

PBGV Health & Rescue Foundation 2019 Annual Report



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The mission of the PBGV Health and Rescue Foundation is to promote the welfare of the breed by providing funding for research, education and rescue activities.

HEALTH and RESEARCH

The PBGV is an exceptionally healthy breed. We have one genetic disease in our population, primary open angle glaucoma, for which there is a DNA test that will allow breeders to slowly reduce the incidence. There is also sporadic incidence of metabolic and neurological problems. To tackle all health issues, the Foundation funded a DNA blood draw at the National Specialty. Samples were sent to the CHIC DNA repository, where they are available for research. As of today, the repository has DNA from 577 PBGVs!

We also funded an eye exam reimbursement program, which encourages owners to have their PBGVs examined by a veterinary ophthalmologist and submit the test results to the open PBGV pedigree database.

Recognizing the threat of vector-borne diseases to canine and human health, the Foundation donated to the Tufts Lyme Disease Challenge. Our donation will go to a team of veterinary students who are researching the connections between animal health clinics and human health.

As always, the Foundation teamed with the PBGVCA to make a contribution to the city that hosts the National Specialty. This year, pet oxygen masks were donated to the Kerrville, TX, fire department.

EDUCATION

The Foundation furthered the education of the PBGV community by sponsoring a health seminar at the National. Dr. András Komáromy spoke on "Developing Gene Therapies for Canine Open Angle Glaucoma". A video of the seminar is posted on the Foundation website. The Foundation also sponsored my attendance at the AKC Canine Health Foundation Parent Club Conference.

In 2019, we launched a periodic Foundation newsletter to keep you informed on our health and rescue initiatives. We hope that you enjoy it.

RESCUE

Nothing is more important than the rescue obligations of the PBGVCA Rescue Committee. The Rescue Committee acts quickly when they hear of a PBGV that is endangered due to owner's illness or financial difficulties. The Foundation pays all approved expenses for the rescue, rehabilitation, and placement of purebred PBGVs. Sometimes, these situations are unique. In 2019, we funded

the care of a senior PBGV in a loving foster home until she joined her former owner over the rainbow bridge. We also supported the medical care of a senior PBGV whose owner was hospitalized and unable to meet expenses.

THANK YOU

Your donations allow the Foundation to support its mission. We are very fortunate that the PBGV community is dedicated to the breed and donates to the Foundation to honor them. In addition to monetary donations, we accrue funds through bequests, matched donations, Amazon Smile, and Donation line (vehicle donation). We thank you for making our goals possible.

Laura