

CFA Havana Brown Breed Council Meeting
Pittsburgh Hilton Towers
June 23, 2001

Sheila A. Ullmann, Havana Brown Breed Council Secretary

Members present: Jim and Reba Head (Simpsonville SC), Phyllis Hill (Mattydale NY), Kathi Hoos (Chambersburg PA), Beverleigh O'Neill (Tonawanda NY), Kathy Staley (Perry Hall MD), Sheila Ullmann (San Ramon CA)
Guests: Bill Hoos (Chambersburg PA), Elizabeth Lenzen (Carlisle MA), William 'Buzz' R. Lyons, Jr. (El Dorado Hills CA), Diane Mounib (Belmont MA)

Due to our small group, CFA was unable to accommodate us for a luncheon. So I opted for my room which I was sharing with another NW winner from California.

A package was given to each person at this meeting. Yours is enclosed if you were unable to join us. The packet included the CFA National Standings of Havana Browns for this past season, Havana Brown One Show Grands, Top cats in each category, and the one Distinguished Merit for this season.

After ordering a lot of extra chairs and food, we got down to the business of introducing ourselves, one by one, including how we each got started with the Havana Brown breed. Buzz Lyons (American SH BC member) and the exhibitor of GP Kapalua Lord Brooke shared his experiences with 'LB' this past season.

Items discussed:

Outcross Program - I asked if anyone was involved. It would be important to share all outcross programs with each other. Every outcross breeding should be written up and well documented giving all of the details and results of such outcrossing. It should be shared with all Breed Council Members. Legal outcrosses for the Havana Brown are Oriental Shorthair except pointed and cinnamon. Kim Everett, a CFA judge and Board member asked me to tell our members that only the Ebony and Chestnut should be used. Gosh, and I was hoping to use a Ebony Spotted Ticked Tabby so the judges could really see those spots on our babies. (giggle) There are some 274 colors of the OSH in CFA. So using the solid colors of ebony and chestnut is the way to go.

Bev O'Neill said she was but no longer is outcrossing.. she experienced some bad luck with her domestic shorthair from Lariche (Bilello) and the male she was to be bred with. Any inquiries about this may be directed to Beverly O'Neill (485 Somerville Ave, Tonawanda NY 14150).

We also touched on the **domestic shorthair** outcross program.

Stud Book - Where The Boys Are! This has been tried in the past without much success; however, everyone at this meeting felt it was very important to have each Havana Brown breeder who has a male at stud prepare information on their males and make it available. Such information should include On the front: photos, progeny report, achievements and the other side should contain a 5-generation CFA pedigree. A CFA certified pedigree will be helpful if you are unsure of all ancestors. Partial pedigrees are just that, partial and incomplete. If the pedigree is from another association, please so specify.

If you know Havana Brown breeders who are upstanding and will contribute to this endeavor, please let me know and I'll be happy to write to them. If we are to perpetuate this breed then we must have information as to *Where The Boys Are!* Some catteries may be closed, but we still need to know *Where The Boys Are.*

I will be happy to have this information compiled for our Havana Brown breeders and BC members...a small fee to cover postage and printing. Example - 'Fee For 2002 - \$500'.

Scale for CFA males at stud: -

Open (no title)

Champion

Grand Champion

Grand Champion Regional Winner

Grand Champion Breed Winner Regional Winner

Grand Champion Breed Winner National Winner

There is but one DM male at stud and that is GC Kapalua's Knight Rider, DM who has a queen in kitten due in November 2001.

Geographic area does not contribute to Stud Fees - it is the show/produce record of the stud. Consideration may be offered to approved queens by the owner.

Health We had an excellent discussion on the health and how to help ensure the health of your kittens. Selling only healthy kittens, always using Sales Contracts (a good source is Dr. Nils C. Pedersen's book on Animal Husbandry and Cattery Management. Unfortunately I loaned out my two books and they have never been returned to me so I can't specify page numbers for you at this time. When I attended the Cornell University Seminar for Cat Breeders (Ithaca NY) in August 1992 we were told the following:

- do not mix your litters
- no contact between kittens and queens and cats/kittens that are being shown
- keep your numbers low and in pockets to void stress which can affect the immune system.
- and Niels C. Pedersen, PhD and Dr. Janet Foley (UCDavis) also said to keep the kittens out of the queen's litter box as that is where the problem lies. Each box should have it's own scooper to avoid cross contamination from the feces.
- practice early weaning

Have you had losses you cannot explain? Then think about some of these items and see if they apply to you. None of us wants to spend the time, effort and money involved in breeding and raising these pedigreed cats without knowing the best rules to follow to safeguard these guys. Believe me, it is just too heartbreaking not to pay attention to all of the details. Keeping kittens away from the rest of the household does not make the kittens unsocial as some have used as an excuse not to do so.

Total Protein testing was discussed in connection with the Kapalua Cattery participation via the Winn Foundation with University of California at Davis in 1995-1996. To repeat here for those who have asked, it has been recommended that the following testing be done prior to sale of kittens -

take your kittens to the vet for two tests 3-4 weeks apart. Have them tested for Total Protein, Globulin and Albumin. The latter two numbers should equal the TP number. A word of caution, if you have a kitten that tests in the 7-8 range on the first test, be sure to follow up with at least two more tests. Sell no kittens in the High range as it is indicative of FIP. Over the past years, I have spoken to numerous CFA allbreed judges who confirmed this testing with one judge telling me her vet had been doing that test for years. These tests from your veterinarian should accompany the other paperwork when you sell your kitten. Or better yet, send it on ahead. I have also done a General Profile on kittens and ask that the buyer take his/her kitten and this test to his vet within 14 days of purchase.

Sales Contracts according to Dr. Pedersen's book should give the buyer 14 days in which to return a kitten, not two days, not three days, but 14 days. Personally, I would be suspect if someone gave me less than a week. Sales Contracts should be provided to the buyer prior to the receipt of the kitten. Some buyers may not like your Sales Contract and there you'd be. They have the kitten and you have no Sales Contract.

Visit The Cattery you plan to buy from if at all possible. Always invite the buyer to visit your cats and kittens.

We should all be proud of our catteries and the conditions in which we breed and raise our Havana Browns.

Planning matings - breeding together a male and a female is not being a breeder.

Anyone can do that as you know, but being honest about your cats' conformation, show temperament, knowing the shortcomings of your queens and studs... although the latter, the stud, should be as close to the breed standard as possible. A queen can get away with the no so perfect 'perfection' and the good stud 'can bring her up'. I've seen it happen too many times for anyone to argue this point.

Anyone can breed cats, but pedigreed cats are bred to improve the breed, not to just produce kittens to sell.

This is where showing comes in. Cats don't get FIP at shows, they don't get FeLV at shows, but they can get fungus if benched near some cat that has it. This is where the cages and cage curtains come into play. And wash them after each show!

We also had discussion on the planned March 2002 Madison Square Garden exhibition. This has been headed up by Betty White one of our CFA judges and Board members.

My apologies for the lateness of this report. My very old Mac II decided to have problems in late August and this report was still in the computer.

I can be reached anytime via email: KapaluaKat@aol.com, fax 925-829-4695

