

Ambassador Program

Regional Reports – January 2014

Region 1 - Geri Fellerman writes:

Hi, Willa - I'm at a show in Vermont and there is a computer in the lobby, so let's see what I can do. There were only two shows in December and neither had a lot of gate, so I'll report on this one:

Vermont Cat Fanciers has been blessed this year with an enormous gate - hundreds of spectators streamed through the doors, many of whom were attending their first cat show. There were not a lot of Ambassadors in attendance, so I found myself doing extra duty explaining the workings of a cat show to a number of spectators. Exhibitors were generous in permitting people to pet their cats even though the only "official" Ambassador/pet me cat in attendance was the ever-awsome Hope. One young couple was attending their first cat show having seen ads posted during the week - they didn't even have a cat, just a dog. They had been allowed to pet a seal point Birman, so I took them around to see a seal point Ragdoll and my own Himmy so that they could see first-hand that cats can have the same coloration and general coat length and yet be very different indeed. This club really worked hard on their advertising - and the fact that it was a rainy day likely added to the number of families coming to see the show. I can only guess that tomorrow will bring more of the same enthusiastic crowd, so I'm going to rest my voice and get ready for them!

Geri

Note - The following is a special post from Sharon Roy, DAL from Region 1 and our Ambassador liaison to the CFA BOD.

Sharon writes, I am not sure if there were many Official Ambassadors there but you would have been proud of the way the CFA exhibitors were behaving. They had about 1,000 paid spectators. Lots came back for the 2nd day. If they came back on Sunday it was free admission.

Congratulations to the Vermont Fancy Felines Cat Club for another wonderful show. The gate was the best ever. Special thanks to Dr Elsey's for their participation, allowing even greater advertising. The club was helped by the weather on Saturday. People in Vermont have little to do on a RAINY day in January! Several local TV stations covered the event both before and during the event. Pictures have been posted to their Facebook page. You know the publicity is working when you see groups of teenagers coming to the show and paying admission! All the judges were very friendly and outgoing to the many spectators. It is always nice as a judge to have an

interested audience. The exhibitors likewise. Many struggled to get through the spectators to get to the ring on time. We had a great group of clerks who all interacted with exhibitors and spectators to keep the show moving right along.

Saturday night brought the Annual Charity Auction for the Franklin County Humane Society. Gary Veach again did a great job as the Auctioneer. This year's auction generated about \$3,200 for the local shelter.

I am sure it was the same on Saturday, but on Sunday, I had a full house for both Parade of Breeds presentations. Lots of audience participation. Thanks to all the exhibitors who lent me their cats for the presentation. Yes it is the middle of winter but it is a hotel show. If you fly in, it is a short distance from the Airport to the hotel with free transportation. Walking through the show hall Sunday morning and seeing all the smiling faces, this should be a must show for everyone at least once!
Sharon Roy



Region 3 - HCC Member, Becky Galloway writes:

In addition to all of our hard working club members the Houston Cat Club also depends on the wonderful CFA Ambassadors who wore their Ask Me stickers and answered spectators' questions at the show. Tracy Bayarena and Diane and Harold Bourgeois did a wonderful job. Tracy had her beautiful cat at the Ambassador table, which was in the benching area near ring 4, because Harold had to do double duty as a ring clerk (thanks Harold!). Donna Hinton had handsome Cruiser and Chris Willingham brought the elegant Zoe for visitors to enjoy petting.

I really appreciated the exhibitors who jumped in to help us as ring clerks since some of our regular Region 3 clerks were not at the show. Ring clerks are extremely important to the smooth running of the show and I applaud all of you.

Thanks to everyone who came to the show and made it another success.

Best regards,
Becky Galloway



Region 5 (Hawaii) - Ken Cribbs reports:

Hi, Willa --

Sorry, there's no activity to report from of the Hawai'i Division. Mister Peabody's Ambassador Cat booth was all set up for the 12/08/13 Happy Holidays show at Ala Moana Regional Park, but on the morning of the show he began vomiting, and he ended up at the veterinary hospital instead of greeting visitors at the show. Happy New Year! (Have you thawed out yet?)

Aloha,
--Ken



Region 6 - Candilee Jackson writes:



A chance meeting at the Lucky Tom Cat Show in St Louis, Missouri, opened up not only the floodgate of emotion, but also opened the door to a friendship. Ambassador Mary-Margaret Richard was headed to the snack bar for her show ritual chocolate bar when she came across a very emotional lady looking for an applehead (traditional) Siamese. Having just lost her Sealpoint Siamese companion of over 15 years, she was hope that the cat show would be the perfect place to find

a new fur-baby. Although disappointed at finding no applehead Siamese, she did find some very loving Tonkinese. Mary-Margaret and fellow Ambassador, Candilee Jackson, listened, provided Kleenx, exchanged phone numbers and emails, all in an effort to help this sweet lady find the kitten of her heart. It was incredibly touching to see her holding Lady Bronwyn, a natural solid Tonkinese therapy cat, and sobbing ... how could anyone not want to help, even if it wasn't someone looking for a Tonk?

Not too long after, the hotel manager came into the show hall to look at some of the kittens up for adoption through the Sangamon Animal Control facility. Dressed in his

requisite hotel BLACK, he cheerfully held and petted many kitties, not realizing his stylist suit was becoming a fur magnet! Mary-Margaret to the rescue! As he headed toward the door, she caught up with him, trusty lint-roller in hand, and completely rolled him, top to bottom, front to back!

THIS is who Ambassadors are: the empathetic ear, the holder of the lint roller, the answerer of questions both insane and mundane: WE ARE the Face of CFA!
Candilee Jackson, RC



Region 7 - Karen Lane reports:

FLORIDA REPORT..

December and January had two shows in Florida as of this newsletter. Both of these shows had our CFA Ambassadors present. David Boyce coordinated our Ambassadors for both of these shows. Thank you to David for being “our boots on the ground” in Vero Beach and Jacksonville. Neither one of these shows had great gate but we suspect being close to the Christmas/New Year holiday found more people in the shopping centers than at the cat shows.

We are looking forward to being in Ormond Beach for the weekend of January 18 & 19.

All of the Florida Ambassadors wish everyone a great and healthy 2014.

Sincerely,
Karen Lane, Florida Coordinator



Region 8 - Masanari & Takako Kojimi report:



Regional Show Jan 4-5 at Sangyou Boeki Center Hamamatsucho -

We had Regional show on the first weekend of New Year. Normally, Japanese celebrate New Year holidays with families and each relations. So, we had not so many entries this year. Entry was over 130 and eight ring, including four judges from America. There were many vendors as usual.

We had lots of spectators and on Saturday, I handed over 50 ASK ME pamphlets to spectators. I spent most of

times to talk with spectators because, Masanari need to show my silver tabby male.Raptor and I met too many spectators to remember all of them. I had talked with over 10 peoples on Saturday. One couple told me that they were looking for lovely cats since their American Shorthair passed away just before. After their sorrow will be gone they would have cat again they said. I hope they will recover from sadness as soon as possible.



I also had talked about showing in HHP class with two spectators. One of them had Somali cat which has some problems. Owner said their Somali had wrong color and had a small problem in paw pad. However they were so interested in showing and taking good picture. So, I recommended them to show their cat in Sunflower Cat Club show. Fortunately, Chanan will be show photographer of this show and there should be many HHPs present..

I gave them Sunflower Cat Club show flyer and advised to ask club if they wanted to entry. I am looking forward to seeing them at February Sunflower Show.

On Sunday, we had over 30 spectators. At noon, during lunch time, big sponsor, Hills Colgate Company had event " Raffle " for exhibitors. Hills prepared 32 dry foods, big breeder size. I attached picture of lucky exhibitor and Mr. Kishi, Hills officer. I was not lucky, however my two friends get big dry food bag !! I also met several couples who are looking for new family cats. One of them, I recommended to look for Maine Coon

Cat. Because they had mixed Maine Coon Cat and lost him recently. Later, they went to benching cage of Maine Coon veteran breeder which I recommended.



We appreciate Regional Director to prepare so nice space for Ambassador and Ambassador cats. There were two CFA Ambassador Cats in this show, Raptor and Hanabi, Japanese Bobtail female GC.RW. Yukiusagi Hanabi. Hanabi was her first job as Ambassador cat and did very well! She also likes spectator. I attached picture of Hanabi and owner, Yukiko Terashima. Thank you Hanabi and Yukiko !!

There were several Ambassadors with Ask Me Pin. Hopefully, I would like to see many more Ambassadors with Ask Me pins in EVERY SHOW.

Takako and Masanari Kojima
Region 8's RCs



Region 9 - Natalya Gratayuk says:

Dear Willa,

During December we attended 2 significant shows in Region 9:

1. Moscow, Russia on Dec 7-8. This is one of the biggest Cat Show in a world. 5 different registries from US and Europe: more than 2100 cats! There are a lot of spectators, and we introduced our breeds in CFA sector.

2. Madrid, Spain. All leading catteries from Europe were attended this Xmas Show: Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Russia, Netherlands, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Finland. Unbelievable competition among high-rated cats.

Thank you! Natalya
Region 9 Ambassador RC

