

(62) **INTERNATIONAL DIVISION MEETING.**  
**Saturday, July 4, 2015**

**International Division Chair Mr. Kallmeyer** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following representatives present, in addition to the CFA Board of Directors.

**Hannon:** Good morning everybody. We're ready to start. This is our board meeting with the International Division. I'm going to turn it over to the International Division Chair, Dick Kallmeyer. **Kallmeyer:** Good morning everyone. Welcome to the International Committee meeting. I would like to introduce the members of the Committee. Kathy Calhoun is a board member, and we have Kenny Currle, who is responsible for the Middle East members. As we start off, we would like to introduce our International club members. We start off with them introducing themselves. Suki, you want to start off? **Suki Lee:** This is Suki from Hong Kong. **Matthew Lee:** Matthew, Suki's husband. **Allen Chen:** I'm Allen Chen from Shanghai. **Xun Guo:** I am Brandon from Beijing. **Chris Lee:** I am Chris from Shenyang. **Mike Gao:** I'm Mike from China. **Allen Shi:** Allen Shi from Shanghai China. **Charlene Shi:** Charlene, Allen's wife. **Kallmeyer:** We have a few more late members. **Yingluck Wongrattanapong [Pooky]:** Hi. I am Pooky and Istzy from Thailand. **Kallmeyer:** Itz, do you want to introduce yourself? **Istzy:** I am also from Thailand. We have a new cat club in Thailand, and the name means hello!

**Kallmeyer:** The first thing I would like to do is have the people from the International Division describe how CFA can do more for you. Suki, you want to lead off? What can we do for Hong Kong to make it better? Suki is our newly-promoted judge from Hong Kong. **Suki Lee:** Hong Kong entries are now very low. How do we establish people to join the cat show? We try to talk to them to come. Because after the show hall rental fee and show expenses, we cannot find any convenient areas for having a show hall. This is the main problem in Hong Kong right now. We need to have some newbies in the program. Two years ago we had a breed seminar which was sponsored by Royal Canin. We had Bob Zenda and Pat there. We had a very good time. They explained how to build their own breeding program. This was a good experience for the breeder to know, and for the newbies as well. I hope this made it easier to get more like Bob Zenda in China and also in Hong Kong. I would like to talk about it. If I'm judging in China, people talk to me and ask some questions about how to build up their own breeding program. They have no idea what is outcrossing, linebreeding, something like this. If we can host some breed seminars in China as well, that can help. **Kallmeyer:** For those that don't know, one of the top 10 CFA shows is actually held in Hong Kong every year, and then they have smaller shows. Following up on what Suki said, in China Royal Canin is sponsoring pet seminars, as well, where they will invite several hundred people. We've had Chloe Chung, who is a veterinarian student, actually do the introductions and talk about it. We also use it as a way to get people into the CFA cat shows.

**Matthew Lee:** It seems I always follow my wife to all the cat shows all the past decade. I still recall a few years back a real blockbuster show with 40,000-50,000 gate in Hong Kong. Suki said the main reason is just like Japan, because the show hall becomes very expensive to rent, so that kind of venue is hard to get. Phebe has done a very good job. She managed to still put together a show in the Convention Center, which is the prime location. It's purely economics. Just by getting entries and inviting the judges and renting that place is almost impossible financially, but if there is a pet expo there and they can provide Phebe or whoever can organize

the show and get the venue practically for free, then it's still do-able. Suki mentioned the right thing about show counts. As we all know, as the location or the country or continent – however you want to put it – as it matures, people become smarter in how to enter shows. So yes, you have a slightly lower count. The people that we have seen in the last decade, a lot of them are there. For newbies, Suki is right. More coaching and training will help. I think Phebe's Ambassador Program really makes an effort to teach people how to enjoy CFA. The China factor is absolutely correct. If you look at a lot of the very established breeders in Hong Kong, they do have cats being shown in China, as well, and also friends over there. Hong Kong has kind of transformed from being the place or the leader in terms of organizer in Asia, to become now a more mature location where CFA is established. We actually provide quite a lot of expertise to the new clubs in China, in terms of how to form a club, how to fill in all the slips and master clerk training. In the past few years, there's a lot of new judges in China. Quite a lot of Hong Kong people went there and helped. I think this becomes our role now – to help China where they organize more than 50 shows a year, to basically get to the right standards for CFA. The second thing I want to mention, a lot of Hong Kong people who used to show are now joining the Judging Program, including my wife, which I think is fantastic. I think that's the natural progression for those who love CFA. We all started out showing cats, competing, and then we become judges. Hopefully, there will be enough judges to fuel the growth in Asia. Yes, there are difficulties, as we all know, but I think if you look at it positively, people are still working on it. With the circumstances as Dick showed us in the statistics, the whole idea even in China overall is very successful. **Kallmeyer:** Matt, are you seeing much competition to CFA in Hong Kong? **Matthew Lee:** In Hong Kong not yet. One major factor is also how many shows previous. People recognize CFA as a brand. We've all seen TICA, we've all seen the others, but I think CFA has done a good job putting on shows and making a CFA market and brand in China. It has become recognized as the brand for pedigreed cats in China. As Dick showed us the graph and the map yesterday, he got that right. In terms of competition, yes, it is harder to get judges. It is pretty difficult to organize a show. Yes, there may be some noise about looking for other channels. So far, with the investment in IT from CFA, makes registration a lot easier. After quite a few shows, they are very organized and good at organizing shows. I would say they are expert at organizing shows now. Some of them work 24 hours before the show to get things done. I don't see any competition in Hong Kong and China. Southeast Asia, Suki has been judging in Malaysia. I think that area will need more work, but CFA is definitely the preferred brand.

**Kallmeyer:** The next person, Allen Chen, I think he has several national kitten winners this year. He put on a show last August at Asia's largest pet fairs. In fact, it's probably one of the largest in the world. Allen, you might describe your experience with the pet fairs. **Allen Chen:** Our club works with the pet fair. It's the largest pet fair in China. As you know, there are many new clubs in China now. We need help for new clubs to have a more professional show in China. We want more sponsors for our shows. **Kallmeyer:** Are most of your shows sponsored by outside sponsors? Food vendors? **Chen:** My show, Royal Canin, and the pet fair. The pet fair is sponsored by 3 or 4 sponsors. The pet fair in Shanghai is in the Expo. The show hall is huge, maybe 50,000 people enter. **Kallmeyer:** I point out at the same time, same show, there was a dog show going on. They actually had television cameras focused on the judges' rings, so they were able to keep the gate outside the show hall area, but they put it on large screen displays. The show is somewhat remarkable in that they must have had a tremendous number of food vendors. They had probably about 50 booths of clothes for animals. You could get high heels for your cats and dogs. Very interesting things. **Calhoun:** Allen, a question for you. You mentioned

that you would like more help to have a professional show. Specifically, what are the one or two things from CFA that we could work on that would be beneficial for you? **Chen** [via Matthew Lee]: When we have such high growth in number of rings, what comes short besides judges is also the master clerk and ring clerks. This is where CFA could help, if maybe you run a master clerk or clerking school in China so there can be more master clerks. Also, for those who organize big shows in the U.S. like the World Show or Garden State, if there could be some experience sharing in organizing big shows, that would help. What I have observed when I go to their shows is they are working until 5 a.m. in the morning. They are young and can do everything themselves, but it is not as organized. In the morning, they have quite a late start, as you can see, so if someone that has done big shows before can help with their shared experience, the format and process how to get more organized, that will help them in having the show be a better experience for everybody. I also want to add, this is the biggest pet fair in Asia, where you have thousands of vendors coming from all over Asia buying and selling, so it's the biggest pet fair in Asia. That sponsorship is extremely valuable. We are able to get a venue in Shanghai where they have all the highest exhibitions. It's also a very prime location. They can secure sponsorship for 3 or 4 shows a year because it's a top venue, top sponsor and they can put out some money. The location is something that, in China most of the shows are in hotels or shopping malls, which is also fantastic but it would be hard for the judges. Once in a while, they get to use this really high standard center, so these are great shows. **Kallmeyer**: Point out that at this particular show there was actually a member of the U.S. State Department there. This company was actually representing U.S. companies in China and they attended all the judges' dinners and workshops, as well. We're getting additional press.

**Kallmeyer**: Next, we have Brandon from Beijing, who is an Abyssinian breeder. Brandon is working towards becoming a master clerk. He has already master clerked at several shows and we are trying to get him licensed. **Xun Guo [Brandon]** [via Matthew Lee]: Two things. A lot of people are very passionate about showing CFA cats. For a few reasons, it is difficult for them. Reason one is, they have to communicate with all the breeders in English. For example, you cannot open gmail in China, so forget being able to communicate with a breeder. That's problem #1. And #2 is the just shipping the cats to China and also the price. So, if there could be more introduction between breeders to people who show cats in China, that would remove some layers and make the competition more direct. I'm sure that in terms of shipping cats, there is quite a bit of experience and we can all also help. The second area is the judges. As you know, they put up a show quite quickly. They need to plan 6 months ahead or 12 months ahead. A lot of the time, we say, "OK, we want to organize a 6 ring show and get judges. Most of them are booked 12 months ahead, so to get judges is another thing, and of course the price. Shipping someone from U.S. to China, the air ticket costs a lot, so quite often they have multiple shows organized and they can keep the judges two weeks, showing two shows to lower air fares. The average hotel cost in China outside Shanghai, Beijing Chengdu, Shenyang, is probably \$30-\$40 U.S. a night, so hotel is cheap. Only the flights are expensive. Food is definitely a bargain, so it's quite economic to keep the judges in China for weeks, if we could. The cost of bringing 8 to 12 judges from the U.S. versus Japan, we know the numbers. That's why we use Japanese judges very often. It helps a lot because the air fare is a lot cheaper and quicker turn-around time. **Kallmeyer**: While he's translating, I might point out that probably at least 4 of these people here today were at our World Show, so they have come across to the United States. I know Brandon was, Allen Chen, Allen Shi and Gavin from Chengdu were all at the World Show. **Brandon** [via Matthew Lee]: In the past, most of the CFA shows, there are less than 10 breeds that dominate

the counts, so the winners of these breeds by default get a lot of points. If there could be more breeds introduced into China and diversify the number of breeds, then maybe we will find a little more variations. Right now, the top 3 or 4 breeds will have 3 or 4 finals in the top 10 and by default they score the points, but in the U.S. you have more than 20 breeds in one show, so by default the points are more spread out. **Kallmeyer:** The major breeds we see in China are obviously Exotics. There's a tremendous amount. American Shorthair and British Shorthair are dominant. Some of the other ones close might be Ragdolls. There's probably more Ragdolls shown in China than anywhere. Scottish Folds maybe, but those are the major breeds. And Maine Coons. **Brandon** [via Matthew Lee]: The few established breeders, and some of them are sitting here, you have no choice but to go with those breeds. The Chinese can buy them right away, they can start showing and people would help you. For example, if you wanted to start showing Sphynx, you would have to start a cattery and what to do is just unknown. So, by getting to know the different breeds better and getting to know different breeders better, by default people will diversify and we won't see the situation we've seen this past year.

**Kallmeyer:** Next we have Chris from Shenyang. He is the best British Shorthair this year and he is a National Winner. Chris, did you want to say something? And everybody knows Chloe Chung, our first allbreed judge from CFA. **Chris Lee** [via Gavin Cao]: Sometimes, it may not be the current impression, but it is the impression that some of the cat fanciers in China, they feel that there are some rules that are being made specific for China. They do get discouraged sometimes when that happens, so when they feel that is happening, people maybe just preventing, saying that they will just leave for TICA or whatever, if this kind of rule is getting set up for China. It is a concern. Of course, there are rules that will be new and apply to different regions. I think it's not a problem setting up new rules, but we want it to be fair and we want it to be the same for every continent, including United States. **Kallmeyer:** The person speaking is Gavin from Chengdu.

**Kallmeyer:** Next we have Mike. Mike has applied for a new club. He's in a city, the location is a place where we were not at before. How to pronounce it, Xuzhou? I'm not sure. **Mike Geng:** I want to say something about that. You know, I'm a newcomer to CFA this year. I was 13<sup>th</sup> Best Kitten of the year. Some people say, why do you can in one year get a national winner? I want to say, I worked very hard and even quit my job. Where I see the future of CFA, I want to quit my job and be in CFA my whole life. At first, in CFA it was a very small count. If you want open marketing and grow, you want to get master clerks and clerks. My second point is, I have a new club called Blue Velvet and I want to hold a show. My city is a very small city. It has just one million population. To them, a cat is just a homeless cat. They don't know there are so many breeds of cats, so I want the people to know the cats. I have a small town, so I want to make people like the cats. Holding a show costs so much money. As Brandon said, if a judge would like to stay in China for 2 weeks, we can share the cost of the judges and make it easier to hold a cat show. **Kallmeyer:** Thank you, Mike.

**Kallmeyer:** Next we have Allen Shi, who is the Best Kitten this year. **Shi:** Hi. I'm Allen Shi from Shanghai, China. I want to say something about Chinese cat fanciers. I think CFA still can have many Chinese cat clubs. About master clerking and show rules, right now I can say only a few people in China know how to hold a cat show. I did some very big shows last season, and also the season before. Brandon and Howe Gowe and Rain are all who can do the master clerking, unless Dick comes to China to do the master clerk work. Dick also knows, every show

will start very late. That's because there is the master clerk, the show manager, the show secretary, and in China maybe one person does 3 or 4 jobs. Just like me, when I hold a show I will be entry clerk, master clerk, show secretary, show manager, many things in one person, and I will show cats. That's very crazy, but I can do this. So, I think CFA can help the Chinese cat fanciers, to teach them how to do this. If we have a CFA official to teach them, it will be easier so the club knows how to do that, so the club can be independent. That's my main idea right now that I think is good for Chinese clubs. If they know how to run the cat show themselves, they can help other clubs. The other thing is, like Mike, many new exhibitors come into CFA and they want their own club. In China, they heard maybe CFA will not let too many Chinese cat clubs. They are scared that they can't apply for a new club. If CFA can open the door and let them come in, give them a chance to see if they will do better or something. Let more Chinese clubs come join to the CFA cat shows. Another is, I'm very happy about yesterday. Most of the cat fancy in CFA, they support China. At the beginning of the show, many Chinese in China already know about [inaudible] and they are scared. They're talking about it in China. They put on Chinese FaceBook that if we lose CFA, China will die. They're scared from China, but I think this is part of growing, so just give China a chance. We will do cat shows better and better. Let's have the clubs be more independent so they will know how to do a cat show. That's what I wanted to say. **Kallmeyer:** I might point out that we've had problems from certain shows on catalogs, but the shows put on by Allen Shi, by Brandon and Howe Gowe, who is not here, the catalogs have been up to snuff with U.S. requirements, as well.

**Kallmeyer:** How about our people from Thailand? Itz, do you want to talk about what can CFA do for Thailand? Point out too that Southeast Asia is showing tremendous growth. We're talking about Indonesia. We've had 85 registrations in Viet Nam of all places, Cambodia, Laos. Southeast Asia is probably the same size in registrations as Region 2 now. They are showing tremendous growth, and the largest growth in cats is Thailand. **Pooky:** I will speak on behalf of Itzy, President of Sawasdee Cat Club. CFA in Thailand is still very small. We also have to go show in Malaysia, Indonesia and China to help us. We are a very new club. We haven't had a show yet at the moment, but we plan to do our first show in November. Our club hopes to produce a show, but our club cannot compare with China. So, I have to say thank you to Dick because he helped me a lot with information, and thank you for all the judges we have had in Thailand who give me more information, also. I still don't have an idea what we need from CFA because we are so new. After we have our first show, I believe I will have some things to ask Dick and all of you to advise us. Thank you. **Kallmeyer:** I might point out that Thailand in March – and Pam DelaBar was there judging, among others – it was an incredible show they had. It was one of the few sponsored by Royal Canin, but they actually had a vet clinic onsite and they would provide free shots for the fleas. They actually did spay and neuter free. They had a clinic right at the show. I've never seen that in any of our cat shows, as well. I think they did that last July, too.

**Kallmeyer:** Next up we have our judge, Chloe Chung. She's from Hong Kong but she is actually going to vet school in China now. Chloe, you might describe your education clinics that you've been doing with Royal Canin. **Chung:** Actually, I was having a whole bunch of seminars with Royal Canin that I started 20 years ago when I was a breeder, so we have some of the activities which is not a professional cat show or dog show, but which is really helpful for the cat owner to educate how they should have the proper way to have a cat, how to treat your cat well, how to groom, how to bathe them in order to get into the show. The main point is to get more

and more people to love animals. This is the main point. We did have a very successful year this year in China. I really look forward to all the breeders, if they can spend more time to educate people or exhibitors or just regular pet owners, because some of them know nothing about how to properly treat their animals. This is very important to me and for us – both of us. We all want to be successful, but the main point is how you can do the best for your animals. I think this is the most important for a cat show or dog show, so I want you guys to spend more time in order to put some education sections in each cat show. We have so many cat shows in China, we can definitely have some education sections. It doesn't take you a long time. It's like half an hour. We have powerful judges from overseas, like from Europe or America. We would like them to think about if they could say something during the cat show, then people can treat their animal better and then that can also help to build up the cat show. **Kallmeyer:** Chloe, in the U.S. we have brochures in English in how to take care of your cat and other things. Would that be useful to be translated into Chinese with a CFA logo? **Chung:** Yes.

**Kallmeyer:** I think some of the board members would like to talk about what we expect from China, especially the shows and things we've heard. **Calhoun:** Keeping with what we can do for China and Thailand and other countries in the International Division, I know that there have been some issues or some concerns with the catalog and how to put together the catalog and getting proper information. How can we help you with that sort of thing, to help you with your shows? **Gavin Cao:** I think China needs more information. This is for all areas of cat fanciers in China. First of all, the exhibitors. A lot of them don't even know how to register a cat or a litter. I probably get a dozen requests every month just on how to do this. Just because I'm the club secretary for a CFA club they think I have authority. Actually, I have the responsibility to teach them how to do this. I think we do have a Chinese version of the CFA website, but I don't think everything is getting translated yet. Some of the more important pages should be translated first, and this should be done quickly. After that, we need to make sure that people in China are aware that this website is present. This probably needs help from all the club members and club owners that are putting on shows. It is the best channel to let people know where to find this kind of information. That's for the exhibitors. For club owners, we have more and more clubs coming up. I'll confess, I'm the one who has a very bad track record for catalogs. I don't want to condemn myself, but basically what I did was, I attended shows before in China and I saw how the other clubs did the catalogs. I assumed that was the right way to do it, so I didn't check. But I think right now this is probably still an issue for newcomers, because we will copy whatever the other people are doing. If the club that they copy happens to not do a good job with catalogs or whatever, they will make the same mistakes. So, I think this is probably another area where we have to provide more information and to make people understand. **Kallmeyer:** Just to point out too, I know Dennis Ganoë did a lot of work getting the pages translated. If there's information you need, send us a note on paper so we can actually work on improving that. I would like also to point out that Gavin himself has issues videos on Chinese YouTube where they could fill out an entry blank or different factors. He has been taking the lead actually in delivering some of this information. **Gao:** Yes, because I'm sick and tired of answering the same question. [laughter] I think it's better if it comes from official CFA channels. That's one thing. **Calhoun:** When judges come over or other people from other countries come over that are more mature markets, we can bring examples. It's good to get this feed-back of the sorts of things judges can do, like for instance taking 30 minutes out of the day and doing some sort of education around animal care and bringing examples of catalogs. Maybe there can be a simple program developed that is easily – how you put your entries in and those sorts of things, to get all that information over to

countries that are not as mature areas as the States and Europe and other places. All of that information is available, so we just need to bridge the gap and make sure that we start to get that information over and that we get it done quickly. **Gao:** I think that's a good idea.

**Kallmeyer:** We have our Central Office staff here. We do have issues with some of the Chinese registrations. Central Office will typically receive a packet of 80-100 registrations and they will come in without address. We would like to see the English name and the Chinese name for registrations. One of the agents actually delivering registration packages has been very good lately with all the information. There's other people submitting registrations that don't provide the full information we would like to see. If there's a way we can get that information out, or people in China can offer to help different people in different cities, it would really help us. A second issue we've come up with is show packages. Sometimes they don't get to China in time or they're lost. Is there a way that we can stage show packets in China that can be delivered, so that way you would have the information on time? Are there people willing to offer a mini-warehouse that could deliver the packages? I know some of the clubs don't talk to one another, so how do we provide those packages? **Matthew Lee:** We can be the warehouse in Hong Kong. Addressing China is all in Chinese only. If it's in English, you will never get it to the people you send it to. Also, some U.S. couriers are lost in translation. You can courier to my place and then wherever you need them, I can just do the domestic courier from Hong Kong. It's a lot easier. We can do the address in Chinese, as well. **Kallmeyer:** What is the shipping cost from Hong Kong to China? **Matthew Lee:** Cheap. Less than \$15 or \$20 US. **Kallmeyer:** Verna, I think you are spending about \$110? So, if we can get it to Hong Kong, then it's cheap. Are you will to store 50 show packages? Do you have room? **Matthew Lee:** Yes. Yes I do. **Kallmeyer:** That's an alternative.

**Kallmeyer:** Ginger, you might describe some of the bad experiences with Chinese registrations and information problems that you see. **Meeker:** Yes, they do become quite challenging. One of the problems is, one packet might contain 60 litter registrations and 120 kitten registrations, but on the individual blue slip in the section where the owner information is placed, it will only have a name and maybe only one name – not a first name and a last name – and the only address might be Beijing. None of the other address is included, so when this cat grands and we need to send a grand certificate or we need to have questions answered, we have no way to contact that person because email addresses are also missing. So, the more information that can be provided on every slip would be helpful. I think the litter registrations are more complete than the individual kitten registrations. That's where we run into trouble. Cattery request applications are excellent. Those are being done very well. **Kallmeyer:** At least a good email address that we can reach. **Meeker:** Many are done via email and that's helpful. Where we get very confused is between the Chinese name and the English name. **Allen Shi:** Yes, I know. **Meeker:** Not everyone knows that Chloe Chung is Li Ling Chung, so when we get these two things, not everybody knows to put them in the same packet or if it's the same person. If that's not clear to us, then all of your records might not be appropriately filed so that you get full credit for your accomplishments. The other thing that came to mind when we were speaking about having problems with learning how to do the shows, it might be expensive but a thought might be, you often work together to bring judges over for 2 or 3 shows. Have you ever thought about getting together and bringing over key members of a show committee to work with 2 or 3 clubs that are having a show, and asking a very experienced show manager or entry clerk or show secretary to teach you in that situation, help you learn those rules, then when you understand

them, you can take them to the next club and pass the education along. **Kallmeyer:** Taking advantage of Hong Kong people is a good idea sometimes, to get started. **Meeker:** I bet there's some show managers from the United States that would love to spend a couple weeks in China. **Allen Shi:** I think that's one good idea. That's what I'm talking about, just like teachers. I have the same problem when I am doing the entry clerk, you know? The entry form, the rules say they need to write everything, including address, email. Most of Chinese cat fanciers don't put the address on the entry form. They just write in Chinese. They also don't know how to translate it into English. Every city, the street name is different. In Shenyang, the street names are very complex. It is very hard to translate into English, so they can't find the address. Many Chinese cat fanciers, they can't receive grand champion certificates – only in a few cities. Beijing and Shanghai it's very easy to ship to their address. I think what Ginger said is a very good idea. Maybe we can invite some very experienced show managers and entry clerks to China to teach them. The fee will be very expensive, but maybe it's a good idea from Hong Kong or somewhere, but I think CFA can organize teaching a new club, because some clubs don't talk to each other so they can't teach you. But if you can organize that, I think it's a very basic thing that would be good for CFA and also good for China. If their own clubs can learn how to do it, they also need to think of their responsibility to CFA. That's very important, I think.

**Kallmeyer:** There's another issue related to Central Office, and that's unconfirmed champions. The cat becomes a champion and never fills in the claim, so it's not confirmed. You should be aware now, but if they don't file that information they will lose points. **Allen Shi:** Why don't you email me and let me have the information about, you should claim the champion as soon as possible. My friends maybe all know, but some others maybe can't read my post, so maybe CFA can do that and let them know they should plan. **Meeker:** Part of the problem is, some of these unclaimed champions and premiers, we have no way to reach them. We have no email and CFA has a rule that we must notify them 45 days after the show. We have no way to reach them, except send them a letter which probably will never get there, so it's really important. **Allen Shi:** Yes, I know. That's a lot of work. One idea is, I post something. The second idea is, maybe you can write this cattery name to Dick, and we know their name and cattery. We know the telephone number and we can call them. Teach them, then they know they should do it themselves. Some people in China, they can't speak English but they can read, but they can ring clerk. They just learn how to do it. That's OK. You can teach them, so English is not very important. They can learn. **Kallmeyer:** One thing you might do is write the instructions in Chinese and put them in the catalog, maybe a half page in the catalog saying, "if your cat becomes a champion, do this." **Allen Shi:** Yes, that's a very good idea to write it in Chinese in the catalog.

**Kallmeyer:** There's another thing I'm sure the American judges that have gone to China shows is, there's a large number of transfers at the show. There might be 50 color changes. Is there a way that we could set up maybe some people in China that would be consultants to answer questions in regard to color, in regard to answering? It's a newbie program for China, brand new. Is it possible do you think? **Allen Shi:** That's what we experience at every show. "The cat is not in this class, it's another color." That's another thing CFA needs to teach them. I remember from last season this problem existed. Many times, the person doesn't know the color. They transfer from red tabby and white to calico. So, if you can do some standard book about this, we can spread it to exhibitors. **DelaBar:** When we first decided to have an International Division back in the early 90's, one of the things that was supposed to happen is that before a



club outside the United States could put on a show, they were to attend a show production school that CFA would put on. I know this happened a few times in Europe, and then it sort of disappeared into the clouds. For China, one thing you might want to consider is getting the people together from wherever would be most economically feasible for you, to put on these classes. Take a weekend where there is no show in China and maybe go to Chengdu and have people come in who are from the different clubs, have a clerking school, have a show production school, have instruction on your color classes, so people can take this back to their clubs and have this information. Now, another idea that I'm stealing from another association is for people who don't have an idea on the colors of their cats and how to correctly enter them is, prior to the show, have maybe your senior judge – maybe the show committee could charge an extra fee to have this happen – and have what is called a “color control class”. The judge is going to see those cats later on in the show anyway, but for a true color identification, this is something you could do. **Eigenhauser:** I want to remind everyone that when you say, “CFA ought to do something”, you are CFA. We are all CFA in this room. So, what we need to do is think of working cooperatively to get this job done. If you find somebody is asking a question and the next person is asking the same question and the next person and the next person, maybe what you should do is sit down and write a good, detailed explanation as to how to resolve that problem, whether it's entering a show or registering a cat or whatever, and then share that with us so that we can share that with other clubs in your area, so that we're not all working separately trying to solve this problem. It would be wonderful if CFA had the facilities to translate everything we do into every language, but we largely rely on local volunteers to do a lot of that translating, and it's better to have somebody locally answer these questions because an American who doesn't speak Chinese trying to explain things to somebody who only speaks Chinese isn't going to work. We need people who are fluent in the native tongue, who understands the native culture, who understands the questions being asked. Those are the people who can best answer those questions. So, when you get these kinds of questions, don't just think in terms of, “how do I answer this person?”, but “how do I answer other people who have these questions?” Think about becoming an author for us. If you write a page for your catalog about how to enter shows, share that with us so we can share that with other clubs, so everybody knows how to enter shows. Let's think in terms of becoming writers and authors and helping each other, so we're not all working independently trying to get the same job done.

**Wilson:** Hi. I'm Annette Wilson and I Chair the Judging Program. When you were talking about being interested in finding judges that might be willing to stay for more than 1 weekend, if we can help, I would be happy to ask the judges that might be both willing and able. It would still be up to you to contact them for any particular show, but if I can supply a list of judges that are able to do that – not everybody can because of their job or other reasons – would that be helpful to you? We can keep it updated and we can include whether or not they have a visa. Now that you can get a Chinese visa for 10 years, there may be more judges who are able to go at the last minute. Also, I'm very happy to put out requests on the judges' list, if you are looking for judges either at the last minute or in advance, to see who might be available and whether or not they have a visa and can travel within a good period of time. If it would help to have a list of judges that are able to spend more than one weekend, I would be happy to put that together and make it available. **Calhoun:** Along with what Annette said, if we can help you to make sure that you get your shows on the calendar further in advance, first of all you are going to save on air fare. Even if you are just bringing judges in for one show, it will be more economical if you can do that. To Annette's point, if folks can see the schedule and see weekends where

clubs may be able to work together to bring judges in, to see that in advance and have that alignment happen and get those tickets purchased, that will be hugely beneficial. A lot of it depends on getting the show calendar established a little bit further in advance.

**Kallmeyer:** One other area we need work in is the clerks in China. Some are very good and some are not. You might start thinking about taking advantage of Nicholas Pun, who is a master clerk instructor. He's also a new judge, but take advantage to teach Chinese language clerking schools. I know I've done several in English, but I'm not sure it's translated right. I think having more good clerks would certainly help, as well. One thing we would like to see, too, from the clerks in the shows is that exhibitors give changes or absentees to the clerk but they never get to the judge, so you might mention to the clerks to make sure they tell the judge what's going on, as well.

**Kallmeyer:** Kenny Currle works a lot with our Middle Eastern countries and talk about some things going on there. The Middle East is probably growing about 30% a year. The cats are very big in Muslim countries. We have one show a year and that's going to change, so it's ready to explode. **Currle:** Hi everybody. Thank you for the opportunity to address the board and visitors here. The Middle East, as he said, in registrations alone have increased 30% since we first went in there 3 years ago with the first Kuwait show. Since then we've had eCats come in. Recently, the Qatar club has been accepted. The Arabian club who let their dues slip last year is coming back. A work in progress is also the area in Dubai. We are growing exponentially over there. It is exploding. There's even talk of another Kuwait club coming in. The Kuwait show was a rousing success. It was the first 10 ring show ever held in the Middle East. They ended up with over their limit of 125 cats. Thanks to the Executive Committee for allowing them to have more on a very short notice. Basically, the reason that I know we grow is, not only in the Middle East but also in China, Thailand and all areas in the International Division, one of the biggest reasons we are successful is because of our style and our judges are the reason why that style is so accepted. We talk about the CFA brand. Believe me, our judges are our CFA brand. The cats that you guys have bred, we know they're good and we are accepting of you. Just like George said, if we work together, you educate, we educate, we share. I know our judges – I remember Darrell sitting there. Remember, we went to a show and had to put plastic in the bottom of cages? This is when Europe was not yet a region. They had to learn. There weren't very many master clerks there. There were certain people who put on shows. Now everybody is capable. They've really come a long way. The same thing is going to happen in China. You're going to learn, you're going to share, you're going to be successful. So, I just would like to make my last statement, because I know we're running overtime. It's a challenge to grow. The board is going to have to come up with some very, very difficult decisions as far as what's happening here in the U.S. versus China. It's my hope that we don't punish any area of the ID. I think we are a welcoming family and we should continue as such. So, the two keys in my mind are understandable communication and knowledge. That is the key to a successful CFA, not only here at home but also worldwide. So again, I want to thank the board's support, I want to thank all my fellow judges. I'm very proud to be a part of your community as we take over the world with CFA. Thank you. **DelaBar:** One country that wasn't mentioned was Israel, where we have 2 to 3 shows every year. They have kept going quite strongly, ever since their first show where they didn't have a show package. **Currle:** Good thing we had some experienced judges. That's another example. **DelaBar:** Fortunately, many of us judges have copies of the breed and finals sheets that they were able to Xerox off, to be able to put on the show. That's one of the things

that, when you send judges over to new countries that are developing CFA, it pays to have those that have some experience, that are able to roll with the punches on this and “be field expedient”, that’s what they say, to get the job done. Israel has changed their location to Haifa, which is I would say a much more peaceful area for the shows. They have also done more on the care and feeding of judges. **Kallmeyer:** The other area that we’re really slow getting going on is South America. It’s interesting. Our shows are in Brazil, but we actually had registrations in Venezuela, Argentina, Medellin Columbia. We’re slow getting going there. We hope to do something there.

**Kallmeyer:** I would like to come back to the Asians, especially China. We’re starting to see competition there. There’s a local China cat association, WCF and FIFe have started there. One of the concerns we see is that CFA shows are fairly expensive. I know the Beijing show last weekend was 6x6 and the entry fees were \$200 each day. There’s concern that we might not be bringing in enough people. I think WCF or CAA shows are \$60. Do you want to talk about the competition in China? What do you see? **Gao:** I can talk about what’s happening but I don’t have a solution for it. TICA was in China, but I think recently it’s not doing that well so we don’t see a lot of TICA shows going on, but we do see a lot of WCF shows. I don’t know if it’s strategic, but they are mostly in secondary cities, so they don’t do any Shanghai or Beijing. They are mostly doing Chengdu or Nanjing, like secondary cities. I think they draw their fanciers from newcomers because they have more awards. Almost everybody who goes there gets something. That’s not really what we want, because we want to see quality cats. That’s just what’s going on. I think it is happening to attract newcomers but it’s not affecting people who are in CFA. Also there is the problem of the price for entry, but I don’t know how that can be changed, because the WCF show format is 1 judge per day, but for us is at least 4 per day; otherwise, we won’t get entries. There’s no way for the clubs to actually reduce the cost, but on the other hand everybody keeps saying that WCF is much cheaper than CFA to enter, so that’s what we have right now. **Kallmeyer:** Do you see the China Cat Association shows? **Gao:** I don’t think they are having too much of an impact right now. **Matthew Lee:** The numbers are very interesting, because what you mentioned just now about competition, I do see the risk because it’s either you or me, so if we do anything that discourages people from joining CFA, this demand is not disappearing – they are just going to go to other clubs, so you see the CFA registrations in China grow and that of your competitors grow. There is such a large population, and you can see the energy in CFA. A lot of them are quitting their full-time jobs. They are smart and went to university and know English. It’s very exciting to see this team of managers working so hard for CFA, so if any one of them leaves CFA and joins the other club, then you see all this energy going to your competitors. So, what he is saying is absolutely right. We should really treasure them. I wish we had the same group of people in many more countries and make it a much bigger CFA. The second point about the cost and the price, I think if we encourage more Asian judges, because right now the only source of Asian judges is from Japan. Hopefully, a few years down the road more people from Hong Kong apply to be judges, and then you will get a good mix. In a 6x6, half the judges could be coming from a 3 or 4 hour flight, rather than now most of them fly from the U.S. I’m not saying make it easier for them to become judges, but the whole gesture of encouraging more Asians to become judges will really help with the fees. I think this leap could maintain your growth in China. **DelaBar:** One thing that you can consider since show halls are very expensive is the possibility of joining up with one of these other associations and have joint shows. We do this in Europe. I know it’s been done a few times in the U.S. For us, it has been very successful because the people see what CFA has to offer, and if they see, “well, I’m getting one judging a day” at WCF, they give lots of bling – trophies – for being best of color or

something like that. They also have special ring judging where one judge may judge all the Maine Coons and come up with a top 10 or something like that, but they get to see then what CFA offers and they see that their cat is being judged several times each day and they are getting the possibility of more awards and more opinions on their cats, so it not only helps with the money. Show halls, I know, are expensive everywhere, but it helps with the money angle of it. Also, you can possibly bring in these other people into CFA, and we are seeing this happen.

**Anger:** I have something quick to say, and I hope I hit the mark because this is important to me. As we were listening to some of the difficulties that you have in Asia, John and I were saying that we have the same problem here, too, of finding cheap show halls, getting judges to our shows cheaply, getting good clerks consistently in every ring, so those are really global issues that hopefully we can all work together to solve. The difference is, in Asia we have a population that is young and energetic and educated and very passionate about their cats. When I look around the room, some of us Americans have been involved in CFA for 30 or 40 years. That passion is still there in us, but it's a little frightening to see it so fresh and in our face that you are bringing to us. That's intimidating to us. You are also the first generation that has really used the information technology – the internet – to shop and line chase and purchase cats. You were smart and did your research and got really great cats, and now you are beating us with our own cats. Sometimes, certain people don't accept that that was inevitable and was going to happen with the right group of people. We do have a few people that misbehave and say inappropriate things on the internet. When I read certain things on our list, I cringed and I prayed that people in Asia were not reading these emails. It came from one or two people who are very vocal and accusatory on a number of issues. Wait, I'm not done. I was just trying to keep a stiff upper lip. So, for that, I think we are honor bound to apologize for anything that anyone may have said or done unfairly, or any attitudes that may have been expressed that have been offensive. It's because you scare us a little bit, because you are so good at what we do. We appreciate you. Those of us who have been to China and have met you and know you are not afraid of your potential and your success. We want you to keep doing the good things you are doing, and do them more, and keep showing these beautiful cats. Bring them to our International Show and keep proving to everyone that these cats deserve everything that they have won. We are so proud of you. Please stay. Please stay. Please bring your friends and tell them that they are important to us, too. When you are trying to get people into your shows, you know what? I'm sure you will be in the same position – you will be saying to them, “please stay”.

**DelaBar:** In March of 2003, Wain Harding and myself were very honored to be invited to Shanghai to judge for a cat club that had no affiliation to any organization in the world. It was a cat club formed with a president who was a veterinarian. We judged a cat show. I can tell you the Siamese were maybe this long and that wide, and many kinks in the tail, but there were some bright spots that came up. An Exotic was our best cat in show, but then we found out that there were other problems, like many of the cats did not have pedigrees. They were purchased from Russia or purchased from a pet store or wherever, so we formed a program called CATS – Cat Ancestral Tracking Service – so people could help build those pedigrees. By the following year, there were people that came from Beijing to see what was going on, to talk to us about forming clubs in Beijing. The following March was China Cat Fanciers' show – March of 2004. Actually, it was sponsored by Wiskas. Don Williams and I judged that show. The amount of spectators, the amount of interest in cats was evident, and since then China has grown beyond any expectation I ever had in hoping to develop China. I am so proud of what you all have done. I had a vision for

CFA when I was president, and you have exceeded that vision so beautifully. So, I personally want to thank you.

**Kallmeyer:** Any other comments from the board? Terri and Verna, did we cover all the Central Office issues for you? <yes> OK. Anybody from the ID want to make any further comments? **Cao:** For the unconfirmed cats, I think it would be a good idea to set up a website and we can all spread the word around, because we don't want them to lose their grand points. **Kallmeyer:** Great. We'll take you up on it. I would like to thank everybody. I personally would like to congratulate all the winners from China. You did a great job this year. Thanks. [applause]

**(63) BREED COUNCIL SECRETARIES' MEETING.**  
**Saturday, July 4, 2015**

**Breeds and Standards Co-Chairs Carla Bizzell and Melanie Morgan** called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. with the Breed Council Secretaries and Breed Committee Chairs (or their representatives) present, in addition to the CFA Board of Directors: **Art Graafmans** (Burmese); **Meg Lambert** (Abyssinian); **Sandi Douglass** (Colorpoint Shorthair); **Deb Noggle** (Balinese/Javanese); **Jeri Zottoli** (Bombay/Birman); **Perry Coleman** (European Burmese/Korat); **Julie Keyer** (Oriental); **Karen Bishop** (Japanese Bobtail); **Jan Rogers** (American Wirehair); **Trudi Allen** (Maine Coon); **Wendy Heidt** (Siberian); **Cindy Byrd** (British Shorthair); **Nancy Petersen** (Persian); **Bobbie Irie** (Devon Rex); **Marilyn Conde** (Ocicat); **Iris Zinck** (Turkish Angora); **Bruce Russell** (Scottish Fold); **Pat Jacobberger** (Judging Program Education); **Virginia Wheeldon** (Siamese); **Orca Starbuck** (Chartreux).

**Bizzell:** The first order of business is going to be a brief message from our sponsor.  
**Jacobberger:** First of all, I want to thank all the Breed Council Secretaries for responding to my request for updates on your Breed Council presentations and to let me know where you felt they were A-OK to go. I'll just let you know, I set those deadlines more for myself, so we have something to aim for, but I am willing to accept your updated Breed Council presentations any day of the week, any month, all year long, because we are always looking for updated information to bring to our breed school and to also update our online continuing education page for our judges, for their continuing education needs. They love to see those updated presentations, the more pictures the better. I'm here today to remind you that we're having a Breed Awareness and Orientation School in conjunction with Garden State in Somerset, New Jersey, July 16/17/18. We're still looking for cats for the handling ring on Saturday, and Jeri Zottoli I know has sent a couple of messages out to the Breed Council email list. She will be sending another one out later on this week. Just to remind you that, thanks to the generosity of Garden State, your Breed Council members that are attending can bring a cat that's not entered, and Garden State will provide a half cage for you. So, we're very grateful to the club for doing that for us. We're grateful to Garden State for all of the help they give us for this school. If you have any questions, email me or email Jeri. We would love to have your breed represented. Thank you.

*1. Registration problems*

**Morgan:** Our first item on the agenda is registration issues. I want to start out by saying that I think the opportunity for the Breed Council Secretaries to speak to the board members and speak amongst ourselves together in one place is a huge opportunity, so this is the opportunity for us to hear from you and to brainstorm. I know from speaking to a number of you over the past months that there have been a number of registration issues which we're all aware of. Central Office has worked really hard at improving both timing and the turn-around time on things, as well as quality control. That said, I know that a number of you have come to me with problems with registrations with, for example, a longhair Sphynx coming back on a registration. I think some of these things are coming piecemeal. They are getting hammered at Central Office, and they're getting emails and calls from all different directions. If you are having major problems with something and no one knows about it because you're just dealing with one individual and they're not all getting put together, we need to have a central from of collating all

that. So, if you're having major issues or whatever and you want to involve Carla and myself and copy us on it, that's a great thing. Verna has been super about sending things out through the proper channels. She can't fix things if she doesn't know there's a problem. If you're dealing with one individual there at Central Office, there is no way to know that they are getting hammered by that. So, I would ask that we come up with some sort of system for asking for support, and also ask for any of your input on that. Your concerns, problems, ideas for improving, etc. Anyone? **Graafmans:** We have an import policy that allows us to bring cats in from Southeast Asia. To my knowledge, we have not had a single instance of one of these cats being registered where the paperwork has been sent in. The breeders are not generally aware of whose attention to send that into and that paperwork – I won't say it goes into a black hole but it goes into a dark corner. It isn't until a Breed Council Secretary calls in and wakes up the process that the paperwork gets handled. I would have to say, I understand that CO has had its issues. I run a business so I'm not going to give anybody a hard time about it, but it would be very helpful if we could have some way of being able to track that. If there was a place on the website where we knew who to send that sort of thing to specifically, so that a person could call and follow up themselves. I personally have gotten some grief that our policy is, in some breeders' opinions, too complicated with the genetic testing and things that we've asked for. The board has been very supportive of what I put together for that. I think the policy itself is written in a way where a clerical person should be able to follow it and get through it without too much additional help, but my breeders in general don't like the idea that they have to go to the Breed Council Secretary and ask them to help facilitate the process. **Hannon:** Why don't we just answer his question right now. Who do you want as a point person at the Central Office for these cats that are being imported? **Barry:** I would have to say it would have to be Verna. **Hannon:** Alright. So Art, Verna Dobbins would be the contact point. You might want to put that out on your Burmese list. **Graafmans:** I will do that. Thank you.

**Morgan:** Anyone else? **Keyer:** With a lot of these registration problems, when they first moved to Alliance a number of us had offered to help at any point within our breed. I got maybe 3 phone calls a week. I keep offering and I don't get phone calls. Instead, I get my Breed Council members coming to me with problems. Is there a way we can kind of get that going again? If they have a question on color or what breed this should be registered as, give one of us a call. We can help with that. **Hannon:** Terri, do you have a response? **Barry:** Maybe what we can do is pull a list together and make sure it's updated of who Registration staff could contact if they run into a problem that can't be solved at the Central Office itself. So, if you're willing to be the contact person in your breed, you can email me at Central Office with your name, address, phone number and email. **Hannon:** Alright. So, we're going to turn the responsibility over to the individual Breed Council Secretaries to contact Terri Barry with who for your breed should be the contact person. It could be you, it could be somebody else, but you have the responsibility now to contact the Executive Director with the name of the person. **Morgan:** We also have an updated list that we got from all of you back in March that I can double check with all of you, and then we can send that to Terri as a starting point.

## 2. *Registration by Pedigree.*

**Morgan:** We're going to go on to registration by pedigree. I'm not sure if you all are privy to any of the numbers for your breed for how many cats were registered for your breed by pedigree, but let me tell you, Central Office is fielding a heck of a lot of extra work on these

things. Last year alone they registered 1,232 cats by pedigree. That breaks out anywhere from zero for, say, the American Wirehair, all the way up to close to 190-200 cats for Exotic, Maine Coon, etc. My own breed had 8, which I wasn't aware of. That's not a problem if we're not aware of it. Central Office is doing their job. After all, we're supposed to be a cat registry. However, Central Office has been smart enough and kind enough to clue me in on a few applications that they received that had issues. Those issues gave me cause to look into a few things that made me as a Breed Council Secretary and perhaps you all have the same concerns, I certainly would like to hear that, have some really serious concerns. There was an application for a cat earlier this year and the people went through the proper procedure. They got a certified pedigree, they submitted it to the Central Office. I have that certified pedigree in front of me. Central Office sent it to me and said, "help". This is a certified pedigree. It has 17 errors on it – 17 verifiable errors – from things as simple as a spelling error to things as concerning as the same registration number on two different cats. So, these are the types of things that Central Office is dealing with. This is one application. Multiply that by 1,300. Now, some of these pedigrees may not have these issues and that's fine, but what it did was, it made us start to look into what registrations are we accepting pedigrees from? What kind of verification and vetting process do we have for those registrations? Do you guys have those same issues? Do you have any concerns? Does this bother you or does it not bother you? I'll open up the floor and see what you guys have to say. **Lambert:** I ran into an issue with the longhair gene. There seems to be a different opinion by members of the Breed Council about what exactly the board intended when it defined the 350-series numbers. People are getting very agitated about it. I wasn't there. Different people have told me different things, so I'm sort of at a loss as to how to address that issue. I need some help in that regard. It's something that happened that I was not privy to how it happened. **Morgan:** Is this in terms of, they are coming to you when they are trying to register a cat by pedigree? **Lambert:** Because it's a longhair and the Somali is in the 8<sup>th</sup> generation, it has to have a 350 number but it doesn't. The confusion comes in when there is now a known Somali and how long they keep that prefix. I was told by the previous Breed Council Secretary that it is perpetuity, but there were other people in the Breed Council who feel that it was not. [inaudible] I don't know where to go with it. **Anger:** I understood it to be in perpetuity, but I will send you all the minutes and discussion from how that came about. **Morgan:** Anyone else?

**Morgan:** I'm going to read to you the list of the registries right now that we are looking at in terms of registries. We accept pedigrees from the Australian Cat Federation, CCC of A – the Coordinating Cat Council of Australia, FIFe, GCCF, New Zealand Cat Fanciers, Southern Africa Cat Council, TICA, the World Cat Federation, and there are some other U.S. registries that are acceptable, including Canadian Cat Association, ACFA and CFF. Some of these pedigrees, as I said, have some issues with the integrity on them. Do you guys have any concerns about that or not? I'm bringing that back up? **Lambert:** Abyssinian breeders are concerned about TICA pedigrees because they accept colors that are not accepted in CFA. I guess Monique does the European pedigrees, but I'm not sure who polices TICA pedigrees. There should be a misstatement on the pedigrees. **Morgan:** It is Monique. I believe she does them all, yes. **Wilson:** I do have a concern that our registration rules on your individual registration rules by breed can differentiate between registration by foreign pedigree – meaning non-North American – and domestic pedigree. We have at least one breed – I don't know if the European Burmese Breed Council Secretary is here? It is actually differentiated. You have a different number of generations required if it's a certified pedigree from a domestic association or a foreign association. Most of them actually say foreign pedigree registration. I have a problem that I don't



know if I want to go into here in this detail, with the non-CFA domestic registrations being accepted. It concerns me. I read off this list and I'm not so sure that it's actually being followed. In other words, it's possible to register a Russian Blue with a pedigree from TICA. That's not what our registration rules say. So, I have a concern about that and I think others should, also.

**Bishop:** To go back to Melanie's prior question, how do we feel about certified pedigrees, I always thought that a certified pedigree meant that you were paying money for the accuracy of that pedigree. If we have certain associations that are providing our breeders with inaccurate pedigrees that they are having to pay for, would there not be some way for CFA to flag those organizations, if there's more than 1 or 2 errors? I mean, to have more than 17 errors seems outrageous to me. That breed paid money for that certified pedigree, unless my definition of a certified pedigree is incorrect. **Morgan:** I agree 100%. I think that's kind of why I brought this up and I wanted to talk to you about this is, there's some serious concerns. Should we basically have a vetting process for these registries that we're checking certified pedigrees from. I think we also probably need to clarify the procedures better. On the Rules of Registration there's a block for pedigree requirements, and that is for registration via pedigree. When we say "registration via pedigree", it doesn't mean print the little form off and CFA signs it, and attach a handwritten pedigree from your database. It means support that application with a certified pedigree. Yet, I've had people come to me with applications that CFA has had to deal with that are scribbled and handwritten, old fashioned pedigree break-outs. So, I think we need to clarify the process somewhat so that it's clear for your people and your breeders, and perhaps even talk about maybe a second set of eyes to help Central Office on their quality control. I know that they come to me as a Breed Council Secretary to double check the validity of things. Is that something you all are interested in? Yes, no? **Starbuck:** Isn't it true that TICA allows registration by pedigree with a handwritten pedigree? **Morgan:** Correct, but we're not TICA. **Hannon:** But we're getting their pedigrees. **Lambert:** But if we get a TICA certified pedigree, it's going to have whatever the breeder had handwritten. I have seen errors even more concerning than registration numbers, incorrect cats in the pedigrees for TICA and also for CCA. Where the pedigree was a foreign pedigree, a FIFe pedigree or a WCF pedigree and where the person just incorrectly copied it. In one case, a cat from a line above appeared to be simply copied to the line below and doubled there, when that wasn't really the cat. **Morgan:** That states exactly what we're talking about. To me, this is really worrisome. How do we vet these registrations by pedigree? How do we check them, which is why I'm asking you all. Is that something that you're interested in stepping up and being a quality control check on. Any interest? **Rogers:** I think it's very important to vet those foreign pedigrees, absolutely. If there's any question on it, and it's color, pattern, mostly I assume in our Exotics and Persians that have some problems, but on the flip side of that, and Carla you know what I'm talking about because I gave you that pedigree where CFA produced a pedigree and a CFA exhibitor tried to register that cat with FIFe and there were glaring errors in that pedigree – obvious errors. Two cats bred together to produce something that was totally impossible, yet it still had a registration number and it was permeated down through the pedigree. He had no idea. He bought the cat from America but the pedigree was certified by CFA, and that was way before we moved to Alliance, Ohio. So, it goes both ways. I think there's got to be a streamlined procedure, probably through Tracy's process orientation, that gives us an ability to make sure that we've got the correct pedigrees both ways. **Allen:** I'm not sure exactly where this fits into all of this either, but TICA is now registering polydactyl Maine Coon cats with a different identifier than the Maine Coon cats that are not polydactyl. In CFA, although they are not allowed to be shown, we register

polydactyls and the pedigrees are now going to reflect two different identifiers for the same breed coming from TICA to CFA. **Graafmans:** Are we talking about vetting individual pedigrees or vetting associations? **Morgan:** Associations. **Eigenhauser:** One of the surprises I learned several years ago is that CFA had a longstanding policy of registering impossible breedings. There were inapparent torties that were registered as black and produced red offspring, and we just let it slide. That was a policy decision made at Central Office years ago. I don't know how accurate we are vetting pedigrees now, but if you look back at CFA pedigrees there are quite a number of impossible breedings that still got registered as CFA cats, so before we start throwing stones at other registries, we've got to recognize that there is a certain amount of sloppiness in our own pedigrees, too. **Wilson:** I need to bring this up once again. There was a policy change in Central Office at some point. I believe it was after the move but it may have been earlier. We are now entering the names and non-CFA registration numbers of the cats into our database. It's causing duplicate cats, because if you don't tell CFA that a cat in a foreign pedigree is a CFA cat and it has a number, they will just put in exactly what it says on there. So, there's duplicate cats multiple times in the database. I know for a fact it's occurring in my breed and I don't have that many registers by foreign pedigree. It means, when you get a certified pedigree from CFA on a cat where some cat in there has been registered by pedigree, it's going to have the foreign registry in there. It's going to have that cat's name, where previously when you registered a cat by pedigree, there were no CFA-registered cats on that pedigree and you requested the CFA pedigree, it would be blank because they weren't CFA-registered cats. Or, if you had 1 or 2 CFA-registered cats in there, only those cats would appear with a CFA registration number. So, we've gone from some cats previously registered incorrectly or with wrong information or impossible breedings to now complicating it by having a whole bunch of cats in our database. We're basically taking the certified pedigree information, right or now, and now we're certifying it by putting it in our database, so when you get a pedigree out of our database, it's got incorrect information if we took incorrect information in. **Morgan:** Thank you, Annette. That was actually something I was just going to bring up. What I'm passing around there that you all are looking at is actually the registration of one of my first Egyptian Maus which came in via pedigree. As you'll see on the very bottom, there's a cat that didn't have a CFA registration number. It is listed on the CFA certified pedigree as "not on CFA records". Now, what does that do? What it means is, if there was a problem there, we can go back to and track it. Anyone who wants to see the paper trail, I've got my original application all the way through what Marilee sent me with all the little remarks and it's an interesting process to see. Our current system I think is allowing us, as Annette said, to basically certify something that isn't necessarily certifiable. Pass that around and throw it over to the board side. I think it's something we might want to consider reconsidering in terms of a policy on registrations via pedigree. I'm interested to hear if you all have any input into that. **Keyer:** I have a number of dual registered cats. When I have registered them via pedigree because perhaps a CFA cat was bred to a non-CFA cat, I've made it a point to make a photocopy of the pedigree and mark in highlight pen the CFA-registered cats. That being said, I was chastised twice about doing that. "Why are you giving us all this extra information?" So, either we make it a policy to let people do that or we don't. It upsets me to think that now if I forgot to get a certified pedigree from CFA to register in another association, that my cats that are CFA registered aren't going to show up in it. **Morgan:** Have you seen what's going around? The cats that have CFA registration numbers which weren't necessarily that way on a TICA registration application were identified, and identified properly in the CFA database. The ones that didn't weren't. Does that help? **Keyer:**

Yeah. I'm just saying that basically – **Morgan:** No, no, no. Only those that we could not track back into our own system so that we don't have any duplicates. Again, going back to what Annette's point was. Does that make sense? **Keyer:** I thought I was making it easier by highlighting. **Morgan:** Absolutely it makes it easier. It makes it immensely easier. Trust me, having gone through a couple of these for Monique, it makes it a lot easier, so we thank any of you certainly for any help you can give on that. Back to George's point, we're all human. We know that nothing is 100% infallible. A certain level of error rate is certainly simply reality, but I think that once we hit a certain level over which we hit the point of no return, I think we need to start flagging those. That's me speaking as Egyptian Mau Breed Council Secretary. **Graafmans:** Would it make sense to include the information and mark the text in red or some other way that it is questionable? **Morgan:** Unclear as to what you're – **Graafmans:** From what I saw of your pedigree, there were cats you had brought in that wrong pedigree you submitted and are now marked as not in the database because you could not verify that that information was accurate. That information might still be useful. Wouldn't it make sense to just mark it as questionable accuracy? **Morgan:** OK. So, to clarify what you're asking, what you're saying is, perhaps don't put "not on CFA records", perhaps say the name of the cat and put under in parens something like IMP. **Graafmans:** Yeah. **Morgan:** OK.

**Schreck:** Annette and I have talked about this at length, and since she's not driving me home this time I'm going to speak up. We had a little different view and I'm not sure exactly how I feel. However, I want to point this out. You're certifying that cat as being registerable with CFA. In fact, you give it a number. You let it be shown, you let it accumulate points. So, why are you not then saying at the same time that the cats behind it are valid cats? If you leave them off the pedigree completely, I don't think you're giving the person who purchased that cat, and down the line by the way, the information that you have looked at and said it's right, so you can register that cat. Maybe flagging it to say it came from another organization, but to leave it completely off, in my opinion, you're talking out of two sides of your mouth at the same time. **DelaBar:** I have registered cats by pedigree with the pedigrees from other associations, and recently, within the past few years. When I look at those other registrations coming from one of the foreign organizations that we're talking about, if a cat comes in from another federation, from another organization, it's annotated on that pedigree. By and large, I find that the larger organizations that we deal with in Europe, in particular, and also in Australasia, are definitely right on because they go through and they are more genetically intelligent about what they're putting on their pedigrees vis-à-vis what we do in CFA. As a CFA rep in Europe, and also I have judged in Brazil, it is very embarrassing for us to get these inquiries. "I've got a pedigree on a cat that I'm supposed to be registering in our federation with colors that cannot be. Could it be possibly that it was a different cat or misrepresented?" One pedigree I'm talking about came from somebody who produced several national winners. I'm talking particularly on the Persians, because that's one of the biggest things for these people to get is a CFA Persian, yet they get a pedigree that cannot happen, and we're certifying something that's genetically incorrect. So, we're producing more problems than I see us getting in from other associations. Where we have difficulties, and thank God Monique is very well attuned to the registration codes that are used by these other organizations – in fact, I'll say right now, the easy mind system known throughout the world as EMS is being adopted by almost every other major association in the world except for CFA. Even GCCF, which is the most retro of all associations, is going to EMS. Our breeders must be more genetically attuned to what they are breeding and what they are putting on their pedigrees and what they are registering with us, or else we're going to get these things flying

back in our fact. Instead of us sitting her talking about possible problems with another domestic association, those other associations are going to be talking about the problems with CFA. It starts at the breeder level – not CFA Central Office, it's at the breeder level – and something you need to put your breeders on. **Morgan:** Thank you Pam. We're going to wrap up this discussion. It's been useful and certainly gives us some things to think about and talk about with the wonderful support system we have. Monique truly is an unsung hero and Verna is doing a yeoman's job trying to keep this all together, so we'll work with her and get back to you with any updates.

**Graafmans:** Can somebody clarify what we mean by "foreign" when we speak pedigrees? Is it foreign to the United States, is it foreign to CFA? **Wilson:** "Foreign" previously meant foreign to the United States. Now we're much more global, so it doesn't always have the same meaning to us. It may not have the same meaning to Central Office for that very reason, but that is what it meant. It meant other registries that are not in the U.S. **Graafmans:** So, to be clear, TICA is not foreign? **Wilson:** That's correct. **Hannon:** It's not? **Lambert:** My understanding was it was North American, so CCA is not foreign. **Wilson:** Right. That's the problem. We don't know, because it has always meant outside of CFA from other countries. It was registration by pedigree for cats from other countries. That's what it meant, and I think it's now being considered that it's any other registry. Registration by pedigree from any other association versus foreign. We probably need to change the terminology and clarify that, but my concern is how it's been handled in the last 4 or 5 years since there was a change in policy.

**Morgan:** Bruce, I think you had something on registering cats where you used outcrosses, not accepted colors? **Russell:** One of the things that we're running into right now because we have the outcrosses with the American Shorthair and the British Shorthair, there's a lot of cats that are overseas that we're having issues registering in CFA because those outcrosses to certain colors are not valid in those breeds, but we're using them as outcrosses. They have the colors that aren't accepted more generations back than what we need to have, but at the same time they are currently registering a cat that has colors that are accepted in CFA, so we have some issues there as far as if there is anything that can be done that way. **DelaBar:** In Europe, we see a lot of lilac British, and I think Bruce that's one of the colors that you're talking about. You can test to see if a cat has some of these colors. We just had Roger Brown talk about our new Texas A&M genetic testing coming in, and it's going to be so much more sophisticated than anybody else's genetic testing. This is something that you can test for. The cat may have that color in the pedigree, but the cat itself may not be carrying it. So, it's something you may consider. OK, it's not in the pedigree but if the cat does not have that gene to throw, then it's up to your breed council to see if they may accept that cat and be used in a breeding program, or be registered in CFA. **Lambert:** So, each Breed Council then, Pam, could have different rules? Some might be more lenient. I agree on what you're saying, but we might find ourselves inconsistent again. Some Breed Councils might say yes, some might say no. So, I'm thinking again about the longhair gene in Abyssinians versus color. They can test for it. Anyhow, that's my thoughts. We might find ourselves being inconsistent. **DelaBar:** There's no consistency between the breeds. We don't recognize silvers, you don't use silver Abyssinians in your breeding program. If it doesn't fall in your 8 generations, you're not going to see it anyway. Each Breed Council has got to decide their own fate. I personally don't want to see the increasing of generations out before we make it so difficult for people to get a cat that expands their gene pool, but it's your decision. **Lambert:** I agree Pam, because you know in Abyssinians we require 8

generations, but I don't know if CFA can produce an 8-generation pedigree. So, I think we require something we cannot even produce. **Ganoe:** We can. The new system can do 8.

**Lambert:** That will be great.

**Morgan:** We're going to move on to something that Carol had brought up which is, again, registrations by pedigree and reading issues. **Krzanowski:** Within the Mentor Program, we noticed that a lot of our protégés have no idea how to read a pedigree. It's very overwhelming to them and very confused. What I'm asking our Breed Council Secretaries is if you could work with us to produce some type of a very simplified list of prefixes and what they mean. That might include identifier prefixes and information on outcrossing, what is allowed and what isn't. I know we have our Rules for Registration, but for a newbie they really don't know how to read that. So, I would like something very simple that we can put on our mentor website that would help them to make good decisions right from the beginning. **Morgan:** Excellent A B C's for them.

**Morgan:** I think we're pretty much done with this. Have we beat it to death? **Russell:** I just have a question on the reports we received with the cats that were registered by pedigree, that some of the parents or grandparents of those cats weren't showing up in the listing. Is there a reason for that, or is it just a database issue or what? **Morgan:** On what listing? **Russell:** On the end-of-year listing that came out. Some of the parents – the sire and the dam information was missing. **Bizzell:** The end-of-year listing that he received for his breed winners didn't have sire and dam. **Morgan:** Oh yeah, I know what you're talking about, because I saw the same thing. You're talking about the year-end reports that Central Office sent, correct? **Russell:** Right. **Morgan:** I will tell you this. Any cat that was registered by pedigree, it didn't show up. I don't know why. That would be an answer for someone over there, but if it was registered by pedigree it didn't happen. The sire or dam did not show up. **Russell:** That's what I'm asking. **Morgan:** Can anyone over here answer that? **Ganoe:** I do not know why they didn't show up, because this is actually the first I've heard they didn't. **Morgan:** I let James know on our breed. **Ganoe:** I would talk to James. **Morgan:** OK, thank you. Alright, that was actually very helpful at least for me, hopefully for you. I'm going to hand it back over to Carla.

### 3. *Registration versus Entry analysis*

**Bizzell:** The next item has to do with registration statistics versus entries in shows. Did everyone get a chance to see Dick's presentation yesterday on the uptick in registrations, yet the entries in shows continues to decline. He did an excellent job on that, and if someone did not receive that we will try to get it to you. Of course, it's interesting information, but it's information that we might be able to use to instigate some grass roots effort. As cheerleaders for your breed, each of you is responsible for getting your breeders in your group to get more people out with cats. So, just a little line item. If you didn't see the information, it's very interesting information. **Rogers:** One of the interesting things if you go back 4 or 5 years, Dick you probably have a better handle on that, there was a grass roots effort by CFA to have all the breeders register all their kittens. There was a big push and a lot of people got behind it. So, all of a sudden you were registering your kittens for your pet people. Pet people are not going to show your kittens. Susan Henry just had a beautiful presentation the other night for the judges where not every Persian cat is a show cat, but if you want all those Persian kittens to be registered, which is what you wanted 4 or 5 years ago, now you see the registrations go up –

that's money – and the entries don't keep up with it. So, I think that's part of the problem. I know I'm registering everything. A lot of people I talk to say they're registering everything, and away we go but you're not going to see those cats in a show hall. **Lambert:** I think that the discount and the pre-paid registrations, also. I know I pre-pay for the litter. Of course, then they have to be registered, but I make an effort to get them all registered. So, I think Jan is right. **Rogers:** One other question, Dick. You may be able to answer this please. When you pre-pay the litter registration and get those yellow slips, those don't count, do they? They actually have to have a name for it to count in your statistics? Didn't we have that conversation? **Kallmeyer:** Yes, it would have to have a full-on registration. Pointing out, too, that it's not always clear about cats being shown as an entry versus the registration part. The problem would be in cats present. CFA would only record a cat present if it had a breed win, a qualifying ring or a final, so a cat could have been present at a show and we didn't know. **Zenda:** When you look at those breed statistics that CFA publishes every year about how many litters were registered and the colors and what have you, those numbers are what happened, as I understand it, during that year and they change. Next year when you look at last year's statistics, they have increased considerably, so you're just kind of looking at maybe. It's hard to work with the stuff. It took me years to understand it. **Morgan:** Nevertheless, it's still a disconcerting trend to see that gap widening as registrations are going up, and I don't believe we've changed our registration practices that much as breeders in the last short past, and entries continue to go down. We know there are many factors that go into why entries are going down. We're simply throwing down the gauntlet, the same as when Annette or Debbie or whoever was in charge way back when said, let's try to get everyone to register all our kittens, let's try to get our entries up. It's the same old problem, but it's a challenge for all of us. Let's see what we can do. **Bizzell:** Anybody else?

#### 4. *Breed Summits*

**Bizzell:** Next, Melanie is going to talk about breed summits. **Morgan:** We always talk about putting the focus back on the breeds. I personally as a breeder, as an exhibitor and as a judge love to see breed shows – not just my own breed, any breed show. It's fascinating. You learn an amazing amount when you go there and you watch a big class of Birman or a big class of Devons or whatever breed it is. It's a wonderful thing to see. As entries have been going down, this dovetails nicely. We're trying to look for things to give people more value added, without necessarily giving more awards. So, last year we came up with an idea for a mini breed summit and after our breed club show, we put on a seminar. This year we went to the Board of Directors, and they were wonderful in supporting us with a new idea that we had, which was to take our Egyptian Mau breed club show, as for board approval to hand out some extra awards and have the judges do a little extra work. What is going to happen at that show is, all the Egyptian Maus that are entered will be judged in their individual classes, but those classes will be judged by each individual allbreed judge consecutively. For example Judge 1 in Ring 1, who is an allbreed judge, will judge all the Egyptian Mau kittens. They will probably hang their class, and in our particular instance we're going to go 3 deep. Then they will judge all their Egyptian Mau championship cats and go 3 deep. They will judge all their Egyptian Mau premiership cats, so hopefully we've got 20, 30, 40 Egyptian Maus. They have now judged 40 Egyptian Maus – wouldn't that be nice? At any rate, then will then, depending on the numbers, if it's under 15 it's 3, if it's between 16 and 25 it will be 4, and if it's over 26 they will go 5 deep, regardless of the class. Kittens, premiers, championship, they will name their top 5 Egyptian Maus. What that does is a couple things. One, it puts focus on the breed. Two, it gives the judges a little bit more

of a work-out. Three, it gives the spectators and exhibitors a chance to see all of them together and to look at different levels of development just to see all sorts of things, and for me as a mentor it gets rid of that age-old complaint or excuse I get from people when I say, “did you go and watch the other class?”, and they say, “no, we were too busy because the Maus were up in all 3 rings at once.” So, it puts all the breeders back together and makes them sit down side by side, watching their cats in the ring and hopefully communicating and learning from each other. It’s just an idea. We don’t know if it’s going to work. We think it’s probably going to be a scheduling nightmare. We’re willing to take that on. Certainly, we’re going to give you a recap after the show, which is at the end of July, but I will tell you that it’s gotten international interest. We have people coming from Hong Kong, Belgium, Sweden and Norway just because we’re putting on a breed summit and they want to see how it goes. They’re excited about learning about the breed, and we’ve made it something special. So, if this works, it may be something for us all to look at. That’s my recap on the breed summit. Comments from anyone? We’ll let you know how it goes. **Irie:** I think that would be a really great idea, particularly with some shows that are featuring specific breeds. Devon Rex has a thing called Devon Heaven, and we usually kind of hook up with a larger show, if possible, and we have a whole conglomeration of Devon Rex breeders that get together and have a little party, and really celebrate the breed. During this time we go ahead and give out breed awards. But, that would be great, because if there are shows that capitalize on a specific breed and they advertise it in their flyers, that would be a great time to put on a summit like what you’re talking about.

5. *Role of Breed Council in global environments/ways to encourage membership and participation.*

**Bizzell:** Take it away Meg. **Lambert:** I have to be honest. When I suggested it, I didn’t know I was going to have to defend it. However, it was my message to my breed council today, was that we have more and more interest globally, and we can’t complain about these people. We have to guide them. We have to give them encouragement. We’re the mentors of the breed and they are the future of the breed. So, I just wanted to know if the board had any suggestions about the best way to do this. Is it something that we should encourage the Breed Council Secretaries to do, or does there need to be a more formal structure? **DelaBar:** Meg, you don’t have to defend this. As a matter of fact, in Europe, Region 9, I’ve appointed Peter Vanwongerghem. Peter speaks some 5 languages, so it’s much easier for him to talk to the different breeders, to encourage breed council members, no matter what the breed. So, we are actively getting people to sign up for their breed councils by appointing a person to really go out and push this within our region. **Lambert:** I have been encouraging people from Europe and Russia and Asia to, as soon as possible, join the breed council. A lot of people seemed not aware that they – I guess they were aware of how many litters you had to have, although that appeared to not even be the case. There seemed not to have been a concerted effort to get people from the foreign countries to join. Some of us don’t want to let go, but if you want the breed to continue, then we have to let the new ones fly, so I think it bears encouragement and I’m glad that they’re doing it in Europe. **Ganoe:** I want to share an opportunity I had. The LaPerm breed is not really very large in the United States, in North America, but it is going gangbusters in Japan. I had an opportunity as Breed Council Secretary and a judge to travel to judge a show for a Japanese club, and I was able to hold a Breed Council meeting with all of the Japanese breeders. We had a very productive meeting through a translator, because I don’t speak Japanese and their English wasn’t the best, but I had a translator and we actually were able to go over our standard and clarify some

terms that didn't translate exactly well into Japanese. I know we have a large bunch of British Shorthair breeders, Scottish Fold, Persian, Exotic breeders in China and other locations around the world that can also benefit from direct contact with their Breed Council Secretaries or someone who could be designated, who can go over and run a seminar or something like that, because it was invaluable for our breed. I encourage everybody to do that, as well. **Bizzell:** Anyone else?

6. *BCS as resource*

a. *for Central Office.*

**Bizzell:** The next item is you again, Meg. **Lambert:** My concern there or my question there, because we were asked to advise the Central Office on colors and patterns and everything. My concern there was, one Breed Council Secretary might not be as knowledgeable as another Breed Council Secretary, but I can see that if you volunteer and if it's policed a bit, it will work. So, probably my concern was exaggerated. **Bizzell:** We've addressed already your concern earlier.

b. *for Mentor Program.*

**Bizzell:** The next item is Carol. **Krzanowski:** Following on the heels of some of the prior discussion, the Mentor Program has a lack of volunteer mentors at the present time, particularly for some of the breeds that are not as popular in certain regions or areas of the world. Therefore, I would like to ask the Breed Council Secretaries to please put something out on their individual lists – a call for mentor volunteers – so that we can develop a pool of mentors for these various breeds. We realize we may not be able to find somebody in someone's region or division, but it's still helpful to have someone that a new protégé can correspond with regarding their breed, as far as birthing issues, grooming issues, certain specifics for your breed. So, we would really appreciate your help in that regard. **Bizzell:** OK, thank you.

7. *Numbers required for Colors/Divisions*

**Bizzell:** The next item has to do with number of cats shown for a new color division, and this was Trudie. **Allen:** This all came about from a discussion that was going on, on the list concerning the Persians earlier this Spring, and one of the questions that had come up on the CFA list was in regard to 7 divisions of Persians. This is a question that has been brought up by Maine Coon breeders on occasion, based on the numbers of Maine Coons that are shown that sometimes equal or exceed the numbers of Persians in all the different divisions that appear in shows. The question basically is, what is the board's criteria or expectation for numbers, in terms of divisions? Is this revisited at any time? Right now there are 7 divisions of Persians, but many times some of those divisions are essentially a minority or their numbers are very few, while there may be 15 Maine Coons in all colors in one division. I just wanted to find out from the board what their criteria or their thoughts were on divisions in different breeds that are shown in large numbers. **Bizzell:** Let's see if someone from the board wants to respond. I have an idea. There currently are no definite number guidelines published. **Wilson:** I think that's an interesting question. We really haven't talked about numbers for establishing different divisions. Persian divisions were established a long time ago when there were large numbers, and then some divisions were added as new colors or patterns were added. It really seems like having breeds



split into divisions now is for reasons other than color, so we will have a longhair division and a shorthair division, or if a breed exists as two different breeds like it was for the Manx and Cymric, and then the Cymric were added as a longhair division of Manx. So, the reasons for separating out breeds into divisions seems to have changed over time and exists for different purposes, so I think it's an interesting question. I don't think it's anything we've actually thought about, so I would be interested in what you think would be appropriate. **Petersen:** I have looked at all the counts of championship cats that received points this year. There were 57 breeds or divisions. Five of the Persian divisions are in the top 30%. There is only one division with over 300 cats, and that was Exotic. There were 3 over 200 and less than 300, and that was Solid Color Persians, Bi-Color/Calico Persians and Maine Coons. There were some divisions with no cats shown that received points. I'm fully sympathetic to the Maine Coons wanting divisions, and see no reasons why they couldn't have a couple divisions, given that there are lots of divisions with less than 100 cats being shown. Those don't happen to be the Persians, but there are lots of such divisions. **Bizzell:** So I think perhaps what we need to do as The Breeds & Standards Committee is come up with a proposed set of requirements for both color/pattern advancement and potential consideration for a new division. Right now there are no definitive numbers assigned, so it's just sort of, does it look like enough cats have been shown in that particular breed? **DelaBar:** I can tell you that the Exotic breeders in Europe are very interested in the very same question. I don't know if we have a representative for Exotic across the way here, but that's one of their main questions that they would like to have addressed. **Wilson:** I kind of think I know why you want to have this, but could you just articulate for the board and maybe for the other folks? What's your reason for asking this? Obviously, this is for competitive and/or award basis, but could you just expand on that? **Allen:** We really haven't had a lot of discussion specifically since I've been Breed Council Secretary, but it is a question that has come up in the Breed Council off and on over the years because of the numbers of Maine Coons. This year, I believe if I remember my numbers correctly, I think we have 99 regional winners in Maine Coon Cats. Out of that, we have 1 breed winner because of the numbers. This is something that has frequently come back in the Maine Coon Breed Council as a question of divisions, more opportunity for recognition, but like I say right now the first question was, how is this decided and what would the next steps be? So, we really haven't put together any kind of a formal request or anything other than the basic beginning exploration of whether or not it was even possible or something that would be considered. **Eigenhauser:** To state the obvious, the reason we want split breeds into colors and divisions is for showing and for awards. I don't think it needs much more elaboration than that. When you have a breed like Maine Coon, in order to get a breed win you almost have to get a national win. In a lot of years, our breed winner is a national winner, so there is a certain jealousy that there are cats out there that get a fraction of the number of points, but they get to be a national breed winner; whereas, in some breeds you almost have to be a national winner to be a breed winner. The pressure to split into colors, I think has diminished a little bit with the elimination of the winners ribbon requirement, but there are still awards for color and there is still pressure that way. This used to be primarily a Maine Coon issue because we were very jealous the Persians got to be divisions and we didn't, but as the Exotic is growing as a breed, and they seem to be growing by leaps and bounds, I think the board is going to be feeling a lot of pressure from the Exotic breeders as to why they can't be divisions, particularly when we start to see registration numbers that are matching or exceeding Persians in some areas, so I really think this is something the board needs to sit down and get out our pencils and come out with some guidelines that give numbers and standards and values, rather than doing it arbitrarily. Some of

our divisions, as people have pointed out – longhair/shorthair, OK, that’s obvious –when we merge two breeds and we call them divisions of a common group, but in terms of sheer size and number, which was why we divided the Persians up, we really need to come up with some standards. **Bizzell:** We will put together a proposal for the board’s consideration.

8. *Modes of Breed Council Communication – Yahoo etc.*

**Bizzell:** The next item we don’t appear to have the representative here who put it on the agenda. It had to do with communication within the breed council. Currently we use Yahoo groups. I know Orca, you tried a google group briefly and that didn’t seem to work for everyone, so that would have been the other suggestion, but I guess we’ll go on to the next item since we don’t have a representative here.

9. *Update Color Project*

**Bizzell:** The next item is the update on the color project. **Keyer:** We were asked to make a comparison of all the colors and patterns of each breed that’s currently registered in CFA, with hopes of the ultimate goal of the breeds that wish to participate, to be able to have perhaps a standard color description, especially in those breeds that have a lot of colors, so perhaps to shorten individual breed standards from 7 or 8 pages to a page and a half. At this point, we have the table completed, which has all the comparisons, and then the next step will be putting it into text form, before it will then be reviewed again. **Bizzell:** Thank you Julie. **Morgan:** I’ll just expand on what Julie is saying. They’re working really hard on this project. I don’t want anyone to say, “the sky is falling, the sky is falling.” We’re not going to force any breed to change what makes their breed unique. You have no requirement to buy into these standard descriptions but, for example, we have a number of breeds out there that have Any Other Color. Well, as a judge, you get one of these colors and there’s no description, so this will provide perhaps a template for people coming up with new colors in their breeds, or new breeds coming in, to be able to say, “we don’t have to go out and start creating the wagon by making a wheel and learning how to make fire.” We’re going to have hopefully in the back some tools for you to use, but please don’t get upset, don’t worry, we’re not going to say that a silver-tipped blue now has to be one color of blue. We understand that colors are part of the things that make breeds unique. We’re simply trying to put all this together and perhaps in some instances simplify some things where they can be simplified, and where they don’t need to be simplified we’ll leave them alone. **Keyer:** I also think, by the people who have seen the initial matrix that we made of all the colors and patterns, I’m hoping it can become a useful tool for judges, as well, to see the subtle differences between some of the different breeds’ descriptions of colors. **Morgan:** One last item. The scope of this project is beyond imaging, as some of you may imagine, and so I want to thank the committee who is working on this, which is Julie Keyer, Sharon Roy and Laurie Coughlan.

10. *Update Rules of Registration*

**Morgan:** We’ll move on to our next item. Just a quick update. Terri mentioned this at the board meeting yesterday. We have completed the Rules of Registration updates. We are up to date for the first time in a long time with all the changes that were implemented in February. What we have done is, we’ve taken it one step further. Without losing the integrity of the history of the Rules of Registration for each breed, we’ve also created a web-ready, publication-ready

version that basically gets rid of all the crossed out stuff that you kind of want to see the evolution of, and just says, “this is what is currently in effect for your breed.” I hope to have that up on the CFA website soon.

11. *Reminders of Timeframe for Balloting and Elections*

**Bizzell:** Our last item on the agenda has to do with the timeframe, particularly with respect to our balloting process. It is on the back of your agenda, so now you all have a copy. It was also on the Breed Council Secretaries’ list. We’ll be sending reminders as we get closer to the beginning of the cycle. We did back up to give us a little more time, because we found in our first round that there was a lot more back and forth between the Committee and the Breed Council Secretary, in order to get it the way everyone really wanted to see the changes on the ballot. We need to make sure that Central Office has ample time to put that into the Class Marker system. Any questions?

12. *Other topics as time permits*

**Bizzell:** Any other topics anyone wants to bring up? **Morgan:** Thank you all very much. **Bizzell:** Oh, I’m sorry. Teresa wanted to make a little announcement. **Teresa Keiger:** We were talking about the emphasis on breeds. You may have noticed over the last year or so, in *Cat Talk* we haven’t had any breed articles. Part of that was because we were having trouble getting breed information and part of it was we couldn’t think of a different way to do that. What I would like to do is propose a new column for *Cat Talk* called “You Don’t Know [insert name of breed]”. What this will be is not your breed history, it will be the description of your breed. What it will be is something that most exhibitors don’t know about your breed. With my particular breed, most people don’t know that Russian Blues are silver tipped, not because they have silver on the end of their tips, but it’s actually clear. This handout will detail that a little bit further and tell you how to get in touch with me if you want to submit anything. What I really want you to do is start thinking about this type of information, maybe task it to someone else within your Breed Council, but I would like it to be good, accurate information that you vet and is accurate information that we print. So, when you hear from a *Cat Talk* writer, that’s what this is about. Thank you.

**Bizzell:** Thanks everybody. **Morgan:** Thank you.

## **BREED COUNCIL DEADLINES and TIMETABLE**

### **Breed Standard Timeline for changes, advancement, and membership:**

**August 1:** Breed Council membership deadline (rec’d in CO)

**August 1:** New Breed/Color and Advancement notification deadline (in CO)

**August 1:** BCS should have all proposed standard changes from BC members.

**August 15:** BCS must be notified of any breed color or advancement requests that might affect them (see below\*\*)

**August 15:** Proposed breed standard questions to Breeds & Standards Committee for review.

**September 15:** BCS proposed standard changes must be received by Central Office via B & S Committee

**October 26:** Breed ballots will be available electronically/sent out upon request by Central Office

**December 15:** Breed ballots due back to Central Office

\*\* If a question dealing with the merging of two breeds for registration and/or show purposes or the disallowance of one breed as an outcross for another breed or the disallowance of the right to show one breed in the classes of another is to appear on one breed's ballot, the first secretary must submit the proposed change to the secretary of the affected breed(s) by certified mail postmarked or by email date-stamped by August 15 (copy the B&S Committee).

**All deadlines reflect date that application, advancement material, or ballots must be RECEIVED.**

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