

102 kitties found loving homes since our October newsletter!

Kitty / Family

- Absinthe / Jeanette & David
- Amico / Pamela
- Audrey Hepburn / Sally
- Avery / Anita
- B.K. / Leslie
- Bear / Felicia & Richard
- Berlin / Eve
- Big Boy & Merlin / Joan & Barry
- Bisou / Erika
- Bumi & Korra / Ronnie
- Buster / Michelle
- Chelsea, Lil Bit & Remington / Leslie & Rory
- Coco / Ruth
- Dalton / Marissa & Tim
- Dartmouth / Carole & Les
- Dax / Cara
- Dellilah & Loki / Joseph & Amy
- Denver / Kymberly
- Dexter / Heather & Craig
- Edna / Amy & Matthew
- Ella / Scott & Jenkins
- Rocky / Vanessa & Lance
- Fergus McClusky / Anders & Susan
- Fran / Robyn & Tony
- Gabriel, Gloucester & Stowe / Kathleen & Barry
- George / Hannah & Matthew
- Gershwin / Joanne & Brian
- Ginger Rogers / Amelia
- Gracie Lu / Patty & Roger
- Hippity & Gabrielle / Regina & David
- Honey Bear / Mike & Gerri
- Honey Bear / Sharon
- Jane / Joanne
- Jerry, Herbie & Taffy / Lisa & Jim
- Koyaani / Milin & Kelly
- Lego & Noella / Shayne & Adam
- Liam, Troy & Ipswich / Joelle & Mark
- Lillian / Nikhil & Emily
- Lily / Laura & Mike
- Lily / Nathan & Lisa
- Lionel & Sam / Ian & Sunny
- Lucy / Gretchen
- Luna / Mandalyn, Rye & Moonoka
- Luv / Sheila & Mike
- Maddie / Jamie & Brent
- Manchester / Tirzah
- Marcus / Leslie & Phillip
- Marigold / Joan & Dave
- Melbourne / Maureen & Ed
- Molly / Erik
- Mrs. Grey / David & Pamela
- Natalie & Kiera / Caitlin
- Pee Wee / Jennifer
- Penny / Delphine & Dennis
- Petey / Steve & Barbara
- Pickles / Denise & Jac
- Pinky / Ricky & Janet
- Princess / Chris
- Pursy / Keri & Raphael
- Quincy / Wanda & John
- Regal / Jeff
- Rory & Craig / Robert & Kellye
- Rosie / Will
- Ruby / Ivor & Amy
- Rudy / Joni



Greetings from the Director: The list of people who make rescue possible is a long one -- from folks who open their homes to foster kitties, to those who review applications and talk with prospective adopters, to kind-hearted people who give homeless kitties a chance at a new life through their donations. The kitties are deeply indebted to all these members of the rescue community. >>>> Elaine Lyford-Nojima



Ask Mr. Fergus: Banishing Boredom

Dear Readers, A lot of the mail I'm getting right now from other kitties contains the same complaint -- "I've got Spring Fever! I'm bored!" So, Feline Minds' Cat Behavior Consultant, Mikel (510.619.9567), agreed to sit down for an interview about keeping your kitty entertained.



Dude - I am, like, SOOOO bored!

Mr. Fergus: Mikel, first tell us why humans need to worry about their kitties getting bored. I mean, don't we just sleep all the time anyway?

Mikel: Despite their legendary sleeping abilities, cats really are born to move and hunt. Their hearing is acute; they can see in low light; they detect odors we humans can't. They can jump several times their own height and change direction mid-air with lightening speed. Imagine having all those abilities and never getting to use them! Muscles and minds need exercise to stay healthy. Bored cats can develop destructive behaviors to release pent-up energy. For instance, they may over-groom, chew or scratch things they shouldn't, overeat, or start picking on other animals in the home. They also can lose their appetites.



Mr. Fergus: Thank you, Mikel, for reminding readers how fabulous I am. So, what should humans do to keep us from getting bored?

Mikel: **Think vertical!** The world is oriented bottom to top for cats, not horizontally, so increasing their vertical territory (critical for multi-cat households) with a kitty condo provides both entertainment and security. If there's tension among cats in the household, vertical space gives cats the chance maintain their distance and avoid conflict. A high spot can be a safe harbor for a timid cat as well. You also can buy or make window perches that attach to windows (some even have heating pads). Many websites, such as www.moderncat.net, provide a wealth of ideas for adding vertical space.

Mr. Fergus: And zen zere is ze little "love nest" opportunities wiz ze kitty condos, oui?



Mikel: Ahem. To continue. **Think visual!** Put a kitty condo next to a window, and your kitties can check out the fascinating (but dangerous) outdoor world safely. This experience is even better when they have a piece of furniture they can scratch and play on. Enhance the view with a nearby bird-feeder, and you'll really up the entertainment quotient. Many cats also are fascinated by cat DVDs that feature prey.



Will work for food! Nature doesn't hand your cat all her food in a bowl, and neither should you! But you don't have to supply live mice to simulate hunting. Puzzle feeders are feeders that make your cat work a little to get some of his food. They can be as simple as a ball with holes in it where kibble randomly falls out as the cat rolls it around. (..... continued on back)

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



*Certified by Independent Charities of America as one of the Best In America

Maine Coon Adoptions is the adoption division of Preventing Euthanasia Through Rescue (PET Rescue)

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

Kitty / Family

Samson, Delilah & Ralph / Teresa
Sapphie / Justin & Tina
Shima / MaryNeale & John
Simon / Amanda
Snow Toe / Brigitte & Andreas
Spy / Heidi & Ezra
Stella & Luna / Carla & Fred
Tamlin / Suzanne & Blair
Thalia / Glynn & Yossi
Tibby / Maren & Daniel
Tick / Pamela
Tucker & Titus / Jen
Tucker / Paige
Wanda / Sarah & Bradley
Ziggy / Melissa & Jeremy
Lindy / Paul



Banishing Boredom, continued . . .

Often, puzzle feeders can be adjusted to your cat's skill level (make it easy at first until she gets the hang of it). You can buy them or make your own. Look for instructions on making your own at <http://www.purinaone.com/pets/cats/diet/enrich-feeding-time-for-your-cat-make-her-a-puzzle-feeder> or other websites. A puzzle feeder also can help an overweight cat shed pounds by slowing down eating and burning a few calories.

Mr. Fergus: I'm sorry. I zoned out daydreaming about yummy mice running all around my kitchen. What were you saying about keeping us stimulated?

Mikel: **Ramp up object play.** Many people say, "my cat doesn't play"...but they only offer "solo" play toys – balls and mice – which are basically "dead prey" to a cat. You can ramp up play sessions with objects by putting a furry mouse inside an empty tissue box. Cut paw-sized holes in a box, tape the flaps closed and toss in some toys. Put a ping pong ball inside a paper bag. Tunnels can be a great play opportunity. Buy soft fabric tunnels or make your own using paper bags. (Fold a 1" cuff at the top. Cut the bottom off, fold a cuff around that end and then tape the bags together.)

Go interactive. Take play to the next level by going interactive. Toys like Da Bird, Feline Flyer, Cat Dancer and Kitty Tease might be good ones to start. Think like a mouse, bug or bird – have the toy quiver, hide, dart across to another hiding place. Try short spurts of movement, sudden attempts to hide behind a chair leg or under a rug. Remember, no mouse or bird would walk up to a cat, so don't wave the toy right in your cat's face. Let your cat be a successful hunter – let him touch, smell and taste that feather wand. Cats use all of their senses (and their brains) when they hunt!



Mr. Fergus: Thanks, Mikel, for talking to me. All you human folks out there, get working on licking Spring Fever in your kitties, and soon all your kitties will be as contented as the MCA alums, Remington & 'Lil Bit (left).

Making it all work . . . cats in; money out; cats go home

Rescuing kitties requires patience, love, practicality, time and money. Last year we spent an average of \$500 per kitty on top of adoption fees, which only covered 14% of rescue expenses. Here's how we keep on going:

FOSTERS: Our fosters don't just give love and time; they donate food and litter for the kitties in their care.

MONTHLY DONORS (aka Faithful Friends): Monthly giving provides consistent cash flow for the vet care our kitties need. You can easily become a Faithful Friend by setting up a monthly donation through the GiveDirect link on our website. It's a hassle-free way to offer enduring support.

MATCHING GRANTS: Many of our donors work at companies that offer matching grants. The kitties get a double dose of support when your employer matches your gift. Now, that's a true Love Match.

ADOPTION AND ANNIVERSARY DONATIONS: Adopters often add something extra to their adoption check. Others donate to celebrate the anniversary of the day their beloved kitties came home (or as one of our anniversary donors put it, "here's Bugsy's yearly warranty renewal.")

SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS: Donors from all over the country have given generously to special campaigns we've run to raise funds for kitties who need surgery. We also are able to cover the costs of some surgeries through the generosity of the Fango Fund* at the U.C. Davis school of Veterinary Medicine and Maddie's Treatable Assistance Program.† Maddie's Fund yearly weekend long Adoptathon is a major source of funding and also accounts for the greatest number of adoptions in a single weekend all year. (The Adoptathon is June 2-1 this year.)

GENERAL DONATIONS: Every month, we get checks and online donations from bighearted folks who believe in giving homeless, abused, and abandoned kitties a second chance at love.

*The Fango Fund was established by two very generous animal lovers in memory of their special companion, "Fango," a German Shorthaired Pointer they rescued. The Fund provides medical and surgical care needed by older rescue dogs and cats in danger of being euthanized.

†Maddie's Fund® (www.maddiesfund.org) is a family foundation endowed by the founder of Workday® and PeopleSoft, Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl. Maddie's Fund is helping to achieve and sustain a no-kill nation by providing solutions to the most challenging issues facing the animal welfare community through Maddie's® Grant Giving and Maddie's Institute.™ Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997. The Treatable Assistance Program is a new pilot program that provides adoption stipends for adoptions of medically treatable or senior dogs and cats.



His foster will care for Barry until he finds a forever home. In the meantime, monthly donors help provide basic vet care for him.

"To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own."
 — Abraham Lincoln



Thanks to caring folks who donated to a special campaign, Bug got much-needed eye surgery.

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