

MINUTES OF THE HAVANA BROWN BREED COUNCIL MEETING ATLANTIC CITY, NJ – JUNE 18, 2005

The following members were present – Carolyn Anfinrud, Ray & Anne Edwards, Reba Head, Bill & Kathi Hoos, Hal & Elaine Law, Candice Massey, Diane Mounib, Norma Placchi, Karen Rogers, and Brenda Wood. Guests were – Debra Decker, Liz Evans Lenzen, and Allison Turner.

Before the meeting started, Gary Veach, CFA Board member, asked for a few minutes to explain the CFA Mentoring Program. The program has grown tremendously since its inception and mentors are needed in all breeds. There are presently many more protégés than there are mentors. Fostering and mentoring new people in the Fancy will insure that the purebred cat and the Cat Fancy will still be here 100 years from now. The Mentor Program Committee members are asking each breed council secretary to provide them with names of qualified breed council members who are willing to take on a protégé. If you are willing to be a Mentor, please contact me and I will inform the Coordinator.

Norma thanked everyone for coming. All, in turn, introduced themselves and gave a brief history of their cattery. She asked everyone to join her in congratulating Ray & Anne Edwards for their National Win with GC, NW Soesthill Johnny Cash.

Congratulations to all the Regional Winners this year –

2nd Best of Breed, GC RW Kapalua Co Co Nuts, 4th Best Cat, Northwest Region – Breeders: Sheila Ullmann & Kathy Staley; Owner: Sheila Ullmann

3rd Best of Breed, GC RW Mokolea Caterina, 11th Best Cat, Southern Region – Breeder/Owners: Edgar & Diane Mounib

4th Best of Breed, GC RW Blakewood Oso Espresso, 9th Best Cat Great Lakes Region – Breeder/Owners: William & Kathleen Hoos

There were no Kitten RWs this year.

There were 2 Premiership RWs –

GP RW Acapella Ming – 10th Best in Premiership, Great Lakes Region – Breeder: Candice Massey/Owners: Candice Massey & Bobby Kegler

GP RW Kapalua Island Tradewinds – 14th Best in Premiership, Southwest Region
Breeders: Larry & Sheila Ullmann/Owner: Chi Lee

In addition, the second HB from the Outcross Program (OCP) achieved the title of DM – GC Acapella Lucille of Soesthill, DM. Both Lucille and Acapella Karina who was the 1st HB DM from the OCP were bred by Candice Massey.

A moment of silence was asked to remember the loss of three of our breeders this past year – Joe Bittaker, husband of Annette Bittaker; Phyllis Hill; and Jim Head, husband of Reba Head. We all greatly mourn their passing.

Joint Meeting with the BOD –

Once again, the Breed Council Secretaries (BCS) were invited to meet with the BOD on Thursday afternoon. The following are some of items discussed at this meeting –

Open exchange regarding the breeds was encouraged between the Breed Councils and judges. However, it was stressed that this exchange is not to be on an individual basis; any exchange must be a consensus of all members of the breed council. Information should be collected by the BCS via mailing list, regular mail and ballots. Further details on how this exchange will be conducted will be forthcoming.

Linda Berg has been named as the purebred rescue person contact.

The Breeder Referral List – Listings will now be by breed versus country.

Tom Dent asked each Breed Council Secretary to provide a list of the colors that we want registered as AOVs.

There was discussion about standardizing the color description across all breeds. Currently, there are several breeds that describe the same color in different ways. Those breeds that have a multitude of colors will work with CO to put together a standardized system for registering colors.

Another hot topic was the Regional assignment of DMs. Some have multiple owners, in which case the first name listed is where the assignment goes. Some records are very out of date due to the fact that many DMs are not shown, so there is not a current address in the file. The suggestion of using a claim form with current owner information might be used. This will be considered.

The need for a Job Description and duties for the position of BCS was discussed.

Candice brought up the question of what Central Office considers an AOV Havana Brown. After much discussion, it was agreed that the BCS contact Tom Dent and request clarification. The members present felt that all genetic possible recessives must be listed as AOVs.

As BCS, I was asked to write an article about the breed for the 2006 Yearbook. The article has been finished and has been submitted to the Yearbook editor. I want to thank all of you who responded in a timely manner to my request for photos. Your cooperation made my job much easier. The 2006 issue will be grouped by breeds similar to the 2005 issue. Hopefully, many of you will again support the Yearbook. Deadline to submit advertising is July 14, 2005.

The following is quoted from a post to the CFA list from Beth Ladd of the Southern Region. This post sums up my feelings exactly and is a topic that I want to address in this meeting.

The subject of the discussion was the ART OF BREEDING –

“Any and all of us can obtain cats from good breeders and good catteries, and we can take those cats and be moderately or vastly successful. We can breed those cats and be successful. But at the end of the day, if we don’t CONTINUE to research catteries, lines, breeders, etc. what have we LEARNED? Can we look at what we’ve produced, take those progeny and obtain outcrosses from other breeders and continue to produce BETTER examples of the breed? Note – I didn’t say WINNING examples, but BETTER examples. Because, truly – as breeders, shouldn’t our goal be to BETTER the breed with which we work rather than produce a WINNING cat. Breeding is a mentality – it is a thought process which has a HEART – and the HEART of that process is the CAT, not winning.

I think the pinnacle of a breeder’s success is producing a line of cats that is truly different from other breeder’s, but still meet the standard, and which has a distinctive quality different from any other – not BETTER, just different. And, in my opinion, it takes TIME, RESEARCH, DEDICATION, and LOVE to be successful.

When a new fancier asks me what's the best way to be successful in breeding, my answer is "PUT YOUR HEART INTO and do it FOR THE CATS, not the rosette". The rosette doesn't sleep with you at night – well, at least I HOPE NOT – but the kitten will for life. Make it your goal to leave a "Mark" in your breed – one that is lasting and good."

I couldn't have said it better. Thank you, Beth.

A discussion was held regarding the problem several breeders have experienced when they contact Central Office regarding the allowable outcross breeds. Apparently, different answers are being given which has resulted in much confusion. It was unanimously decided that the BCS contact Tom Dent and request that the "Existing Rules for Out-Cross Breedings" be included as part of the printed Havana Brown Standard.

It was further requested that the rules be included as part of these Minutes. See below –

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Existing Rules for Out-Cross Breedings

A Havana Brown cat may be mated with –

1. An unregistered domestic shorthair cat (black or blue) only
(hereafter referred to as **F0**)
2. Certain colors of Oriental (shorthair only; any color except pointed, cinnamon or fawn)
3. Siamese (chocolate point or seal point only)

The resulting kittens are known as the **F1** generation. The mating of an **F1** kitten to a Havana Brown produces a litter that is considered to be Havana Brown, provided the individual kittens meet the color standard for Havana Brown.

Codes:

0414-0415 –

Domestic Shorthair **F0** or foundation cats which will be mated to the Havana Brown

0416-0417 – For **F1** kittens

Matings:

0408 to 0414 – Breed Code 91

0416 to 0408 – Breed Code 12

Not Permitted:

0414 to 0415

0414 to Oriental or Siamese

0416 to 0417

0414 to 0416

Note: The color class number for the Havana Brown is 0408 and 0409

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A suggestion was made that we consider requesting a two-hour time slot for next year's meeting in Reno. It was also suggested that the breed be considered at a future Judges' Workshop. The BCS took both suggestions under advisement.

What is your interpretation of the word “refinement” as it pertains to the Havana Brown? This will have to be the topic for a future meeting as our time ran out.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma J. Placchi, Havana Brown Breed Council Secretary