

Birman seminar 16.10.2010

Speaker presentations

Jan Rogers



Allbreeds International Judge
Cat Fanciers Association (CFA)

I began breed Birmans in 1987 (although my first girl came to me in 1986!) and have continuously bred Birmans since that time. In the late 1990's I was encouraged to apply for the judging program. I just celebrated my 10 years as a judge at the AGM in 2010. It has been an exciting journey, and while I was going through the program, I had the opportunity to live with and breed several other divisions of pedigreed cats, including Persians (Tabby, Bi-colors, and solids), Maine Coons, Japanese Bobtails, Abyssinians, American Shorthair/American Wirehair, Siamese, Orientals and Ocitcats, to name just a few. I showed many to regional wins and grand championships. Of all the short hair breeds, I came to love and respect the American Wirehair, and still have a small breeding program of these cats, which are so very rare in the world today.

I live in a small rural Texas town called Stephenville – our claim to fame is a huge dairy industry! We are about 75 miles southwest of Fort Worth, Texas. We live on 2 acres, and have been in Texas for 17 years. My cat hobby is enjoyed by my husband, Jim – who patiently helps with the cats, and the shows, and taking care of things when I am traveling.

I am semi-retired at this point, although I still have my own promotions company that I started in 1990 – I have only a selected few customers that I work with as an accommodation more than a full time effort.

I will probably always work doing something to afford being able to enjoy my hobby- these wonderful cats!!!

I have been exceptionally fortunate to have my “fingers in the fur” in many parts of the world, judging for many other associations. I have enjoyed meeting all the wonderful people in the world wide cat fancy, and discuss the many similarities across associations – with the common denominator being the love of the cat.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Purdue University, and an Masters in Business Administration/Finance from Indiana University. I currently sit on the CFA Foundation Board of Directors, and am their current treasurer. I also am active in several clubs holding varying officer positions and put on 4 shows per year throughout Texas with the help of an exceptionally talented team of volunteers/friends.

I am honored to be part of your show, and appreciate the opportunity to be with you this week.

Ellyn Honey



CFA ALLBREED JUDGE

Ellyn Honey is from Stafford, Virginia where she lives with her husband and 5 of her retired show cats. She is a Workers Compensation Administrator for a large US Defense firm.

After 18 years of breeding and showing award winning Siamese, Oriental Shorthairs and Colorpoints, she decided that it was time to "give back" something to the Association and applied, in the year 1999 to become a CFA Judge. She has traveled all over the world judging her beloved felines, including Japan, Hong Kong, Germany, Holland, and Belgium. She has judged at many of the prestigious shows in the United States Including National Capital Cat show, the largest cat show on the East Coast.

Her accomplishments are many, as are evidenced below.

CFA Judge

CFA Judging Program Training Administrator

Development of Judges' Mentor Program

Judges' Association Social and Awards Chair

Current Member CFA Business Development Committee

Teacher - CFA Judges School

BREEDING AND EXHIBITING

Rifkees Cattery

1982-1992

Myrlyn Cattery

1992-present

Breeder of Siamese, Oriental Shorthairs, Colorpoints and Tonkinese. Also worked with Birmans, Persians, Maine Coons, and Bombays.

Shown over 60 cats to Grand Champion status.

Owner and Breeder of 5 National Winners, including 2nd Best Cat in the Country, GRC, NW, Myrlyn Plain White Wrapper of Jmagz, DM, Blue Eyed White Oriental Shorthair.

5 Distinguished Merit Cats

Jeri Zottoli



CFA All Breed Judge

Jeri Zottoli is a life long resident of the central Pennsylvania area, living the past 34 years in the state's capital Harrisburg. She lives with her husband of 10 years Dan and their cats - 5 Birmans (4 neutered/spayed, 1 whole female), 3 Maine Coons (2 neuters, 1 whole female), 2 Bombay neuters, 2

Scottish Fold neuters - a 6 year old Pug and a 14 year old sun conure parrot. Jeri had retired after 31 years of state employment, 20 years with the state's parole board dealing with inmates and parolees. She has recently returned to work part-time.

Euphoria Cattery was registered with CFA in 1977 when Jeri began breeding Siamese, then Oriental Shorthairs, Bombays and Burmese. In 1994 Jeri got her first Birman and has been breeding Birmans on a small scale since then. Jeri has also bred Persians (tabby) and Maine Coons, and has exhibited Cornish Rex, American Shorthairs, Japanese Bobtails, Abyssinian and Korats, including numerous regional and national winners.

In 1993 Jeri applied to the CFA judging programs as a shorthair trainee and in 2003 she was advanced to approved all-breed status. She has judged all over the continental United States and in Canada, Russia, Japan, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Austria and Italy. Jeri mentors several upcoming new judges, has been the Birman Breed Council Secretary for 3 years and has participated as faculty in the last 5 CFA Breed Awareness Orientation Schools as both longhair and shorthair instructor. Jeri is the newly elected president of the CFA Judges Association. She has also done CFA breed presentations for the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.