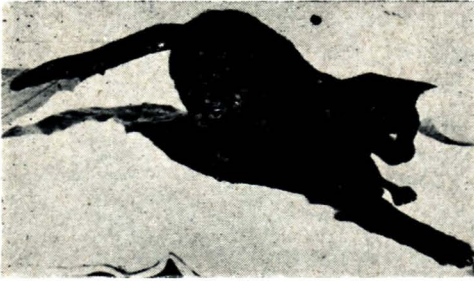


The former is owned by Mrs. J. Peters and the latter by Mrs. E. Quinn. Additional imports were Revel Chestnut Vision Queuevana—owner Mrs. L. Chastain, Revel Dream owner Mrs. J. O'Shea and Roofspringer Pengo imported by Mrs. C. Streetman.



R M Dbl. Gr. Ch. & Quad. Ch.  
Roofspringer Mahogany of Quinn

ship classes at the Siamese Society show in 1959.

The current standard retains the original name Havana but specifies "not Siamese type."

To attain these specifications inbreeding was required. Many fanciers have the idea that inbreeding is simply the mating together of closely related cats. Inbreeding is a system and must be followed on scientific lines, the cardinal principle is selection. Inbreeding, systematically carried out, produces cats, uniform in character and free from inherent defects.



Norwood's Brown Beau,  
owned by Mrs. Peters

The closer the inbreeding the more rigorous the selection. The result of constant and careful selection of individuals is to concentrate and stamp upon the breed those qualities most highly appreciated by exhibitors and judges. This the Havana breeders have accomplished, making the Havana Brown the American cousin of the Chestnut Brown.

A written description cannot convey the correct picture but the cat in the flesh is another thing entirely. On first sight you are immediately held by the pixie look imparted by the "stop" (muzzle) at the eyes. Another outstanding characteristic is the coat which is a rich warm brown and the entire coat is the same shade. It is satin smooth and has highlights. Havanas are truly fabulous with the gracefulness, suppleness and unexpectedness by which the most exacting fancy can be satisfied.

I am indebted to my colleagues past and present for their contributions.—DES.

<sup>1</sup>Cattery names.

<sup>2</sup>"Fur and Feather" August 1957.

<sup>3</sup>Chestnut Brown Annual Report 1961.

<sup>4</sup>The Observer's Book of Cats by Grace Pond.

# The Havana Browns

by Dallas Sidlo



Mrs. Dallas Sidlo

The first Havana Brown was exhibited by Mrs. Munro-Smith at a Herts and Middlesex show at Acton, England.

It has not been possible to ascertain with any accuracy the exact origin of the breed prior to the scientific breeding program of Miss Von Ullman (Roofspringer); Mrs. Munro-Smith (Elmtower)<sup>1</sup> and Mrs. Haigraves (Laurentide).<sup>1</sup> However, in an article by Miss Beckett<sup>2</sup> reference is made to "prewar Self Browns and in 1939 Mrs. Cox-lfe wrote "In the early days of the breed many chocolate colour Siamese appeared on the show bench. These cats were

selfs--that is the same color all over, but they have entirely disappeared."

Miss Von Ullman, founder of the Chestnut Brown Breed<sup>3</sup> in correspondence with Mrs. C. Streetman explained the original name Havana was selected because of the color. These cats were registered Class 26, which is any other variety according to the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

In 1958, the Governing Council granted recognition and varietal status as Chestnut Brown, Foreign, Class 29. "Foreign does not mean that the breed is an imported one but refers solely to type."<sup>4</sup>



Muriella, owned by Mrs. Sidlo



R M Tr. Ch. Roofspringer Pengo  
of Chi-Sai (Imp.)

In the March 1950 Annual Report of the Chestnut Brown Group, the diversity of opinion of the judges is accredited to personal interpretation of the standard. "The same and is very near to the standard for Siamese; general interpretation therefore is "self chocolate Siamese."

It is obvious that a general confusion resulted from the change of class numbers and change of name.

The first cats to be imported were Chestnut Brown, Foreign, Class 29. These cats were Laurentide Brown Pilgrim and Roofspringer Mahogany.