BEST BURMESE IN PREMIERSHIP

GC, GP, NW MAR-CHU NIobe
SABLE BURMESE SPAY
A Note From the President of NABB

Dear NABB Members,

Holiday Greetings! We certainly hope that the new year brings you good health and well being in 1996...only four more years until the "turn of the century." A scary thought and yet a challenge to us all on a personal level and within the greater global community.

There are a lot of questions that we face as breeders as the world moves into the next century. Are you confronted with animal activists in your part of the country? Have you successfully fought animal control ordinances that seek to put the hobby breeder out of the business of breeding and promoting the pedigreed cat? Are you currently under siege in your community as these zealots try to move their agendas forward?

Recently, CFA hired an attorney as a Legislative Director to represent our concerns and rights on legislative issues. Her name is Lauren Lavelle and she started on January 2, 1996. I am sure that she will be a tremendous asset to the Fancy as she begins her work. More about Lauren and her responsibilities will appear in the February CFA Almanac.

Even with Lauren on board, there will still be the need for all of us to continue to confront the AR movement on a local level. Were you aware that much of the data that is presented to legislators as they consider the merits of animal control legislation is INCORRECT. The AR activists will use any kind of numbers to put their point across...be sure you have the RIGHT numbers. How do you get those? Contact the CFA Central Office Legislative Department (Ext 30) or FAX the CO at 908-528-7391 - Attention Legislative Department.

Stick up for yourself! What you do as a breeder of pedigreed cats is important! Consider the following:

- You are preserving a very limited and important gene pool. Without breeders committed to maintaining the integrity of certain genes (such as the Burmese gene), how long would it be before a given gene was just one more in the amalgamation of the general, at large gene pool?
- Additionally, you are preserving through your breeding and hard work, a breed of cat that many people find attractive and important. How many pet buyers have returned to you since they purchased their first Burmese to acquire another or to replace a dear friend, recently lost?
- You are part of a nationwide educational system that includes breeders of a variety of pedigreed cats. Every weekend, hundreds of breeders/exhibitors gather at various places around North America to exhibit their cats. At the same time, we provide an education to the general public about the various breeds, care of the cat, nutrition, grooming, neutering, etc. We are the largest group doing feline education in the world!
- We, as a group of animal hobbyists, are among the most concerned when it comes to limiting the number of cats allowed to reproduce. The vast majority of pedigreed breeders insist on a sales contract that specifies that the cat is of pet quality and is to be altered before the age of 12 months. Many of us are now doing early neuter/spay (before the age of 6 months) before we place our pets. (My vet has altered 10 and 12 week old kittens for me without any problems.)
- We generate a tremendous amount of money that is directed toward research of feline disease and illness. The cat fancy is one of the largest philanthropic groups when it comes to taking care of our own. The spin off of this? Some of what is discovered in the study of feline illnesses is directly relatable to humans. Additionally, a large amount of money is raised and donated to animal shelters for the care of unwanted cats by fanciers.

No, what we do by breeding and raising cats (Burmese in particular) is not "brain surgery" or "feeding the hungry." But, consider this; would the world be better off if all the people who breed and care about pedigreed cats where denied the freedom to do so? No. In my opinion, it would be a less colorful and less beautiful place to live.

While we are talking about what we do well as the Cat Fancy, let me mention what we also do right as The Cat Fanciers' Association. If you did not have the opportunity to be in Chicago for the 1995 CFA International Show, you missed a wonderful experience. Over 1200 beautiful pedigreed cats in the same show. What an adventure! What an event!

Mark Hannon assembled an outstanding team! The show ran very smoothly and was a wonderful showcase for our breeds. The hall was beautifully decorated - each ring represented a different breed from a different part of the world. A job well done once again.

There were some beautiful Burmese in all the groups. The results of the Burmese classes are included in this Newsletter issue. Next year, the International show will be in Anaheim, California.

In the mean time... consider the Washington, D.C. area in May, 1996 for the NABB show. Encourage your friends to enter and lets see how many Burmese we can get entered in our show! Until then...

Take care...

Minneapolis, January, 1996
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BURMESE BREEDERS, INC.

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BURMESE STUDY UPDATES
Enka Graf-Webster

The National Alliance of Burmese Breeders (NABB) Newsletter is published four times a year (Jan-Apr-Jul-Sep). Membership is available to Burmese Breeders and Exhibitors. To obtain information about NABB and/or membership, please contact Melinda Webster or any officer or director.

NABB is a breed club affiliated with the CFA.

NABB FINANCIAL REPORT

Chuck Reich - Treasurer
October 1 - December 31, 1995

CHECKING ACCOUNT

October
Opening balance 10/01/95 $3,645.72
Income: $ 0.00
Expenditures:
Jeffrey Diehl - transfer to May, 1996 show account $2,000.00
Balance 10/31/95 $1,645.72

November
Income:
Reimbursement for mailing labels $ 2.00
New member dues 50.00
Transfer from savings account 2,000.00
Expenditures:
Skyline Displays Midwest, new breed display $1,251.38
CFA - 1996 dues 60.00
Lettertech, Inc., breed booth graphics 292.88
Pat Jacobberger - Autumn Newsletter 339.91
Pat Jacobberger - breed booth materials 28.60
Winn Feline Foundation, donation in memory of Linda Swope 50.00
Balance 08/31/95 $ 1,674.95

December
Income: $ 0.00
Expenditures:
Charles J. Reich, 1994 Treasurer’s Expenses $ 219.79
Charles J. Reich, 1995 Treasurer’s Expenses 322.86
Balance 12/31/95 $ 1,132.30

NABB FINANCIAL REPORT - continued...

SAVINGS ACCOUNT
Opening balance 10/01/95 $20,078.97
Deposit, interest for October 54.57
Deposit, interest for November 49.79
Withdrawal, transfer to checking 2,000.00
Balance 11/30/95 $18,183.33

TREASURY BALANCE
12/12/95 (Note a) $19,315.63

Note a. This Quarterly Treasurer’s Report was prepared 12/12/95 in order to be included in the Winter Newsletter; therefore, the year-end balance of the savings account was not available. The end-of-quarter balance for both the savings account and Treasury will increase from the ending balance indicated above by the amount of interest credited for December. The Annual Financial Statement for 1995 will be printed in the Spring Newsletter.

CAR-LOT-A VAN BUREN
Phoenix, Arizona

A brown patched tabby and white spay, Car-Lot-A is a mixed breed cat; the result of a random mating. She enjoys her life safe and loved by the Searsie family of Phoenix, Arizona. She is playful and mischievous and often finds herself on the incorrect side of most household situations. She sleeps under the covers with her owners and eats at the dining room table whenever the kids can sneak her a tiny morsel.

Car-Lot-A is a rescue cat. Where did the Searsie find her? Why, in a cardboard box in a car lot on Van Buren... street that is.
MEET BAMBI EDWARDS

I’d like to introduce Bambi Joy Edwards. Bambi is licensed by the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) of New South Wales to judge all breeds in Australia and overseas (that’s us, folks). She has judged all over in Australia as well as in New Zealand and England.

Bambi has bred pedigreed cats since 1988. Her cattery name is Bajjmib and she breeds Siamese, Burmese, Devon Rex, Foreign Whites (white short hair Orientals), Orientals, Balinese, Scottish Folds and Manx. She has seven RAS Cats of the Year which include a Cornish Rex, Burmese, Oriental and Foreign White. She has exported cats to many countries and Bajjmib cats have been Best in Show in most Australian states and in New Zealand and Malaya.

Bambi is also active in several cat clubs as an officer and in show management. She is a Foundation and Life Member of the NSW Rex Cat Club and author of many articles in Australian publications and cat journals. She also has appeared on many television programs on behalf of cats.

Welcome, Bambi...we’re looking forward to having you judge our NABB show in May!

On the Front Cover

GC, GP, NW Mar-Chu Niobe bred and owned by Mary and Chuck Reich of Boulder Colorado. "Bits" was Best Burmese in Premiership in the 1994-95 show season as well as Best Shorthair and Second Best Cat in Premiership. "Bits" accomplished this feat by finishing the show season with 4342.3 points. Congratulations Bits!!

FOOT OF THE ROCKIES MAKES MAJOR DONATION

On November 9, 1995, Foot of the Rockies Cat Club voted to donate $10,000 to the Winn Feline Foundation. The Club designated that $5000 be designated for the Burmese Genetic Study (Noah Project). Way to go Foot of the Rockies!!

TOP TEN JUDGES

In November, NABB members were polled in order to complete the new International and Regional Qualifier judging ballots and to select judges for future NABB shows. Here are the top ten judges from that polling in alphabetical order.

Larry Adkison
Stan Barnaby
Carolyn Bullotta
Vickie Dickerson
Kim Everett
Erika Graf-Webster
Wain Harding
Pat Jacobberger
Gary Powell
Wayne Trevathan

AVMA Animal Facts

Q: Some cat owners use water pistols and spray their cats to stop unacceptable behavior. What is the theory behind squirting a cat with water?

A: Some say it is a way to get the cat to associate unacceptable behavior with an unpleasant outcome. Another tactic is to consistently startle the cat with an emphatic NO! To add emphasis, you could tap the floor with a rolled up newspaper.
National Alliance of Burmese Breeders

May 25-26, 1996 At
Northern Virginia Community College
Annandale, VA

Eight Allbreed rings, limited to 225 cats! Enter early!

Judges
Stan Barnaby  Allbreed
Hazel Lindstrand  Allbreed
D.J. Thompson  Allbreed
Diana Doernberg  Allbreed
Wain Harding  Allbreed
Don Williams  Allbreed
Leta Williams  Allbreed
Bambi Edwards  Allbreed
(Guest judge from Australia)

Show Manager
Erika Graf-Webster
(703) 904-0265

Entry Clerk
Pat Zenda
12963 Ridgemist Lane
Fairfax, VA 22033
(703) 263-1032
*** No Calls After 10 PM Please ***

Fees:
$44.00 first entry, includes catalog
Burmese Entries Deduct $ 5.00!
$38.00 each additional entry
$20.00 fee for checks returned by the bank
$20.00 per double cage, sales cage, or grooming space
(sales cage with entry)

Entries: All entries must be submitted on official CFA entry forms (photocopies are acceptable). Entry clerk will call to collect to obtain additional information on any entries that are illegible. Fees must accompany all entries!

Health: All cats and kittens entered or present in the show hall should be inoculated against feline enteritis, feline rhinotraceitis, calici viruses, and rabies, and tested negative for FeLV. All cats should be free from fleas, fungus, or other health problems. Any cat suspected of being ill, of having fleas, etc., must leave the show hall. All claws must be clipped prior to benching. No kitten under 4 months of age is permitted in the show hall.

Household Pets: Household Pets will be judged in all eight rings! Adult cats (8 months and older) must be spayed or neutered. Kittens must be at least four months of age. Declawed cats are not eligible for competition.

General: CFA rules will be strictly enforced. A copy of the Show Rules may be obtained for $3.00 from CFA, PO Box 1005, Manasquan, NJ 08736. All Championship, Premiums and registered Kitten entries will be scored for CFA National and Regional awards. Registration numbers must be printed in the catalog. It is the exhibitors responsibility to check entry confirmation and notify entry clerk of any errors.

Check-in and Judging: Check-in on Saturday is from 8-9:30 AM. Judging will start at 10 Saturday and 9 Sunday.
Advertised show hours are 10-5 Saturday and 9-4 Sunday. No entries may leave the show hall before the end of the advertised show hours, with the exception of kittens, without the permission of the Show Manager! Single cages are 22 x 22 x 22.

Show Hall: The show hall is located one mile south of the Capital Beltway, Little River Turnpike exit, in Annandale, VA. Parking is FREE! Signs will be posted and instructions will be mailed with confirmations. This is a non-smoking show hall and is handicapped-accessible. It is air conditioned for your comfort!

Show Hotel: The Show Hotel is the Marriott Fairview Park, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042. Call 703-849-9400. Show rate is $69.00. Please help us keep this terrific hotel: don’t bathe your cats in the hotel sink, and collect your trash and litter before you leave! Hospitality is planned for Saturday Night!

Supplies and Miscellaneous: Litter will be provided. Litter Boxes may also be provided, but bring one just in case! NABB reserves the right to substitute judges in case of emergency.

If this is your first show: Please indicate on your entries! We will try to bench you with someone experienced!
Dear Burmese Breeders:

Regrettfully, due to time constraints, I wasn’t able to get my concerns and questions to Pat Swihart, Burmese Breed Council Secretary, for the recently scheduled but subsequently canceled Burmese breed council meetings agenda and I apologize. However, considering the significance and complexity of these issues, it seems important for me to share them with as many of you as possible. Included is a list containing 16 questions and items of concern which I feel are extremely important to the future of the Burmese. Pat Jacobberger kindly offered to print my items for the members of NABB.

In an effort to benefit the breed, I ask that you please read, and consider, the concerns and questions listed. Discuss them with one another individually, among groups of Burmese breeders, and with me.

This CFA Burmese Breed Council is composed of a very diverse group of individuals who meet once in a while and face a daunting agenda. It is made up of hard workers who are always “impatient to get at it” and who serve a need that is constantly pushing for results. This scenario creates unusual stress and effort for the members.

It is important that the Burmese breeders develop a better sense of trust and familiarity with one another. It is important that this sense of trust and familiarity develop and grow. We all need to know each other better, learn about the variety of individual interests, hopes, goals, concerns, backgrounds, frames of reference and paradigms within this group. Let’s use our hearts and minds to foster faith in one another. We are not enemies but friends, and we have Burmese cats in common.

Good groups, through teamwork build involvement, improve communication and cooperation, and generate innovative solutions. They streamline decision-making and expand competencies. It is up to each of us to take responsibility for our group’s success.

I realize that to achieve such a lofty goal there needs to be an ongoing process including MANY hours of facilitation in the type of human reactions that creates great bonding between people. We never have enough hours to work on this process. However, if everyone is willing to demonstrate cooperation and hard work, we can start to move in a direction where we can become more closely knit together, more open with each other, more creative, and better able to work together.

Gilt Edge Burmese Cat Fanciers has offered to act as the local sponsor for a day long Burmese Seminar next Summer in Chicago. Would you like to attend a Burmese Seminar in June, 1996 held in conjunction with the CFA Annual Meeting? This meeting could be held in the hotel on the Thursday before the Annual Meeting starts. Some of the 16 questions that follow might even be agenda items.

Historically, organized meetings, seminars, and/or workshops have produced tremendous results and have benefited many breeds and particularly the Burmese. For this very reason, I know that Pat Swihart, as the conscientious Burmese Breed Council Secretary she is, will heartily welcome and actively support a Chicago based seminar next June. Clearly, an organized protracted meeting of the Burmese Breeders is long overdue!

Every Burmese Breeder is important, your ideas, thoughts and feelings are what is needed. Your open participation is absolutely necessary for these Burmese issues to ever reach successful conclusion. I would suggest that you raise some money and secure the services of a trained facilitator for a June meeting. A facilitator would assure that everyone who attends the meeting will participate and be heard. It doesn’t matter if your team mates don’t agree. The opinions of everyone are important to work toward assuring a successful future for our primary interest, the Burmese Cat. Our Mandate is to Work Toward that Goal.

Anyone who is interested in attending, should take a minute and notify both Pat Swihart and Kathryn Tenerowicz, Chicago based Gilt Edge member, so that plans can be generated, and interest and enthusiasm can start to be measured. Please remember that Gilt Edge Burmese is a very small group and they will need a lot of help from the entire breed council and from all the Burmese clubs if this meeting is to be a success.

Having said all that, now I want to share with you my views concerning the eight generation pedigree. Changing registration policy is a serious step, one which should require accurate and sufficient documentation. For Example: Why? What is to be gained? Will this effect gene pool expansion in the future? If so would you be able to accommodate the breed? Where would you be able to get needed gene pool expansion? Are there health problems in the breed? Etc., etc.

Through the years, some temporary deviations in numbers of generations have been approved for various breeds but it was always for less than five generations and it was always done for a very valid reason - it was done to allow for expansion of the gene pool. Two breeds that immediately come to mind are the Burmese in the early 70’s and more recently, the Egyptian Mau. If memory serve me correctly, both those temporary registration deviations were input to provide for an import policy which subsequently brought new blood lines in from other parts of the world. Currently, the Korat only requires a three generation pedigree but that too is an arrangement found necessary to benefit and increase the Korat gene pool.

Unfortunately, the role and authority of the Breed Councils have become confused by some. I will take this opportunity to offer my position as a CFA Board Member. Breed
Councils are advisors to the CFA Board of Directors. CFA’s policy toward Breed Council is that they are a valuable resource for the Board to use now and in the future. Breed Councils provide advisory feedback to help the Board make the best decisions. Through the years, the CFA Board has always considered the Breed Council’s opinions on everything, but when it comes to what the Board votes on regarding the Breed Council’s ballot and 60% passage, that only has to do with standards.

For example, when we are talking about the eight generation pedigrees, we are talking about registration policy and while certainly we appreciate the breed council’s views there is no 60% or any percentage requirement on registration policy. While the Board wants and needs to hear the breed council views it is the Board’s responsibility to decide registration policy and they do this by getting input from many sources.

As Pat Swihart quoted from my recent “Thai Line” article: “The CFA Board members are conscientious and work very hard but still make some errors and in my opinion, we definitely “stubbled our toe” by approving an eight generation pedigree for the Burmese. (Ed. The eight generation pedigree was voted in by the Burmese Breed Council several years ago to minimize the potential introduction of the red gene into the North American Burmese gene pool. The CFA Board at that time adopted the recommendation. Since then, several other breed councils have considered or tired to use the same technique.) We should revisit that issue and take steps to put the CFA registration process back in order. No one breed should be entitled to a greater number of generations for registration than another. In the case of the Burmese there is definitely potential harm down the road by having granted the eight generation pedigree.”

It has been said “One of the greatest ills of the Burmese breeding program has always been the continuous inbreeding. Many breeders do not seem to understand that they are inbreeding an already inbred lot of cats. Every single Burmese cat goes right back to Wong Mau. Pedigrees, when run back for many generations, show all the same names, just differently arranged. This should be rectified at once through the medium of imports from Burma or Hong Kong, or we face eventual destruction of the breed. We all know the inbreeding for successive generations, of any animal, produces change and not always desirable. Inbreeding does not set any new faults, but does intensify such faults as the parent stock carries already. We know with Burmese it can cause color change, set white spots, cause diseases of the blood, disease of the bone, change disposition and bring about what Dr. Thompson called “dwarism” the curse of the Burmese. Bear in mind that many early Burmese breeders “burns out” their strain through the medium of too close inbreeding. The average length of time for them to work, before admitting defeat was from 3 to 5 years, then a sudden deterioration of cats caused them to give up the breed.”

Pretty strong stuff, huh? That statement by Doris Springer was published in the 1984 CFA Yearbook. Things change but still they stay the same. I urge each of us to organize and work together for the betterment of the Burmese and to be very careful that the steps we choose to take are those that will actually move us in the right direction.

**Major Concerns, from my perspective:**

1. The Burmese Breed Basically Consists of Two SMALL/LIMITED Gene pools: Contemporary and Traditional.
2. There is/are One and Perhaps Two COMPROMISED Small/Limited Gene Pools: Contemporary and Traditional.

Questions that need to be addressed:

1. Do we need to increase the size of the Burmese Gene Pool?
2. Can we increase the size of the Burmese gene pool? If so, How?

3. What does the eight generation Burmese pedigree accomplish?
4. What is the down side of an eight generation Burmese pedigree?
5. Can today’s Burmese breeders obtain a viable outcross? Where? How?
6. How do you feel about Southeast Asian imports?
7. What are the current CFA requirements for importing Burmese?
8. How do the European Burmese fit into the big picture?
9. What is considered necessary to guard against the red gene?
10. What is a pure bred cat?
11. Is the Burmese a pure bred cat? Please explain.
12. Is the Burmese an established hybrid? Why?
13. Is the Burmese a pure breeding variety of Malayan cat?
14. Why are so few Burmese being shown?
15. What is your vision of the Burmese in 5 years? In 10 years?
16. What is the most serious issue facing Burmese Breeders today?

After reviewing these questions, are you interested in analyzing them further? Do you agree that these questions are important? How do you rank them in importance? Please take a few minutes, rank the questions first through 16th, list any additional concerns, questions or comments you may have and then share your thoughts with me. Please call, mail or FAX them to me at the following address: 3514 E. Wickieup Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85024. Phone 602-569-7014 or FAX 602-569-2751. As a fellow breeder and a CFA Board members I both WANT and NEED your input. I sincerely thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

s/Willa K. Hawke
A New Surgical Option for the Treatment of Prolapsed Gland of the Nictitans Lacrimal Gland (Cherry Eye) in Burmese Cats

Pat Jacobberger

A prolapsed gland of the nictitans lacrimal gland (cherry eye) is something that many of us have experienced in our Burmese cats over the past few years. The condition has been reported in a variety of dogs such as the Cocker Spaniel, Boston Terrier, Beagle and Pekingese. It is a problem in other breeds of cat as well as the Burmese.

The nictitans lacrimal gland is located at the base of the T-cartilage of the third eyelid. It is responsible for 25 to 35% of the total tear production in the cat.

The pathogenesis of cherry eye is unclear. It may be that there is poor development of the ligaments that attach the gland to the base of the T-cartilage. Another theory that has been suggested is that an inflammatory process of the conjunctiva may lead to swelling of the gland and then its prolapse. There is also evidence to suggest that there is an inherited tendency towards cherry eye development. The appearance of cherry eye has been noted to occur in Burmese kittens as young as four weeks of age and in Burmese adults as late as 12 to 16 months. In most experiences, there does not seem to be any tie to the gender of the cat.

When the attaching ligaments do not do their job, the gland becomes freely mobile and pops up over the leading edge of the third eyelid. This results in a pink mass in the corner of the affected eye. The appearance is sudden and the kitten may or may not appear to have any pain. There is often a fair amount of discharge from the eye as swell. The gland then swells making it hard, if not impossible to get it to return to its normal anatomical location.

Of course, the first time the owner or breeder ever sees a cherry eye, it is extremely stressful. I recall driving across Minneapolis in excess of the speed limit on my way to the Emergency Veterinary Clinic the first time I was faced with one, absolutely certain that the cat at my side was losing his eye! Imagine my chagrin when the vet smiled and simply massaged the gland back into place.

In dogs, as well as in cats, it was first popular to clip the gland and remove it entirely. This was done to improve the cosmetic appearance of the eye as well as to reduce exposure induced conjunctivitis. It is known from following the course of both dogs and cats that this procedure sometimes resulted in a "dry eye." In dogs, dry eye was not such a problem because if it was recognized early enough, cyclosporine eye ointment could be used with good return of tearing. Not so with cats. In the cat, a dry eye was often led to the need to remove the eye.

In 1979, J.R. Blogg developed the technique of tacking the gland to tissue near the gland. In 1982, R. A. Albert modified that procedure to one where the gland was tacked to muscle tissue near the gland. Tack the gland into place was, for several years, the procedure of choice. However, this method resulted in a high incidence of recurrence and was considered "an exercise in frustration" because it only had a 42% long term success rate.

In the mid 1980's, R. V. Morgan developed a pocket technique which has become the surgical procedure of choice. A pocket is made from the conjunctiva of the eye and then sutured over the gland. This procedureatraumatically replaces the gland so that it continues to function normally. The recurrence rate is very low and, in fact the published success rate is 94%.

Surgery is done on a day patient basis and generally the cat can go home that afternoon. Anesthesia is usually obtained with isoflurane gas, a short acting anesthetic that is rapidly metabolized from the body after surgery. This anesthetic also allows for repair at a very young age (i.e., 12 weeks or younger).

In a procedure that takes about 30 minutes per eye to perform, the gland is placed into a tissue pocket which is sutured closed. A triple antibiotic eye ointment, applied four times a day for ten days is the only further treatment required. The sutures generally resorb on their own but, if they do not, they can be removed in a quick office visit.

As someone who has had a problem with cherry eyes in kittens and adults off and on over the past 15 years, I have cats that have been treated with all three methods. While I have had a fair amount of success with the clipping procedure, two cats developed a dry eye which resulted in the removal of the eye. It was the loss of an eye in the first cat that sent me on to try the tacking method. After having the tacking fail three times in the same kitten, I went back to the clipping technique. The second time I had a kitten loose an eye (some 12 years later), I went looking for a better way.

I have had cherry eyes repaired on two kittens using the pocket technique. So far, I have been extremely satisfied with the results. The key, I believe is finding an Ophthalmology Specialist who is proficient with the procedure.

(Special thanks to Dr. Olivero at the Veterinary Ophthalmology Specialists Practice, St. Louis Park, MN for his assistance in writing this article.)
BURMESE MADE THE GRADE AT THE
1995 CFA INTERNATIONAL SHOW!!

BURMESE KITTENS

BEST
KAUPAW’S ZSA ZSA GABEAR
Champagne Female
Breeder: Jerry and Toni Woolard
Owner: T & J Woolard and V & A Hidaka

SECOND BEST
BURYMYSTIC’S BROWN PEANUT BRITTLE
Sable Female
B/O: Carl & Priscilla Eldredge

THIRD BEST
KASHMIRIAN’S JUDGE HIMES OF RATATATAT
Sable Male
Breeder: Shirley H. Cohoe
Owner: Sharon Knight

FOURTH BEST
NORI’S COOL HAND LUKE OF WOBEGON
Platinum Male
Breeder: Dr. N. Pearlmutter & Dr. O. Frink
Owner: Katherine C. Tenerowicz

FIFTH BEST
KASHMIRIAN’S DARN FOOL DITTY
Sable Female
B/O: Shirley H. Cohoe
BURMESE IN CHAMPIONSHIP

BEST
GC GRIMPEUR GENERAL BEAUREGARD
Sable Male
Breeder: Curtis & Barbara Grafton
Owner: Patricia Swihart & Judith Kollman

SECOND BEST
GC KAWPAW'S LUCKY VANOS
Sable Male
Breeder: Jerry & Toni Woolard
Owner: T & J Woolard & A & V Hidaka

THIRD BEST
GC CIMARRON CHARMING
Sable Male
B/O: Deanne K. Lucek
BURMESE IN PREMIERSHIP

BEST

and

Second Best SH in Premiership

GP BURMYSTIC'S LORD NICHIEAU
Sable Neuter
B/O: Carl & Priscilla Eldredge

SECOND BEST
GP ANOKA SS FOLLOW ME OF ANSATA
Sable Spay
Breeder: Michele Clark & Mary Reich
O: Anne Slawick

THIRD BEST

and

Fifth Best SH in Premiership

GP MISAN PALMA SOLA OF MISTYMOON
Sable Spay
Breeder: Michael & Sandra Tadych
Owner: Mary Kwaterksi & Sandra Tadych
Whose eyes to compare with the sun?
for Ottie
Elizabeth Cunningham

How could I ever do justice, to my cat of sixteen years. You were more than a cat, with some inner knowledge and deep love for me.

I reject your image as memory, and yet instinctively like a jigsaw, fit you into the right spot. The window sill, the steps, the chair, my pillow.

My fingers memorize every inch of your soft body as it was curled up at night, me a crescent moon round my purring star.

I don’t want this chapter. The one without you, I could never imagine I wanted you forever. Your yellow crazy-glaze eyes shining love.

Unfair, for you were old and weary of the labor of staying alive. Even my love could not keep you here.

You chose to go, where I don’t know, but to die I am certain as you left our bed and into the early light sought that last resting place, away from me.

For death was stalking your steps.

Now I try to accept your choice to die alone and know that a shrunken body will not disguise that perfect leap YOU made into the morning light back to the universe, that autumn equinox, the last day of Pisces.

My little brown Burmese, fare thee well.

---

**THE POETRY CORNER**

Do you do poetry? Limericks? Lyrics? We welcome your verses for addition to the Newsletter.

**Abyssinian**

Lorraine Fegan FitzGerald

Grace of puma in a tabby cat
Pharaoh step aside
Across the painted tomb she glides
Then leaps and snatches at fireflies.
O Golden One,
Daughter of Abyssinia
Fire-eyed, mysterious one
Leonine, svelte and light-pawed
You tread the night
Upon the carved stone of Egypt.
Your image is upon the walls
Chasing bells up hallowed halls
As all of Egypt you enthrall.
Seeing you amid the ruined walls
I wonder why I came at all.
Back home by my friends
My "Abby" in her basket lies
Twitching and dreaming of fireflies.

---

**AVMA Animal Facts**

Q: Is it true that rather than being good for a cat, an excess of vitamins A and D could do the opposite and instead produce adverse effects?

A: Yes. Excessive dosages of vitamin A will eventually cause skeletal defects. Vitamin D toxicity causes joint pain, stiffness, weakness and may eventually deposit calcium in the kidneys, intestines, lungs and blood vessels.

---

The Naming of Cats
T.S. Eliot

The Naming of Cats is a difficult matter,
It isn’t just one of your holiday games;
You may think at first I’m as mad as a hatter
When I tell you, a cat must have THREE DIFFERENT NAMES.

First of all, there’s the name that the family use daily,
Such as Peter, Augustus, Alonzo or James,
Such as Victor or Jonathan, George or Bill Baily -
All of them sensible everyday names.

There are fancier names if you think they sound sweeter,
Some for the gentlemen, some for the dames:
Such as Plato, Admetus, Electra, Demeter -
But all of them sensible everyday names.

But I tell you, a cat needs a name that’s particular,
A name that’s peculiar, and more dignified,
Else how can he keep up his tail perpendicular,
Or spread out his whiskers, or cherish his pride?
Of names of this kind, I can give you a quorum,
Such as Munkustrap, Quaxo, or Coricopat,
Such as Bombaluria, or else Jellicorum -
Names that never belong to more than one cat.
But above and beyond there’s still one name left over,
And that is the name that you never will guess:
The name that no human research can discover -
But the CAT HIMSELF KNOWS and will never confess.

When you notice a cat in profound meditation,
The reason, I tell you, is always the same:
His mind is engaged in a rapt contemplation
Of the thought, of the thought, of the thought of his name:
His ineffable
Effaineffable
Deep and inscrutable singular Name.
Kel-Lin Blazer Girl of Charlicats (ss)  
Lagrip Tenneille of Jo-Don (ss)  
Laki's Starbuck (c fk)  
Lap-O-Luv Potion No. Nine (pf)  
Libertycall's Spectacular Bio (sm)  
Libertycall's Evangeline (sfk)  
* Maple Soubrette (ss)  
Mar-chu Brio of Alacatte (sm)  
Mar-Chu Calypso of Quartzkats (ss)  
Mid South Maryia Misha (ss)  
Misan Champagne of Ceasar (smk)  
Misan Lil' Latin Lupe (sf)  
* Misan Palma Sola of Shadowvale (ss)  
Misan Palma Sola of Mistymoon (ss)  
Nakodo Kisu The Bear (c fk/sf)  
Nakado Koko A-La-Bear of Cheruburm Nomad Beaumont (sn)  
Nori's Singapore Lady (ps)  
* Nutcracker's Talbot of Burmystic (sm)  
Orecreek's Ruby Tuesday (sf)  
Quartzkats Amber (sfk)  
Rainbow Life Rama (pn)  
Rangoone Sergei-of-Redwood (sn)  
Ratatat's Ruffian of Libertycall (sm)  
Sanzaguary Kayt (ss)  
* Sharjo's Echo (sf)  
Sinjam's Coco Chanel (sf)  
Sinjam's Snow Queen of Sylvrose (ps)  
Sojoy C Sweet William (sn)  
* Sojoy Marion Elizabeth (ss)  
Suncoast's Chiva Regal (sm) Sylburn's Primo Uomo (sn)  
Tangyi's Nick-of-Thyme of Jillpur (ss)  
Tinkatons Saddle (sfk)  
Tolee Shirsawbu (sn)  
Tzaadi Azuilikut (cm)  
Westwynder Tequilla Sunrise (cf)  
Wildwiskers Sassy Sable (s)  
Wildwiskers Tazzy (sfk)  
Windflower Beau Winkle of Kincharm  
* Windflower's Cara Lyn of Intotakz (sfk)  
Windflower's Cara Lyn of Intotakz (sf)  

KEY: Color is noted first: s = sable, c = champagne, p = platinum, b = blue; gender is noted next: f = female, m = male, s = spay, n = neuter; and lastly, k = kitten.  
* = highest scoring in show in competitive category.
THE COMIC'S CORNER
Once more to the Internet. It seems as though it is a never ending font of laughable quips and stories and clever, innovative humor!

Cat Bathing as a Martial Art
by Brad Herron

Some people say cats never have to be bathed. They say cats lick themselves clean. They say cats have a special enzyme of some sort in their saliva that works like New Improved Wisk - dislodging the dirt where it hides and whisking it away.

I've spent most of my life believing this folklore. Like most blind believers, I've been able to discount all the facts to the contrary - the kitty odors that lurk in the corners of the garage and dirt smudges that cling to the throw rug by the fireplace.

The time comes, however, when a man must face reality; when he must look squarely in the face of massive public sentiment to the contrary and announce: "This cat smells like a port-a-potty on a hot day in Juarez."

When that day arrives at your house, as it has in mine, I have some advice you might consider as you place your feline friend under your arm and head for the bathtub:

- Know that although the cat has the advantage of quickness and lack of concern for human life, you have the advantage of strength. Capitalize on that advantage by selecting the battlefield. Don't try to bathe him in an open area where he can force you to chase him. Pick a very small bathroom. If your bathroom is more than four feet square, I recommend that you get in the tub with the cat and close the sliding-glass doors as if you were about to take a shower. (A simple shower curtain will not do. A berserk cat can shred a three-ply rubber shower curtain quicker than a politician can shift positions.)

- Know that a cat has claws and will not hesitate to remove all the skin from your body. Your advantage here is that you are smart and know how to dress to protect yourself. I recommend canvas overalls tucked into high-top construction boots, a pair of steel-mesh gloves, an army helmet, a hockey face mask and a long-sleeve flak jacket.

- Prepare everything in advance. There is no time to go out for a towel when you have a cat digging a hole in your flak jacket. Draw the water. Make sure the bottle of kitty shampoo is inside the glass enclosure. Make sure the towel can be reached, even if you are lying on your back in the water.

- Use the element of surprise. Pick up your cat nonchalantly, as if to simply carry him to his supper dish. (Cats will not usually notice your strange attire. They have little or no interest in fashion as a rule. If he does notice your garb, calmly explain that you are taking part in a product testing experiment for J.C. Penney.)

- Once you are inside the bathroom, speed is essential to survival. In a single liquid motion, shut the bathroom door, step into the tub enclosure, slide the glass door shut, dip the cat in the water and squirt him with shampoo. You have begun one of the wildest 45 seconds if your life. Cats have no handles. Add the fact that he now has soapy fur, and the problem is radically compounded. Do not expect to hold on to him for more than two to three seconds at a time. When you have him however, you must remember to give him another squirt of shampoo and rub like crazy. He'll spring free and fall back into the water, thereby rinsing himself off. (The national record is for cats - three lathering, so don't expect too much.)

- Next, the cat must be dried. Novice cat bathers always assume this part will be the most difficult, for humans generally are worn out at this point and the cat is just getting really determined. In fact, the drying is simple compared to what you have just been through. That is because now the cat is semi-permanently affixed to your right leg. You simply pop the drain plug with your foot, reach for the your towel and wait.

(Occasionally, however, the cat will end up clinging to the top of your army helmet. If this happens, the best thing you can do is to shake him loose and to encourage him toward your leg.) After all the water has drained from the tub, it is a simple matter to just reach down and dry the cat.

In a few days the cat will relax enough to be removed from your leg. He will usually have nothing to say for about three weeks and will spend a lot of time sitting with his back to you. He might even become psycho ceramic and develop the fixed stare of a plaster figureine.

You will be tempted to assume he is angry. This isn't usually the case. As a rule he is simply plotting ways to get through your defenses and injure you for life the next time you decide to give hem a bath. But, at least now he smells a lot better.

This author OBVIOUSLY has never had the pleasure of bathing a pedigreed, well bred, well behaved Burmese...:-)Ed.

AVMA Animal Facts
Q. We're gone, our cat makes a beeline for our plants, nibbles a little and gets sick. We don't want to lock up the cat or the plants. Help!

A. Remove any poinsonous plants. Check out the pet store for non-toxic plant protector sprays. Some owners say that spraying the leaves with a solution of hot pepper and water tends to keep their cats away.

(Does anybody have any other solutions to the above problem? Ed.)
Dear Patty,

The NABB Newsletter looks better all the time. With one exception! This is the second time my cat has been listed and the second time her name has been misspelled. Can you please correct it? It's SHARJO'S ECHO.

Thanks...

s/Sharon Garrity
(Thanks for writing Sharon and letting us know!! For sure, we'll make certain that Echo's name is spelled correctly in the next issue! Ed.)

Patty,

I am responding to your request in the NABB Newsletter for ideas and suggestions. I have a few for you.

1. Membership/fundraising - development of a NABB booklet describing the breed and organization. These booklets would be included in the kitten kits we give with our kitten sales to new Burmese pet owners. These booklets would be intended to increase membership and revenue. (We have such a booklet Lynn. I've asked Erika Graf-Webster to send you a couple. By the way, it needs updating. Anyone interested? Ed.)

2. New topics for the newsletter -
   - Regional information written by the regional coordinator listing show results, new breeders, new exhibitors, litters, etc.
   - Tips from experienced breeders (this could be directed more towards the pet owners to keep their interest in the newsletter). (Breeders would be interested in tips from other breeders too! Ed.)

3. I would like to see a portion of the proceeds of the NABB show in May to be donated to the Winn Foundation for the Burmese study.

4. Why such a low entry for the NABB show? (The May show has traditionally been a two day back-to-back show. This is the show format that tends to work the best for this time of the show year in that part of the country. CFA Show Rules limit such a show to 225 entries. A different format might work in another part of the country. Ed.)

5. I would like to be the Region 7 Regional Coordinator if the position is open. My only concern is that I do not travel outside of Florida often and I am a relatively new breeder and not known very well. But, I would still like to be involved. (You're on Lynn! Welcome aboard and thanks!)

Well, there are my ideas, suggestions and comments.

Thanks for your time,

s/Lynn Thompson
235 W. Brandon #218
Brandon, FL 33511

Thanks for writing and volunteering Lynn! Thanks also for your questions and suggestions. (Ed.)

-------------------

DUCHESS PUDD

Red Bank, New Jersey

"The Pudd," a regal Seal Point Siamese, has reigned in her household for nearly a dozen years. Being something of a recluse, she spends her golden years snoozing in her favorite chair or snuggled in a lap. Duchess Pudd is a connoisseur of chicken and prime rib, and favors her personal blanket and the warm clothes from the dryer. She demonstrates an extensive vocabulary, responding uninhibitedly to human touch or conversation. Above all, this great lady loves to purr along, chin to chin, while being serenaded by a chorus of "You Are My Sunshine."

From the Who's Who of Cats, John R. F. Breen, Editor.
NEEDED: ORIGINAL ARTICLES FOR THE NABB NEWSLETTER - We are looking for interesting, original articles on Burmese or cat related subjects. This is your chance to be published!! Contact Michele Clark at 1435 No. Allen Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104 or E-mail her at anokacats@aol.com.

Don’t Forget to enter the May 25-26, 1996 NABB Show
At Northern Virginia Community College
Annandale, VA
See Show Flyer Elsewhere in this Newsletter
Want to Help?
Contact Jeff Diehl (703-620-2556)
or Erika Graf-Webster (703-904-0265)
There’s Lots to Do!!

REGIONAL COORDINATORS SOUGHT

- Energetic, lively persons are needed to report on the activities related to Burmese in their geographic areas. Areas are defined by the CFA Regions. Contact a NABB Officer if you are interested.

Melinda Webster is the NABB Membership Coordinator!! Do you have any questions or suggestions? Give her a call or drop her a note. In the meantime, is there someone YOU know who would benefit from being a member of NABB?

- WHAT?? Your beautiful Burm granded?!?! Congratulations!!!!! Commemorate this achievement by sending a legible copy of his/her pedigree to Lorraine Morse, 1500 Baltimore Drive, Richardson, Texas 75081.

Keep your eyes on your mail box!!
- Membership renewal information will be on it's way soon!!

MAY 1996 BRING YOU ALL THE "GRAND" EVENTS YOU DESERVE!!!
The NABB Sponsored Burmese Breed Booth in Use at the CFA International Show

Thanks to Debbie Diehl for the photo!

BREED PRIDE!!

- Did you see the show flyer for the May, 1996 NABB Show?
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