YOUR GIFT
THEIR FUTURE

Newfoundland Club of America
Charitable Trust

Annual Report 2015
Our Mission

The mission of the Newfoundland Club of America’s Charitable Trust is to secure donations, to manage and distribute funding in support of research grants to study health issues affecting Newfoundlands, to provide necessary monetary aid for Newfoundland rescue assistance, and to award educational scholarships to junior Newfoundland fanciers.

Working towards a safe and healthy future for every Newfoundland since 1997.

Whether providing life saving surgery on a rescue dog or funding research to find a DNA test for cystinuria, Newfoundland fanciers have generously supported the charities of the Newfoundland Club of America. Our nationwide rescue network was one of the first breed specific rescues developed, and has been used as a model for many other AKC breed rescue programs. The Newfoundland Health Challenge has worked tirelessly to find exemplary research programs to address the health issues facing these giants of the dog world.

Since 2003, The NCA Charitable Trust has been the financial steward of these programs. The goal of the Trust is to raise needed funds, steward the resources wisely and invest in rescue programs and research studies that will most benefit our breed. The trust also administers the junior scholarship program, recognizing excellence in the next generation of Newfoundland fanciers and encouraging participation in breed activities.

“The NCA Charitable Trust puts the resources of devoted Newfoundland fanciers right where they can do the most good, rescuing Newfoundlands in need, supporting research for healthier Newfoundlands now and in the future, and sponsoring scholarships for young breed fanciers who will one day be the guardians of our gentle giants. As part of the only organization in the United States devoted solely to the well being of these magnificent dogs, the Newfoundland Club of America fully supports the work of the Charitable Trust, and hopes that every NCA member and Newfoundland owner will do the same.”

- Roger Frey, past-president, Newfoundland Club of America
Charitable Trust Management Board

Clyde E Dunphy, DVM  Chairman
David Helming  Vice-Chairman
Mary L Price  Treasurer
Mary Jane Spackman  Secretary
Kevin Gallagher  Board member
Roger Powell  Board Member
Janice Hight  Board member
Andy Zinsmeyer  Board Member
Pat Randall  Board member

Charitable Trust Committees

Junior Scholarship  Lynne Hamilton, chair
Newfoundland Health Challenge  Mary Jane Spackman, chair
Rescue Network  Mary L. Price, chair Diane Lynch, co-chair
Research Advisory  Tamzin Rosenwaser, chair; Edith Markoff, Cherrie Brown, Sharon Gwaltney-Brant, Allan Robins, Steve Petsch

www.ncacharities.org
Chairman’s Report

“Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go.” This quote from James Baldwin was my inspiration for this Annual report of the NCA Charitable Trust.

From the humble beginnings of the NCA Donations committee started with a bequeath of $1800 from an NCA member over 20 years ago, to surpassing the 1.5 million dollar mark in 2014, the NCA Trust benefits Newfoundland Rescue, Scholarship and Health Research. We have and are making a difference in the health and lives of many Newfoundland dogs and people.

NCA Rescue, under the direction of Mary L Price and Diane Lynch, continues to help Newfoundland dogs in need of our assistance thru grants to regional clubs for veterinary care and to the growing number of rescue dogs that enter NCA Rescue thru our legion of volunteers providing support and foster care. For over 30 years we have been rescuing and assisting Newfoundland in need. With the cost of food, transportation and veterinary care continuing to rise, it is imperative that our funds continue to grow as well. A recent bequeath of over $100,000 these will help to insure that our efforts will be continued into the future.

The Newfoundland Health Challenge was formed in 1997 to raise money for health research. Mary Jane Spackman is the current NHC Chairman. We are making progress in our research effort which is tedious, time consuming and expensive work. The most rewarding work recently has been in the area of SubAortic Stenosis or SAS as it is commonly referred to. We started with the banking of blood over 10 years ago, then supported research for an experimental procedure, cutting balloon valvuloplasty to treat SAS, and then subsidized this SAS surgical procedure on 2 Newfoundland puppies in rescue that are doing well two years post-surgery. The past year saw promise with the detection of a link that may well lead to a genetic marker for SAS. While there is much yet to be accomplished, each year adds another piece to the complex puzzle. Areas of research we are supporting, both with the Canine Health Foundation and the Morris Animal Foundation, are urinary incontinence, a canine cancer vaccine, laryngeal paralysis, osteosarcoma, lymphoma and canine bloat.
The NCA Charitable Trust was recognized this past December by the AKC Canine Health Foundation as a Distinguished Research Partner. The NCA Trust was one of six organizations, including the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, the Irish Setter Club of America, the Collie Health Foundation, the Golden Retriever Foundation and the American Boxer Foundation, supporting over $3 million dollars in Canine Health Research. “These clubs and organizations are making a lasting impact on canine health,” said Shila Nordone, MS, Ph.D., the chief scientific officer for the Canine Health Foundation. “Their donations are supporting research that addresses some of the most prominent health concerns for our dogs.” The CHF, a grant-making institution, will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year and the NCA Charitable Trust has been there as a partner from the beginning.

Words simply cannot express my gratitude to everyone that supports the NCA Charitable Trust. Your generosity and giving of time and resources to support the health of future generations of Newfoundland dogs is an inspiration to us all.

Thank You! You can rest assured that we will continue to do our best to improve the lives and health of our beloved Newfoundland, Today, Tomorrow and in the Years ahead.

Clyde E Dunphy DVM
Chair, NCA Charitable Trust Management Board
The Newfoundland Health Challenge (founded 1997) has had an exciting year! Not to downplay the funds raised or studies funded this year, but instead to focus on reaching one incredible milestone! To date, the NHC has raised $579,042.00 and funded $440,493.00 in research grants. NHC funded rebates including Cystinuria, Doppler’s and DNA are just over $15,000.00. Thanks to the individuals and every Regional Club who support the NHC! Raising funds is the main goal of the NHC in any given year, but seeing this milestone and the outcome of studies funded makes it so worthwhile.

During 2014, through the funds raised by NHC, the following studies were funded:

**AKC Canine Health Foundation (Partnership established 1997)**
- Bloat Research Program Area Support - $25,000.00
- Renal Disease - Regenerative Medicine Approaches to the Treatment of Urinary Incontinence- $10,000.00
- Lymphoma - Clinical advancement of RNA-transfected CD40-B cell vaccine technology for cancer therapy – $10,000.00
- Osteosarcoma - Evaluation of a conditionally replicative adenoviral vector for the treatment of canine osteosarcoma - $5,000.00

*Total to date through the AKC Canine Health Foundation - $225,493.00 representing 41 studies.*

**Morris Animal Foundation (Partnership established 2000)**
- Exploring the Use of a Virus-Based Anticancer Strategy for Lymphoma - $5,000.00
- Morris Animal Foundation Osteosarcoma Program; stopping metastasis in canine bone cancer - $10,000.00
- Evaluating a Therapeutic Agent That May Inhibit a Protein Associated with Lymphoma - $5,000.00

*Total to date through the Morris Animal Foundation - $215,000.00 representing 16 studies*

This certainly is a WOW moment; we are saving the future of our breed by funding Health Research. There are no words and I simply say thank you as does the entire Charitable Trust Management Board for your continued support of the Newfoundland Health Challenge.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jane Spackman
Chair, Newfoundland Health Challenge
Secretary, NCA Charitable Trust Management Board
Members of the Newfoundland Club of America and many others provide generous donations, sales revenues and in-kind services which support the Newfoundland Club of America Charitable Trust Rescue Network.

Newfoundlands are surrendered to Regional Clubs’ Rescues or NCA Rescue and often receive veterinary treatment, along with other care, prior to placement.

The Newfoundland Club of America Rescue and many regional Newfoundland clubs maintain waiting lists of pre-screened adoptive homes that are interested in acquiring a Newfoundland. Placements in these homes are subject to a Placement Agreement which requires that the adopted Newfoundland be spayed or neutered and may not be used for breeding purposes. Adoptive homes also agree that the Newfoundland’s only function is to be a companion to the family. The NCA Rescue Service also provides referrals to potential adoptive homes. Placement fees help to defray the expenses incurred for transporting, boarding and providing veterinary medical care. While there are no other fees charged, donations are gratefully accepted. (An example of other expenses covered by donations - fees to euthanize gravely ill Newfs.)

NCA Rescue and regional clubs’ Rescue reports indicate the growing need for substantial funding for veterinary care and foster care prior to placement as surrendered Newfoundlands need extensive veterinary services and remain in foster care longer than in past years. New funding sources will be needed to support these Rescue programs. It is anticipated that funding from grants such as the Petco Foundation and the Pedigree Foundation will help to assure continuance of Rescue services.

Grants are available to Regional Clubs’ Rescue Services to subsidize up to 50% of estimated veterinary services costs. Applications for these grants are reviewed by the CTMB to determine correct diagnosis and prognosis.

Our club's award-winning quarterly magazine NewfTide is currently in the editing process and will be printed in mid-May. Donations are acknowledged in each issue and stories describing recent Rescue operations are usually included.

Your donation, along with other donations of all sizes, will be used to provide veterinary care and other assistance to Newfoundlands in our Rescue program and to support grants to regional Newfoundland clubs’ Rescue work.

We welcome your review of our Newfoundland Rescue program. If you have any questions or suggestions, or if additional information would be helpful, please contact us at www.ncarescue.org.

Thank You!
As of April 13, we confirmed the anomaly in 6 individuals and 2 litters with two or more affected. We are waiting for the results on a third litter. Four submissions were not affected. Three inquiries were sent to committee vets, prior to our partnership with OFA. The remaining submissions went to OFA and we averaged a turnaround time of 1 day. One inquiry was not diagnostic and the owner or the litter chose not to re-submit but place the suspect puppies. One submission from New Zealand chose not to send x-rays on the litter but was sure it was NFA. That is a total of 15 serious inquiries.

It should be noted that the Anomaly was confirmed in two other breeds, Tibetan Mastiff and Bernese Mountain Dog. It has been previously diagnosed in Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers. It is also suspect in Chesapeake Bay Retriever, although the breed club has yet to confirm. It is of interest that these breeds all have historic ties to the Newfoundland.

OFA and our committee vets confirmed 8 cases involving 2 litters and 6 individuals. Those not affected had retained cartilaginous cores or valgus deformities. All submissions except one which was an older rescue dog were on dogs 6 months or under, generally between 14 and 17 weeks of age (after placement).

There were more inquiries that with follow up failed to answer. The inquiries came through Facebook or the website. Inquiries came from the US, Canada, France, New Zealand, Poland and Russia. One inquiry was from a Veterinarian that found the information via a web search and our website. The website has been translated to Russian.

Thank you,
Barbara Jenness
Newfoundland Forelimb Anomaly Group.


April, 2014 - Russia. Committee vets, x-rayed, Affected, 2 males. Approximately 12 to 16 weeks. Breeder placed, funds raised for surgery.


   - Canada - OFA, x-rays submitted. Affected. 16 week old male. Owner and breeder submission. Euthanized


April, 2015 - US OFA affected litter 6 puppies 3 suspect - awaiting results

http://www.newfoundlandforelimbanomaly.com

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Newfoundland-Forelimb-Anomaly

forelimbanomaly@gmail.com
Research Advisory Committee

The Research Advisory Committee of the Charitable Trust works with the major canine research funding agencies (AKC Canine Health Foundation, Morris Animal Foundation) and the scientific research community in order to review proposals for funding of proposed research studies that would benefit and influence the health of the Newfoundland dog. The RAC:

- Reviews research proposals for relevance to Newfoundland health priorities
- Advises NCA Charitable Trust Management Board regarding merit of proposals to receive possible funding
- Maintains active communications between NCA Charitable Trust, funding agencies and researchers involved with NCA supported projects
- Monitors the progress of NCA supported projects to measure whether schedules of deliverables are being met satisfactorily within approved funding levels
- Describes funded studies and reports progress of ongoing studies to membership by means of regular articles in NewfTide
- Assists researchers in recruiting subjects to participate in NCA supported studies when appropriate by placing appeals in NewfTide

The Research Advisory Committee has actively recruited study proposals for:

- Subvalvular aortic stenosis, DNA marker(s)
- Dilated cardiomyopathy, genetics, treatment
- Elbow dysplasia, particularly fragmented coronoid process, genetics, early diagnosis
- Hip dysplasia, DNA marker(s)
- Forelimb anomaly, DNA marker(s)
- Rupture of Cranial Cruciate Ligament, genetics, DNA marker(s)
- Osteosarcoma
- Lymphoma
- Juvenile cataracts, breed-specific or Mastiff-type breeds
- Ectopic ureters, genetics, DNA marker(s)
- Laryngeal paralysis, etiology, genetics
- Epilepsy, breed-specific or Mastiff-type breeds
- Clotting disorders, especially related to platelet function
- Dermatologic disorders, especially atopy and endocrine dermatopathies

The Charitable Trust has been instrumental in encouraging breeders and owners to evaluate Newfoundlands, particularly breeding dogs, both to the outward signs of health problems that may be hereditary or to DNA studies of genetic markers of similar problems.

The Trust’s actions were important factors in the wide-spread genetic testing for cystinuria.

The Trust’s continued support of doppler ultrasound use for detection of Sub-aortic stenosis, and the continued support of basic and applied research in the investigation of the more complicated genetic issues regarding SAS in Newfoundlands is instrumental in the progress being made toward combating this deadly disorder.

"The Charitable trust will continue to be a leading player in the interpretation and use of complex genetic testing in insuring the future health of the breed."

Pat Randall
Junior Scholarship Awards

History: The Newfoundland Club of America established a Scholarship Fund for NCA Juniors in 1992 with the auction proceeds from the Nell Ayres' estate. The Scholarship Fund is maintained by bequests and donations. The New England Newfoundland Club made a donation following the 1999 National. Anne Williams donated items to be auctioned for the fund. The Tom Russell Foundation and the Newfoundland Club of America also have made donations to maintain the Scholarship fund.

Management of the Scholarship Fund: The Scholarship Fund was transferred to the NCA Trust in 1997 and has been managed by the CTMB (Charitable Trust Management Board) since 2002.

Purpose: One of the responsibilities of the CTMB is to award scholarships for college tuition. The criteria that was established includes an application form, a detailed record of participation within the last two years in conformation and NCA working events. The third requirement is an essay describing the applicant's goals and desires in relationship to the dog world in general and the Newfoundland in particular.

The first scholarship awarded in 1994 was for $500 and 18 scholarships have been awarded totaling $18,000. The current scholarship to be awarded to the recipient is $1,500.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Lynne Hamilton
Junior Scholarship Committee Chairman. (lynne.hamilton@ucci.com)
Charitable Trust Endowment

Endowment Fund: “an entity solely committed to receive money for the permanent upkeep or benefit of an organization”.

The Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) established the NCA Charities Endowment Fund to provide stability and longevity to our ongoing effort to serve the needs of our dogs and members.

When considering investment objectives, it became apparent that an equity portfolio was needed to provide a long-term approach. Since 1991, the “Dogs of the Dow” investment strategy has given above average with appropriate risk and reward, this made it an excellent fit for the NCA Charities Endowment.

Dogs of the Dow” is a strategy that consists of buying the 10 DJIA stocks with the highest dividend yield at the beginning of the year.” Further, the stocks purchased have two primary similarities. They are consistent, yet in a rebuilding stage (either caused by management decision and/or industry market condition). Also, fluctuation in their market value almost always has no affect on level of dividend.

The second decision the CTMB made was who would be the broker holding the assets. Scottrade was selected with an initial deposit of $15,200 on January 31, 2012. A second deposit of $200 was made December 24, 2013. As of this writing, the value of this account has continuously been above $30,000.

Currently the account has “lucky 13” holdings with four holdings showing losses (one less than $20). All others have gains, with three having over $900 in gains. Bottomline is that the system is simple to maintain and is providing market level returns.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Zinsmeyer

Ashley enjoys the comfort and security of her new forever home.
Reflections on a Journey

Recently, I made the decision to not seek another term on the Newfoundland Club of America’s Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) after serving on it as Vice-Chairman since the formal inception of the CTMB which dates back to 2002. Even though this successful operating unit, within the Newfoundland Club of America’s overall organizational structure, has existed for 13 years, questions still arise regarding it such as: What is the CTMB? How and Why was it developed? What are the CTMB responsibilities? What is the CTMB’s relationship to the NCA Board? and Who is on the CTMB? As I depart from serving this rewarding organization, I was asked to write an article to help answer these questions and shed a little light on how this all happened.

DONATIONS, DONATIONS and DONATIONS, how to generate them and how to most prudently use them for the benefit of the Newfoundland is the basic foundation on which the CTMB was created. Through time, Newfoundland fanciers and owners have and continue to be very generous in their financial support of health and rescue activities for our breed. The NCA Board of Directors was originally responsible for overseeing these efforts. The Health and Longevity Committee was established in 1981 and the Rescue Committee in 1983. The Rescue Committee was responsible to utilize rescue donations for its activities under the direction of the NCA Board. On supporting health research, my notes found that this was first documented on July 30, 1982, when the NCA Board adopted a resolution to: “Permit the Board to donate up to $300 per year to worthy causes benefiting dogs”. Further recognizing the need for this effort, the NCA Donations Committee was established in 1984; and in 1987 the Board increased the annual NCA donation cap from $300 to $500. Other notes in the archives show that in 1993 the NCA Board donated $350 to the Morris Animal Foundation and in 1995 made another donation of $400 to the same organization – it was a start for much bigger things to come.
HEALTH CHALLENGE IS BORN

It was recognized that a concentrated commitment needed to be dedicated to broaden the NCA’s involvement in health related issues pertaining to diseases and health concerns within the Newfoundland breed. This need prompted Mary Jane Spackman, Jan Boggio and myself to prepare a proposal for the NCA Board to establish a Newfoundland Health Challenge Committee (NHC). The NHC would focus on raising the awareness of Newfoundland health concerns and generate funds to support research and programs addressing health concerns of the breed. The goal was that funds would be raised through collaborative interaction with the Regional Club network and International clubs, direct pleas to Newfoundland owners and hosting fund-raising activities held at National Specialties. The initial focus of the Challenge would be to principally participate with and support research projects of the AKC Canine Health Foundation but didn’t preclude involvement with other foundations such as the Morris Animal Foundation. It was an extensive proposal to aggressively take on this initiative on all fronts and included positions on the NHC for a Breeders Advisory Liaison, Veterinary Research Advisor, Fund Development team Leaders, Regional Fund-Raising Teams, AKC/CHF Liaison, and establishment of the Research Advisory Committee or RAC as it is known today. RAC represented the NCA’s scientific minds and would work independently of the NHC and H&L Committees to provide review and feedback regarding the various proposals where NCA funds might be directed as approved by the NCA Board. We were serious about getting this process started and gaining NCA Board approval of our proposal was paramount and came to fruition in 1996. Concurrent with this action in early 1997, the Board abolished the Newfoundland Endowment Committee and existing Endowment funds were transferred into the NHC. We were really on our way!

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR A TRUST

As was the situation with other Breed Clubs undertaking similar activities, it was soon recognized that in order to be really successful and encourage participation in fund raising for Rescue and Health supported activities that a Trust needed to be established within the Newfoundland Club of America. This would require a tax exemption organizational framework having a 501c(3) status as per IRS Regulations. As a result in 1996, the NCA Board approved a measure to take the actions required to seek the necessary approvals for the establishment of a trust for the Newfoundland Club of America. The effort to accomplish this was primarily undertaken by Mary L. Price and Mark Aliff working with outside attorney Edmund Sledzik. Approval was granted by the IRS and on March 30, 1997, The Newfoundland Club of America Charitable Trust (Trust) was legally created and $25,542 (in accumulated endowments/donations) was transferred as property from the NCA to the Trust as initial funding. As part of the approved Trust, a Trustee, which is the NCA Board of Directors, was established and is responsible for the overall administration of the Trust in accordance with the terms and conditions of the legal document which actually established the Trust.
The Trust was created exclusively to fund, in whole or in part, the following three (3) principal activities:

1) **Scientific Research Activities** in which the NCA would participate in research with Universities, Veterinary Schools, research Veterinarians and other reputable research-based sources (such as the AKC Canine Health Foundation or Morris Animal Foundation) to do research on canine diseases, conditions and health related subjects affecting the Newfoundland breed;

2) **Prevention of Cruelty** which aids and assists in promoting the prevention of cruelty to Newfoundlands by supporting the adoption of unwanted, abandoned or mistreated Newfoundlands through providing veterinary care, housing, transportation and those measures reasonably necessary to the successful care and placement of these dogs in new homes; and

3) **Scholarships** which provides for the granting of scholarships in accordance with policy established by the Trustee.

As one can imagine, to effectively and efficiently manage these activities is a major undertaking which the Trustee (NCA Board of Directors) initially assumed when the Trust came to fruition. Some of the powers which came with this major responsibility include: Conducting the day to day activities of the NCA Rescue, NHC and Scholarship Committees; Buy, sell, exchange stocks, bonds, real estate or otherwise deal in other forms of property in the Trust; Invest and reinvest Trust funds; Employ accountants, attorneys real estate brokers and other agents as required for Trust activities; and Compromise any claim or demand for or against the trust.
**CREATION OF THE CTMB** The NCA Board as the Trustee took on this challenge, amongst all of its other numerous duties in running the Newfoundland Club of America, but discovered that in order to fully meet the obligations it had under the Trust, that a different approach had to be adopted in conducting Trust operations. So, in November 2000, the Trustee established an Ad Hoc Committee of Clyde Dunphy, Mary Jane Spackman, Mary L Price and myself to explore and develop how this could best be done. The committee worked diligently to determine what organizational structure and operating practices could be put in place to fully meet the obligations the Trustee had under the Trust in tandem with maintaining continuity with the overall normal NCA operations and activities overseen by the NCA Board. Final approval of the Ad Hoc Committee’s proposal to the Trustee was acquired on November 3, 2002, which formally created the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB).

**DEVELOPING A STRUCTURE** Under this organizational structure, both the former (NCA) Newfoundland Health Challenge Committee and (NCA) Research Advisory Committee were assigned from the NCA to the NCA Charitable Trust Board of Directors. (The Trustee). The Trustee subsequently placed both of these committees under the direct management of the CTMB for all of its operating and financial activities. The Rescue & Referral Committee (as it was known at the time) was reassigned from the NCA to the NCA Trustee. Under this concept, the Trustee was responsible for managing Rescue’s operating activities and the CTMB became responsible for managing all this committee’s finances. A new Juniors Scholarship Committee was established and managing the scholarship function of this unit was assigned to the CTMB. Recently, the Ad Hoc Forelimb Anomaly Committee was approved for funding by the CTMB and will be interfacing with the CTMB on its activities.

**WHO MAKES UP THE CTMB** The CTMB is comprised of nine (9) members that meets via teleconference monthly and, as such, can keep current of its committee activities and promptly make decisions supporting the activities of these committees. The CTMB’s pre designated positions are the NCA’s 1st Vice President, NCA Treasurer, NHC Committee Chair and NCA Rescue Chair – the balance of the CTMB are 5 At-Large members who are appointed by the Trustee for staggered three year periods. Officers of the CTMB are the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and are elected annually. The CTMB has its own Operating Procedures, Operating Principles, Policies & Procedures Manual, and Financial Reports and maintains minutes of its meetings which are included in NewfTide to keep the membership informed of Trust activities. Reports are prepared for the Trustee of its operations and the Chairman often attends meetings of the Trustee to keep them apprised of CTMB developments, needs and operations.
A lot has been and will continue to be accomplished for the Newfoundland through the efforts of the CTMB in the last 15 years. Some of these achievements are described by the Committee Chairmen in other sections of this report prepared for the membership.

It has been a rewarding experience to have been a part of the formation of the Trust and CTMB, and to have served on the CTMB. I wish the CTMB continuing success and encourage the membership to continue to financially support the Trust – the accomplishments the CTMB can make for our breed will only be possible through the ongoing generosity of Newfoundland fanciers.

Dave Helming