

Cat, Missing for Almost 18 Months, is Returned to Owner

Feline that disappeared after a 2004 doctors visit was recovered by a Good Samaritan.

A Dennison, Texas, woman whose cat escaped after a visit to the vet has been reunited with her beloved pet. Pat Belcher of Dennison, Texas, figured she had seen the last of her pet cat, Allie Sue, after the black tabby managed to escape from her carrier after a Fall 2004 visit to a Durant, Okla., veterinarian.

But two weeks ago, Belchers phone rang, and on the other end was a Good Samaritan who had found Allie Sue. The woman, named Tera, worked at a restaurant near the vets office where Allie Sue escaped.

Allies rabies tag enabled restaurant workers to contact the vet, who in turn identified Belcher as the cats owner. Allie Sue had apparently been living by a creek near the restaurant.

When Tera called, I was excited. I couldn't believe it. It was a miracle. All I could say was Oh, thank you, Lord! Its a wonder some wild animal hadn't gotten her, Belcher told the Herald-Democrat newspaper.

Now safe and sound again at the Belchers home, Allie Sue has a different disposition. Where before, she was an indoor-outdoor cat, now she's content to remain indoors constantly and is more friendly toward people.

Allies more affectionate now and she won't go out. And my husband, who has never wanted a cat in the house, hasn't said a word about her staying inside. After what she went through, she deserves it, Belcher said. Posted: April 6, 2006, 5:00 a.m. EST