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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**GULF COAST  
VETERINARY  
SPECIALISTS**

**WHAT:** The Houston Cat Club's 61<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY CAT SHOW  
**WHEN:** Saturday and Sunday, January 4-5, 2014  
**WHERE:** George R. Brown Convention Center, Hall A - 1001 Ave de las Americas, Houston, Texas 77010; (713) 853-8000  
**HOURS:** 10 to 5 Saturday; 9 to 4 Sunday  
**ADMISSION:** \$9.50 for Adults; \$7.00 for military and seniors 65 and older; \$4 ages 5 - 12. Free Admission for 4 years old and younger.  
City of Houston Parking Fee: \$10 per car for surface lots

**BENEFICIARIES:**

**HOUSTON AREA Animal Welfare Groups:** The Houston SPCA, Citizens for Animal Protection, the Homeless Pet Placement League, The Houston Humane Society and The Winn Feline Foundation. Over the last 60 shows, the Houston Cat Club has donated over \$875,000 to these and other local charities as well as to the Winn Feline Foundation. In addition, the shelters receive free space at the show to show off their beautiful cats available for adoption. **Donations come from spectators' admission fees.**

**Ambassador Cats:**

**Cruiser**, the 20 pound Maine Coon Ambassador Cat will be at the show for a meet and greet! Come snuggle with the handsome hunk and enjoy Cruiser and other magnificent Maine Coons, America's native longhaired cats.

**Zoe**, the elegant colorpoint shorthair will charm her way into your heart. See her and her beautiful friends at the show.

## **\*\*FOR THE 8<sup>th</sup> YEAR! CFA FELINE AGILITY COMPETITION\*\***



You've all heard about **dog agility competitions**, and have thoroughly enjoyed watching the dogs whip through the obstacle courses with determination and speed. Amazing how they can climb up and down those high steps and race through those weave pole areas. Now, can you actually imagine a cat lowering its dignity enough to do that?

**But, of course! Cats are definitely trainable and most are willing to follow a feather or dangling toy anywhere!** It can also be pretty funny to watch, too! Some cats take to the course like a duck to water, and have it down pat when it comes to running through tunnels and jumping through hoops. Others, though, seem to be more curious about the course, and will thoroughly inspect each obstacle before even thinking about tackling it. And then there are those competing cats who think the idea is to put their owners through the course paces, and give the humans a really good work-out while trying to coax them out of a tunnel or over a jump.

**Come Watch the Feline Agility Competition at the Houston Charity Cat Show!**

**PEDIGREED CAT COMPETITION:** As many as **300 pedigreed cats and kittens** will compete for awards given by 8 judges from the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. Top ten finalists in the pedigreed division, consisting of 39 recognized pedigreed breeds (such as Abyssinians, American Shorthairs, Balinese, Birman, Burmese, Chartreux, Maine Coon Cats, Cornish and Devon Rex, Persians, Russian Blues, Scottish Folds, Siamese, Selkirk Rex, Sphynx Cats [hairless cat], and Tonkinese) will earn points towards titles of Grand Champion, Grand Premier and Regional and National Awards for the 2011- 2012 Show Season.

### **HOUSEHOLD PET**

**COMPETITION:** Everybody's favorites, the **Household Pets**, have the opportunity to be judged by 8 CFA judges and are eligible for ribbons and rosettes in each ring!

Special competitions will be held for Best Costume, Best Tricks Performed by Cats, and Best Decorated Cage.

### **OF SPECIAL**

#### **NOTE:**

Dr. John R. August, Professor of Feline Internal Medicine at Texas A&M University, will be our special guest. He was the Deputy Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at TAMU from 1995 through 1997 and is currently the Editor in Chief of *Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine*.

**BOOK SIGNINGS:** Book Signings by local best-selling authors **Dean "Miranda" James**, medical librarian and author of the "**Cat in the Stacks**" series, **Amy Shojai**, known for her feline health care books, and **Dusty Rainbolt**, known for cat care and behavior books, her monthly product reviews, and her quirky science fiction and fantasy novels will be held at the 61st Annual Houston Cat Show on the afternoons of Saturday, January 4th and Sunday, January 5th at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Mr. James' cat-themed books made the extended NY Times Bestseller List in April 2011 and May 2011. These books include: **Dean "Miranda" James: *Murder Past Due, Classified as Murder, and File M for Murder.*** And, writing as "Jimmie Ruth Evans", the "Trailer Park Mysteries" series, including *Flamingo Fatale* and four other titles.

**Dusty Rainbolt:** the author of *Cat Wrangling Made Easy: Maintaining Peace and Sanity in Your Multicat Home*, *Ghost Cats: Human Encounters with Feline Spirits*, and *Kittens For Dummies* (yes, one of the famous *Dummies* series.) She's also the author of a humorous science fiction novel, *All the Marbles*, and co-author of *The Four Redheads of the Apocalypse* (written with three other redheads).

Ms. Shojai's books include:

**Chicken Soup for the Cat Lover's Soul (2005);** Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul (2005); **PETiquette: Solving Behavior Problems in your Multipet Household (2005);** Complete Care for your Aging Cat; Complete Kitten Care; New Choices in Natural Healing for Dogs & Cats' and The First-Aid Companion for Dogs & Cats. This year, The Board of Directors of the Winn Feline Foundation unanimously awarded the 2007 Winn Feline Foundation Media Appreciation Award to Amy. Recently, she authored particularly informative pieces on feline infectious peritonitis (FIP, a fatal disease which most often affects kittens). In doing so, Shojai has promoted Winn's Bria Fund, which raises money for investigators determined to find a treatment or cure for FIP.

## **ASK THE VET**

### **KIOSK -**

The Ask-The-Vet-Kiosk will be manned from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Noon to 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Spectators have the opportunity to discuss their pet cats' health with highly qualified veterinarians from the Houston Area.

## **CHILDREN'S**

### **EDUCATION**

Children of all ages will enjoy learning about different breeds of cats and what all those ribbons hanging on the cages mean. Coloring Contest! Games! Prizes!

### **SHOPPING:**

A Kitty Shopping Mall - a variety of toys, treats, beds, climbing posts, premium cat foods, combs, brushes, and even shampoos are available for purchase. The latest in human and kitty attire, as well as jewelry and articles for the home with cat motifs, will be on sale. Just the Place to Purchase Gifts of a Feline Nature...

**Everything a Cat Lover Could Want!**

Visit our web site: [www.houstoncatclub.org](http://www.houstoncatclub.org)