stewart from California where she is active with the Bay Area Rhodesian Ridgeback Club and shares her home with 3 generations of Ridgebacks.

The newly formed RRCUS Health & Genetics committee has been a great resource for RRCF. I was able to meet with the committee in Ohio at the National Specialty where we exchanged ideas and plans for moving forward. RRCF is confident that this partnership will continue to be a great asset to RRCF. Three of the grants listed above were vetted by the H&G and recommended for funding. They also approved a transfer of \$2500 from the Donor Advised Fund at CHF to support the clinical trial for Hemangiosarcoma (CHF #02534). We look forward to a productive and mutual relationship. We appreciate the H&G liaison Paula Alshouse DVM and Edith Mrak for RRCUS. A true team effort!

I attended the RRCUS board meeting in LasVegas on January 11th. I thanked them for inviting me and giving RRCF an opportunity to dialog with them regarding our mutual goals and vision

moving forward. I emphasized the importance of our mutual interest and the importance of shared goals moving into a new decade. Without the support of RRCUS the foundation would not have been possible. The vision that began in 2015 continues in 2020 and we are grateful.

At the Las Vegas meeting I shared with the RRCUS board that I had decided to step down as president of RRCF. I am immensely proud of the Foundation and what we have accomplished, but for me it is time to step down. The Foundation board elected Karen Stewart as the new President. Karen shares the same passion for the foundation as do I. She brings a long history with Ridgebacks and involvement with RRCUS and the Bay Area Rhodesian Ridgeback Club currently serving as their 1st VP.

I am so very blessed to have had the opportunity to be on the ground floor when the foundation began. I want to especially thank Mary Lynn Elliott who helped get the ball rolling back in 2015 when she was President of RRCUS and I was the Immediate Past President. Ross Jones was also very instrumental in helping us form the Foundation. We formed a board and worked our way through the process of getting our 501(c)3 letter of determination. The RRCUS BOD was very supportive and provided the seed money for the foundation. Today I look back with gratitude and appreciation and I will be forever indebted to all who made this possible.

I will continue to stay on the RRCF board and will be involved but as my life requires new challenges I need to adapt. Thank you to all of our donors and supporters who have made possible contributions just under \$100,000 in support of education and research.

Thank you also to the RRCF Board members who have contributed their time and generous resources to the Foundation.

Thank you all and God Bless,

Jane Missimer, Immediate Past President