

The Abyssinian Breeder 29th National Show

Canberra, 19 May 2013

GK's Comments

We had 64 exhibits entered this year – close to the average for recent years, and this time most of them made it. The Somali quality was very high, possibly the best ever. There were 46 Tawny exhibits, eight Cinnamons, seven Blues and one Fawn. That made it almost a Blue resurgence!

Supreme Exhibit was the Supreme Cat, Michael &

was fixed last year was by running the more time-consuming all-breeds show on Saturday, and then starting the specialist Aby and Birman shows a bit earlier on Sunday, to ensure that those flying out on Sunday could get to the airport in plenty of time. While that worked well, most interstate exhibitors who had to fly, flew top Sydney this year and either rented vans to drive to Canberra or just got lifts to



Trophy Table

Bruce Lyck's Tawny male, ACF AoE, Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me., R/U to Supreme Exhibit, and Supreme Kitten, was the Michael & Sue Shawn's Tawny female kitten, Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden. Supreme Desexed Cat was The Shawns' CCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapph AoE, Dbl Plat & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker, litter brother of the Supreme Exhibit.

The problem caused by the new Australian Air Express policy of not providing cargo staff in Canberra after 3 p.m. at on Saturdays and Sundays.

Canberra from Sydney friends.

My thanks go to the Birman Cat Club of Canberra; Denise White, show co-ordinator, producer of the catalogue and floor manager; Lorraine Vahland, who ran was the card-room with assistance from Dani Benham and Deric Kenyon; Alison Moore, who made arrangements for the judges produced THE best ever switch-over plan for the Saturday to Sunday floor configurations. Thanks also to two exhibitors, Chrissy Mangin and Lynne Moorman, who doubled up as stewards, while the third steward was Errol Brown

who kindly agreed to help at our show yet again. Thanks finally to all the exhibitors who stayed back for an hour or so on Saturday to help reset the trestles and cages for Sunday.

Kaylie Goodrick and Wendy Newton this time sponsored the top-10 exhibits in all three rings, while Wendy took some of the great photos that appear in this report (as did I!) and on the Web site at <http://www.nileabys.com/showphot.htm>. We had a great time, so if you didn't come, o gentle reader, be sure to come in 2014.



Joylinear Dream Catcher, Carole Carroll's TWN SOM FK, who was R/U Supreme Kitten

Top 10 Exhibits Tables

Ring 1 – Klaas van der Wijk [Netherlands]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	45	ACF AoE, Dbl Plat & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me	TWN MC	B. Lyck/S. Shawn	R. 1 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
2 nd	35	CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker	TWN NC	M. & S. Shawn/S. Shawn	R. 1 Best Dsx, Supr Dsx
3 rd	53	CCCA Dbl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost	TWN FC	G. & J. Kennedy/Exh	R. 1 2 nd Cat
4 th	40	Plat Dbl Gr Ch Nareira Calvin Cline	T\$NC	L. Moorman/D. Thomas	R. 1 2 nd Dsx
5 th	18	Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden	TWN FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 1 Best Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh
6 th	7	Osiris(V) Ralph Lauren	TWN MK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 1 2 nd Kit
7 th	28	Joylinear Dream Catcher	TWN\$ FK	C. Carroll/Exh	R. 1 3 rd Kit; R/U Supr Kit
8 th	19	Narleekatz Elusive Diamond	TWN FK	K. Goodrick/Exh	R. 1 4 th Kit
9 th	20	Kemenkat Dante's Inferno	CIN MK	G. Warwick/Exh	R. 1 5 th Kit
10 th	60	Joylinear Heart Of Dreams	TWN\$ MC	C. Carroll/Exh.	R. 1 3 rd Cat, R/U Supr Cat

Ring 2 — Teresa Keiger [CFA USA]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	45	ACF AoE, Dbl Plat & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me	TWN MC	B. Lyck/S. Shawn	R. 2 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
2 nd	60	Joylinear Heart Of Dreams	TWN\$ MC	C. Carroll/Exh.	R. 2 2 nd Cat, R/U Supr Cat
3 rd	34	Ch Nile Fortunati	TWN NC	K. Cooper/G. & J. Kennedy	R. 2 Best Dsx, R/U Supr Dsx
4 th	28	Joylinear Dream Catcher	TWN\$ FK	C. Carroll/Exh	R. 2 Best Kit; R/U Supr Kit
5 th	35	CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker	TWN NC	M. & S. Shawn/S. Shawn	R. 1 2 nd Dsx, Supr Dsx
6 th	54	Gr Ch Osiris(V) Sweet Influence	TWN FC	K. Goodrick/S. Shawn	R. 2 3 rd Cat
7 th	18	Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden	TWN FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 2 nd Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh

8 th	46	Osiris(V) Red Hot Rave	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/S. Shawn	R. 2 4 th Cat
9 th	21	Kemenkat Razzmatazz (Imp NZ)	CIN MK	W. Newton & B. White/G. Warwick	R. 2 3 rd Kit
10 th	37	Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Rangiora	CIN NC	G. & J. Kennedy/Exh	R. 2 3 rd Dsx

Ring 3 — Val Hurry [NSW CFA]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	18	Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden	TWN FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 Best Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh
2 nd	45	ACF AoE, Dbl Plat & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me	TWN MC	B. Lyck/S. Shawn	R. 3 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
3 rd	35	CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker	TWN NC	M. & S. Shawn/S. Shawn	R. 3 Best Dsx, Supr Dsx
4 th	7	Osiris(V) Ralph Lauren	TWN\$ FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 2 nd Kit
5 th	53	CCCA Dbl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost	TWN FC	G. & J. Kennedy/Exh	R. 3 2 nd Cat
6 th	60	Joylincar Heart Of Dreams	TWN\$ MC	C. Carroll/Exh.	R. 3 3 rd Cat, R/U Supr Cat
7 th	34	Ch Nile Fortunati	TWN NC	K. Cooper/G. & J. Kennedy	R. 3 2 nd Dsx, R/U Supr Dsx
8 th	41	CCCA Gr Ch, Nat Sh Ch, Aus Nat Pr, ACF Brz AoE, Supr Gr Pr, Tpl Gr Pr, Dbl Gr Ch & Dbl Ch Joylincar Sun God Amun Ra	TWN\$ NC	L. Moorman/C. Carroll	R. 3 3 rd Dsx
9 th	43	Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford	TWN MC	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 3 4 th Cat
10 th	58	Tijah Royal Colours	BLU FC	S. Hatcher/Exh	R. 3 5 th Cat

Notes:

- Cats are Abyssinian unless otherwise stated;
- \$ = Somali; TWN = Tawny; CIN = Cinnamon, BLU = Blue; FWN = Fawn
- M = Male; F = Female; N = Neuter; S = Spay; Dsx = Desexed Cat; C = Cat; K = Kitten
- Supr = Supreme (across the three rings); Exh = Exhibit; R/U = Runner-up to.

JUDGES' REPORTS

Most unfortunately, Val Hurry had an accident in which was knocked down by a car while walking near her home south of Sydney, three days after the show. She remained in hospital for many weeks, was unable to produce a report. She also had to wear an immobilisation brace when out of bed, and suffered from nausea. Val then gradually improved, came out of hospital in July and produced a report soon afterwards. It is appended here.

Ring 1 – Klaas van der Wijk [Netherlands]

I would like to thank the committee for the kind invitation for this show. It was the second time – first was in 2004 - that I had the honour to judge a great number of the breed I like most of all breeds. I also thank my steward Lynne Moorman who helped me through a busy day. Thank you Lynne it was a pleasure to work with you. To place the exhibits in a row from one to ten was not very easy. They all



CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker, Supreme Desexed Cat, with Sue Shawn



Klaas van der Wijk with Carole Collins and her Tawny Somali Male, Joylincar Heart Of Dreams, R/U to Supreme Cat

deserved to be my number one in the top-10. But I had to make my decisions. Thank you; it was a great pleasure to judge at this show.

1st (Cage 45) ACF AoE, Dbl Plat & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me (TWN MC)

Excellent muscular and elegant body of excellent size Excellent long elegant legs and oval paws. Excellent tail of excellent form and length. This male shows a good balance in his body structure Beautiful coat, excellent short and shining with health. Excellent belly and undercoat colour. Very nice regular ticking; no stripes and no bars. Very nice head shape, good profile. Big excellent placed ears. Excellent eye shape and eye placing. Nice yellow eye colour. Nice full-coloured lips and chin. Excellent condition .Very nice male

2nd (Cage 35) CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker (TWN NC)

Excellent muscular and strong body of excellent length. Excellent elegant legs and oval paws. Excellent tail. Very beautiful coat colour with excellent belly and undercoat colour. Nice evenly ticked coat. Beautiful Aby head with well-set big ears .Good profile. Excellent eye shape and eye set. Nice green eye colour excellently coloured chin. Excellent condition. Beautiful neuter with a lovely temperament.

3rd (Cage 53) CCCA Dbl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost (TWN FC)

Very nice mature female with a lovely character. Excellent body, strong, elegant and muscular. Excellent legs and oval paws. Excellent tail . Excellent balance in her body structure. Beautiful short, shining coat. Beautiful ticking. No bars or stipes. Nice head type with a nice Aby look. Big excellently placed ears. Excellent eye shape and eye set. Beautiful brown eye colour. Nicely coloured chin. Beautiful female

4th (Cage 40) Plat Dbl Gr Ch Nareira Calvin Cline (TWN SOM NC)

Excellent muscular and strong body of excellent size. Excellent strong legs and oval paws. Nice tail in full plume. Excellent britches. Very nice, well prepared coat. Nice belly and undercoat colour but some grey undercoat on elbows Nice regular ticking Nice head, ears of excellent size and placement. Profile with a little “bump” on nose Excellent eye shape and setting .Nice eye colour. Well coloured throat. Beautiful Somali neuter

5th (Cage 18) Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden (TWN

FK)

Beautiful kitten!!! Excellent body, legs, paws and tail. Well prepared, beautiful coat, shining with health. Nice belly and undercoat colour Excellent ticking. Beautiful head shape. Excellent big ears, very well placed. Excellent eye shape and placement. Very nice eye colour for this young age. Profile is developing Excellently coloured throat. Excellent condition. Attractive kitten.

6th (Cage 7) Osiris(V) Ralph Lauren (TWN MK)

Very nice kitten Excellent muscular body. Excellent legs and oval paws. Excellent tail. Beautiful coat shining with health. Excellent belly and undercoat colour. Very nice even ticking. Very nice head shape with big, excellently set ears. Profile is developing. .Excellent eye shape and setting. Yellow/green eye colour. Excellent colour on throat. Excellent condition

7th (Cage 28) Joylincar Dream Catcher (TWN SOM FK)

What a nice kitten! Excellent body, legs, paws and tail. Very nice, excellently prepared coat. Excellent belly and undercoat colour. With some grey undercoat colour on elbows. Excellent ticking for this young age. Nice head shape with excellently placed ears of excellent size Very good profile, excellent eye shape and placement, with beautiful brown eye colour. Lovely character. Excellent condition.

8th (Cage 19) Narleekatz Elusive Diamond (TWN FK)

Very nice female kitten. Excellent muscular body, excellent legs, paws and tail. Beautiful coat with excellent texture. Very nice ticking. Excellent belly and undercoat colour. Very nice head, big well-placed ears. Very good profile. Excellent eye shape and set, with yellow/green eye colour. Nicely coloured throat. Excellent condition. Very attractive kitten

9th (Cage 20) Kemenkat Dante's Inferno (CIN FK)

Beautiful sorrel colour with very nice ticking for a young kitten of this colour. Excellent body, legs and oval paws. Excellent tail Nice head shape ,big well sett ears very good profile Exc eye shape, setting and green/yellow eye colour. Well coloured throat Excellent belly and undercoat colour., Excellent condition .Lovely kitten

10th (Cage 60) Joylinar Heart Of Dreams (TWN SOM MC)

Very well prepared coat of excellent quality Excellent belly and undercoat colour. Nice ticking, with some grey undercoat on elbows. Excellent, muscular body, excellent legs and oval paws. He showed himself as a well-balanced young male Very good head, well-placed ears of very good. Excellent eye shape, placement and colour .Nice male in excellent condition

Ring 2 – Teresa Keiger [CFA USA]

I would like to thank the Abyssinian Breeder (along with the Birman Cat Club) for inviting me to judge both of the shows this weekend. My thanks to all breeders and exhibitors for supporting this show, for presenting your cats in such beautiful condition, and for your dedication to your breeding programs.

Judging overseas always affords one a great opportunity to see a glimpse of the development of each breed within another locale. But more importantly (for a judge's perspective) it gives one a deeper understanding of each breed and its nuances. I can truly say that this assignment has given me deeper knowledge and appreciation of two breeds that I already loved: the Abyssinian and Somali.

A couple of things that I was actually very pleased to notice when I began handling the Abyssinian exhibits was their size and their coat length. In the United States, the Abyssinian is usually a very elegant cat, but often this elegance comes with a sacrifice of size. In short – many Abyssinians are becoming smaller than they should be. What I saw in Australia was a cat that was both elegant AND of an appropriate size.

Regarding coat length,. Abyssinian coats in the US are often short and flat. Yes, they snap back into place, but they lack the density of most of the coats here.



Steward Chrissy Mangin with Kay Cooper's Tawny neuter, Ch Nile Fortunati, R/U to Supreme Desexed Cat

With the coats of my best cats, I felt a dense resilient coat – no flat coats here! That was very much a pleasure to see.

Finally, it was a pleasure to see older cats (from 3 to as old as 10 or more years old) being shown in both the entire and alter classes at all of the shows that I judged in Australia. In the United States we rarely get a chance to see mature cats, and many of our breeds do not reach their prime until they are much older. Some exhibitors cite temperament as the reason for not exhibiting mature cats, but I must differ in regards to the cats that I handled. The temperaments of all of the cats that I handled were wonderful.

It is with pleasure that I present my top ten cats:

1st #45 Abyssinian Tawny Male Cat. CQ & FCCQ PDGC, QFA & QICC GDCC AFC AOE OSIRIS (V) TALK DIRTY TO ME When I pulled this boy out of his cage, I could feel that he was something special. But when I put him on the table I could see just how stunning he was. A top show cat will have that bit of 'something extra' and this boy had it to spare! His proud stance showed off his hard, muscular body and the regal-ness of his being. Then, he would slowly turn his rounded wedge-shaped head as if to

survey the audience. His colour was very clear, with a deep orange-brown undercoat. His coat was very resilient, falling right back into place after I ran my finger through it, yet dense and not flat.

2nd #60 Somali Tawny Female. JOYLINCAR HEART OF DREAMS The Abyssinian and Somali standards both favour the male, but this girl can hold her own with the boys! She is a nice-sized female with good weight and muscularity. Her grooming was perfect and really showed off her long dense coat, deep ruff, and plumed tail. I appreciated her lovely modified wedge-shaped head and her large brightly coloured eyes. Her colour is russet, rich, and vibrant.

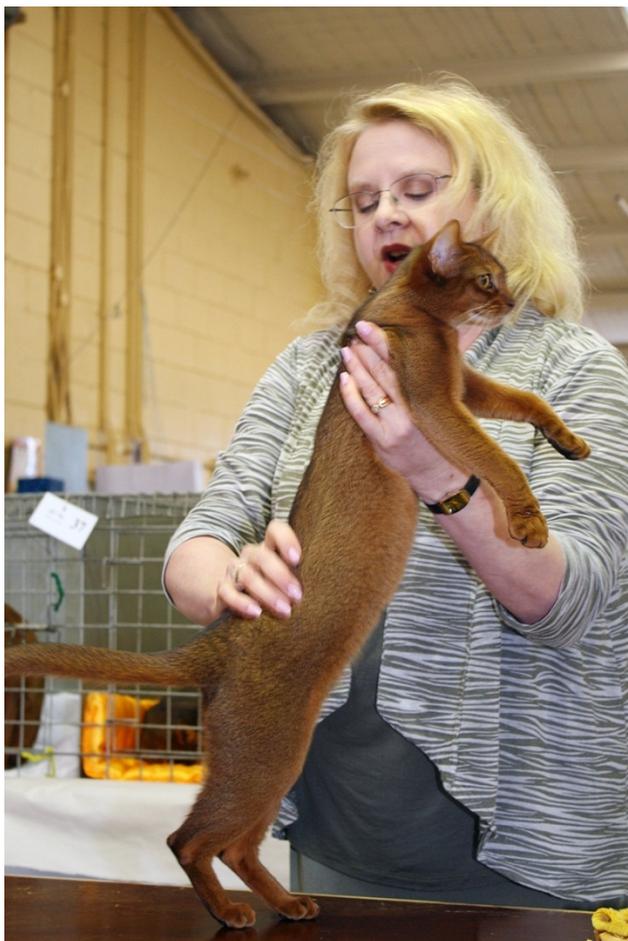
3rd #34 Abyssinian Tawny Neuter. CH NILE FORTUNATI I always love an Abyssinian with a hard muscular body and who stands very high on long legs, which this boy certainly did. He appeared to be suspended from the sky and barely standing on the table. That factor gave this boy a really great show presence. Very nice colour to his coat and nicely placed ears on his rounded wedge shaped head. I kept looking between him and #35 both in colour and for the breed win, and in the end, it was his body and presence that gave him the edge.

4th #28 Somali Tawny Female Kitten. JOYLINCAR DREAMCATCHER The shape of this girl's head is almost perfect. Nicely rounded planes defining a wedge shape to her head, gently scooped profile, and ears set at each corner of that triangle. Her eyes have a great depth and clarity of colour, as does her undercoat. She has a beautiful, large plume of a tail and a full ruff & britches.

5th #35 Abyssinian Tawny Neuter. ACF SAPP AoE, CCA DGC, QFA DUADGE, CFCCQ & FCCQ PDGC, QICC DDGC OSIRIS (V) FAST TALKER This boy had a very warm coat with great resilience and a fiery undercoat. The Abyssinian is a colourful cat and this boy certainly has all the points for colour. His head is a nicely modified wedge shape

finished with a gentle scoop to the profile. His deeply coloured rounded eyes fit nicely into that head.

6th #54 Abyssinian Tawny Female. Gr Ch OSIRIS (V) SWEET INFLUENCE Here I had a fully mature female (at 9 years of age) and in fantastic condition. She had a hard, muscular body, something not always found even in younger exhibits, much less mature females. She had a very sound colour to her undercoat finished off with good ticking and resilience. I also liked the smooth curved lines to her head and profile. An added plus – she enjoyed being on the bench (even flexing her paws in the final!) and really showed herself off!



Teresa Keiger with Michael & Sue Shawn's Tawny female, Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden, Supreme Kitten & R/U to Supreme Exhibit

7th #18 Abyssinian Tawny Female Kitten. OSIRIS (V) ELIZABETH ARDEN I really liked this girl's head very much as it was beautifully shaped with smooth curves throughout. Her ear placement is perfect – not too high on her head, and pointing outwards off the triangularity of her head. Her brightly coloured, rounded eyes accent her face. She also has a firm, well-balanced body covered in a resilient coat with rich undertones.

8th #46 Abyssinian Tawny Female. OSIRIS (V) RED HOT RAVE A very young female just into the adult classes at 11 months of age. But she looks like a slightly smaller version of the more mature and developed Abyssinians. Her head is a perfectly rounded modified wedge finishing in a very strong chin and ears coming off the corners of that wedge. Her coat is lustrous with a bright contrasting undercoat.

9th #21 Abyssinian Cinnamon Kitten. KEMENKAT RAZZMATAZZ Long and lean young male with bright red hues throughout his body. Great muscularity to his body accented by his long legs and long tail.

10th #37 Abyssinian Cinnamon Neuter. GDGC NILE RANGIORA Very nice fiery red colour on this boy – his colour is just striking! Large, well-placed ears on a nicely modified wedge-shaped head.

Ring 3 – Val Hurry [NSW CFA]

Many thanks for affording me the privilege of judging the best quality group of Abyssinian and Somali exhibits I have ever seen gathered together in all my years of judging. Evidently the finest from all over Australia and New Zealand were assembled for this one show. This is a weekend that I now consider one of the most rewarding of my judging career as the Birman exhibits the day before gave me similar pleasure because of the high standard of their quality. My heartfelt gratitude is extended to both the clubs for the care and consideration given to the judges regarding travel, accommodation meals and good company.

A great big “thank you” to my steward, Chrissy Mangin, who was not only the most efficient of stewards in her handling and assiduous checking of my paper work but was a joy to work with. It was so hard to finalise places for my Top 10s because it was so sad to have to leave out many others worthy of being there. Most of the exhibits evidenced the medium strong bone yet retained an aura of elegance and good coat texture was another pleasing feature showing up throughout I commend the dedication of the breeders of both Abyssinians and Somalis to continue lifting the quality to greater heights. For some time I have noted the spirit of cooperation and willingness to share with each other to improve these two breeds. It is interesting to me that the few breeds where this is apparent are at the top of then-respective groups in show successes. With the potential obvious in many of the younger kittens - exhibited at this show the future of these two breeds in the show ring looks very rosy.

TOP 10 EXHIBITS

1st (Cage 18) Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden (TWN FK) A very stylish Tawny Abyssinian female kitten mature for her age and potential to reach great heights. All components are in proportion including a lovely head of contoured planes. Rich in colour with an aura of liveliness and sparkle which made you take a second look and more.

2nd (Cage 45) ACF AoE, Dbl Plat & Dbl Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Talk Dirty To Me (TWN MC) A beautiful Tawny Abyssinian male cat in the prime of life. He is so close to the standard in every respect. Showed himself off proudly. It was a difficult decision to separate these two outstanding exhibits.

3rd (Cage 35) CCCA Dbl Gr Ch, ACF Sapp AoE, Sapph, Dia & Dbl Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Fast Talker A Tawny Abyssinian neuter cat with similar attributes to 45 and almost as good. Actually a litter brother to him.

4th (Cage 7) Osiris(V) Ralph Lauren (TWN MK) A Tawny Abyssinian male kitten with glowing colour. Litter brother to 18 though not quite as mature at present, but potential is there for success later.



Val Hurry judging Willowpark Bambi

5th (Cage 53) CCCA Dbl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost (TWN FC) A lovely strong boned yet elegant Tawny Abyssinian Female Cat showing excellent attributes for a successful Brood Queen as well as show quality.

6th (Cage 60) Joylinarc Heart Of Dreams (TWN SOM MC) This gorgeous Tawny Somali male cat gave me such a thrill to handle. He just glowed and is nicely put together with solid hocks. A couple of small areas of grey undercoat but otherwise an excellent ambassador for this breed

7th (Cage 34) Ch Nile Fortunati (TWN NC) My reserve Tawny Abyssinian neuter cat. This young boy is almost as good as the winning neuter and is young enough to continue to improve. A worthy son to my best female cat in 53.

8th (Cage 41) Aus Nat Pr, Nat Show Ch, ACF Brz AoE, CCCA Gr Ch, Supr Gr Pr, Tpl Gr Pr, QFA DGC, ACT Ch & NSW CFA Ch Joylinarc Sun God Amun Ra (TWN SOM NC) An older Tawny Somali neuter cat who displayed himself with all the assurance of a regular show winner. In excellent show condition.

9th (Cage 43) Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford (TWN MC) My reserve Tawny Abyssinian male cat. Type close to standard and good muscular feel to him. All you would need in a good stud cat.

10th (Cage 58) Tijah Royal Colours (BLU FC) A lovely Blue Abyssinian absolutely full of energy and

showing all the essentials of Abyssinian personality. Well balanced with correct colour and good ticking. Finally when she chose to sit still, she was able to show off a nicely contoured head. However boning is a little fine.

Just missing out on my Top 10 but under consideration were (Cage 49) **Narleekatz Dora The Explorer**, (Cage 62) **Sil Dbl Gr Ch Nareira Stardust Express**, (Cage 19) **Narleekatz Elusive Diamond** and (Cage 28) **Joylinca Dream Catcher**.