



# CERF NEWS

CANINE EYE REGISTRATION FOUNDATION

MARCH 2006

[www.vmdb.org](http://www.vmdb.org)

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## **CERF Office Manager**

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## **STAFF:**

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Sheryl Krohne, DVM, DACVO

## **Office Manager's Comments:**

### **Greetings:**

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Karen Graham and I have succeeded Lisa Perry as CERF's Office Manager. I recently graduated from Purdue with a BS in Organizational Leadership and Supervision, but assumed responsibility as the manager in January of 2004. I will work very hard to maintain the high standards that were set before I accepted this position. CERF has had a transitional year and our goal is to provide you with excellent service now and in the future.

Two other people have joined the office or changed positions. Dr. Sheryl Krohne, our ACVO Liaison has now assumed the CERF office director's role as well, replacing Dr. Dan Hogan. Dr. Hogan is still around serving as secretary to our board of directors. Shelly Dyrek came on board as the registration clerk just over a year ago and is a great asset to CERF. There have been several changes at CERF over the past year and a half which has caused a delay in publishing our semi-annual newsletter. One change involved moving the home office of the Veterinary Medical DataBase (VMDB, our parent organization) to the University of Illinois. CERF's home office remains at Purdue University and has made changes to accommodate the separation of the two.

Other changes involving CERF include purchasing and installing new equipment. We have updated our computers and purchased a new scanner to scan the research forms we receive from the ACVO Diplomates. We have kept our computer support staff extremely busy with installing the new equipment and transferring all the data. These computer upgrades and server problems have put CERF behind schedule in filling requests for memberships and breed reports. I want to thank all of you for being so very understanding during this time of transition. Thanks to the staff at CERF and VMDB and their diligence, we will be able to provide reports to breed club members, as well as filling other requests for reports, in a more timely fashion in 2006.

There has still been some concern about methods of payment for CERF registrations if living outside the U.S. We do accept Visa or MasterCard and accept international or world money orders or cash. For security reasons, we now need the V-Code (three digit code) on the back of the credit card. Money orders or checks that are drawn on institutions outside the U.S. will be charged an additional fee of \$8.00 for processing. This transaction fee is assessed to CERF because the routing numbers are different by one digit. Therefore, the fee is passed on to those institutions outside the U.S.

I would like to call attention to our website which is [www.vmdb.org](http://www.vmdb.org). There, you can find a wealth of information such as links to ACVO doctors in your area. Other links include CERF certification online verification, past and current CERF newsletters, diagnostic spotlight which includes descriptions for some common eye disorders, CERF categories which gives an explanation for the letter assigned as a breeder's option, ACVO book order forms, CERF certification inquiry, and CERF new policies. If you still can not find what you need, please call CERF at 765-494-8179 or email at [canineeye@purdue.edu](mailto:canineeye@purdue.edu). We will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Someone will be here to return your phone calls from 8:00am to 5:00pm eastern standard time.



“Histories are more full of examples of the fidelity of dogs than of friends.” ~Alexander Pope

### **CERF Director's Comments:**

As Karen mentioned in her comments, my name is Dr. Sheryl Krohne and I have succeeded Dr. Dan Hogan as director of CERF while continuing to serve as ACVO Liaison. This change should not impact service in any way, however, I am available on a weekly basis to explain specific diagnoses on the exam sheets that you send in for registration. For specific genetic advice on breeding individual dogs, you should consult the ophthalmologist in your area. Many will be happy to set up an appointment time to assist you in evaluating ocular exam results. You should expect to pay for this service which takes additional time. Included in this Newsletter are the annual updates to the “Ocular Disorders Presumed to be Inherited in Purebred Dogs” or “Blue Book,” published by the Genetics Committee of the ACVO. This is the book we use to determine whether or not a dog's exam can be certified by CERF. It is updated each dog's calendar year.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Q: Why doesn't my dog's CERF number appear on OFA's site?**

A: CERF results are submitted to OFA the first full week of each month. If your dog is registered this month, the results will be submitted the following month. They will be in OFA's internal database for several days before they post them to their site.

OFA also requires other health records to be posted to their site before posting CERF results.

#### **Q: Why hasn't my dog been registered yet?**

A: There are a couple of reasons for this. A lot of breeders/owners assume the doctor mails the form to CERF for certification and that is not the case. They mail a copy of the form to CERF which is used for research purposes only, not for registration purposes. The doctor gives the breeder/owner a copy which is used for registration purposes. Please fill out the back side of that copy and mail it to the address shown. Our fee is on the back side of the form as well.

Some forms come to CERF with a diagnosis of “other.” These forms are held up for review by our staff ophthalmologist. This can cause a temporary delay in registration.

**Q: Why isn't my dog listed on your website?**

A: When searching our site for your dog, please use the registration number without the forward slash. For example use SN12345678 instead of SN123456/78. Also when searching using the CERF number, use LR-12345 instead of LR-12345/2006- -23. If you search by name, spell it exactly as it is spelled on the CERF certificate. If the spelling is not correct on the certificate, please notify CERF so that can be corrected.

Another reason a dog can not be found on our site is because the breeder/owner has signed the “no release of information” clause on the exam form. They are not aware that if this is signed, the information will not be posted anywhere, which includes our site, OFA's site, nor will the results be sent to AKC.

**Q: How old does a dog have to be to get registered with CERF?**

A: A puppy can be CERF examined as early as five to eight weeks of age, depending on the breed and the ophthalmologist. Once the exam has been completed, the form can be mailed to CERF immediately for certification.

“I have always thought of a dog lover as a dog that was in love with another dog.” ~James Thurber



**FYI**

CERF will post upcoming clinics to our site. Just send all the pertinent information to CERF@VMDB.org and include the date and contact name and number.

CERF exam forms can not be downloaded from our site. The ophthalmologist has the exam forms. All you need to do is show up with your dog, registration papers, and permanent identification paperwork. CERF accepts microchips, tattoos, and DNA profile numbers as forms of P.I. numbers.

If you elect to use DNA profiling, you can contact Optigen at (607) 257-0301 or email them at genetest@optigen.com for more information. Their web address is www.optigen.com

Recently, CERF began submitting DNA results for Briards to OFA. The results will be available on our site as well.

Exam forms that have been denied by CERF will now be returned to the owner along with their payment and a letter stating that the exam form and letter can now be sent to OFA and they will post the results to their site. A CERF number will not be issued but OFA will post using the dog's registration number. CERF will not submit the denied results – they can only be submitted by the owner.

Exam forms are valid twelve months from the date of the exam. In order for CERF to register the form, it must be received by CERF one day prior to the expiration date.

CERF will post the history for expired exam forms as long as the form is sent in with a current exam form or the dog has been registered with CERF before. You will not receive a certificate for the expired exam though, and there is an \$8.00 fee for posting the history.

Just a reminder: Our fee for an initial registration is \$10.50 and the fee for subsequent (Re-CERF) registrations is \$8.00. This increase occurred in January of 2004.

“Even the tiniest poodle is lionhearted, ready to do anything to defend home, master, and mistress.” ~Louis Sabin

#### **Diplomates elected in 2004**

Amy Hunkeler  
Anne K. Weigt  
Gillian McLellan  
Elizabeth Adkins  
Tiffany Blocker  
Martin Bussieres  
Katherine Cutter

Tammy Miller Michau  
Noelle LaCroix  
Andrew Berdoulay  
Stefano Pizzirani  
Steve Sisler  
Allison Hoffman

#### **Diplomates elected in 2005**

Jennifer Hyman  
Beth Gibbons  
Audrey Yu-Speight  
Tonya McIlnay  
Susette Aquino  
I. Dineli-Bras  
Gia Klauss  
Isabel Jurk  
Eric Storey  
Kristiane Schmidt  
Cory Mosunic

Deborah Stephan  
Marc E. Rainbow  
Cindy Mar  
Federica Maggio  
Brad Graham  
Katie Diehl  
Patricia Gearhart  
Gustavo A. Garcia-Sanchez  
Terri Baldwin  
Brad Holmberg  
Teresa R. Tucci

“Do not make the mistake of treating your dogs like humans or they will treat you like dogs.”



Martha Scott