



June—July 2009

## BICHONS BITS AND BYTES

Editor, Judy Mondero

### McKenna Mends Two Hearts



Two weeks after the past Thanksgiving holiday, Henry and I lost our beloved black and white Lhasa Apso, "Georgie." He was 14-1/4 years old, and he never got sick. Then one day, he decided to stop eating all together and took to his bed. I knew it was his "time", and it just broke my heart.

Georgie loved everyone, especially our neighbors. He was a social butterfly and never failed to bring a smile to everyone's face. He loved our mail carrier, Nancy, and the neighbor next door, who would watch him when we were hiking in our desert mountains. He was a special sweet loving friend, who loved Henry and I unconditionally, and was always there with us during the good times and the bad. Our Georgie was the closest thing to God, holding all the love and understanding that went on inside his heart.

So, to say that he was missed is the understatement of the century. He will forever hold a vast place in our hearts.

After five months of emotional eating, a tad bit of depression, and a broken heart, I told Henry that I just couldn't live without a furry little friend! I called my friend, Barb, a therapist and my hiking partner and began compulsively sharing my need for a puppy. She jumped at the opportunity and called the Animal Samaritans, a group that she was a friend of here in the valley. I began receiving e-mails that flowed in like running water. Henry and I looked, but the timing was not quite right.



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## McKenna Mends Two Hearts



Then one day I happened upon the BFK website and was impressed with the fantastic web-site and how organized they were. I read the whole site and was touched by how serious they were about the adoption process. I spoke with Marti and she sent one of the volunteers out to our house to do a home-check, to assure that the home was safe, and the process was started. Marti was very intuitive when she matched us with McKenna, whose story was unfortunate. She wound up at the Orange County Shelter, sad and dirty as can be. Bichon FurKids rescued her, bathed her

and had to shave her down till you could see pink skin. She was then fostered into two different homes. We are her third caring home, and we are her Forever Family.

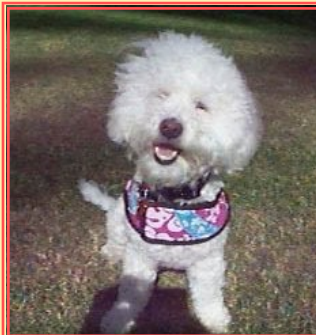
What can be said about my broken heart? McKenna has healed it in so many ways. Her little wagging tail, her little white head and the darling smile she has. Her bouncing personality and energy is inexhaustible and priceless. Oh, how she loves to ride in the car or go for walks! I take her everywhere and our Indian Wells Village all know her as McKenna. She is a doll, and Henry, (who by the way loves her just as much as I do) just bought her a little Hawaiian outfit and matching leash that he found at the Bichon Bash. So now she is even more of an eye catcher. Oh she is the answer to my prayers! We are so blessed, and yes, God does answer prayers. He is a good God who knows what we need in life.

Thanks Marti, and all of the staff at BFK for all the wonderful work. You have made us both very, very happy.

Melanie and Henry Sanchez



*Melanie is a jewelry artist, and made McKenna a choker collar of pearls and turquoise pieces. Pretty fancy little girl.*



# From Marti's Desk



Welcome to our Summer issue and the wonderful world of bichons,

Summer is fast approaching. For those of us who are lucky enough to live in Southern California, that means more beautiful flowers and colorful landscapes, more time to (hopefully) take walks with our FurKids, enjoy longer days and warm summer nights.

While Summer means outdoor fun, it's also the time for fleas and ticks - and worms like hookworm and tapeworms. There are effective products (like Frontline and Advantage) that you can buy to treat fleas and ticks - and some homeopathic products you can make as well. (If you want some homeopathic alternatives, please email [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org).) Last summer we had one of the worst flea and tick seasons in many years so please be sure your FurKid is protected. And we are already seeing cases of tapeworms (which result from your dog ingesting a flea - as the dog tries to get rid of it. Hookworms are found in the soil. As we enter the warm summer months, it is easy for your FurKid to pick up hookworms in the soil around your home or on your walk. Hookworms can enter through its feet or belly. There are many good products to treat both types of worms - but it is best to take precaution and avoid the nasty little guys in the first place. You can find more information at [http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body\\_tapeworm.html](http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body_tapeworm.html) or [http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body\\_hookworms.html](http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body_hookworms.html)

Summer also signals the time for our next online auction... and fundraiser. This is the time to donate items you know someone else would love to have. These items can range from bichon and doggy 'goodies' to time-shares, clothing, airline tickets, musical instruments and accessories. If you have items to donate please email [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org) and we'll be in touch. Our auction will begin in July and we will email you to let you know how to join us for this event.

Speaking of fundraisers, BFK is now an approved charity of Chase Bank and Washington Mutual. J.P.Morgan Chase, the parent corporation, is committed to philanthropy and gave more than \$100 million to thousands of not-for-profit organizations last year. That means that any Chase or WaMu employee can make a donation to BFK -- and those companies will make a dollar for dollar matching funds "match" up to \$1000 per year per employee. Please share this information with friends, family and people on your email distribution list. We appreciate the opportunity to earn these matching funds.

Another new way that you can shop and earn money for BFK is if you shop at Amazon.com for ANYTHING, Start your shopping experience by clicking on one of the Amazon banners on our web site. And your shopping doesn't have to be for doggy supplies or goodies. As long as you start your Amazon shopping session from the BFK web site, we'll receive a donation from Amazon. Look for the square Amazon.com button on the left hand side of any page. Click on a page ([www.bichonfurkids.org](http://www.bichonfurkids.org) for example) then shop for your books, music, home goods ... anything. This past month someone purchased a facial scrub and we received a donation. So whoever you are, thank you for purchasing that through the BFK link to Amazon!



On a related note, I wanted to share some information on money that may not be well spent. In the June issue of The Whole Dog Journal (one of my favorite references) there is an article on DNA testing to 'determine' the genetic makeup of a dog. ([www.whole-dog-journal.com](http://www.whole-dog-journal.com)) There are several variations on the tests including one based on a blood draw and another based on a cheek swab. In the article both types of DNA testing were used. As she concludes the article, Nancy



## From Marti's Desk

Kerns, the editor-in-chief states: "I have to say that I found the whole exercise very interesting, but not necessarily worth the cost." She goes on to state that she was hoping that knowing more about her dog's genetics would enable her to anticipate certain health or behavioral problems linked to the breeds that were found. That was not the case and the explanations from the companies' manufacturing the tests may be unsatisfying (especially when the dog doesn't look anything like the breed 'detected.' I'm still chuckling over one of our bichons DNA tests coming back with a Great Dane in its genetic background. Kerns then comments, "But I doubt that is why most people order the tests; I think most of us are just curious." Hmmm....

Please also remember that Fourth of July celebrations can be very stressful to our FurKids. Every year, fireworks send dogs scurrying for cover. The day following these celebrations can be a nightmare at animal shelters, due to the influx of lost pets who have fled in panic from the fireworks. Even miles away from the actual fireworks display, an animal can feel and hear the loud noises that it puts out. The safest and kindest thing to do is to leave your dog safely inside the house with a television or radio playing to drown out the noise. Crating your pet during this night, especially if he or she is nervous or a 'bolter,' may be even better. We have heard of dogs (known to be content previously) digging under fences, breaking through glass windows and doors, to get free. (My parent's Puli used to somehow curl up behind the toilet where he felt safe when the fireworks were underway. Getting him out of there afterwards was a challenge!) As the holiday approaches please be sure that you have a way, and a plan, to keep your FurKid secure and safe!

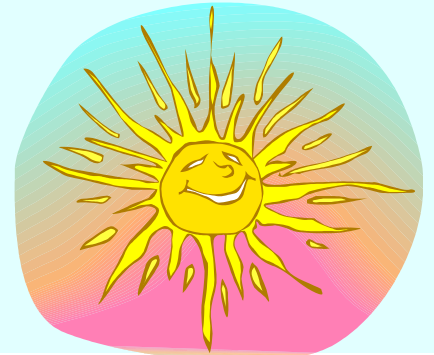


We hope you enjoy the articles fellow bichon owners have written, learn about the joys of adopting, the rewards of fostering, and enjoy this issue's new recipe (thanks Chef Emeril and Judy!) We invite you to share photos of your fur kids and interesting stories about them. Got a cute or funny photo to share? Please email it to [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org) - and we'll get it Editor Judy right away!

For all of you who have adopted a FurKid or two... THANK YOU!!! May you and your FurKid share many healthy, happy years together filled with doggy kisses, belly rubs, long walks in the sun, breezy rides in the car, happy bichon buzzes and all the love you ever wanted.

Until next time

Marti

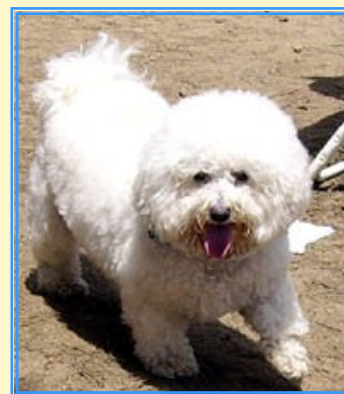


Success Brings Happiness to Many! But, with a Soupcon of Distress.

BFK has rescued 209 Bichons since January first of this year. At this time last year we had placed 131 bichons, averaging 32 placements per month. Our placement number has increased to 42 bichons a month. Our continued growth reflects a sad state, and illustrates our need for volunteers who will open their homes and hearts to these little refugees.

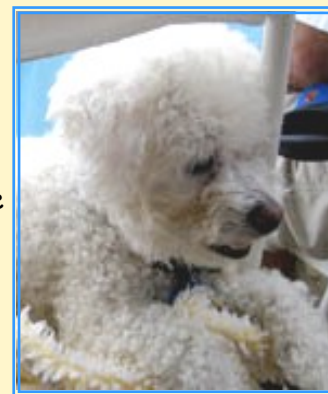
## 2009 Bichon Bash

A sea of white with black eyes and noses. That is what we saw when we looked around at Critter's Corner on May 2nd. There were bichons playing, running, frolicking, sitting by their moms and dads, jumping on a friendly lap, giving lots of kisses ..all enjoying the 7th Annual Southern California Bichon Bash.



It is always quite a sight and one of the most rewarding aspects of what we do in rescue. Short or tall, young and not so young, all these little bichons have one thing in common: they are all loved and adored by their families.

Our compliments to Michele Olivier for organizing this event and our thanks to the many volunteers who made the event flow so smoothly (whether taking care of bichons so their owners could 'work', selling BFK items, announcing the raffles, driving the Bashmobile, helping to set up and take down all the canopies, tables and chairs... and all the many other things that made the Bash such fun for those attending and their FurKids.

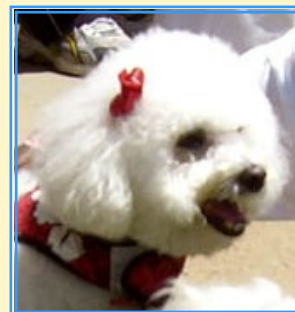


We want to thank our wonderful vendors whose products help our bichons to be healthier and more beautiful -- thank Aubrielle for the delightful doggy biscuits that she made and sold (and contributed \$120 to our medical fund) and thank all of you who came to share some hours in the sun in celebration of these wonderful FurKids.

We have almost outgrown our current location and will be 'scouting' for another one. If you know of an enclosed dog park or private location that could work, please email [info@bichonfurkids.org](mailto:info@bichonfurkids.org) - we'd love to hear from you.

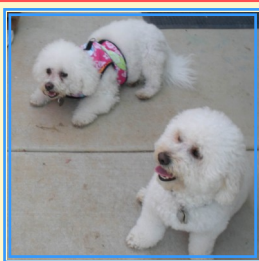
And in the meantime, please enjoy the photos in our newsletter and on our web site as well.

We hope to see you next year at the 8th Annual Southern California Bichon Bash!



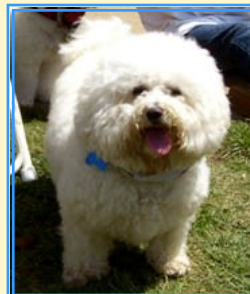
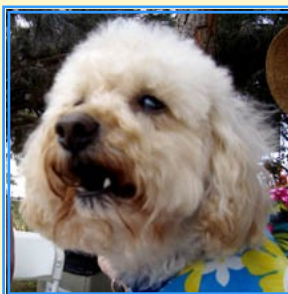


## 2009 Bichon Bash



In trying to choose photos to include in the newsletter, I had to pick from 212 photos. BFK has posted the entire collection on Flickr. Simply go to <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bichonfurkids/sets/72157617910898105> and have fun.

You can view them all and if you see yourself or your FurKid, you can download the pictures to your computer for your own use and enjoyment. To download - click on the photo you want. A large size photo will appear - then look toward the top of the photo-click on the magnifying glass and choose 'all sizes'. Download the original size to your computer.



# Charming Bichon Photography

Lauren Partida

I'm one of those people who found their true passion later in life, having spent 30 years in Interior Design. I discovered a love of photography and focused mostly on documentary photographs of "Old California" - or what we imagine our state looked like 150 years ago. A few years ago, my new husband, Peter, and I found ourselves adopting a Bichon from Bichon FurKids. That is when all my newfound loves melded into my one great passion.



"Petie" was a young dog who had had a tough start in life. He had been found walking the streets of Chula Vista, and had been in 3 or 4 Foster homes, where he had acted out very badly. He was earning a reputation as a biter, but was fortunate to end up in the foster care of Michelle, an experienced dog trainer, who was able to help Petie adjust through the following months.

I guess Michelle figured I would be gritty enough to handle a little biter, after all, being a multiple horse owner, I've experienced a lot worse than a little bite now and then. Fortunately, Petie ended up being the joy of our lives, and his little quirks make us love him more. He gets better and better with time, and is learning that not all people might hurt him...it might be a lifelong challenge for him, but he is becoming more and more trusting. Our appreciation for what Marti and the Bichon FurKids organization has brought to our lives through giving us Petie, has made us keenly aware of how many other fur babies need our help, which is why I've been happily volunteering the last 2 years doing dog photography at the Bash. My fellow photographers make a bit of fun about it at my expense, but it's important. I only wish I could do a lot more.

Seeing so many adopted FurKids at the Bash, and talking to their owners about their pasts, seeing the FurKids who came from similar tough situations like Peties, and how many good hearted people out there are willing to open their homes and hearts, has made it such a joyful experience. And...although





## Charming Bichon Photography

it's exhausting trying to get their attention, and keep them still. It's still so much fun working with the FurKids, that I plan on continuing photographing dogs and animals professionally. I came to realize through the Bash, that it was the most fun I had had in years! Using new techniques and lenses to create fresh looks, is a challenge. And adopting a Bichon through FurKids has been a two fold blessing in my life. So much so, that my Mom adopted her "Rollie" through FurKids, and recently took him to her new home in Guatemala, where he runs on a coffee plantation in the mornings for his exercise- He's got it made - permanent vacation! He may be the first International FurKid.

My studio is in Old Town Temecula, and I can be reached at 951-565-3361, or at Our Boutique, Peter George Designs, in Old Town Temecula, Ph# 951-902-3482. My website is [www.laurenpartida.com](http://www.laurenpartida.com) Please give me a call, I plan on trying to be the best in my field. Like "the Annie Liebowitz of pet photographers." Lets arrange a sitting date, and make memories you can keep forever. And, 10% of all of my proceeds from canine photography will go to Bichon FurKids, to help the new kids.

## Auction Coming Up

If you are cleaning out your closets, attics or storage areas, keep BFK in mind. It's time to start accumulating items for a tax deductible contribution for sale on our bi-annual Auction.

We can sell anything new, anything vintage, just about anything used, from clothing to screwdrivers to jewelry to electronics to household items, such as small appliances and knick knacks, etc.

So - when you do your spring/summer cleaning this year, please set aside anything you don't want, give us a call, and we will make arrangements to get it from you.

We can use gift certificates, vacation packages, services such as house-cleaning, rug shampooing, dog walking, doggie day care. The possibilities are limitless.

Whatever you can offer we would be delighted to accept. This will help us to generate the money we need to continue our work for Bichons in need of rescue, new homes, medical care, and better lives.

The Auction will be held on EBay this year, and is being organized and coordinated by Mary Anne Wilson, who has been a 'Power Seller' on EBay for a long time. She brings an expertise that is bound to make the Auction even better than ever.

There will be notices sent regarding the dates of the auction. But please, keep BFK in mind if you get involved in any cleaning/organizing projects and look at your throwaways in a different light.





# A Tale of Two Seniors ~ Another Successful Adoption Story

I am a recently retired widow, alone for 17 years. I knew there must be something else meaningful to do besides my volunteer work as a reading tutor, going to church and out to lunch with friends. While attending the Westminster Dog Show in Del Mar a few months ago, with my photographer friend from Seattle, we happened upon the Bichon FurKids Rescue booth. I stopped to talk to the wonderful volunteers there from Orange County and picked up information to take home and read. They were in great need of volunteers in all categories so I thought it could be rewarding to volunteer as a foster Mom. I filed the required paperwork and read all the information I could find regarding the Bichon Frise breed, being unfamiliar with any dog that wasn't a Mini-Pin or a Cocker Spaniel.

Along came my very first foster - Teddy, an 11 year old pure-bred bichon. He is a mellow, sweet, responsive and lovely boy who follows me around everywhere I go - never letting me out of his sight. Teddy has been with me for a month now and we are settled into a happy routine of daily walks, doing our chores together, playing fetch with his squeaky toy, running errands in the car, and cuddling on the couch for an evening of TV. My grandchildren come on weekends and he loves them too. Teddy has added a new dimension to my life that I never knew was missing.

As the search continued for a forever home for Teddy, I fell in love with him and could not bear to part with him. I decided to adopt him because I believe no one else would have the time that I have to shower all the love and attention on this sweet little boy that he so craves and deserves. We are happily joined at the hip on our journey together through what some people call the Golden Years. Now I will think of them as the Teddy years.

P.S. Special thanks to Laura Meltons and Kim Moore for all their support and daily phone calls walking me through the foster experience and providing the extras to make Teddy comfortable.



Two who love each other's company.  
Note the blissful look on Teddy's face.



## The Story of our *Precious Coquette* (and How She Came to Live Happily Ever After!)



Precious in the shelter

In August 2008, we began to consider the possibility of bringing a dog into our family. This opened up the new world of "rescues" for us. Having lived in the country for many years, we had many animals "dumped" on our properties and hadn't really sought an animal family member for quite awhile!

Discovering the BFK site was like striking gold. EUREKA!!! I was immediately taken by the photo and bio of "Precious" but wondered, and was concerned about, her "special needs." Could we provide all that she needed and deserved?

Once we started the application/interview/home check process, everything seemed to flow very quickly and I had no longer had moments of concern! Everyone I spoke, and corresponded, with was extraordinarily helpful, considerate, patient, thoughtful, and generous with their time and information. Even Dr. Glass, an extraordinary veterinarian who had cared for Precious when she was rescued, spoke with me at length - and answered all of my questions and concerns - thoroughly and thoughtfully. What a great guy!

The drive from our home in Paso Robles to her foster family's home in Huntington Beach took a little longer than anticipated, but they waited patiently for us! I was SO excited. . .couldn't even imagine going home without her - in my mind and heart she was already my "precious" furkid!

Sandy was a wonderful foster mom for Precious - and extraordinarily patient with us throughout.

At a minimum, we planned on a four-hour drive home with our newest family member who was not quite leash trained, yard trained, or fully housebroken. Once in the car, Precious began to "talk" to us and give us several rounds of "kisses," was very loving and cuddly, and seemed to enjoy the ride very much! We stopped four times along the way and she obliged by walking on the leash - but did not relieve herself once during the whole trip! (She did find her "spot" on our front lawn when we arrived home (phew!) and was too cute as she explored her new home.)! And thus the adventure began!

It's sometimes hard to believe that she's been our "baby" for nearly nine months now, and sometimes it seems she's been with us forever - hard to remember life without her! We have since renamed her Coquette (she's affectionately known as our Precious Coquette).



Precious Coquette - Happy Girl



## The Story of our *Precious Coquette*

Coquette, in French, means flirtatious, and the name suits her well - she creates quite a stir wherever she goes!

We consulted with veterinary specialists to determine if Coquette's front leg could be repaired. The conclusion is that she has a serious separation fracture of her left humerus (upper arm) apparently suffered and not attended to when she was a puppy. The orthopedic veterinary specialist discovered that the integrity of her bones is not sufficient to enable her to have successful reconstructive surgery. Blessedly, she is not in chronic pain, her enthusiasm is always high, her energy is infectious, and she has the most endearing empathy for those in need. Simply put, she's perfect just the way she is!!!

As soon as she became our furkid, Coquette joined us at our office each day. This poor girl had suffered some traumas in her past and was VERY anxious about meeting men (except Sandy's guy, Mike, and my husband, Brad). Amazingly we have several male clients with whom she came to interact with each day. Slowly but surely she started to warm up and greet most everyone comfortably with no barking, cowering, or backing away. Amazing! Everyone has noticed her daily improvements in demeanor, confidence, physical appearance and attitude. *Awww, what a gem she is!!!* We could see then that she was especially suited as a therapy dog. I had asked Dr. Glass about this and he had indicated he believed she would be an excellent candidate for such a passion.

Without any "formal" training, Coquette started working her "therapy" on all of our clients (and me, especially). In October, we enrolled in basic obedience classes with an extraordinary animal behaviorist, Kathy Kropp. With only one brief hiatus during Coquette's spay surgery, we've been in classes continually where she has blossomed and thrived in so many ways! Coquette has passed the AKC Canine Good Citizen exams and we're on our way to being tested for certification as a Delta Pet Partners team. Soon we will be given the opportunity to offer comfort, compassion, and caring to many - a mission Coquette is particularly well suited for.

We are continually grateful to Marti, Barb, Debbie, Buffy, Kim, Jori, Dr Glass, and Sandie for rescuing, providing for, loving, and believing in our precious little furkid! Our Precious Coquette has blessed us in more ways than we can imagine - let the joy continue!



Coquette the Therapy Dog  
Ready to share her compassion and empathy with others. But not real sure about her new vest.





# Thank you to All My Friends at Bichon FurKids Rescue

*Bob and Sandi Price adopted Miss Lulu in 2008, and brought her down to the Bash all the way from Bakersfield, California. They had a lovely time and little Miss Lulu, (known to us at BFK as Becca) was pleased as punch to meet other FurKids. Miss Lulu asked her Mom to write to BFK at Easter time and we thought you might like to share what Lulu had to say. By Sandi Price.*

Hello to all my friends and wonderful people at Bichon FurKids Rescue. I wanted to thank you all for saving my life and finding such a great home for me.

When you rescued me from the Shelter I was a mess. I had injuries, sickness and even my teeth were bad. But you took me to Stonecreek Veterinary Hospital and the gentle loving people there, put me back together again. And now I feel great!

Then you found me a wonderful foster home where I got all the love, and teaching on how to be a good girl that anyone could ask for. I was sort of scary looking when my foster's got me. I had staples all over me and I was sick. But even though I looked like one of Dr. Frankenstein's creations, they still loved me.



By July, I was well enough to ask someone to offer me a forever home. The people who came to get me all the way from Bakersfield, California, were the ones that I liked best.

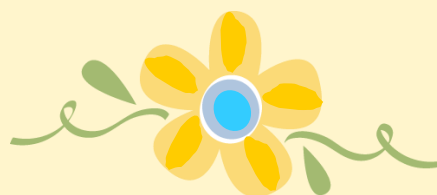
Everyone was so happy to see me find my own family. I miss them all but as you can see, I am now a happy, healthy, and beautiful bichon girl.

My Dad and I go for long walks, and sometimes, Mom and I go out for girl's walkies. I get to go lots of places in the car, as long as it isn't too hot. I love the car! And best of all, I love my Mom and Dad. They love me everyday. I love them right back, in spades.

I just wanted to thank all the people from Bichon FurKids Rescue for caring not only for me, but for all the other lost, sick, lonely and unhappy bichons. All of us lost sheep. Please keep up the good work. I will see you at the Bash.

Your friend,

Miss Lulu



## Just Can't Resist

*This is a wonderful photo for "How to Flunk Fostering." The picture is of Dave Wilson and his resident fur kids. Dave and Barbara have 5 bichons, three of whom they adopted from BFK. Now they were supposed to only be fostering ....*

*but the bonding was such that they could not let them go. (So we told them we can't ask them to foster any more!) Behind Dave's head is Sammy (in his favorite position) on the front left is Bailey (the female bichon who introduced them to the joys of bichon love) in the middle smiling at the camera is Nel and to the right of Nel is Rudy. Sammy, Nel and Rudy are all former rescues - and we thank Dave and Barbara (who was behind the camera) for this darling photo.*



"What can we say? We love them. All."

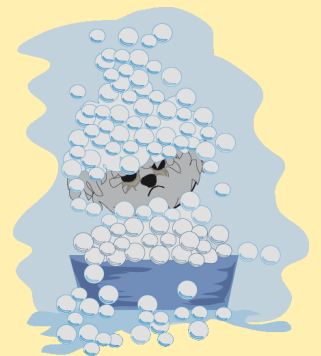


## We Always Need Foster Families



BFK is heading into what looks like another record year. While this sounds like a good thing it is actually cause for alarm. For every success means that a bichon came to us with needs; Medical help, spaying, grooming, and most important of all, fostering. Our need for Foster families is never-ending. Please, if you can help, you

would be most welcome.



Your rewards are innumerable. Your little foster will grow from the dirty, lost and lonely little waif that BFK picks up at the shelter - cleans up - neuters - heals - and brings to your home... into the loving, happy, confident little character that is ready to go to his forever family. It is a miraculous and wonderful progression that **you** will bring about with the tools of love, patience and guidance - and that is something that you will always carry in your memories.



Please. Try it once. You will see that in this case, virtue will be it's own reward. Visit [www.bichonfurkids.org/helpwanted](http://www.bichonfurkids.org/helpwanted) and give it a chance to make your life more fun.

# *A Letter from A FurKid Friend*

Hi Gang -

Well, it has been almost two weeks since Missy came home! We received her paperwork yesterday—thank you! I thought I would just let you know how she is doing:

We decided that Missy didn't fit her, so we renamed her Piper. It fits her better than anything we could imagine and she knew her name within a day. She is so smart! She has learned to do some tricks with Toby, such as "Sit" and "Up." We are working on others—shake, lie down, speak, etc. Toby has an entire repertoire he can teach her.

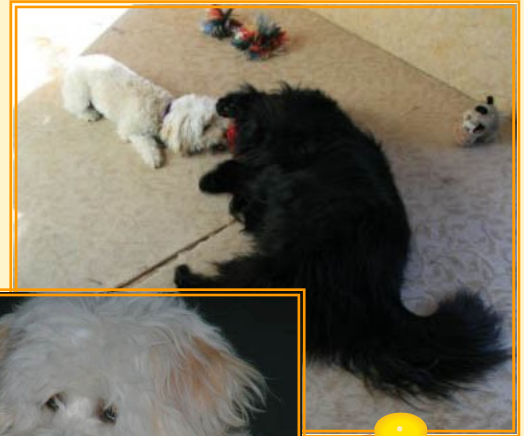
Piper and Toby bonded within three days, and have been enjoying wonderful play times together. Toby gets down on all fours and lets Piper climb all over him and bite on his ears. He even let her play with his green football, which is amazing. Piper bumps into him all of the time. Toby is just one happy dog. Pleased to have a new little buddy in his life. We all share his joy.

Piper loves toys of every sort! We play constantly with tug toys, balls, and soft squeakies. Toby is in heaven when they get into a tug-of-war.

Piper visited our vet, had her stitches removed, and got a clean bill of health. We have been warned to keep her on heartworm medicine, as it is prevalent in our area. We started her on Heartgard right away. Next week is her first professional grooming at the Barking Lot in Los Altos. Toby will go as well to make the appointment less stressful.

I have sent some pictures to let you see how well Piper is progressing. We are thrilled and delighted to have our Piper in our lives. Thanks to you all.

All our best, Tracey and Barry James



For a look into the secret lives of cats and dogs try clicking on this segment from YouTube that shows how a little bichon mix handles the cheeky invasion of his bed by his arch enemy... The Cat!

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXYhn2Wwxhs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXYhn2Wwxhs)

Control & Click to follow the link





## Emotional Health in Ourselves and Our FurKids

*Black Wing Farms formulates and markets floral essences proven to help humans to modify and improve mental and emotional health. But, their products have also been incredibly effective on animals. This article is a result of reports from various BFK parents and fosters who have witnessed substantial improvement in traumatized bichons. Located in Fallbrook, Black Wing Farms is happy to meet with you by appointment to discuss any needs your own FurKids may have, and to help you to select an essence or selection of essences that can help both you and your pet.*

### FLOWER ESSENCE REMEDIES

Flower Essences balance, maintain, and repair emotional and mental health in *any* animal. They address current crises and, equally as important, the past – replacing old, negative memories with healthy, positive thoughts. Effects on the animals' future behavior include giving them the opportunity to learn, and to accept, co-operate with, and trust human intervention and companionship.

### SKEPTICS WELCOME

Veterinarians, trainers, groomers, world class competitors, rescue organizations, equine dentists, animal control officers, animal shelters and sanctuaries were all once skeptical but now use, recommend, and endorse these remedies because they have seen the incredible results helping modify behavior(s) permanently.

Essences address the cause of the problem and help the animal mentally and emotionally overcome even the most stubborn issues. 6 ½ years after 9/11, a NYC dog overcame her chronic fear of loud noises. Feral cats are now house cats. Phobic and compulsive behaviors are dissolved. Horses branded incorrigible and dangerous are now gentle and trustworthy.

Hundreds of **SHELTER BLEND** bottles were taken to the Gulf Region post-Katrina. When Hurricane Rita struck, essences were put in all the waters and sprayed throughout the barn at Lamar-Dixon in Gonzales, LA. We had the quietest, calmest barn full of 250 rescued dogs, and 5 volunteers asleep on FEMA cots.

***Yes! We slept through a hurricane!***

Months later, some dogs and cats were still not rescued, living under abandoned houses, drinking contaminated water and eating whatever they could find. Deb Rykoff, DVM from Barrington, Illinois and 25-year veteran volunteer working in New Orleans with Best Friends Sanctuary said: "We not only used your sprays in the field rescuing animals, we used them in the trucks transporting, and at staff meetings at the end of a long day."

These examples are extreme but prove essences can be incredibly effective in our everyday lives. They help all individuals overcome problems with phobias, neurotic behaviors, grief, stress, training troubles, separation anxiety and more.

### HOMEOPATHY MADE SIMPLE

"Like treats like" is the premise. A plant causes the same symptoms in a healthy person that it cures in

## Emotional Health in Ourselves and Our FurKids

an unhealthy person exhibiting the same symptoms. Quinine bark creates symptoms of malaria in a healthy person and is used to prevent and treat malaria. Every plant has a purpose. Some provide emotional nutrition.

Dr. Edward Bach, a 1930's British physician and bacteriologist, discovered that if he drank the dew gathered from the Mustard plant; he became depressed. Consequently, Mustard is the essence used for depression. Mimulus is for fear. Star of Bethlehem is for shock. Impatiens is for patience. Bach discovered 38 remedies. Since then, thousands of remedies have been documented for use in humans. Animals are not complicated and do not require extensive and exotic plants for their well-being.

### HELPING THE EVERY DAY ANIMAL

After years of working with rescued and "damaged" animals headed to their end because of bad behavior, I came to believe these animals were, to varying degrees, in a state of shock. Many were so surprised by their inhumane and confusing treatment that they either shut down, became enraged or stubbornly misbehaved, making them unpredictable and dangerous.

After giving essences, dramatic behavior improvements took place that seemed impossible, given the history of the animal or the circumstances including hurricanes, weeklong firestorms, tornadoes and court ordered animal seizures.

Kennel Manager, Janet Parker of the Louisiana SPCA in New Orleans, 2 months post-Katrina said: "Within days, we noticed that the aggressive dogs and cats were back from the front of their cages and the shy ones had come forward. Doesn't get any better than that."

Firestorms and hurricanes are the extreme while most of us are concerned about our animals' daily lives and providing the best environment for them. Flower essences and homeopathic remedies supply every animal with what they need to live a more successful life.

No side effects, no chemicals, only plant-based products. Just put a few drops in drinking water, food, treats, on pets' bedding, toys, crate, carriers, kennel or simply mist the animals' environment.

About the author: Meg Harrison, creator of BlackWing Farms' Remedies has 35 years experience studying and blending Essences and 20 years as an Animal Behavior Consultant and 7 years volunteering at San Diego Humane Society Large Animal Rescue. She was hired as a consultant by the Humane Society of the United States to work for 5 months at Louisiana SPCA post-Katrina in New Orleans, LA.



Contact info: [BlackWIngFarms.com](http://BlackWIngFarms.com) or Phone: 760-742-3434 or email: [Meg@BlackWingFarms.com](mailto:Meg@BlackWingFarms.com)

Read the miraculuous story written by one of our members..



# Miraculous!

By Patty Kelly

Jasmine came to our house in January, 2009 as a foster. From the very beginning she had major issues. She was hard to get out of the crate, growling and shaking. When I finally got her out of the crate I took her to the patio where she met my other bichon, Maddie. She immediately became aggressive, and had my dog by the throat. She terrified me, and once I finally got them both settled down, I called Kim and told her that there was no way that I could foster this dog. But at the time there were no other foster homes open. Jasmine's issues regarding, men, children and other dogs made her impossible to place. She bit my husband, growled at the rest of my family and went into attack mode on a moment's notice. She was a nightmare foster.



Jasmine the miracle remedy poster girl. Thanks to Marti. Her change has been a miracle. She is such a good dog now. She barks when someone comes, which is just fine, but as soon as we start talking she is a tail wagging, happy girl!

I called Marti and she suggested a training course. But Jasmine behaved so badly that we didn't go back. I was frantic and exhausted, so I called Marti again. She told me about the people at Black Wing Farms, and suggested I take Jasmine to meet Meg. We made an appointment and drove to Fallbrook. We talked, then she approached Jasmine and simply sprayed her a few times with a remedy and Jasmine became an entirely different dog. She stopped growling and even walked up to Meg and let her pet her, giving her a kiss on the hand. Astounding!

Meg and her products have proven to be a godsend. The product was called, "Drama Trauma" and I used it on Jasmine every day for weeks. She became a typical loving bichon to the family, did well in her training classes, and over time learned that no one intended her any harm. She learned to trust that we would not hurt her or leave her, and responded with so much love. Now she and Maddie are best friends. She loves the family and takes a nap with my father-in-law every afternoon. She even sits on my husband's lap in the evening and watches T.V. She still tends to bark at unexplained noises, or when guests first arrive. But she was off her leash at the Bichon Bash and had a great time. My Jazzy still favors me as her best friend, and listens to me as we talk.



By The Whiz Kid

Professor of (Canine) Philosophy  
Alumni of Smart Dog Training

## Dog Logic

**Maintaining your Dogginess While Confusing the Human**

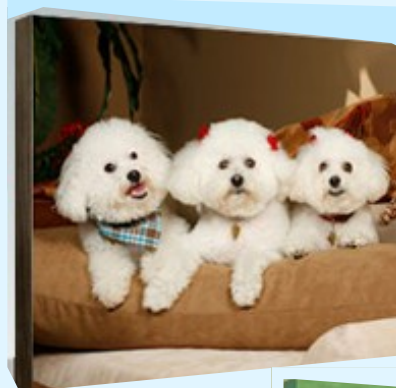
Let the humans teach you a brand new trick. Learn it perfectly. Then when the humans try to demonstrate it to someone else, stare blankly back at them. Pretend you have no idea what they're talking about.



Bichon FurKids Presents

Our Latest Fundraiser ...

## Turn Your Favorite Pet Photos into Works of Art



**Pets on Canvas USA** is dedicated to helping rescue groups raise the funds they need to continue to rescue. Working with your own photos of your favorite FurKid, **Pets on Canvas USA** will turn those digital photos into timeless works of art. You will accomplish two things: First, you will capture your pet's image on canvas for a lifetime of loving memories. Second, you'll help Bichon FurKids raise money - because 25% of proceeds from all artwork created for BFK families will be donated, in your name, to us.

The quality of the art, whether you choose to have it framed or unframed, is comparable to any canvas transfer you can find in art stores, framers or on the Internet. And the prices with **Pets on Canvas USA** are significantly lower than you will find anywhere else.

For Information on this new service go to [www.petsoncanvasusa.com/bichon](http://www.petsoncanvasusa.com/bichon) and Remember, when you purchase your new piece of art featuring your FurKid, BFK will receive a donation that will enable us to help other bichons.



### Aunt Biddy's Good Advice

Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have, or sleep all you want.

When you say "I'm sorry." Look the person in the eye.

Don't laugh at people's dreams. Folks that don't have dreams, don't have much.

# Friends All Over

*Last year as I was assembling photos to use in our Annual BFK Calendar, I came across a great website called Flickr. I pulled up a search for Bichons and spent hours paging through photos of bichons posted by their families from all over the globe. Every once in a while I would come across an exceptionally cute shot and would download it for our calendar. It became apparent after a short time that I kept seeing the same name attached to my favorite choices. I posted a little note on that website asking permission to use the photos on our calendar. Since Flickr is a public website, the pics are open for downloading unless otherwise stated, but I thought the photographer might enjoy hearing that their photos had been so much appreciated. Months later, after the calendar had been printed, I received an email from Janie Rickenbaker of South Carolina. I think it's fairly clear that Bichon lovers in the U.S.A. are universally wonderful people. This is what our friend in South Carolina - a fun and fine photographer had to say:*

I was looking back over my pictures and all the comments on my Bichon Boys on Flickr.....and I came across your message of 3 months ago. I am so sorry that I missed that message about your wish to use some of our pictures on your Bichon Rescue Calendar. We support rescue organizations. In fact, Hudson and Traveler were rescued from a puppy mill auction April of 2007..We adopted them in July of 2007. Hudson was 1 year old and Traveler was 9 months old. They were so sad....they had never been around any love until they went to their foster home for a month or so before we got them. Hudson would not even look at you ....he would keep his head turned away as far as he could .... and poor little Traveler would drool!!!!!! NOW, look at them .....Hudson, I will admit, is a mama's boy and Traveler loves me too, but has a way with everybody....he turns on the charm when he looks at you, plus he can get into sooo much trouble - in the blink of an eye!!!!

I know - I ramble on and on about the boys...one of my favorite topics. My husband brushes and combs them everyday!

If you are interested in their pictures for 2010, just let me know.....I think up things to dress them up all of the time!!!!

We are big Rescue a dog/ pet fans. Our daughter has 5 Standard poodles...3 of which she rescued out of Florida....2 with severe illnesses that require a lot of vet visits and medications.

May you and our nation have a most wonderful Summer!

Janie





# Fostering for Bichon FurKids



*Barbara Riggs, who serves as the Volunteer Foster Coordinator for Bichon FurKids Rescue has been instrumental in saving the lives of hundreds of bichons, and bichon mixes.*

*She is a passionate protector of the rights of animals and a long time member of BFK. We are lucky to have her. Thanks Barbara.*



Fostering is my number one priority as a volunteer for Bichon FurKids. Actually, it's the number one priority of any rescue organization. Without generous, loving foster families, rescue organizations like Bichon FurKids cannot function. Unless we have a foster home ready and waiting to receive a little lost dog to become temporarily part of their warm, loving family, we cannot rescue them nor can we accept a surrendered dog from families who can no longer care for their little dogs. Just this year alone, we've rescued and received surrenders of over 250 little dogs and the year's not even half over....so the number of lost little dogs who need are help to survive will be greater this year than any other year in BFK's history. Sadly, they just keep coming.

Fostering is usually for a period of 2 to 6 weeks, sometimes less and sometimes a bit longer. BFK provides everything you'll need to foster a little furkid, e.g., leash, collar, harness, BFK ID tag, bed, blanket, food, training video, toy, temporary kennel, and much more if needed.....you simply add the love and a little training. BFK also provides "previously approved" vetting and grooming; we do require that you use a vet and/or groomer who works with BFK.

If you happen to find that your little foster furkid is a fit for your family and you can't bear to part with him or her, no worries, you as the foster family have the first right to adopt; but we do ask that you make that decision within the first 5 days. This is laughingly referred to as "flunking fostering 101." But what could be better for a little dog....once in foster care he or she's already in their forever home.

Many of our foster families are affectionately called "serial fosters" as they foster for us over and over again. They are true blessings to our rescue. If you decide not to adopt your foster furkid, we simply ask that you fill out a FurKid Profile from our web site. It asks questions about your little foster pup. The answers help us to write up a biography. We also ask that you send some "cute" photos of your little foster pooch playing with a toy, romping in the grass, receiving belly rubs, etc., so we can post them along with the bio.

When we begin to receive adoption applications, once they are approved, the applications that seem to be a fit for your foster furkid will be emailed to you for review. If you like what you read, place a tele-



## Fostering for Bichon FurKids

phone call to the potential adoptive family. If the conversation goes well, set up a time for them to meet your foster pooch, preferably at your home where the dog is most comfortable. Be sure everyone comes to meet your foster pooch, including children and other dogs in the family. If you believe it's a good match, and the family wants to adopt, then the last step is for the adoptive family to complete the adoption contract and make an adoption donation (check made payable to BFK or make the donation through PayPal in the BFK web site). Once that is accomplished your little foster furkid can go home with his or her new forever family, even right then and there if the contract and donation are completed and in your hands.

That's about it in a nutshell. If you would like to help save a life and bring a world of happiness to a little dog, and to your family as well, please fill out a Volunteer Application at

[www.bichonfurkids.org/volunteer](http://www.bichonfurkids.org/volunteer). Once approved, one of BFK's volunteers will contact you to set up a home visit. Then you'll be ready to enjoy the fulfillment of becoming a foster family for a little lost dog. Volunteering for Bichon FurKids has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life....hopefully it will be one of yours as well.

Sincerely, Barbara Riggs

Saving Lives, One Dog at a Time



## Chef Emeril's Bake Shoppe

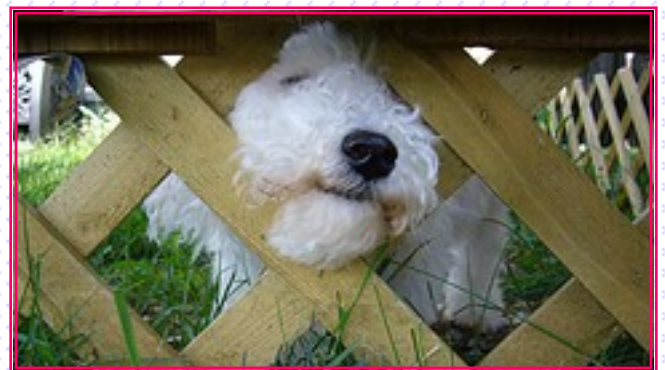
### Shush Puppies

#### Ingredients:

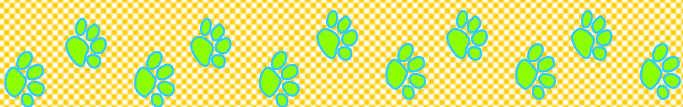
- 2 cups cornmeal
- 1 cup wheat flour
- 1-2/3 cup cheddar cheese
- 3 tsp garlic powder
- 4 Tbsp oil
- 1 cup powdered milk
- 1-1/8 cup water

#### Directions:

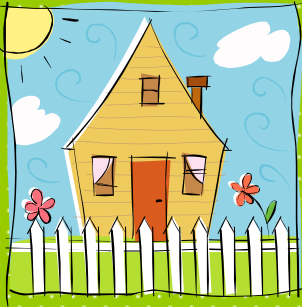
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Combine all dry ingredients in a bowl. Add oil and gradually add water, stirring to mix well. Dough should form a sticky ball. Using a tablespoon, scoop and form a small oval shaped biscuit. Place on a greased cookie sheet and bake for 20 minutes.



Whatcha doing?



# Fun Page



BFK's third in a series of  
**Approved Dog Houses.**

This one is located on a breezy lake-shore and features a television and air conditioning.

It passes on the assumption that the only sleeping taking place here would be during daylight hours.

Who knows what dangers lurk in that lake in the background?



"I know it all. I've seen it all."

Beanie



Words of Wisdom from the  
**Legendary Great Zom~beanie**

"I woke up one morning, and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates."

I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Borrow money from pessimists — they don't expect it back.

Half the people you know are below average.

99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.



## People We Recommend

There are many talented resources that Bichon FurKids calls upon to guide and help us with our own Bichons, as well as those we rescue. Feel free to contact the people below and on the next page, as they have proven themselves to be wonderful and caring resources. Visit our website [www.bichonfurkids.org](http://www.bichonfurkids.org)

### VETERINARIANS

#### Animal Medical Center—East County

600 Broadway, El Cajon, CA 92121

619-444-4246

[amcofeastcounty.net/default.aspx](http://amcofeastcounty.net/default.aspx)

#### Carlsbad Animal Hospital

Dr. Lauren Bauer & Associates

2739 State Street, Carlsbad, CA 92008

760-729-4431 [carlsbadanimalhospital.com](http://carlsbadanimalhospital.com)

#### Cypress Avenue Animal Hospital

1400 E. Cypress St.

Covina, CA 91724

626-331-0775

#### Desert Dunes Animal Hospital

Dr. Eric Jackman

42430 Washington St

Bermuda Dunes, CA 92203

760-345-8227

[www.desertdunes.com](http://www.desertdunes.com)

#### Drake Center for Veterinary Care

195 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, CA 92024

760-753-9393

[drakecenterforanimalhealth.com](http://drakecenterforanimalhealth.com)

#### Estrella Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Michael Ontiviers & Associates

26925 Camino De Estrella, Capo Beach 92624

949-496-6661

[estrellaveterinary.com](http://estrellaveterinary.com)

#### 4 Paws Animal hospital

Dr. Bruce Barnes

16625 Dove Canyon Road, San Diego, CA 92127

858-487-PAWS (7297)

[my4pawsvet.com](http://my4pawsvet.com)

#### Oceanside Veterinary Hospital

Geoffrey R. Smith D.V.M.

2960 San Luis Rey Rd, Oceanside, CA 92058

760-757-1571

#### Pacific Beach Veterinary Clinic

Dr. Benita Keiss

1361 Garnet, San Diego, CA 92109

858-272-6255



### VETERINARIANS (continued)

#### Pearson Animal Hospital

Dr. Dorota Pearson

1903 W San Marcos Blvd, San Marcos 92078

760-598-2512

#### Pet Vet Animal Health Care Group

Dr. Howard Brown

9748 Sherman Way, Canoga Park 92306

818-346-2455

#### Point Loma Veterinary Clinic

Dr. Valerie Cardeiro

1964 Sunset Cliffs blvd

San Diego, CA 92107

619-222-4482

[Pointlomavetclinic.com/site/view/142819\\_Home.pmi](http://Pointlomavetclinic.com/site/view/142819_Home.pmi)

#### Rancho Santa Fe Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Deirdre Brandes

6525 Calle Del Nido,

Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

858-759-8797

[rsfvets.com](http://rsfvets.com)

#### Santa Fe Animal Clinic

Dr. Milton Gee

301 Santa Fe Drive

Encinitas, CA 92024

760-753-6512

#### Stonecreek Animal Hospital

Dr. Jeffrey Glass, Dr. Brandie Melville, Dr. Lisa McDonald

4178 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, CA 92604

949-726-1800

[myvetonline.com/website/stonecreek](http://myvetonline.com/website/stonecreek)

#### Telegraph Canyon Animal Medical Center

Dr. Lynette Henderson & Associates

577 Telegraph Canyon Road, Chula vista, 92920

619-421-1323



### GROOMING

#### AAA Pet Professionals

Terry

508 Nautilus Street, La Jolla, CA 92037

858-456-1552

### GROOMING

#### AAA Pet Professionals

Terry Upton

508 Nautilus St. La Jolla, CA 92037

858-456-1552

#### Alcala Pet Care

Alison

1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024

[www.alcalapetcare.com](http://www.alcalapetcare.com)

760-436-6619

#### All About Animals

Lenise

5622 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, CA 92037

[aalajolla@gmail.com](mailto:aalajolla@gmail.com)

858-459-4583

#### Angel Grooming

1903 Placentia, Placentia, CA 92870

714-996-1563

#### A Pet's Best Friend

Chris & Diane

3251 Greyling Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

[apetsbestfriend@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apetsbestfriend@sbcglobal.net)

[www.apetsbestfriend.biz](http://www.apetsbestfriend.biz)

858-278-1909

#### Bostone's

Cathy Keener

8781 Cuyamaca, Santee, CA 92071

619-449-6400

#### Classy K -9 Clips

Yvonne

3320 Mission Ave., Oceanside, CA 92123

760-721-1562

#### DawgStyle

Christian

34085 PCH #112 Blue Lantern Plaza

Dana Point, CA 92629

949-496-3315

#### Dog Gone Pretty

Melody

15053 Goldenwest, Huntington Beach, CA

714-892-0171

#### KM Dog Grooming

Kaoru—Kay

316 E Street, Chula Vista, CA 92058

[www.kmdoggrooming.com](http://www.kmdoggrooming.com)

619-427-0341

#### Karen's Custom Grooming

Karen

7130 Avenida Encinas, Ste 100

Carlsbad, CA 92009

760-431-7553

#### La Paws Grooming

22912 Pacific Park Dr. Ste B

Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

949-716-8800

(Groomers continued on next page)





## People We Recommend

(Continued)

### GROOMING (continued)

**Prancing Bichons** Linda  
Blue  
1975 Seabreeze Ct, Encinitas, CA 92024  
760-632-1235

**Puppy Love Pet Grooming** Barbara  
191 N. El Camino Real, Ste 211,  
Encinitas, CA 760-634-1559

**Raining Cats & Dogs** Patrick  
1911 Sunset Dr. Ste 1  
Escondido, CA 92025 760-743-0136

**South Bark Dog Wash**  
2037 30th St. San Diego, CA 92104  
619-232-7387  
[southbark.com](http://southbark.com)

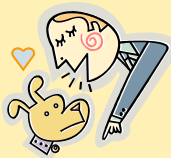
**South Paw Dog Wash** Telly  
34155 PCH  
Dana Point 92629 949-248-9910

**Tails A Waggin** Lisa  
612 S. Coast Highway,  
Oceanside, CA 92054 760-722-0811

**Villa La Paws Resort** Laura  
2734 W. Bell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85053  
602-588-7833

### CANINE BEHAVIORISTS TRAINING — OWNER EDUCATION

Problem Solving & Behavior  
Modification - Group and  
Private Lessons



**Doggie Tech**  
Shannon Schaefer 760-745-1011  
10365 Old Castle Road, Valley Center, CA  
Training including Therapy Dog classes

**K-9 Connections: Training by Nicole**  
Nicole Andrews 760-438-3644  
Behaviorist, Agility  
[k9connections@rocketmail.com](mailto:k9connections@rocketmail.com)

**My Canine Coach,**  
Stephanie Houfek, BA 714-234-1111  
[Stephanie@mycaninecoach.net](mailto:Stephanie@mycaninecoach.net)  
[mycaninecoach.net](http://mycaninecoach.net)

### TRAINERS (continued)

**Pawtopia Dog Training**  
Colleen Demling, CPDT 858-361-8962  
[www.pawtopiatraining.com](http://www.pawtopiatraining.com)

**Smart Dog, Training and Owner Education**  
Jamie Bozzi, CPDT 619-246-5634  
[Jamie@smrtdog.com](mailto:Jamie@smrtdog.com)

**Solutions Pet Services,**  
Jamie Lurtz 714-404-9314  
[www.solutionsPets.com](http://www.solutionsPets.com)

**The Uncommon Canine, Inc.,**  
Joella Cunningham, CPDT 858-679-5861  
[theuncommoncanine@cox.net](mailto:theuncommoncanine@cox.net)

**Mild to Wild**  
David Feliciano 714-333-6770  
Anxiety, aggression, behavior, housebreaking,  
good manners.  
[Troy McClureog82@yahoo.com](mailto:Troy McClureog82@yahoo.com) (Put Attn: David on  
the subject line)

**Cool Dog Training and Doggy Day Care**  
Lynne Sorrentino 951-676-9677  
35581 Glenoaks Rd, Temecula, CA  
Positive training and loving day care  
[Cooldogtraining.com](http://Cooldogtraining.com)

### DOG SITTING

**Joan's Loving Care Pet Sitting Service**  
Joan Danzinger  
BFK Adopter and former foster Mom  
In-home pet care 760-930-0619

**Mimi's Pet Sitting Service**  
Ruth Clifford 314 South Pacific  
Oceanside, CA 760-757-0940

**Sun Dawn Pet Care** 858-722-6191  
Serving Scripps Ranch & surrounding areas  
In-home pet care, playtime and walks  
Licensed—Bonded—Insured  
[sundawnpetcare@att.net](mailto:sundawnpetcare@att.net)

**Pet Buddy**  
Steven Porter  
760-880-5787

**The Ritz 4 Pets**  
Kim Cyr  
760-598-3368  
Serving North SD County  
[ritz4petz.com](http://ritz4petz.com)



### DOG SITTING (continued)

**The Animal Keeper**  
760-753-9366  
Encinitas  
**The Animal Keeper**  
760-941-3221  
Oceanside  
**The Animal Keeper**  
858-748-9676  
Poway  
[www.theanimalkeeper.com](http://www.theanimalkeeper.com) for all three

**Caren Graves** 858-692-9449

**Cool Dog Doggy Day Care**  
Lynne Sorrentino 951-676-9677  
35581 Glenoaks Rd, Temecula, CA  
Loving Doggy Day Care Center  
[cooldogtraining.com](http://cooldogtraining.com)

### CARPET CLEANING

#### Upstairs/Downstairs

Malcolm Widdison Owner/Operator  
760-726-3093 or 760-471-9569



#### Love Bichons?

Why not join the Nannie's Network?  
A cooperative group of fellow Bichon  
owners and foster parents who trade  
dog sitting favors with each other.

The Nannies are located throughout  
San Diego County and hope to add new  
members in surrounding counties.  
Contact Hilary Cramer at  
[hgcramer@yahoo.com](mailto:hgcramer@yahoo.com)

Membership is free. Fun guaranteed.