

Abyssinians and Somalis At The QFA 2-Day Cat Show Spectacular

In March this year a number of Abyssinian and Somali exhibitors from around Australia decided to travel to Brisbane to be a part of the QFA 2-Day Cat Show Spectacular.

From Western Australia there was myself and Jan Fuller. Janet Chrobok; Dale Plummer and Sue Jentsch travelled up from Melbourne as did Merindalee Demi Moore minus her proud owners Eileen and Karel Pittaway.

The Queensland Abyssinian exhibitors were out in force and included Kerstin Jones, Chrissy Mangin (even without an Abyssinian entered☺), Jenni McKernan, Michael Shawn, Sandra Doyle, Barbara La Rocca, Julia Counce, Michelle and Sarah Bedford, Jeanette Cook, and Jenny Miller.

It was a great weekend and we were all able to catch up with old friends and meet lots of new ones. It was also a wonderful chance to see a wide selection of Abyssinia and Somali cats and kittens from around Australia.

We all arrived at the show hall nice and early on the Saturday of the first day of the show. Once the cats were settled into their cages, I decided to check out the impressive line-up of shorthair cats and kittens.

With over 75 kittens, 40 cats and 14 desexed cats in the shorthair section, it suddenly became very daunting to be there at a 2-day 6 ring show, with overseas, interstate and local judges commenting and handling your cats. All I hoped for was that my guys behaved on the show bench and showed themselves off.

The judging began, the general public was admitted and the atmosphere in the hall became alive with chatter. There were also a number of stalls where you could purchase a variety of cat toys and products. By the time I had finished, my suitcase was full of goodies, not just for myself, but for my friends over in WA.

The 10 Tawny Abyssinian kittens and my Tawny Somali kitten were in a very impressive group of kittens. To achieve a Top 15 placing in each ring out of 75 kittens was going to be extremely difficult. The top performing Abyssinian's in the kitten section over the weekend included Merindalee Demi Moore, a Tawny female owned by Eileen and Karel Pittaway, Sue Jentsch's Tawny male, Osiris(V) Fast Talker,, and Windsong Savuti, another Tawny male co-owned by Jan Fuller and Helen Norwood. There was also one Somali male kitten and that was Nareira Calvin Cline owned by myself.

Merindalee Demi Moore was placed in 3 out of the 6 rings including a Best Shorthair Kitten in Show under Judge Geoffrey Dumigan. Demi Moore also went onto be Supreme Shorthair Kitten across all 6 rings. Osiris(V) Fast Talker was placed in 2 rings including a Best Shorthair Kitten in Show under Judge David Scadden. Windsong Savuti also did well been placed in 4 rings including a Reserve Shorthair



Merindalee Demi Moore held up by Chrissy Mangin for Supreme judging by Janis Christison

Kitten in Show under Judge Sue Barr. I was thrilled with my result as my Tawny Somali Nareira Calvin Cline also placed in one ring under Judge Sue Barr.

There were also a number of Abyssinians and Somalis competing in the shorthair entire cat section. With over 40 entries, it was again going to be hard to place in the Top 10. Day 1 saw the placings shared among Osiris(V) Influenced to Thrill, a Tawny Abyssinian female owned by Michael Shawn, Osiris(V) Queen of Hearts, a Tawny Abyssinian female co-owned

by Jenni McKernan and Michelle Bedford, Ikati Asha, Janet Chrobok's Tawny Somali female, Jan Fuller's Cinnamon Abyssinian male, Osiris(V) Highlight, Ikati Jengo, a Cinnamon Somali male owned by Dale Plummer, and Michael Shawn's Cinnamon Aby female Jodaerin Cinnamon Spice. Both Osiris(V) Influenced to Thrill and Osiris(V) Queen of Hearts achieved a Best Shorthair Cat in Show with Diana Rothermel and Sue Barr respectively.



Joylinca Sun God Amun Ra with judge Sue Barr

Day 2 saw a couple of different Abyssinian cats place in the Top 10. Asmara Kamikaze Kat, owned by Jenni McKernan did very well gaining a Best Shorthair Cat in Show under both judges Jan Van Rooyen and Geoffrey Dumigan. Osiris(V) Highlight, Ikati Asha and Osiris(V) Queen of Hearts also placed on day 2 of the show. Sue Jentsch's Osiris(V) Chit Chat also placed in one ring. This was a great achievement for this beautiful Tawny Abyssinian female due to the fact that she had her 9 month old birthday during the show. On day 1 of the show; Chit Chat competed as a kitten and on day 2 she competed as a cat.

Although there were only 14 cats in the Desexed section it was still a very competitive class. Once again my Tawny Somali neuter, Joylinca Sun God Amun Ra aka "Tarek", and Asmara Arknahten, aka "Arkie", a Tawny Aby neuter owned by Michelle and Sarah Bedford, were competing against each other. It was also nice to see another Tawny Somali on the bench. It was a lovely spay named Ikati Persephone, owned by Jenny Miller. Both Arkie and Tarek placed in all 6 rings with Arkie's best result being a Reserve Shorthair Desexed Cat in Show under both Sue Barr and Jan Van Rooyen. Tarek received a 3rd place also under Sue Barr. Ikati Persephone was only entered for one of the two days of the show, but she also placed in 2 out of the 3 rings that she was entered in.

It was a lovely weekend, a great show, and most of all it was fantastic to spend time with both my Abyssinian and Somali friends. I also have to give a big thanks to Chrissy Mangin who put me, Tarek, and Rossi up for the weekend. I will always treasure the memories of this weekend and cannot wait until next year.

Lynne Moorman



Nareira Calvin Cline