

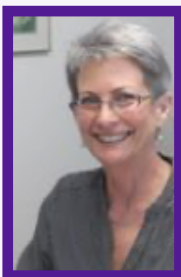
THE SCOTTIE GUARDIAN

Quarterly Newsletter of the STCA's Health Trust Fund

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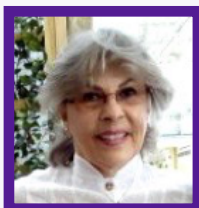
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Editor

Welcome to the third edition of the 2022 STCA's HTF Newsletter!

This edition of *the Scottie Guardian* brings a variety of topics for your reading pleasure:

- Read about the new research project underway for Scottie Cramp at Resero Genomics;
- Be sure to get your samples submitted to the DNA Bank in time to eligible for the HTF drawing at Montgomery County;
- Read an excellent letter reprinted here with permission from the Golden Retriever Club of America, addressing Goldendoodles and what serious purebred breeders are all about;
- Information for MCKC weekend and what the HTF will be offering
- And more!

We hope all of our Scottie family is enjoying the summer months, and we hope to see you all in Pennsylvania this October!

Marcia Dawson, Chair
hijinkscot@gmail.com



Be sure to visit the STCA webpage at www.stca.biz for more details on Health and the Health Trust Fund pages, including links to the ScottiePhile Health library and HTF donation pages.

Scottie Cramp

Research Update



The HTF is excited to announce that the time has come to take another look at the genetics of Scottie Cramp. The Trustees unanimously voted on April 28th, 2022 to accept a proposal submitted from Resero Genomics, the home of the STCA/HTF DNA Bank. On May 18th, the STCA Board wholeheartedly endorsed this project.

Thanks to incredible advancements in the technology of genetic research, what used to take years now takes weeks; what used to take hundreds of individual blood samples now takes a handful of very specific candidates; and what used to take hundreds of thousands of dollars now takes a fraction of that amount. Thanks to some of our dedicated Scottie breeders, the samples needed for this project are in place and the work has begun on this project.

According to Aaron Larsen, PhD of Resero Genomics: “There is not a single genetic technology that can detect all types of mutations. Also, depending on the type of mutation and previous research on the condition, the number of samples needed may vary between just a few animals or several animals needed to discover the mutation. For these reasons, the project will be broken into phases with each phase building on the previous phase to give the highest chance of finding the mutation for the investment.”

The researchers at Resero will start Phase One using Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) on a specific set of DNA samples: a sire and a dam, both unaffected, and their affected offspring, plus a second affected offspring, distantly related to the first family unit. Sequencing is the determination of the order of the four chemical bases that make up the DNA molecule and create the genetic code of all living organisms. WGS is a laboratory technique that provides a comprehensive roadmap of an individual’s entire genetic code. The processing and analysis of this large amount of data may take from 3-5 months.

Phase Two of the project will consist of WGS again but using additional DNA samples, in this case the Sire and Dam (both unaffected) of the second affected offspring from Phase One. This phase will also take 3-5 months to complete.

Scottie Cramp (continued...)

Phase Three, if needed, will make use of another technology called Structural Variant Testing, using the same DNA samples as in Phase One. Structural Variation refers to large alterations in the chromosome, such as deletions or insertions of genes, which can have a major impact on the normal function. Resero will test for these larger mutations that are not always detected in WGS. This process may take 2-3 months to complete the sequencing and analysis.

Unlike previous research on Cramp or other disorders, the STCA/HTF will directly oversee the project and maintain control of the DNA used as well as the residual DNA in the bank. If the project is successful and a reliable marker is found, the HTF will retain ownership of the resulting test and will work with Resero Genomics to commercialize its use.

The 2022 HTF Scottie Cramp project is the answer to the question “How will the STCA/HTF DNA Bank benefit me or my breeding program?” The Scottie Cramp project showcases exactly why the DNA bank was established. Here is our opportunity to oversee research into a disorder that affects our breed and to control how the DNA is used, while not losing ownership of the DNA in the process. Owners of Scotties with banked DNA will play a major role in getting this project off the ground and will be consulted in the process. And with the potential of a DNA test for Scottie Cramp on the horizon, the benefit to all Scottie breeders and owners is immeasurable.

How can you help? In this first phase of the research project, the necessary candidate families have been identified, and samples are being submitted. Later this year, when a marker is identified, the next phase will entail testing of other Scotties to verify the result.

If you believe that your Scottie has Scottie Cramp, and this condition has been verified by you or a breeder and/or veterinarian experienced in this genetic disorder in our dogs, we would be very interested to hear from you. We will answer any of your questions, provide more details on the research process, and provide all assistance in having your Scottie’s blood sample submitted to the DNA Bank.

For more information contact:

Marcia Dawson hijinkscot@gmail.com and Michael Bishop michael@mbgenetics.com

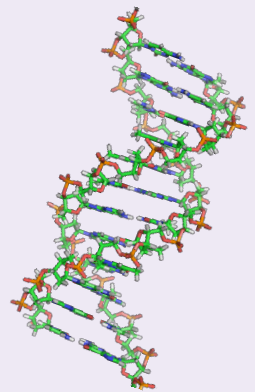
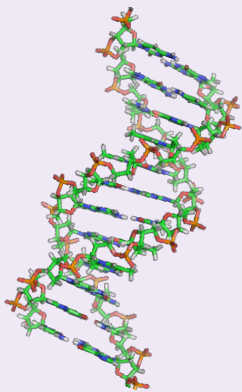
*******LAST CHANCE*******

DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

**Everyone who submits a sample or samples to the STCA/HTF DNA Bank
will automatically receive ONE CHANCE in the drawing for this beautiful
20" x 23" Stained Glass Panel.**

**Created and donated by CHUCK AND JUDY GUBRY
Framed and presented to the HTF by RON & MAUREEN MCCONNELL**

**Drawing will be held at the Annual Dinner Friday October 7th
MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2022.**



HTF Offers Testing at Montgomery County



STCA HEALTH TRUST FUND Have We Got Some Deals for you!



Friday, October 7th

vWD Tests..... \$45 plus \$10.00 registration with OFA
(Checks payable to VetGen or MC/VISA credit cards accepted.)

CMO Tests.....\$45 plus \$10.00 Registration with OFA
(Checks payable to VetGen or MC/VISA credit cards accepted)

Wheaten gene test: \$45. Test is available from VetGen.

The STCA DNA Bank

Collection kits will be available for distribution. Each kit includes a collection tube, shipping materials, and paperwork.

Marcia Dawson, Chair HTF hijinkscot@gmail.com

Want to pre-order a VWD or CMO test kit?

Contact: Helen Prince, HTF Trustee

Phone: 410-586-8421; Email: haprince@comcast.net



The Goldendoodle (continued)...

The Golden Retriever Club of America is responsible for collecting DNA on over 1000 of our current dogs along with a detailed health profile. There is no such pool of available information on cross bred animals.

You mention wonderful results. That is a rather broad statement. Golden Retrievers excel in multiple venues — field, obedience, conformation, agility, companionship, service, detection, comfort and search and rescue. We have a long history of stable temperaments, trainability and bidability carefully preserved and monitored by conscientious breeders. These breeders have the full resources of our club, our foundation and our membership at their disposal.

The Golden Retriever Club of America also works with the Morris Animal Foundation and The Canine Health Foundation in providing support and samples for vital research in genetics and health. We have never seen a grant application for the health of the Golden-doodle. We have never seen a donation by any Doodle organization to the betterment of canine health, only undocumented claims that their dogs have no health problems. We have never seen anyone breeding doodles of any kind talk about the basic genetic testing for both the Golden and the Poodle. Instead we only hear of these dogs showing up in rescue because the promises of lack of shedding and allergies and stable temperament remain unfulfilled.

The Golden Retriever Club of America also has an extensive rescue network and is among the first to arrive on the scene during natural disasters to provide shelter and assistance to the Golden. Where were the Doodle people during Hurricane Katrina?

We do not condone actions such as the deliberate production of litters from two different AKC recognized breeds of dogs, which does not maintain the separate purpose and integrity of each breed. We speak for the Golden Retriever. We expect our breeders to demonstrate honesty, integrity, and fairness in dealing with other owners, breeders, purchasers of puppies and the general public. We feel that the deliberate production of “Golden Doodles” profoundly violates that trust. The Golden Retriever, as a purebred dog, comes from generations and generations of breeding dogs with a common gene pool and a characteristic appearance, temperament and function. “Goldendoodles” are nothing more than mixed breed dogs.

If you are offended by our website, imagine how we feel about the proliferation of boutique dogs taking advantage of the public and misusing the careful and selectively bred Golden Retriever.

The Goldendoodle

The Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA) received a letter from a Goldendoodle breeder to which the GRCA responded. As passionate and responsible Scottish Terrier owners and breeders, the GRCA's response echos our sentiments. With permission from the GRCA, we are reproducing the letter and the GRCA's response.

GRCA Responds to a Goldendoodle Breeder

Letter to GRCA from a Goldendoodle Breeder:

I am shocked and insulted by your information on the Golden Retriever Club of America web site concerning Golden Doodles. We breed these dogs with every caution and 2 years of research and have had wonderful results.

In my opinion your bias and negative comments are uncalled for, perhaps you should purchase one and find out for yourself before you make such bold statements.

Nancy _____

GRCA's Response:

The Golden Retriever Club of America stands behind the information on our Website. We are dedicated to the preservation of the Golden Retriever breed as defined by our standard, which is published on our Website.

You state that you have two years of research behind your breeding program. We have over 140 years of experience in our breed and can trace our entire breeding program back to the mating of two dogs in the 1860's with very careful notes and ledgers maintained on every single breeding. The history of the Golden Retriever is carefully preserved and documented.

You do not delineate what you mean by research. What we do in the way of research is fund many bona-fide grants designed to help identify and eliminate canine hereditary disease — diseases that are, by the way, passed on to your Golden-doodles. Are you aware of these diseases?

In addition we request that all our members do the basic genetic testing for hips, eyes, hearts and elbows. We request that additional information be given to those who purchase Golden Retrievers about the overall health and longevity of the breed. We expect every breeder to support genetic research not only in doing the four major clearances but also by contributing to a DNA databank available to researchers.

It's National Pet Immunization Month

National Immunization Awareness Month – What To Know To Keep Your Dog Protected

August is National Immunization Awareness Month! Veterinary recommendations for vaccines have certainly evolved in the last few years and can vary from dog to dog according to age, region, and lifestyle. Vaccines are a critical part of ensuring your dog stays as healthy as possible, so it's important to discuss your dog's immunization schedule with your vet to make sure he is protected.



Vaccines are administered to introduce a killed or weakened microorganism to the body, which produces proteins called antibodies that the immune system uses to neutralize potential infection or disease. The vaccine uses the lowest and least harmful dose required to trigger an immune response to each particular ailment. Each vaccine will vary in duration of protection based on both the manufacturer's recommendation and the individual dog's circumstances. Your vet could offer a different recommendation each time he sees your dog, as there are continual changes in our understanding of the immune system, changes in local/regional population susceptibilities to various diseases, longer animal life expectancies, and improved medical record systems, which allows for better tracking of the short, medium, and long-term effects of vaccine use/administration.

According to the American Animal Hospital Association's (AAHA) vaccine guidelines, the following vaccines are considered core (indispensable) vaccines for all dogs in the United States:

Rabies virus	Canine distemper virus
Canine adenovirus-2 (hepatitis)	Canine parvovirus

Puppies should receive a rabies vaccine no earlier than 12 weeks. The other core vaccines should be given in a series of 3-4 shots between 6 and 16 weeks, then annually or every three years, depending on the recommendations of your veterinarian.

The following vaccines are considered non-core or lifestyle protection, which is to say they are optional vaccines that dogs can benefit from based on risk for exposure:

Bordetella	Parainfluenza	Canine Influenza
Parainfluenza	Lyme disease	Leptospirosis
Canine influenza	Canine coronavirus	

If your dog has a history of vaccine reactions, is immune-compromised, or becomes exposed to a communicable disease, your vet may elect to perform titre testing to determine the level of protective antibodies present to combat a specific disease. Antibody measurements above a certain threshold indicate your pet is protected from that disease, measurements below might suggest that a booster is needed.

As always, follow your veterinarian's recommendations for keeping your dog protected, but make sure everyone is aware of your dog's lifestyle and medical history so that the correct recommendations may be made to ensure that your pupper remains healthy!

Source: <https://sitmeanssit.com/dog-training-mu/cleveland-akron-dog-training/national-immunization-awareness-month-what-to-know/>



From Your Editor's Desk

My daily walkies have been very fruitful lately. Although I'm on a leash and can't chase anything, I have spied lots of bunnies each day for the last few weeks. Friday was my best day; I spotted eleven of 'em.

Enough about me, though. It's August and National Pet Immunization Awareness Month. Now, I'm up-to-date on my shots which will help keep me safe from bad stuff like rabies and canine distemper. But, there are lots of dog owners out there who just make excuses for not immunizing their pets (not just dogs, mind you). It's "I forgot" or "I just don't have time" or "I don't believe in immunizations for me or my pets." Geez, really???

I can't imagine getting one of those dreadful diseases that could be prevented by a shot or two. Read the article on the next page to see what Canine distemper looks like and how devastating it can be. So, please have a heart-to-heart with your family. Since my vocal chords aren't developed, I get my point across with wet kisses. BTW, it's National Immunization Awareness month for humans, too!

Until next time...



A Look at Canine Distemper

Callejera's story: Canine Distemper by Catherine Ashe, DVM



Many veterinarians and veterinary technicians travel to third-world countries to help with preventive health clinics. These are invaluable services that protect both animal and human health worldwide. But sometimes, the big heartedness of these individuals leads to heartbreak.

That's how Callejera (Spanish for "street dog") came to the United States from the Dominican Republic. She was a stray presented to a preventive clinic. "Callie" quickly stole the heart

of April, an American veterinary technician who was volunteering at the clinic. Callie was vaccinated and spayed, despite having a fever and some eye discharge. Despite the fact that Callie's history was unknown, April elected to adopt Callie and bring her back to the United States.

Callie did well for about a week once the fever subsided. She easily won the devotion of all who knew her. Then she became very ill. She began to vocalize and "bite" at her legs – and even bit at April. She became lethargic and disoriented. Then her back legs began to jerk rhythmically, all day, every day. She cried in pain, day and night. Antibiotics, pain relief, and gentle, loving nursing care did not give her any relief. A number of possible diagnoses, including panosteitis and other infectious diseases, were entertained and ruled out.

After a few days and failed treatment, distemper was considered as a possible diagnosis, and tests confirmed this suspicion. The most likely explanation is that she already had been infected with distemper before she got vaccinated. Despite supportive care, Callie was suffering and only getting worse. She was showered with love and treats by April and the staff of the veterinary specialty clinic, and then she was peacefully euthanized. She drifted off in the arms of the person who loved her.

Callie's story is sad but serves as an important reminder that dogs imported from other countries often bring with them a host of parasites and infectious diseases. Careful consideration should be given to the risks, as well as the possible heartbreak, of adopting dogs from third-world countries.

Catherine Ashe graduated the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in 2008. Dr. Ashe practiced ER medicine for nine years and now works as a relief veterinarian in Asheville, North Carolina, and loves the GP side of medicine.

Catherine's article on Canine Distemper and this companion article were published in Whole Dog Journal on February 20, 2019 and updated on July 29, 2019. That article is available at <https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/health/distemper-in-dogs/>