

MINUTES OF HAVANA BROWN BREED COUNCIL MEETING
Saturday, June 26, 2004, Lake Buena Vista, FL Annual Meeting

The following were in attendance – Members:

Anne Edwards, D. Ray Edwards, Cindy Gray, Chris Gray, Jim Head, Reba Head, Phyllis Hill, Elaine Law, Diane Mounib, Beverleigh O'Neill, Norma Placchi, Ed Powell, Chris Powell, and Karen Rogers; Guest, Allison Turner.

Norma Placchi, Breed Council Secretary, welcomed everyone and expressed her gratitude with the wonderful turn-out of members and guests. The owners of the three Best of Breed Winners were recognized and congratulated – BOB, Anne/Ray Edwards; 2nd BOB Carolyn Anfinrud (who regretfully had to cancel her plans to attend at the last minute); 3rd BOB, Diane/Ed Mounib/Jim/Reba Head. All 3 of the BOB winners were also Regional Winners, representing 3 different regions. Our guest Allison Turner was also congratulated on her Regional Premiership win in this her very first year of showing. Additionally, the top 2 Havana Brown kittens both achieved Regional Kitten Wins in their respective regions. Two Havana Brown females completed the requirements for the title of Distinguished Merit this past season. One of the DM females made history for the breed – *Acapella Karina, DM*, is the first Havana Brown descendant from the out-cross program to achieve this title!! Congratulations to her breeder, Candice Massey, and to all that helped her reach this achievement. Candice has written an article documenting this milestone for the breed. Her article will be posted on the International Havana Brown Society website – www.havanabrown.org – and will also be published in the club newsletter. This was a banner year for the “*cat in a plain brown wrapper*”!! Congratulations to all!!

Joint Meeting – BOD & BC Secretaries -- Norma attended the Joint Meeting of the Breed Council Secretaries and the Board of Directors on Thursday morning. The following is a synopsis of this meeting -- *CFA President, Don Williams, welcomed all attendees. He stressed the importance of turning “Exhibitors” into “Breeders” through our Mentor Program. As breeders, it is important that we mentor new people and teach them the importance of understanding pedigrees versus just breeding two cats together because they compliment each other in appearance. The practice of studying pedigrees appears to becoming a lost art. The Breeds & Standards Chairperson, Peg Johnson, presided over the meeting.*

The first item of business was discussion regarding the 8-generation pedigree. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to make no changes to the existing policy. Tom Dent reported that Central Office should be capable of producing a 7-generation pedigree by the end of this fiscal year.

The preservation of cattery names was stressed. Each Breed Council Secretary was asked to compile a list of historical cattery names associated with their breed that the breeders wish to have preserved. In some instances, cattery names are being re-issued following the death of the original owner(s), or many years of inactivity. The Breed Council Secretaries were in agreement that if this becomes a standard practice, there will be a tremendous amount of confusion on pedigrees in the future. Your Secretary will be compiling a list and would appreciate everyone's help by furnishing cattery names that you feel should be preserved.

In order to protect your chosen cattery name, it was suggested that all breeders register their cattery name in all of the cat-registering organizations.

Several Breed Council Secretaries expressed an interest in a way of providing judges with particular items of concern that breeders may have with their breed or with the interpretation of the standard in the judging ring. It was felt that many breeders would like a way to convey their concerns to the judges without having to wait for their breed to be presented at a Judges Workshop. It was suggested

that the individual Breed Council Secretaries poll their membership to see if there are any items the breeders would like brought to the attention of the judges. Each Secretary will compile the responses and forward the top two issues, if any, to Jo Ann Cummings who will add these items to the CFA Breed CD.

C.A.T.S. – Cat Ancestry Tracking System – Central Office is now going to require a photograph of any domestic cat that is being registered as of ‘unknown parentage’. This will help to insure that the cat being registered is truly a domestic.

Norma had asked to be placed on the Agenda so that she could present an update on the Havana Brown out-cross program. Her complete report is scheduled to be published in the October/November issue of the ALMANAC. (If you would like a copy of the report, please let me know) The Board was very pleased to hear how well the program is progressing. And were especially impressed to hear that there are currently 7 breeders actively working on the out-cross program. Norma was also proud to report that the number of Havana Browns being produced and shown has increased dramatically. Additionally, membership in the Breed Council has doubled since 1999-2000; there are now a total of 25 breeders currently working with the breed; breeders are working together; the future of the breed looks very promising. She believes that this renewed interest in the breed is a direct result of the out-cross program. She thanked the Board for granting the breeders permission to put the out-cross program in motion.

2005 Yearbook Advertising – The 2005 Yearbook will be breed-oriented. All Havana Brown breeders were encouraged to place an ad.

Out-Cross Program – Copies of existing rules for the Havana Brown Out-Cross Breeding were again distributed. Norma praised the breeders who are doing out-cross breedings and congratulated them on their success to date. The Board has been very generous in allowing us three viable options for out-cross breedings without placing a time restriction on the program. We have just begun to see the results; there is still a long way to go. The majority present felt that the existing program is working; let’s not make any changes at this time. Norma also expressed her happiness with the overall cooperation, communication, and camaraderie that is evident amongst the Havana Brown breeders.

Breed Council Web Site – Feel free to forward general questions or suggestions directly to the Webmaster – webmaster@HavanaBrownBC.org. All present expressed their gratitude to our Webmaster for all the hard work and long hours spent maintaining the site.

International Show Breed Booth – We will have a breed booth at the International Show in Houston this year. Anne & Ray Edwards agreed to transport the booth once again. Several ideas for a theme were discussed; however, no decision was reached. Please put on your thinking caps and send me your ideas. November will be here before we know it.

The time allotted for our meeting ran out; the meeting was adjourned. On to the Awards Banquet.....
Let the Party Begin!!