

2018 FCF Conference Speakers Line-up and More

We are pleased to welcome an impressive lineup of speakers, who will not only present on their topics, but will be available at other times during the conference to individually answer questions and discuss related topics. Speakers will be presenting both Friday morning and Saturday morning.

Among our anticipated presenters include the following:

Dr. Suzanne Kennedy-Stoskopf, a veterinary specialist in zoological medicine at NCSU, on how best to select the right veterinarian for your animals and effectively communicate your concerns to them

Alan Smith, State Lobbyist for Zoological Association of America, on grassroots lobbying and working with legislators

David Kleven, Animal Care Software developer, demonstrating the capacity of his software package, which is an all in one cloud based animal record keeping system, including frontline communication for staff, Medical Records, Prescription Tracking and Treatment Reminders, Daily Reports, Tasks & Checklists, and Tagging and Notifications

Dawn Strasser, Cincinnati Zoo neonate specialist on pre-parturition dams and preparing for contingencies

Rachel Garner, freelance science educator and founder of WhyAnimalsDoTheThing.com

Keith Gault of BillieKatz Exotics, physicist and military contractor, on his insights about relocating their small cat facility, including planning and construction for living in a hurricane zone

Dr. Brian Davis, a geneticist from Texas A&M sharing a scientist's view of the current state of tiger genetics, his genetic banking project, and using genetics to identify the causes of some inherited diseases in felines

Kim Barker, the Conservators Center's own Serval Whisperer, discussing how to best provide for servals that have been rehomed and need help re-bonding with a new owner.

Bill Hanka, a federal lobbyist with experience in exotic animal bills in Washington, DC. He will be addressing some of the legislation of concern to us and advising on actions we can take to ensure our voices are heard effectively.

Mary Ann McBride, DVM, MS, Veterinary Medical Officer, USDA APHIS Animal Care will be speaking on what's new for wild feline facilities.

Our zoo day host, **Tiger World Endangered Wildlife Preserve**, is preparing a first for FCF conference attendees. The entire site will be closed to all other visitors while our attendees engage in training activities throughout the park. This adults-only educational opportunity offers valuable insight into the daily routine of the park, operant conditioning training of the animals, and a backstage view of the facilities. Make sure you update your status as a registered handler or professional member through the FCF web site. Advanced handlers and professional members may have additional access to some learning opportunities at Tiger World not open to others.

If you have not been to an FCF conference in recent years, or if this is your first time, here are a few additional tips about what to expect.



Our annual membership meeting is the best time to bring up your interests, concerns and suggestions for the coming year. Now is a great time to get involved in this organization! Submit an article to the journal, volunteer to help on a committee, or ask about ways you can support the FCF.

Our annual fundraiser auction for the cats will be ongoing throughout the conference, culminating in a short live auction after the Saturday night banquet dinner. Please bring items you would like to contribute. The registration desk will be delighted to receive them. All auction profits benefit the mission of the FCF, including educational programs and conservation program support.



The Saturday night banquet is a chance to show off your wild side at a "come as you want to be seen" affair. Whether you prefer to attend the party in an evening gown, ears and a tail, or jeans, you will find others there with the same sense of adventure you have. Enjoy old friends and new alike while we share a final evening together.

[Register](#) online for the FCF Conference and any of the three educational classes taught on Wednesday before Conference, the Wild/Exotic Feline Husbandry Course, the Wildlife Conservation Educators Course or the Contingency Planning Workshop, and pay with PayPal.

[Reserve](#) your room online by visiting the FCF Conference Hilton Room Block Reservation page.