

PAWS FOR EFFECT



*The PolyTrak  
Newsletter  
November 2007*

**Volume 1 - Number 11**

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*Maine Coon Polydactyl*



*International Database*



# Paws for Effect - The PolyTrak Newsletter

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**WELCOME!**  
and a belated....

## Happy Halloween!

Well it is November already! Back to the Winter grind. Gosh only 55 days 'til Christmas. Have you shopped for your cat yet? 😊 It is a time of year that cat shows are in full swing. A big one for the polys is the Cat and Tulips show in the Netherlands next weekend (Nov. 10 & 11). We will have more about that later in the newsletter. We would also like to welcome our new subscribers this month. As you may know this newsletter "*Paws for Effect*" is published monthly near the 1st of each month. Archive copies of the newsletter, should you desire to read them, are available for reading or downloading at our website <http://www.polytrak.net>. From there, click on the Newsletter button and at the top of the page you will see a link for archived issues. The current issue is archived each month approximately 2 to 3 weeks after publication. If you have a comment, suggestion or question email us at [ptnewsletter@polytrak.net](mailto:ptnewsletter@polytrak.net). We would love to hear from you!



MainelyMagic's The All Terrain Cat ("TC")

*Cats always know whether people like or dislike them. They do not always care enough to do anything about it. -*

*Winifred Carriere*



## THE POLYS HEAD FOR HELLEVOETSLUIS, THE NETHERLANDS



Time rapidly approaching for the Cats and Tulips show next weekend (November 10th & 11th). From what we hear the club has been very busy readying for the event. The two day show will held at Sport- en Recreatiecentrum De Eendragt in Hellevoetsluis.



The show starts each day at 8AM for check-in and veterinary inspection and will be wrapping up around 6PM. A Saturday night buffet is planned along with a special Maine Coon polydactyl event at 10AM on



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Saturday. There will be several Maine Coon polys being shown in the New Traits division rings throughout both days. PolyStandard and PolyTrak will have a table with the MC poly people (see article following).

The club will be using 5 judges, 2 each from France and the United States as well as one from Austria. It sounds like a fun and exciting two days and of course a chance for all to see some great polys on display and being judged.



TLC PolyCoons – The Netherlands

## **POLYTRAK STAFF TO BE AT C & T SHOW IN HOLLAND**

Three of PolyTrak's Staff will on hand for the Fall Show of the Cats & Tulip's Cat Club. A table will be set up at the show near the poly benching area with information and handouts for the general public, breeders and fanciers in attendance at the show. In addition the two co-chairpersons as well as several from the PolyStandard gang will also be in attendance. These knowledgeable ladies will be there to provide information and answer questions about polydactylism in general as well

as the push for acceptance of the Maine Coon polydactyl to championship status.

Some will be there in a dual capacity. Vonne Bode from Amsterdam will be on hand as PolyTrak's Database Coordinator and a Co-chairperson of PolyStandard. Vonne brings with her a background working with the nearly 600 cats listed in PolyTrak's database in poly digit expressions, colour and the various paw pads associated with the poly digits. In addition she is the author of articles in this newsletter and PolyTrak, as well as serving on the Board of Directors of MCPI. Cathy Petty is the other Co-chairperson PolyStandard, and is herself, a Maine Coon breeder (PettyCats) that works with the polys. She will be making the trip across the pond from Westport, Massachusetts USA to Hellevoetsluis for the two-day event. Another of PolyTrak's staff who will be making the flight from Ontario Canada to The Netherlands is Deb Brown. Deb is the fancier coordinator of PolyTrak, founder of PolyStandard, former President and founding member of MC Polys, original acting President of MCPI and author of articles on Maine Coon polydactylism. PolyTrak's newest staff member, Miriam Muller will not be traveling across the Ocean...in fact she will probably be ducking out the backdoor and running over to the Sport- en Recreatiecentrum De Eendragt. 😊 Miriam lives in Hellevoetsluis and owns the Cattery van Siduroy where she breeds Maine Coons and works with the polys. Miriam is our Research Coordinator who is working with our Heritage section and does the research for many of our areas including the line tracing for the polydactyl lines from today's cats back to the Foundations. Miriam also serves on the Board of Directors of Cats & Tulip Club in Holland as their Pedigree and Championship registration person. In addition there will be several from PolyStandard and Maine Coon Breeders and Fanciers that work with the polys on hand and showing. This should a great educational opportunity for anyone desiring more



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knowledge about the polydactyl Maine Coon as well as answers to any questions you may have.

A lot of planning and work has gone into preparing for this show. The better part of October was spent by many in preparing for the show and making literature and graphics for use by the gang in Holland and for use also at other shows around the world. We hesitate to list these wonderful people by name for fear of missing some. But we at PolyTrak would like to give all of you that worked on this project a big round of applause for your time and efforts.

**THANK YOU!**

We expect to have a large volume of printed information on hand for any that desire to read more. There will be copies of all of the “Paws for Effect” Newsletters to browse through, a brief pamphlet on the Maine Coon polydactyl, business cards, postcards, pictures and numerous other items...AND of course the most important thing....real, live and irresistible MAINE COON POLYDACTYL CATS. 😊

“Ya” just can’t beat the real thing. So we hope to see you and talk with you at the Show. If you are reading this Newsletter in the show hall, we encourage you to spend some time with us. As of this writing there is a little over a week before the show...so make your plans now to attend.



Wackymoon Coon Stormy Night P (F2) of Leather & Lace

## A NEW POLY SHOWPERSON IN TICA FROM GERMANY

Contributed by: Anneke & Richard Oude Egbrink



**Aradia**

(TLC Polycoons Annie P Oakley of Vaskebjorn)

In the weekend of 6 and 7 Oktober we went to our very first TICA show after almost 15 years Fife shows. It was 2 days, 6 rings plus one specialties show, so in total 14 rings.

We went with two coons. The first one was a black non-poly (Bonfires Paint it Black aka Aswad). The second Maine coon we took to the show was our poly coon lady (TLC Polycoons Annie P Oakley aka Aradia).

Aswad did very well, he got 515 points, but unfortunately no final. Aradia did even better, she won everything in de New Traits. (Un)fortunately she was the only poly. The judges liked Aradia a lot and they all found her very well prepared. One of the judges gave an extra explanation because there was a PNB breeder who thought a poly was nothing to breed with. The judge said the poly was not a new trait but more of an old trait as it has been around for so long.



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We liked the show a lot and will be on TICA shows more often in the future. We will be at the Cats and Tulips in November. Unfortunately we have to take a rain check on the Magdeburg show because our Feme (Feme Vaskebjorn) was in heat and we took her to a nice boy and (of course) it is a poly called Butch (TLC Polycoons Butch P Cassidy owned by Sharon Otten). So we are hoping to get little (poly)coons on December 2nd.



*Editors Note: We thank Anneke and Richard for sharing this story with everyone. If you have a similar story that you would like to share, just submit an email with your ideas to [ptnewsletter@polytrak.net](mailto:ptnewsletter@polytrak.net). We would love to hear from you about your polys.*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT POLYSTANDARD?

Short Answer: EVERYTHING!  
End of Story -----



Uh...errr...well there is a little more to tell than that. It has been a very busy month with the people of PolyStandard. The group is growing and everyone is pitching in with projects for the good of the poly.

Following last months problems a UK Maine Coon breeder, who works with and imported a poly MC, was having with the MCCC Cat Club, several members of the group started a letter writing campaign to the governing body of the club pointing out facts about polydactylism and how it is not considered a hereditary defect in the modern world of research and scientific study...and why a breeder should not be sanctioned for this. Very little news from the Club is available other than the club Committee has decided to meet again sometime this month and revisit the issue. Maybe we will know something by next month's issue.

Another topic of discussion, in anticipation of upcoming TICA shows in North America and Europe, the group felt a logo for the group would be good. Many from the group offered design ideas and suggestions. Winnie Scheffmann and Hugo Mulder put their graphics skills to work and from prototypes the group had been working with and designed the new PolyStandard Logo.



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Now that the group had its logo, Beryl McMillan arranged a website for PolyStandard imprinted merchandise from which anyone can order. You can visit this site at: <http://www.cafepress.com/PolyMCs>. A quantity of PolyStandard buttons was ordered and is being distributed to the PolyStandard people for use at Cat Shows. Look for the PolyStandard



coming to a show hall near you. In addition to the buttons many different items can be ordered with the imprinted logo on it. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items you may

just visit the link above and make your selections. Keep in mind that this is a USA based firm and if ordering from another Country, tariffs and additional shipping charges may apply. If you want something besides a button, how about a T-Shirt or coffee mug or any of the dozens of other items available.



As mentioned in the article earlier, time has been devoted also to the preparation of literature, handouts, surveys on poly acceptance, business cards, postcards and other promotional and educational items. And the work of this group continues as we speak.

Cathy Pettey, the group's co-chairperson has been working with others in the group and scheduling and arranging for the PolyStandard people to get together in their regions for the showing poly Maine Coons in TICA New Trait shows in their area. You will be seeing an increased visibility of the polys everywhere. So

look for them and support them wherever you see them.

If you would like to join this gang, they welcome all help and assistance and fresh ideas for acceptance of the Maine Coon polydactyl. But be prepared to work and participate...although they have an occasional downtime for a little "R & R" this is a dedicated and ambitious bunch that is working most of the time. If you would like to contact the group you can email them at [polystandard@polytrak.net](mailto:polystandard@polytrak.net) or if you would like to join them you can go to:



[Click to join polystandard](#)



## POLYTRAK FACT

Nearly 600 different cats are now listed in PolyTrak and growing. The PolyTrak server has processed over 7.6 million requests (at the rate of 12,000 plus per day) since March of 2006 in the form of 88 billion bytes of information. Nearly 10,000 different or unique visitors have viewed 1.2 million pages of information. Our Cattery listing and advertisement pages are hit 30 times a day. Do you have a Maine Coon Polydactyl as a pet, or as a breeder with poly litters? Do you have information on a Heritage poly of days gone by? Have you listed these great cats in PolyTrak? If not, we encourage you to talk to us right away. You can submit information from our website: <http://www.polytrak.net> and click on the submit button. If you have questions about submitting just email us at: [info@polytrak.net](mailto:info@polytrak.net).



That's it for another month. Hope to see you back again next month and Thank You all.

# Bye For Now!

