

For Immediate Release:

July 8, 2013

Contact: Meghan R. Golden

352.244.3731 | mgolden@navc.com

NAVC Conference Names 2013 Small Animal Speaker of the Year

ORLANDO, FL—Congratulations from the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC) Conference are due to Susan Little, DVM, DABVP (Feline), who was named 2013 Small Animal Speaker of the Year. Dr. Little presented on a range of topics in feline medicine, including FIV testing, feline-friendly handling and nursing care, chronic vomiting, obesity, cancer, nutrition, weight loss in senior cats and anorexia in shelter cats.

A long-time NAVC speaker but first-time Speaker of the Year winner, Dr. Little was "totally amazed" to receive this award. "My first question was to ask if it wasn't meant for the 'other' Susan Little," says Dr. Little. "There are two of us, and we've been confused for each other before!" Knowing that the winners of this award are selected by conference attendees only makes her want to strive to improve herself.

"Winning this award is very humbling and makes me want to be a better communicator and educator," she says. Dr. Little participated in the Royal Canin Feline Medicine Symposium, the Virbac Symposium, the Shelter Medicine track and a Masterclass. In all, she presented 10 times at the NAVC Conference 2013.

Dr. Little received her BSc degree from Dalhousie University (Nova Scotia) in 1983 and her DVM degree in 1988 from the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph. She has been practicing feline medicine since 1990 and achieved board certification in feline practice in 1997, recertifying in 2006. She is part-owner of two feline specialty practices in Ottawa, Canada.

No stranger to the lecture circuit, Dr. Little spends many weeks on the road each year educating veterinarians around the world. In 2013, she spent three weeks lecturing in five countries in Asia. She also lectured frequently in Europe, including at the first ever feline medicine symposium in Slovakia and the World Feline Congress in Barcelona. "I've lectured in the United Kingdom, all of the Scandinavian countries, Argentina, Israel and even in Africa," says Dr. Little. "Lecturing gives me the chance to interact with veterinarians from around the world, all of whom are working hard to improve animal health under different circumstances and with different challenges. I learn every time I lecture."

When she is not on the road or practicing medicine, Dr. Little serves on the boards of the Winn Feline Foundation and the American Association of Feline Practitioners, and is a feline medicine consultant for the Veterinary Information Network. Her other activities include committee work for the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Pet Nutrition Alliance and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA). She is a peer reviewer for the *Canadian Veterinary Journal* and the *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*. In 2010, Dr. Little received the CVMA Small Animal Practitioner Award. She is the editor and co-author of the textbook, *The Cat – Clinical Medicine and Management*, published in 2012.

Dr. Little's lecture topics for 2014 are not yet finalized but will likely include diagnostic and therapeutic techniques used in cats as well as the effects of stress on feline health.

A complete list of the 2013 Speakers of the Year can be found at NAVCom/navc-conference/program/speakers-of-the-year-2013.

###

Founded in 1982 and headquartered in Gainesville, Florida, the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC) is a nonprofit organization that provides world-class professional development for the global veterinary healthcare community. The organization's largest educational initiative, the annual NAVC Conference, hosts 16,000 attendees and 350 speakers from more than 70 countries each year. Other educational offerings include the NAVC Institute, NAVC Expeditions and *Clinician's Brief*, the official journal of the NAVC. The NAVC's international conference partners include the Latin American Veterinary Conference (LAVC), the Southern European Veterinary Conference (SEVC) and the Asian Pacific Veterinary Conference (APVC). Visit NAVC.com for more information.