

SE REGION NEWSLETTER

MAY 2013

LAURIE PATTON — SE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

A Note From Your Director

Our new show season is here! Check out the TICA show calendar to decide who, what, when and where to set your plans for filling out your calendar.

And don't forget that all of the Regions are planning their big event -- the Regional banquet. Also, the TICA Annual is fast approaching. So let's see lots of support from our members for the SE shows and all the other shows in TICA. And remember ...



"It's ALL About the Cats"



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

TARI HAGBERG

I have been breeding Ragdolls for 6 years, and only recently starting showing. I am very thankful to Addie of Rags2Dazzle for allowing me to show her boy and being a wonderful mentor! My family is also very excited to go to the shows, and my youngest daughter is also interested in becoming a junior handler for TICA when she is old enough.



There are so many interesting cat breeds out there, but one breed that fascinates me is the Siberian. There was a Siberian kitten at the last show that I wanted to take home with me. I loved watching his silly antics at the show in Georgia, and they are absolutely gorgeous. I also find the Maine Coon to be very beautiful as well. I tended to lean towards the Ragdolls. I would not add another breed to my cattery, but I may decide to get one as a pet and show as an alter sometime in my life.

The most memorable win(s) was when my cat got 2 finals (8th and 9th) Best of All Breed Kittens!! I was so excited I wanted cry and scream, which I think I did let out a quiet scream as to not draw attention to myself.

I have always been a huge animal lover from the time I was a little girl, and I used to go through the Detroit News when I was about 10 years old and circle the ads of the horses, cats and dogs that I was going to buy for my farm when I grew up. Unfortunately, my parents did not allow animals in our household, but I did manage to get stray kittens to "follow me home" all the time, and I would hide them in my closet and take care of them until my parents found them. I was never allowed to keep any of the kittens and I never did get my farm, but I have had cats, dogs, guinea pigs, hamsters, and fish all of my adult life. I met my first Ragdoll from a neighbor and absolutely fell in love. I found this cat breed to be so beautiful, floppy, loving and very friendly, so I started researching the breed and, eventually, I knew that I wanted to breed and show Ragdolls.

I also love to go on short road trips (not too fond of flying), taking the family to the beach, reading, BBQ'ing, listening to music, always on my computer, cooking and baking (although I am not the best, I do try), plant flowers, movies, trying new foods, and I love Margarita's, although I don't get them very often.

BITS AND PIECES -- *Rene Knapp*



HELPING THE SCAREDY CAT

One of the kindest things that you can do for the feline population, is to be willing to go to the local humane society and adopt a scaredy cat. Or take in that very timid cat that

has been hanging around your porch looking for a handout. However, if you expect miracles and do not possess a lot of patience, you will find it hard to accept the disappointments and backwards steps that may occur.

It all depends on the amount of time the kitty has been away from a real home – and in some cases, we are talking about kitties who have never had a real home. Our own scaredy cat, Tank, showed up in our yard one day and it took well over a year before he would even sniff our hand. But when he got the idea that he was safe and loved, he turned into a great big lap cat who loves being petted so much that he drools!

So if you have the personality to take on this challenge, then I encourage you to go for it as it is one of the most emotionally rewarding things that you can do. Most important, when you bring your new scaredy cat home, limit him to a single room; too much space is intimidating and the cat will end up hiding in spaces you won't even think of to look. One room (and not a bathroom please) is a whole world for this cat to discover – a cat bed, scratching posts and cat furniture, regular meals, fresh water and toys are probably all new to him.

Cats that have been abandoned and abused will take longer to come around, but they do respond. It just means that you have to have a little more patience. To start with, go slowly and just initiate contact. Too much too soon will just overwhelm the cat. When you are with the cat just go about your own business so the cat can become comfortable in your presence. And if you have another cat, make sure that your scaredy cat watches the interaction between you and your other friendly feline. He will be more likely

to come around faster if he sees his friend is comfortable with you.

Plan your sessions. Not too long at first because a scared cat is not usually ready to have interaction for long periods of time in the beginning of the relationship. Five minutes should do it. First thing in the morning before you feed is often a good start because a hungry cat is more apt to come around than a full one. Give the cat a safe spot, where it can feel secure and do your bonding time there. A perch on a windowsill, the top of the cat furniture, a cat bed in a hiding spot are all good spots to approach the cat.

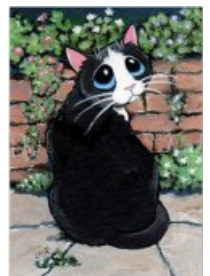
Cats don't understand our words so you will need to demonstrate your affection and communicate by touch. Massage rather than pet, using focused, thoughtful, slow and consistent caresses under the chin, around the cheeks, shoulders and chest. I recommend staying away from the top of the head, the tummy or the cats back end at first. When you find the stroke your scaredy cat enjoys, then repeat it fifteen to twenty times. Kitty will find it soothing.

If you can get your cat to just sit next to you or get in bed with you and you just rest your arm alongside the cat, then your touch will encourage a feeling of security and safety with you. Speak soothing and soft words, call him by name (and pick a strong and brave name), and use repetitive phrases.

It all works and will result in a happy cat. The cat may not be super social with all of your guests, but you will have a special place in his heart. So enjoy soothing your cat – touch slowly, softly and frequently. Brush your cat often, talk in gentle tones. Keep loving your scaredy cat and you will be so fulfilled when that cat becomes your happy and loyal companion.

I would love for people to send me suggestions for [Bits and Pieces](#) on anything that is feline related.

Email: pentaclecats@sbcglobal.net





RECIPES



Potato Bacon Casserole

Ingredients

4 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
8 ounces bacon or turkey bacon, cooked and crumbled
1 cup (4 oz.) shredded cheddar cheese
1 can (12 fl. oz.) evaporated milk
1 large egg, lightly beaten or 1/4 cup egg substitute
1 1/2 teaspoons seasoned salt



Potato Bacon Casserole

Directions

PREHEAT oven to 350° F. Grease 8-inch-square baking dish. LAYER 1/2 potatoes, 1/2 onion, 1/2 bacon and 1/2 cheese in prepared baking dish; repeat layers. Combine evaporated milk, egg and seasoned salt in small bowl. Pour evenly over potato mixture; cover.

BAKE for 55 to 60 minutes. Uncover; bake for an additional 5 minutes. Let stand for 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

Lemon Pie

Ingredients

1 (6 ounce) can frozen lemonade
1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
1 (8 ounce) container Cool Whip or whipped cream
1 graham cracker crust (I buy this all ready made)



<http://www.food.com/recipe/lemonade-pie-no-bake-11913>

Directions

Use mixer and mix all ingredients until fluffy. Pour into ready made crust. Refrigerate until firm. I let it set overnight. This can also be made with limeade too.

Top with whipped cream or Cool Whip and garnish with lemons.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FOR CLUBS

SE Region Webmaster

Please contact me as soon as Laurie approves your show date(s), so I can enter them on the SE Region Show Schedule web page. You should include Laurie's post approving the dates when you contact me. Likewise, if there is a change in show dates, I need to be notified along with Laurie's post approving the change.

The Show Schedule page is only as accurate as the information provided to me. I would ask all show managers to periodically check the online schedule for accuracy and let both Laurie and me know of changes privately. Should you discover an error, as a courtesy, please don't post publicly on the list until you give Laurie and me a chance to resolve the issue(s) privately. There may be a reason the dates are the way they are on the Show Schedule web page – the main one being if you don't tell me, I don't know.

I'm available to help clubs with their online flyers, entry forms, summary sheets, and raffles. Just e-mail me at delynne@mindspring.com and provide me with the following:

1. Hard copy of your flyer - preferably as a MS Word document saved with the .doc extension (for MS Word 2007 or earlier). I can also work from a PDF file, but Word is preferable.
2. Any graphics you wish me to use. Although I can "print screen" and crop graphics in a document, they work better if sent separately as either a jpg or gif file.
3. Hard copy of your summary sheet - preferably as a MS Word document saved with the .doc extension (for MS Word 2007 or earlier). I can also work from a PDF file, but Word is preferable.
4. Hard copy of your raffle sheet - preferably as a MS Word document saved with the .doc extension (for MS Word 2007 or earlier). I can also work from a PDF file, but Word is preferable.
5. Name and e-mail address of who will proof the online info before it is announced to the lists.

If you haven't finalized all your info, I can design a preliminary flyer for you. Just e-mail me what you have. Then keep me updated as things progress.

Please note that when I design online flyers and forms, I use a forms processing service to handle the forms. I create the forms in HTML code, but the service processes them. I pay for that service personally; the Region does not reimburse me for that.

Do understand, my work (online flyers, entry forms, summary sheets, and raffle pages) are copyrighted. Please do not copy my work for any personal or club web pages. The appropriate avenue would be to provide a link (the URL) from your personal or club page to the online flyer and forms.

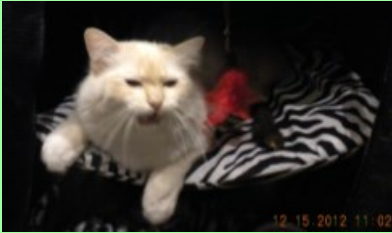
DeLynne

**LIGHTS ...
CAMERA ...**





ODDS AND ENDS



Hey! HEY! Did you forget me?

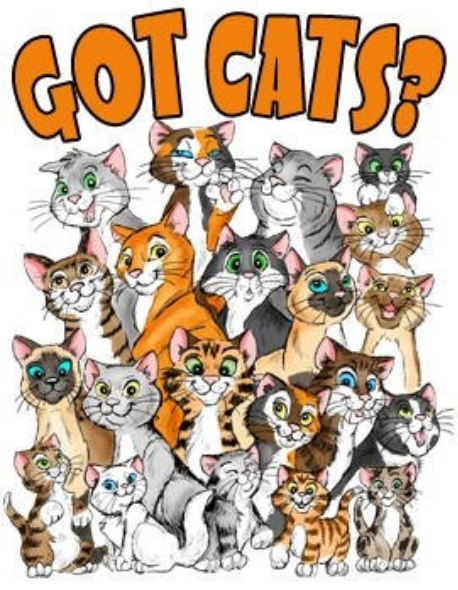


Higher! Higher! Or the bird will get away.

Cat lovers version of a pussy willow tree



You might want to try this in your spare time



You have to BUY the BINGO sheets to win at BINGO!



The SE Newsletter is posted monthly. Anyone wanting to submit articles, recipes, trivia, or anything you think others would enjoy, please send the information to:

shutterbug1948@gmail.com
Judith Milling

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