

# The Story of the Maui Bob Rescue

Reprinted and Edited from a Letter sent to 9<sup>th</sup> Life Hawaii

Dear Phyllis

I spoke with you on the phone about a cat I found abandoned and starving on the side of Hana Highway.

Maui Bob (Bag Of Bones) was so hungry, he ate my banana nut bread on the roadside. A kind truck driver stopped and offered his hamburger which Maui Bob ate ravenously. Maui Bob was starving.



Bob is the gray and white tabby

He had been brought to 9<sup>th</sup> Life Hawaii by a caretaker, neutered at your clinic and given the tattoo 9L1584. I contacted 9<sup>th</sup> Life with the tattoo number and received the caretaker/owner's phone number so I could return him to his owner. The caretaker advised that after being aggressive toward other cats in her neighborhood, she and a neighbor decided to dump him on Hana Highway. She stated that she thought he would either die or join a cat colony.

Since he obviously did not have a home, Phyllis suggested taking him back with me. (Editors note: 9<sup>th</sup> Life Hawaii will provide free carriers, when available, to help people take cats off Maui.) I managed to get Maui Bob on an American Airlines flight to San Antonio, Texas, but my pre-booked flight was into McAllen Airport (on the Mexican border) close to where I live. The temperature, however, at McAllen was too hot for animals to travel in cargo so he could not go with me. Arriving at McAllen Airport, my dear patient husband, Lew picked me up and drove 4 hours to pick up Maui Bob in San Antonio. Arriving in San Antonio we learned it was now too hot for Maui Bob to fly into *that* airport. The nearest city he could fly to was Dallas. Would I be willing to drive to Dallas, 10 hours from my home. **Yes.**

Arriving at Dallas-Fort Worth Cargo area after our exhausting travels, we found Maui Bob waiting. We loaded him in the car, stopped for a litter box and supplies, and then drove with him in our laps for the 10 hours to our home in BayView.

When we arrived home, we started to introduce Maui Bob to his new family: seven cats, one black lab and two canaries. I admonished him when he showed any aggression to the other cats and petted him often for his good behavior. Within 10 days of finding him on the Highway, Maui Bob doubled his body weight. He grew from tolerating the other cats to sitting with them. (No aggression.) After 5 weeks he met the Black Lab, Pancho, for the first time. Maui Bob chased the dog around the patio hissing and spitting while Pancho rolled over and wagged his tail in submission. After 20 minutes, Pancho was added to Maui Bob's "friend list." Maui Bob has yet to learn to stop his attempts to eat our two canaries.



Maui Bob

Maui Bob has adjusted well. We are in the midst of remodeling our home which will include a Cat Room complete with a high cat walk around the room, with a set of stairs up the wall to the cat walk, and a floor to ceiling cat pole wrapped in jute. **Editor's note:** Cat Heaven

**Thank you so much Phyllis for your help - Regards, Jeneria Lewis**