

Happy Springtime !



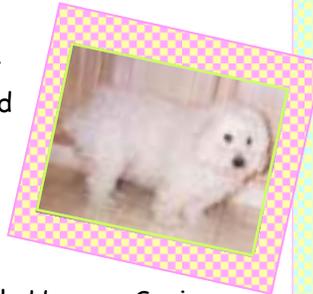
# Bichon Bits and Bytes

## Haggis—On a Journey of Love

Brian and I gratefully found each other and fell in love. With Brian's two little girls as part of our family the Universe then presented us with another family member--a little white fluff of a blessing who eventually became known as 'Haggis', (Brian and I had a long list of names for our little FurKid—but none were exactly right; then Brian's Dad came up with "Haggis" in honor of Brian's Scottish heritage-and the fact that baby Haggis looked just like...a little sheep!

With our wacky sense of humor, we couldn't resist selecting the name, (although it has gotten a mixed reaction over the years, if you know what haggis really is.)

The way we found Haggis was also somewhat unique. He 'called' to me one afternoon, as I felt myself unmistakably pulled to drive to the Peninsula Humane Society. There was 'our boy', in the last kennel, howling and crying with both of his ears turned inside out! I remember cramming my hands through the chain link to pet and cuddle him. It was love *before* first sight, and I knew that he would be just the angel we needed to help turn our house into a true home for Brian's girls. I was certain only Haggis would provide that special bond. For nearly ten years we were blessed to have him in our lives. We could never have been the same without him and the infinite gifts he brought to all of us.

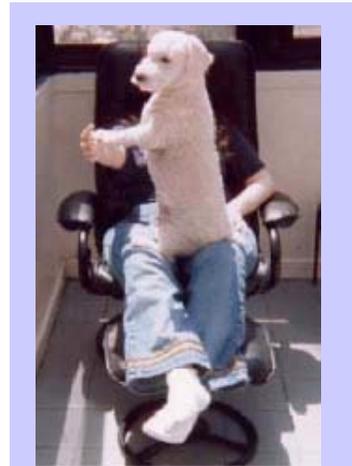


Haggis Part 1	1-2
Haggis Part 2	3-4
BFK Happenings	5
Fostering Bichons	6-7
From Marti's Desk	8
Pet Insurance Overview	9-10
Fostering Flyer	11
Chef Emeril's Doggie Deli Recipe	12
Nannie Network	12
Steps for a Better Relationship with Your Dog	13
People We Recommend	13

Because he was a rescue, Haggis has been an enigmatic fluff ball. We never knew his original name, age, origin or how he wound up in the SF Bay area. Dearest Haggis flew into our lives as a guardian angel and since that day he has been a curious guy, always confident, ready to go, always moving forward. It is these qualities that helped and comforted our family during an unfortunately necessary, painful and tender transition process -surrendering Haggis to the loving care of Marti and the Bichon FurKids organization. Although it has been one of the most difficult decisions we ever had to make, we know for sure that Haggis is enjoying a new adventure. As he moved into his new "Forever Home, we hoped and trusted that this would be yet another happy chapter in his journey. Haggis needed to once again fly on into the world to provide the love and healing of others that he so excels at in his guardian angel role.

As we gathered these photos and wrote this article, it was a bittersweet task. In looking back we have been reminded of how faithful, loving, unwaveringly dedicated and true to our family he was. He has been the glue when things fell apart, our comfort..our constant companion. Extremely intuitive, he has been playful when we needed a laugh, soothing when we needed a hug, comforting when we needed a friend. All without asking or expecting anything in return. (That's not to say he didn't enjoy a good belly rub, a treat or a chance to go bye-bye.

Haggis has seen our family through an amazing history of monumental changes. He has been with us through so many blessings, milestones, celebrations, tears, joy, so much richness, so much love, so many hugs and kisses. There is no area of our lives that Haggis has not graced, or a moment not left better for his presence in it. I cannot remember a single outing with Haggis where strangers didn't go out of their way to stop and meet him and comment on his remarkable beauty. He inspired a million nicknames: the Fuzzy Potsticker, Goobie, Schnoodle, Doobie, Doodle, Booble, and Log amongst them. I am sure the last's origin is obvious. He even let us dye his ears brown! He met Tony Ben-net, who recognized Haggis as a 'Star", brought smiles and comfort to frail elderly residents when he accompanied me to work at a nursing home, and even inspired one 86 year old first-time painter to do his portrait. Haggis also inspired our kids' early drawing which we still cherish all these years later.



Just what can you say about such an amazing creature? Thank you dearest Haggis we will always love you and we miss you.

We are so extremely grateful to Marti and Bichon FurKids and to Haggis's new Forever Family. We couldn't help but smile through our tears as we viewed the pictures they subsequently sent to us. Thank you all for such a happy "un-ending" and for making it possible for dear Haggis to continue in his very important journey of love. The love that you give to him will be returned to you a billion times over, and infinitely after that. With deepest gratitude Brian, Heidi, Roxy and Sam

Read the story of how Haggis has moved on to bring love and healing to his new Family.

## Our Journey with Bichons

Eleven and a half years ago, before we had any children, my husband and I got our first dog, a Bichon we named Tuffy. We considered Tuffy our 'first born' child. He was a lively, spunky little guy that we nicknamed "Mr. Happy."

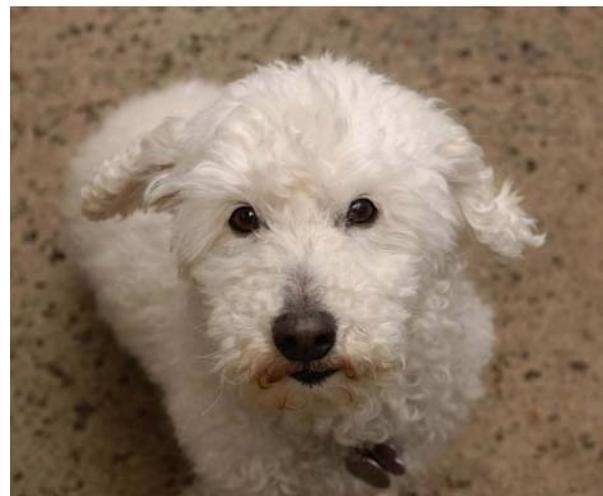
Six months later we got a friend for him, another Bichon that we named Bubba Bear. We also nicknamed Bubba, "Angel". These two dogs were our lives—our schedules happily revolved around these little guys, (Ok, not so little—Bubba is a 19 pound Bichon!)

When Tuffy was about 8 he began having seizures (Our vet couldn't figure out the cause.) The medical staff ended up giving him too much seizure medicine (phenobarb) which caused almost complete liver failure. The vet was surprised that Tuffy was even alive. (Let me add here that Tuffy was always one tough little dog—and in this case, he really lived up to his name!)

For the past 4 years Tuffy was taking seizure medicine, had a cataract (and was blind in one eye), was taking thyroid medicine and on a special diet because of his sensitive stomach. We took turns coming home everyday at lunchtime to feed Tuffy his lunch. (To everyone else Tuffy still looked and acted like one tough, lively, spunky little dog—the picture of health.) Although he required a lot of care and attention we didn't mind. He gave us so much love that we would have done anything for him—and I mean just about anything!

Then on December 3, 2007, Tuffy died of kidney failure (It came on so suddenly...) We were all devastated (me, my husband, my now 8-year old daughter and Bubba). Our lives had changed. Bubba and I cried every day. Bubba cried when we left him home alone; I cried every time I saw Tuffy's empty cage or heard the sprinklers come on (Tuffy barked at those darn sprinklers every time they came on.)

After two months of misery, we realized that we needed another dog. That's when my friend sent me the link to the Bichon FurKids web site. That's how we met Marti and Debbie and were soon asked if we would foster an 11-year old Bichon named Haggis from Northern California. (We live in Thousand Oaks in Southern California). I was reluctant to take another 11 year old dog (Tuffy died at 11, Bubba is 11.....) but I agreed to "just foster him" until Bichon FurKids could find him a Forever Home.



Haggis

Who could resist that face?

## Our Journey with Bichons

Continued

Well.....as you can probably guess, within one day of Haggis arriving, we knew that WE would be his forever home! Haggis and Bubba are "two peas in a pod". They are SO much alike - it's almost spooky. Now Bubba doesn't cry when we leave the house; I don't cry (as much) as before and Haggis is just a little ANGEL. We love him more and more each day. He is such a good boy - he loves to go on walks with Bubba , they sit together on the sofa.....or on either side of me when I sit on the sofa. Haggis listens better than Tuffy or Bubba, and he loves to sleep in this little bed that we placed right beside our bed.

While I know he must miss his other family, I hope he's happy in our home as he has certainly made us all very happy.

Karen, Mike and Bubba



*Bubba and Haggis  
Our two angels*

# BFK Happenings

APRIL

BFK will be participating in America's Family Pet Expo at the Orange County Fairgrounds on April 11, 12 & 13 [www.petexpooc.com/](http://www.petexpooc.com/). We hope to see old friends and meet new friends as we continue to grow and expand throughout Southern California.

## Annual Fund Raising Reminder: Auction Items Needed

Time is flying by and our Annual Bichon Bash will be May 3rd in Encinitas. A separate reminder will be going out soon with all the details. As we did last year, we will be conducting our online auction almost concurrently, starting in April and culminating at the Bash. Please reach out to local businesses and friends and let us know if you can collect contributions (of goods or services) that we can include in our auction. Perhaps your groomer, vet or local pet specialty store would have some items or gift certificates they could contribute. All ideas are welcome. Send an email to [eileen@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:eileen@bichonfurkids.org) with anything you are able to locate.



## Crates, Kennels and Exercise Pens Needed

Please help us to locate unused crates, wire cages and exercise pens. If you were fostering a dog or adopted a dog from us and still have a BFK crate or wire cage, we'd love to get it back. If you have a crate, wire cage or exercise pen you are not using, we would appreciate your donations. We'll gladly provide a tax receipt.

Please contact one of the following volunteers in your area to make arrangements to pick up crates, cages, exercise pens and anything else you would like to donate to our rescue efforts.

Orange county: Michele Olivier,  
[michele@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:michele@bichonfurkids.org)

Los Angeles county: Diana Ashkenazy,  
[diana@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:diana@bichonfurkids.org)

San Diego county: Debbie Gibb,  
[debbie@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:debbie@bichonfurkids.org)

Riverside county: Eileen Davinroy,  
[eileen@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:eileen@bichonfurkids.org)



Remember this picture the next time one of your friends tell you that they have to get rid of their dog because they are going to be bringing a baby into the house.



# Fostering Bichons

Judy Mondero

My husband and I recently became volunteers for Bichon FurKids. We are owned by two Bichons: Cody, who is fourteen years old, a classic Bichon, still filled with joy, although it is much more interspersed with naps these days; and Frodo, who is eight. We call Frodo our Bowery Bichon. He lacks all the classic good looks, is noticeably overweight and something of a curmudgeon around other dogs. He's the baby—and has been grossly spoiled by Cody, and us. The thing is he is the sweetest, funniest dog alive and he just simply charms us all.

Since Cody is in his dotage, and we know that Frodo just keeps getting lazier, we thought it might be a good idea to get another Bichon. We figured that Cody would be thrilled to have another chance at turning out a well-mannered protégé, and we thought perhaps Frodo would like someone who could run and play with him for longer than Cody's 45 second stamina span. Some neighbors mentioned that they had adopted their second dog, Sam, from a Bichon rescue group. My initial response was, "But why would anyone have to rescue a Bichon? Who could say no to faces like theirs?" They laughed but told me that there were lots of little fluffers needing help. So I resolved right then, that when the time was right, I would adopt a rescued Bichon.

I found the FurKids website a week after my husband retired—and within a week or two we were visited by April for our home check.

We had already expressed interest in a dog and had committed to go visit him that weekend. While April was here she told me that BFK needed Foster parents, and that peaked my interest. When it turned out that the little guy we were considering for adoption was just too young and full of beans for our two sluggards, we decided to foster instead.

We received our little rescuee, Cory, a little three year old Bichon, a short time later. He was the victim of a series of really bad hair days, and the first dark skinned Bichon I had seen. With his hair so short he looked somewhat like a sooty dust mop. But he has the typical irresistible Bichon face, the puppy prance, and the sweet loving ways of his breed.

When Cory arrived, and for the next 36 hours, he was terrified, anxious to not displease us, and very skittish of everyone except my husband, Steve, who became his safety point. My dogs were curious and Cory was subjected to many nosings. He was so afraid that we

tried to keep our boys at bay, and after a long evening, we finally tucked him into bed in Steve's room. Because the boys are kind enough to share my room with me, we didn't want to upset their routine and possibly alienate them toward Cory. The poor little guy had been too terrified to nap at all, so once we got him tucked into his bed and covered with a little blanket; he immediately conked out and slept the entire night.



Cody



Frodo



Cory the Clown

On Monday morning however, the change in Cory began to show. He woke up, with his tail wagging -and began to participate in the activities of the day. He played a little in a game that Steve initiated between Cory and Frodo, and that caused a light to go on in Frodo's self-serving little brain that this 'kid' might have a few good points after all. Cody began to pal around with Cory and you could see Cory's confidence growing.

On the fourth morning, Cory actually invaded the holiest of holies, my bed, and we all had a big old puppy pile of loving. Frodo was a bit grumpy about this ultimate invasion, but he got a super share of the hugs and kisses— and when we went for our walk, he actually walked next to Cory and made a point of showing him some of the better places to sniff. So, we became a happy little Foster family. As I sit here at my desk, Cory is spread eagle on his back, all four legs in the air, sound asleep on the ottoman. What a great feeling to know that we have earned his trust and allowed him to begin to show us his true self: A sweet, funny, loving and trusting little angel amongst us.

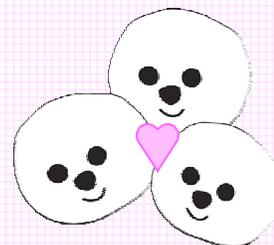
I am sure at some point in the future, after Cory has been adopted by his Forever Family, he will remember us all fuzzily, because dogs live mostly in the moment, but we will remember him as our first foster buddy. We have decided that this is what we want to do. It is probably inevitable that one day, we will foster a little guy that we can't bear to give up, but in the meantime, we will share the love and reap heaps of it in return.

P.S. Three weeks later Cory was happily adopted by a lovely family who had driven 100 miles to meet him. Later that same day I responded to another volunteer's e-mail and described this meeting:

"Yes, I will never forget the look on Cory's face as he watched us out the car window, sitting in his new Mom's lap, as they drove off. It was like he just knew that he would never see us again, that he was sorry about that, but that *this* was where he belonged, right here in this little yellow Mini-Cooper, being held by this nice warm, sweet smelling Mom, and next to this laughing Dad. It was Cosmic! (No, I'm not some new ager, more of an old ager, but it was Cosmic!)."

How often do we get to experience such a feeling of 'rightness' these days? Trust me, there is nothing that can be more fun, more rewarding, or more "cosmic" than fostering a little love bug back to confidence, then watching him choose his "Forever Family". The experience is like warm cocoa spiked with old single malt Irish whiskey, warm, yummy and powerful.

I really believe that this simple act of helping little Bichons is about as rewarding and important as any other method of giving back to our world, and the least we can do for this wonderful little breed. I truly believe that dogs, and Bichons in particular, are angels in disguise. I hope to be involved with Bichon FurKids for years.





## From Marti's Desk

Welcome to our 'right before the Bichon Bash and Online auction issue! 'We are always amazed at how quickly the time passes... and here we are again at our favorite time of year!

For those of you who love bichons, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bichon Bash will be a treat. Last year we had about 120 bichons and 150 proud owners attending. We hosted our first ever vendor fair, had one of our favorite trainers demonstrating training techniques, had a grooming workshop - and our FurKids frolicked, played, sunbathed and, in general, had a great time! We even had a few adoptions take place when our foster moms and dads brought their 'charges' to share in the fun! Please let other Bichon owners know that they are invited as well! Just email [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org) and we'll send them an invitation to the Bash.)

We are also about to start our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Online Auction. It will begin a few days before the Bash and conclude the week following. Please help us to acquire items for the auction as this is our biggest fundraiser. Last year we had all kinds of bichon goodies, hotel and resort stays, golf outings, restaurant certificates, grooming certificates, home accessories and clothing. We hope, with your help, to be able to 'gather' those same kind of items and more... so please think of who you know that might want to contribute to us. We will provide them with a receipt for what they give us - and they will feel good knowing that the funds we raise go towards medical and related expenses for the next group of FurKids. If you want more information or to donate, please email [Eileen@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:Eileen@bichonfurkids.org).

Also, on April 11, 12 and 13 Bichon FurKids will be at the Orange County Pet Expo for the first time. We don't know exactly what to expect - other than introducing our bichons to both people that know, and don't know, the breed... and we hope to meet new fosters and adopters then, too, Pet Expo hours are Friday from 10-6, Saturday from 10-7 and Sunday from 10-6. We hope to see many of you there - and if you want to join us at the booth, please email [Michele@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:Michele@bichonfurkids.org) as she/we would love your help.

At one point last month we stopped long enough to count the number of bichons in foster care... and discovered (well, maybe not discovered as much as confirmed!) that we had 22 small, medium, long legged and short legged, white fluffy FurKids in loving foster homes. This seems like, and IS, a lot... and especially so when we look at the fact that there is a 'core' group of fosters for Bichon Fur Kids... and that core group is 'about' five families! Thanks to each and every one of you who opened your hearts and homes to help us. While some of the initial group were adopted - they were quickly replaced by the next group. Today we have 'only 18' in foster care. My prayers will truly be answered when we have NO bichons needing to be rescued!

We also had some pretty interesting surgeries over the past few weeks. (Drs. Glass and MacDonald at Stonecreek say we keep them on their toes - and we are so very grateful that they are as knowledgeable as they are!!) As a result of our 'collaboration', we cared for some bichons who would not have been able to live happy, carefree lives without medical intervention. Our vet bills over the past three months have been in excess of \$16,000. Our online auction and your donations make it possible for us to help these FurKids.

We are also about to start our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Online Auction. It will begin a few days before the Bash and conclude the week following. Please help us to acquire items for the auction as this is our biggest fundraiser. Last year we had all kinds of bichon goodies, hotel and resort stays, golf outings, restaurant certificates, grooming certificates, home accessories and clothing. We hope, with your help, to be able to 'gather' those same kind of items and more... so please think of who you know that might want to contribute to us. We will provide them with a receipt for what they give us - and they will feel good knowing that the funds we raise go towards medical and related expenses for the next group of FurKids. If you want more information or to donate, please email [Eileen@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:Eileen@bichonfurkids.org).

Also, on April 11, 12 and 13 Bichon FurKids will be at the Orange County Pet Expo for the first time. We don't know exactly what to expect - other than introducing our bichons to both people that know, and don't know, the breed... and we hope to meet new fosters and adopters then, too, Pet Expo hours are Friday from 10-6, Saturday from 10-7 and Sunday from 10-6. We hope to see many of you there - and if you want to join us at the booth, please email [Michele@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:Michele@bichonfurkids.org) as she/we would love your help.

At one point last month we stopped long enough to count the number of bichons in foster care... and discovered (well, maybe not discovered as much as confirmed!) that we had 22 small, medium, long legged and short legged, white fluffy FurKids in loving foster homes. This seems like, and IS, a lot... and especially so when we look at the fact that there is a 'core' group of fosters for Bichon Fur Kids... and that core group is 'about' five families! Thanks to each and every one of you who opened your hearts and homes to help us. While some of the initial group were adopted - they were quickly replaced by the next group. Today we have 'only 18' in foster care. My prayers will truly be answered when we have NO bichons needing to be rescued!

We also had some pretty interesting surgeries over the past few weeks. (Drs. Glass and MacDonald at Stonecreek say we keep them on their toes - and we are so very grateful that they are as knowledgeable as they are!!) As a result of our 'collaboration', we cared for some bichons who would not have been able to live happy, carefree lives without medical intervention. Our vet bills over the past three months have been in excess of \$16,000. Our online auction and your donations make it possible for us to help these FurKids.

In rescue, each of us does what we can - some volunteers work with safety checks for families who want to adopt, others help to transport dogs, some purchase and deliver supplies where they are needed. Our talented and loving group of Junior Volunteers contribute by making beautiful fleece blankets for our fur kids so that they have a soft and gentle start to their new lives, If YOU would like to volunteer with Bichon FurKids in any capacity, please let us know. We would love to welcome you into our group. Email [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org) and we will get back to you.

We hope you enjoy the articles our volunteers have written, the information on pet insurance, the article on training and the wonderful recipe (thanks Chef Emeril and Judy, our newsletter editor!)

Thank you for being a part of Bichon FurKids! See you at Pet Expo and the Bash!

Until next time,  
Marti



Thank you

# An Overview of Pet Insurance Companies

By Beth Weiner



*I am a strong proponent of pet insurance—I have always had it for my three doggies. They are the love of my life, and I know by having pet insurance, I will be able to afford to pay for any medical costs they might incur.*

Medical insurance for pets can bring peace of mind. For an annual fee (which can be paid in installments), you can provide your pet with comprehensive medical coverage for diagnostic testing, illness, accidents, prescriptions, surgeries, dental care and even hospitalization. Sounds easy—but selecting the right company with the right plan can be a challenge, for even the most savvy insurance-minded consumers.

**Pets Best Insurance (888-899-0402 [www.petsbest.com](http://www.petsbest.com))** seems to cut through some of the red tape, offering reasonable rates and ease of enrollment. Pets Best, founded by a veterinarian, offers an additional optional plan that covers routine care.

Unlike some other plans, once your deductible has been met, Pets Best reimburses 80 percent of the costs—up to the dollar amount you have selected. (Some pet insurance plans cover 80 percent of the fees that they deem reasonable and customary for your area.) Pets Best requires no pre-authorization. Its *Pets Basic* plan has a \$100 deductible per incident and will pay \$2,500 per incident with a lifetime cap of \$42,500. It has no annual limit, and, unlike some other insurance companies, will insure dogs of any age. (Some policies add additional charges if the pet is older than eight years.)

Pets Best *Pets First Plan* has a per-incident deductible of \$75 with a \$7,000 per incident limit and a lifetime limit of \$100,000. and their *Pets Premier Plan* has a per-incident limit of \$14,000 with a \$300 per incident deductible and a lifetime limit of \$100,000. Again, there is no age limit for enrollment. There are some exclusions for pre-existing conditions—check with Pets Best or check out its website for more information.

**Shelter Care (877-707-7297 or [www.sheltercare.com](http://www.sheltercare.com))** has insured more than 1,300,000 shelter pets. Created approximately seven years ago, its pet insurance policy covers post adoption health issues, giving peace of mind to those wonderful people who adopt rescued animals from shelters and from rescue groups, such as BichonFurKids. Shelter Care's policies are very reasonably priced and cover a variety of accidents and illnesses.

For a rescued pet, the first month with Shelter Care cost \$1.00. After that you can convert the policy into one of your choosing and pay the prevailing

rate for the plan you select. Since Shelter Care offers many levels and plans you can review your options online, select a plan and receive a free online quote on their web site. You can also review benefits and file a claim online. With Shelter Care it is also possible to purchase 'accident only' and 'emergency care' plans at a reasonable cost.

**VPI Pet Insurance (800-540-2016 [my.petinsurance.com](http://my.petinsurance.com))** has a variety of plans—each offering different coverages depending upon the price, each with certain exclusions and limitations, which are noted in its paperwork. VPI also provides its clients with a detailed list of the items it covers and the amount it will pay for each incident. (Its list of diagnostic codes fill pages, and the average consumer might want to set it aside to read at a later time because the volume of technical information can seem overwhelming—there are five separate codes to cover problems with the salivary gland and several diagnostic codes for cage rest.)

The most expensive and comprehensive of its plans is *VPI Superior*. It has an optional rider called *WellCare Premier*. VPI also offers the *VPI Superior Plan* with a *WellCare Core* rider. The company also offers a *VPI Superior plan* without a rider for "WellCare" coverage. VPI also offers a *VPI Standard* with a Rider for either *WellCare Premier* or *WellCare Core*.

VPI will typically have a \$50 deductible for every new claim and pays a specified amount for each diagnostic code. Renewing from year to year will insure the same coverages. However if you choose to cancel at any time, then have a change of heart, this will leave you open to a complete review of your pet's medical history resulting in exclusions. You could find yourself paying more for fewer coverages.

**ASPCA policies (866-282-0905 [www.aspcapetinsurance.com](http://www.aspcapetinsurance.com))** have a \$100 deductible. Its advantage plan pays \$3,500 per incident with an annual limit of \$11,000. (The premium for this plan for a 7-year old doggie would cost approximately \$105 per quarter.) After a policy holder has paid the deductible

## An Overview of Pet Insurance Companies

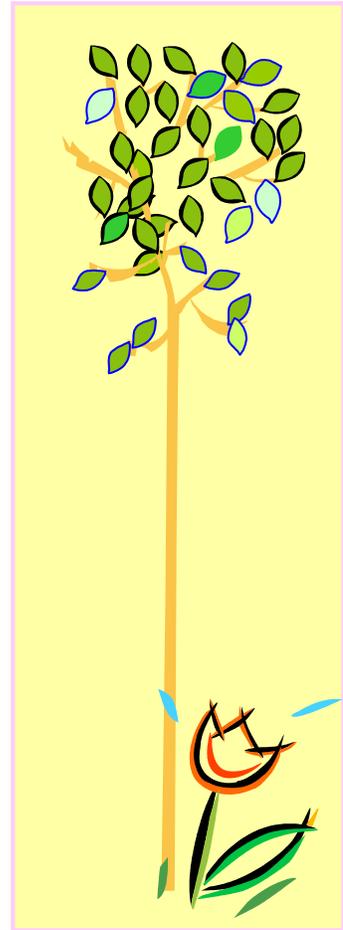
continued

### **ASPCA** *continued*

this plan will pay 80 percent of reasonable costs (reasonable cost is in bold print) in its policy up to the limit of their liability. ASPCA will give you one month to review your policy and cancel with a refund, but after the first month, the policy is considered an annual policy and any refund is up to their discretion.

There is a six month exclusion after any illness after a claim—the particular illness has to be treatment free for six months and can then be considered eligible again for coverage.

**Petco (Petco.com)** offers a low cost insurance policy for approximately \$14 a month, but is limited to pets 8 weeks to six years. It pays 100 percent coverage with \$100 deductible for first-time illnesses up to \$500 with a limit of 2 per year. It will pay \$1,000 per year for foreign body ingestion that needs to be removed by surgery, a car accident, a bone fracture, accidental poisoning, lacerations, burns, and allergic reactions. It will also pay \$150 for advertising or a reward for a lost pet.



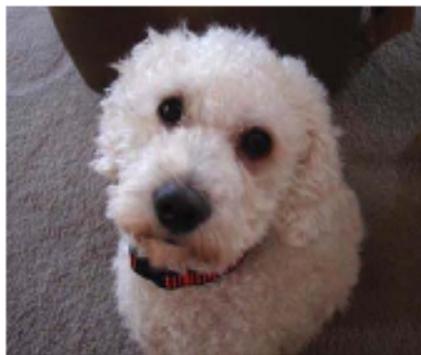
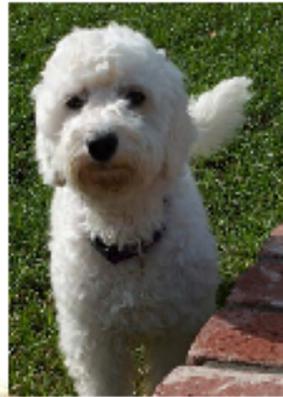
### **Shopping on our Web Site: Bichon Car Window Stickers Are Here!**

Many of you have asked about products that are popular among Bichon lovers. We have started adding a few to our web site and will be displaying many more at the Bichon Bash in May. You will find things like grooming supplies, healthy treats, toys, belly bands, FurKid T-shirts and a new Bichon window sticker for your car. Depending upon your response to the items we display, we may choose to offer these items also at our web site. You will be able to purchase many of them at the Bash. Please check out the new shopping page on our web site [www.bichonfurkids.org/shop](http://www.bichonfurkids.org/shop).

### **More Foster Homes Needed: Foster Fliers Attached!**

Since November of 2007 we have rescued and found forever homes for more than 130 furkids. Unfortunately, we have had to leave some behind. That is the most difficult part! Our most critical need in the rescue process is to have loving foster homes ready to accept a FurKid at a moment's notice. Please print out and distribute our most recent Foster Flyer with tear-off tabs with our web site address and our phone number to as many friends and businesses as you can (Think vet, groomer, pet store, local gathering places and pet-friendly locations.)

As always, thanks for everything you do to support our cause. We could not do what we do without YOU!



# HELP US !

Loving foster and adoption homes needed for rescued Bichons!

Our fur kids are in foster care an average of one to two weeks.

We pay for vetting and supplies.

You provide love and training.

You can make a difference and save a life.

Please Help!

Bichon FurKids Rescue

858-408-1937

[www.bichonfurkids.org](http://www.bichonfurkids.org)

[www.bichonfurkids.org](http://www.bichonfurkids.org)  
858-408-1937



**BAM!!**

## *Chef Emeril Le Bichon's Dog-*

Hello, fellow fluffs! Here is my latest recipe find! It's easy, and tasty! If you try it, let us know what you think!

Sending Bichon Waves~~~*Chef Emeril Le Bichon*

### **Cinnabone Treats**

#### **Ingredients:**

- 2 Tbs Honey
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Cup wheat germ
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp cinnamon
- 1 -1/2 C whole wheat flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Cup milk
- 2 Tbs molasses
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Cup Brewers yeast
- 2 Tbs vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl mix together honey, molasses, oil, milk and cinnamon. Gradually add flour, yeast and wheat germ. Roll dough to  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thickness and cut into bone shapes. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet for 20 minutes or until bottoms are brown. Makes one dozen.

These freeze well and dogs love them!

Note if your dog has allergies or is on a special diet, consult your veterinarian prior to serving your dog.



### **Bichon Nannies Network**

We recently visited our grandchildren in Portland, Oregon, leaving our three Bichons home with a friend who would look after them lovingly. She does this for us at no charge, and it is such a blessing. It got me thinking about how many of us need to leave our FurKids for a day or two or even a week or more, and how hard this can be. (Not all of us have such a generous loving friend who also loves our kids).

I thought I might suggest to fellow Bichon owners that they establish a listing of those who would be willing to sit for each others dogs when the need arose. It could be reciprocal. And it would be so much more comforting to know that your little one was with others of his or her kind with parents who already love Bichons and know their ways. Just an idea. What do you think?

Judmond@verizon.net



# SIMPLE STEPS FOR A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR DOG

By Jamie Bozzi, CPDT

## Teach Household Manners

Dogs don't automatically know how to act in our human world unless we teach them. Setting the right expectations is important. Take a moment and ask yourself what around-the-house manners you would like your dog to have. Then train from that perspective - teach him what you want, instead of punishing him for what you don't want. It's important to set your dog (and you) up for success. Manage your dog's environment so that he makes appropriate choices.

## Teach Basic Obedience

Use reward based motivational training methods so the dog finds learning fun. The more rewarding you make something, the more likely the dog will repeat the behavior. Remember, dogs just wanna have fun! If there's a party, they are there with hats and noise makers. Be the party for your dog and he will choose you every time. Just as with household manners, it's important with basic training to think about what you really want. Do you require a formal obedience heel for the show ring or do you simply want your arm left in its socket when you are out for a walk with your dog? The answers to these and other important questions will affect how you train. In addition, find a certified dog trainer that assists you in reaching your goals, while at the same time helps you build the bond and relationship with your dog.

## Learn to Read Canine Body Language

We expect dogs to understand our verbal commands, even though dogs don't speak English. Dogs are talking all the time through a complex system of body postures, vocalizations and scent. But are we really listening? It's helpful to understand what our dogs are trying to tell us by learning to "read" their body posture through observation and education. Knowing how dogs communicate and learn, helps us improve our training techniques. Although dogs don't speak English, they do learn associations among things in their environment. They learn very quickly that the leash is associated with going outside and the sound of a crinkling bag usually means food is coming.

## Be Fair

Do not expect the dog to be the perfect household pet right away. Teaching house etiquette and basic obedience will take time, so be patient. Have you ever taken a class where you learned something new? Remember when you first learned to drive? Your parents were probably very patient with you during the process as you studied the rules and practiced out on the road. Learning new things takes time. It's a process, so be understanding with your dog as he is learning what you expect of him.

Jamie Bozzi of [www.smrtdog.com](http://www.smrtdog.com) is a certified member of APDT (Association of Pet Dog Trainers) and an Associate Member of IAABC (International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants). She teaches group classes and conducts private consultations throughout San Diego County.



Thank all who support us with your time and talents!

Some of the people we recommend are:

**kinderpaws**  
Professional Dog Training



Michelle Durrant • 619.401.6594  
www.kinderpaws.com

**Solutions!**  
Pet Services



Dog Training,  
Problem Solving  
& More

SolutionsPets.com  
714-404-9314  
SolutionsPets@aol.com  
**Jamie Lurtz**



**Stone Creek Animal Hospital**  
4178 Barranca Parkway  
Irvine, California



**Pearson-Nespor**  
1903 W. San Marcos #140  
San Marcos, CA 92069  
(760) 598-2512  
www.pearson-nespor.petplace.com



**Telegraph Canyon Animal Medical Center**  
577 Telegraph Canyon Rd  
Chula Vista, CA 91911  
(619) 421-1323



**The Fleece Lady**  
www.fleeceLady.com  
909 223-3533



**Carlsbad Animal Hospital**  
2739 State Street  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
Phone: (760) 729-4431  
http://  
www.carlsbadanimalhospital.com  
mollywescoat@hotmail.com



**TAILS A WAGGIN'**  
Dog and Cat Grooming  
812 S. Coast Hwy. Oceanside, CA 92054  
760 722 0811

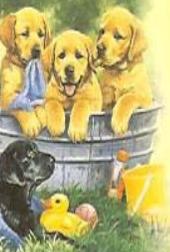


Dog Training and Owner Education  
**Jamie Bozzi CPDT**  
Website: www.smrtdog.com  
Telephone: 619-246-5634  
Email: Jamie@smrtdog.com

**The Uncommon Canine**  
Joella Cunningham, CPDT  
The Uncommon Canine, Inc.  
(858) 679-5861



**Pamela Kramer Glickman**  
Vet Tech, Horse Trainer  
Pet Sitting, Dog Walking  
Sleepovers, Homesitting  
Dog Birthday Parties  
(760) 438-7862




Would you like to have your very own "Dog Whisperer"? Does your pup need extra love when you're away? Could a bit of Canine Charm School help while you are gone?

Safe, secure and well-schooled in canine behavior, grooming, medicating, and 'old fashioned' unconditional love. I would be happy to speak to you about your particular needs. References available.

Call Carol 760-529-4004.  
Let's keep our dogs happy!




**4 Paws Animal Hospital**  
858-487-7297  
Dr. Bruce Barnes Veterinarian  
Heather Saxon Office 760-580-2239  
hlsaxon4paws@gmail.com



**My Canine Coach**  
"Because it's more than just Sit-Stay"

**Stephanie Houfek**  
Canine Behaviorist, BA  
IAABC #542AS  
AKC CGC Evaluator  
Serving Southern California  
**(714) 234-1111**  
stephanie@mycaninecoach.net

