

# Maine Coon Adoptions


MARCH 2007

## GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR:

It's the start of "kitten season" and the phone calls are already coming in: "Do you have any kittens?" I reply: "Everyone does kittens and the adults get killed in droves during kitten season, so we focus on younger cats and adults. Let me refer you to a group with kittens." Although we do rescue kittens, we are bucking the trend by touting the virtues of adults - and "older" cats at that! (Here I am with Winnie, our 14-year-old, adopted when she was 11.)

Elaine Lyford-Nojima  
Director, MCA



 **51** kitties found loving homes since our November newsletter. We salute these kitties and their new families!

Judy / *Mercedes*  
Jeffrey / *Luke*  
Lisa & Dan / *Jackson*  
Denise / *Grant*  
Ryan / *Miles*  
Chad & Carol / *Serena & Tiffany*  
Lenore / *Teddy*  
Roberta / *Bella*  
Christie & Johnny / *Sparkie*  
Mag / *Jackson*  
Heather / *Gina*  
Sandra / *Lady*  
Gwendolyn / *Jude*  
Brian / *Mika*  
Aida / *Winston*  
Jeff / *Sadie*  
Emily / *Athena*  
Harris / *Rocky*  
Lynne / *Snow White & Hamlet*  
Michael / *Toby*  
Shawna / *Tabitha*  
Irina / *Noelle & Gentry*  
Mary / *Lion Guy*  
Mike / *Rocky*  
Bridget / *Simba*  
Bruce / *Charlie Pride & Clint Black*  
Rod / *Toby*  
Katherine / *Abigail*  
Kathy / *Gabrielle (Gabby)*  
Marjorie & Bruce / *Stan & Ollie*  
Toni / *Sabu*  
Rebecca / *Charlie*  
Carolyn / *Ruffles*  
Jan / *Luna*  
Cynthia / *Dallas*  
Mark / *Betty*  
Shayna / *Lady Marmalade*  
Heather / *Berry*  
Doug & Susan / *Josie & Joette*  
Katie / *Alexis*  
Donna / *Bear*  
Leslie / *Zara*  
Adele / *Etoile Bebe*  
Lynette / *Big Blue*  
Charlie & Jennifer / *Ruby*

## OLDER CATS ARE COOL!

Hey, if "*50 is the new 40 and 40 is the new 30*", then "*eight is the new five and a half*" in Maine Coon years. Thinking of adopting a kitty, or know someone else who is? Don't bypass the "older" cat. Older cats make wonderful pets, and cats now live longer than ever before. Well-cared-for indoor cats often live into their late teens or early 20s. (Mixes can live longer than purebreds, so there's another reason to adopt a rescue kitty.)

Each day *is* precious and meaningful to an older kitty that has gone from the streets or a shelter to the comfort of a good home. And the love they bring with them is special and meaningful to the person who adopts an older kitty. Here are a few of our "life-experienced" kitty success stories and a few of our grown-up kitties still waiting for their success stories to be written.

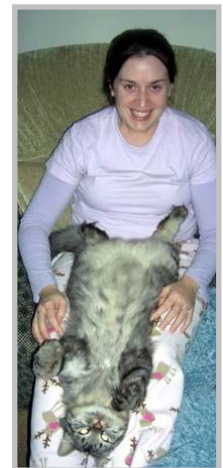
### Mature Kitty Success Stories...



**Chloe** . . . Chloe melted my heart the day I met her. Having an older cat is fantastic! Her spunky personality was well in place; I didn't have to deal with the "kitten crazies" or other associated things with a kitten - chewing, clawing inappropriately, litter box training or anything like that. I also believe that an older cat has a greater appreciation and ability to love than a kitten.

Chloe is a 7-pound spitfire who put her 3 larger brothers in their place almost immediately. Most of my evenings end with Chloe curled up in bed with me along with her 3 brothers, who were also rescued at older ages. Our beloved older Maine Coons have a lot to offer a family and have a lot of good years left in them to be wonderful, loving additions to any family. Please think about adopting an older cat. You will not be disappointed! ~Catherine and Charlie

**Charlie** . . . The description Matt and I got from MCA of our 7 year-old Charlie couldn't have said it better: He's a love, love, lover! Sometimes we refer to him as our miniature golden retriever, because all he wants to do is be near us, and will take any opportunity he sees to hop onto a lap or follow someone around. Within a week of coming to live with us, Charlie had perfected his "Hooray! You're home!" routine (positioning himself just inside the front door) and quickly learned that when we open up the hall closet, it's time to play (feathered wands are the best!). He is the perfect companion for us, and greets our friends with enthusiasm--as long as they agree to rub his belly. He came to us well socialized and polite (litter trained, stays off the table, never scratches the furniture, and hasn't come close to biting or scratching us) and we're very happy to have adopted a grown-up kitty! ~Rebecca and Matthew



**“Experienced” Cats who still Need Homes**

**Athena** . . . If you're not up on your Greek mythology, my name is that of the Goddess of Wisdom and Arts. And although I personally am particularly wise, my owner wasn't – she went off to England and left me behind. Arts-wise, I've mastered the art of being a fabulous companion. I'll follow you around chatting my little heart away. I love being petted and brushed and rolling on my back so you can rub my tummy – and will respond with a warm deep purr when you do. I'm a gorgeous girl with sparkling emerald green eyes, thick, luxurious tortoiseshell-color fur and a long fluffy tail. I'm about seven years old, weigh 10 pounds and would do best in a home without dogs.

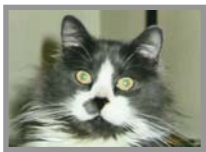


**Mia Maya** . . . For most of my eight years I served as a faithful companion. Unfortunately, my owner died and I was rather inelegantly tossed into a shelter. Luckily, I have been rescued from that horrible place but am still looking for a calm home where I can regain my proper station as a faithful companion once again. A lady doesn't like to brag, but I have been told I have an expressive face with gorgeous eyes and a silky coat that must be felt to be believed. I enjoy listening and will respond in kind. Right now, I'm living in a nice foster home with other cats and a dog, but I'd like to be able to reclaim my rightful position as the one and only animal in the house -- the Queen.



*If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men." -- St. Francis of Assisi*

For more information on Athena or Mia Maya, or any of our adoptable kitties (see them at [www.mainecoonadoptions.com](http://www.mainecoonadoptions.com)) contact Elaine at [elaineln@pacbell.net](mailto:elaineln@pacbell.net) or 510-482-6179.



**ASK MR. FERGUS...**

*Older Cats are Grrrrreaaaaat!*

**Dear Mr. Fergus:** We are trying to decide whether to adopt a kitten or an adult cat. Can you help us? -- *Looking for Love*

**Dear Looking** -- Mr. Fergus cannot deny that kittens are sooooo cute! But then, we adult MCs are pretty cute, too, if I may say so, and we've got lots of other things going for us. You know what we're going to look like when we grow up and what kind of personality we're going to have because we're there already. (I don't want to mention names, but not all cute kittens turn into cute adults.) We adult cats are less likely to eat your electrical cords, break your lamps or get into other kinds of trouble because we've worked hard on the impulse control issues we had as kittens.

I think the best reason to adopt an older cat, though, is that you might be its last chance for a loving home. Many of us end up in shelters through no fault of our own. Separated from our loved ones, we get confused and frightened, and sometimes don't "show" well as a result. So, we sadly watch one loving family after another pass us by for a cute kitten. Indoor cats can live well into their late teens or even early twenties and can give you many years of love and companionship. We Maine Coons typically remain playful and active throughout most of our lives. (I personally pose a serious danger to every kind of flying toy.) So, I recommend that you seriously consider giving a loving home to an older kitty.



**DONATIONS**

Every dollar that you donate to MCA counts...and many of you have been so generous with donations – our kitties thank you!

Did you know that:

- \$45-60 pays for spay/neuter at a rescue friendly vet;
- \$30 pays for one kitty being tested for FIV/FELV, (essential when we rescue from a shelter)

Maine Coon is a all volunteer, non-profit organization.

Your donations are tax deductible.

Please make checks out to SAFE\* (Saving Animals from Euthanasia) and send them in the enclosed envelope to:

Maine Coon Adoptions  
2527 Carmel Street  
Oakland, CA 94602

\*Because MCA is the CA chapter of SAFE, a larger rescue group, all donations must be made out to SAFE. Rest assured that 100% of your donations go to Maine Coon Adoptions kitties.