

Bichon Bits & Bytes

November 2012 Bichon FurKids Rescue

Get your 2013 BFK Calendars in time for the Holidays

The Bichon FurKids 2013 Calendar is now available. View photos of happy, friendly, loving, bichons every single month! See the winners of our photo contest! And meet the other darling contestants (and many other well-loved bichons) too.

ORDER YOUR CALENDARS NOW - for you, your friends and family. They make great stocking stuffers, birthday and back-to-school gifts, too. The supply is limited, so order now to avoid backorders.

The cost of a calendar is a \$25 donation, which includes shipping and handling. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Send checks to:

BICHON FURKIDS
6965 EL CAMINO REAL #105-425
CARLSBAD, CA 92009

Or, buy using Paypal or a Credit Card from the BFK website at:

<http://www.bichonfurkids.org/donation>



Beautiful photos,
Ample room to write
in the day squares

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November is "Adopt A Senior Pet" month.

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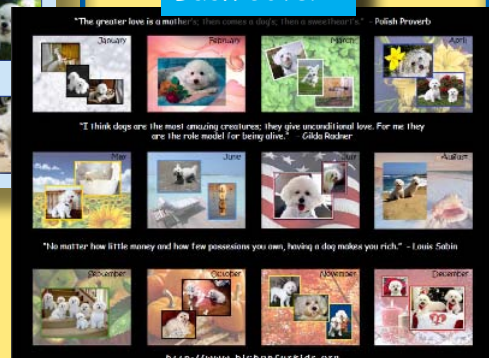
Find us on Facebook

Handy Year-At-A-Glance Page

Back Cover



Front Cover



<http://www.bichonfurkids.org>

BFK Forever Foster Program

In January 2010 Bichon FurKids launched our Forever Foster program. Our vision was to make it possible to care for those bichons who, because of health, temperament, age or background, might not be good candidates for adoption. We felt strongly then, and now, that despite their special needs, whatever they might be, these dogs should live out their lives in loving homes, being cared for with respect and dignity.



Tiger, our first Forever Foster

The program was launched as a result of a generous donation from an adopter and bichon-lover who wishes to remain anonymous. All donations to that Fund are managed separately; BFK continues to look for opportunities to expand and grow the fund. That was the genesis of our Forever Foster Program and continues to be its mission.

The dogs accepted into the Forever Foster Program are very special pups. Some have chronic health problems which require an unusual amount of care and expense; some are severely disabled; others are elderly or have terminal medical conditions. Euthanasia is not an option for these dogs unless their quality of life is compromised. Instead, their medical expenses are covered by Bichon FurKids while their foster moms and dads provide the physical care and love they need and deserve.

In order for us to maintain the best quality of life for our Forever Fosters, we require additional assistance in the form of donations. The donations we receive through our Adoption Program can never cover the medical expenses we have accumulated in the care of rescued dogs. If you would like to become a special part of one these little furkids' lives, please consider becoming a Sponsor.



Petey - our newest Forever Fostered Furkid

A Sponsor can make monetary donations or provide supplies for their use in the Forever Foster Home. Sponsorships may be one time donations or timed payments to help cover the costs of medical care, treatment or recovery. All monetary and material donations will go to the particular Forever Foster dog you specify.

Please consider supporting our cause and our Forever Foster Program. Your gift will help us continue to save many more dogs, and to provide our Forever Fosters a life of ease and contentment. If you would like to make a donation for a Forever Foster please click on link below:

<http://www.bichonfurkids.org/donations> and specify Forever Foster under Purpose. If you prefer to mail a check or money order you can send it to the address below:

Bichon FurKids
6965 El Camino Real #105-425
La Costa, CA 92009

If you would like your name to appear on our website and be updated on a furkid's progress, let us know.

If you have been unable to adopt, or unable to have the time to care for a rescued pup for whatever reason, but would like to help, please become a Sponsor. Our little furkids depend on you!

Nico's Story: A Forever Foster Experience

In Jan. of 2010, we rescued what we thought was a senior bichon from a local shelter. He was thin, frightened, scruffy, and had black teeth, something quite new to me. We expected that there might be extensive dental care -- but after removing the black "shells" his teeth were beautiful. This little guy we called Nico joined our two bichon girls and settled in as our foster, and began his rehab program.



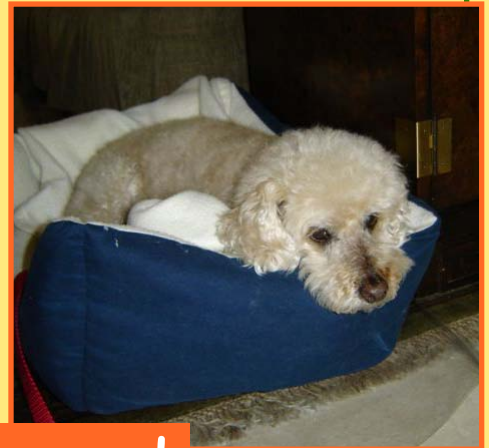
We interviewed two families who expressed interest in Nico, one being a Hollywood stuntman who was named.... Nico. All thought his age would not enable him to go for long walks with their packs (they would have been surprised!) and, ultimately, Nico was not adopted.

As his rehab progressed, Nico walked, played, became healthy and changed color, turning into a beautiful burnished copper. Nico cut quite a figure when walking with his two bichon ladies. All with color coordinated collars and leashes of course. And, as he changed color, we also realized he was probably more poodle than bichon - but a love of a boy and a very dear soul nonetheless.

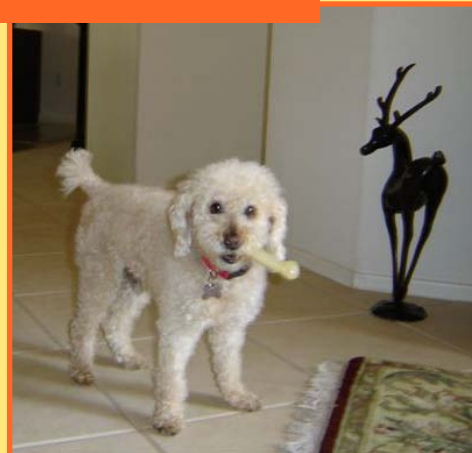
Nico now spends lots of time on my lap and has turned in his four foot long pink, plush, snake toy for a shorter more manageable green rope. He is now blind and has other medical issues, but thanks to the good medical care of the Forever Foster program Nico is happy and comfortable! We are grateful for the program that provides this care for FurKids in need and wanted you to know that Nico is an experience not to be missed.

Thanks, Forever Foster Program, for the gift of Nico.

Dot, Harry and The Girls



Nico when Rescued



From the BFK Inbox...

Thank You for Our Little Vivie!

Dear Bichon FurKids.

We just wanted to write to say Thank You! We picked up our beautiful Vivie from her foster home yesterday. She and our dog Wendall are doing great together AND she does great with our kids. The whole process went great and we got her very quickly.

Thanks for the work you do! What a great experience we had with wonderful people.

We went by the dog beach in Huntington before we headed back to Bakersfield yesterday. (Vivie is on the left, Wendall on the right in the beach photo.)

Thanks again for our little Vivie,
Julie and Family



Pictures from the Fall Bichon Bash



What do you get when you combine a summer-like day, lots of green grass, a large enclosed area, good food and even better company? Why you get the first ever Fall Bichon Bash. Held in Escondido on Oct. 27th, about 200 two and four-legged friends congregated to share anecdotes, information and, most of all, fun in the sun (we'll bring more canopies next year!)

As always, the question we seek to answer afterward is who has more fun? The FurKids or their proud owners? While we may never get consensus on the answer to that question, there is no doubt that it was, and always is, a fun-filled day.

So please circle your calendars twice next year: The Spring Bichon Bash will be held in Irvine on May 18th, 2013 and the Fall Bichon Bash will be held in Escondido on Oct. 26th.

We look forward to seeing you there!!!



DRIVERS and PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Want to help but can't foster? Love to see new places and meet new people? Want to make a difference for a FurKid or two? We need your help! BFK needs drivers and people who like to take pictures.

Driving Miss Daisy (or Mr. Davy)

Every week FurKids need to be transported to groomers, vets and foster homes. We rely on our volunteer drivers to get them there - and are grateful for their help. We DO need more people who are willing and able to transport our fluffs primarily throughout San Diego or Orange County (and not for great distances usually, either.)

Sometimes we have days in which to plan; other times it is more immediate like when we find a FurKid that needs to be moved 'right away' due to a medical situation, to be exited from a shelter or who needs to be some place other than where he or she is at that moment.

If you have time and a love for bichons, we NEED you. And if you love to organize transports, we need help with that too! Please email marti@bichonfurkids.org and say "I'd like to drive a furkid" - and we'll be in touch.

A Photographer is worth a Thousand Words

Do you like to take pictures? Are you good with a camera? We need people who can take photos of our new FurKids to accompany their bios on the adoption pages of our website. The photographer plays a very important role in getting our FurKids adopted. As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words - and as clever as our FurKid profiles are, nothing clinches an adoption application like a few engaging photographs of cute little balls of fluff frolicking in the grass - or peeking out of a flower pot or bathtub.

Another of the photographer's roles is taking pictures of the events that BFK participates in - such as adoption events, the Bichon Bash, and other activities. You never know where your masterpieces may end up - they could enhance a story on our website or in the newsletter...or even grace the BFK calendar. And like they say, a picture is worth...well you have the idea by now - we couldn't do our work without the work you do when you press the shutter button.

If you can frame a good picture and have a decent camera that takes high resolution photos (not a cell phone camera), you can help the FurKids by being their very own paparazzi! You never know when or where a FurKid may need to be photographed, so if you have "wheels"- and the time and flexibility - WE NEED YOU!

Please email marti@bichonfurkids.org and say "I'd like to be a FurKid Paparazzi" - and we'll be in touch.

Thank you for helping the FurKids!

