

# PBGV Health & Rescue Foundation 2020 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

We are fortunate that the PBGV is a very healthy breed. A critical aspect of maintaining the breed's health is to educate breeders and owners on prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of health issues relevant to the PBGV. Here, we partner with the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF). The following AKC CHF grants were sponsored by the Foundation in 2020:

CHF 02252: Investigating a Ketogenic Medium-Chain Triglyceride (MCT) Supplement for the Treatment of Drug-Resistant Canine Idiopathic Epilepsy and Its Behavioral Comorbidities. Holger Andreas Volk, DVM, PhD; Royal Veterinary College, University of London

CHF 02323: Efficacy of Cannabidiol (CBD) for the Treatment of Canine Epilepsy. Stephanie McGrath, DVM, MS; Colorado State University

CHF 02489: Tumor-permissive Collagen Signatures in Canine Mammary Gland Tumors: Development of Prognostic Markers and Targeted Therapies for Improved Outcomes. Susan W. Volk, VMD, PhD; University of Pennsylvania

CHF 02534: Clinical Trial for Evaluation of Propranolol and Doxorubicin in the Treatment of Canine Hemangiosarcoma. Erin B. Dickerson, PhD and Antonella Borgatti, DVM, MS; University of Minnesota

CHF 02561: Is Gut Dysbiosis Associated with Canine Idiopathic Epilepsy? Karen R. Muñana, DVM, MS; North Carolina State University

CHF 02610-A: The Role of Motilin Signaling in Canine Osteoarthritis. Li Zeng, PhD; Tufts University

CHF 02643-A: Examination of the Effects of Cannabidiol on Canine Neoplastic Cell Apoptosis/Autophagy and Potential for Chemotherapy Resistance or Sensitivity. Joseph J. Wakshlag, DVM, PhD; Cornell University

Sadly, the April 2020 PBGVCA National Specialty and health clinics were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were unable to reschedule the health clinics for the August show; however, they are planned for April 2021.

We extended the eye exam reimbursement program through 2020. This program encourages owners to have their PBGVs examined by a veterinary ophthalmologist and submit the test results to the open PBGV pedigree

database.

Our funding of AKC CHF grants was highlighted in AKC Gazette and Saber Tails articles written by Laura Liscum.

As always, the Foundation teamed with the PBGVCA to make a contribution to the city that hosts the National Specialty. This year, a donation was made to the Clinton County Humane Society in Wilmington, OH.

## EDUCATION

In a typical year, the Foundation furthers the education of the PBGV community by sponsoring a health seminar at the National. 2020 was not a typical year and the planned seminar by Dr. Leilani Alvarez on "Introduction to Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation" had to be canceled. Dr. Alvarez will be able to present her seminar at the 2021 PBGVCA National Specialty.

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The PBGVCA convened a Breed Preservation Committee to formulate strategies to counter the declining numbers of PBGV litters. The Committee plans to produce educational brochures and videos to introduce the breed to the public and illustrate its performance capabilities. The Foundation has partnered with the Committee and set up a Breed Preservation Fund to allow the hiring of a professional photographer to produce content for marketing materials.

### **RESCUE**

Nothing is more important than the work 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. For example, in 2020, we supported the medical care of a senior PBGV whose owner was hospitalized and unable to meet expenses.

The Foundation also made a financial commitment to Humane Society of Missouri for the veterinary care of PBGVs rescued from a substandard breeder in Franklin County MO. The shelter is working with the Rescue Committee to ensure appropriate placement of the dogs.

### **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*