

The following Breed Council members and guests were in attendance at the International Show held in Houston on November 21-23, 2003 –

Carolyn Anfinrud, Anne & Ray Edwards, Reba Head, Diane Mounib, Norma Placchi, and Karen Rogers.

Thank you to all the Havana Brown breeders that supported the show with your beautiful cats. There was 1 kitten present, 3 Grand Champion males, 2 female Champions, 1 female Grand Champion, and 1 female Grand Premier. All were great representations of the breed.

It had been several years since the breed had been represented at the show either physically or with a Breed Booth so it was most encouraging to receive many favorable comments from exhibitors and spectators regarding the presence of the Havana Brown at the International again.

Anne and Ray Edwards spent many hours putting together a very interesting and informative display – “*A Havana Brown is NOT A Cigar*”. Copies of the cute poster are available for a \$25 donation. (See photo) Contact Anne or Ray for details. The focal point of the booth was a CD presentation that ran continuously. There was generally a large group of interested spectators and exhibitors gathered around the large flat screen monitor watching and learning about the breed. Many of the Judging School attendees also took advantage of the opportunity to gain more knowledge of the breed by watching the presentation and by handling the various exhibits. JoAnn Cummings was responsible for creating the CD for use as a teaching tool in the Judges School. Thank you, JoAnn.

A short discussion was held regarding the out-cross program. A variety of breeders have utilized all of the available out-cross options with very encouraging results. All attendees were very happy with the success of the out-crossing but agreed more work needs to be done.

A possible problem with PK-Deficiency disease has been experienced by a Breed Council member. The breeders of the affected cat(s) are awaiting results of a genetic marker from the U of PA. They have promised to share the results with the other Breed Council members as soon as they receive the information. As soon as I hear back from them, I will pass the information along. It is essential that we all as ethical breeders share any information regarding potential health problems that may occur in the breed.

The next Breed Council Meeting will be held at the Annual Meeting in June in Orlando Florida. The date of the Annual Meeting is June 23-27, 2004. The time and date will be posted shortly. Hope to see you all in Florida!!