

REGISTRATION BROCHURE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF FELINE PRACTITIONERS



2018 CONFERENCE

**Senior and Geriatric Care
Emergency Medicine and Critical Care**














September 27 - 30, 2018

Charlotte Convention Center & Westin Hotel ■ Charlotte, NC

www.catvets.com/education

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Pre-conference Day

TIME	SESSION TITLE	SPEAKER	ROOM	SPONSOR/ PARTNER
8:00 - 10:00 am	Feline-Friendly Handling Workshop**	Dr. Ilona Rodan	208	 
PRE-CONFERENCE DAY*				
10:00 - 11:50 am	Early Morning Learning Sessions			
10:00 - 10:55 am	New Strategies of Managing Feline URIs	Dr. Jeannine Berger	Ballroom A	
10:55 - 11:50 am	Cat Scratching Solutions	Dr. Jeannine Berger	Ballroom A	
11:50 - 1:15 pm	Food for Thought Luncheon			
12:15 - 1:15 pm	Is It Early CKD: Now What?	Dr. S. Dru Forrester	Ballroom C & D	
1:30 - 5:30 pm	ABVP/AAFP Seminar & Social			
1:30 - 2:20 pm	Pandora Syndrome in Cats, Part I: Diagnosis & Acute Care	Dr. Tony Buffington	Ballroom A	 
2:20 - 3:15 pm	Pandora Syndrome in Cats, Part II: Chronic Care	Dr. Tony Buffington	Ballroom A	
3:15 - 3:45 pm	Refreshment Break		Ballroom B	
3:45 - 4:35 pm	What is so "Pleasing" About Placebo?	Dr. Tony Buffington	Ballroom A	
4:35 - 5:30 pm	Nutrition & Disease Prevention: Focus on the Growth Period	Dr. Tony Buffington	Ballroom A	
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Welcome Reception <i>All attendees invited</i>		Ballroom Pre-function & Terrace	

*Pre-conference Day Registration Required. Additional fees apply.

**Separate Registration Required from Pre-conference Day. Additional fees apply.

Session Descriptions

This conference offers concurrent Veterinary tracks, a Technician/Nurse Track, and a Practice Management Track that will allow attendees the opportunity to customize their learning experience. All of the tracks offer cutting-edge feline research and the latest information in feline medicine. You can choose to follow one track exclusively or you can jump between tracks, based on your own interests and needs.

TIME	SESSION TITLE	SPEAKER	ROOM	SPONSOR/ PARTNER
6:00 - 7:00 am	Early Riser Yoga Class*		Westin Hotel – Grand Ballroom A	
7:15 - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast		Ballroom Foyer	
8:00 - 8:15 am	President's Address	Dr. Paula Monroe	Ballroom A & B	
8:15 - 10:00 am	Anesthesia & Analgesia for the Golden Oldies: Why Are They Different?	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom A & B	
	<i>Practice Management: Diversity & Inclusion: Creating a LGBTQ+ Friendly Environment for Staff & Clients</i>	Dr. Mike Chaddock	Ballroom C	
10:00 - 11:10 am	Networking Refreshment Break		Exhibit Hall	
11:10 - 12:00 pm	Cognitive Dysfunction in Senior Cats	Dr. Margaret Gruen	Ballroom A	
	Chronic Diarrhea in Older Cats	Dr. Alex German	Ballroom B	
	<i>Practice Management: Benefits of Cat Friendly Housing</i>	Dr. Ilona Rodan	Ballroom C	
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch		Exhibit Hall	
12:15 - 1:15 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #1:*</i> Feline Heartworm Disease: What Your Clients (& You) Need to Know	Dr. Gary Norsworthy	213 A - D	
12:15 - 1:15 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #2:*</i> Feline Clinical Pharmacology: Exploring Species & Disease State Influences	Dr. Jessica Quimby	217 B - D	
1:30 - 2:20 pm	How Do We Know? Assessing Chronic Pain in Cats	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom A	
	Environmental Enrichment for Senior Cats	Dr. Margaret Gruen	Ballroom B	
	<i>Practice Management: How Preventive Care Will Grow Your Business</i>	Dr. Christine Bohn Kirnos	Ballroom C	
2:25 - 3:15 pm	Now What? Managing Chronic Pain in Older Cats	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom A	
	Promoting Healthy Weight in Senior Patients	Dr. Alex German	Ballroom B	
	<i>Practice Management: Increasing Client Compliance in Feline Appointments</i>	Dr. Christine Bohn Kirnos	Ballroom C	
3:15 - 3:45 pm	Networking Refreshment Break		Exhibit Hall	
3:45 - 4:35 pm	Quality of Life Assessments, Feline Hospice, & Palliative Care	Dr. Diane Eigner	Ballroom A	
	Feeding Old Cats: Understanding Feeding Behavior	Dr. Debra Zoran	Ballroom B	
	<i>Practice Management: Does Veterinary Medicine Have a Mental Health Crisis?</i>	Dr. Linda Lord	Ballroom C	
4:40 - 5:30 pm	Saying Goodbye: When, How, & Where?	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom A	
	Feeding Old Cats: Determining Nutritional Needs	Dr. Debra Zoran	Ballroom B	
	<i>Practice Management: Purring into Practice: Creating & Nurturing a Cat Friendly Team Mission</i>	Dr. Elizabeth Colleran	Ballroom C	
5:30 - 6:30 pm	Happy Hour Reception		Exhibit Hall	

*Separate Registration Required. No fees associated.

TIME	SESSION TITLE	SPEAKER	ROOM	SPONSOR/ PARTNER
6:15 - 7:15 am	Early Riser Yoga Class*		Westin Hotel – Grand Ballroom A	
7:30 - 8:30 am	Breakfast		Exhibit Hall	
8:00 - 8:20 am	<i>Oral Abstract Session:</i> Feline Amylin is Faster to Aggregate than Human Amylin & Increases During Pancreatitis	Dr. Aline Vieira	Ballroom A	
8:00 - 8:20 am	<i>Oral Abstract Session:</i> Pharmacokinetics & Pharmacodynamics of Buccally-Administered Dexmedetomidine Gel (Sileo®) in Healthy Adult Cats	Dr. Kristen Messenger	Ballroom B	
8:00 - 8:20 am	<i>Oral Abstract Session:</i> An Analysis of Causes of Feline Infertility in a Cattery: A Review of Medical Records & Histopathologic Diagnoses	Dr. Aime Johnson	Ballroom C	
8:30 - 9:20 am	Screening Seniors: Integrating Early Detection Programs to Benefit Your Patients & Practice	Dr. Margie Scherk	Ballroom A	
	Nutritional Management of Older Cats: Changes in GI Function	Dr. Debra Zoran	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Why Assigning Acute Pain Scores to Surgery & Trauma Patients Matters	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom C	 
9:25 - 10:15 am	Comorbidities - Managing the Unmanageable: Approaching a Cat with CKD, Diabetes, Arthritis, Hyperthyroidism, & Hypertension	Dr. Margie Scherk	Ballroom A	
	Nutritional Management of Older Cats with Multiple Diseases	Dr. Debra Zoran	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Anesthesia & Pain Management for Difficult Cats	Dr. Sheilah Robertson	Ballroom C	 
10:15 - 11:00 am	Networking Refreshment Break		Exhibit Hall	
10:25 - 10:50 am	AAFP Membership Meeting		217 A	
11:00 - 12:30 pm	<i>Panel:</i> Meeting Senior Needs: Q&A with the Experts (Drs. Alex German, Margaret Gruen, Sheilah Robertson, & Debra Zoran)	Dr. Margie Scherk, Moderator	Ballroom A & B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Blood Pressure Monitoring: Who, What, Where, When, & Why?	Dr. Kelly St. Denis	Ballroom C	 
12:30 - 2:00 pm	Lunch		Exhibit Hall	
12:45 - 1:45 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #1:</i> * Cats, Cardiomyopathy, & the Practical Use of BNP Testing	Dr. Bonnie Lefbom	213 A - D	
12:45 - 1:45 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #2:</i> * Cats, Ticks, & Disease	Dr. Susan E. Little	217 B - D	
12:45 - 1:45 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #3:</i> * Feline Pain: Increase Your Tools	Dr. Jennifer Johnson	217 A	
1:15 - 1:45 pm	ABVP: Is it for Me?		Ballroom C	
2:00 - 2:50 pm	The First 5 Minutes: You Too Can Save a Life!	Dr. Elke Rudloff	Ballroom A & B	 
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Nutritional Support in the Critically Ill Cat	Dr. Christina Fernandez	Ballroom C	 
2:55 - 3:45 pm	The Diabetic-Ketotic CATastrophe	Dr. Elke Rudloff	Ballroom A & B	 
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Not in my Back Yard! The Secret Life of Cats & Parasites	Dr. Cathy Lund	Ballroom C	 
3:45 - 6:30 pm	Free Time			
3:50 - 4:45 pm	<i>Forum:</i> Have Questions? Answers to Your Cat Friendly Practice Inquiries		Ballroom C	
6:30 - 10:30 pm	Feline 500: NASCAR Hall of Fame Offsite Event**			

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TIME	SESSION TITLE	SPEAKER	ROOM	SPONSOR/ PARTNER
6:15 - 7:15 am	Early Riser Yoga Class*		Westin Hotel – Grand Ballroom A	
7:30 - 8:30 am	Breakfast		Exhibit Hall	
7:30 - 8:30 am	ABVP Breakfast for Diplomates		217A	
8:30 - 9:20 am	Urinary Tract Obstruction: Bad to the Stone	Dr. Elke Rudloff	Ballroom A	
	Sedation of the Critically Ill Cat	Dr. Justine Lee	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Bring Back the Pounce: Osteoarthritis in Cats	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
9:25 - 10:15 am	Feeding Tubes: How to Place & Use	Dr. Elke Rudloff	Ballroom A	
	Top 10 Mistakes to Avoid in the Emergency Feline Patient	Dr. Justine Lee	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Diabetes: Nutritional Management & Client Communication	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
10:15 - 10:45 am	Networking Refreshment Break		Exhibit Hall	
10:45 - 11:35 am	Approach to the Cat in Respiratory Distress	Dr. Adesola Odunayo	Ballroom A	
	Global FAST Ultrasound: How to Perform & Unique Feline Differences	Dr. Gregory Lisciandro	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Nutritional Counseling with the Feline Owner	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
11:40 - 12:30 pm	Decontamination of Common Feline Toxicities	Dr. Adesola Odunayo	Ballroom A	
	Proactive Lung Ultrasound: The Vet BLUE & the Tale of Four Felines	Dr. Gregory Lisciandro	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> FLUTD: Updates in Nutritional Management	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
12:30 - 1:45 pm	Lunch		Exhibit Hall	
12:40 - 1:40 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #1:</i> * Obesity in Cats: Making that Fat Cat Fit!	Dr. Alex German	213 A - D	
12:40 - 1:40 pm	<i>Lunch & Learn #2:</i> * Managing Complex Feline Endocrine Diseases: A Case-based Approach	Dr. Audra Fenimore	217 B - D	
1:45 - 2:35 pm	Approach to the Cat in Shock	Dr. Adesola Odunayo	Ballroom A	
	Global FAST Ultrasound: Patient Monitoring & Detecting Treatable Forms of Shock	Dr. Gregory Lisciandro	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> Feline IBD: Pathophysiology, Treatment Goals, & Client Communication	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
2:40 - 3:30 pm	Case-based Approach to Transfusion Medicine	Dr. Adesola Odunayo	Ballroom A	
	Setting Up a Successful Global FAST Ultrasound Program	Dr. Gregory Lisciandro	Ballroom B	
	<i>Technician/Nurse:</i> CKD: Getting Your Picky Patient to Eat	Ms. Kara Burns	Ballroom C	
3:30 pm	Conclusion of Conference			

*Separate Registration Required. No fees associated.

Jeannine Berger, DVM, DACVB, DACAW, CAWA
San Francisco SPCA, San Francisco, CA



Dr. Jeannine Berger is among very few in her field. Dr. Berger first obtained her veterinary degree in 1991 in Zurich, Switzerland. She moved to Davis, California in 1998, where she completed her residency in veterinary behavior and attained board certification with the American College for Veterinary Behaviorists from UC Davis in 2007. In 2014, she attained board certification from the American College of Animal Welfare. She has been with the Society since 2011, first as Director of Behavior Resources and currently holds the position of VP of Rescue and Welfare. Her advanced training and certifications associated with board certified status ensure the highest level of expertise. Dr. Berger focuses on strengthening the human-animal bond by improving the lives of owners and their pets through understanding of animal behavior, psychology, sound principles of learning, and communication. When behavior problems are addressed early-on, the likelihood for a "happily ever after" relationship increases and animals are at a lower risk of being surrendered to a shelter. Dr. Berger wishes that more people would turn to their veterinarian for behavioral advice since many behavior problems can have underlying medical causes.

Christine Bohn Kirnos, VMD
The Cat Hospital of Media, Media, PA



Dr. Christine Bohn Kirnos earned her degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 2002. Since 2003 she has worked exclusively in feline hospitals. While working in corporate veterinary medicine, she was medical director of a cat hospital and helped manage up to six additional hospitals in her region. In 2016, Dr. Kirnos bought The Cat Hospital of Media. She is a member of many professional organizations, including the AAFP, VMG, AVMA, AAHA, IVAPM, AAVA, and the Pennsylvania VMA. She lives in Media, PA with her husband, two kids, and four Devon Rex cats.

Tony Buffington, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVN
UC Davis Department of Medicine & Epidemiology, School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis, CA



Dr. Tony Buffington is a clinical professor (volunteer) at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and an emeritus professor of veterinary clinical sciences at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He received his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in nutrition and the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from UC Davis and is board-certified (now emeritus) in veterinary nutrition. Dr. Buffington's clinical interests include developmental origins of health and disease, stress effects on disease, obesity, evidence-based medicine, and effective medical communications. His research has documented the effects of environmental stressors on disease in cats and the role of effective environmental enrichment in mitigating them to promote recovery. Dr. Buffington has published more than 130 scientific papers, 30 book chapters, three books (one an eBook), an iTunes U course, and created the Indoor Pet Initiative website. He currently describes himself as an "effective environmental enrichment evangelist."

Kara Burns, MS, MEd, LVT, VTS (Nutrition)
Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians, Wamego, KS



Kara Burns is a licensed veterinary technician with a master's degree in physiology and a master's degree in counseling psychology. She began her career in human medicine working as an emergency psychologist and as a poison specialist dealing with human and animal poisonings. Kara is the Founder and President of the Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians. She teaches nutrition courses around the world and on the VIN/Veterinary Support Personnel Network and VetMedTeam. Kara is a consultant for the Lafeber Company and Emerald. Kara is the Director of Nursing for Brief Media as well as the Editor of *Veterinary Team Brief*. She also works as an independent nutritional consultant. She is a member of many national, international, and state associations and holds positions on many boards in the profession: American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition executive board technician liaison; Western Veterinary Conference Technician Education Manager; NAVTA President; LGVMA board member; International Society for Sports Nutrition; and the Pet Nutrition Alliance executive board, to name a few. She has authored many articles, textbooks, and textbook chapters and is an internationally invited speaker, focusing on topics of nutrition, leadership, and technician utilization. Ms. Burns has been featured on the cover of the *Veterinary Technician Journal* and the *NAVTA Journal*. She was named the North American Veterinary Conference Technician Speaker of the Year in 2013 and in 2016. She was granted an honorary VTS (Internal Medicine) in 2011. She was also granted an honorary VTS (Dentistry) in 2012. She is the 2010 NAVTA Veterinary Technician of the Year, as well as the 2011 Dr. Franklin Loew Lecturer.

Mike Chaddock, DVM, EML
Michigan State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, East Lansing, MI

Dr. Chaddock received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University (MSU) and an Executive Master's Degree in Leadership from Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business. After private practice ownership, Dr. Chaddock worked for industry, was the State Veterinarian and Director of the Animal Industry Division of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and completed fellowships in food and agriculture policy and biodefense strategies. He was an American Veterinary Medical Association's (AVMA) American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) fellow serving in U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu's office. After his AAAS fellowship, he went to Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in the Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies. He was appointed Director of the AVMA's Governmental Relations Division in 2003. In 2006, he joined the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. Dr. Chaddock was Assistant Dean for One Health and Strategic Initiatives at Texas A&M University, College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and Biomedical Sciences from 2012 to 2015. Currently he is the Associate Dean for Administration and Professor in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at MSU, CVM. As a volunteer, he has been recognized for his work in many professional associations. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the MSU CVM, the Presidential Distinguished Service Award from the Lesbian and Gay Veterinary Medical Association (LGVMA), and the Broad Spectrum Veterinary Student Association's LGBT+ Veterinary Awareness Award. He currently is a member of the board of directors of the International Council for Veterinary Assessment.

Elizabeth Colleran, DVM, MS, DABVP (Feline)
Chico Hospital for Cats, Chico, CA



Dr. Elizabeth Colleran is the CEO and hospital director of Chico Hospital for Cats in Chico, California. She is a board certified specialist in feline practice, founding member and co-chair of the Cat Friendly Practice® Committee, and a board member of the American Association of Feline Practitioners. She is also Editor in Chief of *Decision Support in Medicine: Feline Medicine*, first author of seven chapters in the new edition of the *Feline Patient*, and under contract to complete a book, *The Senior Cat*, to be published in 2019. She speaks about her passion - the care of felines - around the world. A favorite quote from H.L. Mencken that helps to explain my love of teaching and writing: "You can't do anything about the length of your life, but you can do something about its width and depth."

Diane Eigner, VMD, MBA, CVPM, CHPV
The Cat Whispurr, Barnaget, NJ



Dr. Eigner is a 1980 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and earned her MBA in 2015 from Temple University's Fox School of Business. She received her Veterinary Practice Manager's Certification in the fall of 2015 and was certified as a hospice and palliative veterinarian by the International Association of Animal Hospice and Palliative Care in 2017. Diane founded The Cat Doctor in May 1983, serving as the practice's CEO, CFO, and COO until August of 2016 when she sold the practice. Now she provides end of life care to Jersey Shore cats and is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine where she organizes their practice management elective.

Audra Fenimore, DVM, MS, DACVIM

Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Hospital, Englewood, CO

Dr. Audra Fenimore is an internist at VRCC Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Hospital in Englewood, Colorado. She graduated from Colorado State University and completed her small animal internal medicine and surgery rotating internship at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital in Red Bank, New Jersey. She also completed a small animal internal medicine residency at Colorado State. Dr. Fenimore was a practicing internist at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, before joining the internal medicine team at VRCC. She is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

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Christina Fernandez, DVM, MRCVS, DACVECC

Kindred Biosciences, Inc., Burlingame, CA

Dr. Christina Fernandez graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from SUNY Stony Brook in 2002. She obtained her DVM degree from St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2007 and membership with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2008. She held a clinical instructor position at St. George's University Small Animal Clinic from 2007-2008 and served as Medical Director and Associate Professor from 2013-2017. In 2013, she completed a three-year residency training program in Small Animal Emergency Critical Care and obtained board certification with the American College of Veterinary Emergency Critical Care. Dr. Fernandez has practiced small animal emergency critical care medicine in the US and abroad, providing veterinary relief services to local animal shelters and community clinics throughout her career. In 2017, Dr. Fernandez joined Kindred Biosciences as a Small Animal Technical Services Veterinarian. She is a published author and her veterinary interests include supporting the critically ill patient, CPR, and infectious diseases.

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S. Dru Forrester, DVM, MS, DACVIM

Hill's Pet Nutrition

Dr. S. Dru Forrester received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Auburn University and completed an internship, residency, and MS degree at Texas A&M University. She is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Small Animal Internal Medicine) and from 1989-2005 she was a faculty member at Texas A&M University, Virginia Tech, and Western University of Health Sciences. During her academic appointments she reached the rank of Full Professor and served in administrative roles including Chief of Small Animal Medicine, Director of Student Affairs, and Interim Associate Dean for Clinical Programs. Dr. Forrester's passion is working with students and helping others learn. She enjoys teaching and has been recognized with 18 teaching awards, including the William E. Wine Award for Teaching Excellence at Virginia Tech and the national Norden/Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award. Dr. Forrester joined Hill's Pet Nutrition in 2005 and currently serves as the Director of Global Scientific Affairs. Her areas of interest include teaching/learning/communication effectiveness, small animal nephrology/urology, and clinical nutrition.

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Alex German, BVSc, PhD, CSAM, DECVIM-CA, SFHEA, FRCVS

University of Liverpool, Cheshire, UK

Dr. Alex German holds the position of Royal Canin Professor of Small Animal Medicine at the University of Liverpool. He is a 1994 graduate of the University of Bristol and, after spending two years in mixed practice, returned to Bristol to undertake a PhD in mucosal immunology and then a residency in small animal internal medicine. He is a diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Recognized Specialist in Internal Medicine, and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. His clinical and research interests include comparative obesity biology, ageing, preventing chronic disease, gastroenterology, and evidence-based veterinary medicine.

Sponsor  **ROYAL CANIN**

Margaret Gruen, DVM, MVPH, PhD, DACVB

North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Raleigh, NC

Dr. Gruen is a board-certified veterinary behaviorist at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She received her PhD in Comparative Biomedical Sciences from North Carolina State University with a project designed to better understand pain behavior in cats with naturally occurring degenerative joint disease. Her home has never been without a cat and she hopes it never will be!

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Jennifer Johnson, VMD, CVPP

A Philadelphia native and Penn Vet graduate, Dr. Johnson worked as an associate veterinarian for 14 years before owning and operating Stoney Creek Veterinary Hospital in Morton, PA, for 10 years. During her tenure as practice owner, the hospital grew from a two-doctor practice to employ six veterinarians and 45 team members, emphasizing preventive care and personalized family medicine. Pain management has always been a priority in her practice. Her special interest is the use of therapeutic laser for the treatment of pain. In 2013, she achieved Certified Veterinary Pain Practitioner (CVPP) qualification through the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management (IVAPM). Now relocated to Arizona and a full-time educator, Dr. Johnson speaks nationally on pain management, stressing the importance of using objective tools for pain identification in veterinary patients as well as evaluating multimodal analgesia treatment success. She recently authored the chapter on pain management for Laser Therapy in Veterinary Medicine, published in 2017. Dr. Johnson serves on the board of the IVAPM, currently as President-elect and is also a board member of eagleYcondor, providing children's education and high volume spay/neuter and medical care for animals in poor communities in Ecuador.

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Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC, DABT

VETgirl, LLC., Saint Paul, MN

Dr. Justine Lee is a board-certified veterinary specialist in both emergency critical care (DACVECC) and toxicology (DABT). Dr. Lee attended veterinary school at Cornell University and completed her internship at Angell Memorial in Boston, Massachusetts. She completed her fellowship and residency in emergency and critical care at the University of Pennsylvania. Previously, she was on faculty at University of Minnesota (2008) and the head of an animal poison control center (2008-2013). She is the founder and CEO of VETgirl, a subscription-based podcast and webinar service offering RACE-approved, online veterinary continuing education. Dr. Lee is the author of two humorous pet reference books entitled *It's a Dog's Life... but It's Your Carpet and It's a Cat's World...* *You Just Live In It*. She has also published several veterinary textbooks along with book chapters and has been aired on radio and television to promote preventive medicine, animal health, and the overall well-being of pets. Dr. Lee lectures throughout the world on emergency and critical care, and recently was honored with "Speaker of the Year" at the North American Veterinary Conference (2011, 2015, 2016).

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Distinguished Speakers

Bonnie Lefbom, DVM, DACVIM Cardiac Care for Pets, Virginia

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Dr. Bonnie Lefbom is a veterinary cardiologist and a founding partner of CVCA – the largest cardiology group practice in the U.S. with 12 locations and growing. She is passionate about the benefits of co-managed care. Having spent several years as a primary care veterinarian before specializing, she understands the complexity of providing day-to-day care along with the challenge of maintaining profitability. She is also the current president of the all-volunteer VetSOAP initiative – bringing primary care and specialty veterinarians together to provide optimal care for companion animals across the nation.

Gregory R. Lisciandro, DVM, DABVP, DACVECC FASTvet.com & Hill Country Veterinary Specialists, Spicewood, Texas

Dr. Gregory R. Lisciandro received his DVM from Cornell University, completed an internship at The Animal Medical Center in New York City, NY, a residency in Emergency and Critical Care at the Emergency Pet Center, San Antonio, Texas, and is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. He serves on their Scientific Committee, is an at-large regent on the ACVECC Board of Directors, and serves on the Education Guidelines Committee. He is also a Diplomate of ABVP and President of the International Veterinary Point-of-Care Ultrasound Society. Dr. Lisciandro developed and has extensively published studies on point-of-care ultrasound including AFAST and its fluid scoring system, TFAST and Vet BLUE, and is editor of Focused Ultrasound Techniques for the Small Animal Practitioner translated into six languages. He has been guest lecturer to medical doctors at the TRISAT Critical Care Webcast Series, and has lectured nationally and internationally on AFAST, TFAST and Vet BLUE when combined referred to as Global FAST, our 3rd standardized veterinary ultrasound examination.

Susan E. Little, DVM, PhD, DACVM-Parasit Oklahoma State University, Center for Veterinary Health Sciences, Stillwater, OK

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Animal Health

Dr. Susan Little is Regents Professor and the Krull-Ewing Chair in Veterinary Parasitology at the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences, Oklahoma State University where she is active in veterinary parasitology teaching and oversees a research program that focuses on zoonotic parasites and tick-borne diseases. She is past-president of both the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists and the Companion Animal Parasite Council and currently serves as co-director of the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology. Dr. Little has authored more than 150 publications on veterinary and human parasites and tick-borne disease agents. She is also recognized as an outstanding teacher and has been awarded two Excellence in Teaching Awards from the national Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA). In 2017, Dr. Little received the Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award from the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists.

Linda Lord, DVM, MS, PhD Merck Animal Health

Sponsor **MERCK**
Animal Health

Dr. Linda Lord is the Academic and Allied Industry Liaison Lead for Merck Animal Health. In this position, Dr. Lord leads strategic initiatives and program development with academic institutions as well as veterinary industry associations. Linda is the project leader for the Merck Animal Health Veterinary Wellbeing Study released in January 2018. She joined Merck Animal Health in February 2017 after a career in academia at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine (OSU CVM) as a faculty member in Veterinary Preventive Medicine and as the Associate Dean for Professional Programs. During her time at OSU CVM, Linda formed the first Office of Career Management at a veterinary school and was instrumental in hosting the first Health & Wellness Summit held at OSU CVM. She also served as the chair of the Veterinary Wellness Advancement Group for the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. Dr. Lord completed her DVM and master's degree in 1999 and her PhD in 2006 at OSU CVM after practicing five years in companion animal medicine. She has conducted extensive research on companion animal issues specifically in the areas of pet reunification and identification. Linda currently serves on the board of directors for NAVC's Veterinary Innovation Council as well as the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA). For OVMA, Linda serves as the alternate delegate for the AVMA House of Delegates and was named Veterinarian of the Year for 2016 by the organization.

Cathy Lund, DVM City Kitty Veterinary Care for Cats, Providence, RI

Sponsor **zoetis** Partner **NAVTA**

Cathy Lund owns and operates City Kitty Veterinary Care for Cats, a cat practice located in Providence, Rhode Island. She is a board member of the AAFP and is a past president of the Companion Animal Parasite Council. She was awarded the 2007 AVMA Meritorious Service Award for her work as board president and founder of the Companion Animal Foundation, a statewide, veterinary-based nonprofit organization that helps low-income pet owners afford essential veterinary care. She was veterinarian of the year in RI in 2010. She currently serves on several architectural and preservation commissions in the city of Providence, but her favorite activity is to promote the countless virtues of the purr-fect pet, the cat!

Gary Norsworthy, DVM, DABVP (Feline) Alamo Feline Health Center, San Antonio, Texas

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Dr. Gary D. Norsworthy has been in private practice for 46 years, 25 in small animal practice and 21 in feline practice. He is the owner of Alamo Feline Health Center in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to practice, he lectures frequently on feline diseases and is the editor and major author of seven feline textbooks, the most recent being *The Feline Patient, 5th Edition*, published in 2018. His practice hosts externs from veterinary schools across North America and other continents. He is a charter Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in the Feline Practice Category and an Adjunct Professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State University, and the Western University of Health Sciences. He was chosen for the 2009 Practitioner of the Year Award in the Medical Specialist category by the Texas VMA and has received Speaker of the Year at several conferences. He is the only person to be Speaker of the Year two times each at the North American Veterinary Conference and the Western Veterinary Conference.

Adesola Odunayo, DVM, MS, DACVECC University of Tennessee, Small Animal Critical Care Unit, Knoxville, TN

Dr. Adesola Odunayo is a clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency and Critical Care at the University of Tennessee. She graduated with her veterinary degree from Oklahoma State University in 2005 and completed a residency in Emergency and Critical Care at the University of Missouri in 2010. At the end of residency, she worked as a clinical instructor at Auburn University until she joined the faculty at the University of Tennessee in 2012. Her special interests include stabilization of the ER patient, transfusion medicine, sepsis, and ventilator therapy.

Jessica Quimby, DVM, PhD, DACVIM

Small Animal Internal Medicine, The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center, Columbus, OH

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Dr. Quimby received her veterinary degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed a small animal rotating internship in Sacramento, California. She subsequently spent two years in feline practice in Grand Rapids, Michigan before moving on to Colorado State University for a combined small animal internal medicine residency and PhD program. She completed her PhD entitled "Feline Chronic Kidney Disease: Novel Approaches to Etiology, Specific Therapy and Supportive Care" in 2012, and was faculty at Colorado State until 2017. Dr. Quimby is now a faculty member at The Ohio State University. Her research continues to focus on chronic kidney disease in cats. Current research areas include the study of renal aging, telomere length and cellular senescence, novel treatment strategies, and evidence-based supportive care strategies. She has an interest in clinical trials and clinical pharmacology, which is aimed at improving supportive care and quality of life in cats with chronic kidney disease.

Sheilah Robertson, BVMS (Hons), PhD, DACVAA, DECVAA, DACAW, DECAWBM (WSEL), CVA, MRCVS

Lap of Love Veterinary Hospice, Lutz, FL

Sponsor  Partners   

Dr. Robertson received her veterinary training at the University of Glasgow followed by training in anesthesia and a PhD at the University of Bristol. She is board certified in anesthesia and animal welfare by the respective American and European Colleges and is trained in small animal acupuncture. Her research interests include assessment of pain and use of opioids in cats and the development of anesthetic protocols for large scale spay and neuter clinics. In 2014, she completed her graduate certificate in shelter medicine from the University of Florida. She has been a faculty member at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Florida, Michigan State University, and served as an assistant director in the Animal Welfare Division of the American Veterinary Medical Association. Currently she is the senior medical director for Lap of Love Veterinary Hospice, a large network of veterinarians providing in-home euthanasia and hospice care services throughout the United States.

Ilona Rodan, DVM, DABVP (Feline)

Cat Care Clinic, Madison, WI

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Dr. Ilona Rodan was the owner and medical director of the Cat Care Clinic, Madison, Wisconsin from 1987-2015, and continues to work there as the behavior consultant and board certified feline specialist. She has been an ABVP Diplomate in Feline Practice since 1995. She also started Feline-Friendly Consultations to help practices with handling techniques and environmental changes to benefit cats and cat owners. Dr. Rodan is an avid volunteer, a past-president of the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP), co-chair of the AAFP's Cat Friendly Practice Committee, and co-chair of many guidelines, including the *Feline-Friendly Handling Guidelines* and the *Environmental Needs Guidelines*. In 2005, she was awarded the AVMA Animal Welfare Award for her leadership and contributions to advancing feline welfare. She is co-editor and co-author of the book, *Feline Behavioral Health and Welfare*.

Elke Rudloff, DVM, DACVECC, cVMA

Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists, Grafton, WI

Sponsor  Partner 

Dr. Rudloff is a 1991 graduate of Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine. She completed her residency training at the Animal Emergency Center and achieved board certification in the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care in 1995. She has supervised/mentored 28 ACVECC diplomates and is currently a clinical supervisor at the Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists in Glendale, Wisconsin. She is certified in veterinary medical acupuncture by the CURACORE Integrative Medicine and Education Center. She has served as the IVECCS Program Director from 1998-2009, and from 2013 until now. She is the 2008 recipient of the Ira Zaslow Award for distinguished service in the field of veterinary emergency and critical care and is an internationally recognized educator in the field of veterinary emergency and critical care. She routinely incorporates her medical acupuncture skills into her everyday practice to enhance the well-being and pain management of critically ill and injured patients. Her special interests include fluid therapy, emergency surgery and anesthesia, and trauma management, topics on which she has published in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters.

Margie Scherk, DVM, DABVP (Feline)

catsINK, Vancouver, BC

Sponsors  

Dr. Scherk graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1982. In 1986, she opened Cats Only Veterinary Clinic in Vancouver, British Columbia, practicing there until 2008. She published several clinical trials while in practice. She has written numerous book chapters and is an active international speaker as well as enjoys teaching online. She is co-editor of the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. Margie has served extensively in the American Association of Feline Practitioners as well other veterinary organizations. She is one of the six Canadian feline boarded members of Cat Healthy (www.cathealthy.ca). Her interests include all things feline, in particular: analgesia, the feline digestive system, renal disease, nutrition, and enabling more positive interactions with cats.

Kelly St. Denis, MSc, DVM, DABVP (Feline)

Charing Cross Cat Clinic, Brantford, Ontario

Sponsor  Partner 

Dr. St. Denis is currently a full-time clinician at the Charing Cross Cat Clinic in Brantford, Ontario, which she opened in 2007. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Molecular Biology and Genetics and a Master of Science in Immunology. In 1999, she completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the Ontario Veterinary College. Dr. St. Denis has been certified with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in the specialty of feline practice since 2013. Dr. St. Denis is a consultant for the feline medicine boards on VIN. She has been a member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Feline Practitioners since 2017 and sits on the Advisory Council for the AAFP Cat Friendly Practice Program. Dr. St. Denis is proudly one of the six Canadian feline specialist members of Cat Healthy.

Debra Zoran, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVIM-SAIM

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Sponsor 

Dr. Deb Zoran is a Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine and a foundational member Veterinary Emergency Team at Texas A&M University. She is a 1984 graduate of Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She completed a master's degree and her residency in Internal Medicine at Iowa State University. In 1992, she moved to Texas A&M University and completed a PhD in Animal Nutrition in the laboratory of Dr. Joanne Lupton. Since 1996, Dr. Zoran has been a member of the faculty in the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Texas A&M University where she is actively involved with clinical, teaching, and research activities in small animal nutrition, disaster preparedness, gastroenterology, and feline medicine. Since 2015, she is also a member of the Texas Task Force 1 Urban Search & Rescue team, serving as their veterinary specialist.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 – PRE-CONFERENCE DAY

8:00 – 10:00 am  **Feline-Friendly Handling Workshop**, *Dr. Ilona Rodan*

This hands-on workshop will begin with a short summary presentation on unique feline behaviors. Dr. Rodan will then demonstrate feline handling techniques, followed by attendees having an opportunity to break out into small groups to apply those techniques utilizing live cats. Feline-friendly handling is essential to prevent negative emotions, such as fear and pain in feline patients. Understanding the cat is the foundation of the handling principles and techniques, as cats are solitary hunters and survivors that need to protect themselves at all costs, as opposed to the other domestic animals which are pack animals. Preventing stressors that cause these negative emotions enhances feline welfare, human safety, and increases job satisfaction. Feline-friendly handling also provides more appropriate handling techniques for cats that continue to display fear and other negative emotions despite our best efforts. This session requires separate registration.

10:00 – 10:55 am **New Strategies of Managing Feline URIs**, *Dr. Jeannine Berger*

Stress in cats frequently leads to increased disease prevalence and a corresponding increase in feline treatments. Treatment can be lengthy and costly, leading to increased length of stay and a draining of valuable resources better invested in more lives saved. URI is a common, complex, and multifaceted welfare problem in most shelter populations. While calicivirus can cause periodic outbreaks of URI in shelter cats, it has been shown that this is not consistently associated with an increased risk of URI in shelter populations. In fact, reactivation of latent herpesvirus is one of the most common causes of shelter cat URI. It is particularly important to provide freedom from fear and distress because clinical signs of FHV-1, as well as virus shedding, are activated by stress. The SF SPCA has studied stress and relaxation related behaviors in our shelter cats and aims to reduce fear and stress in cats.

10:55 – 11:50 am **Cat Scratching Solutions**, *Dr. Jeannine Berger*

Scratching is a normal behavior for felines. Cats scratch on items for two main reasons: function and communication. In this presentation we explore how a normal feline behavior can lead to a break in the Human-Animal-Bond (HAB), mainly due to destruction of furniture. Animals with behavior problems are more likely to be surrendered to shelters. Animals in shelters are exposed to many stressors. We address humane solutions that are based in understanding the nature of this behavior. We will learn about tools and techniques, as well as a new product improving the HAB and feline welfare based on sound understanding of feline behavior and physiology. We address how key therapeutic solutions impacts the welfare of our feline companions in the home and in shelters.

12:15 – 1:15 pm **Is It Early CKD: Now What?**, *Dr. S. Dru Forrester*

This presentation will review how to diagnose early chronic kidney disease (CKD) in cats, treatment options to consider, and what we know (and don't) about the impact of early intervention.

1:30 – 2:20 pm **Pandora Syndrome in Cats, Part I: Diagnosis & Acute Care**, *Dr. Tony Buffington*

Some of our feline patients with chronic problems present with multiple physical and behavioral comorbid disorders. These patients' clinical signs may wax and wane with changes in their surroundings, suggesting that they may have an underlying "central sensitivity" syndrome. In this talk, Dr. Buffington will present some of the background research in cats that led to the proposal that a "Pandora Syndrome" occurs in cats, and how to approach a provisional diagnosis of the syndrome. He will then share how to manage these patients when they are housed in a veterinarian's care to minimize their perception of threat and better cope with hospitalization.

2:20 – 3:15 pm **Pandora Syndrome in Cats, Part II: Chronic Care**, *Dr. Tony Buffington*

For a variety of reasons, cat owners usually assume that their cat has an acute problem and expect a pharmaceutical "cure." After stabilizing the cat, the next step is to help owners understand what is going on and what they can do about it. At the present moment, multimodal environmental modification (MEMO) appears to offer effective adjunctive care for cats with Pandora Syndrome. Dr. Buffington will describe what this is and how to help clients implement it.

3:45 – 4:35 pm **What is so "Pleasing" About Placebo?**, *Dr. Tony Buffington*

Placebo-associated responses appear to occur in cats fairly commonly. This talk will begin with a definition and description of placebo-associated responses, and then explain recent studies helping veterinarians understand the underlying biology of these responses, some of the many factors that impact these responses, and how to maximize them for patients' and clients' clinical benefit.

4:35 – 5:30 pm **Nutrition & Disease Prevention: Focus on the Growth Period**, *Dr. Tony Buffington*

Dr. Buffington views the growth period as the most important to set clients and patients up for a lifetime of satisfactory nutrition, healthy weight maintenance, and use of food as environmental enrichment for confined (indoor) cats. He'll explain this perspective, share the evidence, and offer practical suggestions for veterinary caregivers to help their clients and patients achieve these goals. He will also present a research project that is underway to study the effects of a variety of parameters on development and behavior of "bottle babies;" orphaned kittens from 0-4 weeks of age, and include any findings we have at the time of the meeting.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

- 8:15 – 10:00 am** **C** **Anesthesia & Analgesia for the Golden Oldies: Why Are They Different?**, *Dr. Sheilah Robertson*
As animals age, there is a decrease in the functional reserve of all major organs. These changes combined with changes in body composition including decreased lean muscle mass, increased adipose tissue, decreased blood volume, and total body water alters the requirements and responses to anesthetic drugs. Older pets also have a limited ability to thermoregulate making hypothermia and its complications (delayed recovery, increased bleeding) a real threat. The requirements of inhalant agents are significantly reduced in older animals; therefore, the anesthetist must monitor the depth of anesthesia closely. Anesthetic and sedative drugs that can be titrated, reversed, and are short acting are ideal for older patients. Local anesthetic techniques should be incorporated whenever possible. Careful handling of this patient population is important as many will have underlying degenerative joint disease.
- P** **Diversity & Inclusion: Creating a LGBTQ+ Friendly Environment for Staff & Clients**, *Dr. Mike Chaddock*
Attendees will learn various aspects of diversity and inclusion, and how having a diverse team and inclusive culture helps the business bottom line. Attendees will gain an awareness and appreciation of diversity around gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation. Tips will be provided for employees on what to look for in a place of employment for LGBTQ+ inclusion, and tips will be provided for employers on how to make the environment LGBTQ+ inclusive and friendly for clients and staff. These presentations will provide information and facts concerning LGBTQ+ health and wellness issues and address needs, as well as ways to address barriers surrounding LGBTQ+ health and wellness in the workplace.
- 11:10 – 12:00 pm** **A** **Cognitive Dysfunction in Senior Cats**, *Dr. Margaret Gruen*
Cognitive dysfunction is often under-recognized by owners of older cats. This lecture will discuss the pathology and clinical signs associated with cognitive dysfunction in cats, and what is currently known about management options.
- B** **Chronic Diarrhea in Older Cats**, *Dr. Alex German*
Chronic diarrhea is a common clinical problem in older cats and can be difficult both to diagnose and manage. This lecture will cover how to tailor your approach to chronic diarrhea in the older feline, focusing on prioritizing and decision-making, to maximize quality of life.
- P** **Benefits of Cat Friendly Housing**, *Dr. Ilona Rodan*
Veterinary practices of all types benefit from cat-friendly housing. Feline welfare and recovery are improved, with cats feeling safer and greatly reducing potential for human injury. Practices also benefit through increased efficiency caring for housed cats and financially by promoting cat-friendly housing. Meeting feline environmental needs and providing a hiding option improve the cat's ability to cope in both hospitalized and boarding cats.
- 12:15 – 1:15 pm** **Lunch & Learn #1: Feline Heartworm Disease: What Your Clients (& You) Need to Know**, *Dr. Gary Norsworthy*
Dirofilaria immitis infection in cats presents many diagnostic and management challenges compared to infection with the same organism in dogs. In this presentation, Dr. Norsworthy will cover these differences along with new information that will allow practicing veterinarians to detect cats infected with D. immitis. In addition, Dr. Norsworthy will specify what to do with a positive cat, what additional diagnostics are needed, what additional medications will be necessary, and how to communicate this to a client.
- Lunch & Learn #2: Feline Clinical Pharmacology: Exploring Species & Disease State Influences**, *Dr. Jessica Quimby*
This presentation will discuss the special needs and pharmacologic considerations for the feline patient in both health and disease. Recent research in feline clinical pharmacology will be presented where we have learned interesting and unexpected information, highlighting the need for more feline-specific studies.
- 1:30 – 2:20 pm** **A** **How Do We Know? Assessing Chronic Pain in Cats**, *Dr. Sheilah Robertson*
The most common cause of long-term pain in cats is degenerative joint disease (DJD). DJD can affect cats across all ages although the incidence is higher in cats over ten years of age. Due to the nature of chronic pain, the behavioral changes can be insidious, subtle, and therefore easily missed. Indeed, many owners assume these changes are inevitable with advancing age and put changes in activity and behavior down to “getting old” rather than “getting sore” and therefore do not seek treatment. As cats live longer there has been an increased recognition of chronic pain and its negative impact on quality of life (QoL). The veterinarian and owner must work together to assess the impact of the disease on each cat. QoL and musculoskeletal questionnaires are available for owners to complete in a standardized (e.g., Feline Musculoskeletal Index) or individualized format (Client Specific Outcome Measures). Home videos can be extremely useful in assessing mobility issues as performing a full musculoskeletal examination in a clinical setting is often challenging. Tracking a score of some sort is essential for monitoring the efficacy of treatment.
- B** **Environmental Enrichment for Senior Cats**, *Dr. Margaret Gruen*
Environmental needs change as cats age. In this lecture, we will discuss these changing needs and how owners can set their cats up for comfort in their senior years.
- P** **How Preventive Care Will Grow Your Business**, *Dr. Christine Bohn Kimos*
In this session we will explore the value of preventive care in a veterinary practice. Discussion will include the value to the patient as well as your bottom line.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018 continued

2:25 – 3:15 pm

A **Now What? Managing Chronic Pain in Older Cats**, *Dr. Sheilah Robertson*

Degenerative joint disease is not curable; therefore, the goal is to relieve the pain associated with it. Management options fall into two main categories: 1. Pharmacologic. There is no non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug approved for chronic administration in cats in the US. However, in other countries meloxicam is approved for long-term use to alleviate musculoskeletal pain. Several studies report it is efficacious and that it can be used in cats with stable chronic kidney disease (CKD). Robenacoxib is not labelled for long-term use anywhere but when used for a month in cats with and without CKD no adverse effects were noted. Despite its wide use, there are no published studies on the efficacy of gabapentin. Tramadol improved QoL in cats with DJD, but was associated with side-effects including sedation, diarrhea, and inappetence. 2. Non-pharmacologic. Physical modalities frequently used include acupuncture, laser therapy, massage, and exercise. Weight loss, if required, is a key part of management, and specific joint diets or use of supplements (omega-3 fatty acids) can be beneficial.

B **Promoting Healthy Weight in Senior Patients**, *Dr. Alex German*

Many older cats are overweight, and this can exacerbate concurrent diseases, while predisposing to others. Conversely, as cats age they may develop diseases that lead to weight loss. This lecture will focus on tailoring nutritional plans for weight loss and weight maintenance for older cats by focusing on individual priorities and aiming to maximize quality of life.

P **Increasing Client Compliance in Feline Appointments**, *Dr. Christine Bohn Kimos*

In this session, we will explore real world examples of how you can get the cat owner to say yes to your recommendations. Discussion will include how increased compliance can improve your medicine and increase your gross revenues.

3:45 – 4:35 pm

A **Quality of Life Assessments, Feline Hospice, & Palliative Care**, *Dr. Diane Eigner*

In this session, Dr. Eigner will discuss the increasing demand for hospice and palliative care, five steps of the hospice consultation, quality of life assessments, and the use of an interdisciplinary team. The presentation will also cover the concept of comfort care as well as provide ways to start offering hospice care or expand upon current services offered in the practice.

B **Feeding Old Cats: Understanding Feeding Behavior**, *Dr. Debra Zoran*

This session will provide the attendee with a complete background of feline nutrition, feeding behavior, and key aspects of feline eating habits that must be understood to fully help cat owners feed cats properly.

P **Does Veterinary Medicine Have a Mental Health Crisis?: Results of the Merck Animal Health Veterinary Wellbeing Study**, *Dr. Linda Lord*

There has been growing concern in the profession about mental health among veterinarians including issues such as depression, anxiety, compassion fatigue, and suicide. There have been some studies on these issues in the profession but to date, no definitive national representative study on mental health and well-being among US veterinarians has been done. This study was conducted to survey a random sample of US veterinarians across all sectors of the profession to accomplish the following three goals: 1) Definitely quantify the prevalence of serious psychological distress among veterinarians with comparisons to the US general population; 2) Identify segments of the profession most at risk and determine factors that negatively and positively impact mental health; and 3) Measure the level of well-being in the profession and identify factors that contribute to higher levels of well-being. Participants in this session will gain a much deeper understanding of the current state of mental health and well-being in the profession and also recommendations for what can be done at the organizational, practice, and individual levels.

4:40 – 5:35 pm

A **Saying Goodbye: When, How, & Where?**, *Dr. Sheilah Robertson*

The “last appointment” a veterinarian has with a pet is often the one to perform euthanasia. This is an emotional time for the owner and the entire health care team, and can be a “make or break” appointment which dictates whether the client will return to the same practice if they acquire a new pet. In most cases, euthanasia is performed because of the pet’s deteriorating quality of life. At no time during the appointment should the cat be separated from the owner. Sedation is highly recommended prior to euthanasia. This allows a smooth transition towards death, time for the owner to see the cat resting peacefully, and facilitates administration of euthanasia drugs which may be by the intravenous, intracardiac, intrarenal, or intrahepatic route. Where euthanasia takes place is important; some veterinarians offer in-home services and others perform euthanasia in their practice. If performed within a clinic, the room used should be as non-clinical as possible; a “comfort room” with couches and chairs, dim lighting, and the ability for the owner to hold their cat if they wish can enhance everyone’s experience. In many cases an examination room can quickly be converted to a comfort room when space is limited.

B **Feeding Old Cats: Determining Nutritional Needs**, *Dr. Debra Zoran*

This session will provide the attendee with an understanding and review of key metabolic differences in cats and changes in geriatric feline physiology that changes their nutritional needs. Key concepts will include understanding sarcopenia and the essential role of protein and fat in older cats.

P **Purring into Practice: Creating & Nurturing a Cat Friendly Team Mission**, *Dr. Elizabeth Colleran*

It is not enough to want to see more cats or learn to restrain them gently or plug in a feline facial pheromone diffuser to change the experience that cats and their owners have in our practices. Our brains and senses need to be trained to read feline emotional and physical states when they are still subtle, before arousal has reached the point that it is obvious and on a trajectory that cannot be reversed. Having learned to assess them, we then use proven techniques to allay their fear enough to bond with the client, do a comprehensive physical exam, and any other procedure that is indicated for this patient at this time. Cats are solitary hunters who do not convey emotional states or physical pain with the drama of dogs. We are likely to mistake their inscrutability unless we know how and where to look, and then what to do.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

- 8:30 – 9:20 am**
- A Screening Seniors: Integrating Early Detection Programs to Benefit Your Patients & Practice, Dr. Margie Scherk**
Early detection of disease can improve wellbeing and longevity. Providing preventive healthcare that includes routine screening is especially important in senior cats. This session will look at how to implement screening programs to benefit cats, their people, and the financial stability of the clinic.
 - B Nutritional Management of Older Cats: Changes in GI Function, Dr. Debra Zoran**
This talk will discuss the use of nutritional management of common GI issues and its relationship to GI dysfunction using a case-based format.
 - T Why Assigning Acute Pain Scores to Surgery & Trauma Patients Matters, Dr. Sheilah Robertson**
To treat pain, we must first recognize it and quantify it in some way so we can assess the efficacy of our treatments. Pain is a complex multidimensional experience with both sensory and emotional components. In cats, physiologic variables (e.g., heart rate, respiratory rate, and blood pressure) are not, on their own, good indicators of pain because these are altered by other factors including fear and stress. It is now accepted that quantitative measurement of behavior is the most reliable method for assessing pain in animals. Normal behaviors should be maintained post-operatively if a cat is comfortable. The occurrence of new behaviors such as a previously friendly cat becoming aggressive, or a playful and friendly cat becoming reclusive should raise our suspicion that pain may not have been adequately addressed. There are now validated tools for assessing acute pain in cats including the Glasgow Composite Measure Pain Scale and the UNESP-Botucatu Multidimensional Composite Pain Scale. These tools assess specific domains including vocalization, posture, attention to the wound, facial expressions, and response to palpation and interaction with the observer. Intervention levels for treatment are also suggested. These tools can be easily integrated into veterinary clinics and will improve pain management and welfare of cats.
- 9:25 – 10:15 am**
- A Comorbidities - Managing the Unmanageable: Approaching a Cat with CKD, Diabetes, Arthritis, Hyperthyroidism, & Hypertension, Dr. Margie Scherk**
The older cat is predisposed to many medical problems and often presents with several concurrent disease conditions. How do we meet the challenge of feeding a cat with diabetes as well as CKD? What about using NSAIDs for arthritis in a cat with CKD? In this session, we'll look at how to approach an individual with conditions that have contrary therapeutic or nutritional requirements.
 - B Nutritional Management of Older Cats with Multiple Diseases, Dr. Debra Zoran**
This talk will use a case-based format to illustrate the important role of nutrition and diet selection in the management of cats with multiple diseases with competing nutritional priorities, e.g., the cat with diabetes that has kidney disease, etc.
 - T Anesthesia & Pain Management for Difficult Cats, Dr. Sheilah Robertson**
Cats can pose many problems when it comes to anesthesia and analgesia. A nice friendly cat can turn into a patient you don't recognize and there are the cats who just hate a clinic visit. However, we are now figuring out how to help these cats, which in turn makes our life easier. Administration of gabapentin at home decreases the stress score of cats when they arrive. Music specifically composed for cats and feline facial pheromones can also make cats easier to handle for pre-anesthetic examination and sedation. The correct equipment with practice are quick to use and minimally stressful to most cats. Although off-label in the US, the intramuscular use of alfaxalone can be very helpful when dealing with cats that are difficult to handle. Analgesics that have a long duration of action are useful in these cats and include long-acting local anesthetics and specific formulations of buprenorphine. Oral medications such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents are usually easy to administer if they are flavored to maximize voluntary intake.
- 11:00 – 12:30 pm**
- C Panel - Meeting Senior Needs: Q&A with the Experts, Drs. Margie Scherk, Alex German, Margaret Gruen, Sheilah Robertson, & Debra Zoran**
This session will give attendees the opportunity to ask questions of the senior care speakers. Attendees are encouraged to submit questions prior to the session. Please submit questions from Friday's senior sessions by the end of the day on Friday. Please submit questions from Saturday's morning session by 10:15 am on Saturday. Forms will be supplied in the back of the session rooms, which can be submitted via a box in the back of the session room or at the registration desk.
 - T Blood Pressure Monitoring: Who, What, Where, When, & Why?, Dr. Kelly St. Denis**
Blood pressure assessment should be an integral part of a senior cat's healthcare. Despite this, many veterinary teams struggle with the procedure. The time required to take blood pressure in a cat may not be practical in the appointment setting, the cat may not be cooperative, and the team may not be comfortable with the equipment available. Once obtained, understanding collected readings can be challenging at best. This session will review the causes and consequences of hypertension in the feline species, but will focus on the art of taking blood pressure in the cat. Cat-friendly tricks and tips will provide the attendee with the resources necessary to consistently collect and accurately interpret blood pressure readings in the cat. The attendee will attain the expertise necessary for implementing blood pressure monitoring as part of routine senior care in their practice.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 continued

- 12:45 – 1:45 pm** **Lunch & Learn #1: Cats, Cardiomyopathy, & the Practical Use of BNP Testing**, *Dr. Bonnie Lefbom*
This session will discuss the wide range of heart disease affecting the feline patient including tips for, and benefits of, early diagnosis and treatment. Discussion will include recommendations for using NT ProBNP testing in daily practice.
- Lunch & Learn #2: Cats, Ticks, & Disease**, *Dr. Susan E. Little*
This session will present data documenting the risk of feline tick infestation and tick-borne infections across the United States. In addition, it will describe risk factors associated with feline tick infestation, review diagnostic and treatment approaches, and outline strategies to prevent ticks on cats that may help limit the risk of feline tick-borne diseases.
- Lunch & Learn #3: Feline Pain: Increase Your Tools**, *Dr. Jennifer Johnson*
As clinicians, we continue to be frustrated by our difficulty, first, in objectively measuring feline pain and second, in effectively creating a treatment protocol for cats to which our clients can comply. With the more frequent use of Digital Infrared Thermography, veterinarians may have found another tool for their pain-assessment and management "tool box." The use of thermal images may help to provide clues to our clinical pain investigation in cats, in a completely non-invasive fashion. The first part of the session will explore the various ways to identify feline pain discussing current metrology tools such as the FMPI, client education, and then exploring the use of thermal imaging. The second half will review current pharmacologic and adjunct treatments for feline pain, including photobiomodulation and wearable pulsed electromagnetic frequency devices, designed with cats in mind.
- 2:00 – 2:50 pm** **C The First 5 Minutes: You Too Can Save a Life!**, *Dr. Elke Rudloff*
The first five minutes are the most stressful and informative when faced with the catastrophically ill or injured cat. The veterinary team plays an integral role during this triage phase. Organized team work and hospital readiness are the keys to optimizing outcome during the resuscitation and stabilization of the emergent patient. Using case examples, this presentation provides the attendee with tips on preparedness and how to intervene when seconds count.
- T Nutritional Support in the Critically Ill Cat**, *Dr. Christina Fernandez*
Nutritional support is a vital part of managing critically ill feline patients. At times, the negative effects of malnutrition can be more detrimental to the patient than the primary disease process itself. In this talk, we will cover important aspects of feeding cats with critical illness with an emphasis on rationale decision making tailored to the individual patient.
- 2:55 – 3:45 pm** **C The Diabetic-Ketotic CATastrophe**, *Dr. Elke Rudloff*
Hyperglycemic ketoacidosis is a syndrome that can cause severe illness and death. Serum hyperosmolarity, osmotic diuresis, and vomiting can result in hypovolemia and severe dehydration. Altered mentation from serum hyperosmolarity, ketosis, acidosis, and electrolyte disturbances can increase the risk for aspiration, CNS injury, and seizure activity. Reestablishing and maintaining intravascular and interstitial fluid homeostasis requires glycemic control and elimination of ketonemia with insulin therapy. This presentation discusses new alternatives to stabilizing the cat with DKA.
- T Not in my Back Yard! The Secret Life of Cats & Parasites**, *Dr. Cathy Lund*
Keeping our cats healthy in 2018 means protecting them from things we might not even see. Our cats are enormously important to us, and just like with any other family member, we want them to be safe. This means using year-round, broad-spectrum parasite prevention, but how do we let our clients know why this is so important? How do we convince them that their inside cats don't have parasite-repelling superpowers? Successful conversations about why parasite control is imperative always start with what our cats mean to us and why caring for them involves protecting them from parasites.
- 3:50 – 4:45 pm** **C Have Questions? Answers to Your Cat Friendly Practice Inquiries**
Do you have questions about the Cat Friendly Practice program? We will be collecting your questions prior to the meeting, and answering them during this presentation. We encourage those thinking about starting the program, or those who are already a Cat Friendly Practice, to submit your questions to be answered by the panel. Many times we often have the same questions, so we encourage all to attend to learn from your colleagues.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

8:30 – 9:20 am

A **Urinary Tract Obstruction: Bad to the Stone**, *Dr. Elke Rudloff*

Obstruction of the urinary tract is a common emergency presentation. Obstruction of urine outflow rapidly leads to azotemia, uremia, and life-threatening alterations in fluid, electrolyte, and acid base balance. Additionally, the increased pressure in the distended urinary bladder is transmitted to the upper urinary tract and may lead to decreased renal perfusion and significant renal parenchymal injury. This presentation discusses a protocol for the rapid assessment and successful management of the cat with urinary tract obstruction.

B **Sedation of the Critically Ill Cat**, *Dr. Justine Lee*

In this lecture, Dr. Justine Lee will review the use of anesthetics and analgesics in the critically ill cat. In cats with underlying cardiopulmonary or metabolic disease, the judicious use of sedatives is warranted. Examples of critically ill feline patients seen in daily veterinary practice include urethral obstruction, pleural effusion, asthma, or underlying icterus. The use of appropriate analgesics (e.g., coccygeal block, buprenorphine) should be considered, along with aggressive oxygenation, stabilization, and reversible opioid therapy (e.g., butorphanol) is warranted.

T **Bring Back the Pounce: Osteoarthritis in Cats**, *Ms. Kara Burns*

The goals of medical management of osteoarthritis include: 1) mitigation of risk factors; 2) controlling clinical signs; and 3) moderating progression of the disease. Effective medical management generally requires a multimodal approach. Clinical nutrition plays a critical role in the successful long-term management of patients with osteoarthritis. Prevention or reversal of obesity is one of the most effective mechanisms for reducing risk and modifying disease progression. New studies document therapeutic foods enriched with omega-3 fatty acids ease the pain and slow the progression of osteoarthritis.

9:25 – 10:15 am

A **Feeding Tubes: How to Place & Use**, *Dr. Elke Rudloff*

The metabolism of an anorexic critically ill cat differs from that seen in simple starvation. Early and adequate nutrition may require the placement of an enteral feeding tube and initiating assisted feeding. This lecture will cover the basic indications for enteral nutrition, how to place nasogastric and esophageal feeding tubes, how to initiate feedings, and complications to look for.

B **Top 10 Mistakes to Avoid in the Emergency Feline Patient**, *Dr. Justine Lee*

In this lecture, Dr. Justine Lee, will review the top ten mistakes to avoid in the emergency feline patient. If you don't see emergencies 24/7, the feline emergency may be intimidating. Veterinarians must feel comfortable treating common emergency disorders seen in the feline patient. Rapid recognition and immediate stabilization is imperative to prevent the feline patient from rapidly deteriorating and becoming critically ill. By knowing how to stabilize the dyspneic cat, how to perform a thoracocentesis, how to correctly induce emesis in cats, how to rapidly correct acid-base and electrolyte abnormalities, and how to manage metabolic emergencies, these patients can respond well to treatment.

T **Diabetes: Nutritional Management & Client Communication**, *Ms. Kara Burns*

Diabetes mellitus is estimated to affect one in 250 cats. Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a chronic endocrine disorder that is characterized by hyperglycemia, glucosuria, polyphagia, polydipsia, polyuria, and weight loss. Usually these signs occur because the pancreas is unable to produce enough insulin to meet the animal's requirements or the animal's body is resistant to insulin. Diabetes mellitus can be an overwhelming diagnosis for cat owners. Cat owners will need to understand the disease of DM, how to give insulin, and the key points to nutritional management. Clinical nutrition plays an important role in the successful long-term management of cats with diabetes. Communication is crucial to ensure the client has the proper information and education to ensure they are providing proper care at home.

10:45 – 11:35 am

A **Approach to the Cat in Respiratory Distress**, *Dr. Adesola Odunayo*

This session will focus on stabilizing the cat in respiratory distress. Dr. Odunayo will emphasize the importance of minimizing stress in the hypoxemic cat and highlight multiple techniques for providing supplemental oxygen, utilizing ultrasound when evaluating the cat in respiratory distress, and tips for performing thoracocentesis.

B **Global FAST Ultrasound: How to Perform & Unique Feline Differences**, *Dr. Gregory Lisciandro*

This lecture will cover our 3rd ultrasound format named Global FAST that combines AFAST (abdominal) with its fluid scoring system, TFAST (thorax), and Vet BLUE (lung). Global FAST Ultrasound is achievable with minimal ultrasound training and provides a huge amount of clinical information point-of-care, rapidly and with minimal restraint answering important clinical questions to better treat and to help pick the next best test. Felines have important Global FAST differences from dogs.

T **Nutritional Counseling with the Feline Owner**, *Ms. Kara Burns*

Proper nutrient intake is essential for normal development, overall health, and disease management in cats. Nutrients have many metabolic roles essential to normal physiologic function that can be compromised by insufficient or irregular intake. Minimum requirements in cats have been determined to achieve optimal nutrition, focusing on the key nutrients for physical development, mobility, immune response, cognitive functions, disease prevention, or target treatment. This session will look at the unique aspects of felines and how best to communicate with cat owners regarding nutrition. Proper nutrition is a critical component for maintaining the health of pets. Every patient, healthy or ill, that enters the veterinary hospital should have an evaluation of their nutritional status and healthcare team members should make a nutritional recommendation based on this evaluation. However, with the number of cat foods available it may be difficult for healthcare team members to make a nutritional recommendation and effectively communicate this recommendation to their clients. We will review the role of the veterinary technician in nutrition and provide practical guidelines and tips to be used. Additionally, we will learn how to calculate amounts to feed for various life stages.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 continued

- 11:40 – 12:30 pm** **A** **Decontamination of Common Feline Toxicities**, *Dr. Adesola Odunayo*
 Permethrin, acetaminophen, ethylene glycol, lilies, or rodenticides. This session will cover important techniques for decontaminating the cat exposed to toxic agents, including important clues and how to treat specific toxins.
- B** **Proactive Lung Ultrasound: The Vet BLUE & the Tale of Four Felines**, *Dr. Gregory Lisciandro*
 This cutting-edge lecture will cover a brief evolution and history of lung ultrasound and the human and veterinary literature as a segue into the six Vet BLUE lung ultrasound signs. These Vet BLUE signs will be clinically applied to the tale of four felines, each in respiratory distress with nostril flaring and abdominal breathing, yet radically different Vet BLUE lung ultrasound patterns. Vet BLUE is performed point-of-care, rapidly (<90-120 seconds), with minimal restraint, and far less risky than radiology as your initial imaging test.
- T** **FLUTD: Updates in Nutritional Management**, *Ms. Kara Burns*
 This presentation will focus on causes of FLUTD, the technicians' role in diagnostics, treatment options – most notably nutritional management and environmental enrichment, what is new in nutritional management as well as assisting the cat owner in producing a positive outcome for FLUTD.
- 12:40 – 1:40 pm** **Lunch & Learn #1: Obesity in Cats: Making that Fat Cat Fit!**, *Dr. Alex German*
 Obesity is now the most common medical disease in domestic cats and its prevalence is increasing. Weight management programs can be successful, but require dedication and expertise. In this Lunch & Learn, practical tips will be discussed that will help you to make weight management work in your practice.
- Lunch & Learn #2: Managing Complex Feline Endocrine Diseases: A Case-based Approach**, *Dr. Audra Fenimore*
 "Managing Complex Feline Endocrine Diseases" takes a case-based look at updated approaches to diagnosing and managing diabetes mellitus and hyperthyroidism.
- 1:45 – 2:35 pm** **A** **Approach to the Cat in Shock**, *Dr. Adesola Odunayo*
 This session will go over the pathophysiology of shock in cats, as well as ways to treat and manage a cat in shock. Highlights will include types of shock, recognition of shock, securing intravenous access in the cat in shock, and treatment of shock.
- B** **Global FAST Ultrasound: Patient Monitoring & Detecting Treatable Forms of Shock**, *Dr. Gregory Lisciandro*
 This lecture will cover cutting-edge ways to monitor volume status (heart, lung, caudal vena cava), survey for complications during hospitalized care, and recognize treatable forms of shock (Hs and Ts of CPR) to better change clinical course through more accurate interventions. Global FAST is our 3rd veterinary format that surveys the abdominal cavity, thorax, heart, and lung rapidly and point-of-care.
- T** **Feline IBD: Pathophysiology, Treatment Goals, & Client Communication**, *Ms. Kara Burns*
 Veterinary technicians must be familiar with feline IBD, the causes of this disease, and work with the entire healthcare team to alleviate the signs and symptoms observed in cats presenting to the hospital. Veterinary technicians play an important role in monitoring IBD feline patients and their response to treatment. This presentation will look at the pathophysiology of IBD, goals of treatment, and the importance of educating pet owners regarding this disease.
- 2:40 – 3:30 pm** **A** **Case-based Approach to Transfusion Medicine**, *Dr. Adesola Odunayo*
 This session will utilize case examples to highlight the principles of transfusion medicine. Highlights will include red cell transfusion and blood typing, plasma transfusion in cats, and the role of xenotransfusion.
- B** **Setting Up a Successful Global FAST Ultrasound Program**, *Dr. Gregory Lisciandro*
 This lecture will cover the tenets developed by the author as assistant and then medical director at their 24/7/365 emergency and critical care center at which over 1,250 FAST exams were charged over a year's time period.
- T** **CKD: Getting Your Picky Patient to Eat**, *Ms. Kara Burns*
 Nutritional management is an important component of treatment for cats with chronic kidney disease. However, a common complaint is that cats will not eat the recommended food. This presentation reviews effectiveness of different treatments for chronic kidney disease, provides guidelines for selecting foods, and offers practical tips for getting your patients to eat so they live longer and healthier lives.

Why Should I Attend?

We invite you to visit the city of Charlotte, NC and join colleagues from around the world as you increase your feline knowledge by attending presentations led by experts in the fields of feline senior and geriatric care, and emergency medicine and critical care. The AAFP is proud to offer an assortment of tracks to meet the individualized needs of attendees in the various stages of their professional development. This conference will join together veterinary professionals who are dedicated to increasing their feline knowledge and passionate about elevating the standard of care for cats.

Continuing Education Credits

This conference has been submitted (but not yet approved) for 30.5 hours of continuing education credits in jurisdictions which recognize AAVSB RACE approval; however, participants should be aware that some boards have limitations on the number of hours accepted in certain categories and/or restrictions on certain methods of delivery of continuing education. Contact AAFP Headquarters for further information at info@catvets.com. Once obtained, the program approval number will be listed on the conference website at www.catvets.com/education.

Pre-conference Day -	Thursday, September 27, 2018	Up to 9 CE Hours
General Conference -	Friday, September 28, 2018	Up to 8 CE Hours
	Saturday, September 29, 2018	Up to 6.5 CE Hours
	Sunday, September 30, 2018	Up to 7 CE Hours

Registration

Below are the costs for attending this conference. Please note that you will be able to move throughout the Veterinarian Tracks, Technician/Nurse Tracks, and Practice Management Track.

		BY 9/7/18	AFTER 9/7/18
Pre-conference Day (Thursday)			
Veterinarian Member/ISFM Member		\$140	\$165
Veterinarian Non-Member		\$190	\$215
Technician/Practice Manager		\$ 85	\$105
Student		\$ 45	\$ 60
Full Three Day General Conference (Friday - Sunday)			
Veterinarian	AAFP Member/ISFM Member	\$545	\$620
	Non-Member	\$655	\$735
	One-Day/Two-Day Registration	\$250 per day	\$290 per day
Technician/Nurse	AAFP Member	\$220	\$270
	Non-Member	\$270	\$325
	One-Day/Two-Day Reg. - Technician/Nurse Track	\$100 per day	\$120 per day
Practice Management & Other Hospital Staff	AAFP Member	\$220	\$270
	Non-Member	\$270	\$325
	One-Day Friday Reg. - Practice Management Track	\$100	\$120
Student		\$ 85	\$110

*Registration for the Full Three Day Conference includes access to the Technician/Nurse and Practice Management Tracks.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation must be received in writing either via fax: (908) 292-1188 or email: info@catvets.com. Cancellations received **by Friday, September 7, 2018** will receive a refund minus a \$50.00 administrative fee. Cancellations received **after Friday, September 7, 2018** will not be eligible for refunds. Please note if you cancel your conference registration, it does not constitute cancellation of your hotel reservation.

Consent to Use Photographic Images

Registration and attendance at, or participation in, the AAFP Conference and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to AAFP's use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant or attendee's image or voice in photographs, video's, electronic reproductions, marketing efforts and materials, and audiotapes of such events and activities.

Fracture cover photo courtesy of Dr. Garret Pachtinger, VMD, DACVECC, COO; VETgirl

**Dressing in layers is recommended due to room temperature variations.*

***Please note that children are not permitted in the educational session rooms.
Nursing mothers can reach out to info@catvets.com for information.*

Conference Hotel Information

Westin Hotel

601 S. College St.
Charlotte, NC 28202
Online Reservations: www.catvets.com/education

The Westin Charlotte Hotel is located in the heart of the city's bustling uptown district. The convenient uptown location places you just steps from the Charlotte Convention Center, where the AAFP Conference will be taking place, as well as close to many restaurants, shopping, and entertainment. Charlotte, "The Queen City," is a one-of-a-kind city that you'll want to see. So make sure to join the AAFP and come early or stay late to explore all that Charlotte has to offer.



The AAFP is pleased to offer special rates for this conference. The **group rate is only available until Friday, September 7, 2018**, subject to availability. Reservations made after Friday, September 7, 2018 may not be guaranteed the group rate. If you call to make your reservation, you must refer to the Group Code: "American Association of Feline Practitioners."

Run of House Room Rates: \$169.00 Single/Double Occupancy Rate

**Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes in effect at the time of the check-out.*

Room Rate Includes:

- Check-in time: 3:00 pm – Check-out time: 12:00 pm
- Complimentary access to the fitness center and pool
- Complimentary Wi-Fi in guest rooms
- Discount parking: \$15 - Self-parking; \$25 - Valet parking

Cancellation Policy: Cancel 72 hours prior to arrival.

Traveling to the Conference

Airport: Charlotte Douglas International Airport

- Distance: 7.3 miles
- Transportation to and from airport:
 - Estimated Taxi Fare: \$25-30 one way; 15 minutes
- ◆ Airline Discounts Available: The AAFP has arranged for airfare discounts through United and Delta. The AAFP does not endorse utilizing these platforms or businesses, nor have any relationship with these airlines. At the time of the meeting, these were the only airlines that offer conference discounts and as a courtesy to our attendees, the AAFP has arranged for a discount code. The discount will vary based on itinerary, location, operator, and fare. Please email info@catvets.com for the discount code for both airlines.

Bus: Greyhound Bus Station

- Distance: 1 mile
- Transportation to and from bus station:
 - Estimated Fare: \$15 one way; 7 minutes

Railway: Amtrak

- Distance: 2.5 miles
- Transportation to and from Amtrak station:
 - Estimated Fare: \$20 one way; 10 minutes

AAFP Attendee Parking Rates:

Westin Hotel Parking: Discount parking: \$15 - Self-parking; \$25 - Valet parking

Street Parking:

Street Parking is available in most areas of the city. Meters rates vary according to locations. Most metered spaces, located in high-demand areas, are \$0.25 for each 15 minutes. Those located on the perimeter of the city are \$0.50 per hour.

Included in Your Registration Fee

Meals

Your conference registration includes full breakfast and lunch all three days of the general conference. Friday morning will be a continental breakfast. For other meals, a large variety of hot and cold items are served, including vegetarian and other healthy alternatives. Coffee breaks are also provided. Pre-conference Day includes lunch and a coffee break with snack in the afternoon.

Conference Proceedings

Proceedings Notes are provided to each attendee. Below are the three options for obtaining the proceedings notes. Since we know you cannot be in two places at one time, the notes for ALL sessions will be included in the conference proceedings so you will not miss out on any valuable information.

- 1. Online Proceedings:** Each registered attendee will receive an email approximately three weeks prior to the event with complimentary online access to the conference proceedings on the AAFP website. **You MUST print out these notes if you want the proceeding notes onsite (unless you have pre-purchased a printed book).**
- 2. USB Flash Drive:** All attendees will be provided with a USB flash drive, which will contain the proceedings for the conference.
- 3. Printed Book:** You may pre-purchase a Printed Proceedings Book for \$60.00. If you purchase a Proceedings Book but do not attend the conference, there will be a \$15 shipping and handling fee.

Welcome Reception

All attendees are invited to this welcome reception hosted by Boehringer Ingelheim on Thursday, September 27. Refreshments and appetizers will be provided as you have the opportunity to network and socialize with friends and meet new colleagues.



Happy Hour Reception

All attendees are invited to this reception hosted by Kindred Biosciences on Friday, September 28 in the exhibit hall. Refreshments and appetizers will be provided as you have the opportunity to visit at length with exhibitors. We encourage all conference attendees to make the most of this time to ask questions, test equipment, create relationships, and learn about new products.



Giveaways

Attendees will receive a plethora of giveaways with your registration materials. Raffle prizes will also be awarded, so be sure to visit the exhibit hall to stamp your Exhibit Passport for the chance to win!

Local Charlotte Discounts

Attendees will receive exclusive discounts from local restaurants & attractions. Visit the conference webpage at www.catvets.com/education and click on Hotel and Travel button for details on these exclusive discounts.

Internet Access

We understand that everyone needs to stay connected while you are away, so you will have internet and computer access with the VIN cybercafé lounge throughout the entire conference. Here you can also access the conference evaluation, the JFMS, and renew your AAFP membership.



Exhibit Hall

Each registered attendee has full access to the Exhibit Hall. We have invited a large variety of companies to exhibit at our conference. The Exhibit Hall will be open during breakfast, coffee breaks, lunch, and the Friday Happy Hour Reception. Please note: AAFP does not endorse the products or services of the companies that exhibit.

Poster and Oral Abstract Sessions

Educational Posters will contain original research or case reports that have not been previously published. Posters will be located in the front of the exhibit hall along the right-hand wall when you walk in the entrance. We encourage you to view the posters and engage with the authors on various feline topics. Poster presenters will be available to answer questions - check your Onsite Program Book for more details. New this year will include three oral abstracts presented on Saturday morning during breakfast.

Early Riser Yoga Class

The Early Riser Yoga classes are free for all conference attendees. Read more information on page 22 and sign-up for this event on the Registration Form. A waiver must be submitted for every participant.

Exhibit Hall Hours

Friday, September 28, 2018
 Saturday, September 29, 2018
 Sunday, September 30, 2018

Exhibits open 10:00 am to 6:30 pm
 Exhibits open 7:30 am to 2:00 pm
 Exhibits open 7:30 am to 1:45 pm

Exhibitors (as of May 15, 2018) - An updated list and company abstracts can be found at www.catvets.com/education.

Abaxis	Doctor Multimedia	Pioneer Pet Products
Addison Biological Laboratory, Inc.	DoseLogix	PRN Pharmacal
Allied Powers LLC	Elanco	Purina Pro Plan Veterinary Diets
American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP)	Ele-Vet Technologies	Radiocat
Art for Cats' Sake	Elite Science, LLC	Rose Micro Solutions
ASPCA Pet Health Insurance	Ellman, A Cynosure Company	Royal Canin
Assisi Animal Health	Elsevier, Inc.	Rx Vitamins, Inc.
Banfield Pet Hospital	Emeraid-Lafeber	Snyder Manufacturing Company
Bayer Animal Health	Habitat Haven	Specialty Veterinary Pharmacy
BCP Veterinary Pharmacy	Hills Pet Nutrition, Inc.	Sure Petcare
Best Pet Rx	Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association	The International Cat Association, Inc. (TICA)
Blücare Lab	IAAHPC	Vet Innovations, Inc.
Bock Vet Pharma	IDEXX Laboratories	Vet Ray Technology by Sedecal
Boehringer Ingelheim	Imaging Services, Inc.	VetCor
Campbell Pet Company	Jorgensen Laboratories	VetCove
Cat Dancer Products, Inc.	Kindred Biosciences, Inc.	Veterinary Books by Success Concepts
Cat Friendly Practice® (CFP)	Mason Company	VetImmune
Ceva Animal Health	Meds for Vets Pharmacy	VetMatrix
Coastline Global	Merck Animal Health	Vetoquinol
Companion Animal Health	MILA International, Inc.	VetriScience Laboratories
Dechra Veterinary Products	MWI Animal Health	ViaGen Pets
Dental Focus, LLC	National Kitten Coalition	Vortech Pharmaceuticals
Diamondback Drugs	Nutramax Laboratories, Inc.	Wedgewood Pharmacy
Digatherm	Pet Health Pharmacy	Winn Feline Foundation
DMS Laboratories, Inc.	petMAP	Zoetis

Special Events

Pre-conference Day**

Want to earn additional CE? Plan to attend the Pre-conference Day sessions on Thursday, September 27.

Early Morning Learning Sessions

The Pre-conference Day will begin with two sessions sponsored by Ceva and presented by Dr. Jeannine Berger. The sessions include *New Strategies of Managing Feline URIs* and *Cat Scratching Solutions*. For a more detailed description of the sessions, please see the abstracts on page 10.



Food for Thought Luncheon

The Food for Thought Luncheon is sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition. Attendees will be provided with lunch as they listen to Dr. S. Dru Forrester present *Is It Early CKD: Now What?* For a more detailed description of the session, please see the abstract on page 10.



ABVP/AAFP Seminar & Social

Dr. Tony Buffington will present on topics such as Pandora Syndrome in Cats, Placebo-associated Responses, and Nutrition and Disease Prevention. These presentations will offer you four additional CE hours and a refreshment break will provide time to network with other attendees. This seminar is intended for any attendee desiring additional high level, engaging CE. You won't want to miss it! The ABVP/AAFP Seminar & Social is sponsored by Royal Canin. For a more detailed description of the sessions, please see the abstracts on page 10.



Pre-conference Day (Thursday) Registration Fees:

Veterinarian Member/ISFM Member	By September 7: \$140	After September 7: \$165
Veterinarian Non-Member	By September 7: \$190	After September 7: \$215
Technician/Practice Manager	By September 7: \$ 85	After September 7: \$105
Student	By September 7: \$ 45	After September 7: \$ 60

Separate registration is required for Pre-conference Day and you do not have to be registered for the entire conference to attend.

**Separate Registration Required. Additional fees apply.

Sponsored Lunch & Learn Sessions*

Friday Lunch & Learns

Lunch & Learn #1: Zoetis will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Friday, September 28 entitled, *Feline Heartworm Disease: What Your Clients (& You) Need to Know*, presented by Dr. Gary Norsworthy. For a detailed description, see page 11.



Lunch & Learn #2: Kindred Biosciences will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Friday, September 28 entitled, *Feline Clinical Pharmacology: Exploring Species & Disease State Influences*, presented by Dr. Jessica Quimby. For a detailed description, see page 11.



Saturday Lunch & Learns

Lunch & Learn #1: IDEXX Laboratories will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Saturday, September 29 entitled, *Cats, Cardiomyopathy, & the Practical Use of BNP Testing*, presented by Dr. Bonnie Lefbom. For a detailed description, see page 14.



Lunch & Learn #2: Merck Animal Health will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Saturday, September 29 entitled, *Cats, Ticks, & Disease*, presented by Dr. Susan E. Little. For a detailed description, see page 14.



Lunch & Learn #3: Assisi Animal Health will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Saturday, September 29, entitled, *Feline Pain: Increase Your Tools*, presented by Dr. Jennifer Johnson. For a detailed description, see page 14.



Sunday Lunch & Learn

Lunch & Learn #1: Royal Canin will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Sunday, September 30 entitled, *Obesity in Cats: Making that Fat Cat Fit!*, presented by Dr. Alex German. For a detailed description, see page 16.



Lunch & Learn #2: Boehringer Ingelheim will be sponsoring a Lunch and Learn session on Sunday, September 30 entitled, *Managing Complex Feline Endocrine Diseases: A Case-Based Approach*, presented by Dr. Audra Fenimore. For a detailed description, see page 16.



Separate registration is required in order to attend these events and space is limited in each session. Make sure you return your registration early in order to participate in a Lunch & Learn. **We ask that you please limit your registration to two Lunch & Learn sessions so others have the opportunity to attend.** Waitlists will be available for these sessions by emailing info@catvets.com. Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis and conference registration is required.

Ticket Prices: FREE (Limited to 180 registrants each; Saturday Lunch & Learn #3 is limited to 90)

Feline-Friendly Handling Workshop**

This hands-on workshop will begin with a short summary presentation on unique feline behaviors. Dr. Rodan will then demonstrate feline handling techniques, followed by attendees having an opportunity to break out into small groups to apply those techniques utilizing live cats. Techniques will include ways to reduce stress and fear, minimal and secure handling techniques, and other methods for various veterinary visit scenarios. Registrants are strongly encouraged to prepare for the lab prior to the conference and will be emailed about attending a free webinar and reviewing recommended reading (estimated 2 - 3 hours). It is recommended that you wear closed-toed shoes and scrubs or a doctor's jacket (optional).



Separate registration is required in order to attend this event and this session is not included in Pre-conference Day registration. The session will take place on Thursday, September 27 from 8:00 - 10:00 am. Make sure you return your registration form early in order to participate in the workshop. Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis and conference registration is required.

Ticket Prices: By September 7: \$175 After September 7: \$200 (Limited to 28 Registrants)

Feline 500: NASCAR Hall of Fame Offsite Event**



Join the AAFP for this year's offsite event which will be held at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, located right next to the Convention Center. The venue includes NASCAR's history, heritage, and is packed with traditional exhibits but also fueled with hands-on exhibits and interactive experiences like tire-changing stations and realistic racing simulators. You don't have to be a NASCAR fan to really enjoy everything this venue has to offer. The museum will be open the entire night and the cocktail reception will take place for the first hour in the heart of the exhibits. After the cocktail reception there will be a sit-down dinner followed by music and dancing. We invite you to break out your fancy attire as you spend an evening with friends and colleagues (no jeans or sneakers, please). These tickets are discounted thanks to the sponsorship by Elanco Animal Health.

Ticket Prices: By September 7: \$60 After September 7: \$70
Onsite Purchase (Limited Available): \$80

*Separate Registration Required. No fees associated.
**Separate Registration Required. Additional fees apply.

Early Riser Yoga Class*

The AAFP will be hosting a Yoga class, a healthy morning activity, to provide you with the tools to stay motivated and jumpstart your day. The Yoga class is a system of techniques, including breath control, simple meditation, and the adoption of specific bodily postures, practiced for health and relaxation. This session will be easy to follow, for all ages, and anyone from beginners to advanced workout enthusiasts are welcome. There will be three Yoga classes provided – Friday, September 28 from 6:00 am – 7:00 am; Saturday, September 29 from 6:15 am - 7:15 am; and Sunday, September 30 from 6:15 am - 7:15 am. Why not meet up with your colleagues and enjoy a relaxing time before a full day of CE?

Attendees must pre-register for this event and must complete the waiver below to participate.

Please note this class will take place at the Westin Hotel in Grand Ballroom A.

Ticket Prices: FREE (waiver required)

Yoga Class Waiver and Release

Waiver

I agree and acknowledge that I am participating in one, two or three of the AAFP/Diane Eigner Yoga Classes (“the Event”), being held on Friday, September 28; Saturday, September 29; and/or Sunday, September 30, 2018 on my own accord and that I am bound by this waiver and release.

I freely and knowingly represent and warrant that I am physically and mentally fit and able to participate in the Event, and I do hereby assume responsibility for my own well-being. I am fully aware that physical injury might occur to me as a result of participation in the Event, and I hereby assume the full risk, including risk which is not specifically foreseeable, of any injuries, including death, damages or other loss, regardless of severity, which I may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities associated with the Event.

In consideration of the right to participate in the Event, I hereby waive any and all rights or claims I may have as a result of participation in the Event against the American Association of Feline Practitioners, the Westin Hotel, Diane Eigner, all sponsors of the Event, and their respective directors, officers, employees, members, staff, and all individuals assisting in organizing and conducting the Event (“the Released Parties”), and I hereby fully release and discharge the Released Parties from any and all claims which may accrue to me or my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in the Event. I further agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any and all claims arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in the Event.

As a condition to, and in consideration of, my participation in a Diane Eigner program, I agree as follows:

- I understand that while in the class, using the equipment or participating without equipment, that there is a possibility of accidental or other physical injury or loss or damage to my personal property. I agree to assume all risk of such physical injury or loss of damage to my personal property.
- I am using any equipment and participating in any class at my own pace and at my own risk.
- I understand that yoga includes physical movements as well as an opportunity for relaxation, stress reduction and relief of muscular tension. I understand I will receive information and instruction; including verbal and physical adjustments about yoga and health. As is the case with any physical activity, the risk of injury, even serious or disabling, is always present and cannot be entirely eliminated. It is my responsibility to consult with a physician prior to my participation in the yoga class.
- I grant permission for first aid and/or CPR to be given to me in an emergency, as determined at the sole discretion of the yoga leader, and I agree that I will be solely responsible for any medical consequences, including financial cost.
- I represent and warrant that I am physically fit to practice yoga and I have no medical condition that would prevent my full participation in the yoga class. Yoga is not a substitute for medical attention, examination, diagnosis or treatment. Yoga is not recommended and is not safe under certain medical conditions. I affirm that I alone am responsible to decide whether to practice yoga.

I have read the release and waiver of liability and fully understand its consent. I voluntarily agree to the terms and conditions stated above.

Print Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Fax or mail this waiver with your Conference Registration Form.

If you register online you still must submit the Waiver & Release.

Fax to: 908-292-1188

Mail to: AAFP, 390 Amwell Road, Suite 402, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Scan to: info@catvets.com

EASY REGISTRATION:

Online www.catvets.com/education **Fax** (908) 292-1188 **Mail** AAFP, 390 Amwell Road, Suite 402, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

NAME _____ WORK PHONE _____

PRACTICE / COMPANY _____ EMAIL (required to receive confirmation and proceedings login) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

Check One: Practice Owner Associate Veterinarian Technician/Nurse
 Hospital Manager Office Staff Student Other _____

Notice of Consent/Privacy (Required)*

I agree that an application to the AAFP constitutes consent to receive email, mail, or fax from the Association and agree to terms of the AAFP Privacy Policy (<https://www.catvets.com/privacy>).
 Yes, I consent No, I do not consent

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & PHONE NUMBER _____

First-time Attendee Dietary Restrictions/Food Allergy: _____ ADA Accommodation: _____ ISFM Member #: _____

ABVP Diplomate: _____ Please do not send me a printed Conference Brochure in the future. How did you hear about us? _____

Interested in being a Speaker Moderator Interested in being a Volunteer Student Mentor I will attend the Cat-friendly Practice Forum on Saturday afternoon

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Pre-conference Day (Thursday)

	By 9/7/18	After 9/7/18	Total Cost
Veterinarian Member/ISFM Member	\$140	\$165	_____
Veterinarian Non-Member	\$190	\$215	_____
Technician/Practice Manager	\$ 85	\$105	_____
Student	\$ 45	\$ 60	_____

Full Three Day General Conference (Friday - Sunday)

Veterinarian	AAFP Member/ISFM Member	\$545	\$620	_____
	Non-Member	\$655	\$735	_____
	One-Day/Two-Day Registration	\$250 per day	\$290 per day	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday			_____
Technician/Nurse	AAFP Member	\$220	\$270	_____
	Non-Member	\$270	\$325	_____
	One-Day/Two-Day Reg. – Technician/Nurse Track	\$100 per day	\$120 per day	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday			_____
Practice Management & Other Hospital Staff	AAFP Member	\$220	\$270	_____
	Non-Member	\$270	\$325	_____
	One-Day Friday Reg. – Practice Management Track	\$100	\$120	_____
Student		\$ 85	\$110	_____

Additional Items & Events

Feline-Friendly Handling Workshop (Limited to 28)	\$175	\$200	_____
Yoga Class: <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat <input type="checkbox"/> Sun (Waiver Must be Submitted)	FREE	FREE	_____
Lunch & Learn (Limited quantity available. Maximum of two sessions per person, one per day)			
Friday #1 (Heartworm Disease)	FREE	FREE	_____
Friday #2 (Clinical Pharmacology)	FREE	FREE	_____
Saturday #1 (Cardiomyopathy)	FREE	FREE	_____
Saturday #2 (Cats, Ticks, & Disease)	FREE	FREE	_____
Saturday #3 (Feline Pain)	FREE	FREE	_____
Sunday #1 (Obesity)	FREE	FREE	_____
Sunday #2 (Endocrine Diseases)	FREE	FREE	_____
Offsite Event - Feline 500: NASCAR Hall of Fame	\$ 60	\$ 70	_____
Dinner Choices: <input type="checkbox"/> Beef <input type="checkbox"/> Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian (Tickets purchased onsite are \$80 and limited).			_____
Printed Proceedings Book	\$ 60	\$ 60	_____
Printed Proceedings Book Shipping & Handling – Non-attendees Only	\$ 15	\$ 15	_____
Guest Registration (includes meals, exhibit hall, & onsite receptions) Guests must be affiliated with a registered attendee.	\$225	\$275	_____
Guest Ticket – Happy Hour Reception ONLY (Friday)	\$ 25	\$ 25	_____

*Registration for the Full Three Day Conference includes access to the Technician/Nurse and Practice Management Tracks.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

AAFP Federal Tax ID 43-1397996

Check will be mailed Credit Card: _____ **REGISTRATION TOTAL:** \$ _____
 Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Checks are payable to "AAFP." Payments must be drawn in US Funds. AAFP, 390 Amwell Road, Suite 402, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Questions? (800) 874-0498 / info@catvets.com



We would like to recognize and thank the following companies for their sponsorships.

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Dr. Alex German; ABVP/AAFP Seminar & Social with Speaker
Dr. Tony Buffington; Young Veterinarian Scholarship Program



Diamond Partnership Sponsor

Happy Hour Reception; Lunch & Learn with Speaker
Dr. Jessica Quimby; Speaker Dr. Elke Rudloff; Speaker
Dr. Christina Fernandez; Student Award Program



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Five Sessions by Dr. Sheilah Robertson



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Gold Partnership Sponsor

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Speaker Dr. Christine Bohn Kirnos



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Sessions with Speaker Dr. Jeannine Berger;
Feline-Friendly Handling Workshop,
Dr. Ilona Rodan



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Dr. S. Dru Forrester



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