

ACF National show 9/7/13

The 41st ACF national show was held in the Stirling Angas hall, in the Wayville showgrounds where the pet judging is now done for the Adelaide Royal show. Compared with our last ACF national this one attracted more interstate Aby and Somali exhibitors including the Pittaways, Lucy Nikiforos, Kerstin Jones, Lynne Moorman with her Somali boys and Dale Plummer, in addition to the locals Lori Fergusson, Anne Kirtland and Rita and Evelyn Bruche.



(Many Titles) Vivace El Tigre De Oro

The results are show elsewhere with all show results, so I won't repeat them here. Of the 485 entered exhibits, present were 10 Aby kittens, one Somali kitten, four Somali desexed cat, one Aby desexed cat, as well as four Aby and four Somali entire cats.

While it's true that it wasn't an Aby or Somali takeover, the two breeds did feature prominently in the top 15s of all sections. There were several seconds, fourths and lower placings. Along with the judging there were several "events": Poor Gr Ch Zinnabar Better than Bliss got away from the judge in the first ring and did a sprint right down the hall to crash into the



Merindalee Morticia



Supreme Silver Award with Linda Schneider and Kerstin Jones
glass windows at the far side. He [and his owner] were quite understandably shaken and upset so he was withdrawn from the next ring. He did recover, and so did Kerstin.

Vivace nearly ended up with a new stud! As Anne Kirtland's helper Bronwyn was packing up Anne's boys, the latch on the carrier was not quite done up... then she remarked that our boy Kingsley had got out! The tawny male obligingly let me pick him up, and I was about to put him in Kingsley's carrier, when I realised that Kingsley was still in his show cage and it was actually Osiris(V) Talk Softly To Me I was holding!

Several breeders of silver Abys and Somalis, namely Kimara, Silamos, Vivace and Zinnabar, had arranged with the show committee to sponsor a special award for best Silver Aby, Best Silver Somali, and Best Supreme Silver Aby or Somali. The show committee really got behind this and not only provided sponsor's food product to award along with the rosettes, but featured the awards along with the Supremes in show in the catalogue and included them in the Supremes presentation. This really made it special. Best Silver Abyssinian was won by Zinnabar Desert Firefly, a Cinnamon Silver female owned and bred by Kerstin Jones [who also arranged the making of the rosettes]. Best Silver Somali was won by Vivace Ruby Tuesday, Blue Silver Somali owned by new silver

Somali breeder Linda Schneider: She also won the Supreme Silver Aby and Somali exhibit.



Silver breeders were given further encouragement with the awarding of the ACF encouragement award which is “awarded to an exhibit that the Judge believes shows potential – yet may not have placed highly”. It is awarded to one in each group, per show. At this show it was awarded to Rita and Evelyn’s Vivace Here Comes the Sun, a Fawn-silver Abyssinian kitten; a really special rosette considering it was won at such a big show.

As with any show, there were some things that were less than perfect. For one, Group 3 was arranged all along one [very long] wall, so that going back and forth from kittens to entires became rather wearying after a while, especially walking on the hard concrete floor.

Some exhibitors from interstate were very disappointed that one of the entire and neuter rings was done completely by trolley(closed) judging, without any comments to be heard whatsoever.

At one point there were 2 judges working in the one bay of kittens making it impossible to see and hear both.

However generally I believe it had a very good atmosphere, was friendly and enjoyable. As someone who has been to precisely one interstate show, I really enjoyed the chance to meet people with whom I had previously only had contact by phone or email. Might be worth doing this more often!



Rita Bruche

Vivace Cattery, Adelaide

Details of the cats, in order of appearance (photos Rita Bruche)

1. Lori Fergusson’s TWN Som NC, CCCA Gr Ch & Regal DGPR Vivace El Tigre De Oro
2. Eileen & Karel Pittaway’s TWN Aby FK, Merindalee Morticia
3. Lynne Moorman’s TWN Som NC, Plat Gr Pr Nareira Calvin Cline, with NZ judge Jo Millar
4. Evelyn & Rita Bruche’s Sil Aby FK, Vivace Barabajagal.