



Bichon Bits & Bytes

January 2013 Bichon FurKids Rescue

Kids Make a Difference For FurKids

We are often asked if there is something that children can do to help FurKids. Since all of our kids are in foster homes, it is

sometimes a bit difficult for them to be able to walk the fosters or help foster moms and dads in other ways. One of the things that they can do (and can get community service credits for as well!) is make the fleece blankets that our FurKids love and enjoy!



Earlier this month we were contacted by a group asking if they could make fleece blankets.

This is their story and photos.

The 5th grade Kids Who Care at Highland Ranch Elementary School in San Diego focus their time on helping others. Helping others includes: families, kids and animals too!

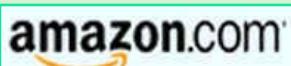
At their January 2013 meeting (a few days ago) the kids spent their time cutting and tying blankets for Bichon FurKids. They loved the idea of giving dogs their own blankets to have in foster care and to take with them to their forever homes! The kids were very excited to do this fun project. And this is the second year that the Kids Who Care program participants chose to make blankets!

(P.S. Our FurKids love the blankets and we appreciate our Junior Volunteers! Of course we accept that kind of help from our Moms and Dads, too! If you would like to make fleece, no sew blankets, please let us know by contacting info@bichonfurkids.org.)

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Kiki, Our Little Flower

Hi everyone!

Kiki means a little flower, and mom and dad say that I am starting to blossom into a pretty one. I've been in my new home since April and I was shy at first, but I've adjusted well by now. I mostly like snuggling on the couch with dad, and he just lets me lounge next to him, which I could do for hours, but mom thinks it's also important to go for walks so that I get my exercise.



Rio, my canine brother, and I get along well...well for the most part...okay maybe only sometimes... We love to wrestle and I'm learning to share my toys with him 'coz, I know he's kind and always brings them back for me. And guess what, I just got enrolled in school so that I can learn to do all those cool tricks that Rio does and can soon play with kids too!

I get lots of treats there and I've made new friends there too. It's funny that mom thinks I walk slowly next to her, 'coz I am a good dog, but I do it just 'coz I really like those peanut butter treats, shhhh!

You know, I was hit by a car and needed surgery before mom and dad got me, but I'm warming up quickly they say :) My coat is soft and long again and everyone says that I look like a princess when I wear my cute pink bows. I feel so safe now, and mom and dad have started taking me out on trips to the beach and on hiking trails now, but I still love my home the most! Okay, I have to go to the spa now and get a much needed blueberry facial for the holidays :)

Kiki, Mom, Dad and Rio



That's my brother, Rio, on the right!



Theo The Great Glomski



and quite
possibly
the best
furbaby
in the
whole
wide
world

!!!

Happy New Year!

This is much much too late but I wanted to make sure and send our update write up. It has now been just over 3 months since Theo became a Glomski. He has brought so so so many smiles and joy into our lives. He's an incredible cuddler, playful, adorable, a master of disguise and quite possibly the best furbaby in the whole wide world. He has adjusted into our family so well. He has traveled with us, spent Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas (each with a fantastic outfit to match).



Everyone who meets him falls in love with him and we don't blame them. He has successfully completed obedience 1 and 2 and passed both with flying colors. He no longer shows any leash aggression and is eager to meet other pups at the beach where he plays off leash. He also attends monthly meetups with other dogs and truly enjoys his playtime. I've included some pictures of his time here. Feel free to share on website or Facebook.

Theo is truly our little sunshine and we are so very thankful to you Marti, Theo's foster family, BFK and all of the volunteers for saving him (and so many other furkids) from the shelter and bringing Theo into our lives!

Love, Angela, Joquin, Sophia and Theo The Great Glomski



BICHONS: WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE GETTING ONE

by Cyndie Adams - Leverre's Bichon Frises (Edited slightly to fit this page)

Bichons are wonderful, funny, loving, happy, playful, smart dogs, BUT they are NOT for everyone!! Bichons have some special needs and quirks that people need to be aware of before deciding if this is the breed for them.

The most obvious consideration is their coat care. Bichons require A LOT of grooming to look like a Bichon and to be healthy. They must be thoroughly brushed (daily is best, but weekly is mandatory) to prevent matting of the coat. They should have their hair cut every 4-6 weeks, and depending on the area in which you live, this can be costly. If you are considering this breed, be prepared to figure in the cost of getting the dog groomed on a routine basis.

Bichons were bred as companion animals. As such, they want to be with their people....all the time! Many Bichons do not do well when left alone for long periods of time on a daily basis. They can suffer from separation anxiety, which can lead to depression, destructive behavior, personality changes, fear, excessive barking, and housebreaking problems. Bichons are an "in your face" breed. They want to be with you, and when you are in the house they will follow you everywhere, they want to be on your lap or snuggled next to you when you are sitting down, they DEMAND attention!

And speaking of housebreaking... This can be a big issue with the breed and one of the main reasons that Bichons are placed in rescue or given up to shelters. It will depend on the dog's personality and the start that it gets from the breeder as to how difficult it will be to house-train the dog, and Bichons are notorious for being difficult to housebreak! Some dogs "get it" quickly and some dogs take a long time before they are housebroken. If you are considering this breed, you MUST be prepared to have accidents in the house, and you MUST be prepared for housebreaking to take time! [Editor's Note: If your Bichon continues to have accidents or your male marks, many websites and stores offer a variety of "belly bands" for males and similar items for females. Check the BFK website at <http://www.bichonfurkids.org/shop> for some that we recommend.]

Bichons like to think that they DESERVE to be waited on ... and if not properly trained, they WILL run the house. In order for a Bichon to be a good family member it is important for the owner to obtain some basic obedience training for the dog. This will require some time and nominal expense, but it will be worth the effort, especially for the new dog owner.

Bichons are inquisitive, nosy dogs. Be prepared to lose some personal articles if you leave them in reach of the dog! This attitude also applies to the outside world. If you do not have a secure, fenced in yard, you MUST have the dog on a leash at all times when it is outside! If you let the dog off leash, or do not hold onto the leash, the dog will take off to investigate new things, run just for the fun of it, or chase cars, squirrels, etc.

Bottom line ...If you have the time, patience and resources to cope with all of the above, you will not find a better dog to be your best friend than a Bichon!



Save the date!

February 22, 2013

"On The Road Again" A Day of Bichon Bliss

On Friday February 22, 2013 the Bichon Frise Club of San Diego will hold its Annual Specialty Shows at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. These American Kennel Club shows are exclusively for Bichons. Please join us in this celebration of our beloved Bichons. There will be puppies as young as 6 months old entered and some of the most beautiful little white fluffs you could ever hope to see.

A very special part of this celebration is a Parade of Rescue Bichons. Every entered rescue Bichon will have an opportunity to parade around the ring while his/her story is told. At the end, the rescue dog will receive a beautiful rosette with the dog's name imprinted on the streamer.

The Bichon Frise Club of San Diego invites you to join us on this special day and celebrate your rescued Bichon. You will need to complete a short biography of your bichon and an official AKC Entry Form. There is a \$17 entry fee per dog entry. Both forms can be found on the Bichon Frise Club of San Diego web site at its Specialty page:
<http://www.bichonfriseclubofsandiego.com/specialty.html>

There will also be a luncheon for all participants that will include a fabulous raffle with a variety of dog and non-dog items.

The proceeds of the raffle go to the BFCSD rescue fund which distributes funds to various Bichon Rescue groups throughout the year.

Here are the links for your reference:

Form for the Parade of Rescue Bichons:

http://www.bichonfriseclubofsandiego.com/pdf/parade_rescues_form.pdf

AKC Entry Form:

http://www.bichonfriseclubofsandiego.com/pdf/2013_AKCentryform.pdf

Lunch Reservation Form:

http://www.bichonfriseclubofsandiego.com/pdf/2013_LuncheonReservationForm.pdf

We look forward to seeing you and your Bichons on this very special day. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Deb Gibb at debgibb@gmail.com.



FurKid "Joy" with her rosette.



Note ... Being part of a Parade of Rescues is a lot of fun for both our FurKids and us! We would be delighted if you would participate! Walking around a show ring with your FurKid is a treat. Being presented with a rosette commemorating that participation is something you will enjoy for years to come. The Parade benefits rescued bichons so please come, even for an hour or two, to show your support. Enter your FurKid, create some special memories and have fun!

Dog Food Recalls: Please Read and Keep Your FurKid Safe

All of us know that what we feed our FurKids is very important - whether it is dry food, wet food, treats or water (distilled, bottled or reverse osmosis only please!) Following are the recalls for Jan. 2013 (already) and those that you may have missed in of 2012. We know some of these brands have been chosen by FurKid owners and adopters - and wanted to make everyone aware of these recalls. You can sign up for dog food recall email alerts at the following site and get more information and details on each recall: <http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com/dog-food-recalls/>

Publix Chicken Tenders Dog Chew Treats Recall (1/11/2013)

IMS Trading Group Withdraws Chicken Jerky Dog Treats Due to Drug Residue (1/11/2013)

Milo's Kitchen Recalls Chicken Jerky and Chicken Grillers Dog Treats (1/9/2013)

Waggin' Train and Canyon Creek Ranch Chicken Jerky Treats Recall (1/9/2013)

Claudia's Cuisine Dog Candy Voluntary Product Withdrawal (12/7/2012)

Nature's Deli Chicken Jerky Dog Treats Warning Expands (12/6/2012)

Priority Total Pet Care Dog Treats Recall (11/21/2012)

Charlee Bear Dog Treats Recall (11/2/2012)

Wellness Recalls Limited Batch of Dry Dog Food (10/30/2012)

Yoghund Frozen Yogurt Dog Treats Recall (10/18/2012)

Boots and Barkley Pig Ears and Dog Treats Recall (10/17/2012)

Nature's Recipe Dog Treats Recall (10/13/2012)

Nature's Deli Chicken Jerky Dog Treats Recall (10/4/2012)

Dogsbutter Peanut Butter for Dogs Recall (9/28/2012)

Boots and Barkley Bully Sticks Dog Treats Recall (9/22/2012)

AvoDerm Dog Food Recall (9/11/2012)

Bil-Jac Dog Food Recall (8/24/2012)

Nature's Variety Dog Food Recall (7/12/2012)

Pedigree Dog Food Recall (6/30/2012)

Diamond Issues Yet Another Dog Food Recall (5/18/2012)

Solid Gold Dog Food Recall (5/8/2012)

Apex Dog Food Recall (5/7/2012)

Diamond Dog Food Recall Summary (5/6/2012)

Canidae Dog Food Recall (5/5/2012)

Wellness Dog Food Recall (5/5/2012)

Natural Balance Dog Food Recall (5/5/2012)

Kirkland Dog Food Recall (5/5/2012)

Diamond Dog Food Recall Expands Again (5/4/2012)

Diamond Dog Food Recall Widens (4/30/2012)

Diamond Dog Food Recall Expanded (4/26/2012)

Diamond Dog Food Recall

