

Northwest Regional Director

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Northwest Region News—2nd Quarter 2021 (Volume 2, Issue 2)

SASKATCHEWAN JOINS THE NW REGION: As of May 1, 2021, the province of Saskatchewan, Canada will be joining the Northwest Region. Welcome!



DUE MAY 1ST
Go to
www.tica.org

- 1) Click "Login" in upper right hand corner of main page.
- 2) Scroll down to TDS Online Login.
- 3) Login in with your TDS Online Login.
- 4) Click on "Account" on left hand column.
- 5) Go to Membership. From the bars across the top click "Renew=R".
- 6) Put in the number of years you want to renew for.
- 7) Hit the 'calculate' button.
- 8) 9) Go through the bars across the top where you can choose to make other changes. Be sure you put the pending order in the cart and make your payment via the two choices: credit card or PayPal.

CLUB CHARTER RENEWALS DUE MAY 1ST: April is the month in which clubs are to elect club officers for the new year beginning May 1st. Here's how to renew your club charter. Go to:

- 1) <https://www.tica.org/phocadownload/Club-Charter-Renewal.pdf>
- 2) Follow instructions on the form.
- 3) Don't forget to pay the renewal fee.

Notes: All club officers and any other members listed on the renewal form must also make sure they have paid their individual member dues through April 30, 2022. If not, your club charter renewal will be delayed.

UPDATING THE SHOW CALENDAR: It appears that several clubs are being lax about putting information on the TICA Show Calendar. Much of the information on the calendar is either out-of-date or shows have been cancelled but not noted on the calendar. Here are some suggestions:

- 1) If you have a tentative date for a show, go ahead and post it on the TICA show calendar. Put as much information on the calendar as possible.
- 2) As more show information is known, it should be posted. The more information posted the better likelihood that potential exhibitors will consider coming to the show.
- 3) If you know the show is NOT going to happen, please cancel it on the show calendar.



VIRTUAL CAT SHOW NW:

The TICA NW Region is happy to present its 2nd virtual cat show-VirtualCatShowNW. The

show has been open for entries since April 1st and will continue through May 15, 2021 with judging and award placements announced by May 31, 2021.

There are a total of 14 different classes—8 traditional show classes (Kittens, Cats, Alters, HHP Kittens, Household Pets, Prelimi-

nary New Breeds, Advanced New Breeds and New Traits); and 6 fun classes (Tiny Tot, Cat-in-a-Bag (and Box), Napping Cat, Best Buds, What is my Cat Saying? And Rainbow Bridge).

Entries, vendor, and sponsorship forms will only be processed through the website: <http://VirtualCatShowNW.com> (not Facebook). However, there will be important announcements posted on Facebook at TICA NW Virtual Shows.

Come join the fun! You will also be helping the regional treasury as well by your participation and/or sponsorship.

RULES CHANGES FROM WINTER BOARD MEETING:

Attention Clubs and Master Clerks: Amend 209.1.1.4 (Marked catalogs) — Please include the Clerking Administrator, Caroline Fralia, when distributing marked catalogs. Her email is: mcfralia62@gmail.com.

NEW ENTERPRISE SYSTEM UPDATE by Danny Nevarez, Chief Operating Officer:

We anticipate going live with our new software July 1, 2021. In addition to the heavy lift on scoring and completing the year end scoring process for the current show season, it makes sense to line up the launch with the start of a new fiscal year. I also want to ensure that we close out the existing show year in TDS, so we have a clean break as we move to Salesforce.

I want to share with you a few the improvements we will see with the launch of our new software. Most of the improvements noted below will help the EO be more efficient. I will talk more about improvements for our clients in later communications.

First and foremost, and one of our biggest time saving aspects, will be a ticketing system that will be directly tied to our workflow and payment system. Right now, we work in several different systems (TDS, ticketing system, PayPal, credit card system and email) to do research and complete a single ticket. And, the EO has to manually tie payments to TDS and manually create a DAR record, in many cases before a ticket can even be routed to the appropriate department for service. With a few exceptions, this will be a thing of the past in our new software. This will likely mean we can move team members who currently work on "prepping tickets" to team members who are "actively working" on servicing and closing tickets.

In scoring we will drastically reduce the amount of custom programming needed. For example, in scoring, which has proven to be mammoth, the number of lines of code has been reduced from over three thousand lines down to one-hundred lines of code in some areas. While this is not a sexy change to the front-end user, it does mean less money in maintenance and support long-term.

The titles and scoring process will also be streamlined and made more efficient because of the new design. Once our clients have printed and/or paid for certificates or pedigrees, they will remain available to our clients each and every time they log-in into Salesforce. This means fewer tickets coming to the EO for re-prints.

Breeder and classified listings - While we do not have the budget to fully automate this process yet, we are making some changes to the way we process these requests so breeder listings and classifieds will be posted to the web sooner.

Client contact information - In the new system, a client can update their own contact information, compared to today where those requests come into the EO. In addition, the system will check and execute the subsequent changes that can come from a change of address, for example region-if a client's address change moves the client to a different region those changes will be automated.

Another issue we continue to frequently encounter is our ticketing system over loading and crashing our website. When attachments are included with a ticket sent by our clients, which is nearly always, it can and does crash our website without manual intervention. In Salesforce, all of the service requests, attachments and payments will be contained in Salesforce as one system.

Data integrity - In TDS's current design, there are a few places where data integrity is not enforced which allows for orphaned records to be created, this will be solved in the design of our new database.

Data quality - TDS did not fully take advantage of validating data at the point of entry. For example, many dates and email addresses in TDS are not in a meaningful or valid format rendering the data useless if not misleading. As part of the data migration process, this bad data has been identified so it can be corrected in the new system.

Membership dates - member dates that are not entered through TDS online require manual intervention to populate. This will be fully automated in Salesforce saving the EO time.

Breeder Slip Numbers (BSN) - Currently if a client does not use TDS online to register a litter, then no BSN is generated. This means the EO must manually enter every kitten from the litter that was registered not using TDS. In the new system a BSN will always be generated, allowing clients to register the kittens themselves even if they mailed in the litter registration. If a client chooses to send snail mail to register the kittens from a litter that was registered via snail mail, the process to do so is streamlined for the EO.

It is difficult to overstate the benefits of moving to a modern platform. TDS was built on a technology that is now at the end of its life, whereas Salesforce is a thriving technology that is seeing continuous investment in extending its capabilities through a schedule of three annual releases.

Having a system that is built with a minimum amount of code on a platform whose capabilities are growing, positions TICA so that the investment being made to re-platform today won't need to be made again for the foreseeable future. The total cost of ownership of the system will be reduced, and future enhancements and efficiencies that were not possible or very difficult with TDS can now be achieved at relatively low cost and more quickly than we could have imagined.

This project is intended to get us into our new software (re-platform) and to allow us to take advantage of some early efficiencies that will help TICA manage its service requests and provide a more intuitive interface to our customers. That being said, some of the best and most exciting and impactful changes and efficiencies are yet to come.

We have identified a few areas we want to focus on post go-live, which are Other Litter, Individual Registrations, full automation of breeder listings and classifieds, color mapping and the automated collection of show and scoring data. Each of these items comes with a price tag. If we can maintain our focus on these areas as budget allows, we will continue to gain even greater efficiency. Our priority is to ensure we are delivering high level service at the speed of business. It will be difficult to avoid implementing the nice-to-haves vs. items that further increase our efficiencies, however it is this lens we will be looking through to determine prioritization of our post go-live initiatives.

(Note: This report was edited by Elaine Hawksworth-Weitz)

REMINDERS:

- ◆ **Dr. Elsey sponsorship** — If you are fortunate to receive a TICA Dr Elsey sponsorship for your show, remember to include the Dr Elsey logo on your website and all promotional materials.
- ◆ **Change of Address** — Remember to notify the TICA Executive Office and the Regional Director of changes of address, phone, and/or email.
- ◆ The 2020/2021 show season will be tabulated under Isolated Status Rules, as was done for the 2019/2020 Show Season!
- ◆ **May 7th is the deadline to report any scoring questions or problems** to the EO for the TICA Show Season May 1, 2020–April 30, 2021.
- ◆ **Licensed ring/master clerks** - It's time to renew your TICA membership. Regardless of your status in the program, all TICA licensed Clerks must have active TICA memberships.
- ◆ **Lifetime Achievement Award**—If your cat has achieved at least one IW and two RWs your cat is eligible for a Lifetime Achievement Award! However, this award is NOT automatic. You need to apply for it: <https://tica.org/resources/our-forms/file/54-lifetime-achievement-award> . If your cat is achieving its third IW/RW win in the show season we just completed, and you want your LA title to be on the awards, **your claim form must be submitted to the EO by May 7**. Yes, awards are not final until the EO finishes all the scoring, but you can go ahead and apply now based on the placement in the OFFICIAL standings. **If you apply after May 7, the LA title will not show up on your 2020-2021 awards.** But you are certainly welcome to apply for the title at any time - even for cats that were shown years ago - and the LA will be recognized on any future awards.
- ◆ **Outstanding Sire/Outstanding Dam** - Female cats who have given birth to 5 kittens who have achieved the title of GRAND CHAMPION or GRAND CHAMPION ALTER or higher can apply for the title Outstanding Dam. Male cats who have sired 10 kittens who have achieved the title of GRAND CHAMPION or GRAND CHAMPION ALTER or higher can apply for the title Outstanding Sire. Do you have cats that qualify? The titles aren't automatic so you will need to use the appropriate form to claim your cat's titles:
Outstanding Dam: <https://tica.org/resources/our-forms/file/56-outstanding-dam>
Outstanding Sire: <https://tica.org/resources/our-forms/file/55-outstanding-sire>



2020-2021 REGIONAL AWARDS — Within the next month your RD will receive the final list of regional winners for the 2020-2021 show season. It's not too early to start thinking about what cat(s) you'd like to sponsor. The tentative list of winners will be posted on the region's website shortly.

If you would like a special memory of your cat's LA, OS or OD achievement, we have an offer for you. You can receive a beautiful plaque with your cat's picture and achievement on it to be presented at the Regional Awards banquet! By JUNE 12, 2021 you need to send a) a copy of your cat's LA, OD or OS certificate you received from the TICA Executive Office and a picture (.jpg or .png formats preferred) that will print clearly as an 8 x 10 photo of your cat to regional.director.nw@tica.org

COMMUNICATION—As a reminder, formal day-to-day communication and regional polling will take place via the groups.io on-line list. Over 70% of the TICA NW members are not on our group list. Members are encouraged to subscribe to stay up-to-date with all the activities in TICA and the region. To subscribe email: ticanorthwest+subscribe@groups.io. The region also has an unofficial Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ticanw>. You are welcome to participate on this on-line social network, but it is NOT the official region communication channel, which is groups.io.

The “Northwest Region News” is another communication tool. It is distributed via ticanorthwest@groups.io, the region’s website, and to individual TICA members who reside in the NW region. It will be published no later than the end of January, April, July, and October. If you have something to include, please provide your submission to the RD by the 15th of each publishing month. If you have any problems accessing any of our various methods of communication, contact the Regional Director.

COMMUNICATION UPDATE: Over the past several weeks your RD has come to realize communication intended for the RD from social media, especially the various Facebook page posts and Messenger, are some times not even seen, let alone answered. Therefore, **effective immediately, if you need a response from the Regional Director, email regional.director.nw@tica.org or regional.director@ticanw.com.**

TREASURER’S REPORT FOR PERIOD JAN 1—MAR 31, 2021, provided by Karen Fletcher, Treasurer:

BEGINNING UNRESTRICTED CASH 1/1/21	7,112.02
INFLOWS (INCOME) OF CASH	
2021 Virtual Cat Show NW	995.00
TOTAL INFLOWS (INCOME)	995.00
OUTFLOWS (EXPENSES) OF CASH	
TICA Yearbook	495.00
WA Dept of Revenue Annual Filing Fee	10.00
1and1.com for 2021 Virtual Cat Show NW	29.80
Smug Mug for 2021 Virtual Cat Show NW	93.84
PayPal Fees	54.08
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	(682.72)
Net Quarterly Inflows-Outflows	312.28
ENDING UNRESTRICTED CASH 3/31/21	7,424.30

BEGINNING DEDICATED FUNDS 1/1/21	
2023 Annual Sponsorship	500.00
2020 Regional Awards Sponsorship	3,999.00
Dwayne Goodburn Fund	1,330.00
Junior Exhibitor Fund	991.27
Pixiebob Award Sponsorship	450.00
2020 Virtual Cat Show	7601.91
BEGINNING (INCOME) DEDICATED FUNDS	16,429.51
INFLOWS (INCOME)-DEDICATED FUNDS	
2020 Regional Awards Sponsorship	770.00
INFLOWS (REVENUES)-DEDICATED FUNDS	770.00
OUTFLOWS (EXPENSES)-DEDICATED FUNDS	
Reimburse RD for 2019-2020 Trophy Tops	675.57
DocuCopies for 2019-2020 Award Booklet Printing	406.05
FatPet Awards for 2019-2020 Regional Awards	4,723.30
Huber Awards for 2019-2020 Regional Rosettes	1,363.70
TOTAL OUTFLOWS (EXPENSES)	7,168.62
Net Quarterly Inflows-Outflows	(6,398.62)
ENDING DEDICATED FUNDS 3/31/21	
2020 Regional Awards Sponsorship	(342.29)
Dwayne Goodburn Fund	1,330.00
Junior Exhibitor Fund	991.27
Pixiebob Award Sponsorship	450.00
2020 Virtual Cat Show	7601.91
ENDING DEDICATED FUNDS 3/31/21	10,030.89
TOTAL AVAILABLE ALL FUNDS 3/31/21	17,455.19

UPCOMING TICA BOARD MEETINGS

May 21-23, 2021 Spring Board Meeting, on-line
 Sep 1-3, 2021 Annual Board Meeting, on-line
 January ?, 2022 Winter Board Meeting

NORTHWEST REGION SHOW CALENDAR 2021 (Tentative)

Jun 12-13	Commencement Cat Club — Chehalis, WA
Jul 24-25	Its Reigning Cats — Longview, WA
Aug 7-8	The Maine Event—Olympia area
Oct 9-10	The Evergreen Cat Fanciers — Ferndale, WA
Oct 23-24	Its Reigning Cats — Longview, WA
Nov 13-14	The Maine Event — Olympia, WA
Dec 11-12	And A Mouse Cat Club — Chehalis, WA
Jan 15-16	Its Reigning Cats — Longview, WA

More information about these shows can be found at: <https://www.tica.org/events/show-calendar> AND www.ticanw.com .

UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETINGS—to be announced

IMPORTANT DATES / DEADLINES

Apr 1	RENEW TICA MEMBERSHIP IN ORDER TO VOTE IN THE 2021 FALL ELECTION
Apr 1-May 15	Virtual Cat Show NW
May 1	Renew individual memberships
May 1	Renew club charters
May 4	Submit proposed changes to standards to Rules & Genetics Committee for the 2021 Annual Board Meeting.
May 7	Deadline to request changes in points for IW/Reg wins
May 21-23	Spring Board Meeting — online
May 31	Club charters not renewed by this date are delinquent
June 3	Submit proposed changes to Rules or policies to Rules Committee for the 2021 Annual Board Meeting.
June 12	Submit LA/OS/OD requests to RD for 2020-2021 awards
Jun 28	Deadline to submit info for Aug/Sep issue TICA Trend
Jul 31	Publish Northwest Region Quarterly Newsletter
Aug 28	Deadline to submit info for the Oct/Nov issue TICA Trend
Sep 1-3	Annual Board Meeting—online
Sep ?	Submit proposed changes to standards to Rules & Genetics Committee for the 2022 Winter Board Meeting.
Oct ?	Submit proposed changes to rules or policies to Rules Committee for the 2022 Winter Board Meeting.
Oct 28	Deadline to submit info for Dec/Jan issue TICA Trend
Oct 31	Publish Northwest Region Quarterly Newsletter
Dec 28	Deadline to submit info for Feb/Mar issue TICA Trend

REGIONAL CONTACTS / INFORMATION:

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 Cell: **206-920-9214**
 Email: regional.director.nw@tica.org or regional.director@ticanw.com
 Address: **5517 152nd St SW**
Edmonds, WA 98026

Regional Treasurer: Karen Fletcher
 Cell: **425-210-1215**
 Email: treasurer@ticanw.com .
 Address for sending any payments for the region
Karen Fletcher, Treasurer
TICA Northwest Region
PO Box 1143
Coupeville, WA 98239-1143

Regional Scorer: Jan Dell
 Cell: **509-949-3507**
 Home: **509-573-9570**
 Email: WoodpileMCs@aol.com

Regional Junior Exhibitor (JE) Liaison: Sauncha Romey
 Cell: **425-306-5792**
 Email: sauncharomey@yahoo.com

Region’s website: www.ticanw.com
Region’s chat group: ticanorthwest@groups.io
Region’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ticanw>

Region’s  email address: treasurer@ticanw.com