



July 2009

47 kitties found loving homes since our March newsletter!

Family / *Kitty*

Nicole / *Mellie*  
Sharon & Roger / *Dusty*  
Diana & Brock / *Giselle*  
Roger & Eduardo / *Dionysus*  
Steven / *Sabrina*  
Tim & Serena / *Takoda*  
Marjie / *Simon*  
Albertine / *Joey*  
Jim & Benita / *Isadora*  
Laura & Mark / *Scamper & Licorice*  
Carolyn / *Cotton & Cloud*  
Stephanie & Jim / *Sally*  
Claudine / *Maggie*  
Cathleen & Vic / *Sam*  
Tom & Rene / *Gina*  
Stacey & Yassine / *Annie*  
Jeanne & Buddy / *Morton*  
Debbie / *Nigel*  
Genevieve & Matt / *Chet*  
Joan & Dan / *Andy*  
Lindsay & Bill / *Beatrice*  
Christine & Joe / *Simba & Roxie*  
Jeanne & Michael / *Love Bug & Max*  
Tom & Florence / *Cherry & Bridget*  
Sam & Suzanne / *Pumpnickel & Clayton*  
Thomas / *Joey*  
Sha Sha & Albert / *Poopy & Boots*  
Lisa / *Sharon*  
Carolyn / *Wyatt*  
Suzanne / *Xandra*  
Steve & Terry / *Bubbles*  
Sheila & Mike / *Kush & Luv*  
Marcie & Rick / *Pandora*  
Lois & Don / *Rory*  
Patt & Ted / *Chase*  
Caryl / *Warren*  
Andrea & Mike / *Fortunata*  
Meghan / *Stormy*  
Caitlin & Isabelle / *Harry*

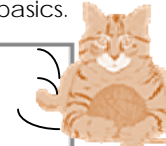
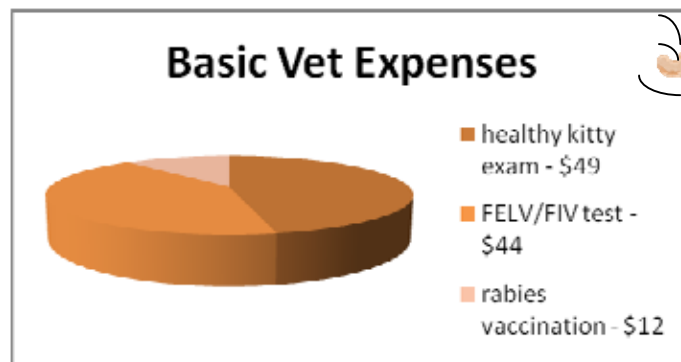


**Greetings from The Director:** Since we're putting this newsletter together on the 4th of July, I've got apple pie on my mind. So, we're putting a few pie charts in the newsletter to let you know where all the money that saves kitties' lives goes. We're also launching a "Second Chance Fund" to save kitties with treatable medical problems that all too often lead to euthanasia. Something as simple as an upper respiratory infection - easily treated with antibiotics - is often a death sentence in the high-kill shelters from which we rescue kitties. Won't you contribute and help us give a second chance to many wonderful kitties? > > *Elaine Lyford-Nojima*

## SECOND CHANCE FUND - SAVING LIVES TOGETHER

### Need for the Second Chance Fund

This summer we're kicking off our Second Chance Fund to help us rescue kitties with treatable medical problems. Let's start with the basics. We take all our kitties to the vet for a healthy kitty exam, FELV/FIV testing and vaccinations before we put them up for adoption. That's over \$100 for a kitty who needs absolutely nothing more than the basics.



*OK, I've had the routine vet stuff done - - but we're not yet finished with the basics.*

*I still need to be **micro-chipped**. MCA volunteers do the chipping themselves, to save money, but MCA still has to buy the chips, and register the cats which costs \$20 per cat.*

While we do have some kitties that only need the basics, it is much more likely that even an "inexpensive" kitty will need at least a little something more. And, of course, we're not even talking about kitties that need to be spay/neutered, which can run anywhere from \$23-\$80 depending on the procedure.

Our two biggest expenses are veterinary care and supplies, which include, ringworm treatment, antibiotics, other medication and microchips.

### What Your Contribution Can Buy

- \$5 - one FVRCP vaccination (which we give to the cats ourselves to save \$\$)
- \$20 - one microchip & one chip registration
- \$22 - one course of antibiotic treatment
- \$39 - one day in the vet hospital
- \$41 - one urinalysis
- \$68 - one x-ray



Donate by sending a check payable to SAFE to Maine Coon Adoptions at 2527 Carmel St., Oakland, CA 94602.

## Ask Mr. Fergus



Dear Readers,

I wanted to share some thoughts on **summer safety** with you today.

Summer can be a busy time with family gatherings and out-of-town guests. Some kitties relish the chance for extra attention, while others (like me) find the nearest hiding place.

Whatever your kitty's reaction, just make sure your guests know there are indoor-only kitties in the house, so they don't leave doors or windows open and let your kitties escape. Also, make sure water bowls are kept full and fresh. Keep your kitties well-brushed as they shed their winter coats.

If you're planning a trip out of town, consider having a kitty sitter come in to care for your kitties while you're gone. (We're pretty attached to our territory and are often happier at home even if you're gone.) If you board your kitties, call in advance as spots tend to fill up, and bring your cat's regular food and some item with a familiar scent, such as a favorite kitty bed, or even a t-shirt you wear. Make sure your kitties are up-to-date on shots before you go,

Most of all, have fun this summer!



MCA says "hats off" to beezwax data-tools in Oakland for helping us set up our new database at a reduced rate so we can keep better track of our kitties. Many thanks! Check them out at [www.beezwax.net](http://www.beezwax.net).

## Second Chance Fund Success Stories

### Pumpnickel:

Pumpnickel was living on the streets in Fresno and starving to death because he had a dental condition that wouldn't let him eat. A woman who was trying to feeding him on the streets told us he would growl at his food and run away or try to eat and cry piteously. When we took him into our care and our vet opened his mouth, his gums were blood red, they were so inflamed. He weighed less than 9 lbs, which was just a little more than half of what he should have weighed.

He had to have all his teeth removed, but he's now healthy, putting on weight and, best of all, loving his new adoptive home!



### Dani:

Dani came to us a few months ago with chronic vomiting, which was finally diagnosed as Irritable Bowel Disease, after x-rays, an ultrasound and other diagnostic tests.

She's now on a special diet and medication and is thriving. We expect she can discontinue medication soon now that her system is calming down. We think this is the first time in her whole life of two + years that she feels good!

She's now ready for adoption and has a great, playful personality, as you can see. Also, check her out on utube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljjBHj-PMYA>



## Second Chance "Sponsor a Kitty" Program

*We've got some hefty vet bills coming due later this month, and to be quite frank, we're not sure how we're going to pay them all. Sometimes in rescue, we get a spate of kitties with unexpected medical needs that quickly drain the bank account. You can help by sponsoring one of the kitties on this page, or another kitty. See details below.*



**Riley** came to us from Bakersfield, where he had been dumped in a feral colony. He had scabs on his body from a flea allergy, but a shot of steroids calmed the inflammation. Now he is on regular flea meds and doing beautifully!



**Jim Bond** was diagnosed with bronchitis (a first for us). He's now on a very low dose of steroids. He's got lots of energy and is playing nonstop with no wheezing or asthma. This great guy even gets along with dogs.



**Ella** is a 10-year-old cat, returned to us because of urination problems. After urinalysis and other testing, it turned out she had no medical issue at all. She just didn't like the other kitties she was living with. She's now a single cat and doing GREAT.

**If you can help by sponsoring Riley, Jim Bond, Dani, Ella, or another kitty with vet bills coming due soon, the kitties would applaud you forever - and so would we! You don't have to commit to the whole bill - anything will help. Please contact Elaine at [elainel@pacbell.net](mailto:elainel@pacbell.net) or 510-482-6179 to learn more.**