HELPING CATS NEAR AND FAR

Annual Report 2015
CORNELL FELINE HEALTH CENTER
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A Message
FROM THE DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Ithaca, where, with your help, we are working hard to achieve our mission of improving the welfare of cats both close to home and around the world. As you read through this year’s annual report, you will see that we have taken the charge set forth in our mission statement to heart, as we offer hope for a better future not only to domestic cats (which we love!), but also to wild cats, whose populations continue to face challenges imposed by human activities and changes in the natural world.

In this past year, the activities of the Cornell Feline Health Center have expanded to include support of an international symposium focused on the effects of canine distemper virus on Siberian tigers in eastern Russia, and how these effects may be mitigated. We have also provided support for a study investigating how a novel hormone test can be used to improve cheetah breeding programs in Namibia. Programs such as these are vital to the survival of these unique and wonderful species, and we are pleased that the Cornell Feline Health Center can provide assistance to researchers who have dedicated their lives to saving these and other threatened wild feline populations from extinction.

We’re proud to help support these endeavors to help wild cats, but we are focused, as always, on supporting the health and well-being of domestic cats. Thanks to the partnership of donors like you, we continue to administer an active research grants program, while providing aid to a number of other programs that are improving the lives of cats today and into the future. Given our unique affiliation with the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, we are poised to continue the many programs of scientific, clinical, and educational excellence that define what we do.

We take our mission of improving the lives of cats both at home and abroad seriously, and are thrilled to have the dedicated support of so many people who love cats and want to help improve their health. As we look to the future of feline medicine and care, we realize that there are many challenges to overcome, and we are heartened by the prospect of a better future for cats both locally and around the world. Thank you sincerely for making this bright future possible.

Sincerely,

Colin Parrish
Director, Cornell Feline Health Center

and

Bruce Kornreich
Associate Director, Cornell Feline Health Center
After a visit to the veterinarian, cat owners sometimes need supplemental information to help them follow up on care or provide answers to questions they may have later on. Whom do veterinarians trust to provide these facts on feline topics like disease, behavioral issues, and general care when they send information home with their clients? For years, the Cornell Feline Health Center has met this need with a series of health information brochures veterinarians can use to help answer clients’ questions about a new diagnosis or behavioral problem, and now we’re improving our brochures program with updated information and a facelift.

Beginning with a new brochure on hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, the most common heart disease in cats, we’re adding new titles and updating information on the topics we already cover. Featuring new illustrations, full color images, and an easy-to-read format, our new and updated brochures provide information verified by veterinarians at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine in an appealing package.

To make ordering brochures easier for clinics, we’ve introduced an online ordering system and streamlined our fulfillment process. It’s never been easier to get the brochures so your clinic can provide information when your clients need it.

**Our Brochures GET A BOOST**

 Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

**Chronic Kidney Disease**
Get the facts on symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment

**Feline Asthma**
Get the facts on symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment

**House Soiling**
Identify the underlying causes and resolve a difficult issue
Ordering Online...

If you work at a veterinary clinic, check out our website (under “Health Information”) for a list of our brochures and information about ordering online.

Remember, professional-level members enjoy a 25% discount on brochures, so consider joining our membership program to make the most of what the Cornell Feline Health Center has to offer.

To better meet the needs of our dedicated supporters and to help introduce new feline fans to the Cornell Feline Health Center, we’re revamping our membership program to offer our supporters even more ways to be involved. One thing hasn’t changed: membership still provides you with timely information on feline health and aids the Center’s research and public education efforts on behalf of beloved cat companions everywhere.

Effective 2016, we’re offering new membership levels to provide cat lovers of all ages the opportunity to partner with us. The “Kitten” membership level strives to increase children’s awareness and knowledge of our feline friends. An affordable and educational birthday or holiday present, we hope that this new option instills an increased awareness and respect for cats among our youngest supporters.

Other levels will offer members access to an exclusive online portal, which includes downloads of all our health brochures, complimentary e-cards you can send to friends and family, updates on feline medical research, and much more, all while helping us fulfill our mission.

We look forward to welcoming new members and offering more value-added services to our existing members. We will announce the full details of the new membership levels on our website in early 2016: www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC/giving/membership.cfm
Feline medicine would never change without new knowledge that allows us to develop better ways of diagnosing, treating, and preventing disease. But where does that information come from, and how can the work that generates it be supported? At the Cornell Feline Health Center we understand the importance of research in improving the lives of cats. Thanks to a recent bequest of more than $4,000,000 from the estate of June Lanciani over the course of fiscal years 2015 and 2016, we have been able to expand the breadth and impact of a number of our programs, including our support for studies that investigate important issues in feline health here at the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

While high quality studies benefiting feline health are vital, they are also expensive. The costs of equipment, materials, and personnel, combined with an increasingly competitive environment for obtaining research funds, often limits the advancement of clinical studies. This is particularly true of research in veterinary medicine and studies designed to benefit the health and well-being of cats, as most funding is currently allocated to studies in human medicine. All this adds up to scant funding for feline health studies.

Here at the Cornell Feline Health Center, we have worked hard to raise the funds to expand our financial support of studies that will benefit the health of cats. Thanks to our partnerships with many committed supporters, including June Lanciani, we have been able to more than triple our support of both basic and clinical research projects over the past three years. This support is organized through our competitive Research Grants Program. This past year we awarded over $400,000 to investigations of important issues that affect the health of cats, ranging from the mechanisms of feline infectious peritonitis (FIP) infection to ways to improve the delivery of inhaled anesthetics to cats undergoing surgical procedures. These studies hold the promise of significantly improving feline health.

This expansion of our research support would not be possible without the generosity of our donors, who make everything we do possible. With donations ranging from relatively modest contributions to major bequests, every dollar improves our ability to achieve the goal that we all share...improved lives for all cats everywhere.

We are so very thankful for the dedication of our donors and for the opportunity to work on their behalf to achieve our mission. We look forward to a shared future of improved well-being for cats everywhere.
Research Support

ANTI-MÜLLERIAN HORMONE: GOOD FOR CHEETAHS, GOOD FOR DOMESTIC CATS

Cheetahs face many different threats, but the Cornell Feline Health Center is supporting one way to help these fast felines. With a research grant from the Center, Dr. Ned Place is working to improve captive cheetah breeding programs that might ultimately help threatened populations of these animals bounce back from the brink. These hormone studies could also help solve a problem in a more familiar feline: domestic cats struggling with a complication resulting from surgical spaying.

At the heart of Place’s studies is “anti-Müllerian hormone”, or AMH, which is produced by maturing follicles in the ovaries of female cats and other mammals. Oocytes (eggs) are contained within follicles, and as animals age and the number of follicles steadily declines, so, too, does the amount of AMH in the female’s body. In humans, doctors test AMH levels in the blood to determine how well a woman’s ovaries will respond to hormone stimulation so that her eggs can be harvested for in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Place points out that it costs a great deal of time and effort to use assisted reproductive technologies like IVF on exotic animals, therefore wildlife biologists want to ensure the female cheetahs they’re trying to breed are good candidates for these expensive procedures. Cheetah programs currently have no simple, fast ways of testing this capacity in females, so sometimes their efforts might be spent trying to breed animals that are not good candidates.

To help fill this gap, Place tested levels of AMH in blood samples from captive female cheetahs that have been archived at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) and the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF). He and his team compared serum AMH concentrations with the ages of the animals and they found a good correlation between cheetah age and AMH. However, some cheetahs had low levels of AMH for their age, which may be due to a contraceptive treatment that inhibits ovarian follicle growth and development. Place says he hopes to develop a simple form of the test and an AMH reference range that is specific to cheetahs so that captive breeding programs can use it to help hone their efforts.

Cheetahs aren’t the only ones benefiting from the AMH study – Place’s work also has benefits for helping domestic cats with “ovarian remnant syndrome”, a condition in which spayed cats are inadvertently left with a portion of their ovary, leaving them with many of the periodic signs of estrus (heat). Hormones such as estrogen and progesterone are unreliable indicators of ovarian remnant syndrome because they rise and fall with estrus cycles. Conversely, AMH seems to be continuously released from intact ovaries and ovarian remnants, and therefore AMH is being used in cases when ovarian remnant syndrome is suspected. Because the removal of an ovarian remnant requires exploratory surgery, which is quite an ordeal for a cat, Place and his colleagues in the Endocrinology Laboratory within the Animal Health Diagnostic Center offer a simple AMH blood test for ovarian remnant syndrome.
CORNELL FELINE HEALTH CENTER LENDS SUPPORT TO ENDANGERED CATS

Tigers, lions, and other wild carnivores are already under threat from poaching and habitat loss, but today they are also falling victim to canine distemper virus, a threat that could soon drive some endangered populations to extinction. Through our Rapid Response Fund, the Cornell Feline Health Center co-sponsored a meeting of scientists and veterinarians on January 21 and 22, 2015 aimed at finding ways to prevent these irreversible losses. Participants in the “Vaccines for Conservation” international meeting, which was held at the Bronx Zoo in New York City, explored options for vaccinating at-risk wild animal populations against canine distemper virus.

“Small endangered populations of carnivores face a lot of threats, but distemper can be the straw that breaks the camel’s back in terms of their survival,” says Feline Health Center Director, Colin Parrish.

Closely related to the virus that causes measles in humans, canine distemper virus strikes carnivores of all stripes, including dogs, but also African lions and Amur tigers (also called Siberian tigers), which roam the Russian Far East in ever-dwindling numbers.

Following the meeting, scientists from the Wildlife Conservation Society, Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine’s Baker Institute for Animal Health, and the University of Glasgow urged swift action to address the crisis by developing control measures for the virus, such as delivering a wildlife-safe vaccine. They also suggest renaming canine distemper virus to reflect the wide range of animals that can carry the virus and suffer from the disease.

Meeting participant Andrew Allison, a postdoctoral fellow at the Baker Institute for Animal Health, said the time to act is now.

“Rather than waiting for the possibility of future outbreaks and more extensive population declines to intervene, addressing the issue before it potentially causes irreversible impacts to tiger populations is the most important step,” says Allison.
Dr. Katie Kelly is tracking down a killer. Restrictive cardiomyopathy, a common feline heart disease, claims the lives of thousands of cats every year, but cats often give few warning signs owners can watch for.

“Cats are really good at compensating,” says Kelly, a pathologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine. “They often don’t show signs, so a lot of times cats only show up at a veterinarian for restrictive cardiomyopathy once it becomes an emergency, when the damage has already occurred and it’s too late to help.”

The condition is marked by fibrosis (scarring) of the heart tissue, particularly in the left ventricle, that eventually affects the functioning of the heart. It’s an extremely difficult disease to manage, says Kelly, so prevention is of the utmost importance. However, to prevent a condition, veterinarians must first know the causes, and the causes of restrictive cardiomyopathy are not known.

To begin tracking down the cause, Kelly looked to similar heart conditions in other animals and in humans. In these other species, fibrosis in the heart muscle is often caused by infection with a virus, which can sometimes come years before the ensuing damage becomes obvious. Kelly was awarded a grant from the Cornell Feline Health Center to pursue some of these possibilities.

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The first clue Kelly chased was canine parvovirus (CPV). In puppies, CPV sometimes causes inflammation of the heart muscle, a condition called myocarditis, and parvovirus is closely related to feline panleukopenia virus, which infects cats. Kelly investigated the possibility that feline panleukopenia infection might cause restrictive cardiomyopathy by looking for the genetic signature of the virus in preserved heart tissue from cats that had died of the condition. The virus was nowhere to be found in the tissue samples, a result that does not support the idea that feline panleukopenia was somehow involved, but Kelly is undeterred.

“This result isn’t a bad thing,” says Kelly. “We’re going to incrementally work through other agents that might cause restrictive cardiomyopathy, like Bartonella, Toxoplasma, and other agents.”

Going forward, Kelly is determined to find the cause (or causes) of restrictive cardiomyopathy, and she says working at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine gives her important advantages she wouldn’t have anywhere else. The tissue samples for Kelly’s study came from Cornell’s Animal Health Diagnostic Center, a world-class facility for the diagnosis of animal diseases. Other Cornell core facilities, including the Biotechnology Resource Center, have provided valuable services, and virologists and shelter medicine specialists at Cornell have provided advice and guidance for her work. Add in the support of the Cornell Feline Health Center, Kelly says, and you have a winning combination for improving feline medicine and helping cats live healthier lives.

“This sort of team only happens at Cornell,” she says.
Research update:

CORNELL FELINE HEALTH CENTER
DISCOVERY MAKING A DIFFERENCE
FOR CATS UNDERGOING ANESTHESIA,
DENTAL PROCEDURES

Cornell Feline Health Center-funded research led by Dr. Manuel Martin-Flores is helping to ensure that cats undergoing anesthesia for dental and other procedures come out of the experience safe and sound. In 2014, a study by Martin-Flores and his colleagues showed that certain mouth gags commonly used to keep the mouth open during feline dental procedures open the mouth too wide and impinge on the flow of blood to the brains of cats, in some cases causing temporary or permanent vision loss and other neurological problems. Thanks to this work, veterinarians at Cornell and around the world are changing their practices, adjusting the gags to open only as far as necessary or using improvised devices so that blood flow continues normally while the cat is under anesthesia.

“We’re always trying to first ‘do no harm’,” says Dr. Meredith Miller, a lecturer in Small Animal Internal Medicine and clinical veterinarian at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine who was not involved in the study. In her work at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, Miller uses mouth gags during endoscopies, in which a tube with a camera is passed down the cat’s throat in order to view the digestive tract. “If a patient were to wake up blind or otherwise impaired from an elective procedure,” she says, “that would be a tragedy.”

Now that they know about the risks they pose, Miller says the Cornell Hospital for Animals no longer uses the spring-loaded mouth gags out of the box, but rather they adapt the devices so that instead of opening four centimeters wide, they only open about one centimeter. She says private practices are also adjusting to the new knowledge by adapting the spring-loaded mouth gags or using plastic needle caps or syringe cases to prop cats’ mouths open only as far as necessary.

“This research has had an impact on everyday procedures that can reduce unnecessary risks to patients,” says Miller. “It really changed how we do things.”

The study and recommendations have also been noted internationally. Martin-Flores was invited to give a presentation on his work at the World Congress of Veterinary Anesthesiologists in Japan in August 2015, where he described the mouth gag findings and made recommendations for veterinary professionals to take back to their practices in all corners of the globe.
Leadership Program
FOR VETERINARY STUDENTS

Who will be among the next generation of leaders in feline medicine and research?

Here at the Cornell Feline Health Center, we’re dedicated to ensuring that tomorrow’s biomedical scientists are prepared to tackle the most difficult problems in feline health and disease. That’s why we lend our support to the Leadership Program for Veterinary Students at Cornell University. This intensive, research-oriented program for veterinary students is designed to foster and develop leadership skills while providing valuable basic research experience to veterinary students from the U.S. and abroad who are interested in a career in science. Programs such as these are vital in training future veterinary scientists who will ultimately improve our ability to diagnose, treat, and prevent disease in animals. Every year, we support two Leadership students participating in research projects involving important questions in feline health.

The Cornell Feline Health Center knows how important programs like this are for the future of feline well-being. It is the generosity of our donors that allows us to provide this support, and we are eternally grateful to our benefactors for working with us to foster this unique program.

If you would like to lend your support specifically to support a Leadership Student, please contact our Office of Alumni Affairs and Development: 607.253.3745 or vetfriends@cornell.edu.

Student Scholarships
SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS SPECIALIZING IN FELINE MEDICINE

FELINE HEALTH CENTER SCHOLARSHIP
Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Feline Health Center Scholarship is awarded annually to a veterinary student with demonstrated financial need, who is in good standing academically, and who has an identified interest in feline medicine. Preference is given to a fourth-year veterinary student.

2014-2015 Recipient – Yike Bing ’16

MILDRED G. FREDERICO SCHOLARSHIP
Established in 2004 by the Mildred G. Frederico Trust, this scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who has a demonstrated financial need, has been judged by faculty to be in good standing academically and has a demonstrated interest in feline medicine. Recipients are recommended by the Director of the Community Practice Service in the Companion Animal Hospital and approved by the Feline Health Center.

2014-2015 Recipient – Lauren Wilmarth ’16
Ms. Jacki Hinkle is the Development Assistant for the Cornell Feline Health Center. As an institution that has enjoyed the interest and engagement of animal lovers since it was founded, the partnership of our donors is extremely important to us. Hinkle helps ensure that all Cornell Feline Health Center donors are acknowledged for their gifts in a timely manner, and that all gifts are processed appropriately.

Originally hired in May 2012 on a part-time basis to input data related to the Clinic Memorial Giving program, Hinkle’s professionalism and love for animals was quickly recognized and she transitioned into a full-time position, becoming an integral part of the Office of Alumni Affairs and Development team later that year.

In her present role, Hinkle supervises two student workers, manages the Tributes page of our website, and runs the Clinic Memorial Giving program. “Passion permeates throughout the entire Feline Health Center and everyone who works there. I truly admire Dr. Kornreich’s love and commitment to what he does. It makes me better at my job, it makes me love my job,” she says.

Hinkle looks forward to a special event every summer, “My favorite event of the year is Cornell Reunion Weekend. During the rest of the year I engage with veterinarians who participate in the Clinic Memorial Giving Program, and oftentimes Cornell alumni, and Reunion weekend gives me a chance to put a name with a face. It’s a nice connection to be able to have,” says Hinkle.

Hinkle’s family life keeps her on her toes. A wife and mother of two young girls, the Hinkle family has three cats: Ticka, Mama, and Tiny, and a dog named Kipper. In her free time, Hinkle enjoys playing softball for a local women’s league, hiking, and traveling.
Fred Scott Symposium
EDUCATING VETERINARY PROFESSIONALS

The 26th Annual Fred Scott Symposium continued the tradition of educational excellence that has established this meeting as one of the premier venues for veterinary professionals to learn about the latest advances in feline medicine and surgery. With topics ranging from emergency management of respiratory diseases and cardiopulmonary resuscitation to hospice care and epidural anesthesia in cats, attendees had ample opportunity to advance their knowledge and clinical practice.

This year's keynote speaker was Jodi Westropp DVM, PhD, DACVIM of the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Westropp delivered lectures on a variety of topics related to diseases of the feline lower urinary tract. Dr. Westropp also delivered the annual James R. Richards Memorial Lecture, in which she discussed obstructive urinary tract disease.

As is always the case, this year's outstanding educational program was rounded out by ample opportunity for attendees and presenters to interact in an intimate setting that provides not only an occasion to reconnect with old friends and make new ones, but also to learn the topics in an interactive manner that fosters mutual learning and collaboration. The annual dinner was held in the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art on the beautiful Cornell University campus, and a wonderful time was enjoyed by all in this unique and elegant setting.
Inspired by the accomplishments of their first certified therapy cat, Mini Mouse, and having lost over ten cats to feline hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), long-time supporters Mary Ann and Pat Clifford recently established an endowment to support the Cornell Feline Health Center. The endowment, appropriately named the Mini Mouse Research Fund, will help support research on HCM by scientists at Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine.

Coming from humble beginnings, Mini Mouse was extraordinary in many ways. After raising her kittens, Mini started her career as a therapy cat with a Texas-based non-profit organization that utilizes specially trained and certified animals to facilitate healing and rehabilitation of patients with acute or chronic diseases.

During Mini’s first day serving as a therapy cat at a local rehabilitation hospital, an elderly patient who was recovering from a severe stroke was brought over to see her. At that time, the woman was comatose and had not been responsive to either her family or therapists. The patient’s hand was placed on Mini’s purring body and the woman smiled ever so slightly and slowly started moving a finger. This was the beginning of the patient’s long journey back to recovery.

Mini’s loving caregiver, Mary Ann, recalls being in the same rehabilitation hospital years later with three of her other therapy cats when a patient approached and asked if she could see “the cat who purred.” After realizing the patient was referring to Mini, Mary Ann explained that Mini had retired and was at home. The patient went on to share that she had visited with Mini years ago after suffering from a major stroke and had hoped to see her again. Mary Ann knew the woman looked familiar but couldn’t quite place how she knew her. It finally dawned on Mary Ann that this was the first patient Mini saw, many years back.

In 2002, Mini received Therapet’s Therapy Animal of the Year award and became the first cat to be awarded such an honor. At the time, she had been in competition with over seventy dogs to win this award. Working in different medical facilities, Mini’s aptitude as a therapy cat enabled her to help hundreds of people.

After her retirement, Mini assisted Mary Ann in teaching parents of diabetic cats how to check blood sugar levels in their cats. Mini sat patiently, purring and smiling as they practiced on her. Even as health issues began to take a toll on Mini, her spirit and sensitivity kept reaching out to others. At age fifteen, Mini lost her battle to heart failure, leaving a permanent void in the hearts of her human caregivers.

“Mini became a heavenly angel at the age of fifteen. Now, I can only hold Mini within my heart. Still, I will always hear her loud purrs of joy and happiness, singing inside my thoughts,” Mary Ann said.

Mary Ann has been enthusiastically working with animal assisted therapy for over fifteen years and continues to be active to this day. She’s had a total of seven cats in the program and even had a second cat, Thomas, win Therapet’s Therapy Animal of the Year in 2012. Having witnessed the effects of HCM firsthand, Mary Ann hopes to see viable treatments and a possible cure come about to help all cats.

Did You Know?

HCM is the number one heart disease of cats, affecting 1.5 - 2 percent of cats worldwide. We are working hard to find a solution for HCM and couldn’t do it without the partnership of loyal supporters like Mini’s caregivers.
Honor Roll of Donors
JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015

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Mr. Roger D. Ditman and Ms. Barbara Ditman

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Ms. Nancy Allen  
Ms. Suzanne B. Andrews  
Ms. Cheryl J. Bard  
Dr. Peter W. Bloch  
Mr. Louis M. Borgia  
Ms. Ruthann Branoff  
Mr. Michael Briggs  
Mr. Sanford A. Bristol  
Mr. Devin Brosseau  

*Deceased
Clinic Memorial Program

REMEMBERING OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS WITH A GIFT FOR A BETTER FUTURE
JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015

ALBERTA, CANADA
Glenora Cat Clinic

CALIFORNIA
Animal Hospital of Walnut, Inc.
Berkeley Dog And Cat Hospital, Inc.
Boulevard Pet Hospital, Inc.
Cat Hospital of Petaluma, Inc.
Irvine Veterinary Services
Kensington Veterinary Hospital
National Veterinary Associates
The Cat Care Clinic
Veterinary Specialty Hospital

COLORADO
Cat Specialist PC

CONNECTICUT
Aspetuck Animal Hospital, LLC
Bolton Veterinary Hospital
Burlington Veterinary Center
Chippens Hill Vet Hospital, LLC
Cosmic Cat Veterinary Clinic
Davis Companion Animal Hospital, LLC
Easton Veterinary
Fairfield Veterinary Hospital, LLC
Georgetown Veterinary Hospital
Manchester Veterinary Clinic, Inc.
Milford Animal Hospital, PC
New England Cat Care, LLC
North Windham Animal Hospital
Salmon Brook Veterinary Hospital
Schulhof Animal Hospital
South Windsor Veterinary Clinic
Toll Gate Animal Clinic, LLC
Winsted Hospital For Animals, PC

FLORIDA
Lums Pond Animal Hospital
All Cats Healthcare Clinic, PA
All Cats Hospital, PA
Bay Hill Cat Hospital
Country Cat House II
For Cats Only, Inc.
Kendall Animal Clinic, Inc.
The Cat Hospital at Palm Harbor

GEORGIA
The Cat Care Clinic
The Cat Doctor, Inc.
Union Hill Animal Hospital

ILLINOIS
Animal Hospital of Woodstock
Cat Hospital of Chicago, PC
Chicago Cat Clinic, PC
Lombard Animal Clinic
The Cat Practice, Ltd.

MASSACHUSETTS
Brockton Animal Hospital
Cape Ann Veterinary Hospital
Easthampton Animal Hospital
Holden Veterinary Clinic, Inc.
Linwood Animal Hospital
Mattapoisett Animal Hospital
Pet House Calls
The Feline Hospital

MARYLAND
A Cat Clinic
Cat Hospital at Towson, LLC
Cat Sense Feline Hospital & Boarding, Inc
Flower Valley Vet Clinic, Inc.
Goshen Animal Clinic
Layhill Animal Hospital
Ruxton Animal Hospital
Town & Country Animal Clinic
Zimmerman’s Veterinary Associates

MAINE
Coastal Cats Feline Health Care
Down Maine Veterinary Clinic
Windsor Veterinary Clinic

MICHIGAN
Cat Care, PC
Country Cat Clinic
Riverside Cat Hospital
The Kitty Clinic
The Visiting Vet

MINNESOTA
City Cat Clinic

NORTH CAROLINA
Cat Care Hospital, PC
Cat Clinic of Greensboro, PA
Mayfair Animal Hospital
Morrisville Cat Hospital, PLLC

NEW JERSEY
Animal General
Bryan Animal Hospital, PA
Clover Hill Animal Hospital
Eagle Rock Veterinary Hospital, LLC
Essex Animal Hospital
Exclusively Cats Veterinary Hospital
Green Pond Animal Care Center
Harlingen Veterinary Clinic
Larchmont Animal Hospital
Marsh Hospital For Animals
Matawan Animal Hospital
Oradell Animal Hospital, Inc.
Park Ridge Animal Hospital, PA
Vet On Wheels, LLC
Dr. Michael Zieder

NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque Cat Clinic, Inc.

NEW YORK
Adirondack Animal Hospital
Animal Clinic of Mt. Vernon
Animal Hospital of Kent
Animal Hospital of Niskayuna
Animal Kind Veterinary Hospital
Animal Medical of New City, PC
Veterinarians who participate in our Clinic Memorial Program make gifts to the Cornell Feline Health Center in memory of their clients’ lost pets as a way of offering solace to their clients while also extending the promise of a better future for animals by supporting the Center’s work to improve feline medicine.
Opportunities for Support

The goals of the Cornell Feline Health Center would not be achievable without the generous support of our dedicated donors. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our benefactors for their vital role in our education, outreach, and research activities; and this partnership is what has driven our past successes and set the stage for a bright future of improved well-being for cats everywhere.

Giving Where the Need Is Greatest
Unrestricted contributions provide the financial resources necessary for the Cornell Feline Health Center to carry out our educational, outreach, and research activities, all focused on improving the lives of our feline friends. Please visit our website at www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC and click on Giving/Membership or call 607.253.4055 to ask how you can help.

James R. Richards, Jr. Memorial Fund for Feline Health
Dr. James R. Richards, Jr., the second Director of the Cornell Feline Health Center, was a world-renowned champion of feline health and a friend to countless people and cats. Contributions to this fund honor the outstanding work and dedication of Dr. Richards by supporting feline-focused lectures featuring international leaders in feline health.

Dr. Louis J. Camuti Memorial Fund
Dr. Camuti was the first veterinarian in the United States to devote his practice entirely to cats. A dedicated practitioner for more than 60 years, his excellence and devotion to cats prompted friends and colleagues to create this fund, which supports the telephone consultation service also named in his honor.

Memorial Program for Feline Companions
The loss of a feline companion can be devastating, and thoughtful gifts to the Cornell Feline Health Center are a wonderful way to honor the memory of a beloved cat. Gifts can be made online at www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC/giving/memorial.cfm or by calling 607.253.4055.

Endowment Gifts
Help build the foundation for the future. Endowment gifts are managed as part of Cornell’s long-term investment pool, generating funds to be used in perpetuity in support of the Cornell Feline Health Center. The current minimum to establish a named endowment is $100,000, providing lasting tribute and support to the Center.

Named Graduate Scholarship
A minimum gift of $100,000 will endow a scholarship for a future feline practitioner at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Financial aid can make a significant difference in the life and future career of a veterinary student by helping to alleviate the burden of loan debt.

Named Clinical Research Fund
A named clinical research fund ($100,000 minimum) will generate income to help support the Feline Health Center’s competitive grants to faculty at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Research funds aid in the investigation of the underlying causes of feline diseases and discovery of diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventive options. Research conducted by many of the nation’s leading scientists at Cornell often has implications for human health as well.

Named Residency
Residency training prepares veterinarians for careers in highly skilled fields such as oncology, neurology, surgery, and other areas that have a significant impact on feline medicine. A minimum gift of $1,000,000 can endow a named residency and provide income for the stipends and grants that accompany this intensive three-year training program.
BEQUESTS AND PLANNED GIFTS
You can help ensure better health for future generations of cats by naming the Cornell Feline Health Center as a beneficiary in your will or by considering one of many gift planning options through which you can:

- Earn income, pay fewer taxes, and secure your retirement
- Enhance your net estate
- Create a personal legacy

If you would like to discuss any of these options, please contact our Office of Alumni Affairs and Development: 607.253.3745 or vetfriends@cornell.edu.

Not shown in revenue is a $3,768,412 bequest from the estate of Ms. June Lanciani.
Elizabeth’s WISH LIST

Elizabeth has been the ambassador of the Cornell Feline Health Center for many years now, and she always has her paw on the pulse of what is needed to help other, less fortunate cats live better, healthier lives. She has helped us compile her most recent Wish List items, which she would like to share with her friends and loyal supporters. If you are able to lend a helping paw, Elizabeth and her feline friends appreciate all gifts, great or small.

If you would like to purchase one of these items, please contact our Office of Alumni Affairs and Development: 607.253.3745 or vetfriends@cornell.edu, or donate online at www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC/giving, letting us know which item you would like to purchase.

Thank you on behalf of cats everywhere!

Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA)

BONE HOLDING FORCEPS - $382 EACH
Two of these feline sized bone holding forceps would greatly improve the ability of CUHA’s Orthopedic Surgery Services (OSS) to safely reconstruct feline patients’ fractured bones.

ELECTROACUPUNCTURE UNIT - $655
Electroacupuncture, which involves the placement of very small needles to deliver small electrical currents to strategic points on the body, has shown promise as an alternative means of improving patient comfort in humans. This tool has the potential to significantly improve the well-being of cats that have conditions that prevent administration of drugs to provide relief.

1.5 MM LOCKING PLATE SET - $10,286
2.0 MM LOCKING PLATE SET - $2,750
OSS is seeking a 1.5 mm and a 2.0 mm locking plate set for repair of fractured bones in cats.

HAND HELD X-RAY SYSTEM - $7,011
Dental problems are common in non-domestic cats in zoos, and this hand-held X-ray unit will allow the Dentistry and Oral Surgery unit at CUHA to diagnose and treat dental disease in captive wild cats.

TITANIUM 1.3 AND 1.5 MM PLATING SYSTEM - $12,112
The Dentistry and Oral Surgery unit at CUHA is in need of a titanium 1.3 and 1.5 mm plating system to allow the unit to provide state-of-the-art surgical services to cats in need of maxillofacial (jaw and/or face) trauma repair.

AVEA CAREFUSION MECHANICAL VENTILATOR - $35,000
Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA) requires an AVEA CareFusion ventilator to accurately provide small breath sizes to cats in severe respiratory distress.

SENTINELLE BREAST COIL - $125,400
This non-invasive, three dimensional, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) equipment would enhance OSS’s ability to diagnose joint disease in cats.
Community Practice Service and Shelter Outreach Services (SOS)

The Community Practice Service at the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine is collaborating with Shelter Outreach Services (SOS), a non-profit organization that conducts a high quality, high volume spay neuter program that serves thousands of cats every year. The following items can be shared by both programs.

TRAP DIVIDER - $24
Allows staff to safely separate cats if there are more than one in a trap, or to help encourage a feral cat to leave the trap and enter the squeeze cage.

CLAM CAPTURE TRAP - $149
A safe and useful tool to re-capture a feral cat that has managed to escape its trap or squeeze cage.

PULSE OXIMETER VETERINARY SENSOR - $241
This veterinary-specific sensor is needed to work with the Pulse Oximeter listed below.

BABY SCALE - $286
All cats are weighed once they are in squeeze cages to enable accurate dosing of medications.

SQUEEZE CAGE - $356 EACH
SOS and the Farm Cat Project are requesting two squeeze cages to humanely capture cats for care.

HOT WATER PUMP - $439
This pump would allow SOS and The Farm Cat Project to improve patient care and comfort by maintaining normal body temperature during surgical procedures.

PULSE OXIMETER - $523
By monitoring the heart rate and oxygen saturation of their patients with a pulse oximeter, veterinarians can evaluate whether cats undergoing procedures are in an adequate plane of anesthesia, have adequate pain management, and if they are stable under anesthesia.

FARVets

FARVets is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting grassroots organizations both domestically and abroad in their missions to promote animal welfare through sterilization, wellness, and education. The following items are needed to support their programs, and they are listed in order of priority.

PORTABLE ANESTHESIA MACHINE - $2,400
Used to anesthetize cats in sterilization clinics.

PORTABLE PULSE OXIMETER - $240 EACH
Three oximeters are being requested for use in monitoring cats during anesthesia and surgery.

PORTABLE SYRINGE PUMP - $1,366
Used to administer intravenous medications.

SEDATIVE, ANALGESIC (PAIN CONTROL), AND ANESTHETIC MEDICATIONS - $1,000
This would cover enough medications for dozens to hundreds of cats, depending on individual doses.

SET OF SURGERY INSTRUMENTS - $232
SUTURES FOR SPAY CLINICS - $267 FOR PACK OF 36
Each surgery takes one – three packs of suture.

If you are interested in learning about more opportunities for programmatic support, please visit our website: www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC/giving/WishList.cfm
We often receive inquiries about Elizabeth, the Center’s feline ambassador, and we’re thrilled to have had the chance to catch up with her recently.

Elizabeth’s early days are a bit of a mystery, but at approximately three years of age, she was given to Dr. James Richards Jr., former Director of the Cornell Feline Health Center, when rescuers caught her as part of a “trap, neuter, and return” program and came to the realization she was not at all feral. Elizabeth’s sweet demeanor instantly charmed Dr. Richards and he brought her home to live with his mother. When her new owner’s health declined, Dr. Richards brought Elizabeth to the Center’s offices on campus, where she became the resident office cat for staff and faculty to love and spoil. Elizabeth settled into her new space and quickly became the face of the Center.

When the CFHC offices relocated to their present Hungerford Hill Road location, it was decided Elizabeth would be better off in a home setting. At that time, former Director of Development and Public Affairs for the Feline Health Center, Lynne Conway, took Elizabeth home to live. Amidst Elizabeth’s protests, one of the first things Lynne did was put her on a healthier diet. Apparently all the treats she received from vet students, faculty, and staff had caught up with her!

Elizabeth, or “Lizzie” as her family affectionately calls her, is roughly twelve or thirteen years old now and lives with Lynne, her husband Matt, and canine siblings, Pickles and Pippa. Lizzie has made it clear that she prefers to spend her time with her canine siblings over her feline counterparts, much to the dismay of the friendly neighbor cats.

When she’s not busy helping Associate Director Dr. Bruce Kornreich write her monthly column in CatWatch, a newsletter for cat lovers, Lizzie is usually lying on her special chair in the family’s enclosed backyard. Lizzie’s chair has its own patio umbrella to protect her from the sun. If the weather is not cooperating, she prefers warming up in front of the fireplace or lying on her special pillow on the family sofa, which gives her a great view of the birds in the backyard.

Lynne says Lizzie is independent, confident, and affectionate. She loves to be rubbed on the top of her head and ears and serves as Lynne’s alarm clock at 5:00 a.m. everyday. She also loves to eat and to cuddle with her sister and best friend, Pippa. Aside from a recent mammary cancer scare, Lizzie is in good health and is sure to see the veterinary staff at the Cornell Animal Hospital’s Community Practice Service at least once a year to receive her immunizations and lab work-up.

Elizabeth wanted to let everyone know that she still greatly enjoys answering questions for her CatWatch article and is available for consultation, between her naps, bird watching, and treat times, of course.
Our Mission
TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CATS EVERYWHERE BY

• Finding ways of preventing and curing diseases of cats by conducting and sponsoring breakthrough feline health studies,

• Educating veterinarians and cat owners about feline health by providing timely medical information and by promoting public understanding and awareness of feline issues, and

• Aiding veterinarians when new or unknown feline diseases occur.

www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC
607.253.3414

Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine