

The Bengal Bulletin

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**Featured in this Issue:
Bengals Accepted in CFA
by Marianne Byrne**

Helmi

In This Issue

Features

- 6 Compassion**
By Jaen Treesinger
- 7 Some Advice Before Becoming a Breeder**
By Kathy Ward, Leopardstrail
- 10 Years In The Making...
Bengal Acceptance in CFA!**
By Marianne Byrne, WildStyle Bengals
- 26 Advertising Section**
- 35 Feline Nutrition**
By Lisa Stacholy, RubyClaw Bengals
- 42 Does L-Lysine Supplementation Help
Upper Respiratory Viral Infection in Cats?
Probably Not.**
By the Winn Feline Foundation

Shorts

- 33 FIP: A Cure at Last?**
- 41 In Pursuit of Purrfection**
- 43 Around The Web**

Volume 28 - First Quarter 2016



ON OUR FRONT COVER: BoydsBengals Breaking Bad ("Breaker") was the "poster cat" for the long and painstaking effort that succeeded in the CFA acceptance of the Bengal cat. Photo by Helmi.

Snuggling Bengals: Some snugly pictures from our members are on pages are on pages 8, 9, 25, 33, 34, 42, and 47.

Outdoor Bengals: Some pictures of Bengals outdoors are on page 7 and the back cover.

Years In The Making...

Bengal Acceptance in CFA!

By Marianne Byrne, WildStyle Bengals

When I registered my MIDAS cattery in 1972 I never dreamed I would be appealing to the Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) Board 44 years later asking for acceptance of the Bengal! That is how my letter to the Board began...

Through this journey I have learned there are many U.S. breeders who exhibit in both CFA and TICA. And in other parts of the world there surely must be breeders who exhibit in FIFE and CFA, WCF and CFA, and so on. But for me, the first 36 years of being a breeder I was a "CFA Exclusively" person. I had never registered a cat in any other association, let alone gone to one of their shows. Because of this, I had never seen a Bengal until 2008, when someone who had gotten a Persian from me went to a show in South America and sent me a slide show of all the cats entered. I was drinking my morning coffee, and watching the photos of cats fly by, when suddenly this amazing cat went past. It looked just like a leopard!!! I pressed the back arrow on the slide show, came to its picture, and stopped the slide show in its tracks! I copied the photo, and immediately emailed it to one of my best friends

of 40 years, Rhett Bockman, who was an All Breed, International CFA judge at the time, with the question, "What is this?" He answered immediately, "A Bengal." My next email asked, "Will they ever be accepted in CFA?" His answer, "Probably not in our lifetime." I knew I had to have one, and as most any Bengal breeder will confirm, they are addictive. You can't have just one! Within a few months I had made the decision to switch breeds, and become a Bengal breeder. Bear in mind, the Persian had been my life's work.

Rhett and I go way back. We met in the early 70s when we were in our early 20's, in Columbus, Ohio. He was a Manx and American Shorthair breeder; I had Persians. We traveled to shows together in the Great Lakes Region, and both of us became successful exhibitors at a young age. So when I told him last spring that I was applying to the CFA Board for Bengal acceptance, he immediately mailed me a copy of the current CFA Breed Standards and Show Rules. The day I got them I could not possibly imagine how valuable they would prove to be.

When I accepted the challenge of preparing the Application for Bengal Breed



The CFA allows Blues, such as Guru Blu Danaeris of MiaOhana. Owner: Federica Cappelletti.



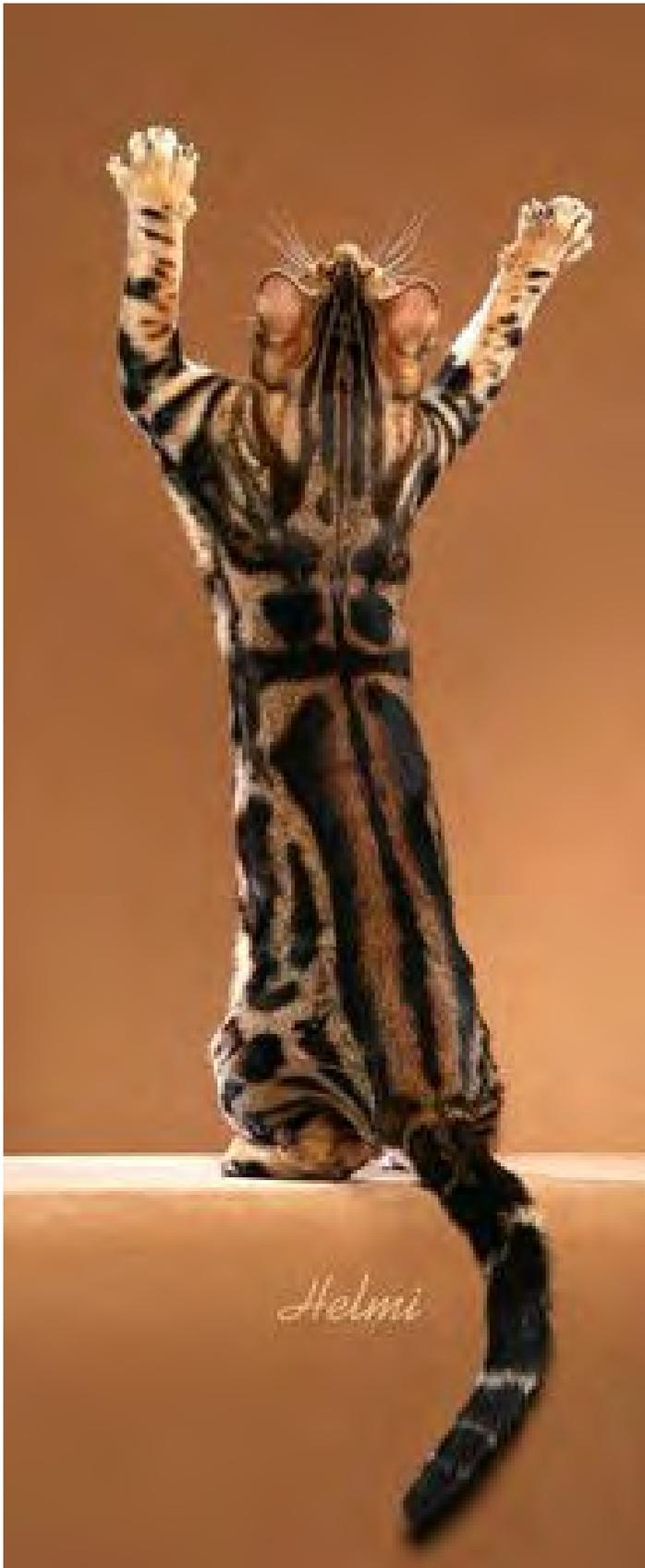
The CFA allows Longhair Bengals (or "Cashmeres"), such as Metastar River Dance. Breeder/Owner: Helen Mitchell.

Acceptance, I didn't realize it would become a full-time job. I didn't know how difficult, and time consuming, writing a standard would prove to be. My partner at WildStyle, Rich Nolte, started a Facebook group, Bengals For CFA, in March of 2014. He made me an Admin. He immediately started posting polls, asking our members questions such as "What feature of the Bengal do you feel should be allotted the most points?" The winner was HEAD. So we decided then and there to give HEAD 30 points, which is more than any other feature. Our polls in that Facebook group told us a lot about the Point Score, but writing a Breed Standard is a much more involved process.

When figuring out our Point Score we had to be mindful of a couple of things. The CFA Ocicat standard allocates 50 points for Coat, Color, Pattern, and Contrast. How could we possibly give fewer points to the Bengal? TICA has a rule

that NO breed can give more than 40 points to Coat, Color, and Contrast. But this is not TICA. I came up with what has been called the 50/50 split Point Score. It gives 50 points to Type and Structure and the other 50 to Coat, Color, Pattern, and Contrast. We feel this allows for a level playing field, and gives everyone a fair chance. The type breeders have an EQUAL chance, and so do the flash breeders. In the end it should always be BALANCE which wins.

Rich Nolte and I assembled a team of eight Bengal breeders to collaborate on writing a Bengal standard. We chose a diverse group, two well-known marble breeders, two breeders known to be "type breeders," and two more who are known as "flash breeders." As Americans, the only Bengal Standard we had any experience with was the TICA standard, so it was our starting point. We didn't deviate very much from the TICA standard in its General



Of course the CFA allows marbles, such as ZenDaDa Sundog. Breeder/Owner: Julie Gracie Moseley.

Descriptions, as far as structure and type go. I felt very strongly about several issues: mousy undercoat, tarnish on silvers, and rosettes. I also feel strongly about ticking, but I let that go. To me, there is nothing more striking than a beautifully contrasted Brown Rosetted Bengal who sports a honey gold ground color, with jet black outlined rosettes! How can a cat with ticking or a mouse coat have the same impact? I also feel that glitter is icing on the cake, as well as a feature which sets our breed apart.

It is important to note that the TICA standard had not been updated since 2008. This was around the time I started breeding Bengals. I can attest to the fact that this breed has evolved, and improved dramatically since then. I remember hearing when I first came into the Bengal world that it is a "fast evolving breed." During the process of writing the standard, each of us had to make concessions. For a group to be compatible each member has to be willing to compromise. We were brought together by a mutual respect for one another's accomplishments. Everyone brought valuable qualities to the table.

Once we had a basic Standard and Point Score, our team of eight disbanded. From then on it was Rich Nolte and myself. By continuing to post opinion polls in our Bengals For CFA Facebook group, and by his passion for our cause, Rich inspired breeders everywhere to get involved, register their catteries, and join us. While Rich was busy garnering support worldwide, I began working with Carla Bizzell, one of the CFA Breeds & Standards co-chairs. Carla is a CFA All Breed judge, who frequently judges internationally, where she has become familiar with the Bengal as a guest judge in other associations. Although I had written many show cat magazine articles in the past, I had no clue how to efficiently write a breed standard. Carla was my strictest critic, and so many times she would kindly tell me how to better word what I was attempting to say. She not only knows, and understands the vernacular familiar to the CFA judges, but she also has a thorough



CFA recognizes the a Brown Charcoal, such as SGC RW Tecspot AceOfSpades. Owner: Kim Albers



Another type of Bengal recognized by CFA is the Silver Charcoal, such as Albeng Kickin Ash of Wild-Style. Owners: Marianne Byrne, Rich Nolte, Carlos Perez.



*Blue Minks, such as Bluelagoon Legally Blonde, are also recognized by CFA.
Breeder/Owner: April Fitton.*

understanding of color genetics, which was extremely valuable as we planned to include the Blue right alongside the Brown. After all, Blue Tabby is the natural dilute of Brown Tabby. Carla's understanding of color genetics was valuable when we discussed the Charcoal, and the fact that the Veterinary Genetics Lab at UC Davis has defined Charcoal as a Pattern. We also wanted to accept Blue Silvers and Blue Snows.

CFA told us right from the beginning not to pick and choose colors based on personal preference, but rather to name EVERY Color and Pattern which exists in the Bengal. And so we did. The advice from CFA was that it will be much harder and more time consuming to add Colors and Patterns later.

We found from our own Facebook group, as well as numerous other Facebook Bengal groups, that there was a lot of interest in the Longhair Bengal, or Cashmere, as their breeders prefer to call the Longhairs. This is particularly

true in Europe. We decided to include them as Any Other Variety in CFA, which is called AOV.

With the huge number of breeders interested in the Charcoal, we absolutely KNEW we had to include them. (The following Facebook groups and their number of members, as of this writing, are: The Charcoal Bengal Group, 2069, Snow Charcoal Bengal Group, 1,333, and Silver Charcoal Bengals, 977.) Our feeling was that whether a breeder loves them, or intensely dislikes them, they need to be correctly identified and categorized. No other registry in the world has correctly registered them as what they are, Charcoals. Many Charcoals are winning at shows around the world. At least one in the U.S. in TICA has attained a Supreme Grand Champion title...but is not recognized as a Charcoal. Until now, Charcoals have been incorrectly registered as their Color...Brown, Silver, Mink, etc.

We also found that due to the large volume of breeders working with the Charcoal, they are

producing Melanistic and Smoke kittens in their litters also. CFA said, "Bring us every Color and Pattern which exists in Bengal litters." And so we did. We felt Melanistic and Smoke should go in the AOV class at this time. Later, if the interest is represented in numbers, they can possibly advance to Miscellaneous, and then move up to Provisional, and one day reach Championship status. But for now, they are in AOV. We also included the colors, Chocolate, Cinnamon, Fawn, and Lilac in the AOV class.

In preparing our Application packet to submit to CFA's Board of Directors last July, we had requirements to meet. We were required to have a minimum of 10 Active Bengal Breeders who had registered their catteries with CFA. We had 35. We were required to submit 50 Bengal cats to be registered. No problem! At first when we told breeders that to "Register By Pedigree" we were required to submit a 5 generation Certified Pedigree from another registry, lots of them were upset because of the cost to obtain the Certified Pedigree. But let's stop and think for a moment...in CFA there have been NO Bengals registered before now. So there is no pedigree data base to build from. As it turns out registries all around the world allow breeders to register by pedigree. Many of us were simply not aware of this before. Recently I obtained a kitten from a Russian breeder who only registers her cats in the WCF. With her 5 generation Certified Pedigree from WCF, she can now be registered in both TICA and CFA. Most registries charge a higher fee to Register By Pedigree than they do for standard registrations. TICA charges \$20, and CFA charges \$40. Yes, a cost of \$90 to register one cat seems high at first, but once we register our breeding cats, their offspring can be litter registered in CFA for the normal Litter Registration fee of just \$12 if we register before the litter is 4 months old. After the age of 4 months, the fee goes up to \$17. And the fee to register a cat, once it has been litter registered, is just \$17.

We had other obstacles in our path to Bengal acceptance. Although the wording in the CFA

Constitution, which had forbidden "wild blood" had been voted on and removed several years before, which paved the way for the Bengal to be accepted, we realized the ONLY way we would ever gain acceptance would be to disallow any cat which has an ALC in its 5 generation Certified Pedigree. And we knew we had to not permit any future breeding to ALCs. We also understood that if we requested outcrossing to ANY other breeds, we would be met with opposition from those breeds' CFA Breed Councils. Several months before our Bengal Presentation at the CFA Board Meeting held on February 6th & 7th, the CFA Breed Councils were all given the opportunity to vote on the Bengal. They were all asked whether they felt the Bengal affected their breed? Every new breed applying to CFA for acceptance must not mimic ANY other breed. We were told to expect that there would be opposition from Ocicat, as well as Egyptian Mau breeders. Because of this it was very important the Bengal could set itself apart from both of these beautiful spotted breeds. It is for this reason our standard states the Rosetted Pattern is preferred to the Spotted.

There were other modifications which had to be made. Our proposed standard most closely resembled the TICA Standard at the beginning of this process. We learned that while no two registries' standards will be identical, they must be somewhat similar...similar enough to be a Standard the judges who are from registries which belong to the World Cat Congress can relate to. We spent months studying the Bengal Standards from all of the other registries throughout the world. Although we had been told by a few well-respected breeders in the U.S. that the Blue was not accepted in any other registry, we found this to be untrue. In our presentation we showed Championship certificates for three Blues from foreign registries. One of them had even been Cat of The Year in an Australian association. There were glitches we would run into along the way.



CFA recognizes many kinds of Bengals, including these by Principessa Bengals. Owner: Karolina Jahn.

For example, our original Standard said the whited tummy is desirable. But our advisors at CFA felt that if we used the word WHITE, the CFA judges would expect the fur to be the color of a piece of white printer paper! Or the color of white on a bi-color Persian. And when no Bengals at a show would have that degree of whiteness, the result would be that NO Bengals would make finals, because the judges would expect them to be that white. If none of them were, then the entire breed would get passed by. So we changed the wording slightly to say

the chest and belly should be considerably lighter.

As the dates of the Board meeting grew closer, Rich worked on his slide show presentation, while I worked with the CFA Breeds & Standards Committee to make our Standard the very best it could be. Rhett Bockman had agreed to present the live Bengals. He is an outstanding judge, handler, and showman, plus he is known to the CFA Board Members, so this was purrrrrfect! Although as an International CFA

judge he had judged many Bengals in foreign countries, he felt it would be best to take some of the Bengals to his house for a month before the presentation so he could get to know them and work with them. Rich, Rhett, and I all reside in Florida. CFA's Central Office is in Alliance, Ohio. We prayed for good weather.

Our big day finally arrived. We were told our time slot for the presentation was to be toward the end of the day, at 4:30 on Saturday. We were in a room upstairs setting up the exhibition cages we had ordered, and had shipped to CFA. The cages were already set up for us, and we were hanging drapes to showcase the cats...when three lifelong friends arrived to show their support! They were Evelyn Prather, a retired CFA judge who had been my mentor when I was 21 years old and was a new Persian breeder. Her cats are behind all of the great Persians of today. Gene Darrah, who has bred many very famous Persians, is still judging, and is one of CFA's most popular judges. And Donna Jean Thompson, who is a living legend in CFA. She was a judge for decades, as well as holding other top positions in CFA including chair of the judges association. To see these three CFA greats brought tears to my eyes. Suddenly the room was full of Board Members who couldn't wait until 4:30 to see the Bengals! They wanted to see them two hours early! We told them NO, NO, NO!!! We did begin our presentation a little earlier than planned, and as Rich said, it was as if the stars aligned. We knew, or we thought we knew when it was over, that we had won over the CFA Board. But we wouldn't know for sure until the next morning when the vote was taken. Saturday evening we were invited to attend a fabulous dinner with all of the Board Members at a great restaurant.

Even though I know many of the 20 Board Members, it was still somewhat intimidating. They flew in from all over the world. The Board Room is very impressive, with a massive table which seemed to be 50 feet long. We needed 11 votes in our favor. When the votes were taken we were holding our breath. There were only 4 negative votes, and one abstention. We DID IT!!!!!!! Fortunately we hired a videographer,

so the presentation can be shared with Bengal breeders throughout the world.

The work goes on. Bengals will be eligible to be exhibited at CFA shows as of the weekend of April 30/May 1st. At first they will be exhibited in the Miscellaneous Class. This is the first step. The more Bengals are shown, the faster they can advance to Provisional status, as they make their way to Championship. The first step is to register your cattery name in CFA. The fee is \$75, which secures your name for 5 years. The next step is to register the cats or kittens you want to exhibit. All Bengals must be registered to enter a show hall. We urge everyone to please bring your best cats to CFA shows. This is a learning experience for the judges. They will report back to CFA with feedback as to how they feel the cats measure up to the standard. They will also report about their disposition, so please bring friendly Bengals who enjoy being shown.

In May the Bengal Breed Committee will be formed. In CFA, once the breed reaches championship status it will have a Breed Council. Until that time it will be called a Breed Committee. Dr. Marie Vodicka has been appointed as Breed Committee Chair for the first term. After that the chair will be elected. Everyone who is eligible is urged to join the Breed Committee, where everyone has a vote. This is where any prospective changes to the standard will be discussed and voted upon. Most new Breeds' Standards go through some changes while the cats are progressing from Miscellaneous to Championship. Get involved! Have a voice!

This is such a wonderful opportunity for the Bengal. We are so honored to have been a part of history.

See the Video!

The video of Rich Nolte's presentation to CFA is here: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=x_WNM0CkqPw&autoplay=1



CFA BENGAL POINT SCORE

HEAD (30)

Skull.....	5
Muzzle	6
Profile	4
Ears	6
Eyes	6
Chin	3

BODY (20)

Torso:	
Boning	5
Musculature.....	5
Legs/Feet	5
Tail	5

COAT & COLOR (25)

Texture	10
Coat Color	10
Eye Color	5

PATTERN (25)

Contrast	10
Pattern-Specific Point Allocation.....	15

Rosetted/Spotted Pattern: Two Tone Markings

Marble Pattern: Two Tone Markings

Charcoal Pattern: Mask, Goggles, and Cape

Snow Pattern: Two Tone Markings

GENERAL: The Bengal is a medium to large cat with a sleek, muscular build. Boning is substantial. Hindquarters slightly higher than shoulders. The tail is thick, with rounded tip, and carried lower than the back. The Bengal's head, expressive nocturnal look, and stunning markings give the breed a wild appearance. The coat is like no other: short, soft, silky to the touch, luxurious,

and preferably glittered. Bengals are alert and active, with inquisitive, dependable dispositions. Males are generally larger than females.

HEAD: Broad, modified wedge with rounded contours, longer than wide, with high cheekbones. Slightly small in proportion to body, not to be taken to extreme. Top of skull flows back into the neck, with visible back skull. No flat planes. Allowance for jowls on mature males.

PROFILE: Gently curved forehead to nose bridge. Nose may have a slight concave curve.

NOSE: Large and wide, slightly puffed nose leather. Bridge of nose extends above the eyes.

CHIN: Strong, substantial, aligns with tip of nose in profile.

MUZZLE: Full and broad, with prominent whisker pads.

EARS: Medium to small, with a wide base, rounded tips being desirable. Set far apart, following the contours of the face in frontal view, slight tilt forward in profile view. Light, horizontal furnishings acceptable, tufts are undesirable.

EYES: Shape is round to oval. Large, but not bugged. Set wide apart, with a slight bias toward the base of ear, when oval in shape. Eye color independent of coat color, except in the Lynx Points, where Blue is the only acceptable color. Richness and depth of color is always preferred.

NECK: Thick and muscular, long in proportion to the body.

BODY: Long and substantial, muscular, particularly the males. Hindquarters slightly higher than shoulders.

BONE: Substantial, never delicate.

LEGS: Medium long, slightly longer rear legs. Muscular.

PAWS: Large and round, with prominent knuckles.

TAIL: Thick, tapered at the end with rounded tip. Medium in length, in proportion to body.

COAT: With qualities unique to the breed, the Bengal coat is short, close lying, soft, silky, luxurious, and ideally glittered. Allowance for slightly longer coat in kittens.

ALLOWANCES: Smaller size, in balanced proportion, in females. Jowls in mature males. Slightly longer coat in kittens. Slightly larger ears in kittens. Eyes slightly almond shaped. Incorrect paw pad color.

PENALIZE: Rosetted/Spotted Tabby Pattern – Rosettes or spots running together vertically forming a mackerel tabby pattern. Marble Tabby Pattern – Circular bull’s eye pattern. Snow Tabby Pattern – Substantially darker point color as compared to color of body markings.

DISQUALIFY: Rosetted/Spotted Tabby, Marble Tabby, Charcoal Tabby, Snow Tabby Patterns - Belly not patterned. Any distinct locket on neck, chest, abdomen, or anywhere else. Kinked, or otherwise deformed tail. Cow hocking. Crossed eyes.

BENGAL PATTERNS AND COLORS

ROSETTED/SPOTTED TABBY PATTERN: Rosettes and spots shall be random, with a horizontal flow to their alignment, and a pattern like no other breed. Ground color should be clear, and free of ticking. Contrast with ground color must be extreme, showing distinct pattern with sharp edges. Rosettes are two toned, with dark outlines, and a lighter center.

Rosettes can be many different shapes, such as round donut, open donut, pancake, paw print, arrowhead, or clustered, and are preferred to single spotting. Strong, bold chin strap and mascara markings desirable. Backs of ears have a thumbprint. Color on chest and belly should be lighter than ground color. Blotchy horizontal shoulder streaks, spotted legs, and spotted, or rosetted tail are desirable. Belly must be spotted. Allowance for spotted pattern without rosettes. These cats are not required to have two tone markings.

MARBLE TABBY PATTERN: The Marble pattern is full of swirls, with a pattern like no other breed. Ground color should be clear, and free of ticking. Contrast with ground color must be extreme, showing distinct markings with sharp edges. Markings are two toned, having a horizontal or diagonal flow. Side pattern symmetry not required. There should be no resemblance to the Classic Tabby pattern, and a circular pattern or bullseye is undesirable. The more random the pattern, the better. Additional color tones inside the pattern, giving a “stained glass” effect is desirable. Patterned shoulder markings, and multi-toned markings on legs and tail desirable. Rosettes and spots can be present, particularly on the legs. Strong chin strap, mascara markings desirable. Backs of ears have a thumbprint. Color on chest and belly should be lighter than ground color. Belly must be patterned. Allow for maturity for “stained glass” or full coloration to appear.

ROSETTED/SPOTTED TABBY AND MARBLE TABBY COLORS

BROWN (BLACK) TABBY: (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): All variations of brown are allowed as the ground color, ranging from buff, tan, honey gold, to orange. Markings may be various shades of tan, brown, and black. There should be extreme contrast between ground color and markings, with distinct shapes, and well defined edges. Markings should be two

toned. Lighter color spectacles enhance the eyes. A much lighter to white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly, and inner legs, in contrast to the ground color of the flanks and back is desirable. Nose leather: Brick red, outlined in black. Paw pads: From pink, to brick red, with allowances for black or brown. Eye color: Gold to green.

BLACK SILVER TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Ground color ranges from clear silver white to pewter gray. Markings are medium gray to jet black, with good contrast to ground color. Minimal to no warm tones present on face, back, and legs. Tarnish is undesirable. Color on chest and belly will be lighter than ground color. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter than ground color. Skin pigment around eyes, and lips is black. Nose leather: Brick red, or black. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

BLUE TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Ground color is pale blue gray to slate blue gray, with markings being medium blue to darker blue. There should be good contrast between ground color and markings. Warm fawn tones can be present on face, back, and legs. Underside and chest will be lighter in color than ground color found elsewhere. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter than ground color. Pigment around eyes, and lips is dark blue. Nose leather: Rose, outlined in dark blue. Paw pads: Aubergine/purple. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

BLUE SILVER TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Ground color is light blue silver. Markings are blue gray. Underside and chest will be glacial white to bluish silver. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle is silvery white. Pigment around eyes and lips is slate gray. Nose leather: Rose, outlined in slate gray. Paw pads: Blue/gray. Eye color: Gold, green, hazel.

CHARCOAL TABBY PATTERN: There should be definite contrast between ground color and markings, with distinct shapes, and

clearly defined edges. Pattern should have a horizontal flow. Preference will be given to very dark markings, with clear outlines, and well contrasted to the ground color. There must be white, or nearly white spectacles or "goggles" encircling the eyes. A dark mask runs all the way from the nose bridge to the nose, and connects from the mascara lines all the way to the nose bridge. A wide, dark, "cape" running down the length of the back is desirable. Color on chest and belly should be lighter than ground color. Kittens are sometimes rosetted, adults are usually spotted. Charcoals can be Spotted, or Marble Pattern.

CHARCOAL TABBY COLORS

BROWN (BLACK) CHARCOAL TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Same as Brown (Black) Tabby except the Charcoal brown colors are cold browns, with no warm gold, or amber tones and with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

BLACK SILVER CHARCOAL TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Same as Black Silver Tabby with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

BLUE CHARCOAL TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Same as Blue Tabby with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

BLUE SILVER CHARCOAL TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted; Marble): Same as Blue Silver Tabby with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

SNOW TABBY PATTERN: Similar to the snow leopard, the snow Bengal has a lighter, pattern. Rosettes and spots should be random, with a horizontal flow to their alignment. There are three main patterns: Lynx Point, Mink Tabby, and Sepia Tabby, in Seal or Blue, with or without the addition of the silver pattern. The Snows can be Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, or Charcoal. Influence of

the Charcoal Pattern on the Snow Patterns result in ground color that is shades darker than the individual color descriptions of the Snow Patterns with color on chest and belly being lighter than ground color. Markings will show good contrast, with a dark cape running down the back, equal in color to the darkest markings. There must be white, or nearly white "goggles" encircling the eyes. A dark mask runs all the way from the nose bridge to the nose, and connects from the mascara lines, all the way to the nose bridge. A wide, dark, "cape" running down the length of the back is desirable.

SNOW TABBY PATTERN COLORS

SEAL LYNX POINT (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from ivory to cream, with color on chest and belly being lighter. Markings may vary from light tan to dark seal brown, and be clearly visible. Points vary from warm brown to brownish black. Markings are distinct and separated by lighter ground color. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is light. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Tail tip should be dark seal brown. Ears warm brown with lighter thumb print in center. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Blue.

SEAL MINK TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from cream to light tan, with color on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from medium tan, to chocolate, to dark seal brown, and be clearly visible. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark seal brown. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

SEAL SEPIA TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from cream to tan, with color on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from dark seal brown to

rich dark brown, and be clearly visible. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark seal brown. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Green gold.

BLUE LYNX POINT (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from ivory to cream, with color on chest and belly being lighter. Markings may vary from light blue to dark slate blue, and be clearly visible. Points vary from warm blue to slate blue. Markings are distinct and separated by lighter ground color. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is light. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Tail tip should be dark slate blue. Ears blue with lighter thumb print in center. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Slate blue. Eye color: Blue.

BLUE MINK TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from ivory to rich cream, with color on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from medium blue to dark slate blue, and be clearly visible. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark slate blue. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Slate blue. Eye color: Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

BLUE SEPIA TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color can range from medium tan to medium blue, with color on chest and belly lighter. Markings may be various shades of darker blue with warm fawn overtones, and be clearly visible. The point color should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark slate blue. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Slate blue. Eye color: Green gold.

SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color ranges from icy white to pale cream, shading to lighter color on belly and chest. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body markings and point color. Points silvery gray to brownish black barring, distinctly separated by silvery ground color. Seal coloring will be colder than non-silver seal lynx point. Underside of base of tail silver white. Ears silver toned with lighter thumbprint in center. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Dark seal brown. Eye color: Blue.

SEAL SILVER MINK TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Body color ranges from ivory to light tan. Tabby pattern ranging from cold bitter chocolate to brown. Ivory or cream whisker pads and chin desirable. Tail tip dark brownish-black. Underside of the base of the tail silver white. Ears, nose bridge, and extremities grayish brown with lighter thumbprint in center of ear. Nose leather: Brick red. Paw Pads: Dark brown with rosy undertones. Eye color: Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

SEAL SILVER SEPIA TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Body color ranges from ivory to medium tan. Tabby pattern cold brown. Ivory or cream whisker pads and chin desirable. Tail tip dark brownish black. Underside of the base of the tail silver white. Seal coloring will be colder and duller than in the non-silver sepia tabby. Fur on ears can have a silvery gray cast. Ears cold brown with lighter thumbprint in the center. Nose leather: Brick red. Paw pads: Dark brown with rosy undertones. Eye color: Gold to green.

BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color is ivory to light silver gray. Markings may be various shades of blue gray to light caramel. Underside and chest will range in color from silvery white to light cream. Pigment around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is silvery white. Silvery blue-gray hues are most detectable on

face, legs, back of ears and tail. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Blue-gray with rose tones. Eye color: Blue.

BLUE SILVER MINK TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color is cream to silvery blue. Markings may be various shades of blue-gray to caramel. Underside and chest will range in color from white to cream. Pigment around the eyes, temple and muzzle is light cream in color. Blue silver hues are most detectable on face, legs, back of ears and tail. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Blue-gray with rose tones. Eye color: Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

BLUE SILVER SEPIA TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Charcoal): Ground color is cream to light brown, or silvery blue with warm fawn undertones. Markings may be various shades of blue-gray to chocolate, with warm fawn overtones. Undersides and chest will be lighter than background color. Pigment around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is cream to fawn in color. Blue silver hues are most detectable on face, legs, back of ears and tail. Nose leather: Pink to brick red. Paw pads: Blue-gray with rose tones. Eye color: Green or gold.

AOV PATTERNS/COLORS/COAT LENGTH

AOV PATTERNS:

MELANISTIC PATTERN: The term "Melanistic", when describing a hybrid cat, is a Solid, but not in the sense of a Solid in a non-hybrid breed. In the Bengal cat, the Melanistic shows ghost tabby markings. They can be either Rosetted/Spotted, Marble or Snow. The Pattern is more visible in kittens. As adults, most appear more solid.

MELANISTIC PATTERN COLORS

BLACK MELANISTIC: Ground color is jet black, with sound color throughout coat. Underside and chest will be jet black as the ground color.

No warm tones should be present. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is black. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black. Nose leather: Black. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Green, gold, or hazel.

BLUE MELANISTIC: Ground color is an even blue, ranging from blue-gray to deep slate gray. Underside and chest will be uniform to body color. Markings will be faint to ghost-like. Color around eyes, temples, and muzzle is blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is blue to slate gray. Nose leather: Dark blue, or rose. Paw Pads: Dark blue to slate gray, may have rosy undertones. Eye color: Green, gold, or hazel.

SEAL POINT MELANISTIC: Ground color ranges from ivory to creamy beige to tan, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color ranges from warm seal brown to brownish-black. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw pads: Brownish-black with rosy undertones. Eye color: Blue.

SEAL MINK MELANISTIC: Ground color is tan to a warm medium brown, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color ranges from dark chocolate to sable brown. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw pads: Brownish-black with rosy undertones. Eye color: Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

SEAL SEPIA MELANISTIC: Ground color is rich, warm, sable brown, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color will be slightly darker than body color. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw pads: Brownish-black with rosy undertones. Eye color: Green or Gold.

BLUE POINT MELANISTIC: Ground color ranges from ivory to creamy blue to soft blue-gray,

with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color ranges from warm blue to slate blue. Nose leather: Blue. Paw pads: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye color: Blue.

BLUE MINK MELANISTIC: Ground color is blue to a warm medium blue, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color ranges from dark warm blue to dark slate blue. Nose leather: Slate blue. Paw pads: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye color: Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

BLUE SEPIA MELANISTIC: Ground color is rich, warm blue, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground color. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point color will be slightly darker than body color. Nose leather: Blue. Paw pads: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye color: Green or Gold.

SMOKE PATTERN: The smoke Bengal has ghost tabby markings, which have a horizontal flow to their alignment. All colors of Smoke have a whitish undercoat. Smokes can be Rosetted/ Spotted, Marble, or Snow.

SMOKE PATTERN COLORS

BLACK SMOKE: Black with a silvery white undercoat. Chest and belly may appear gray, shading down to silvery white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Color around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is smoky gray. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black. Nose leather: Black. Paw pads: Black. Eye color: Green, gold, or hazel.

BLUE SMOKE: Medium to slate blue with a bluish-white undercoat. Chest and belly lighter blue shading down to bluish-white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is smoky blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dark blue to slate gray. Nose leather: Dark blue, or rose outlined in blue.

Paw pads: Dark blue to slate gray. Eye color: Green, gold, or hazel.

SEAL SMOKE POINT: Ground color is pale fawn to creamy beige, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw pads: Brownish black, with rosy undertones. Eye color: Blue.

SEAL MINK SMOKE: Ground color is grayish light brown, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw pads: Brownish-black, with rosy undertones. Eye Color: Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

SEAL SEPIA SMOKE: Ground color is grayish, smoky, sable brown, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like. Nose leather: Brownish-black. Paw Pad: Brownish-black with rosy undertones. Eye color: Green or gold.

BLUE SMOKE POINT: Ground color is pale cream to creamy blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat,

but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Nose leather: Blue. Paw pads: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye color: Blue.

BLUE MINK SMOKE: Ground color is grayish light blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Nose leather: Blue. Paw pads: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye Color: Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

BLUE SEPIA SMOKE: Ground color is grayish, smoky blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point color. Point color will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like. Nose leather: Blue. Paw Pad: Slate blue with rosy undertones. Eye color: Green or gold.

AOV COLORS

The following colors, come in the Rosetted/ Spotted, and Marble Patterns:

CHOCOLATE TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Ground color is a rich caramel, with underside and chest being a warm nougat color, lighter than ground color. Markings are chocolate to dark chocolate. Color around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground color. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dark chocolate. Nose leather: Burnt rose. Paw pads: Chocolate, warm rose, or salmon pink. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

CINNAMON TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble): Ground color is a warm honey, with underside

and chest being lighter than ground color. Markings are a rich cinnamon brown. Color around eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground color. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is pinkish tan. Nose leather: Pinkish tan. Paw pads: Pinkish tan. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

LILAC TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble):

Ground color is pale, frosty, lavender-pink, with underside and chest being lighter than ground color. Markings are dark lavender. Color around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter and brighter than ground color. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is pinkish tan. Nose leather: Pink. Paw pads: Lavender pink. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

FAWN TABBY (Rosetted/Spotted, Marble):

Ground color is pale ivory, with underside and chest being lighter than ground color. Markings are pinkish beige to taupe. Color around eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground color. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dusty rose. Nose leather: Dusty rose, with no blue or lavender tones. Paw pads: Dusty rose, with no blue or lavender tones. Eye color: Any color other than blue.

AOV COAT LENGTH

LONGHAIR BENGAL (CASHMERE):

The Longhair Bengal can come in any described color/pattern combination. Coat is semi long haired, with a fine texture, and luxurious, not cottony or wooly. The coat should create an all over harmonious impression with the longer parts flowing gently into the shorter ones. Long hair sticking out on any part of the body is undesirable. Coat shall lay close to the body. Silky coat and satin glitter are desirable, but not required. Pattern shall be clearly visible, with a horizontal flow to its alignment. Hair around head and neck may be slightly longer. A slightly fuller coat on the back of neck is accepted, but not required. A corona of hair around the head, extremely thick, full coat on back of neck, or a ruff, is undesirable. Ears shall not be tufted, but slight ear tips are allowed. Strong ear tufts, spoiling the rounded impression of the ear are not desirable. Tail shall be slightly longer haired creating a plumed impression.



These Cheetahsden Kittens are "Sleeping Beauties." Breeder: Kelli Faram.