

FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Sadly Sup Ch (UK Ch) Merindol Roysterer Snowemperor (Imp) DM RQ (Snowy) passed away on 23rd May 2008 losing his battle with kidney failure. In his 12½ years in South Africa he did a tremendous amount for the Siamese in this country, particularly for Lilacpoints. He is very sorely missed in my household. In South Africa he gained his Champion and Grand Champion titles easily. After a break and changing homes to live with me, he was put back on the show bench and made it to Supreme Champion. He was the Siamese Breeders' Group of S A Male of the Year in 1996 and Western Cape Province Male of the Year in 2000. He was also the Siamese Breeders' Group of S A Stud of the Year in 1997, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2006, no mean feat.

When he passed away I was overwhelmed with messages of condolences from all over the country with many wonderful comments such as;

"All his progeny will carry his name proudly"

"Snowy was a legend in South African Siamese circles and the world will be worse off without him"

"He will forever be remembered as the Siamese that introduced pale coats, lovely type and superb temperament to his many progeny. We have all benefited from having him in our pedigrees. What a LEGEND"

There were many, many more emails and text's, which have all gone into his scrapbook. I really feel honoured to have owned such a wonderful boy. To his breeder Dawn Williams; you can be very proud.

I first made contact with Dawn in 2002 when I was in the UK visiting my son, to update her on how Snowy was doing. In December 2005 I was ready to consider taking on another stud boy in order to carry on my Lilacpoint breeding program. Dawn and I spoke and it was just a matter of waiting for the right boy to come along. Finally in the middle of last year Dawn let me know she had bred a boy but wanted to champion him first. UK Ch Roysterer Snow Fun (Jasper) arrived in South Africa on the 7th October 2008. I was beside myself with excitement the morning I went to collect him from the airport. It was love at first sight. He handled the flight very well and before long was chatting away to me. Jasper settled down very well into his new home and has a companion named Tasi who spends her time with him. He is a very friendly, easygoing and loving boy. He loves sunning himself and watching all the birds and tortoises in the garden. He has mated his first queen, a Snowy daughter, Puds Pie, who is due on the 6th March 2009. Jasper will be attending his first show on the 14th March. Thank you Dawn for entrusting me with this gorgeous boy and I am sure he will carry on in Snowy's footsteps. Below is a brief history of the Siamese Breeders' Group of S A, which was started in 1983. The Siamese mentioned in the article below are only the ones imported by the group, many more have been imported privately over the years like for example Snowemperor and Snowfun.

Marlene van Dyk (South Africa)

THE SIAMESE BREEDERS' GROUP OF SOUTH AFRICA

OUR GROUP IS 21 YEARS OLD!! (Printed from the SBG Newsletter December 2004)

Although I have been able to trace formal minutes back only as far as December 1984, the Group was in fact started in September 1983 as the **Siamese Breeders' Group**, when a few keen Siamese breeders got together. Members still remaining from those early days are Lynel du Toit, Johan Lamprecht, Ian Moore and Liz Rohland.

Below are listed some highlights and achievements from down the years:

- 1) March 1985 –our first newsletter is issued with Rosemary Harte, later to be known as "O'Ed", as our editor.
- 2) May 1985 – our name is changed to Siamese Breeders' Group **of South Africa** with the Governing Council's approval. Two clubs were not in favour as they felt that our new name would inhibit the formation of similar groups in other centres.
- 3) September 1985 – our constitution is finalised.
- 4) December 1985 – Trophy Stakes awards are made for the first time and then only for best Stud and Best Broodqueen, won respectively by Ch Amadeus Accent von Lolo (Imp) owned by Gretchen de Kock and Hu-Tsi Paquita owned by Lynel du Toit.
- 5) 1985 – Edith Sealy is elected as our President and membership at the end of the year stands at 40.
- 6) August 1987 – the Group's first imported stud, Pi-Den Ninja, a Sealpoint, arrives from the UK.
- 7) May 1988 – we hold our first Non-Championship Specialist show for Siamese, Orientals and Domestic only. Considering this is not a championship show we have great support from the Cape Town cat fancy with an entry of 103. This is followed in March 1989 by our first Championship show.
- 8) Beginning of 1989 – the Group's 2nd imported stud arrives, a Lilacpoint called Marholm Lilac Fingerbob. Unfortunately he dies that July at only 10 months of age and before siring any kittens.

- 9) Late that year a replacement for him, a Bluepoint, Marholm Blue Magicspell, arrives from the UK.
- 10) March 1990 – the Group brings out Grace Denny to judge at our 2nd Championship Show. She feels our Siamese have shown a great improvement since her last visit to SA in 1980.
- 11) June 1990 – 2 Chocolatepoint littermates bred by Di Clarke, Applejack Arnie Becker and Applejack Dizzywig arrive as our next imports.
- 12) 1992 the Feline Research Fund Trust, at the request of the SBG, funds an investigation by Dr Maureen Baker into Cranial (Anterior) Thoracic Lordosis in Siamese kittens.
- 13) 1992 – Elizabeth van Renen takes over as our trophy Stakes officer/scorer and 12 years on continues to do a marvellous job.
- 14) April 1993 – we are again able to bring Grace Denny out to judge at our 5th Championship show. Grace comes out on holiday in February 1994 and kindly agrees to judge at our show held at the end of that month.
- 15) July 1993 – Roysterer Superscamp, a Sealpoint male, arrives to stay with Susan Starke and is our 6th Group import. We also give advice and support to upcountry members Barbara Schambacher and Jenny Self with their imports, Seagarden Excalibar and Roysterer Lysander, later that year.
- 16) 1994 – Siamese Rescue starts under the umbrella of the Group.
- 17) 1995 – the Group, after much research by Susan Starke, Elizabeth van Renen and Johan Lamprecht, submits a proposal to Governing Council that Pointed Bi-colours, Smokes and Silvers be registered as pointed Orientals and not Siamese. This is passed.
- 18) July 1996 – we are saddened by the loss of one of the chief movers in starting the Group and also our first Chairman and Editor, Rosemary Harte. Sadly within the same week we also lost Pi-Den Ninja, the Group's first import, as well as Pi-Den Hanson van Lolo, a Sealpoint stud that also did a lot to improve the breed and which had been imported by Gretchen de Kock in 1984.
- 19) April 1998 – the Group invites Steph Bruin from Holland to judge at our 10th Championship show.
- 20) December 199 – a Bluepoint stud, Roysterer Rhythm'n Blues, our next Group import arrives. Unfortunately he is not quite what was hoped for. He is rather reluctantly used and as he is just too sappy to be caged as a stud, he is neutered after a year and is rehomed.
- 21) April 2001 – together with the Rand Cat Club we invite Lesley Morgan-Blythe from Australia to judge at our 13th Championship show.
- 22) Over the years we have had a number of Vets to talk at meetings on a variety of cat related subjects. A number of Siamese Exhibitions and workshops have also been held. From time to time kittens have been brought to meetings to be assessed by the judges in the Group.

Lets all work together to keep the Group going strong for another 21 years at least with many more achievements and highlights

IAN MOORE (TEMP'ED)