

Russian Cat Interest Group of SA

BLUE. BLACK. WHITE. BLUE SPOTTED TABBY.

February 2016

ISSUE 8

RCIG NEWS

Dear RCIG Members,

Hope you are all well and that you have settled into 2016. A month ago we were celebrating the New Year and like a magic wand we find ourselves in February 2016!

We have quite a bit to talk about in this edition of our RCIG Newsletter, some of our news is happy, some is sad and then there are also quite a lot of interesting topics that we will be covering.

A number of people have received their very first Russian kittens between December 2015 and February 2016, and from experience I know that one Russian, leads to more Russians. Russians are that addictive!!! Please send your RCIG Membership Forms to me ASAP.

We also have a few adult Russians that need their forever homes. Most of them are ex brood queens, and once spayed, the entire queens start to dominate them. So if you do have a Russian and would like to add an adult cat to your home, please get in touch with us? These adults would love to find a loving spot away from the politics of a breed home.

Regards
Solveig

Farewell to Carol – Silversheen Russians

In our last edition we spoke about some of our breed homes and talked about Leanne and Carol who took over from Stephanie in 2006. At that stage both Leanne and Carol had been breeding the Russians for two years already.

12 year on and after a great breeding career including some wonderful accolades, Carol Wood from Silversheen Russians has decided to retire from breeding the Russians and breeding in general.

Carol, THANK YOU for your contribution to the Russian Breed in South Africa.

Not only does Carol have a great sense of humour, but did you know that although Carol bred the Russian Blue and loved the breed very much, her favourite Russian is actually the Russian White? I bet not many people knew that about Carol.

Enjoy your retirement Carol, you have much to be proud of, and we wish you only good and beautiful things going forward.

We will hold you dear.

With love from all SA Russian Cat Owners and the RCIG!

Russians Rule!

2016 Cas Show Season

COTY or Cat of the Year will be held on the 8th August 2016 in Durban by invitation

Gauteng

5th March - TCS show

12th March - BRS show

9th April - CFC show

21st May - RCC show

11th June - TCS show

25th June - RCC show

15th, 16th, & 17th July is WODAC

Gauteng Invitational ?????? (TBA)

Cape Town

19th March - SAASA show

2nd April - TBCC show

23rd April - ABCC show

28th May - WPCC show in Edgemoor

25th June - ABCC show

9th July - TBCC show

27th August - WPCC show in Edgemoor

10th September - ABCC show

Cape Top Cat - 24th September (tentative)

Eastern Cape

12th March - ECCC show

18th June - ECCC show

ECCC Top Cat - 10th September

KwaZulu Natal

23rd April - PCS show

18th & 19th June - PCS show

KZN Top Cat ????? (TBA)

Northern Cape

4th June - NCFSCC show

Venues will be given to you once we have the official entry forms per show.

Please show show show your Russians.....

Retired Russian

As most of you know, there comes a time when our Breeders retire their ex Brood Queens and ex Studs. Occasionally a stud or ex brood queen leaves with a new kitten to their new forever home, or sometimes an adult Russian goes to a home as an only cat but sometimes a retired Russian ends up in a home where his retired Queen Mother lives. Our darling Tr Sp CH Azreal Sergei Starlin R.Q. N.Q. has been retired and lives with Laurelle Abnett (Lolly) who is one of our RCIG Committee Members. Lolly also adopted Sky the mother of Sergei when she retired almost 6 years ago.

Adult Russians that are retired into pet homes are a luxury like almost no other. They are well behaved, are gentle and calming souls, who are willing to devote themselves to their guardian and be a quiet and constant presence in the new guardians life.

Thank you Sergei, you stepped into your mother Sky's shoes and continued her line. Your offspring have HUGE shoes to fill.

Go well Sergei boy, we know Lolly is going to spoil you rotten.



Sergei with mom Sky, yes this is his birth mother she is 12 years old and Serg is 6 years old ☺

Russian Blue - Russian Black - Russian White

Russian Blue Spotted Tabby

Adult Russians Available for Rehoming

We have a number of Adult Russians, ex Brood Queens that are in need of forever pet homes.

One of them is a little Russian Black female.

She is 6 years old, and her name is Pippi, she was bred by Leanne Hewitt of Azreal Russians, she just happens to be my BiDi's identical twin sister. Pippi resides in Pretoria at Esky Russians but she can be flown to anywhere in SA if need be. Email me at Solveig.rcig@gmail.com if you are interested in giving the most incredibly beautiful Russian Black girl a forever home.



Azreal Western Wind aka. Pippi

Other Russians for Rehoming

Carol Wood from Silversheen Russians who stopped breeding just recently also has Russians available that need forever homes. Please contact Carol for more information on silversheenc@gmail.com should you wish to give a Russian Cat a home.

RIP Russians

When I am informed about the death of a Russian, it knocks the wind out of me. It devastates me to the core and I cry many many tears for the loss of our cats the Russian Breed. We had 4 losses between October 2015 and January 2016.



Tr Sp Pr Azreal Leningrad R.Q. aka Blue – 10/08/2008 to 05/10/2015



Sp Pr Azreal Xantanah R.Q. aka. Navi – 09/11/2009 to 29/01/2016

Craig and Giles also lost one of their Russian boy cats in October 2015.

Then a baby Russian Black passed away in November 2015 due to CP complications. We had great hopes for him but it was not to be.

Fly free my little ones, we will NEVER forget you!

All Russian's are Neutered/Spayed, Vaccinated and Micro-chipped before they go to their new Pet Home.....

"The Russian Cat" one of the oldest Natural Cat Breeds

"Little is known about the origin of the Russian Cat, however, stories and legends abound. Many believe the Russian Cat is a natural breed originating from the Archangel Isles in Northern Russia. It is also believed that they were brought by sailors from the Archangel Isles to England and Northern Europe in the 1860s.

The Tartars ruled southern Russia as part of a vast empire, known as the Golden Horde for more than two centuries. Thus began an era of Russian isolation from the West. At the same time however, trade routes with the Middle East and China were established. Smaller boned, shorthaired cats of southern climates were able to follow the trade routes and intermingle with the wild cats of Russia. Over centuries, these cats adapted to their frigid environment; the result was the origin of their short, thick coat that carried a mutation of wild grey, reminiscent of the ticking of a wild grey rabbit or the Russian silver fox.

The history of the Russian Cat will most likely continue to elicit the imaginations of its admirers however it is likely that the first blue, or dilute, mutation did indeed occur in Russia. That this colour would define the breed is an oversight due its early discovery. The natural breed would undeniably have included black and tabby, two genetic variables necessary in the development of the Russian Blue we see today. The Russian of generations past must also include a white variety, as white Russians were common to many and rumoured to dwell amongst seemingly barren snowfields.

First shown in 1875 at Crystal Palace in England as the Archangel cat, the original Russian Cats competed in a class for all short-haired cats. It was not until 1912 that the Russian Cat was given a class of its own as the Russian Blue.

In those days only the Russian Blue was shown and not the other colours.

Russian Cat Interest Group Membership Fee

Our annual membership fee has to be paid in January of each year.

The fee is R40.00 per annum or R400.00 for a 10 Year /Life Membership. Whether you have 1 or 10 Russians the membership fee is R40.00 per annum.

Please apply for your RCIG Membership if you have not done so yet, it is important if you want to be part of the Russian Cat Interest Group.

If you don't have a membership number from the RCIG including a membership certificate which includes all your and all your Russians details, you are not a RCIG Member.

If you added a Russian to your family, please send through the details in order for me to capture the details and send you an updated Ownership Certificate, if you have moved or changed your contact details, and e-mail address, inform me, so I can update those details on my side and e-mail you an updated Membership Certificate.

Our membership application will be attached to the same e-mail in which the newsletter will be sent out.

Please, please complete the application and e-mail it back to me with proof of payment.

We cannot accept members without payment to our Facebook Group any longer. We have many kitten/cat owners on our RCIG Facebook Group who have never applied for membership or paid their annual fee, or just paid their fee once and then never again, unfortunately those members have to be removed at the end of February 2016.

If you have any queries in regards to the above, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at Solveig.rcig@gmail.com

RCIG Website

We do regular updates on our website please feel free to visit from time to time.

<http://rcig.weebly.com/>

Russians make good babysitters.....

Cat Humour

RCIG Committee Members



Russian Cat Interest Group of South Africa

Our committee members & breeders are as follows:-

Alma Pretorius (Esky Russians)
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Should you wish to contact us, please do not hesitate.

Also if we can do things better, your suggestions are so welcome.

Regards your RCIG Team



Picture watermarks

NB. I would like to make each of you aware that I have decided to put a RCIG Logo watermark onto all pictures that we use in our Newsletters going forward. The watermarks don't suggest that the images were photographed by me, but rather by the RCIG members and breeders. We need to protect the images of your Russians or other kitties, from scammers using them as their own.

Please feel free to add your own watermarks to your images in future.....<https://www.watermark.ws/>

Our Newsletter is made available every February, June and October, by e-mail, Facebook and Issuu.com

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Russians own you – You are their slave.....

Before you purchase a pedigree kitten/cat, please spend time researching the breed and make sure that you approach an Ethical, Reputable & Responsible Breeder. Purchase cat magazines, visit the website <http://www.kittensandcats.co.za/> and see who the registered breeders are or call the SACC Registrar Johan van Rooyen to find out who the Ethical breeders are. 011 616 7017- <http://www.tsacc.org.za/> Please ask as many questions as you can possibly think of when dealing with the breeder of your chosen breed. We want to stand together against BYB as they breed "fruit salad" cats, harm their breeding cats, and simply don't care about anything as long as they make money of often sick, unaltered and underage kittens. Share this info with your family and friends.



For Russian Cat Interest Group Members, follow us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RCIGroup/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1081566978543848/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/russiansrule/>

Or on the Web

<http://rcig.weebly.com>



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