



WINN FELINE FOUNDATION

For the Health and Well-being of All Cats

390 Amwell Road, Suite 402, Hillsborough, NJ 08844
908-359-1184 • Fax 908-359-7619 • www.winnfelinehealth.org

WINN Co-Sponsors Another Breeder Opportunity

By Betty White, Past President, Winn Feline Foundation, CFA
Judge

This coming September marks the fifth year Tufts will present a genetics conference in Boston for dog and cat breeders. Winn is pleased to again be a sponsor of this event. The goals of the conference are twofold:

1. To bring together, in a formal lecture and informal discussion setting, international researchers who are working in the area of feline and canine gene-searching and genetic test implementation; and
2. To bring together researchers, breed club representatives, breeders, and practicing veterinarians to further understanding and collaboration for future research in the area of feline and canine gene-searching and genetic test implementation.

Presented by the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine on September 16-17, 2011, the 5th Tufts Canine and Feline Breeding & Genetics Conference will be held at the Omni Parker House in Boston, MA. All the research that will be presented will have practical applications for breeders and practicing veterinarians. While this is a conference for both dog and cat breeders, prior attendance has indicated a strong interest and attendance by cat breeders/fanciers – well over 40%.

Past attendees remark on the lively hour-long panel discussions during each morning and afternoon session. This opportunity for breeders to communicate their concerns by networking with researchers actively seeking answers to feline health problems cannot be overstated. Winn's own Dr. Susan Little will speak, as well as the Winn Excellence in Feline Research Award recipient Dr. Leslie Lyons of UC-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. In addition, Dr. Rachael Thomas of North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine will present her findings into the genetics of feline fibrosarcoma and lymphoma. From Tufts, Dr. Lisa Barber will present information on the current treatments for feline cancer. Her colleague at Tufts, Dr. Alice Moon-Fanelli, will discuss feline behavior issues. Dr. Mark Rishniw of New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell will speak on the genetic implications and testing for feline cardiac disease.

Dr. Susan Little has been a speaker in the past, and she says, "The Tufts Canine and Feline Breeding & Genetics Conference is invaluable to those who love cats, as it brings together those who work to find ways to end/treat feline disease with those who want to raise healthy, long-lived cats."

For those of you who might want to access information about prior conferences, please check out the url for the 2009 conference at www.vin.com/tufts/2009 -- with links to the 2007, 2005, and 2003 conferences. The proceedings are included in the VIN searchable database. These conference proceedings have received thousands of hits over the years, and many requests to the authors for reprinting in breed publications.

The registration fee is \$275 for both days, or \$185 for one day. **Registration before August 21, 2011 is only \$215 for both days or \$150 for one day.** Registration includes lectures, continental breakfast, luncheon, and course notes on a CD. The website is <http://www.tufts.edu/vet/ce/events/20110916.html>.

Breeders on the East Coast are at a decided advantage. However, Boston is a great place to visit and an easy place to access by air. Please consider this conference in your travel plans in September. Who knows? There may be a show somewhere in your plans at the approximate time.