

# Maine Coon Adoptions



Help us help our kitties! Donate to MCA by making checks payable to SAFE and sending them to Maine Coon Adoptions at 2527 Carmel St., Oakland, CA 94602

November 2008

63 kitties found loving homes since our July newsletter!

## Family / Kitty

Miles / *Maggie*  
Joyce / *Winston*  
Cherry / *Kiri & Cady*  
Maureen / *Washington*  
Lisa / *Rollin*  
Margaret / *Baron*  
Debbie & Hans / *Pumpkin*  
Ashika / *Clarence*  
Elizabeth & Chris / *Remington*  
Rose Mary & Jim / *Abby*  
Jennifer / *Allie & Amber*  
Molly / *Jade*  
Renee, Dan & Lael / *Dusk*  
Houston / *Jack*  
Lisa / *Nim & Puck*  
Nicholette & Mason / *Brigette Aphrodite*  
Jackie / *Bunny*  
Angela / *Tike*  
Nedra / *Stella*  
Susan / *Max*  
Grace & John / *Ace & Amelia*  
Carla & Jim / *Lili*  
Catherine / *Tessa*  
Anne / *Moominbags*  
Joni / *Rocky & Shadow*  
Felisa / *Calliope*  
Joel / *Mindy*  
Frank & Donna / *Jakey Sunshine*  
Jennifer / *Kida*  
Mark & Sitti / *Bobby*  
Gary / *Ramsey*  
Colleen / *Angel*  
Louise / *Wellington*  
William & Linda / *Toby*  
Lisa & Dennis / *Adric*  
Elena / *Spirit & Frea*  
Lisa & Lori / *Josephine*  
Heather / *Remington*  
Susan / *Emma*  
Jennifer & Lance / *Mia Maya*  
Angela / *Jenny*  
Molly / *Linus*  
Lisa & James / *Zeus*  
Paula & Jack / *Gilbert*  
Stephanie / *Mitzi*  
Sara & Mike / *Oreo*  
Christine / *Scottie*  
Angela / *Jenny*  
Eileen & Gianfranco / *Willie*  
Dusty / *Sunshine*  
Merle / *Oofde*  
Bob & Sharon / *Wally*  
Christina / *Stormy & Gina*  
Oy & Kirk / *Sterling*  
Roya, Eric & Tyler / *Caramel*



**Greetings from The Director:** There's lots of bad news out there for all of us with the economic downturn. I get 3-4 wrenching calls every week from people who don't think they can keep their kitties any more. But, there's some good news as well. We have seen our adoption numbers remain stable. In fact, they're up a bit over the same time last year. But charitable contributions are expected to go down generally, so we've come up with some exciting ways for you to get something in return for donations (other than the wonderful satisfaction of helping homeless kitties). There also are some things we can do together to help homeless kitties (and other animals) get through these tough times. Won't you join us? > > *Elaine Lyford-Nojima*

## Economy Delivers Triple Whammy to Homeless Kitties

### Whammy No. 1: More pets are being dropped off at shelters

MSNBC reported recently that shelters all over the country are seeing huge jumps in the number of pets being dropped off at shelters. For example, the Central Valley Society for the Prevention of Cruelty in Fresno, California reported a 60% increase in the number of cats dropped off in May of 2008 compared to May of 2007.



And these cats may be the lucky ones. Many realtors have come to dread what they'll find when they walk into foreclosed homes, and they have taken to carrying dog and cat food, leashes and first aid kits in the trunks of their cars. It's often too late for these measures, however, as pets abandoned in foreclosed homes don't survive long without food and water.

### Whammy No. 2: Adoption numbers are down at shelters

The stock market isn't the only thing that's down; the Humane Society is reporting its adoptions are down, too. As the economy worsens, shelters are seeing fewer and fewer people willing to take on the added responsibility of another mouth to feed.



### Whammy No. 3: Charitable giving is down

The "San Francisco Chronicle" ran an article in October 2008 noting that charitable organizations all across the board are bracing for the worst. "Newsweek" magazine recently reported that this year - and possibly next - are likely to be lean years for nonprofit organizations. Data provided by Giving USA showed that during the last 40 years, charitable giving fell during years in which the economy was in recession, or in years in which the stock market suffered a serious dislocation.



**But,** there are things we can do together to give a helping hand to homeless kitties to get them safely through these rough economic times. See the next page for some ideas.

## Making Your Donations

### Do Double-Duty

We can't do rescue without donations, but we like to find ways for our donors to make their donations do double duty.

We have two campaigns to raise money for the kitties.

#### 1. Arbonne beauty products.

One of our adopters - Gina Kline - will donate all of the profits from the sale of Arbonne beauty, nutrition & health products to MCA kitties for the rest of the year!



**Help homeless kitties by purchasing Arbonne health & beauty products.**

**ARBONNE.**

All purchases must be made through Gina or directly from the Arbonne website -

www.arbonne.com - using Gina's Consultant ID (15510303). Contact Gina at (562) 533-4291 (cell), (951) 696-0767 (home), or by email: [ginakline@verizon.net](mailto:ginakline@verizon.net).

#### 2. Santa Paws Photo Shoot:

Your pet's photo with Santa:

**Dates:** Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 13th & 14th

**Time:** Saturday 10:00 - 5:00  
Sunday 11:00 - 5:00.

**Where:** PETSMART  
185 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose

For \$9.95, you'll receive a print of your pet in a Holiday paperboard frame. MCA receives \$5.00 from each package purchased.

Check out our redesigned website (same address - [mainecoonadoptions.com](http://mainecoonadoptions.com)). Sara Bruce, one of our volunteers, spent hours and hours working on the site to make it more navigable and attractive. You rock. Sara!

## Helping Kitties Together

There are many ways you can assist pet owners during the foreclosure crisis.



1. **Donate pet food, litter & other pet supplies** to organizations that can distribute these items to families in need. Contact your local shelter or humane society, or call Elaine (510-482-6179), and she can point you in the direction of groups distributing pet supplies to needy families. By reducing the costs of pet ownership, you can help families keep their pets with them.



2. **Accept the pets of people in crisis.** Some people just need someone to take their pets temporarily while they find other housing. If you know a family who needs temporary housing for its pet, take the pet in for a limited period of time. Or, let MCA or your local shelter know you are willing to temporarily foster a pet whose owner just needs a little time. We can only take in kitties if we have foster space for them.

3. **Let people know about pet-friendly housing.**

The following sites are dedicated to helping renters with pets find housing, or are general housing sites that also provide pet-renting resources:

San Francisco SPCA East Bay Housing List

[www.apartmentguide.com](http://www.apartmentguide.com)

[www.apartmentworld.com](http://www.apartmentworld.com)

[www.apartments.com](http://www.apartments.com)

[www.aptstorrent.com](http://www.aptstorrent.com)

[www.peoplewithpets.com](http://www.peoplewithpets.com)

[www.petapartments.net](http://www.petapartments.net)

[www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com)

[www.humanesociety.org/rentwithpets](http://www.humanesociety.org/rentwithpets)

(These websites are not affiliated with MCA.)



4. **Donate to rescue organizations.** Shelters are more crowded than ever, and pets that end up in shelters often are older and get passed over by people looking for younger pets. MCA strives to make sure that 20-25% of the kitties we pull from high-kill shelters are older kitties or kitties with special needs. Help organizations like MCA ease the glut of kitties in shelters and rescue older kitties.

5. **Let your veterinarian know that finances are tight** and ask that he or she prescribe only the most vital vaccinations to keep your pet healthy.



## Ask Mr. Fergus

**Dear Mr. Fergus:**

My family wants to help kitties, but things are a little tight this year. Any ideas on how they can help? -- *Charitable Charley.*

**Dear Charitable:**

Charity begins at home, I always say, so make sure your family buys you lots of toys and treats this holiday season. To help kitties at the same

time, they just have to do their holiday shopping through iGive.

iGive has hundreds of stores (including Home Depot, Land's End, Office Depot & Macy's) that will donate a percentage of online purchases (up to 26%) to MCA when you sign up for iGive and go to the store of your choice through the iGive website.

Sign up by going to [mainecoonadoptions.com](http://mainecoonadoptions.com) and clicking on the Donate

link. Then scroll down and click on the iGive logo. That will take you directly to the registration page for MCA. Just sign up and shop away. There's no extra charge to shop through iGive.

Unrelated to iGive, your family can have a portrait painted of you (!!) and part of the proceeds will go to MCA. Check out the Donate page on our website for details.

Mr. Fergus thinks no home should be without a portrait of a kitty (preferably him) hanging over the mantle.