Welcome to Summer! It has been very hot in California already. The wild fires have burned down many homes and the fire season has just started. I want to remind everyone to think of their pets in the heat and have a plan this summer. Please make sure they are kept cool enough with plenty of fresh water, don’t leave them in hot vehicles, and have a disaster plan ready if you need to evacuate for any reason.

There is a separate article in the newsletter honoring Gerrie Oliver for her many years of service to the Collie Health Foundation but I want to personally say thank you to Gerrie for making the transition to my term as President go smoothly. We can’t mention Gerrie without thinking of her nickname “The Madam of Sunnybank”. If you haven’t been to Sunnybank before, you are missing a real treat. I hope to see many of you this August at “The Gathering”. Gerrie has wonderful plans for this year’s event. I promise you won’t be disappointed!

Nancy Van Note, the longtime CHF Membership Chairperson, has decided to retire from her position. The Foundation owes Nancy so much for her dedication. The membership chair position is not an easy job. I know Nancy has given us her blood, sweat and tears. Thank you Nancy for the time, effort and commitment to the Collie Health Foundation. Though Nancy is retiring as membership chair, she will continue to serve CHF as a Corporator.

I want to introduce our new Membership Chairperson, Gail Currie. She has agreed to take over this very important job. Nancy is helping Gail through the transition. I have known Gail for several years and I’m sure she will do a good job. I encourage everyone to get to know her.

The Foundation has received a generous bequest from the Estate of Martha Hoffman. I asked Martha’s cousin, Jan Hull, to let us know a little about the person, Martha Hoffman. Jane has written a lovely piece on her cousin for the newsletter. The gift brought the Collie Health Foundation more than $288,000 and has put our assets over $1,000,000. CHF will make sure that Martha’s love for the Collie and devotion to Collie health will live on within the Foundation.

If you weren’t at the CCA National in Louisville, you missed a great time. Our Silent Auctions held many one of a kind items. Many items were donated at CCA for both auctions. On behalf of CHF, I would like to thank everyone for what you brought to Louisville and our generous donors who had already shipped items to us previously.

Dennis and Carol Elliot donated the majority of their Collie collection they had gathered continued on Page 2
over the decades. Chandra Flaim and her daughter manned the Promotional table and had many useful items for sale. The CHF dinner and Live Auction was proceeded by an informative talk by Becky Connors from Washington State University on MDR1. I think everyone would agree she was great. Becky was kind enough to write up the important points for this newsletter. After the dinner, presentations were made. The President’s Trophy given by Gerrie to Ginny White, then the unexpected gift for Nancy McDonald for her years of dedication after holding many offices and now leaving the Board behind, and this all followed the presentation of Gerrie’s Lifetime Membership Award with the unforgettable performance of the “Madam Rap” by the talented songwriter Nancy McDonald. We then started the live auction where many bargains were found. Gardiner and Goulet donated two beautiful necklaces that finished the evening off as our last two live auction items. Congratulations to all who found a special item that night.

I would like to remind our members about a couple of important things that set the Collie Health Foundation apart. As a member, you are eligible for genetic testing rebates. Please see our website, [www.colliehealth.org](http://www.colliehealth.org) to see the laboratories that have been approved. It’s up to our Collie breeders to breed healthier dogs. CHF is happy to partner with our members and give you the tools to make genetic testing less expensive. For all of you Amazon shoppers, don’t forget about their Smile Program. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Unfortunately, we are still under our old name Collie Club of America Foundation. Hopefully we will have the name updated this year.

Lastly, I want to thank all the volunteers who make the Collie Health Foundation the great organization that it is today. Without you, we could not be making the great strides in Collie health.

---

NEW ITEMS!

**Whelping box towels**

11” x 18” hand towels are the perfect size for the whelping box and soft enough for your newborn puppies. Get 2 for $15

**MDR 1 collar tags**

Is your puppy pack in need of that one final item? Are you looking for the perfect thing to keep your puppies safe in their new homes? The CHF is now offering MDR 1 alert tags. $6 each

---

2 new must haves for every Collie breeder!

1 new must have for every collie owner!

Get yours while supplies last

VISIT US AT [ COLLIEHEALTH.ORG ](http://www.colliehealth.org) AND ORDER YOURS TODAY
LAD!
COLORING OUR WORLD FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS
August 20-21, 2016
The 20th Annual Gathering at Sunnybank, 381 Terhune Drive, Wayne, NJ 0747

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH

**Sunnybank Walking Tours**
Guides: 9:00 am Marilyn Horowitz & Kathy George
        9:30 am Judy Leathers & Donna McKay & Susan Chandler, Keyboard

**11:00 am - Collie Colors**
Marilyn Horowitz: APT Stamp Project Update
Judy Leathers - Lad: As a Young Girl Saw Him
Kristina Marshall - Lad: As the Dog Fancy Saw Him
Kathy George - Lad: As the Artists Saw Him
Noralee Smiley - Lad: The Steps

Microchip Clinic - $25

**10:00 am - CGC Testing* $15**
Joni Primas, Evaluator
10:00 am Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dog Test* $25
Cindy Mauro, Evaluator
Entries Limited to 15 Dogs - Pre-registration Required
CGC Dogs must be 6 months old; Therapy Dogs must be 1 year

*To Schedule Testing Contact Sue Chandler
973-696-2506 or greyskies110@optonline.net

Croquet, Horse Shoes, Bean Bag Toss & Badminton
Portobello’s, 155 Ramapo Valley Road, Oakland
$38 - Advance Reservations or $48 @ Gathering
Send Your Check to Gerrie - Payable “CHF”

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, 303 Union Ave., Haskell, NJ 07420 - Call DIRECT 973-839-4405
LA QUINTA INN & SUITES, 1850 Rte. 23 & Ratzer Rd., Wayne, NJ, CALL DIRECT 1-973-696-8050

FMI: Gerrie Oliver, 60 Columbus Avenue, Closter, NJ 07624 - (201) 768-1282 - gerrieoliver@hotmail.com
or Nancy McDonald, 2834 Cotten Road, Sanford, NC 27330-6994 - (919) 718-9347 - nancy@collieexpressions.com

T-SHIRTS, GIFTS, AUCTIONS, EVENTS "SUNNY MONEY" ONLY
*SORRY, NO VENDORS ALLOWED*

LAWN GAMES!

***LAD COLORING CONTEST***
DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 8/12
Mail Kathy George, 2 Stoneleigh Park, Westfield, NJ 07090
ALL ENTRIES DISPLAYED AT THE GATHERING
Sunnybank Celebrity Judges & Prized!
 Winners Announced Saturday/Winner need not be present
 Please include a SASE to have your entry returned
*Download Pictures from colliehealth.org*
Select “Events” & “Sunnybank”

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT COLLIE HEALTH FOUNDATION:
Updates at www.colliehealth.org,
Collie Expressions and colliesonline.com
VISIT THE VAN RIPER-HOPPER HOUSE
533 Berdan Avenue, Wayne, NJ 07470
973-694-7192

Collie Memorial Celebration at Sunnybank Order Form – Send By August 1, 2016

Name for (memorial) (celebration)____________________________________________________________________________________________
Any additional information (title, year of birth, etc.) (8-10 words only please)______________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Your Name:__________________________________________________ Email: ____________________________________ Phone:  _________________
Street Address: ___________________________________________________________ ______ City State Zip:_____________________________ __________
Total number of cards ordered at $4.00 each: #_________ Total Amount Enclosed: $_________
Checks Payable: Collie Health Foundation “CHF” FMI: Corinne (609) 324-9151 clboerth@verizon.net
Mail To: Corinne Boerth, 94 Old York Road
Chesterfield Township, NJ 08515
If you wish to have your card(s) mailed after the Memorial, enclose a No. 10 SASE for every 2 cards ordered or a SAS priority mailer for a large quantity

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST

9:00 am Collie Memorial at Sunnybank
Order Form Below

10:00 am - Virtues Match
* PROFILE * SKULL*MUZZLE*EXPRESSION*
* OUTLINE * FRONT * REAR * SIDE GAIT *
Moderated by Royal Rock’s Leslie Canavan
Judges: Nancy Anstruther, Tallywood
Bob Kelly, Kelly’s Collies
Susan Kaelin, Calibre

The Gathering Juniors’ Match
Judge: Robin Reed, Creekwood

Lad of Sunnybank Memorial Match
“Lad of Sunnybank” Trophy Best in Match
Dogs: Robin Reed, Creekwood
Bitches: Susan Bertrand, Rainforest

Event Prices: $5/Virtue or $12 for 3 Juniors & Lad Match Entry: $5

Lawn Games!
Honoring Gerrie Oliver

By Robette Johns

There has never been anyone so worthy of a lifetime membership in CHF. Gerrie's Oliver's years of dedication to this organization have been unwavering. Many years ago Gerrie was given the nickname of “The Madam” by Pati Merrill. This name stuck because of her tireless work running the Gathering at Sunnybank. When the Foundation needed her, “The Madam” jumped in and ran for President. She just finished two terms, for a total of four years, guiding the Foundation as President. This article is about celebrating her achievements.

When the Gathering first started it was held at Sandy Draper’s place. Nancy McDonald and Pati Merrill wanted to save the annual event when it was no longer possible to hold it at Sandy’s home. What better place to have it than at Sunnybank, the park that was the home and kennel of the famous author and Collie breeder, Albert Payson Terhune, the “Master of Sunnybank”? Thanks to the move by Nancy McDonald, the Gathering has continued in the beautiful setting of Wayne, New Jersey, on the shore of Pompton Lake.

Gerrie took over the task of running the event in 1998. She has been surprising all who attend with new and wonderful things each year. The event grew under Gerrie’s guidance. First with a new theme each year and beautiful logo T-Shirt that was a must-have. People started coming from all over the country to learn more about Terhune and his Collies and to enjoy the camaraderie of other Collie enthusiasts. Soon, people were flying in from other countries to enjoy this one-of-a-kind event. From the tours to the Virtues and Lad Match, where else could a Collie lover have so much fun? Gerrie is responsible for turning this into a celebration of the Collie that no one wants to miss.

Gerrie served many years as a Corporator before being elected to the Board in 2006. In 2008, she became Vice President, serving until she took the helm in 2012. Gerrie is currently serving in the capacity of Vice President and my sounding board.

While acting as President, Gerrie led the Foundation to many milestones. CHF is celebrating this year our thirtieth anniversary. We are the oldest breed-specific health foundation in the nation, and the model the AKC/Canine Health Foundation was based on. The Foundation hit another important milestone the beginning of this year. CHF has given over a million dollars of grant monies in the quest for a healthier Collie. Gerrie strengthened our relationship with the AKC/Canine Health Foundation. With the CHF Board behind her, a total of $50,000 each was pledged to fight bloat and epilepsy, partnering with the resources of AKC/CHF. There are so many things Gerrie can be proud of in leading the Foundation over the past four years. Because of her, we are a secure, volunteer, non-profit today that would make are Founders proud.

It was my honor to present Gerrie with her Lifetime Membership at our annual dinner and auction in Louisville, KY. If you were there, you know how much we learned from our excellent speaker, and how much fun we had for the evening. The highlight of the evening was Nancy McDonald’s unbelievable performance of “The Madam Rap.” What a gift from one very talented person to another. Gerrie, you are one of a kind, and the Collie Health Foundation is lucky to have you. Congratulations!

Gerrie and Robette at the Kentucky Derby Museum. Photo courtesy of Don Jeszewski
The Madam Rap

Written and Performed by Nancy McDonald

We’re here tonight to honor Gerrie,
Friend to Collies, Smooth and Hairy.

This dinner is swank, she’s filled up the bank, her shirts didn’t shrank, wonder how could we thank The Madam of Sunnybank... could we play a a prank?

So we hope you can clap, I wrote this rap....

It’s about the Terhunes... Anice’s tunes, sunny afternoons, stormy monsoons, hotel rooms, silver spoons, bright balloons, Pompton pontoons, wisteria blooms, donor tycoons.

Addicts and Laddicts, ears hanging or prick, Lassie’s tricks, puppy picks, Bert’s fiction of Collie addiction...

But it’s also the Collies, the Hollies, Mollys, Dollys, Follys, and Pollys that give us Jollies. Lassies and Laddies, Fluffies and Flatties, their mommies and daddies, and grands and greats. Genetic traits, overweights and sedates, castrated, spayed, decorated, collaborated, with virtues demonstrated, hillsides shaded, memories paraded, heirlooms traded, Ranger Bob’s at the gate.

The Jersey resident was our unhesitant President. She monitored mutations, donations, gestations, lactations, colorations, grants evaluations, conversations, confrontations, educations, shared appreciations, election simplifications, exceeded expectations... time for recuperation!

Thank for you Gerrie for bringing us the 30th year, a million to cheer, a wonderful career, passion sincere, and tonight we’re here...

To make you a life member,

With heartfelt appreciation.

President’s Award

The CHF President’s Award is given annually to a member who has delivered outstanding service to the Collie via the Health Foundation. The award can only be won once in a lifetime. In gratitude for her dedication to the Foundation, the 2015 award went to Ginny White.

Records show that Ginny first joined CHF in 1997 and served as Corporator since 2010. Although Ginny’s help in accepting applications and issuing CHF Junior Membership Award Certificates to member clubs since 2009 is truly appreciated, I think her most remarkable achievement has been the careful execution of the CHF election process for the years of 2012, 2014 and 2016. Ginny and her Committee spend hours each year carefully monitoring each step along the way beginning with Corporator nominees in October all the way to Officers’ elections just completed in time for our annual meeting. This past year Ginny and her team assisted in streamlining the process and establishing a timetable that made it go very smoothly.

Photo courtesy of Jo Brady
The Collie Health Foundation Welcomes the Following New Members

Jesika Baur
Charlotte, NC
Susan Bertrand**
Abbotsford, BC, Canada
Chelsea Bloomberg
Woodinville, WA
Heidi Connolly**
Seaford, WA
Katherine Dunn
Prospect Bay, Nova Scotia, Canada

Patti Cox
North Chelmsford, MA
Ann L. Cross
Chattanooga, TN
Katherine Delgrosso**
Hopkinton, NH
David Friend
Leduc County, Alberta, Canada

Micha Ann Elliott
Bonaqua, TN
Alexzandra Erb**
Chehalis, WA
James Evans
Belfair, WA

Rosemary George**
Falls Church, VA
Deborah & Courtney Gipper**
Milledgeville, GA
Shannon Hayes
Marshall, WI
Kate Hebel
St. Paul, MN

Debra Janik
Plainfield, IL.
Leslie Jourdain
Byron, IL.
Denise Jurich
Sacramento, CA
Holly Kossuth**
Colliers, WV

Ann Lake
Wheelwright, MA
Brian Lynch
Clovis, CA
Amanda MacLeod
Freelton, Ontario, Canada
David & Kathy Magers
Elida, OH

Nancy Mathes
Port Orchard, WA
Chandria Meyer,
Bixby, OK
Nancy Mintzer
Pleasantville, NY
Laura Mitobe
Littlelock, CA

Kathleen C. Myers
Two Rivers, WI
Margaret Oberg
Portland, OR
Sherry O'Brien-Stevens**
Biblehill, Nova Scotia, Canada
Debbie Olsakovsky
Charlotte, NC

Jeffrey S. Presley
Pipersville, PA
Shirley Ann Rensink**
Stockholm, WI
Sally Richardson**
Ann Arbor, MI
Cathy Schmidt
Savannah, GA

Mark & Laura Seelinger**
Oak Island, NC
Constance Sutter
Caro, MI
Victoria Tennis
Tremonton, UT
Howard S. Thorpe
Litchfield Park, AZ

Mary Wells**
San Martin, CA
Janna Wilkins**
Albany, OH

Note: **indicates previous member…Welcome Back!

New Members – February 15, 2016 through June 30, 2016

Correction to the Listing of New Members that Appeared in the Winter 2016 Newsletter
Eileen Oswald**
Troy, VA

Donations in Honor/Celebration/Memory

Donor

Patrick & Judith Adams
In memory of Gail Wilkes

Merrie Backer
In memory of Meg: Southland’s Little Woman

Patricia & John Breuer
General Fund

Anne L. Cross
In memory of Shirley Dubois

Orville & Becky Crowley
In memory of Louise Johnson
Donor continued

Orville & Becky Crowley
In memory of Dorothy S. Welsh, Larry Leonard & Palary Semi Sweet-loved & owned by Pat Jung

Christine K. Dungan
In loving memory of Meg (Southland's Little Woman,) NAP, NAJP, NAFP, TD, CGC, HIC

Carol Dunton
General Fund

Robert H. & Sally Futh
In memory of Doc Greathouse

P. Elena Geldkop
In loving memory of CH Marnus Living Daylights "Marsha" owned and loved by Nancy McDonald

Martha E. Hoffman
Settlement of Estate

Gail Holmberg
In memory of Larry Leonard

Joanne Huff
In fondest memory of Larry Leonard

Jennifer & Dorothy Hull
In memory of Homer E. Hull

Glenn C. Hurley Jr., VMD & Susan Hurley
In memory of Gail Wilkes

Syndi Keats
In memory of AM/CAN CH Barksdale Twinight at Mudville (Wrigley,) with much love from Syndi, Kelly and her big blue son, Toby

Keystone Collie Club
In memory of Bonita Ryan

Judith D. Kirkeby
In memory of Larry Leonard, Lisara Collies...from Judith Kirkeby, Kilts & Chester

Judith D. Kirkeby
In memory of Cally, collie companion to Juanita McGhee; In memory of Gail Wilkes, Collie Breeder

Heather Luster & Ron Luster, Jr.
Heather Luster: In memory of my son Seth; in memory of my Nine Tear Drops--Lady, Casen, Bridgett, Hart, Liberty, Leenah, Diamond, Pinky and Carolina

Erin Matthews & Rich Bellows
Four donations in memory of Theresa Uzelac

John & Lea Nixon
In memory of Larry Leonard

Sylvia Nolan
In memory of Larry Leonard

Gerrie D. Oliver
In memory of Dr. Richard Greathouse and his support of CHF; CH Barksdale Lochlaren Liaison ROM, wonderful Anthony

Frank R. Ortolani
General Fund

Dianne Quarg
In memory of "Dancer"

Sally Richardson
In memory of C-ATCH2 U-CDX Stargazer Con Brio UDX3, OM1, RE, MX, AXJ, AOM (AWCA) 7/30/02-6/1/16

Mary & Rose Robischon
In memory of Gail Wilkes

Marguerite Roth
In memory of Mary Franden, a dear friend and member of CHF

Sharon Wilder
In memory of Dancer

The following donation from January was omitted from the Winter 2016 Newsletter. Our apologies to the donor.

Diane Palumbo
General Fund donation from her Lad White Rose Collie Fund

Correction to a donation listed in the Winter 2016 Newsletter

Barbara Cudzynowski
In memory of Ch. Tartanside Chorus Girl, CDX, CDX-C, ASCA-CDX, RN, NAP, OJP, our special girl, we miss you.
Remembering Martha Hoffman

Thank you to Martha’s cousin, Jane Hull, for this tribute

Martha Ellen Hoffman was born in Akron, Ohio, in 1947. Her father was a plumber and active as a union officer and her mother ran, and eventually owned, Hull’s BBQ- one of the first hamburger stands in the world. Her parents, Martha’s grandparents, had begun the successful business in the ’30s. Martha was actively involved in the family and spent a great deal of time with her grandparents, Hull eventually taking care of them in their waning years.

Martha graduated from Akron’s North High School and then, at the University of Akron, she achieved Master's Degrees in English and French. She went on to teach freshman English composition at Akron U and worked there her entire life until she got sick in 2012.

During her teen and adult years she, with the exception of a German Shepherd she called “The Klingon”, was the proud owner of many Collies, frequently having a pair of them at a time. While she was not a breeder, their health was very important to her because Martha showed her dogs locally and was extremely educated about, and concerned with, Collie health. During her lifetime our understanding of genetics and the role they play in the health of all animals increased by leaps and bounds. As a result of this new scientific information she became excited about the possibility that genetic studies could improve the health of the breed she loved and eventually prevent genetic flaws from having catastrophic impacts on Collies.

As she put her affairs in order in the event of her demise, she asked that her estate be used to investigate Collie genetic disorders and be given to the Collie Health Foundation in order to support the research which would help protect the breed and see to it that it continued into the future. Shortly thereafter she was diagnosed with late-stage pancreatic cancer and her wish to provide what she could to the breed took on increasing urgency.

She was never able to breed Collies; she was simply a person who showed her dogs locally, but she was convinced that what little she could provide would have a lasting impact on the genetic health of the breed. To that end she instructed that her living trust supply the vast majority of her estate to The Collie Health Foundation in order to protect and support the breed and its breeders and protectors.

Martha would be very happy to know that the wherewithal she was able to provide to the Collie Health Foundation will allow for various programs to support responsible breeding, investigate genetic problems, and help see to it that The Collie Health Foundation will be able to provide scientific information and support to the breeders and owners of Collies for years to come. She was grateful that The Collie Health Foundation exists and found comfort in knowing that she would be able to assist them for the short term and in the long run.

As of June 30th, the CHF has benefited through donations in the amount of $288,317.32. The CHF board will be discussing a way for CHF to honor Martha whether through grants or a permanent fund in her name that remains in every financial report to remind us of her valuable contribution. Watch for further information.
Collie Health Foundation 2016
Balance Sheet
As of May 31, 2016

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Treasurer's Report

YTD Thru 5/31/16

The Collie Club of America National Specialty week is the Collie Health Foundation's largest annual fundraising opportunity. This year's auctions and merchandise sales were very successful. We raised $5,500 from the day tables, $11,275 from the night auction and took in nearly $10,000 in merchandise sales. The fundraising activities depend on faithful volunteers and we are lucky to have
a group of dedicated people who spent the week sorting donations, selling shirts and brushes, signing up new members and acting as "runners" during the night auction. This year's night auction featured a sumptuous southern BBQ buffet, excellent table favors and some truly unique items were up for bid.

The Collie Health Foundation has recently benefitted from the estate planning of CHF members. Chris Krebs, the brother of Bev Hirt of Maryland, donated many Collie items from Bev's estate including gorgeous paintings at the night auction and many crafts, pictures, figurines, shirts and books for the day tables. We also received a generous bequest from the estate of Martha Hoffman, see the article about her on page 8. A final bequest is expected once her estate has been settled. Robette Johns has been instrumental in setting up investment funds to safeguard our current assets and we are working to create an investments committee that will plan our investment strategy.

Sincerely,
Laura LaBounty
Quick Review

The MDR1 genetic mutation, which was discovered by Dr. Katrina Mealey at Washington State University in 2001, is a significant problem for Collies and other herding breeds. It results in a drastic reduction in the efficacy of a protein in the brain which normally pumps substances, like some drugs and natural compounds, out of the brain. The protein also pumps substances into the bile, which is important for elimination of compounds from the body. This important protein is known as P-glycoprotein and it is one of several drug transport systems the body utilizes to move substrates across the blood-brain barrier as well as remove these compounds from the body by excreting them in the bile thereby protecting the dog from toxic doses of medication.

MDR1 Mutation

The mutation surfaced in a herding dog in Great Britain long ago and the defect has been passed on to several herding breeds, primarily the Collie, Australian Shepherd and Shetland Sheepdog. Based on current numbers, it appears that 77% of Collies are affected as either Mutant/Mutant or Mutant/Normal. In comparison, 35% of Australian Shepherds are similarly affected.

MDR1 Problem Drugs

The VCPL website has a list of drugs which have been identified as P-glycoprotein substrates and are known to cause problems in dogs with the MDR1 mutation. Several points are important to remember about the problem drug list. Not all drugs which are known P-glycoprotein substrates cause toxicity in MDR1 mutant dogs. Some of these drugs are published as P-glycoprotein substrates because of research done with human or mouse cell cultures, however a similar problem is not noted clinically. Also, not all drugs which cause toxicity in humans with a P-glycoprotein mutation will result in toxicity in dogs. Lastly, not all drugs that cause side effects do so because of a problem with P-glycoprotein. Metronidazole is an example of a drug which is known to cause toxicity, but is not a P-glycoprotein substrate. Many drugs can cause toxicity, not all of them are related to this genetic mutation. This is why only drugs which are known P-glycoprotein substrates and have demonstrated toxicity in dogs with the MDR1 mutation appear on the VCPL Problem Drug List.

How Problem Drugs are Determined

In the past, it was necessary to maintain a colony of affected dogs to conduct research on potential problem drugs. The drug in question was administered in increasing dosages and the dogs were observed for side effects or signs of toxicity. This method was costly and problematic. The colony dogs needed to be housed, cared for, socialized and monitored closely. Even with the best of care, some question the ethics of this type of research.

Fortunately, it is now possible to conduct drug toxicity research on cultures of live cells in a laboratory. These highly specialized cells are grown and modified to express canine (not mouse or human) P-glycoprotein. This is a lengthy and sensitive process which requires a great deal of expertise and patience. The VCPL has established a stable cell line that expresses canine P-glycoprotein and can use this cell line to determine potential drug candidates to research in the near future.

Frequently Asked Questions

Many people ask about the incidence of seizures following the administration of medications, particularly monthly heartworm and flea preventives. Seizures can be triggered by many factors including stress, something in the
environment, primary brain or metabolic diseases and medications. Often the cause of seizures in young dogs is never identified. Any dog experiencing seizures should be observed closely for seasonal, environmental or medical triggers. It often helps to keep a journal of the dog’s seizure activity so trends can be noted over time. A veterinary neurologist can help determine if the seizures are caused by infectious or structural brain disease. If a dog’s seizures seem to be associated with its monthly heartworm and/or flea preventive, we recommend the use of single ingredient products over combination products so the active ingredient can be singled out as the trigger when possible. By administering the flea preventive 2 weeks apart from the heartworm preventive (rather than administering them simultaneously) it may help determine which, if either, of the products is triggering seizure activity.

Another common question is whether or not MDR1 affected dogs are more sensitive to vaccines than dogs without the mutation. Vaccines stimulate the immune system to respond to disease threats, they do not utilize P-glycoprotein to function. Mutant/Mutant or Mutant/Normal dogs are at no greater risk for vaccine reactions than “normal” dogs.

**Relative Adrenal Insufficiency**

One puzzling aspect of the MDR1 defect is the effect it has on the Hypothalamic/Pituitary/Adrenal feedback system. Normally, the body increases cortisol levels to deal with stresses on the body such as increased activity, energy demands and severe illness. Because cortisol is a substrate for P-glycoprotein, dogs with the MDR1 mutation have greater brain penetration of cortisol. This results in greater “feedback” to inhibit stimulation of the adrenal gland. Mealey’s research has shown that dogs with the MDR1 mutation have lower cortisol levels than “normal” dogs and their adrenal glands are less responsive to stress stimuli than “normal” dogs, making them less able to cope with stress. These dogs will appear to be weak and give up during high stress periods, such as agility or herding events. It is important to be aware of your dog’s mutation status and realize that they may not be capable of pushing as hard as a normal dog. In the event of severe illness, these dogs may need to be supplemented with synthetic cortisol-like drugs to facilitate recovery.

**Testing with the Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory**

Since the discovery of the MDR1 genetic mutation in herding breeds in 2001, the VCPL has been at the forefront of canine pharmacogenetics research. Our laboratory established the testing procedures and maintains strict quality controls. The diagnostic testing patent is protected by Washington State University and we take great pride in treating every sample as if it were from our own dogs. We now offer a $10 discount for using the online payments system to pre-pay for tests and ordering kits. You no longer need to submit 5 or more tests at a time for the discount. Visit the new website at [www.vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu](http://www.vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu) to order kits, access published veterinary medical journals, drug lists and much more information.

**Collie Health Foundation Offers a Rebate on MDR1 Tests!**

If you do not know if your dog is MDR1 affected, the Collie Health Foundation urges you to test. Please don’t find out the hard way! The testing process is simple and no special training is required to collect the sample, which is obtained by brushing cells from the inside of the cheek. You will receive brushes and sample collection instructions in the test kit ordered from the website listed above. The Collie Health Foundation offers a $20 rebate per test to CHF members for MDR1 testing at Washing State University. You can submit your paid receipt to the CHF Treasurer for your refund. Send to: Laura LaBounty, 1057 Old Homestead Hwy., East Swanzey, NH 03446 Email: specialcollies@msn.com
Grants Update!

Here's the latest from Samantha Wright, Program Manager, AKC Canine Health Foundation on several AKC grants the Collie Health Foundation has helped to fund:

RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARIES

Grant 01828: Mapping of Genetic Risk Factors for Canine Hip Dysplasia
Principal Investigator: Dr. Antti Iivanainen, DVM, PhD; Research Institution: University of Helsinki and the Folkhälsan Institute of Genetics; Grant Amount: $79,488.00

Original Project Description:
Canine hip dysplasia (HD) is common a developmental disorder of the hip joint affecting many breeds and severely suppressing the quality of life. As the disease has several genetic risk elements and is additionally influenced by environmental factors like feed and exercise, it is of paramount importance that the genetic association studies are conducted using adequately sized cohorts of genotyped diseased and healthy animals. This proposal involves two research groups (Finland and France) engaged in the genetics of HD in German Shepherd, Golden retriever and Labrador retriever breeds. HD is a polygenic disease and requires large enough sample sizes (>300-400 dogs) so that contributing genetic loci can reliably discovered. This proposal aims to genotype 288 dogs in German Shepherds increasing the total number of studied dogs in this breed over 400. By doing this, we expect to increase the power of the association studies so that all major genetic risk factors can be uncovered with a high statistical significance. The loci identified in German Shepherds will be followed up in the other breeds. The identification of genetic risk elements allows developing genetic tests that can be used in breeding programs to control the disease incidence as well as further studies regarding the possible role diet and exercise in the HD development.

Grant Objectives:
1. To establish an accurately phenotyped primary study cohort for genetic studies. We aim to sample at least 300 cases and 300 controls.
2. To perform a GWAS for 144 cases and 144 controls using canine high density SNP arrays.
3. To replicate the associated loci in independent multinational cohorts of dogs in different breeds.

Report to Grant Sponsor from Investigator:
The overall objective of our study is to perform a genome wide association study (GWAS) of canine hip dysplasia (CHD) in German Shepherds using a large sample cohort (200 cases and 200 controls). CHD is a common problem in many breeds. The dysplasia phenotype is graded from radiographs. In this study, we use the standards of Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) ranging from A (healthy) to E (severely dysplastic). Each hip joint is graded individually. As the disease progresses also the risk for hip joint arthrosis – a painful and incurable condition – increases. The identification of genetic risk factors would enable the development of genetic tests to aid the breeders in controlling the disease. Four hundred animals consisting of carefully matched pairs of healthy and affected individuals should provide enough power for the association study to uncover the major genetic risk factors for this degenerative disease. At present, we have collected a study cohort of 1141 dogs including 411 cases and 730 controls. From the study cohort, we have thus far genotyped 167 severe (‘D’ or ‘E’ hip joints) and 38 mild (‘C’ or ‘D’ hip joints) cases and matched controls (‘A’ hip joints) for all of them.

Since last report in June 2015, we have collected an independent second cohort (833 dogs, four breeds) and performed larger genome-wide association study with 526 dogs. Several clusters of SNPs suggestive of association were detected in eight chromosomes. The validation of these SNPs will take place in 2016 using the independent second cohort.

Grant 01985: Defining Novel Drug Targets to Treat Chronic and Neuropathic Pain in the Dog
Principal Investigator: Dr. Ronald Sluyter, Ph.D.; Research Institution: University of Wollongong;
Grant Objectives:
To determine the role of P2X receptors and how they contribute to chronic pain in dogs.

Report to Grant Sponsor from Investigator:
We have determined that dogs express P2X4 receptors and that the gene coding this receptor is highly conserved between dogs, suggesting it may be a potential drug target to treat chronic pain in these animals.

Grant 01986: Profiling the Metabolic and Lipid Imbalances that are Causative of Gallbladder Disease in Dogs
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jody L. Gookin, DVM, PhD; Research Institution: North Carolina State University; Grant Amount: $135,354.00

Grant Objectives:
1. To determine the mechanistic origin of abnormal cholesterol/lipid metabolism in dogs with gallbladder mucocele.
2. To determine the identity of the metabolic pathways that are responsible for abnormal lipid transport and mucin secretion by the gallbladder epithelium of dogs with gallbladder mucocele.

Report to Grant Sponsor from Investigator:
The gallbladder mucocele (GBM) is one of the most common, poorly understood and deadliest biliary diseases of dogs. A GBM develops when the gallbladder secretes abnormal mucus that eventually obstructs or ruptures the gallbladder. GBM formation afflicts all dogs, but especially Shetland sheepdogs and dogs with disorders of steroid hormone or lipid metabolism. By the time a diagnosis of GBM is made, emergency surgery to remove the gallbladder is often required. After surgery only 22-50% of dogs survive to be discharged from the hospital. There is a critical need to determine why dogs form a GBM so we can prevent the high cost and lost lives of these dogs.

Coloboma Research Study Update
Optigen is still needing more coloboma samples sent! Information on this research study appeared in the Fall 2015 newsletter which can be found on the Foundation’s website at www.colliehealth.org

Bloot
Dr Leigh Anne Clark at Clemson has offered to store DNA on collies affected with bloat, and if we get enough would be happy to pursue genetic analysis. Contact: Dr. Clark at lclark4@clemson.edu

DMS Risk Assessment Update
Dr. Kelso received the following from Dr. Leigh Anne Clark:
We have already collected the 150 seniors proposed for the study. Our trip to the Nationals pretty much finished us off - we ended up testing 165 senior collies. Whew! **What we are looking for desperately now is punch biopsies from active lesions of affected collies.** If you know of anyone who has a recently diagnosed dog, please pass on my information. We will pay for the collection of samples and shipping fees.
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Many thanks to those who served the Collie Health Foundation the last several years from the Corporators Class of 2016, to past Board members and Officers and to those in the Class of 2018 who agreed to continue to serve. The Collie Health Foundation is moving ahead and making great strides in the areas of Collie research because of you!
COLLIE HEALTH FOUNDATION
MEMBERSHIP REMITTANCE AND CONTRIBUTION FORM

PLEASE INDICATE: ___new member OR ___renewal membership

Please check level of membership desired: I’m interested in volunteering:

- ___ Individual Membership - $25   ___ Promotions   ___ Sunnybank
- ___ Family Membership - $40   ___ Auctions   ___ Newsletter
- ___ Sustaining Membership - $100
- ___ Patron - $500   ___ Other: ________________________________
- ___ Benefactor - $1,000   ___ Please send a copy of the latest newsletter

Send your check (US funds only), payable to Collie Health Foundation or CHF to:

Gail Currie – CHF Membership
16150 Bonzai Trail
Brooksville, FL 34613
PAYPAL: membership@colliehealth.org

Name (as you wish to be listed): ______________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________________
City: _____________________________ State: _______________ Zip: ____________
Phone: ___________________________ Kennel Name: ___________________________________
Email: _________________________________________________________________________

___ Please check if this is a new address.
___ I have included CHF in my will.
___ Please send me information about including CHF in my will.

Do you or your spouse work for a matching gift company? Some companies will match gifts of employees and/or retirees. Please contact your personnel office for details and a matching gift form.
Company Name: ________________________________________________________________
Form Enclosed: ___ Yes ___ No

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION (circle one:) in Memory, Celebration, Honoring:
______________________________________________________________________________

Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.