

115 kitties found loving homes since our June newsletter!

Kitty / Family

- Emma / Gene
- Britton / Elaine & Dana
- Autumn / Jane
- Nancy Drew / Ruth & Scott
- Deirdre / Marisa
- Snow White / Juveria
- Jaxon & Chazz / Brian & Samantha
- Misty / Judy & Jerry
- Mr. Mittens & Atticus / Erin
- Marmalady / Ellyse
- Nellie / Adele
- King / Janet
- Bradley / Michael & Anne
- Jeti / Jim & Kathy
- Catlin & Calvin / Donna & C.J.
- Buzzy & Sami / Mimi
- Crockett / Karen & Robert
- Darla / Marisa
- Nermal / Marie
- Ulysses / Denise & Ryan
- Harriet / Josie & Ben
- Hershey / Vanessa & Riley
- Tia / Martha & Peter
- Portland & Luna / Rachelle
- Annie / Suzanne
- Beau / Jenn
- Harrison / Shirley
- Phoenix / Meredith & Jim
- Nectarine / Cindy & Rich
- Missy / Mercedes
- Jinxy / Janice
- Lily / Conny
- Samson / Anita
- Solomon / Caroline
- Henry / Kathleen
- Gizmo & Sam / Narissa & Rick
- Abba & Otto / Karl & Denise
- Tahiti & Tahoe / Lisa
- Harry Winston / Michael & Lisa
- Izzie / Renee & William
- Eartha Kitty / Simon & Jane
- Sola / Ben
- Tosh / Jane
- Oliver / Carolina & Mike
- Honeybee / Laura
- Nikki / Lindsey
- Mallory / Stephanie
- Mr. Beazley / Doris
- Gavi / Cordelia
- Luigi / Linda & Tony
- Zara / Michael
- Simon / Lory & Dan
- Tara, C.C. & Steve / William
- Charlie Rocket / Kate
- Simon & Stella / Leslie & Preston
- Jack / Kirk & Mishi
- Camilla & Zoe / Suzy & Logan
- Carpenter / Arianna & Bill
- Marley / Carl & Jennifer
- Gus & Boots / Michelle & Michael
- Hallie / Kerrilyn
- Marilyn Munroe / Anne & Alonso
- Squirt / Jackie
- Tiny Tim & Trace / Victoria & Matthew
- Elliot / Kaetchen
- Zorra & Luigi / Patty & Patrick
- Big Dave / Yu-Han



Greetings from The Director: This is the time of year when we gather with the people we love, grateful for their presence in our lives. On a personal note, I am thankful to have had darling Winnie [pictured at left] in my life. Winnie went to Kitty Heaven recently at age 17. She taught me the sweetness of a "life experienced" kitty as we adopted her when she was 11. As for Maine Coon Adoptions, we are nearing our 1000th cat adopted out by our group! I wish you the very best of holidays. Thank you for making 2010 a very special year. >>> Elaine Lyford-Nojima

Playing with your Cat

If you've got a cat or two on your holiday shopping list, you're probably scratching your head. As a cat owner, you must have at least a few toys that looked to you like - um, the cat's meow - until you brought them home and your kitty gave you that "you've got to be kidding" look. Trying to predict what toy a cat might fancy is like trying to guess how many jelly beans there are in that big jar in the candy store, but there are some toys that we seem to hear about over and over and that our own cats like. But first a bit about the importance of play and safety.

Play is healthy for your cat

No matter what their age, most cats naturally love to play. For them, play is mostly make-believe hunting, so it's not surprising that it often involves teeth and paws. Early in your relationship, it's good to let the cat know hunting should be directed toward toys, not humans. If you use your hands as toys, your cat thinks it's OK to scratch or bite them, and you're going to need a lot of band-aids. When you play with your kitty, keep a toy in between you and the kitty — that way the toy is the outlet for their more aggressive instincts, not your fingers.

A good toy is a safe toy . . .

Who said a cat is like a two-year-old? Some of the rules are the same: if a toy has parts that can be swallowed, it is dangerous. The same is true for small balls, ribbon, tassels, rubber bands and bells. The barbs on a cat's tongue point backward down the throat, so once something is in kitty's mouth, it can be hard to get out. Look out for toys that have shiny bits of metal that a cat might swallow or toys with glued-on decorations or trim. Also, check to make sure the toy is not made of a toxic substance.



Toys that appeal to the hunter

Think of your house as a jungle lookout.

Our adopters understand that the outdoors is a dangerous place for cats, so we keep them inside. But looking around won't hurt. Climbing frames and cat towers near a window give your kitty a panoramic view of the outside world. This is the kitty equivalent of reading the morning newspaper.

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

MaineCoonAdoptions.com / PreventingEuthanasiaThroughRescue.com

Yes, I want to help the kitties!

Donated by: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone/E-mail (optional): _____

Gift: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 other \$ _____



Please make checks payable to **PET Rescue** and mail to:

Maine Coon Adoptions
 2527 Carmel Street
 Oakland, CA 94602

PET Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, tax i.d. No. 27-0225418.

Kitty / Family

Lucy / Naomi & Eddie
 Loki & Ginobelli / AnnaMaria & Alan
 Puss No Boots / Sharon & Chris
 Gobi / Michael & Anne
 Oscar / Kelly & James
 Magnus / Barry
 Sinatra & Robinson / Nicole
 Bella / Stephanie
 Casper / Michael & Lisa
 Figaro / Janet
 Caesar / Terry & Wayne
 Mr. Big / Bruce
 Dash & Oreo / Stephanie
 Dory / Ronald & Frances
 Bear & Cricket / Lori & Mike
 Kiki / Jennifer & Lance
 Hank & Johnson / J. Bob
 Patty & Tam / Sarah & Steve
 Wilkinson / Lori & William
 Melody / Ann
 Paris & London / Christina
 Lilliana / Diane & Colleen
 Tippi / Gayle & Don
 Boo & Simba / Natalie & Paul

Ask Mr. Fergus**Dear Mr. Fergus,**

I can't wait to sink my fangs into some enticing new plants in my house. What sauce goes best with those red plants my humans call pointy setters? -- Puttin' on the Bib

Dear Bib,

If you go munching on that "pointy setter" you're going to be puttin' on a hospital gown, not a bib. Poinsettias are toxic for kitties. The Cat Fanciers' Assoc. (they'd change the name to the Fergus Fanciers' Assoc. if they met me) says lilies, mistletoe and holly berries are even more dangerous.

And then there's the water in the Christmas tree stand - it may contain harmful fertilizers or bacteria. Poultry bones can splinter when chewed, and chocolate is not the right splurge item for us kitties.

So, stick to kitty food and your own water bowl and stay out of the martinis and dip. But practice your mournful look to get an extra helping from your humans during the holidays when they're at their weakest.

Toys that appeal to the hunter - continued**Stock the jungle with potential game.**

Cats are programmed to watch and stalk birds. Put a bird feeder near a window, and your kitty can do a lot of birding without any risk to the birds. For the same reasons, fish tanks (with a firmly attached lid) can be pleasurable for your cat. Or give kitty a "fake" bird for an indoor hunt - a wand with feathers on the end, or with replaceable feathers at the end of a cord.

Provide a place to lurk.

The prey may be imaginary, but cats still need a place to hide while they're planning the hunt. This may explain the popularity of the cat tunnels so common in pet stores. But we're talking about a kitty's imagination here. An empty box or a large paper bag can also provide a place to hide.

**Let kitty "shop" for toys.**

With cats, anything can be a toy. A spool of thread, a ball of yarn, even a wadded up piece of paper can keep them happily occupied. One of our volunteers had a kitty that turned one of those plastic laundry baskets with the lattice-work sides into a toy. Another cat "liberated" some corks waiting for recycling and gave them a new purpose in life.

We'd love to hear from you about what toys have worked for your kitties. Please let us know by posting a note on our Facebook page. To find us on Facebook, just enter "Maine Coon Adoptions" in the search box up near the top of your Facebook page and click on "Maine Coon Adoptions Official Fan Page" in the dropdown list.

Next newsletter we'll show you how to teach your kitty to pick up his toys when he's done playing with them. [Just kidding.]

We send special holiday blessings to . . .**Dr. Michael Evans and all the folks at El Sobrante's Animal Care Clinic**

Just about everyone who adopts a cat from us can say thanks to Dr. Mike and his staff at ACC, who make sure all our cats are healthy (or get healthy). He has a very sophisticated practice and is able to diagnose and effectively treat the sometimes complicated health issues of our cats. Dr. Evans offers his services at discounted prices to rescue groups.

Paws on Piedmont and its owner Gail Senoglu

You can often find us spending our weekends showing our cats at Adoption Fairs at Paws on Piedmont. Owner Gail Senoglu has been extraordinarily gracious and generous in allowing us to take over her front window with our kitties. A true rescue partner!

Our tireless volunteers

Our 70+ volunteers work tirelessly to rescue kitties, provide loving foster homes, staff adoption fairs, screen adopters, and much more. For example, while one volunteer was on vacation this year, she turned her apartment into a kitty dormitory, and other volunteers took turns looking in on the residents.

Our faithful donors & new adopters

Rescue is impossible without money, and we've been blessed with support from many people this year - large and small donations from adopters and volunteers, and from Maddie's Fund, which donated \$500 for every cat we adopted over one hot weekend in June. All of this would be meaningless without the dozens of individuals and families who step forward each year to give happy homes to our wonderful kitties. Here's to all you folks with MCA alumni in the family



DON'T FORGET - MAINE COON ADOPTIONS IS NOW A DIVISION OF PREVENTING EUTHANASIA THROUGH RESCUE (PET RESCUE), A NONPROFIT
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