

# Maine Coon Breed Committee Candidate

## Liz Brown



I am proud to be a current member and chair of the TICA Maine Coon Breed Committee election. I am asking for your support for another term on the breed committee.

My educational, professional, and life experiences blend well with my personal experience in TICA. This combination of advanced teaching experience, corporate vision, and being an involved Cat Fancier and Breeder allows me to be a respected voice for the Maine Coon Breed Section. My love for my chosen specialty breed, the Maine Coon, and the Cat Fancy, as well as the people that share these same passions, powers my belief that I can be an active and positive representative for my beloved breed.

My introduction to this amazing breed occurred in 1999 when a professor in graduate school bought a kitten & brought him in one day. I was mesmerized by this stunning kitten, and the rest, as they say, is history. In 2001, I adopted his full younger brother. By this time, I had also attended a few shows with that Professor and realized I would like to show a cat in the spayed/neutered class. Unfortunately, my new baby didn't share the same opinion of showing, so he was soon joined by a second Maine Coon companion. After a bit more success, I was hooked on both cat shows and, more specifically, Maine Coons. Educating myself about feline husbandry and Maine Coons, showing my cats, and networking within the cat fancy all laid the foundation for my own cattery, and Chemicoons was born. The name Chemicoons is a merger of the words "chemical" and "Maine Coon" which represents my two passions...my vocation as a Chemistry professor and my hobby as a Maine Coon enthusiast.

I am currently the Maine Coon Breed Committee as committee chair and served since 2011 as a committee member and served a term as the elected Vice-President of the Maine Coon Breeders & Fanciers Association (MCBFA), all with an eye on my main goal...to breed these wonderful cats to produce beautiful, healthy and sweet "gentle giants" for my own home-based breeding program, but also in hopes of providing wonderful companions for other cat lovers as well.

During the past 15 years, I actively served TICA in various roles, from show manager to Great Lakes Regional Director (currently). I am proud of my work as the TICA Mentor Program organizer and originator (alongside Vice President Bobbie Tullo). Without new exhibitors, and breeders, the breed would not thrive, and we would not have the Cat Shows to attend. Most recently, I've been attending various veterinarian conferences throughout the United States, where I work with TICA to promote not only TICA and cats but the beloved Maine Coons as well.

As an exhibitor, I am a regular at all of my regional shows, contributing not only by attendance and entries but also as a clerk, master clerk, entry clerk, mentor, and raffle supporter, as well as pitching in wherever is needed. I travel to shows outside of my region, too, meeting and forming friendships with breeders and fanciers across the world.

As Committee Chair: I believe that, first and foremost, my job has been to represent the members of the section and to keep section members current on all issues relating to the breed and TICA. I work to act as a facilitator of discussion & be active through the dissemination of information. I've worked for the last two years in facilitating the organization and approval of an updated breed standard. In the future, the committee will be working on updating the official breed seminar