# Annual Report



years.

years

**CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION** 











Dear Canine Health Supporter,

Our 2014 Annual Report shares the success of all who have been essential in the AKC Canine Health Foundation's (CHF) funding for canine health initiatives. Our research seeks to find answers to health problems faced by all dogs, and to provide answers for better treatment and more effective prevention. Without your support, this work would not be done.

You exceeded the 2014 AKC New Donor Matching Challenge by donating \$550,000, a full \$50,000 over the amount necessary to unlock the AKC matching funds of \$500,000. We hope the support of new, reengaged and long-time contributors continues, as our work is not done. This generous response clearly gives CHF momentum as we look to the future and the beginning of our celebratory 20th Anniversary in 2015.

This was a year of transition in leadership as Terry Warren retired, and the new CEO, Susan Lilly, began at the helm. While leadership has changed, our mission to fund canine health research has continued unfettered.

Research highlights of our science-based initiatives include:

- 1. The CHF Bloat Initiative was highlighted by the editors of the September 2014 Topics in Companion Animal Medicine journal, illustrating how your support is bringing substantial impact to preventing this devastating disease.
- 2. CHF researchers, thanks to your donations, have gained an understanding of the role of inflammation between hemangiosarcoma tumors and their surrounding environment, bringing us closer to limiting tumor metastasis in this devastating form of cancer.
- 3. Expanded breed-specific knowledge regarding the health effects of early spay and neuter in dogs, providing important information to dog owners, breeders and veterinarians, and others just like you who are committed to canine health.

More in-depth reports of our research can be viewed at www.akcchf.org/research.

Like you, we appreciate the value and love brought into our lives by our canine companions. We seek to find answers to their greatest health challenges, and in doing so, make a meaningful impact on the future of veterinary medicine.

Thank you for being our partner in this work for canine health. We could not succeed without you.

Dr. A. Duane Butherus Chairman of the Board

AButherus\_

Susan Lilly, CFRE
Chief Executive Officer

Susan Lilly

of the Board Chief Executive Office

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# **Dur Work**

The AKC Canine Health Foundation's (CHF) mission is to advance the health of all dogs and their owners by funding sound, scientific research and supporting the dissemination of health information to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.

Our work begins and ends with you – the people who love dogs.

Your support enables the funding of canine health research that can positively impact the health of all dogs, and potentially their human companions as well.

Together, we are redefining the practice of veterinary medicine.

# Corporate Alliances



The American Kennel Club established CHF in 1995 to raise funds and advance the field of canine health research. As a dedicated investor for the past 20 years, their direct financial support, as well as their donation of office space and other services, keeps operating expenses low, maximizing the dollars CHF puts toward helping dogs live longer, healthier lives.

Since 1997, Nestlé Purina PetCare Company has invested over \$13 million in CHF to help dogs live longer, healthier lives. Additionally, Nestlé Purina provides a unique opportunity for dog enthusiasts to donate to CHF through their Parent Club Partnership Program and the engraved brick pavers at the Purina Event Center in Gray Summit, Missouri. In 2015, Nestlé Purina PetCare Company will once again sponsor the National Parent Club Canine Health Conference, a biennial health summit hosted by CHF.



Zoetis has invested in the health of dogs through their financial and practical support of CHF. With a strong commitment to the future of the veterinary profession, Zoetis provides cutting-edge training, educational resources and research and development support to veterinary students and established professionals. Through their basic and applied research initiatives, Zoetis helps advance canine health, sharing their leadership and scientific expertise.

**Heritage Society** 

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Samantha Wright,



Your support in 2014 led to \$1.5 million in newly approved canine health research grants. These grants are focused on canine health concerns that impact all dogs and expand the breadth and depth of our research portfolio, benefiting dogs everywhere.

# **Epilepsy**

Thirty percent of all dogs diagnosed with epilepsy cannot achieve relief from seizures with currently available medications. Dr. Ned Patterson, DVM, PhD, University of Minnesota, and Dr. Sam Long, PhD, The University of Melbourne, each received a grant to define the underlying causes of epilepsy and help put new medications in the pipeline, providing more effective treatment options for our dogs.

# **Atopic Dermatitis**

Approximately 10% of dogs are affected by atopic dermatitis, or allergic skin disease. Dr. Jan S. Suchodolshi, DVM, PhD, Texas A&M University, will look at the possible role of fungal infection in the development of atopic dermatitis. Dr. Shelly Rankin, PhD, University of Pennsylvania, will look at the growing concern of antibiotic resistance in atopic dermatitis and establishing best practices for treatment of the disease. Drs. Suchodolshi and Rankin's grants will work in tandem to provide new technologies to be applied in clinical practice.

# Hypothyroidism

Primary hypothyroidism is one of the most common endocrine disorders in dogs; however, misdiagnosis is common, resulting in ineffective treatment. Through a CHF grant, Dr. Jan A. Mol, PhD, Utrecht University, is looking to provide veterinarians with a new and accurate test to diagnose canine hypothyroidism.

# **Pyometra**

Pyometra is the most common uterine disease in intact female dogs. Pyometra occurs as the result of an infection and can be life-threatening. Through a CHF grant, Dr. Cordula Bartel, PhD, University of Veterinary Medicine of Vienna, will determine if specific cells in the uterus of the dog produce a lipid that acts as a strong binding partner for bacteria. The goal of the research is to establish a new, noninvasive treatment for pyometra that weakens bacterial adhesion to the endometrial wall, and increases susceptibility in certain individuals to disease.



# **Fertility of Stud Dogs**

Utilizing Labrador Retrievers from Guide Dogs for the Blind, Dr. Stuart Meyers, DVM, PhD, University of California, Davis, aims to determine the relationship of sperm characteristics to pregnancy outcome. Dr. Meyer's grant will provide valuable insight into stud dog fertility to better equip breeders with information to determine the predictability for semen fertility from frozen and fresh sperm.

To learn more about these grants, the grants process or the many program areas your donations help support, visit <a href="https://www.akcchf.org/research">www.akcchf.org/research</a>.

# 2014 Grant Portfolio by Research Area



- Gastrointestinal Disease
- Oncology Lymphoma
- Cardiology
- Musculoskeletal Conditions and Disease
- Neurology
- Canine Athlete Initiative
- Renal Disease
- Immunology and Infectious Disease
- Epilepsy
- Oncology Osteosarcoma
- Oncology Hemangiosarcoma
- Hepatic Disease
- Ophthalmology
- Reproductive Conditions and Disease
- Blood Disease
- Endocrinology
- Behavior
- Dermatology and Allergic Disease
- General Canine Health and Obesity

# Measuring Outcomes

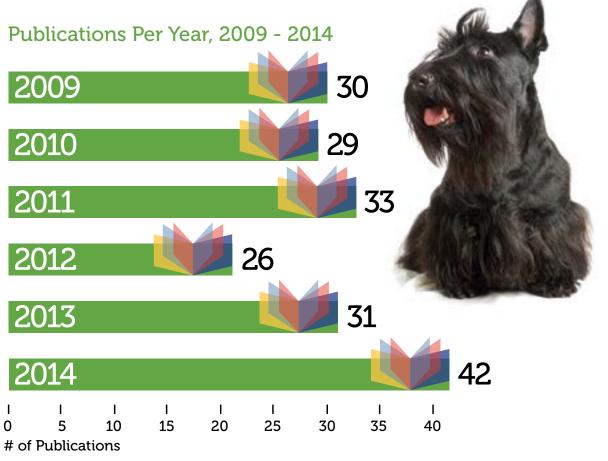
In science, progress is measured in small steps along the way to major discoveries. By supporting the most innovative research, you help the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) realize both small milestones and major breakthroughs in canine health.

Biomedical research is measured by the contribution of a given project to the greater understanding of the disease under study. One tangible measurement of this contribution is through peer–reviewed publication of study results. Peer–reviewed publications are accessible to all researchers in the field, and each paper becomes the next stepping stone on the path to solving canine health issues.

Quality can be measured by how many times the original projects funded by CHF were cited or used by another investigator to make strides in the area of study. CHF-funded research has been cited 1524 times, independently from the original research group.

By the end of 2014, CHF-funded research contributed to 203 peer-reviewed publications in both veterinary journals, such as the *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*, and journals with broad biomedical community readership, such as *Science* and *Nature Genetics*.

Publication topics included bloat, cardiovascular disease, degenerative myelopathy, inflammatory bowel disease and hemangiosarcoma.







# **Investing in the Future: Clinician-Scientist Fellowships**

The AKC Canine Health Foundation's (CHF) Clinician–Scientist Fellowship Program encourages and supports the next generation of canine health researchers. Six promising veterinary residents, post docs and students were selected by their colleges of veterinary medicine and will receive support from CHF for their training and research efforts. The 2015 AKC Canine Health Foundation Clinician–Scientist Fellows are:

- Dr. Steven Friedenberg, DVM, MS, MBA, of North Carolina State University. Dr. Friedenberg's research seeks to understand the genetic causes of autoimmune diseases in dogs. Dr. Friedenberg's research is sponsored by the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- Dr. Hyun Ji Noh, MS, PhD, of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. Dr. Noh's research is focused on studying psychiatric disorders such as obsessive-compulsive disorder in the dog.
- Dr. Alana Redfern-Allen, DVM, of Iowa State University. Dr. Redfern-Allen will investigate diabetes mellitus, a common endocrine disease of dogs and humans.
- Dr. Christine Sibigtroth, DVM, of University of Missouri. Dr. Sibigtroth will study canine degenerative myelopathy (DM), an adult-onset progressive neurodegenerative disease in dogs that shares many characteristics with inherited amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in humans.
- Dr. Amelia Sinkin, VMD, of University of Georgia. Dr. Sinkin's research is focused on myxomatous mitral valve disease (MMVD), a condition affecting an estimated 2 4.9 million dogs in the United States, which leads to the development of congestive heart failure in approximately 15% of affected animals.
- Ms. Emily Brown, DVM / PhD Candidate, of the University of California, Davis. Ms. Brown's research will investigate the genetic etiology of Addison's disease, an endocrine disorder, in the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever (NSDTR) and other dogs. Ms. Brown's research is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA).

Learn more about the 2015 Fellows and their canine health research projects or "Adopt a Researcher" by making a donation to support one of the 2015 Clinician–Scientist Fellows: <a href="https://www.akcchf.org/fellows">www.akcchf.org/fellows</a>.



# 20 Years of Research

# **Moving Toward the Future of Veterinary Medicine**

On February 21, 2015, the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) marked its 20th anniversary and launched a year-long celebration, reflecting on our accomplishments, recognizing those who support us and charting our course for the future.

As someone who has made this milestone possible, we thank you.

# 2015 Focus Areas

In addition to the exciting research we've highlighted here, in 2015, we will focus on:

- Identifying the age-related genetic modifiers that cause degenerative myelopathy.
- Providing new genetic tests for progressive retinal atrophy and subvalvular aortic stenosis.
- Defining the factors that cause tumor metastasis, and most importantly, provide costeffective solutions for controlling the inflammation that feeds tumor cells.
- Developing new therapeutics that will empower the canine immune system to kill the bacteria responsible for brucellosis.
- Enabling effective treatment of patellar luxation, and importantly, discovering the risk factors responsible for this painful condition.
- Creating infectious disease forecast maps, providing both dog owners in the field and at home with regional information to protect their dogs.

Your support of CHF through annual, sustained or planned gifts is redefining the practice of veterinary medicine, providing more accurate diagnoses and better treatments for the diseases that impact our dogs.



CHF is proud of our fourstar rating from Charity Navigator, placing us in an elite group of charitable organizations that demonstrate a superior commitment to sound governance, quantifiable results and fiscal responsibility. According to Charity Navigator, only a quarter of the charities it evaluates have received its highest four-star rating.

# Financials

# **Statements of Financial Position**

Years ending December 31, 2014 and 2013

Assets	2014	2013
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,196,037	\$4,565,066
Investments	8,293,536	8,248,330
Receivable for proceeds from sale of investments	_	397,959
Contributions receivable	695,214	681,522
Other receivables	20,954	5,608
Prepaid expenses	74,884	81,547
Fixed assets, net	13,615	64,968
Total assets	\$14,294,240	\$14,045,000
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$167,729	\$64,618
Grants payable	4,286,912	5,138,847
Total liabilities	\$4,454,641	\$5,203,465
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	1,545,401	364,539
Temporarily restricted	5,293,790	5,476,588
Permanently restricted	3,000,408	3,000,408
Total net assets	\$9,839,599	\$8,841,535
Total liabilities and net assets	\$14,294,240	\$14,045,000

The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, Inc.'s financial statements audited by KPMG LLP are available at <a href="www.akcchf.org">www.akcchf.org</a>.



# Financials

# **Summarized Statements of Activities**

Years ending December 31, 2014 and 2013

Revenues and Other Support	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contributions	\$1,893,710	\$2,112,516
Contributions from related parties	1,470,928	1,780,918
Grant management income	53,225	-
Interest and dividend income	318,339	212,279
Net unrealized and realized investment gains (losses)	(12,338)	921,145
Sponsored events and conferences	92,549	242,123
In-kind donations	166,152	193,891
Miscellaneous income	45,350	42,862
Total revenues and other support	\$4,027,915	\$5,505,734
Expenses		
Canine research and education	\$2,149,501	\$4,550,047
Fundraising	427,454	345,156
General and administrative	452,896	452,212
Total expenses	\$3,029,851	\$5,347,415
Increase in net assets	998,064	158,319
Net assets – beginning of year	\$8,841,535	\$8,683,216
Net assets – end of year	\$9,839,599	\$8,841,535





# Heritage Society

The AKC Canine Health Foundation Heritage Society honors donors who have made a commitment to the Foundation through a planned gift.

Currently, there are 134 members of the Heritage Society, eight of whom joined during 2014. These individuals understand the importance of securing the future health of their beloved breeds and advancing the mission of the Foundation so that all dogs live longer, healthier lives.

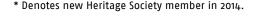
For more information about Heritage Society membership and benefits, contact us online at www.akcchf.org/heritagesociety or call 888-682-9696.

# **Heritage Society Members**

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# **Honor Roll**

The Honor Roll of Donors recognizes contributions made between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014. Space prohibits us from listing all donors; we are deeply grateful to all who support our mission.

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### **Foundations**

Alaskan Malamute Research Foundation,

American Shih Tzu Club Charitable Trust Basenji Club of America Health Endowment,

**Brisgel Family Charitable Foundation** Cavalier King Charles Spaniel USA Health Foundation, Inc.

Claire Giannini Fund Clumber Spaniel Health Foundation

Dog Writer's Educational Trust Gray Lady Foundation

Great Dane Club of America Charitable Trust Saint Bernard Club of America Charitable Foundation

Toby's Foundation, Inc. Vizsla Club of America Welfare Foundation,

Yorkshire Terrier Club of America Foundation, Inc.

# **Individuals**

Dr. and Mrs. Sheldon B. Adler

Ms. Anita Carroll

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Cassidy

Ms. Dawne Deeley

Ms. Helen K. Denton Estate of Claire DeSilver

Mr. Alexander F. Draper

Ms. Nancy-Carroll Draper

Mr. Wayne E. Ferguson

Ms. Connie Field

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Grabe

Mrs. Helen C. Greene

Mr. and Mrs. David Helming

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Higgins

Ms. Barbara R. Irwin

The Estate of Margot Dwyer Jacobs

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Koenitz

Ms. Pamela Levy

Mr. Milan Lint

Mr. Victor Malzoni

Mr. Cecil Mann

Mrs. Billie McFadden

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald H. Menaker

Mr. Franz Neuwirth

Dr. William R. Newman

Ms. Ruth Pereira and

Mr. Donald Fontenelli

Mr. Ronald W. Readmond and

Mrs. Suzanne Orban-Stagle Readmond

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeve

Ms. Margo Sensenbrenner

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Shaw



Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sosnoff Mrs. Marcia S. St. Lifer Ms. Torie Steele Mr. and Mrs. John A. Studebaker The Estate of Christine Vachuska

# Founder

(\$10,000.00 +) Clubs Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc. American Bouvier des Flandres Club/ Bouvier Health Foundation American Brussels Griffon Association American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc. American Chinese Crested Club, Inc. American Maltese Association, Inc. American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc. American Pomeranian Club, Inc. American Shih Tzu Club, Inc. American Spaniel Club, Inc. American Whippet Club, Inc. Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc. Atlantic States Briard Club Augusta Kennel Club, Inc. Australian Cattle Dog Club of America Australian Terrier Club of America,

Basset Hound Club of America, Inc. Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc. Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc. Bedlington Terrier Club of America Berner Lovers Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc. Briard Club of America, Inc. **Bull Terrier Club of America** Cairn Terrier Club of America Canada Del Oro Kennel Club Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc. Central New Jersey Hound Association Chattanooga Kennel Club Chihuahua Club of America, Inc. Chow Chow Club, Inc.

Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Columbiana County Kennel Club Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.

Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc. Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club Devon Dog Show Association, Inc. Duluth Kennel Club Durham Kennel Club, Inc. English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc. English Setter Association of America, Inc. Fiesta Cluster

Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc. Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.

Fort Worth Kennel Club French Bulldog Club of America German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. Giant Schnauzer Club of America,

Golden Gate Kennel Club

Great Dane Club of America, Inc. Great Pyrenees Club of Puget Sound **Greater Daytona Dog Fanciers** 

Association, Inc. Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc. Havanese Club of America Heart of America Kennel Club, Inc. Irish Water Spaniel Club of America, Inc. Italian Greyhound Club of America,

Japanese Chin Club of America Kennel Club of Philadelphia Ladies' Dog Club, Inc. Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc. Longview Kelso Kennel Club, Inc.

Mahoning Shenango Kennel Club, Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.

Medallion Rottweiler Club Middleburg Kennel Club Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc. National Beagle Club of America National Retriever Club. Inc. Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club, Inc. New-Pen-Del Newfoundland Club, Inc.

Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc. Norwegian Elkhound Minuteman

Association, Inc. Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)

Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc. Olympic Kennel Club, Inc. Otterhound Club of America Papillon Club of America, Inc. Park Shore Kennel Club, Inc. Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.

Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc. Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America

Progressive Dog Club Raleigh Kennel Club, Inc. Rattail Days/Irish Water Spaniel Saw Mill River Kennel Club Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia

Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc. Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.

Seminole Kennel Club Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County

Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego, Inc. Somerset Hills Kennel Club, Inc.

South Windsor Kennel Club Springfield Kennel Club, Inc. Staffordshire Terrier Club of America

Standard Schnauzer Club of America

Superstition Kennel Club, Inc. Tampa Bay Kennel Club, Inc. Texas Kennel Club, Inc. Tibetan Terrier Club of America,

Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc. Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc. Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc. Whidbey Island Kennel Club, Inc. White Shepherd Genetics Project,

Windham County Kennel Club, Inc. Yorkshire Terrier Club of America,

# **Corporations**

Brown-Forman Beverages Heska Corporation Invisible Fence Brand by PetSafe Isle of Dogs Canine Grooming System Jack Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC Merck Ag/Vet Division PE AgGen, Inc./PEZoogen Pharmacia & Upjohn Company Retriever Field Trial News, Inc. Robbins-Gioia, LLC

# **Foundations**

American Chesapeake Club Charitable Trust American Spaniel Club Foundation Border Terrier CECS/Genetic Research Fund **Bulldog Club of America Charitable** Health Fund, Inc. Epil-K9 Foundation, Inc. Janet Stone Jones Foundation Medallion Rottweiler Health Research Charitable Trust Fund Pekingese Charitable Foundation, Inc. Pomeranian Charitable Trust R.E.D. Trust, Gary Danford, Trustee Siberian Husky Club of America

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier

Tibetan Terrier Health and Welfare

Genetic Research Fund

# Foundation **Individuals**

Trust

Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Alvarez Anonymous (1) Ms. Ellison M. Armfield Mr. and Mrs. Lee Arnold Ms. Dianne M. Avery and Mr. Beni Levi Mrs. Lynn Bernard Mr. Miguel Betancourt Mrs. Sandra Bingham-Porter and Mr. Steve Porter Mr. and Mrs. Wayne L. Boyd Mr. and Mrs. Kevin M. Brennan Mr. and Mrs. Andre Buckles Dr. Bonnie Burman and Mr. Terry Burman Dr. and Mrs. A. Duane Butherus Ms. Elizabeth S. Caldwell Ms. K. Carol Carlson Mr. and Mrs. James A. Cashin, Jr. Ms. Dorothy Cherry Ms. Anastasie Christiansen-Croy and Mr. John M. B. O'Connor Ms. Cathleen Cline Ms. Kiki Courtelis Ms. Ann Murphy Daily Mr. Jeffery Deaver Dr. and Mrs. Anthony D. DiNardo Mr. and Mrs. James R. Dok Miss Nancy C. Donaldson Dr. and Mrs. C. Richard Dorn Mrs. Lisa Farmer Ms. Melissa Floren Mrs. Cheryl L. Gates Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Gilbert, Jr. Mr. Walter F. Goodman

Mrs. Jacqueline L. Gottlieb

Mrs. Amy L. Kiell-Green and

Mr. and Dr. James Grebe

Mr. Andrew Green Dr. Sharon M. Hall Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hanke Dr. Kathleen M. Harper The Estate of Charles W. and Miriam L. Heinzeroth Mr. and Mrs. Philip A. Helming Ms. Lois Hilgeman Mrs. Marian M. Hodesson Ms. Donna Hollingsworth Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones Ms. Anne Keleman Ms. Patricia W. Laurans Mr. and Mrs. Richard LeFrak Ms. Patricia Long and Mr. Paul G. Dangel Dr. and Mrs. Asa Mays Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Mercier Ms. Barbara Miller Ms. Connie G. Miller Ms. Charlotte M. Mitchell Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Nance Dr. William and Mrs. Joye Neff Dr. and Mrs. Edward A. Neupert Mr. and Ms. Paul Newman Ms. Erin O'Mallev Ms. M. Linda Parker Ms. Margaret Pratt Dr. and Mrs. Kailas J. Rao Ms. Kay Richardson Dr. and Mrs. Bradley Rosenberg Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schaefer Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Schwartz Mr. Ron L. Scott and Ms. Debbie Burke Dr. Linda L. Sell Ms. Mary V. Shaver Ms. Nancy Simpson Dr. Harry Smith Ms. Alexis A. Smith Mr. James W. Smith Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Smyth Dr. and Mrs. Howard B. Spey Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Steele Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Stein Mr. and Mrs. James T. Stevens Dr. Robert Tainsh Ms. Amy Tan and Mr. Lou DeMattei Mr. John L. Tishman Ms. Marilyn D. Title Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Tonnancour The Estate of Mr. Arthur W. Tupper Ms. Elois Veltman

Ms. Celia Weatherhead

Ms. Linda M. Wroth

Mr. Jerry Wolfe



