

Donna Lawver, Summerwood Savannahs

TICA Great Lakes Region

I have been involved with the exciting Savannah Breed since 1998 with the adoption of Kato (F1). Within a few years we had adopted another F1, Guy and a beautiful serval named Cleo. I felt that I wanted to expand my experience to not only being a pet owner, but breeding this wonderful Savannah breed. Some basic information and dates about me are as follows:

2003 – Became a TICA member and started Exhibiting Savannahs at TICA shows

2004 - Registered my cattery Summerwood and became a Member of Prairie State Cat Club

2005 – Registered Summerwoods first Savannah litter

2006 – 2010 Secretary of Prairie State Cat Club for 5 years Responsibilities included: maintain all membership records, handle the clubs correspondence, attend meetings, record and keep minutes of club meetings, posting minutes to the members, and posting general information to our yahoo group.

2011 to present: President of Prairie State Cat Club Responsibilities include: develop all meeting agendas; preside over our meetings, being available to members and potential members, handle new inquiries and questions concerning our club. I have been involved in helping our club host two TICA shows yearly, including being the show manager.

Currently a member of the Savannah Breed Committee of TICA

Since becoming a member of TICA, I have exhibited and shown Savannahs in Preliminary and Advanced New Breed before we attained Championship status. In addition, I have shown a non-standard savannah in the Household Pet kitten and Household Pet class before we attained Championship status. I also have bred and shown Egyptian Maus in the kitten, alter, and championship classes. I attend numerous shows yearly and help new exhibitors and encourage people to show savannahs in the shows.

In the past I have helped organize most of the Savannah Ramas in the Great Lakes area. I have done television and newspaper interviews prior to the show opening at the South Bend shows with my savannahs to help promote savannahs, the show and TICA. I have been interviewed by Cat Fancy Magazine for an article about Savannahs.

Since I have been involved in rescuing servals as well as savannahs over the years, I strongly believe that we need to educate the public on the ownership of servals and higher percentage savannahs. I believe that the SBT savannah is our future as an overall pet for every household. I also feel that there are the right homes for the higher percentage savannahs, but potential owners need to be aware of some of the special traits they have so we do not have these wonderful cats looking for homes as they get older. I have been involved for many years educating the public about our wonderful and unique breed.

I am passionate about the Savannah breed and have been successful in showing savannahs to Regional Wins in every year since we have been in championship. I have shown in all three classes, kitten, alter and championship and have titled numerous Summerwood bred savannahs including four to Supreme titles.