



## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***DOGS & CATS DUKE IT OUT FOR TITLE OF AMERICA'S MOST PREFERRED PET***

***Are you a Dog or Cat Person? Vote Now @ [www.meetthebreeds.com](http://www.meetthebreeds.com)***

**New York, NY** – For eons, people have argued over which is better – Men *or* Women, Republicans *or* Democrats, Batman *or* Spiderman and Vanilla *or* Chocolate. But for pet owners the most heated debate of all is– Dogs *or* Cats. Having been our faithful companions for centuries, dogs and cats are the most popular domesticated pets in the world, bringing joy and comfort to millions of people. But, as beloved as our pets are, there can only be one true ruler of the ‘Companion Animal’ kingdom! It all comes down to whether your ‘best friend’ is the “cat’s meow” or “top dog.”

Inspired by the upcoming Meet the Breeds™ event, the world’s largest showcase of cats and dogs, the American Kennel Club® (AKC) and the Cat Fanciers’ Association® (CFA) have joined forces to put an end to this long-running dispute once and for all with a definitive one-question survey: “Are you a dog or cat person?” You can weigh in and cast your vote now at [www.meetthebreeds.com](http://www.meetthebreeds.com).

The arguments are convincing on both sides. Dog lovers boast that canines are social animals and don’t need a litter box, will guard and protect you, can be taught tricks and can always be counted on to adore you. Cat lovers brag that felines are affectionate, regal, slobber-free, self-cleaning, lap-sitting, purr-in-your-ear companions who won’t disturb the neighbors while you’re at work.

In fact, one meetthebreeds.com cat voter said, “If people were more cat-like we’d be able to separate pretenders from the real thing, take better care of ourselves, do what pleases us instead of what pleases everybody else, and enjoy life more.” A dog voter, on the other hand, argued that “Dogs will offer themselves up to save their military and police handlers and will face any challenge to try and help a human in need. They have stood

alone at night guarding the herdsmen flock and stood by the side of a fallen loved one offering comfort.”

While this is a debate almost everyone can weigh in on, could the feline vs. canine conundrum be behind some of Hollywood's biggest conflicts? According to Denise Richards, her eldest daughter Sam was named after ex-husband Charlie Sheen's cat. Denise explained that Charlie loved the cat so much he insisted on his daughter having the same name. Since the divorce, Denise, who currently has 10 dogs, has been quoted as saying “we don't have the cat anymore.” [Visit our Web site](#) to learn more about celebrities and their relationships with their pets.

As for you, we need your vote by October 6, 2009. Visit [www.meetthebreeds.com](http://www.meetthebreeds.com) and after you place your vote, check back at any time to see what pet is ahead or write to us at [meetthebreeds@akc.org](mailto:meetthebreeds@akc.org) to tell why you voted the way you did. Also download free virtual “Dogs are #1” and “Cats are #1” stickers for your Web site, blog or social media pages.

Sponsored by PetPartners, Inc. a leading pet healthcare provider, Meet the Breeds will be held October 17 & 18, 2009 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City. From the Afghan Hound to the Turkish Angora, the event will showcase 160 AKC registered dog breeds and 41 CFA registered cat breeds in booths individually decorated to depict each breed's country of origin, historical purpose/function, and attributes as a family pet. The family-friendly event is an opportunity for potential pet owners to interact with responsible breeders and play with dogs and cats while educating themselves about responsible pet ownership and choosing the right pet for their lifestyle.

Event hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday, October 17, and Sunday, October 18. Tickets allow admittance for one day and can be purchased at [www.meetthebreeds.com](http://www.meetthebreeds.com).

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**About Meet the Breeds** -- With 160 dog breeds and 41 cat breeds, plus demonstrations, shopping and children's activities, no pet lover will want to miss Meet the Breeds. Each breed will be presented in its own designated space, decorated to reflect its heritage, characteristics and unique attributes as a pet, while allowing attendees to literally “Meet the Breeds” by petting dogs, cats, puppies and kittens and learning about them directly from the experts. The event is proudly presented by [PetPartners, Inc.](#) a leading pet healthcare provider, and will feature over 115,000 square feet of dog and cat festivities. Sponsors include Invisible Fence® Brand, ADT Security Services, JAKKS Pets™, Iams, WebVet, YourDogsHeart.com, Paramount Chemical Specialties Inc., GoPetFriendly.com, Hartz, and Continental Airlines. Get your tickets now at [www.meetthebreeds.com](http://www.meetthebreeds.com).

**The American Kennel Club** (AKC), proudly celebrates its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC

Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

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**The Cat Fanciers' Association**, Inc. (CFA) was founded in 1906 as a non-profit association of member clubs and is the world's largest registry of pedigreed cats. CFA's mission is to preserve and promote the pedigreed breeds of cats and to enhance the well-being of ALL cats. CFA promotes education, responsible cat ownership and proper care to the owners of millions of cats worldwide. CFA and its affiliate clubs work nationally with local shelters, at a grassroots level, to help humanely reduce homeless and feral cat populations, and to encourage voluntary neuter/spay of pet cats. To learn more about the Cat Fanciers' Association, the pedigreed breeds of cats, or to find the nearest CFA cat show, visit their web site at [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org).

**[EDITOR'S NOTE: Additional resources – including interviews with an AKC or CFA spokesperson and photos/b-roll of dogs and cats – are available upon request. Please contact the AKC communications department at (212) 696-8343 or [communications@akc.org](mailto:communications@akc.org).]**