



November 20, 2018

Greetings!

As Thanksgiving approaches, we want to express our gratitude to everyone who has contributed to ACC&D's work in 2018.

ACC&D's [Board of Directors](#) gathered last month for our annual multi-day strategic retreat; enthusiasm remained high from our [6th International Symposium](#) this summer, and we worked hard on plans for the rest of 2018 and the coming year. We also celebrated two Directors completing their terms with ACC&D. Dr. Amy Fischer played an instrumental role in our GonaCon contraceptive study and leaves our board after eight years. Holly Hazard attended her last ACC&D meeting as she moves on from both The HSUS and ACC&D to a new chapter. We will miss them both! Our team posed for a photo at our retreat (right); just looking at it reminds me how thankful I am to work with these talented and committed people!



ACC&D Board retreat

We want to thank you, our reader, for sharing our passion for non-surgical fertility control to become a reality to effectively and humanely manage cat and dog populations. As you make end-of-year donations, please consider making a [tax-deductible contribution](#) to support ACC&D and our work to improve the lives of cats and dogs through innovation.

Our best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Joyce Briggs, President

A Warm Welcome to New ACC&D Board Member Dr. Camille DeClementi



[Dr. Camille DeClementi](#) joined ACC&D's Board of Directors this fall, and we are so glad to have her! Camille oversees the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Animal Hospital in New York City, which provides life-saving care and relieves suffering for animal victims of cruelty and neglect. From co-owning an emergency clinic in Illinois to serving as a media spokesperson for the Animal Poison Control Center, Camille brings a breadth of experience to her leadership position at the ASPCA, and we are already appreciating her guidance for ACC&D's work.

Two ACC&D Articles Published in the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*

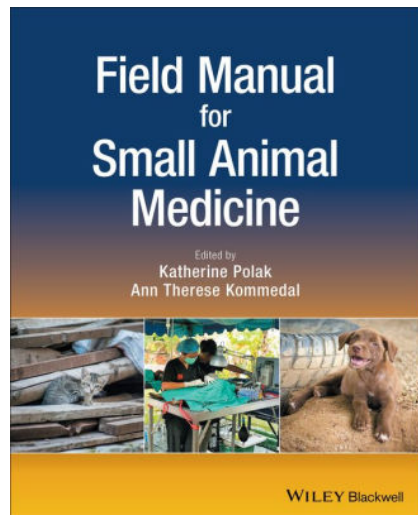


Two articles about ACC&D's [GonaCon contraceptive study](#) have recently been published in the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. "[Effectiveness of GonaCon as an immunocontraceptive in colony-housed cats](#)" covers study results, and "[Hybrid model intermediate between a laboratory and field study: A humane paradigm shift in feline research](#)" focuses on the wealth of knowledge gained from the study about how to design and successfully conduct a breeding study with cat welfare as the utmost priority. Both are important to future work to advance new tools to help cats. Be sure to take a look!

Field Manual for Small Animal Medicine is now available!

The Field Manual for Small Animal Medicine, edited by Drs. Katherine Polak and Anne Therese Kommedal, is now available (and has received all 5-star reviews on [Amazon](#))! ACC&D was honored to write a chapter on non-surgical fertility control, authored by Program Director Valerie Benka. We asked Dr. Polak to describe the scope and purpose of the *Field Manual* in her own words, and here's what she shared:

"Veterinary outreach and field medicine projects are expanding across international boundaries and into remote areas at a rapid pace. While this expansion is no doubt exciting, those involved in delivering animal care often have little to no practical resources at their disposal, other than a passion to make a difference. In order to fill that void, 32 authors from across the globe united to create a practical, easy-to-reference text on a variety of topics related to field veterinary projects—from spay/neuter techniques to non-surgical fertility control. Our goal is for this text to facilitate animal treatment, surgery, and population management programs in the face of limited resources, and ultimately improve the lives of animals around the world."



If you work with animals in field contexts, we highly recommend that you [purchase a copy!](#)

A first-of-its-kind collaboration: the DC Cat Count is underway

The [DC Cat Count](#) has recently been launched. This landmark three-year program brings together scientists and animal welfare organizations to systematically test methods to quantify all of the cats living in a large urban area. The ultimate goal of this program is to provide organizations with informative, practical tools to support and inform their program operations and management efforts for cats. The DC Cat Count was conceived and developed in part as a result of ACC&D's long-term initiatives to better understand outdoor cat population dynamics, develop effective monitoring protocols, and foster collaborations among diverse stakeholders around this challenging issue. Two ACC&D Board members (John Boone and Kevin Morris) were instrumental in planning and developing the DC Cat Count, and John is serving as one of the program's scientific leads. Planning and can't wait? Check out ACC&D's free online resources: our [guidance document](#) and "[how-to](#)" [guide to counting cats](#).



Thank you for making a tax-deductible [donation](#) to ACC&D. Your support allows us to undertake innovative initiatives to advance the field of animal welfare.