



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
**CANINE HEALTH
 FOUNDATION**
 PREVENT TREAT & CURE®

DISCOVERIES

issue 47 • winter 2014



MISSION:

The Foundation is dedicated to advancing the health of all dogs and their owners by funding sound scientific research and supporting the dissemination of health information to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.

UPDATE FROM THE CEO

Update from the AKC Canine Health Foundation CEO, Dr. Terry T. Warren

The AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF), with the wonderful support of all of our donors, is helping all dogs live longer, healthier lives. CHF's research is advancing the important health concerns of bloat, cancer, heart disease, orthopedic conditions and many more. The work we are doing is significant and is being recognized around the world. Every dollar we receive to support this research is important, whether from a new donor or a longtime supporter. We have had many questions about how the AKC's 2014 Matching Challenge works. Every donation is important; to learn if your donation is eligible to be matched, please take a look at the questions and answers below. If you need further information, please contact CHF at chfdonate@akcCHF.org.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding AKC's 2014 Matching Challenge

Q. How much did the AKC contribute to CHF for canine health research in 2013?

A. *In 2013, the American Kennel Club (AKC) donated \$500,000 to CHF to be used for canine health research. Since 1995, the AKC has provided \$22 million in cash and in-kind support to CHF.*

Story continued on page 10

THIS ISSUE AT A GLANCE

The Value of Partnership in the New Economy 2

New ACORN Grants 3

CHF: Working to Find the Cause of Bloat 5

2014 Clinician Scientist Fellowships Awarded 6

PLEASE JOIN US:

**Charity Cocktail Party
 Affinia Manhattan
 FEBRUARY 8, 2014
 NEW YORK, NY**

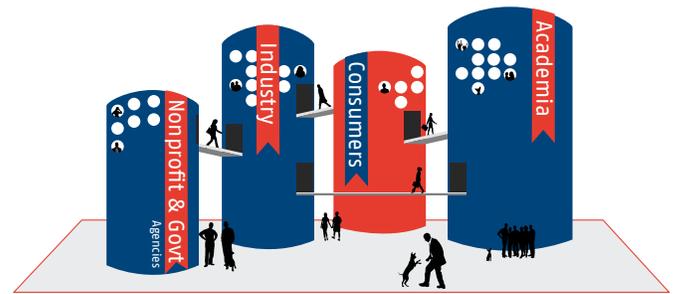
[See back for details.]

The Value of Partnership in the New Economy

Several facts are indisputable right now: First, federal research funding has been in decline for a decade and consensus opinion is that it is no longer a “phase.” Historically, our veterinary institutions have depended heavily on the indirect funds that follow federal grant money for much of their infrastructure costs, and operating our colleges with reduced indirect funds has been a tremendous challenge. Second, animal health companies, while remaining highly profitable with record growth in sales, have been de-investing in research and development for 12 years. Third, and perhaps most importantly, the state of animal health as a profession is being questioned as several reports have defined student loan debt, under-employment and unemployment as serious concerns for our future.

The question is not whether these are accurate, meaningful concerns; they absolutely are and we need to accept them. Rather, the important question is whether these are hard trends that will become indelible truths for us, or whether these are soft trends from which we can recover with the right strategies and approach. Those of us with a bird’s eye view of the profession strongly believe it is the latter. We see the critical role companion animals play in society, we understand the unmet needs in livestock health and food safety as they pertain to sustainable food supplies, and as such, we know it is impossible for the profession and veterinary biomedical research in general to become a “going concern.” That said, although we believe we are observing soft trends, we know we must redefine our priorities and identify new strategies to reverse our trends.

CHF is taking a very deliberate approach to solving our challenges. First, we started the process by defining the players that make up the animal health industry: a consortium of individuals working toward the common goal of improving animal health. We are academia, comprised of national and international veterinary schools and animal science departments, we are



Helping Innovation Emerge by Bridging Silos

the veterinary nonprofits, we are the animal health companies both big and small, and perhaps most importantly, we are the pet owners and consumers. Next, we took a very hard look at how we interact, and the reality is that we are very compartmentalized. Key players within animal health are essentially siloed; academia receives money from industry for projects deemed to have market value, academia solicits funds for investigator-initiated research projects from nonprofits and the federal government, and individuals and industry donate funds to nonprofits. Consumer needs tend to remain outside of our daily dialogue and our efforts are, for the most part, disconnected from one another. As a result, growth within our current system is incremental at best, and highly unlikely to feed the pipeline of new products that will be determinative of our global food supply, companion animal well-being, or sustain our profession. Knocking down the silos that keep us compartmentalized is unrealistic. We each fill a unique niche within the industry and therefore must maintain our separate identities. Rather, what we need to do is create a platform for enhanced interactions across animal health, and CHF intends to do just that. The beauty of being a nonprofit is that we work for the greater good; we are not hamstrung by the goal of outcompeting others. This unique position is allowing CHF to build a novel model for research funding that will facilitate interactions across our profession and foster relationships that will move us all forward.

Over the next few years, veterinary biomedical researchers will have several unique opportunities to utilize CHF to build their research programs. First, they will have access to “consumer” data in a searchable database. This database is the result of CHF’s unique interaction with 150 different canine breed clubs and our annual health surveys through which they communicate their greatest concerns. An independent comparison of our health survey data with the top concerns of veterinary specialists showed the list of concerns was almost identical.



Story continued on page 4



New ACORN Grants

New ACORN research grants are detailed here. For more information about any of these studies, including ways to provide financial support, visit us at www.akcchf.org.

Canine Athlete Initiative Research Program Area

01947-A: Relief for Chronic Nerve Pain: A One Medicine Approach

Principal Investigator: Dr. Raymond Chavez, PhD; Xalud Therapeutics, Inc.

Total Grant Amount: \$12,793.00

Grant Period: 12/1/2013 – 3/31/2014

Project Abstract: Nerve pain is a debilitating condition common in older dogs of all breeds that impacts quality of life for both the dog and their companions. It is caused by nervous system damage from several sources, including cancer, metabolic disease, neurodegeneration and severe trauma. Nerve pain conditions are poorly treated by available therapies, often requiring the use of multiple drugs simultaneously. Therefore, significant drug side effects often contribute negatively to this condition.

Research spanning 20 years into the mechanisms of neuropathic pain has defined a new therapeutic target: glial cell activation. Glial cells surround nerve cells throughout the central nervous system, interacting with the nerve cells and responding to their signaling. In nerve pain, glial cells become activated, causing them to release substances that amplify pain. Studies in rodent models have demonstrated that the anti-inflammatory cytokine interleukin-10 (IL-10) can eliminate neuropathic pain by reversing glial activation.

In this proposal, Xalud Therapeutics, Inc., will develop a canine-specific therapeutic agent designed to relieve nerve pain in afflicted companion dogs. This canine-specific drug will be based on their current model therapeutic, XT-101, which has significantly reduced pain for up to 12 weeks after a single injection in rodent models. Development of this canine-specific therapeutic agent will move directly into veterinary clinical trials and one step closer to addressing chronic nerve pain in both dogs and humans.

Cardiology Research Program Area

02098-A: Measurement of a Cardiac Muscle Development Protein to Enhance Diagnosis and Prognosis of Cardiomyopathy

Principal Investigator: Dr. Mark A. Oyama, DVM; University of Pennsylvania

Total Grant Amount: \$12,028.00

Grant Period: 12/1/2013 – 11/30/2014

Project Abstract: Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC) is a heart disease that causes fainting and heart failure in dogs. ARVC is particularly common in the Boxer breed of dogs. Examination of dogs with ARVC involves performing an electrocardiogram (ECG), X-rays and ultrasound exam of the heart. These tests are used to help diagnose ARVC and to assess the severity of the disease. BIN-1 is a cardiac muscle development protein that helps the heart contract properly. Studies in humans show that BIN-1 is detectable from blood samples, and that BIN-1 levels can be used to help determine the severity of ARVC-related heart disease.

In addition, the amount of BIN-1 might be able to help predict whether there will be future abnormal heart rhythms that can cause fainting. Dr. Oyama proposes to measure the blood levels of BIN-1 in dogs with ARVC, to compare these amounts with levels in dogs with other non-ARVC forms of heart disease and to see if BIN-1 can detect disease, provide additional information about the severity of disease and predict future abnormal heart rhythms.

Story continued on page 4

Oncology – Lymphoma Research Program Area

02092-A: Developing the Use of a Novel Imaging Technique to Define a Dog’s Potential Responsiveness to Chemotherapy

Principal Investigator: Dr. Michael O. Childress, DVM, MS; Purdue University

Total Grant Amount: \$12,733.00

Grant Period: 12/1/2013 – 11/30/2014

Project Abstract: Lymphoma is one of the most common cancers in pet dogs. Although this cancer responds well to chemotherapy, the duration of cancer remission and survival time afforded by chemotherapy differ dramatically from dog to dog, with some dogs’ cancers responding less favorably to chemotherapy than others. Unfortunately, there are no current tests that can predict the response of an individual dog’s cancer to chemotherapy.

A method to accurately predict the likelihood and duration of cancer remission provided by specific chemotherapy drugs would be extremely valuable for identifying those dogs most likely to benefit from chemotherapy and for selecting the best drugs to treat individual dogs’ cancers. This would allow “personalized” treatment for individual dogs with lymphoma.

Dr. Childress will test a new technology called biodynamic imaging (BDI) for its ability to predict the response of canine multicentric lymphoma to doxorubicin, the most potent chemotherapy drug for treating this cancer.



BDI data will be compared with clinical response to chemotherapy to determine how well BDI predicts the likelihood and duration of cancer remission. The study results will be used to plan larger, follow-up studies to further develop BDI as a method for personalizing chemotherapy treatment for dogs with lymphoma. 🐾



The Value of Partnership in the New Economy

(cont. from page 2)

Second, we host a biennial health conference that allows researchers to interact one-on-one with dog owners who are the major donors to canine health in the United States. Our next conference in 2015 will be open to all investigators who wish to interact with these donors. This opportunity for interaction has already shown to have reciprocal influence: Investigators form relationships with donors who can support their work, and in return, investigators learn firsthand how they can directly address consumer needs. Finally, over the next year, CHF will roll out individual “Requests for Proposal” that will facilitate relationships between academic investigators and

animal health companies. CHF will use its reach to allow industry to engage academic innovation and infrastructure to fill research and development needs, while simultaneously providing a new revenue stream for academic investigators working in animal health. These new relationships will ultimately bring new opportunity to cross-train our students and create breadth and depth in veterinary biomedical research training to enhance the marketability of our workforce. Through partnership, we can deliver the innovation necessary to increase demand for our profession and meet the needs of society, all within the constraints of our new economy. 🐾

CHF: Working to Find the Cause of Bloat in Dogs

Gastric dilatation–volvulus, or bloat, is a devastating condition that can develop in any dog, although it is particularly common in large-breed and deep-chested dogs. Bloat develops when the stomach fills with air and then twists on itself, preventing air and liquid from leaving the stomach. Over time, the stomach gets larger and larger. This cuts off circulation and prevents blood from getting back to the heart from the rest of the abdomen and the rear legs. The stomach wall itself can also be severely damaged from loss of blood flow, as can the spleen. Classic symptoms of bloat include excessive salivation, vomiting or unproductive vomiting and an enlarged or distended abdomen. Bloat requires immediate stabilization and prompt surgical correction, and may still be fatal in some severely affected dogs.

Flo Laicher of Carmel, New York, is the chairperson of the Great Pyrenees Club of America's Health Committee and liaison to CHF, the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and CHIC (Canine Health Information Center), and she knows firsthand the devastation bloat can cause. Laicher is an owner of Great Pyrenees and has had five dogs bloat. In Laicher's experience, initial symptoms were quite subtle and the dogs did not always exhibit signs of severe distress. "My first dog died on Christmas Eve when I was away for the holidays. Before taking her and the other dogs to the kennel, I noticed she had vomited in the run, but I didn't think too much of it at the time since dogs will occasionally vomit." Laicher goes on to say, "The kennel owner did not think bloat was the cause of death because the dog's stomach was not distended, but a necropsy showed the stomach filled with fluid and partially rotated." Based upon this initial experience with bloat, Laicher took no chances when another dog showed subtle signs. "I immediately called the emergency clinic and told them I was on my way with a dog that was bloating." Bloat was confirmed by radiographs and a gastropexy, a surgical procedure that attaches the stomach to the abdominal wall, was performed. "Yavanna was six years old at the time she bloated and she lived until she was 13 years old," according to Laicher.

It is important to note that the symptoms of bloat may differ from dog to dog. Bloat is of foremost concern to CHF and its donors, and given the devastating nature of the disease to dog owners, it required a major research effort to identify the underlying mechanisms of disease.

In response to donor concern, the Bloat Research Initiative was launched to better define, and ultimately eradicate, bloat in dogs.

This past fall, CHF announced the approval of \$485,000 for two research grants that will work to establish the causes and pre-dispositions for bloat. These studies will provide the insight necessary to one day prevent the condition.

The first study, headed by principal investigator Dr. Claire Rebecca Sharp, BVMS, of Tufts University, will evaluate the complex genetic basis of bloat. Importantly, Dr. Sharp's grant will support the beginning of a biobank of samples that will facilitate the study of bloat by other investigators in the future. The second study, headed by principal investigator Dr. Laura L. Nelson, DVM, of Michigan State University, seeks to determine the abnormalities in the stomach's ability to contract and how this might predispose large-breed dogs to bloat.



According to Dr. Shila Nordone, CHF Chief Scientific Officer, "Bloat is a major health concern for many dog owners, and through our Bloat Initiative we aim to better understand this condition and ultimately equip veterinarians and dog owners with tools that will protect dogs from this devastating illness."

As part of the Bloat Initiative, CHF has released a free webinar that features Dr. Elizabeth Rozanski, a key opinion leader in the study of GDV. In this webinar, Dr. Rozanski presents the signs and treatment options for bloat along with current options for prevention. The webinar can be accessed by visiting www.akcchf.org/news-events/multimedia/video/bloat.html.

CHF is grateful to the many breed clubs, individuals and foundations that have provided partial funding for these two grants. For a full list of Bloat Initiative sponsors, as well as information on how you can support this effort, please visit www.akcchf.org/bloat. 🐾

2014 Clinician Scientist Fellowships Awarded

Established in 2013, the mission of the AKC Canine Health Foundation's Clinician-Scientist Fellowship Program is to sustain future advancements in canine and human health, and to encourage and support the next generation of canine health researchers. Five universities were asked to select a young scientist to participate in the fellowship program. The students were selected by leaders in veterinary medicine based on their promise and enthusiasm for pursuing a career in canine health

research. These young investigators represent the best-of-the-best and will be the people to watch as they develop their careers. For an update on the research of the 2013 class, please see [page 7](#).

Visit www.akcchf.org/fellows to learn more about the 2014 Fellows and their canine health research projects. To "Adopt a Researcher" by making a donation to support one of the 2014 Clinician-Scientist Fellows, visit: <http://support.caninehealthfoundation.org/fellows>.

We are pleased to announce the 2014 class of Fellows:



Dr. Abigail V. Bertalan

**University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary Medicine**

Dr. Bertalan's research seeks to determine whether basal-bolus lispro and human analogue NPH insulin therapy in well-regulated diabetic dogs decreases postprandial hyperglycemia and improves clinical signs and glycemic control.



Dr. Laura K. Bryan

**Texas A & M
AgriLife Research**

Dr. Bryan will be studying bacterial skin infection, or pyoderma, a common condition in dogs and one of the main reasons that owners seek veterinary care for their animals. Staphylococcus pseudintermedius is the leading cause of canine pyoderma and secondary infections related to atopic dermatitis and surgery.



Dr. Eva Furrow

**University of Minnesota
College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dr. Furrow will be investigating the most common type of urinary stones in dogs - calcium oxalate (CaOx). CaOx stones are a painful problem with frustratingly high recurrence rates and strong breed predispositions.



Dr. Dan Regan

**Colorado State University
College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences**

Dr. Regan will be studying inflammatory monocytes, an immature myeloid cell important in innate immune responses, which have also been shown to be increased in the blood of tumor-bearing humans and dogs, and are associated with poor disease outcome.



Dr. Joanne L. Tuohy

**North Carolina State University
College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dr. Tuohy's research aims to improve survival times in canine osteosarcoma through targeting of metastatic disease by harnessing the anti-tumor activity of monocytes. Osteosarcoma is the most common bone cancer in dogs. Large and giant breeds such as the Irish Wolfhound, Great Dane, Greyhound, Scottish Deerhound, Rottweiler, Boxer, Saint Bernard and Irish Setter are most affected.

Update on 2013 Clinician-Scientist Fellowship Researcher

In 2013, CHF established the Clinician-Scientist Fellowship Program. Five promising veterinary residents were selected by their colleges of veterinary medicine as the inaugural class of Fellows and they received support from CHF for their training and research efforts.

CHF understands the impact of the present fiscal restraints on research and development, and to help diminish this impact, the AKC Canine Health Foundation Clinician-Scientist Fellowship Program has been established to support young scientists.

In the following research update, Dr. Guillaume L. Hoareau of the University of California, Davis, a member of the 2013 class, details his work on the clinical management of brachycephalic dogs.

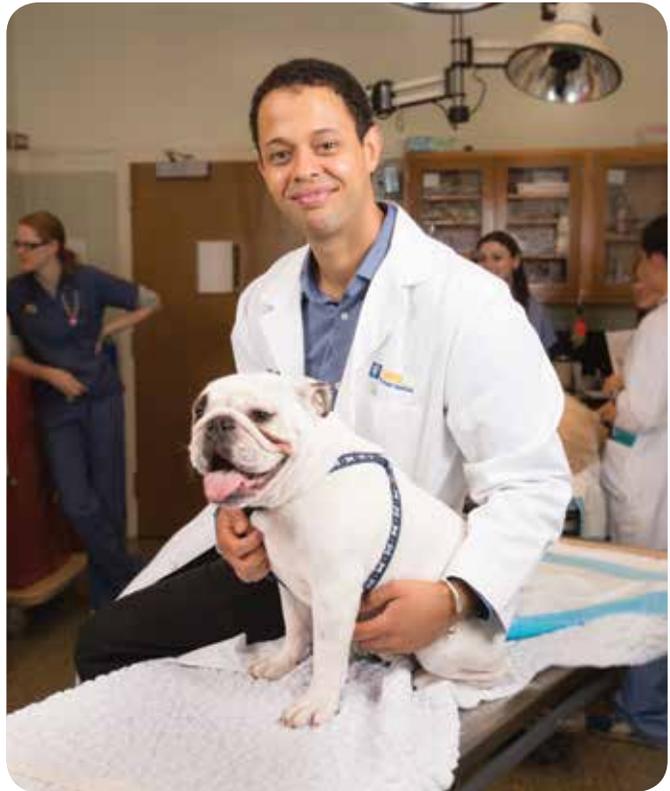
Dr. Guillaume L. Hoareau

Dr. Hoareau earned his doctorate of veterinary medicine from the National Veterinary School of Toulouse in France in 2008. After completing an internship at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Hoareau began a residency in small animal emergency and critical care at the University of California, Davis. While at the University of California, Davis, Dr. Hoareau has received funding from CHF to study comparison of cellular function in two canine platelet concentrates under the guidance of his mentor, Dr. Karl Jandrey. His work focuses on the clinical management of brachycephalic dogs under the direction of Dr. Matt Mellema.

Dr. Hoareau's work has been published in the *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine* and the *Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care*, and he is a board member of the European Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society.

Fellowship Research Project

The term brachycephalic dog (BD) refers to breeds with short faces, and includes Boston Terriers, Pugs, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs, among others. BD are common household pets in the United States, and Bulldogs alone are the 8th most common breed registered with the American Kennel Club. The facial conformation that contributes to the popularity of BD may, when particularly pronounced, make them prone to respiratory problems. Their upper airway shape can make it difficult for them to breathe in deeply or without effort. Bulldogs have been used as a spontaneous model of a syndrome known as



obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS) in humans, because they share many anatomical characteristics with people prone to suffering from this condition. It has been well described that people suffering from OSAS are also prone to associated systemic illnesses such as hypertension, chronic lung injury and increased red blood cell count. Management of BD represents a clinical challenge in many instances, including heat stress/heat stroke and increased risk of anesthetic and post-anesthetic crises. Moreover, previously published studies by these investigators have suggested that BDs suffer from similar systemic effects as those seen in OSAS in humans.

Research Findings

According to Dr. Hoareau, prior to receiving the fellowship, his group had already investigated some aspects of OSAS and had established that brachycephalic dogs were prone to hypertension and had lower oxygen levels in their blood when compared to other breeds. Specifically, the Bulldog is a breed known to suffer from sleep apnea and these abnormalities are commonly reported in humans suffering from sleep apnea. Over the past year, Dr. Hoareau and his team have focused on better understanding OSAS and the complications associated with it.

The team has documented a significant magnesium deficiency in a group of Bulldogs. According to Dr. Hoareau, "This is interesting as it could be an explanation for their high blood pressure. At this point, we do not understand all the consequences of magnesium

Story continued on page 8

deficiency, but this will be an area of focus for the future. We used blood levels but also used a test on the urine never reported in clinical veterinary medicine.”

Through in vitro testing, the team also assessed the Bulldog’s coagulation system and found that they were more prone to forming clots when compared to other breeds without a short face. Interestingly, this is also a common finding in humans with sleep apnea. In addition to the link between humans and canines, Dr. Hoareau believes this finding is of tremendous importance as it might explain certain complications encountered by Bulldogs during hospitalization. According to Dr. Hoareau, “This has opened many doors for future research. We are currently working on evaluating platelet function in these dogs as platelets play a key role in clot formation.”

Dr. Hoareau and his team have also discovered that blood chloride levels are lower in Bulldogs when compared to other dogs. They believe this is the result of respiratory problems that the kidneys are compensating for. Each of these three findings is currently undergoing peer review for publication in scientific journals.

Another interesting aspect of Dr. Hoareau’s research is a retrospective study evaluating tongue thickness in Bulldogs. This measurement has been done on a CT scanner and the team will be prospectively performing the same evaluation using ultrasound. According to Dr. Hoareau, “To date, most of the studies regarding the



brachycephalic syndrome have focused on the nares (nostrils) and soft palate of those dogs. We are hoping to show that the tongue thickness plays a significant role in these patients’ respiratory disorders.”

To help further their research, Dr. Hoareau and team have acquired new equipment, including a surgical device that will be clinically evaluated in the future for surgical treatment of brachycephalic syndrome and a minimally invasive machine that allows for the evaluation of lung function in brachycephalic dogs. The team also hopes to establish a clinical sleep laboratory in the near future. Longer term, Dr. Hoareau and his team are aiming at developing new diagnostics and therapeutic tools as well as validating bio markers of disease severity.

In addition to the fellowship helping to further canine health research, it also provides a travel stipend for Fellows to present their findings at key professional conferences. Because magnesium is a key player in development of the disease, Dr. Hoareau was invited to summarize challenges in magnesium level assessment at the 2013 annual International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society meeting in San Diego, California. Dr. Hoareau also made a presentation on adjunct therapy in brachycephalic dogs at the 2013 UC Davis Veterinary Practitioners Seminar, an annual continuing education event. 🐾



Spotlight on the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA)

The pace and depth of veterinary biomedical research has changed substantially over the last decade, and CHF understands that strategic alliances are critical for the Foundation to meet our supporters' needs. One such alliance that is paramount to our success is with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), a nonprofit foundation dedicated to promoting the health and welfare of companion animals through reduction in the incidence of genetic disease. These champions of canine health recently committed \$60,000 to CHF to support research into bloat, hip dysplasia, gallbladder disease, thrombocytopenia, corneal ulcers and inflammatory bowel disease.

According to Dr. Shila Nordone, CHF Chief Scientific Officer, "OFA's long-standing partnership with CHF is a testament to how like-minded organizations can work together to further canine health. We are grateful to OFA, not only for their significant financial support, but for their vision and advocacy of canine health and commitment to ensuring that all dogs benefit from the work researchers are doing to better understand genetic diseases."

Since 1995, OFA has contributed more than \$336,000 to CHF. These funds are generated through grants made to CHF and through donations in honor of OFA's "Champions of Health", a monthly website feature that celebrates dogs that have achieved significant accomplishments and that have the full complement of breed-appropriate health screenings.

In addition to the direct financial contributions to research, OFA understands the importance of nurturing veterinary students' understanding of dog clubs and their role in canine health. OFA brings veterinary students from nearly every college of veterinary medicine to CHF's biennial National Parent Club Canine Health Conference. Students attend all scientific talks and engage with breed-club members one-on-one, fostering relationships that will endure throughout their careers.

OFA and CHF also co-sponsor the CHIC database and CHIC DNA repository, two important health resources for breeders and researchers. 🐾

Upcoming Events

Visit our Booth

Westminster Kennel Club
February 10-11, 2014, Pier 94, New York, NY

AKC Companion Events Extravaganza
March 27-30, 2014, Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex and Expo Center, Harrisburg, PA

Kudos (Donations received as of 12-4-13)

We are grateful for the outstanding support of the **Orthopedic Foundation for Animals** for their contribution totaling \$60,000 toward five research projects.

Many thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Richard Denman** for their generous support of our annual fundraising event.

Thank you, **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeve**, for your generous donation to help all dogs live longer, healthier lives.

A grand thank you to the **Gray Lady Foundation** for their support of \$18,000 toward research benefitting the Ophthalmology, Hepatic and Disease Endocrinology Program Area.

We recognize the **Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust** for their continued support toward our Health-E Barks Podcast Series.

Kudos to **Carolyn J. Koch** for her gift to help further research in our Oncology Program Area.

The American Shih Tzu Club Charitable Trust expressed their support by donating \$5,000 to research in the Renal Disease Program Area.

Our sincere gratitude to **Mr. and Mrs. Franz Neuwirth** for their contribution to benefit the health of all dogs.

We salute **Versatility in Poodles, Inc.**, for their \$5,000 supporting research in the Immunology and Infectious Disease Program and Hemangiosarcoma Program Areas.

More tails are wagging thanks to **Marcia S. Adler's** gift to help further our mission to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.

Hats off to the **Central New Jersey Hound Association** for contributing \$2,000 toward the Musculoskeletal Research Program Area.

We appreciate the outstanding support from our 2013 **Canines & Cocktails Host Sponsors** and everyone who came out to celebrate another successful year for canine health research!

Q. How much is the AKC contributing to CHF research in 2014?

A. In 2014, the AKC will offer their support to the Foundation as a Matching Challenge. The actual amount will not be known until the end of the year when our auditors, KPMG, conduct an audit of CHF's books to determine giving from new and lapsed donors. Therefore, we need the help of our loyal supporters to identify as many new donors as possible.

The AKC will provide a 1-to-1 match of any cash contribution received from a new or lapsed donor in 2014, up to \$500,000. For example, if CHF receives new donor contributions totaling \$385,000, then the AKC's contribution will be \$385,000. If CHF receives \$500,000 or more in new donor contributions, then the AKC contribution will be the full \$500,000.

Q. Who is eligible to have their donation matched?

A. All supporters who have never given to CHF, or last gave to CHF before December 31, 2011, are eligible for the match.

Q. I gave to CHF in 2013, but my spouse has never given to CHF. Is my spouse eligible for the match?

A. No, the AKC has stipulated that a spouse or other immediate family member of a current donor will not be treated as a new donor.

Q. If I am eligible for the match and make more than one donation in 2014, will all of my donations be matched?

A. Yes, if you are eligible for the match, your cumulative donations in 2014 will be matched.

Q. What will the AKC contribution be used for? In other words, is the AKC match restricted?

A. The AKC's 2014 contribution, as with previous AKC contributions, is restricted to canine health research. No part of the AKC contribution will be used for operating expenses such as staff salaries. The AKC's contribution can be used to support any research project, so CHF will apply the funds to the projects most in need of support.

Q. If I restrict my donation, will my gift still be matched?

A. Yes, the AKC will match all cash contributions

from eligible donors no matter the restriction on the gift. However, the AKC's matching portion will not receive the same restriction as your donation. For example, a donation made to a Donor Advised Fund will be matched, but the matching portion will go directly to a canine health research project in need of support. The AKC's portion will not go into the Donor Advised Fund.

Q. What if I donate stock, a vehicle or some other non-cash asset?

A. The AKC will match donations of non-cash assets from eligible donors as long as the donation can be readily converted to cash within 30 days. If you have questions about a potential donation and our ability to liquidate the asset, please contact CHF.

Q. Who has the final say on whether a donation is eligible for matching?

A. KMPG, the auditing firm used by both CHF and the AKC, will review donations made to CHF and make final determinations concerning matching eligibility.

The bottom line is this – CHF is grateful for each and every donation, large and small, old and new. We are excited for the potential to build our donor base, reach a greater number of dog lovers and re-engage lapsed donors through the AKC's 2014 Matching Challenge. Whether you've given recently, if it's been awhile, or if you've never given before, we hope to earn your support in 2014.

The dogs are counting on us! Thank you! 🐾



Own a Piece of Westminster History



CHF has been selected as the recipient of the proceeds from sales of the official poster for the Westminster Kennel Club's (WKC) 138th Annual Dog Show, February 10 – 11, 2014. The original piece of artwork, from which the posters are produced, is also being donated to the Foundation and will be raffled off at CHF's annual Charity Cocktail Party on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

This year's poster, featuring "Where the Stars Come Out", is an original pen, ink and watercolor drawing and was designed and created by artist Chris Duke. In her composition, Duke incorporates the nighttime skyline of Manhattan above the 2013 Westminster Best in Show and Group winners as they run with their handlers. Duke feels this fusion captures the exhilaration and energy of the show, which she loves. In the sky are canine constellations Canis Major and Minor – the stellar dogs that watch over and illuminate the festivities at Westminster. The finished piece is 29.25 inches tall by 38.25 inches wide.

Posters can be purchased at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and can also be purchased through the WKC website: www.westminsterkennelclub.org.

Tickets to the Charity Cocktail Party are \$150 per person. Raffle tickets are \$20 each, or six tickets for \$100. Raffle and event tickets can be purchased online at www.akcCHF.org/cocktailparty. Raffle winner need not be present to win. All proceeds from the cocktail party and raffle will help to further CHF's mission to help dogs live longer, healthier lives! 🐾

AKC NEW DONOR MATCHING CHALLENGE

New
& lapsed*
donors can
turn their
\$50 donation
into \$100.

With help from the AKC, new & lapsed donors' contributions will go even further to support the critical research that helps us understand and treat diseases that affect dogs (and people). Throughout 2014, the AKC will match donations, up to \$500,000, from new & lapsed donors—so please, help spread the word to people and businesses who share your love of dogs.

*Any donor who last contributed on or before December 31, 2011.

Together we can make 2014
our best year yet!

Helping dogs live longer, healthier lives.



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
**CANINE HEALTH
 FOUNDATION**
 PREVENT TREAT & CURE®

PO Box 900061
 Raleigh, NC 27675-9061

NON-PROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 RALEIGH, NC
 PERMIT #1854

You can make a difference...Donate Today!

A gift to CHF helps dogs live longer, healthier lives by supporting cutting-edge research to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.

Like us on /AKCcaninehealthfoundation
 Follow us on @caninehealthfnd
 Link with us on akc-canine-health-foundation
 Check us out on /K9HealthFoundation



www.akcchf.org
 888.682.9696

Alliances



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
**CANINE HEALTH
 FOUNDATION**
 PREVENT TREAT & CURE®



Charity
COCKTAIL PARTY

*Please join us for an evening of celebration hosted by
 Friends of the AKC Canine Health Foundation.*

Saturday, February 8, 2014 | 6-8pm
Affinia Manhattan | 371 Seventh Ave, New York, NY

**\$150 per person to benefit the
 AKC Canine Health Foundation**

Your contribution is tax-deductible and
 helps dogs live longer, healthier lives.



For tickets: www.akcchf.org/cocktailparty or 888-682-9696