

CAT DISEASES AND CFA

Robert H. Winn

The CFA Foundation, Inc., was authorized in Chicago, in December 1968, by the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc., Executive Board. The Foundation was thereafter formed as a non profit corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia. Its powers are those suitable for a charitable foundation.



OFFICERS OF THE CFA FOUNDATION

Elizabeth Freret
Secretary

Robert H. Winn
President

Jean Rose
Treasurer

The CFA Foundation has features which are unusual in some respects. It is not just another fund raising organization. Contributions and bequests are welcomed by it, but the money which it receives is not immediately funneled out and spent. The contributions to it are considered as capital, and will be invested. Only the income from its capital will be used to make grants. This means that at its inception, the grants will be small. However, the continuity of its grants as its capital grows will assure to recipients a continuity which will enable them to plan on a long range basis.

Another feature which, so far as we know is unique, is the exclusivity of its grants. While other charitable foundations in the field of veterinary medicine cover a wide range of animals, the CFA Foundation limits its grants to research into cat diseases. CFA being a cat registering body, it is only right that its own Foundation so limit the assistance which it provides.

A very important aspect of the CFA Foundation is the use which it will make of the office and other facilities which the registering organization provides. Usually, the cost of raising money is a large deduction from that which is available for research. The CFA Foundation at the present time, as in the foreseeable future, will divert none of its money, capital or income, to such overhead expenses.

There will be no expensive brochures, no cost of advertising to the Foundation, no salaried employees or personnel to reduce the money otherwise available for application to research in the important area of the cause and cure of cat diseases. Such advertising as is done will be as a part of the regular advertisements paid for by the registering body. In addition, such articles as this one, and the reports which will be periodically made to the CFA Executive Board and perpetuated in its minutes, and the annual audit as reported to each CFA Annual Meeting, will keep the CFA member clubs aware of the existence of the Foundation and its work.

Although the Foundation is but six months old, and was authorized and formed after many of the CFA member clubs had made plans, and announced the beneficiaries of their shows, contributions have been received by the Foundation. As of June 30, 1969 the date this is being written, the Foundation has in its interest bearing Savings and Loan account, a total of \$2,815.96.

Under its charter, the Foundation is a separate corporation from the registering body. It is managed by a Board of Directors of not less than three, nor more than seven persons. The Board of Directors of the Foundation is named by the CFA Executive Board. For its first Board of Directors, the Foundation is operated by Jean Rose, Elizabeth Freret, and Robert Winn. This Board elects the officers of the Foundation, and the first officers are Mr. Winn, President; Mrs. Freret, Secretary; and Mrs. Rose, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.

The Board of Directors of the Foundation will invest the capital of the Foundation to provide the largest income consistent with prudent policies to safeguard the money which has been contributed to the organization. The money which has been contributed has been received from member clubs and from individuals. The amounts have ranged from one dollar, to one thousand dollars. Any contribution is welcomed, and will swell the invested capital of the Foundation.

It is not the purpose of the Foundation to make any attempt to wean any person or organization away from a favorite charity which has been the beneficiary of contributions in the past. The CFA Foundation does provide, however, a place where members of the cat fancy, and all lovers of cats may make contributions, certain that those contributions will be used only for projects which have as their purpose the alleviation and cure of cat diseases. These contributors can also be sure that the money contributed will not be diverted into fund raising costs, salaries, and other overhead expenses incurred by the Foundation.

The creation of the Foundation is in consonance with the purposes of the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. Its formation is the result of the planning of Mr. Richard H. Gebhardt who became President of the registering body in June 1963. His suggestion and recommendation which were accepted by the CFA Executive Board, represent a part of his program for the expansion and increasing importance of CFA as it continues to pioneer as the largest and most influential of the registering bodies for the recording of the pedigrees of cats.