



It takes a village. How Lily got saved...



You're Lily, a 7-year-old kitty with an inflammatory gum disease, dumped in a rural shelter. Ordinarily, you'd end up on the kill list faster than you can say "wha' happened?" But you wound up in the Kings County shelter where Misty works. Misty reaches out to Bay Area rescue groups, which are about the only hope for animals in a shelter in the middle of a sparsely populated area like Kings County. Misty's tireless devotion has saved thousands of cats. In Lily's case, Maine Coon Adoptions had a foster spot open and said, "We'll take her." Misty packed Lily up about 6AM and headed out in her van to make the 4-hour drive to Oakland.

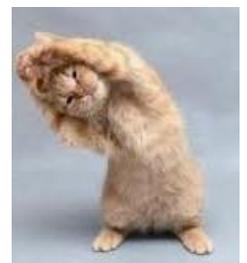


Whew! You're safe. You're not yet home, but now you've got a whole team of volunteers who'll take care of you and love you for as long as it takes to find you that real home.

First, you go through a 10-day quarantine at a volunteer's home to make sure you haven't brought in any diseases from the shelter. You also get thoroughly checked out, vaccinated and tested for FeLV/FIV at MCA's vet. You're in pretty rough shape at this point because your gum disease makes it too painful to eat, but the vet takes care of that, too, putting you on medication that eventually controls the disease, heals your damaged gums and gets rid of your pain. Next, it's off to a foster home, where you get the love and attention you need to thrive. If need be, you'll get extra attention from MCA's team of kitty cuddlers who come to play with and pet kitties who are having trouble learning to trust humans again.



Photographers will volunteer their time to shoot photos of you so potential adopters can check you out on MCA's website. Volunteer videographers will take a video of you for YouTube so you can show off all your moves to possible adopters. A volunteer will write an "ad" describing your personality. The ad will go on the website and will be put in books that are taken to adoption fairs for visitors to look at. Volunteers will transport you to adoption fairs where other volunteers will have learned about your personality and be able to talk to fair visitors about whether you'd be a good match for their family.



Stayin' alive, stayin' alive!

Sometimes it takes awhile to find the right family, but our fosters are patient. MCA had Lily in foster care for 16 months before she found Sue, who fell in love with her and took her home. At Sue's house Lily blossomed into a real people kitty. Sue says, "She really has brought a lot of love and fun to our house – we love her so much."

Note: While we rescue lots of cats from the Bay Area, we love to take in cats from rural shelters because the only way animals usually get out of these shelters is if rescue groups from highly populated areas take them. There's an important behind-the-scenes player in Lily's rescue story that didn't get mentioned above. That player is you -- our donors. In getting Lily physically ready for adoption, we spent over \$2,000 at our vet's, which is not unusual for older cats whose health has been neglected for some years and who have a serious medical condition. Without your donations, Lily's story would have ended in the kill room of the Kings County shelter because we wouldn't have had the money to take her in. You're a huge part of Lily's story. Thank you! >>>>> Elaine Lyford-Nojima, Director, MCA



Getting ready for bathing suit weather -- shedding extra kitty pounds

This is the first in a series of health notes by Purr Pulitzer Prize winning cat, MacGregor (call me Dr. Mac). Today, Dr. Mac would like to talk about diet and exercise.

When I was adopted, I was a tubbo. At over 22 lbs, I couldn't enjoy running, jumping, or chasing toys. Just look at what I could do to the back of a couch if I managed to haul myself up there. I didn't have a vote when my new family put me on a diet since there were no live mice in the house, and I couldn't have caught them anyway. Before rescue, I'd been allowed to free feed on a dry food that was full of grains. Like many cats on a high-carbohydrate diet, I got addicted to carbs, overate and got fat. So, bye-bye dry food and hello to a good, well-balanced canned food with high-grade protein; i.e., recognizable muscle meat, such as chicken, turkey, beef, duck, veal, or salmon, not by-products (beaks, feet, feathers, intestines, bones, and so on). Yum! Soon I was rediscovering my Inner Carnivore and diggin' it. I went from sluggishly waving at toys IF they got close enough, to chasing them all over. Oh yeah, feel the burn! Within a year, just by ditching the high-carb diet and getting more exercise, I was down to fighting trim at 16 lbs.



Mac's Facts:

It's important for cats to lose weight slowly. Obese cats shouldn't lose more than half a pound a month. Cats that are just a little overweight can probably lose a pound a month safely. Check with your vet to be safe.

If you've got a cat in your house who needs to shed a few pounds, check out the flyer on our website on What To Feed Kitty and take a look at <http://www.catinfo.org/>.

Free Adoptions May 30-May 31 (to approved homes). Maddie's® Pet Adoption Days are America's biggest FREE adoption event! MCA will have cats and kittens at:



PETFOOD EXPRESS
3868 Piedmont Ave, Oakland

Saturday, 5/30
Sunday, 5/31

9AM-3PM
10AM-3PM

WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED
692 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill

Saturday 5/30
Sunday, 5/31

10AM-3PM
11AM-3PM

To get pre-approved to adopt, go to maineconadoptions.com and fill out an adoption application.

Maine Coon Adoptions, a division of
Preventing Euthanasia Through Rescue
2527 Carmel St.
Oakland, CA 94602

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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. NL