



Maine Coon Breeders & Fanciers Association
Established in 1968 for the promotion and protection of the Maine Coon Cat

Scratch Sheet

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A DNA-based test for HCM is now available! President's Message

A test for one of the genes which causes HCM has been developed! The test was developed by Dr. Kate Meurs at Washington State University based on the work done by Dr. Kittleson. To order the test kits for your cats, email Dr. Meurs at Meurs@vetmed.wsu.edu to request them. The cost is \$60 for a single test or \$51 each for 5 or more tests ordered in a single shipment.

Research is continuing to identify other genetic causes. MCBFA has voted to donate \$5000 toward this ongoing HCM research. We are also having a fund raising effort to add to that amount. Some cat clubs have been allowing us to have 50-50 or other raffles at cat shows and other fund raisers are planned. Please make a donation and try to raise funds at an upcoming show. You can find more information about how to donate on the MCBFA website at www.mcbfa.com.

We take Paypal – the address is Roxann@velvetjewels.com. As I write this, we have raised about \$3300 in private donations. Not bad, but I know we can do much better.

Here is the EXCITING NEWS: An anonymous donor has offered to match any donations to the HCM fund up to \$5000 starting with all donations made after January 22nd! Anything you donate now will be worth twice as much! This offer was made to help encourage donations by someone who cares very much about the Maine Coon breed. If everyone reading this will donate just \$10 or \$20, we can raise a sizable amount. I would encourage both breeder and fancier members to donate to further this research. Both breeders and pet owners will benefit by having healthier cats in the future.

Lynne Sherer
President



Here is Lynne, judging the Maine Coons in Championship at The Maine Event's first cat show. The Maine Event is one of the numerous clubs to donate show proceeds to MCBFA's HCM fundraiser.