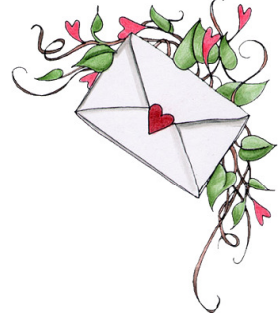




SE Region February 2011 Newsletter



Meet Your Neighbors



Erin Russell
Birmingham, Alabama
Russellers Cattery

<http://www.americanshorthair.net/>

1. What breed do you work with? How long

I have been working the American Shorthair cats for about 7 years now. I fell in love with them long before that, but wanted to wait till my daughter was older before I started showing and breeding. She has Aspergers and needed my full attention. I am just now starting to work with the American Wirehair cats and will be having my first litter in the near future.

2. If you could, what other breed of cat would you like to work with?

I really love the Ocicats and would love to work with them too, but I prefer to keep just a few cats so I don't have room for them.

3. What is your most memorable win?

BW, RW SGC Russeller's Playful Possum, boy would I have picked another name if I'd only known! She was a stunning silver patched tabby and her coat reminded me of a possum's. Possum was my first big winner in TICA and I really enjoyed showing her and my then kitten RW Russellers Winter Day.

4. We always had one cat growing up and as much as I loved my beloved Simon, a beautiful apple head Siamese I envied my friends who had four or five. I loved all the variety and their different personalities so as I got older I would go to the cat shows and from there I eventually got my first show cat and headed out to the shows. Oddly enough, I met my husband at my very first cat show in Kenner, LA.

5. What, if any other hobbies?

I love books and am an avid reader. I like a variety of genres from biographies to science fiction. Lord of the Rings to Outlander to Charlene Harris' Suki Stackhouse novels. Ok, I didn't include anything intellectual in there, but I have read them!! I have to I teach high school and they make me. I'm also into art and photography. I prefer collecting pottery from different artists, but I enjoy going to art shows and galleries, when not at a cat show, and seeing what's out there.

I am in need of some Meet Your Neighbors... I only have one left for next month!!...



Meet The Breed

American Wirehair



General Description

Like its counterpart the American Shorthair, the American Wirehair is one of the most adaptable breeds for any type of household—from being the lap cat curled up with the senior citizen to the energetic cat joining in to play with the children. One of the natural breeds, the American Wirehair is a medium size cat, muscular with a firm, well-balanced body. The wirehair gene originated as a spontaneous coat mutation in upstate New York and changes the hard coat of the American Shorthair to the hard, dense, springy coat of the American Wirehair.

History

The first American Wirehair was found in a litter of 6 kittens born on Council Rock Farm in Verona, New York. The kitten was a red-and-white male with a sparse, wiry coat—every hair, including his whiskers, was crimped and springy. His parents, Bootsie and Fluffy, were normal-coated domestic shorthairs who lived on the farm owned by Nathan Mosher. Local cat breeder Joan O'Shea saw the kitten and, recognizing him as unique, was able to acquire him. She named him Council Rock Farm Adam of Hi-Fi. He was bred to a female belonging to O'Shea's neighbor and produced kittens with a wiry coat. The female had also come from Mosher's farm so could have carried the wirehair gene. A second breeding to an unrelated female also produced wire-haired kittens thereby establishing it as a dominant gene.

O'Shea sent hair samples for analysis to noted British cat geneticists A.G. Searle and Roy Robinson. Robinson replied to her that the samples of Adam's hair showed the coat was unique and not related to the Cornish or Devon Rexes. All three hair types (down, awn and guard) were twisted and the awn hairs were also hooked at the tip. The cat was closest in type to the American Shorthair and this was the breed used to develop the American Wirehair. Today the only difference between the two breeds is the coat.

Personality

American Wirehairs are good-natured, easy-going cats, popular with families, as they are known to be very tolerant of children. They are calm but can also be playful even into old age. Female cats tend to be busier than the males; males are more easygoing. In general they are intelligent cats and quite interested in everything around them. Many American Wirehairs retain their hunting instincts with any insects that should venture into the house. They also like to watch birds and other activity from a windowsill. They enjoy the company of their people but retain their independence. Many are lap cats, while some prefer just to be nearby.

Traits

The American Wirehair is a medium sized cat with no exaggerated features. It is not a large, heavy boned cat as is the British. It is a very balanced medium size, medium boned cat, with a firm muscular feel to the body, well proportioned in all parts. The head is slightly longer than wide and with an open, sweet expression. Eyes are wide-set, medium to large in size proportionate with the size of head, rounded, which means the upper lid is shaped like half an almond and the lower lid is a fully rounded curve. The muzzle is medium-short with a full strong chin giving it a squarish appearance like a matchbox; ears are medium in size and slightly rounded at the tip set twice the distance between eyes. There are a number of different looks found in the Americans that are acceptable by the standard. Females are smaller than males with the balance of the cat being of most importance. Americans do not mature until they are around three or four years old. The features of the breed are then at their best.

The wiry coat like steel wool defines the American Wirehair as distinct from all other cat breeds. It comes in all colors and patterns but the wiriness itself has several degrees varying from spiked to curly with the individual hairs being crimped, hooked or bent. The ideal coat, including the whiskers, is dense, coarse and crimped over the whole body. Some coats are completely wired but very hard and sparse making them break easily. The coat is relatively soft to the touch but springs back into place when stroked.

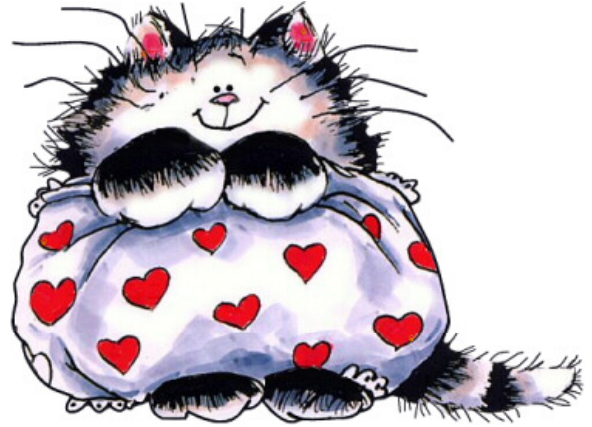
(Taken from the TICA breed pages.) Laurie Patton

Recipe for the Valentine's Day

Valentine Pizza

Ingredients

- 3 cups bread flour
- 1 (.25 ounce) envelope active dry yeast
- 1 1/4 cups warm water
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, divided
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 (14 ounce) can pizza sauce
- 3 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 2 ripe tomatoes, sliced
- 1 zucchini, sliced
- 15 slices pepperoni
- 1 (2.25 ounce) can sliced black olives



Directions

1. Place bread flour, yeast, water, and 2 tablespoons olive oil into the bread machine pan in the order recommended by the manufacturer. Select the Dough setting. Press Start. When the dough is finished, knead rosemary into the dough.
2. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
3. Divide the dough into three portions. Shape each piece into a heart shape about 1/2 inch thick. Brush with remaining olive oil, and spread a thin layer of pizza sauce on each pizza. Sprinkle cheese over pizza sauce, and arrange tomatoes, zucchini, pepperoni, and sliced olives on top.
4. Bake for about 15 to 20 minutes, or until cheese has melted and crust is browned.



Southeast Regional

Rolling Out The Red Carpet The A “cat” emy Awards

July 30 & 31, 2011
Columbia, SC

Ring Sponsors and Judges Dinners Sponsors are available.

Don't miss the “**show premier**” party on Friday Night at the hotel – Including hors d'oeuvres & BYOB.

Parade of Breeds – We will have a special area with as many breeds present as possible for the public to see. Columbia has wonderful cat lovers and they flock to the show. Please contact Judith Johnson - johnsondj@comcast.net

Star Wall of Fame and Remembrance – We will have a wall of stars that will be personalized remembering a friend that is now gone or celebrating a win. Cost is only \$5.00. This is a foil gold star with your personalization..!!.. Get your star today contact Laurie Patton – Pirateslairmc@aol.com

Goodie bags will be available for dinner guests courtesy of Kitt Flicks Productions. You are welcome to bring your gifts announcing your wins for the show year as well.
Get your thinking caps on now!

VIP Treatment Package also available - \$100.00 Gets you premiere benching, lunch and no waiting in line for check in..!!.. Very Limited..!!..

Laurie Patton, Show Manager
PiratesLairMC@aol.com





Rules to exhibit or breed by
Good Sportsmanship, Integrity and fun:



1. Learn and abide by the spirit and words of the rules of the show and the registry.
2. Avoid arguments with clerks, judges, BCS, other breeders and your fellow exhibitors. Cultivate a thick skin, as others may misunderstand you, and may say or do unkind things that will hurt. Be the bigger person, and don't carry grudges, if at all possible.
3. Share in the responsibilities of the show. Many willing hands makes the show less work and more pleasant for everyone.
4. Encourage and support fellow exhibitors. Be sincerely happy for other breeders or exhibitors' successes.
5. Always exhibit fairly, with absolute honesty and integrity in everything you do or say, no matter what others may do or have done "to" you.
6. Follow the directions of the clerk. Respect the Judges and show officials always.
7. Respect and praise the other exhibitors' efforts and cats (there is always something nice to say about another's cat or grooming efforts).
8. Return good for unkindness, cheerfulness in the face of adversity, and act with honesty and integrity in everything you do or say. It will not go unnoticed by the good people, and may turn opinions in your favor over time.
9. End each ring and the show smoothly, and accept the results graciously, especially if it did not go the way you had hoped.
10. Think before you speak (or type). Apologize sincerely if you have acted unkindly to any person, likewise be open to reconsider your opinion of others and forgive their unkindness to you, if they sincerely apologies to you.
11. Be a good ambassador FOR your breed and your registry at all times, take the time and patience to answer questions from visitors and other exhibitors. Remember always that your breed is judged by YOU, their representative at every show or contact you receive, and by YOUR actions, so act as adult and as graciously as you can at all times.

Written by
Jay Lehman

Quote of The Month

“True love stories never have endings.”

Richard Bach





Having fun in the show hall - some Do's and Don'ts:

DO enjoy the beauty of the cats that the breeders and owners have on exhibit.

DON'T knock that persons cat - even if it isn't your taste (let the judges sort it out).

DO enjoy each others company and have a good time.

DON'T spread unkind rumors or mean gossip about each other (or their cats) - even or especially if you don't care for them.

DO give good advice and mentor those who ask for or need your help.

DON'T hold back helpful advice for fear of "losing" to their cat.

DO exhibit your cat in the best possible condition you can.

DON'T be afraid to ask others thoughts to help you do this.

DO cheer for all the cats who make a final.

DON'T jeer the cats that beat yours or their owners.

DO seek out the fun and friendship of each other at the shows.

DON'T let the competition ruin that fun and friendship, EVER.

In the end - remember that next year, most will not remember last year's winners, and those that showed last year aren't even following this year's cats. The friends you make on your wonderful journey with your beloved cat are what truly matters most - not any transitory awards we may or may not get at the end.

Just some food for thought....

Written by
Jay Lehman





Anyone wanting to submit articles, recipes, trivia or anything you think others would like to read can send me the info at PiratesLairMC@aol.com

I am in need of some Meet Your Neighbors... I only have one left for next month..!!...

Thanks to all who contributed this month..!!..
Laurie

Don't forget that the SE Region is on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=300505338191>
Until next month!

