

**YEAR-END APPEAL**

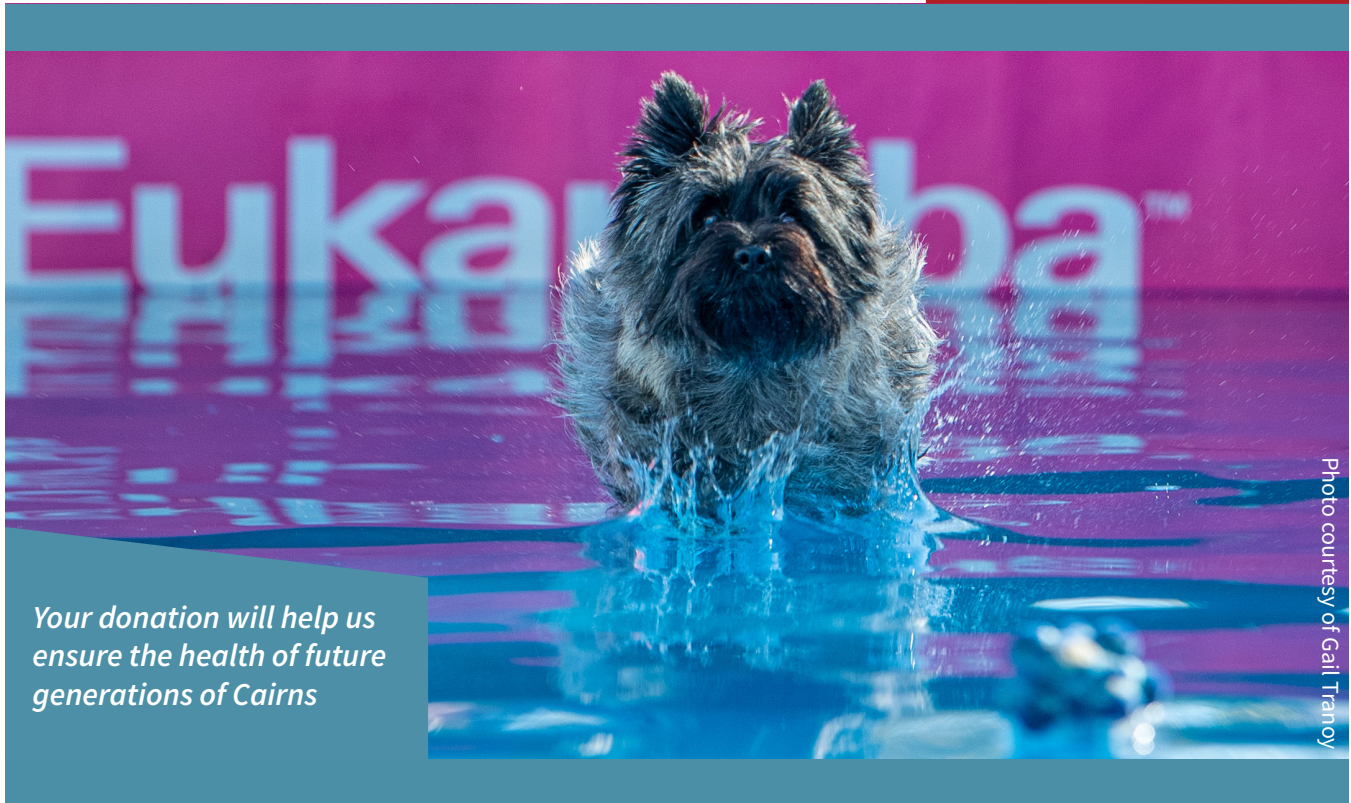


Photo courtesy of Gail Tranoy

*Your donation will help us ensure the health of future generations of Cairns*

Dear Friends of the Cairn Terrier,

I'm continually amazed at the many ways our Cairns adapt to new challenges. When he was a pup, our Bat ran away. Not finding his way home, he pragmatically made his way to an old farmhouse that looked a lot like ours, had horses as we did, and included a big screen porch with wicker furniture, like ours. He adapted to the circumstances and happily settled in.

Today our Cairns adapt their historic breed strengths for play and to excel in many performance venues. They dock dive rather than jump into the cold ocean to hunt otter, find scented objects rather than hidden rodents, and race like the wind after plastic bags instead of fleeing prey. All with the same joyous love of life that this dear breed has long exhibited.

Like the breed we support, the Foundation also strives to adapt to meet current challenges. In recent years, we have significantly strengthened the way we select and monitor research investments to insure we are using your money prudently and that we – and you – get regular reports on progress. We have placed funds in interest-earning investment vehicles

**YOU CAN HELP!**

By making an online donation here:  
<https://www.cairnterrierhealth.org/ways-to-give>

By sending a check payable to the Foundation of the CTCA

By making a monthly pledge.

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

when not needed for current projects. And we are stepping up efforts to communicate through revised testing guidelines and enhanced health information on our website. We hope in the coming year to expand the cost-subsidized health testing we offer – making more tests available to more people.

There is, of course, a constant: the Foundation's goal has always been to promote the long-term health of the breed by focusing on diseases that exist in Cairn Terriers. We work to develop new tools and supply easy access to tests designed to help breeders make more informed decisions – decisions to adapt their programs to pass only the best down through future generations of our beloved breed.

Within that framework, we face two important adaptive challenges today. One is that many of the research projects we would like to support are asking for data, even more than for money. Research teams desperately want saliva samples, blood samples, pedigrees and/or health histories for their research. How can we best help you provide the support these teams need?

Secondly, while we remain very hopeful for positive results from the two research initiatives we have funded over the past decade, ocular melanosis and renal dysplasia, it's time to branch out. With your continued support, we can expand our reach. Which disease should be the next priority? Where is the greatest need? Our upcoming health survey will provide input, but we welcome your ideas directly, as well.

For information on the research we currently support that need data and samples, we encourage you to explore the following initiatives on our website [www.cairnterrierhealth.org](http://www.cairnterrierhealth.org).

- **The team at Cornell University working Legg-Calvé-Perthes Disease is asking for blood samples;**
- **Dr. Margret Casal's team at the University of Pennsylvania needs blood samples and pedigrees from dogs with abnormal kidneys to further their work in renal dysplasia;**
- **The Dog Aging Project, the largest canine health study in the world, is desperate for more Cairns to participate, to allow them to**

**track the health patterns in our specific breed;**

- **The team working on ocular melanosis at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is requesting saliva and blood samples from purebred Cairn Terriers who have developed ocular melanosis and Cairn Terriers over 12 years of age who have not developed the disease; and**
- **Dr. Simon Petersen-Jones of Michigan State University is requesting samples of eyes from dogs who had ocular melanosis during their lifetime.**

The most recent report from our funded research on ocular melanosis at Michigan State is also available on our website. You'll see that the team has made progress in developing a higher quality dog genome than has previously been available and has a paper on the genome improvements in preparation for publication.

And so, as in years past, we are reaching out to you, fellow Cairn lovers, to ask for financial support for our ongoing work in funding research and providing health testing at reduced rates. You may send a check, payable to the Foundation of the CTCA in the enclosed remittance envelope or donate online at: <https://www.cairnterrierhealth.org/ways-to-give>. We encourage you to consider a monthly pledge. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

I dream of the day when we will have more tools to help breeders adapt in ways that protect Cairn Terriers from hereditary diseases. I hope future generations of Cairns will soon benefit from the work we together are doing today.

We appreciate all that you do.

Sincerely,



Tamara J. Erickson, Chair

and the Foundation Trustees:

Cheri Eagleson ~ Mary Beth Havens ~ Lydia Hutchinson ~ Patricia Joyce ~ Mary Jane Lakota ~ Kydee Sheetz ~ Rebecca White ~ Beth Wilder