



The World Cat Congress was established in 1994 and CFA is one of the founding members. The purpose of this group is to promote harmony in the cat fancy. At this time there are nine members consisting of the major cat organizations in the world. CFA and TICA are members from the USA. Other members are in Europe, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

Each year the members take turns hosting a meeting and normally a cat show. In 2017 the meeting and show were hosted by CFA in Las Vegas. This year FIFe was the host and the event was held in Milan, Italy from April 5-9. Rachel Anger is the CFA delegate to this meeting and Mark Hannon is the Adviser. Due to last minute health issues, Rachel had to cancel and Mark was promoted to delegate.



**TICA President Vickie Fisher & CFA President Mark Hannon**

Thursday was devoted to sight-seeing, Friday was a day of seminars, Saturday & Sunday was a FIFe show with most of the delegates serving as guest judges, and Monday was a day-long business meeting.

Sight-seeing started with a visit to The **Last Supper** which is a late 15th-century mural painting by Leonardo da Vinci housed by the refectory of the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan. Next we visited Sforza Castle which was built in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century and we then walked to Duomo di Milano which is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest cathedral in the world. After a visit to one of the many art galleries in Milan we boarded a trolley reserved for us which provided us with a two-hour tour of Milan with champagne flowing the entire time accompanied by hors d'oeuvres.

Friday's seminars started with geneticist Leslie Lyons making a presentation and the rest of the day was devoted to judging discussions. On Saturday I spent the day at the FIFe show. It was fascinating. There were 220 entries. Their rules limit judges to 40 cats per day and exhibitors get only one judging per day. While there are a few cages in each ring, I never saw cats placed in the cages. The owner either places their cat on the judging table and converses with the judge for the 5-10 minutes it takes to judge the cat or the owner holds the cat while it is being judged. No ribbons are hung. Exhibitors are provided a written evaluation of their cat. The judge nominates the worthy cats to the Best of the Best ring at the end of the day and certificates are awarded to the Best of Variety but it should be noted that the judges only handle a limited number of cats from each breed.



CCCA Judge Cheryle U'Ren judging at the FIFe show

44 Gatti was holding a CFA show in Milan the same weekend. This is their traditional weekend and the FIFe show was only being held on this weekend due to the WCC event. There was also a WCF show in Milan the same weekend ... so three cat shows in the same metro area the same weekend. Pam DelaBar graciously offered me a ride from the FIFe show to the CFA show about 40 minutes away. The drive provided me with some incredible views of the area. This was my first visit to a CFA show in Europe and it was exciting to visit with people I have known for some time and to meet many people who were new to me. The show format was three rings each day. All six rings were Allbreed and in the Championship Class they had Super Specialties. The six judges included Kenny Currle, Kit Fung, Hope Gonano, Michael Schleissner, and two Guest Judges from the Urkraine. There were 120 entries which was low for this club. The show was part of a Pet Expo which helped lower the show's costs and provided the huge gate with an opportunity to see CFA and pedigreed cats.



Members of the 44 Gatti Show Committee with Mark