

PAWS FOR EFFECT



*The PolyTrak  
Newsletter  
April 2009*

**Volume 3 - Number 3**  
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# Paws for Effect - The PolyTrak Newsletter

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## WELCOME!

**G**reetings to each and everyone one of you. Welcome to this month's issue of "*Paws for Effect*". Also a welcome to this month's new subscribers. You can add, remove or send us your comments or story ideas at any time by just emailing [ptnewsleter@polytrak.net](mailto:ptnewsleter@polytrak.net).

"*Paws for Effect*" is a Newsletter from PolyTrak, a worldwide data base service that tracks information on the Maine Coon polydactyl. Each month we try to feature articles of interest, not only to the better understanding of the Maine Coon polydactyl, article that may be on interest the Maine Coon Breeder and Fancier, as well as the General Public. As always, we always look forward to your ideas, suggestions and particularly your information and stories.

This month's issue of "*Paws for Effect*" we will be looking at a show past and coming up in The Netherlands. Also, PolyTrak is happy to announce a new edition to our Staff. This will aid us greatly in our goal to better serve the visitors to PolyTrak website by providing a multi-lingual feature of the website. Also we will dive into a few statistics for the Website as well as some more analysis of poly figures as we reached a rather significant milestone this month.

So as winter lessens its grip on those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, and the days of more sunshine and Spring takes hold, spend a few minutes reading this Issue of "*Paws for Effect*".

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*"One must love a cat on its own terms."*

- Paul Gray -

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Wackymoon Coon Moon Clown P

## POLYTRAK WELCOMES A NEW STAFF MEMBER

**P**olytrak is eager to announce a new member to our staff. We say a big welcome aboard to Elisabeth Morcel as our Language Coordinator and French Consultant.

As the daily traffic grows with increasing visits to our website, so has the need for multi-lingual support. Interest in the polydactyl Maine Coon is indeed Worldwide and rapidly growing. Elisabeth has joined our Staff to help us work with support for our many visitors to the PolyTrak website by providing information in the native tongue of many of these visitors. She brings with her valued experience with translations for PawPeds and several French cat outlets and also knowledge in several languages. In the weeks to come you will begin to see support in various languages on our website. So welcome aboard Elisabeth, we are delighted to have you working with us. Elisabeth has furnished us with a little background on herself and her Maine Coons. That story is also included in this Issue of "*Paws for Effect*".

A list of Countries that have visited PolyTrak in the past 30 days is shown below:



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Countries			
	Countries	Pages	Hits
	Canada	ca	4805 10516
	United States	us	1207 2648
	Germany	de	1084 4902
	Netherlands	nl	1054 4651
	France	fr	490 2685
	Denmark	dk	246 1509
	China	cn	211 211
	Russian Federation	ru	191 995
	Great Britain	gb	157 693
	Belgium	be	71 317
	Austria	at	69 300
	Sweden	se	47 68
	Brazil	br	36 110
	Japan	jp	36 36
	Poland	pl	29 91
	Czech Republic	cz	26 171
	Australia	au	18 70
	Greece	gr	13 66
	Spain	es	10 70
	Croatia	hr	10 51
	India	in	9 11
	European country	eu	8 38
	Portugal	pt	6 21
	Mexico	mx	6 58
	South Korea	kr	5 5
	Latvia	lv	5 24
	Hong Kong	hk	5 24
	Slovak Republic	sk	5 30
	Norway	no	4 26
	Luxembourg	lu	4 4
	Finland	fi	3 22
	Switzerland	ch	3 23
	Egypt	eg	2 2
	Columbia	co	2 2
	Chile	cl	2 2
	Italy	it	2 2
	Israel	il	1 5
	Ukraine	ua	1 1
	Turkey	tr	1 1
	Saudi Arabia	sa	1 1
	Lithuania	lt	1 1
	Taiwan	tw	1 1
	Malta	mt	1 5
	Hungary	hu	1 5
	New Zealand	nz	1 8

As you can see, and we have noted, visitation by non-English speaking Countries is

quite high and we at PolyTrak are aware of the need to serve all of our visitors. In the future, you will see a gradual addition of multi-lingual support to our Website. Under the guidance of our new Language Coordinator we hope to better serve our audience. Thank you for your contributions and expertise, Elisabeth, and welcome aboard!



CameronCoons Dumbledore P

## ELISABETH



I am a Maine Coon Breeder "by accident" since January 1995, but at first I was like many, a cat lover without any knowledge about breeding and pedigreed cats, and I considered neutering

or spaying a cat was against nature, and that it should not be done. I could not understand as



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well that an animal like a cat or a dog could be sold.

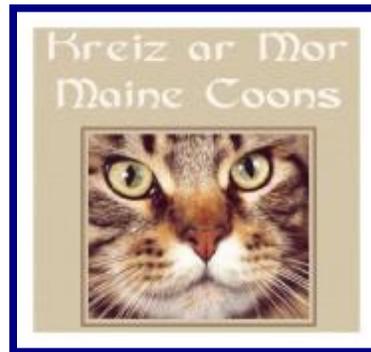
In the 90's, after many years without a cat, I took a black and white house neutered boy from a shelter. He brought me back the desire for kittens. I then decided that if I did not want my babies to be thrown in the ditches when people left for holidays, I had to have a pedigreed dam, for people who would have paid for a baby would be really desire her or him, and would take care of the kitten.

I joined a cat club, and began the quest for my breed. It was rather quickly decided that I would have a Maine Coon. For the club, I translated breed standards from English into French and it helped me a lot. The club president was a very good SLH judge, who advised me about the types. After 2 years visiting shows, I had found the breeder of my future girl. She was born in November 1994 in Switzerland. I just loved her, and I still miss her. She crossed the rainbow bridge 1 1/2 years ago at the age of 13, because of a cancer. She never gave me a baby but she inoculated me with the "Coons virus". I involved myself in the club life, taking part to the shows organisation, and attending shows myself, most of the time helping as a clerk. Thanks to clerking, I learned a lot about the other breeds too.



In 1996 was born my first boy, my old pal, a brown classic tabby teddy bear who unfortunately was sick when travelling which caused a lot of trouble when I arrived at shows, having first to groom him again very quickly in the toilets. He is heterozygous to the MYBPC3 mutation and is now neutered. He is happily spending his time between my bed and the garden, with the other members of the crew, oldies and breeding cats.

I first heard of poly coons by reading the article written by Janet Marr in Maine Coon International, in 1995 and I then decided I would have one when I would be able to. After a disastrous try in 2004 with a dishonest breeder, my first poly girl, DK\*Mystery Coons Yuna Madalen P arrived in 2005. NZ\*MainlyMagic Anwen P arrived in March 2007 after a long trip from New-Zealand, partly with her brother, a non poly boy who is now living in continental France at a friend of mines, partly with me since I fetched her in Paris. Besides being a poly, she is my first outcross Coon.



I suppose I also have to say I am a member of the team of translators for Pawpeds. Of course I am myself looking all the time for any information I can find about the Coons, to help me in my breeding program, since I now am a passionate breeder and not only a cat fancier. It is a bit difficult to do what I consider a good work, because I don't rehome my oldies, but anyway I progress, also thanks to my companion, a Maine Coon breeder with cattery name "Seizh Avel". We met thanks to Coons and now are working together, sharing "resources", but each of us has his definite views of the type and kind of Coons he wants to breed. For example, he is a fanatic of brown tabbies blotched with the wild look, and I like nearly all the colours, especially silvers. By the way, my two last cats will arrive in 2009 and both will be silver: a blue silver mackerel boy from traditional lines and a polydactyl silver mackerel torbie girl, Nova's Place Kazandra PP. Then, I consider I shall have enough cats and lines to prepare my own witch's brew. But... I nevertheless keep on my mind my old dream of a "native" American poly girl. If the breeder I think of is willing to entrust me a



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cat, may be the "last of last" will arrive within 2 years, thanks to my sister in law, who is living in Canada and who would bring me the baby. She offered me to do it during her last stay, in March, and it is a wonderful present.

I was born in Brittany, in continental France, and all the names of my cats are Breton or Celtic, as a link to my country and my culture. I have been living for 5 years in Reunion Island, a small French overseas department (650 000 inhabitants) in the



Southern Hemisphere, where I brought all my older cats with me when I moved. By the way, by a strange wave of the destiny, my

cattery name means "The middle of the sea" This name clearly suits to the island I am living on, a tiny volcanic rock lost in the Indian Ocean, but I chose it many years ago, when I would have laughed at anybody who would have told me I would one day be living here. Most of my babies join their new families in Europe, by plane, (one is in South Africa, some of them are in continental France and in other European Countries), one of them F\*Kreiz ar Mor Calinka P happens to be the first polydactyl Coon in Russia.

At last, I am a member of the Board, and now Vice-President of one of the 2 very small French Maine Coon Fanciers clubs (about 40 members each... compared with more than 360 breeders or so called breeders). Professionally, I am working as a manager secretary in the local branch of a multinational company which produces and sells cement, aggregates etc.

*"Dogs come when they're called; cats take a message and get back to you later."*

*- Mary Bly -*

PolyTrak

1008 cats listed.  
Is yours?

## CORRECTION:

*In our last issue of "Paws for Effect" we featured a story from the BabySalon Cat Show in 2008 from Moscow, Russian Federation. The story featured the first poly Maine Coon shown in New Traits in Russia. We neglected the prefix to the Mamba who was shown at the event. The correct name is Peppermountz Mamba from OldyGoody Cattery. We apologize for the oversight.*



Lykken Power Girl PP of Fishing Tigers

**A MAIN COON POLYDACTYL  
IS A  
PEDIGREED MAINE COON!!!**



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## POLYTRAK FACT

Near the end of March there are 724 kittens listed in PolyTrak born as part of a polydactyl litter. 382 of these kittens listed are polydactyl.

- 4 Kittens (1%) are 1WD
- 151 Kittens (39.6%) are 2FWD
- 7 Kittens (1.8%) are 2RWD
- 25 Kittens (6.6%) are 3WD
- 194 (50.9%) are 4WD
- 11 Kittens have unknown paws
- 376 litter kittens are from poly Sire
- 313 litter kittens are from poly Dam
- 24 litter kittens – both parents are poly
- 7 litter kittens have homozygous Sire
- No litter kittens with homozygous Dam

## POLYTRAK MILESTONES

(By Ken Bussard)

A little shameless promotion for PolyTrak. On March we entered the 1000th unique cat in our database. Actually there are over a 1050 entries now, but some cats are listed twice....once as a kitten for litter-tracking and then these little guys and gals grow to be a Sire or Dam and have litters of their own. But this little lady is our 1000th cat.



She is from Berit Sørensen's Wackymoon Coons who has been a constant and consistent submitter to our database. "Lilly" is from the 40th poly litter in our database of Berit's. Thank you Berit and thank you to all that have submitted Poly Litters, Poly Breeding Sires and Dams, Poly Fancier Cats and Pets as well as Heritage and Poly Line Cats from the past. Personally I would also like to thank our volunteer staff who do lots of research and work in the background for the website. Vonne, Miriam, Deb, previously Kitty and our newest member of the PT Staff, Elisabeth. These ladies have and currently do a lot work for PolyTrak. March also our Birthday month....for it was 3 years ago in March that PolyTrak was born. (March 04, 2006).

I could throw a lot of numbers at you: In the last 3 years over 20 million successful requests...nearly 3 million pages viewed...1052



Stonetowns's Jarnac Binty P Queen

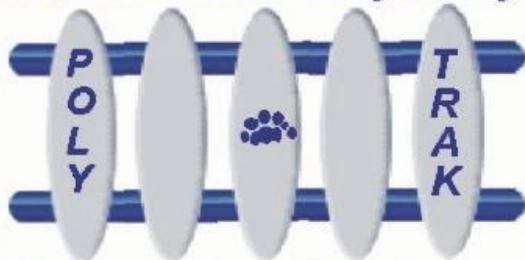


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cat listings...nearly 90 participating Main Coon Catteries working with polys.....etc. You can also watch for some major changes in our Website in the future as PolyTrak continues to grow. But the biggest change the 5 of us would love to see are your entries. If it were not for all of the Breeders and Fanciers of the MC Poly we would not have all of this information available to the World. It is you, many of which are reading this Newsletter, that count digits, submit info and help us all to understand and appreciate the Maine Coon poly and have made PolyTrak what it is today. **THANK YOU!**

*Maine Coon Polydactyl*



*International Database*

That's a "wrap" for another month. *"Paws for Effect"* would like to thank you, for interest and support of the Maine Coon polydactyl throughout the World. It is through yours and many others throughout the World that the Maine Coon polydactyl is returning to its rightful place in the Show Ring.

If you have a story or feature about the Maine Coon polydactyl, please share it with us. If you poly information for our database visit our website and click on Submit info.

What you have seen in this Issue and many other issues of *"Paws For Effect"* are testaments to what can be accomplished. We should all dedicate ourselves to this mission for the betterment of the Maine Coon. We hope that you will join us again for more of the latest news from PolyTrak. Visit PolyTrak at <http://www.polytrak.net> to see archived issues of *"Paws For Effect"* dating back to January of 2007.

## Bye for Now!

