

Saluki Health Research, Inc.

2017-2018 Annual Meeting and President's Report

The annual meeting of SHR, Inc. was held at the MSU Livestock Pavilion, East Landing, MI at 11 AM, Sat. Dec. 1, 2018. Officers and board members attended either in person, by telephone or the internet. Various discussions and actions included:

The corporate records for the year June 2017 thru May 2018 were approved.

The board members (Linda Scanlon and Kathy Morton) and officers (Jim Steckley, Bill Schall and Linda Scanlon) agreed to continue in their positions and terms of office. Approval was granted to have Stephanie Gamble fill Vicky Clarke's vacated position.

The Treasurer's report for the corporate year ending May 31, 2018 was approved.

The secretary's report stated that the timely update of the SHR web site by Leslie Behm has been really appreciated. She is donating her expertise and time since her fee, an occasional dinner, is more than reasonable. The web site has facilitated dissemination of information much more quickly and with less mailing needed

President's report:

Update of current projects:

Cancer - DNA studies:

We continue to accept tumor samples from Salukis for histological examination, however; only 7 Saluki biopsy samples were received from 6/17 to 6/18 and examined by MSU-VDL pathologists. We need to decide if we should continue banking cancer samples in hopes of their inclusion in eventual DNA studies.

There are, unfortunately, many postings on Facebook concerning the passing of Salukis. We need to find a way to get wider participation if we want to continue adding to the cancer bank.

Dr. Guillermo Cuto, Greyhound researcher, has had no time or financial support to move forward with the Saluki/Galgos blood typing study and well as osteosarcoma and hemangiosarcoma studies.

Heart studies:

The Finnish DNA research group, headed by Dr. Hanes Lohi, is interested in studying normal Salukis and those with heart disease (specifically DCM) and getting samples from them. I contacted him to see if he had any interest in our Salukis studies or samples. He did express interest and I need to know if SHR's board approves of sending him our banked samples, both cardiac and cancer.

After many statistical revisions, the healthy Saluki echo study and the 7-day Holter Study have finally been published. This was only possible thanks to the Saluki owners who allowed their Salukis to participate in the studies.

Click on the links to read the abstracts and contact me if you want copies of the manuscripts.

Ambulatory electrocardiographic evaluation of the occurrence of arrhythmias in healthy Salukis: Sanders, RA, Kurosawa, TA and Sist, MD. JAVMA Vol. 252, No. 8, April 15, 2018, pp. 966-969.

Echocardiographic variables in healthy North American Salukis: Kurosawa, TA, Sist, MD and Sanders, RA. JVC (2018) 20, pp. 301-306.

The SHR, Inc. again organized an echocardiogram examination of Salukis at the SCOA National Show in June. We were very pleased with the participation and had to extend the time Dr. Sanders was available to examine so many Salukis at a significantly reduced fee. Blood samples were also expertly collected, thanks to Kathy Morton, to add to the pro-BNP study. SHR paid Idexx to run these 43 samples at a much reduced research cost. The results will be added to the previous results and a manuscript is being prepared.

AKC/Canine Health Foundation Grants:

Progress reports were received on the current SHR supported CHF grants and can be obtained on the SHR web site. Of particular interest is the update of Grant#2242: Understanding the Genetics of Adverse Drug Reactions in Sighthounds.

Funding: SHR, and ultimately our Salukis, have benefitted for the fund raising activities in 2018.

Thanks to the significant efforts of Kim and Jeff Bordreaus the National Specialty State Basket Raffle was an outstanding success. Thanks also go to Monica and the SCOA Board for including SHR as a recipient of half of the proceeds. The raffle would not have been such a success without the folks who generously contributed items and those who purchased raffle tickets.

The American Saluki Association organized and donated a portion of the proceeds of the 2018 ASA Annual Celebration Auction to SHR. Thanks go to the ASA Board, auction organizers and to the folks who contributed and bid on the donated items.

New business:

Thanks to input from the board, SHR, Inc. has committed to support the following AKC CHF Grants by the end of 2018.

Grant 02529: Understanding the Genetics of Adverse Drug Reactions in Sighthounds: Phase II

Principal Investigator: Michael Court, BVSc, PhD; Washington State University

Total Grant Amount: \$172,765 Grant Period: 6/1/2018 - 5/31/2020

Grant 02489: Tumor-permissive Collagen Signatures in Canine Mammary Gland Tumors: Development of Prognostic Markers and Targeted Therapies for Improved Outcomes

Principal Investigator: Susan Volk, VMD, PhD; University of Pennsylvania

Total Grant Amount: \$162,700 Grant Period: 3/1/2018 - 2/29/2020