

THE WESSEX CAT CLUB – 4.7.2015 - MRS ANNE GREGORY

I really enjoyed my time at the Wessex; there was a great atmosphere and they coped with the heat really well, making the hall as comfortable as possible for the exhibits, judges, stewards, workers and exhibitors. I thank all concerned for the invitation, the excellent hospitality and congratulate them on overcoming all the obstacles and problems they faced. I was so fortunate to have Mandy Symonds as my steward; she is wonderful with the cats, takes immense interest across the breeds and is excellent company too. I look forward to working together again.

AV IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER, MALE

1 OLY NEWMAN'S IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER DAIRYMAINE KASABIEN, MCO d 21, MN, 3.8.2006

RES: RABEY'S OLYMPIAN SILVER IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER COONTASTIC SWANSONG, MCO es 3 11, MN, 5.6.2010

I am writing up these two magnificent Maine Coons together as they were virtually impossible to separate as far as type, quality, substance and coat were concerned. They were like a pair of Lion Kings – confident, proud and majestic. They both had superb heads that were of medium length with square muzzles and excellent chins. Their cheeks were full and they had high cheek bones to give definition to the muzzles. Bites were level and they had excellent depth of chin. The noses were of uniform width with the profile showing the desired shallow concave curve at the nasal bridge. They had large, tall ears that were wide at the base, well-furnished and tufted at the tips. They were set high but with excellent breadth between them; there was strength and balance to the skull also. Excellent thick, strong necks with full ruffs to enhance the leonine appearance. The bodies were large, solid and muscular with straight backs, broad chests and square rumps. Strong legs showed excellent boning with large, round, tufted paws. The tails were long, profuse but not bushy. The coats were superb and both presented to absolute perfection. I was in a complete quandary as there was not a whisker between them and the GCCF would not allow me to award two Olympians. I must admit I dithered! I paced back and forth and, in the end, it was Kasabien who lifted his head and gave me the look that just said, "ME!". Congratulations to both owners and their breeders on such wonderful Maine Coons – I love them!

I also had:

BARKERS' IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER COPPICE VIA REGGIO, ABY n, MN, 22.4.2012

Excellent type and superb coat texture. He had a broken necklet. I felt his facial markings could be better defined and a more dense black and the overall impression was a rather dull colour rather than the rich golden brown I would expect.

CLOTHIER'S OLYMPIAN BRONZE SPHYNXLAND DUDLEY, SPH d 33, MN, 27.10.2011

My "runner up" who is a wonderful cat with such an adorable personality. He has outstanding type and quality and was presented to perfection. I queried whether he had been correctly penned, as he is NOT a red colour point, he is a red & white bi-colour and should be SPH d 03 (I know there are no points for colour, but you know how pedantic I am!!!)

EMMENS' IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER SPICESIAM COOLHAND LUKE, SIA d, MN, 31.5.2010

This Siamese had excellent type and was beautifully balanced overall with a whip tail that balanced the length of the body. The wedge was well proportioned with breadth to balance the length. The forehead was slightly flat and the eyes deep set and could be a more brilliant blue. His coat was long and rather coarse in texture.

AV IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER, FEMALE

1 OLY TARRS' GRAND CHAMPION & UK IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER TARKUSHA HELENOFTROY, SBI n, FN, 25.2.2004. My cat of the day who was just gorgeous and so calm, serene and confident of her quality and her beauty. She had superb type with excellent strength of head although essentially feminine. The head was rounded with width across her full cheeks and breadth between the medium ears that were rounded at the tips. She had a medium nose with a slight dip. The muzzle was broad, nicely rounded and well-developed. The chin was full. Her eyes were large, almost round and an excellent depth of blue. She had a sweet, gentle expression. The body had muscle and substance. It was long with strong legs and rounded, tufted paws. The bushy tail balanced well. She had a beautiful coat that was long, silky and showed excellent contrast between the matching seal brown points and the beige body with a golden glow. The gloves and gauntlets were immaculate and well-shaped. At over eleven years old, she is a great credit to her owners/breeders and to the Birman Breed. I was thrilled to hear that later she became Best of the Best across the two shows – Many, well-deserved congratulations!

RES: CHERKAS' IMPERIAL GRAND CHAMPION & IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER JUSARKA THAI LILAC PROMISE, KOR, FN, 26.6.2007. Another senior cat who was looking wonderful for her age and showed herself off to great advantage. She has excellent type, balance and quality. The head was heart-shaped with lovely width across the large, prominent green eyes. The ears were large with rounded tips and set high to give the desired alert expression. There was a slight stop to the profile and the nose had a slight downward curve. The muzzle was rounded and the chin was strong. She was strong and muscular with slender legs and oval paws. The tail tapered to a rounded tip and balanced well. She had a beautiful coat that was glossy, fine in texture and close-lying. She was an attractive, medium blue with an excellent silvery sheen to the coat. She was shown in tip top condition and had "presence".

I also judged:

PERKINS' UK OLYMPIAN SILVER IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER ZENITH LULALA, PER f O3, FN, 17.5.2009. A beautiful female who was presented to perfection. She had excellent type and quality. Her eyes were particularly large and expressive. The red patches were a rich, even tone and the black jet. The white was immaculate. A close runner up in this really competitive class.

CHALKLEY'S GRAND CHAMPION & IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER INCAHOOTS FLIGHT OF FANCY, PER ny 12, FN, 16.6.2007. A very attractive female with lovely type who was presented beautifully. She had beautiful green eyes. I felt her colour could have been more vibrant but she was looking very good for her age and is a credit to her owner.

EMERY'S UK IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER SKOGVENNS MOUNTAIN ASH, NFO ns, FN, 21.7.2010

A very attractive female with a good triangular head and well set ears. Her eyes were expressive and she had a virtually straight profile with good depth to the chin. Lovely muscle tone and substance

but stylish and elegant. She was wearing her summer coat but there was a little ruff to frame the face.

HOPGOOD'S SUPREME IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER PINEMAREN TINA SPARKLE, BRI j, FN, 27.4.2012. A beauty of excellent quality and type who, when I reached her, was clearly in distress with the heat and humidity. It was crowded around her pen at that time with other judges on either side. Tina Sparkle was panting with her mouth open and her tongue out. I called the Duty Vet to ensure all was well but felt it wiser not to push the issue and handle her further.

SMITH'S UK IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER KWANSAN SATINKA BELLE, SIN, FN, 17.4.2011

A beautiful female of excellent type and quality who was a real contender in this competitive class. She has exquisite type and a wonderful expression. She is also a cat with confidence and "presence". If I had to "nit pick" it is just that I would like a little more warmth to the sepia.

SMITH'S UK IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER JAZANCO ZINFANDELLE, BUR d, FN, 18.4.2011

This Burmese had lovely type and expression but I felt her coat was too long and too coarse and her tail too short for overall balance.

AC BIRMAN CHAMPION, FEMALE

1 GCC LLEWELLYN'S CHAMPION BHENDILAYN TODDLE PIP, SBI n, F, 1.1.2013

An attractive female of excellent size and substance with breadth to the head and rounded contours. Her medium ears were set well apart. She had large eyes that were very expressive. They were almost round and a lovely depth of blue. There was a very slight bump on the nose but the profile was otherwise good. She had well developed cheeks and the muzzle was nicely rounded. Excellent body, legs and tail. The coat was beautifully presented, long and silky. She had warm seal points although slightly brindled around the muzzle. The gloves and gauntlets were pure white and well-shaped. She was shown in excellent condition and had a lovely temperament.

RES: SCOTT'S CHAMPION TRULIZ KOKO KISSES, SBI b, F, 20.3.2012

Slightly smaller than the winner and did not feel to have the substance either but of good type and balance in herself. The head had breadth with rounded contours and well set ears of medium size. The eyes were almost round and a good blue. She had width at the cheeks and a well-developed muzzle. The profile was good. She had a long body with good legs and a bushy tail that balanced. The chocolate points were dark in tone with brindling apparent and a pale chin. There was good contrast between the points and the ivory body. The gloves were well-shaped but the right gauntlet was a little ragged. She was in good condition and had a sweet temperament.

AC SIAMESE/BALINESE PREMIER, MALE

1 GPR/WH HUTCHINGS' PREMIER MAFDET MANIFESTO, SIA n 21, MN, 15.9.2013

I felt this neuter had not "come together"; he has some excellent features, but the overall cat just did not reach the standard I would expect for the Grand to be awarded. He has a long wedge but needs more breadth of skull to balance the length as, at present, the head forms an isosceles

triangle. The ears are large and well pricked but there should be more width between them. The eyes are rather straight set and also deep set but a good blue. There is a bump on the back of the skull. His body is long, fine, muscular and elegant with a lovely long whip tail. The legs are long and fine with neat oval paws. He has an excellent coat that is short, fine and close-lying. The points are well defined and there is excellent contrast between the points and the body. He was shown in excellent condition and has an excellent temperament.

AOC SOMALI KITTEN

1 + BOB TALBOYS' EMANAN CHOCOLATE CHIP, SOL b, MN, 21.10.2014

A handsome kitten of excellent type and quality. He has a very pleasing moderate wedge with gently curving contours and large, very well cupped and placed ears that are well furnished and have little tufts. The eyes are almond shaped with lovely facial markings to emphasise them. They are set slightly oblique and he has a true Somali smiling expression. I would prefer slightly more nose break but the chin is very good and the muzzle has the rounded breadth to give the smile. He is lithe and muscular with long legs and tufted oval paws. The tail forms a full brush. He was beautifully presented in excellent condition. The coat was really soft and fine and although dense, it lay beautifully along the spine. The breeches are there and the ruff developing well. He is a rich, warm colour with well-defined dark chocolate ticking on a rich apricot ground. He had dark chocolate heels to the hock. I feel he has great potential.

SIBERIAN KITTEN

1 + BOB BLACK'S DORIAN TAYMUR OF LIZZARA, SIB n 23, M, 6.11.2014

A very pleasing kitten with great promise, in my opinion. He was solid and substantial. The head contours were nicely rounded and formed a short, broad wedge. The ears were of medium size and rounded at the tips. They were set well apart and were well furnished. The forehead was slightly domed and the profile showed a slight concave curve at the bridge, His eyes were large with a slightly oblique setting. They were set well apart and very expressive. The muzzle is still developing and could have slightly more width. The whisker pads formed a nicely rounded line. His cheek bones were low set and of promising breadth. His body was solid and muscular with breadth to the chest and a lovely feel to him. The boning is strong and promising. The paws large and well tufted. The tail was well furnished and balanced well. I was impressed with the coat development and texture . It felt good and helped him "look the part". It will be interesting to see him develop. He was beautifully presented in excellent condition and had a superb temperament.

AC RAGAMUFFIN NEUTER

1 PR ARCHER'S FILENSIO FALCO COLUMBARIUS, RGM a 03 21 32, MN, 14.4.2013

Large, beautifully balanced cat of excellent type, style and personality; the head had breadth with rounded contours with full cheeks and a nicely rounded muzzle. The ears were well set and of medium size with a slight forward tilt. They were well furnished. The eyes were large, walnut shaped, set well apart with a sweet, gentle expression. The profile showed a nose break. He had a long, rectangular body with a broad chest and the fleshy pad in the abdomen. The legs were substantial with large, round paws that were well tufted. The tail was well furnished and balanced

well. The coat had a lovely, soft texture that was dense and plushy. He was beautifully presented and had wonderful temperament.

2 ADAMS' FILENSIO THE-MUFFIN-MAN, RGM ns 03 31, MN, 11.9.20012

Another large, substantial cat of excellent type and style with excellent muscle tone and strong boning. The head had rounded contours and excellent breadth and balance. The ears were well spaced and well furnished. The profile was good. His eyes were large, of excellent shape and set with a sweet, gentle expression. The cheeks were full and round and the forehead moderately rounded with the curving contours going smoothly over the head to the neck and beyond. His body was long and solid with good legs and tail. There was a fleshy pad on the abdomen. His coat was moderately long and dense but not quite as soft and plushy as the winner's. He was shown in excellent condition and had a sweet temperament.

3 WALTER'S CHEHAM LUCIUS, RGM n 03 21 32, MN, 17.8.2012

This male had lovely type and expression with a wonderfully sweet and gentle personality. Unfortunately he was wearing his summer coat and it felt a little coarse. He needs more of a ruff to frame his face. I really liked his type but had to penalise the coat. He was in excellent condition and had an excellent temperament too.

CANN'S JOMANEI CINNAMOMUN-ALEXI was really feeling the heat and humidity which really affected his coat. His head did not have quite the breadth and the muzzle squared slightly.

IKIN'S RAGRASCAL MCARTHUR JACKSON is a young cat with potential but not there at the moment.

RUSSIAN BLUE KITTEN

1 + BOB CURTIS' LARKSONG MR BLUE SKY, RUS a, M, 1.11.2014

I really liked this kitten, he has promising type and is so gentle and calm which really enhanced the Russian "look" for me. His wedge was short with large, pointed ears set vertically to the top of the head. There was a flat plane to the top of the head and those ears were wide at the base. The forehead was straight and he had a good angle with a virtually straight nose. The chin had depth. He had excellent eyes that were set well apart and almond shaped. They were an excellent green. The prominent whisker pads gave a lovely finish to the wedge. He had a long, elegant body that was well muscled with slender legs and oval paws. The tail tapered and balanced well. The coat had density and was fine, short and soft to the touch. He was a pleasing, medium blue with a very attractive silvery sheen. He was so friendly and was shown in excellent condition.

2 MARMOT'S THISTLEWISP ATTICUS SKYLAR, RUS a, MN, 7.10.2014

Older kitten with a slightly longer wedge that did not balance. The ears were large, pointed and wide at the base but set slightly wide of vertical and he did tend to bonnet them. There was a flat plane to the top of the head and a good angle. The eyes were slightly full but a good green. The profile was good but I would like the whisker pads to be more prominent to give a "finish" to the wedge and it was that and the rounding of the muzzle that made the wedge appear longer. The body was muscular and firm with good legs and tail. The coat was a little long, fine, glossy and close lying. It

was a dark blue but there was a silvery sheen. He was in excellent condition and had an excellent temperament too.

SINGAPURA NEUTER

BOB SMITH'S UK IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER KWANSAN SATINKA BELLE, SIN, FN, 17.4.2011