

Winter Bulletin 2014



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Officers:

Judy McNamara, President
Gail Antetomaso, Vice President
Nancy Noonan, Corresponding Secretary
Diana McFarlane, Recording Secretary
Lillian Endo, Treasurer

Directors:

Kathy Andrew
Karen Chesbro
Katherine Dillon
Kieth Hanson
Shauna Scarborough

Myra Wotten

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2014 National Specialty

Enclosures:

- 2016 Specialty 2nd Round Judge Selection Ballot
- Volunteer Form
- Health Times
- BFCA Boutique

Bulletin Editor: Shauna Scarborough 8501 Andover Dr. Silsbee, TX 77656

Bichon Frise Club of America

BFCA BULLETI N: The BFCA Bulletin is the official newsletter of the Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc. and is published quarterly. Subscriptions by members of BFCA are paid as a portion of annual membership dues.

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President's Message—Judy McNamara

I hope your Holidays were wonderful. I wish you all many wins in 2014!

It seems winter arrived in Oklahoma in late November and it hasn't stopped. I know it has been bad in many areas. Spring can't be too far behind, I hope!

The flyer for our Specialty should be to you soon. The specialty is a week earlier than usual **this year so pay close attention to the deadlines. Don't forget the 4**-6 puppy class is new for this year. We are going back to our old format for Hospitality night. We will have light refreshments and a no host bar. I hope to see you all there!

In this issue is the second round of balloting to judges. Please get your ballots to Betty Ribble in a timely matter.

I was thinking about our club recently and I realized that this is our 50th anniversary. Our club was founded in 1964. The first President was Azalea Gascoigne and the Secretary and Registrar was Gertrude Fournier. Fifty years seems like a long time, but there are many clubs that have been around so much longer.

The board has voted to do away with all Challenge Trophies. It was not an easy decision and I want to thank all of you who replied to the request for your opinion. It was very helpful to the board in our discussion and decision making. The trophies will be returned to the donors by mail sometime in the near future.

I hope to see all of you in Houston for the Specialty May 1-2 and be sure to plan to stay over for the weekend 2 day event hosted of the local Houston club!

Officer Reports—Diana McFarlane, Recording Secretary

Brrr...I hope the rest of the nation is warming up.

MEMBERSHIP DI RECTORY - You should all have your directory which was done by Betsy Savage and a good job she did as always. This will be the last yearly directory. The directory will now be printed every other year. So be sure to save the change pages that are included in each Bulletin.

NOMI NATI NG COMMITTEE

Included in this Bulletin is a volunteer form for serving on the Nominating Committee for the 2015 elections. Please mail your response to me by April 14, 2014 if you are interesting in serving. My address is included on the form.

NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The flyer will be coming out soon so watch for it in your post box. Please be sure I have your correct address to ensure you get your copy.

REMINDER

GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 30, 2014

Officer Reports—Diana McFarlane, Recording Secretary

Ballot Proposals

Board Member	Ballot 10-13A	Ballot 10-13B	Ballot 10-13C	Ballot 11-13A
Andrew, Kathy	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
Antetomaso, Gail	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
Chesbro, Karen	Approve	Approve	Disapprove	Approve
Dillon, Katherine	Approve	N/A	Approve	Approve
Endo, Lillian	Approve	N/A	N/A	Approve
Hanson, Kieth	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
McFarlane, Diana	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
McNamara, Judy	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
Noonan, Nancy	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
Scarborough, Shauna	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve
Wotton, Myra	Approve	Approve	Approve	Approve

N/A = Not available.

Ballot 10-13A—The BFCA shall purchase 100 pins for those who attend a National Specialty for the first time at a cost of \$270.00.

Ballot 10-13B—The BFCA shall adopt the following logo for the 2014 Specialty. Over the \log_0 , say "leash up & Giddy Up" and under the \log_0 say "Houston 2014"

Ballot 10-13C—The BFCA shall donate \$300 to the AKC Legislative Support Fund.

Ballot 11-13A—The BFCA shall retire all Challenge trophies and return to the donor effective with the 2014 National.

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA

Treasurer's Report Financial Statement Beginning October 1, 2013 and Ending December 31, 2013

CHECKING ACCOUNT INCOME:	BALANCE Septer	nber 30, 2013	\$51,906,88
Dues		\$ 120.00	
Sales		337.00	
Breeder's Director	rv	1,900.00	
Amazon Sales	*	288.51	
Health			
Calendars	1.221.23		
	88	1,221,23	
Total Inco	ome	3	,866.74
EXPENSES:			
2014 National Spe	cialty	65 1.40	
AKC Dues		25.00	
Eukanuba		1,557.00	
AKC President's		300,00	
Treasurer's Exper	ise	54.95	
BFCA Directory		733,99	
BFCA Agility Tris		811.50	
Transfer to Saving		20,000.00	
Judges Nominatio	n Expenses	25.00	
Judges Seminar		524,47	
PayPal		53.62	
Health			
Calendar Shippin	men .		
PayPal	32.74		
		232.74	
Total Exp	ense	24	969.67
NET LOSS			-21,102,93
CHECKING ACCOUNT I	BALANCE Decem	ber 31, 2013	\$30,803.95
PAYPAL BALANCE			500.00
BUSINESS SAVING BAL	ANCE October 1,	2013 \$35,129.66	
Transfer from Ch	ecking Account	20,000.00	
Interest Income	□	5.79	es.
BUSINESS SAVINGS BAI	LANCE December	31, 2013	55,135,45

LILLIAN ENDO, TREASURER December 31, 2013

Committee Reports—Agility, Shirley Hamilton

AGILITY

As 2014 begins I want to wish all of our agility Bichons clean, fast, and safe runs this New Year. Also as a reminder, please send your information on all new titles that were earned in the 2013 calendar year. For the parchments in regular and preferred Novice and Open please include both your scores and seconds under standard course time for all three qualifying runs. For Excellent regular and preferred, send your seconds under standard course time. Any dog that has earned a MX, MXJ, MACH, or PACH, is qualified to receive a BFCA plaque at the annual awards banquet. Please send this information to me by March 15, 2014.

Plans are moving forward for BFCA's first annual all-breed agility trial to be held in Ham Lake, MN--a suburb of Minneapolis/St. Paul. The date for this trial is June 20, 21, and 22, 2014. While entry will be determined by a random draw, any Bichon Frise entered will be guaranteed entry. In addition there will be a trophy awarded to the top Bichon after combining the scores for standard and jumpers with weaves runs. NOTE: If any BFCA member would like to have the honor of sponsoring this "First Annual BFCA Agility" trophy, please let me know by March 15, 2014 so your name can be published in the premium.

An invitation is extended to all agility Bichons to participate. In addition, since our BFCA membership in the Twin Cities area is not large, if anyone who is a BFCA member is able to attend, even if not running a dog, we could really use your help in assuring that we meet the AKC required membership present to be able to hold this trial. Please let me know if you can attend.

BFCA is in good company with the Westminster Kennel Club as 2014 will also be their first annual AKC Agility Trial. It will be held in conjunction with the Annual Westminster Kennel Club show in New York City in February. If you are planning to attend the show, you may want to check out the trial, on Sat. February 8th, at Pier 94.

Shirley Hamilton -- sjhamelot@mac.com or 715-259-7513

Committee Reports—Delegate Report, George Sikes

I attended the December Delegates meetings in Orlando, FL, held before the AKC 2013 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

Thursday, December 12, 2013, I attended the Parent Club Committee meeting. The discussion was Pet Disaster Trailers. Pat Lauren, Chair of the Parent Club, said six trailers are almost complete. They hope that the delegates and their clubs will continue to support the mission that helps provide Pet Disaster Trailers for areas that are really in need. Pat thanked AKC Reunite for their commitment of \$250,000.00 in matching funds. She also thanked the Clubs that have donated to the cause.

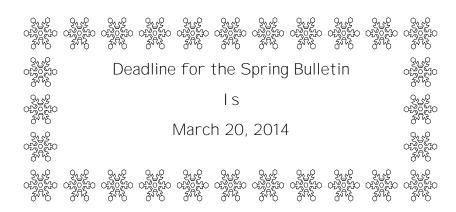
I also attended the Delegate Caucus on December 12, 2013. Candidates for the Board of Directors, Class of 2018 were introduced and will be voted on at the March, 2014 Delegates meeting. They are: James R. Dok, Gigi Harbor Kennel Club, Dr. J. Charles Garvin, Dalmatian Club of America, Ronald H. Menaker, Rockford-Freeport I Ilinois Kennel Club, and Patricia Scully, Obedience Training Club of Hawaii. We will vote for three.

On Friday, December 13, 2013, I attended the Legislative Committee meeting and the Delegates General Meeting. There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 22, Dog Show Classification of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which provides for a Bred-By-Exhibitor Class for each sex of each Miscellaneous Class Breed consistent with the requirements as defined in Section 8. The amendment was brought forward by the AKC Staff. The amendment was read at the September meeting. It was published in two issues of the online Gazette. There was a standing vote for over 2/3 in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted, to be effective April 2014. The two proposed amendments read to be voted on in March 2014 are both concerning Field Trial rules.

Congratulations to the BFCA members who were top winners in the Breed at Eukanuba, BOBBBE/BOB, CCh CH Shyladawn's Timeless Beauty: Breeder: Shyla Newton/Sandra J. Madia by GCH CG Shyladawn's SAKS It is All in the Jeans-CH Marquis Jewel of Shyladawn. Owner: Shyla Newton, and to BOS: GCH-CG Saks Winning Card. Breeder: Roberta Bleeker/Shirley/Hamilton by CH Saks Encore-CH Hamelot Saks Chalets Secret Code. Owner: Anthony & Kim MacKenzie & S & K Hanson & Cecilia Ruggles. Winner of the Bred-By Competition on Friday was GCH Ch Absolute Agape Bullet Proof: Breeder Sheri Kennedy by GCH CH Craigdale Chip Off The Rock-CH Payray's Phenomenal Owner: Sheri Kennedy, Karen Paulson, Sue & Bob Swindle.

I want to thank all that participated in "Meet the Breeds" to make it a great success.

Bulletin



Friendship Committee Report

Since our last report, we have sent two sympathy cards. One to Wendy Ball upon the death of her mother, and one to Sandra Wienke upon the death of her husband.

We also sent a get well card to Jean Glass & one to George Sikes who recently had back surgery. Members, please keep me informed of those needing a little cheering up. Please note new E mail address: lauranpurnell@att.net.

Laura Purnell Friendship Chairman

Committee Reports

Judges Selection Committee

Please review the following guidelines and return your BALLOT at your earliest convenience.

SECOND ROUND PROCEDURES

- 1. The Second Round Ballot will go out in the BFCA Winter Bulletin.
- 2. From the first round, the top up to10 names (including ties), receiving 6 or more nominations will be listed on the Second Round Ballot.
- 3. These names will be listed alphabetically on this ballot. They WILL NOT be listed in order of popularity.
- 4. The Second Round Ballot has one column for Conformation and one column for Sweepstakes.
- 5. You will be given the opportunity to vote for three judges, in order of preference. This is a weighted ballot. This means that the votes will count as follows: Three (3) points for your first place vote, two (2) points for your second place vote and one (1) point for your third place vote.
- 6. PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY AS ANY ERRORS COULD REMOVE YOUR BALLOT FROM CONSIDERATION.
- 7. Deadline for return of this ballot will be posted on the ballot.

Betty Ribble

"Meet the Breeds"

"Meet the Breeds" was a big hit in Orlando. We reached many visitors who were looking for information about our Breed. Some already had a Bichon and needed to know more about their companion and how to take care of it, some were looking for a Breed to love and enjoy, and some just wanted to know what our Breed is like.

There were a lot of compliments on the Booth. Thanks to Sheila Feldman for organizing and bringing a friend to decorate and to Jane Daniel for bringing her lovely Bitch for the visitors to admire. Sheila and Jane both spent much time in the booth talking with the visitors. Angela Bellinger allowed us to use her ten-month old champion for the visitors to meet. He was a "Hoot" and kept everyone entertained. They really got to see the great attitude of a Bichon. We were fortunate to have the beautiful groomed bichons of Lindsay Dicken on Sunday. Lindsay is a professional groomer who has won many, many competitions. She furnished us with different Bichons that had just come off the grooming table. Visitors were so amazed at the beautiful grooming. Many, Many thanks to Lindsay Van Keuren for all the work she did on the "Bichon" brochures to get it printed and to Orlando in time for "Meet the Breeds." The visitors adored all the candid photos of Bichons that Lindsey put on the picture frame. They just stood in amazement as they watched it to see what was next.

Avanell Sikes

Committee Reports—Directory Corrections

Membership Directory Corrections Winter 2013

Erayna Beckman 6508 Oak Lakes Lane Citrus Heights, CA 95621-3301 916-560-3354 legendbichon@gmail.com

Bill & Vicki Brunn 5112 Lake Shore Drive Defiance, OH 43512 419-782-0790 artwyrks5@gmail.org

Alan & Maureen Miles Molly's Cottage Knockycoster Ballinagore CO Westmeath I RELAND 00353/0579333644 alareen@eircom.net Linda Myers 51 Forest Rd Essex Junction, VT 05452-3804 802-878-3514 Ikmyers51@comcast.net

Jenna Orvos 11242 Alpine Lane Grass Valley,CA 95945 206-660-8028 jlorvos@hotmail.com

Lotte Radoor 491 E 134th Ave Thornton,CO 80241-1722 303-885-8964 dalora@comcast.net

Committee Reports—Membership, Karen Chesbro

New Membership Applications (Sponsors)

Carole Thompson

163 Silver Springs Road

Phoenixville, PA 19460

(Nita Gryan & Mimi Winkler)

New Foreign Membership Applications (Sponsors)

Stephanie Toom
300 Murphy Drive
West Delta B.C.
Canada V4M-3P2
(Kathy Andrew & Dale Hunter)

All BFCA members are invited to send comments (both pro & con) regarding applicants. Comments must be received by the Recording Secretary, Diana McFarlane 3606 Haverhill St. Carlsbad, CA 92008-2174 forddiana@roadrunner.com by FEBRUARY 20, 2014

Committee Reports—Rescue, Lynn Ramich



BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA CHARITABLE TRUST

Est. 2003

Zandra Kern became a member of the BFCA last year. She has been my right hand in the Maryland/Virginia areas. Zandra has a story to tell of one of our rescues, Tiffany, and how SOMETIMES things work out for these pets but not in our time. From Zandra:

Sometimes it takes a village of rescue volunteers to save and to find a bichon the right home. Here is the story of Tiffany.

Tiffany came to us from a shelter in Maryland. She was an owner turn-in with her mother, Holly Berry. Both Tiffany and Holly were used for breeding. The shelter told us that Tiffany had separation anxiety when separated from her Mom. Unfortunately, we had to separate them. Holly Berry did well and got adopted right away, but not Tiffany.

Tiffany didn't seem to like men. She would bark at the foster's husband all the time. The foster was afraid she might bite if she got cornered. Tiffany's first placement was with a former adopter who felt she could work with Tiffany. After a few weeks, Tiffany was returned because she ran after the husband all the time. The husband didn't like Tiffany which probably added to the problem.

Another foster took Tiffany and worked with her. This time she was placed with a family. Tiffany really liked children and we thought this placement would work. Again, after a few weeks Tiffany was returned because she became possessive over the children.

The next try was with a woman who lived in a retirement community. She lived by herself and did not have many people in and out of her home. This seemed to work very well. Tiffany and the woman bonded and Tiffany was great with the people she met. Then the owner's son came to visit and jumped in front of Tiffany and growled loudly trying to play with her. That did it!! Tiffany now started to be apprehensive and snappy with people she met. Again, Tiffany was returned.

The foster went on a vacation and Tiffany stayed with a volunteer who operated a doggie B&B. Our volunteer decided to keep Tiffany and work with her. She also knew someone who just lost her husband and right afterwards lost her dog and she was very lonely. This volunteer took Tiffany to see a behaviorist. Our volunteer, the prospective owner and Tiffany worked together to help her with her fears. It took a while and a few failures along with way, but today Tiffany has found her forever home and is a very happy girl.

Committee Reports



EXPENSES

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA CHARITABLE TRUST

Est. 2003

	Regions Bank	Balance as o	f December 30	, 2012	\$32,096.35
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Net Income for 2013 \$3,617.34
Outstanding Checks @ December 31, 2013 \$214.27

Regions Bank Balance as of December 31, 2013 \$35,927.96

YEAR-TO-DATE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013

INCOME	
Adoption Rescue	22, 497. 00
Pay Pal Transfer In	17, 442. 58
Contri buti on	13, 215. 00
Relinquishment Contribution	1, 595. 00
National Specialty Rescue Auction	630.00
TOTAL INCOME	55, 379, 58

Vet Expenses For Rescue48,745.09Expenses for Rescued Bichons1,341.95Spay Certificate For Rescue552.00Tax Preparation Fee500.00

Tax Preparation Fee	500.00
Telephone Answering System	373. 20
Check I mage Fee	120.00
Fundrai ser expenses	110.00
Bank Charges	20.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	51, 762. 24

Prepared By Matt Abbott, BFCACT Treasurer

Committee Reports—ROM/ROMX, Stephanie Uva

REGISTER OF MERIT/REGISTER OF MERIT EXCELLENT AWARDS

Winter 2014 - Submitted as of 1/5/14

Congratulations to the following dogs that have been awarded ROM/ROMX titles:

ROM OWNER(S)

GCH CH Saks Hamelot Little Drummer Boy Sandra & Keith Hanson *& Cecelia Ruggles*

CH Shyladawn's Haute Couture Shyla Newton*

GCH CH Wendan Out On Parole Fom Musicbox

Wendy & Danny Ball* & Rick Day*

Note: * Denotes BFCA member

Qualifications for ROM/ROMX

It is the responsibility of the Owner of a proposed dog to submit the required information to the ROM/ROMX Chairperson for confirmation. The Owner must be a BFCA member in good standing.

To be eligible for a Register of Merit (ROM) title, the subject dog is to have been the sire of seven (7) or more Champions of Record or the dam of five (5) or more Champions of Record.

To be eligible for a Register of Merit Excellent (ROMX) title, the subject dog is to have been the sire of twenty-five (25) or more Champions of Record or the dam of ten (10) or more Champions of Record.

Application Process

To apply for your ROM/ROMX please submit the following two documents:

- 1) An AKC Progeny Report for the sire or dam, listing the Champions of Record available from the AKC On-Line Store or a copy of <u>publications</u> from the AKC Gazette, AKC Awards, BFCA Banquet Awards Booklets or Bichon Reporters verifying the Champions of Record.
- 2) A copy of current AKC registration, showing all owners of the sire or dam.

Mail or Email to: Stephanie Uva

2015 E Vista Ave Phoenix, AZ 85020 Phone: 904.654.5906

bellabichons@gmail.com

Raffle

Now that I've agreed to chair the raffle/auction for Nationals, I am reaching out to all of you for donations. I am in panic mode since I only have a few items so far and we're less than 5 months away. So please, please consider any items you have that you would like to donate for this wonderful cause. I really want this event to be a success and I'm asking for your help. This is one of the few true fundraising efforts of the club and it is important for its continued success.

If you would let me know what item(s) you are donating via email, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you all and stay well,

Paula Abbott abbottms17@comcast.net

Sales

Can hardly believe we are now into 2014. And speaking of 2014--it is still NOT too late to order those lovely 2014 calendars. You've seen those "cutsey" ones in the big stores, and by now probably are thinking you really want one featuring gorgeous, healthy Bichons. Even better, remember that the profits go right back into programs that help our breed.

We are still looking for products to sell. I would like to have at least 3-4 new items for you to purchase at the National, so keep your eyes open for that unique item and tell the board about it.

Thanks for all of your orders this past year.

Kathy Loynachan

2014 National Specialty

"LEASH-UP & GIDDY-UP, HOUSTON 2014." All events have been approved by AKC. You will receive the "FLYER" soon.

Our events begin Tuesday April 29, 2014 with registration, T's sales, and Welcome night and end Friday May 2, 2014 with Best of Breed Competition, and lots of fun and business in between. For information about the week, visit bichon.org and be sure to make your reservations at the Sheraton North Houston early by calling 281-442-5100 or 1-800-325-3535. Be sure to mention that you are a part of the BFCA, Inc. to receive the negotiated rate of \$109.00 (double-double) plus tax.

Conformation and Jr. Showmanship judge is Mrs. Toby Frisch. 4-6 Mo. Puppy, Puppy Sweeps, and Special Attraction Bred-By-Exhibitor will be judged by Wendy Kellerman. Obedience-Rally will be judged by Judith A. Brown. CGC will be under the direction of Pam Goldman. We are looking forward to the 4-6 mo. Puppy class this year. We always enjoy the puppies.

Remember the early deadline for entries, advertising and trophy donations. The Challenge trophies have been discontinued, but we need your support for advertising and trophy donations. If you are looking for other ways to donate to BFCA, perhaps you will be interested in the Auction. Pre-orders for T's are available again this year. Visit bichon.org for order information and early closing. Remember to let Paula Abbott know what you will be donating for auction/raffle.

The Houston Bichon Frise Club will be holding their back-to-back Specialties on Saturday May 3, 2014 and Sunday May 4, 2014 at the same location. This will give you the opportunity for two additional days of competition.

Avanell & George Sikes, Co-Chair

Bichon Frise Club of Northern New Jersey

Our club had their annual holiday party and elections of new officers.

President: Karen Graeber

Vice President: Pam Goldman

Secretary: Marianne Karl

Treasurer: Pat Reuter

Our specialty will held this year Saturday, March 23, 2014 in coordination with the four day New Brunswick shows. Premiums coming soon. Any questions regarding the specialty, please contact Pam Goldman at k9lady07052@yahoo.com.

Karen Graeber



Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year from the Bichon Frise Club of San Diego! This is a special year for us as it marks our club's 50th anniversary.

We hope you will joining us next month for our annual Specialty:

"Red White and Bichon"

40th and 41st Annual Specialty Shows and 36th Sweepstakes

Friday, February 21, 2014

Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, California



The event will be two Specialties and Sweepstakes in one day, plus a Parade of Rescues and Parade of Titleholders. Our distinguished judges will be Tim Robbins, Judith Daniels and Camille Bakker. Two Silver Bay Kennel Club all breed shows will follow on Saturday and Sunday.

As we celebrate our 50th year, club founders Barbara Stubbs, Gertrude Fournier and Mayree Butler are honored with a Best of Breed Founders Challenge Trophy. We are hopeful that honoree Barbara Stubbs will be in attendance.

We are also pleased to announce our 2014 Club Officers, for whose time and energy we are enormously grateful:

President Deb Gibb
Vice President Sharon Hunkins
Recording Secretary Linda Rowe

Corresponding Secretary Debra Farrow
Treasurer Pete Zacharzuk

Board of Directors Sandy Phillips, Bill Johnston, Susan Brockett

and Joan Teske

We invite you to visit our website www.bichonfriseclubofsandiego.com and see what Bichon fun we are up to this coming year!

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND



January 2014 BFCA Update

2014 BFCSNE officers & Board: President, Sue Anneser; Vice President, Ginny Humphrey; Corresponding Secretary, Enid Zimbler; Treasurer, Karen Chesbro; Recording Secretary, Linda Carlson; Board Members, Nancy Noonan, Gloria DuBois, Pamela Moore, Chris Murdocco, Gerry Paolillo, and Brenda Wallace.

Happy winter – the snow and cold weather have certainly arrived here in the East! Our club had a busy fall, including our annual picnic, a handling class, club participation in Meet-The-Breeds in Hartford CT, our annual banquet, and new club officer and board selections. Now that it's early 2014, efforts are underway to begin the planning for our annual Specialty to be held again this year on July 5, 2014 at the Eastern States Exposition Fair Grounds, in conjunction with the Farmington Valley Kennel Club.

Our annual picnic and meeting in September were held at Sue Anneser's house, by the pool. The weather cooperated quite nicely with another warm sunny day - the third year in a row. This year again, we had several bichons who jumped into the pool for a quick swim – always an enjoyable moment. It seems the dogs intentionally wanted to go for a swim! Gloria DuBois coordinated the event, with a wonderful array of food provided by the membership. Additionally, the club tried something new – an impromptu raffle, with all items donated by the membership. We had a variety of raffle items – including dog beds, calendars, homemade cakes and pies, bichon jewelry, dog life jacket and many other bichon or dog items. Thanks to Nancy Noonan and others for the set-up efforts. Overall, the club earned just about \$200 from this raffle – this was another great fundraiser for the club. As previously stated, our main fund-raiser in 2013 was selling 200 BFCA Health calendars for health and rescue. Thanks to all our members who participated in this effort. Due to the success of these fund-raisers, the club membership approved a generous donation, which was made to BFCA Rescue during the 4th quarter 2013.

October and November were busy – we held a handling class scheduled on Sunday October 13th, with Maggie Hyde. We also supported the Meet the Breeds on Saturday October 20th, with Ginny Humphrey coordinating the participation from our membership. And on November 10th, we held our annual meeting/banquet at the Olive Garden in Enfield CT. Notably, the club's beautiful Bred By Exhibitor Bitch Challenge Trophy, which was donated by Vogelflight Bichons in memory of Lori Kornfeld, was retired, having been presented to Maggie Hyde Sherwood. CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Stay tuned for more info in the upcoming months on the BFCSNE Specialty planned for Saturday, July 5, 2014, at the Eastern States Exposition Fair Grounds.

Bichon Frise Club of Western Pennsylvania

The BFCWPA activities for this quarter included meetings on October 13, 2013 & November 10, 2013 as well as the club's Holiday Party on December 8, 2013.

On October 13th the club meeting was preceded by an informative presentation on pet massage by massage therapist, Jean Kroll of Positive Touch Pet Massage.

The club Holiday Party was held at Mohan's Restaurant in Penn Hills hosted by members Chuck and Adrienne Mohan.

Discussions this quarter included nominations for the club's Outstanding Member for 2013; announcement that the Sweepstakes judge at next May's club conformation event will be Julie Parker and Mr. Jeffrey Bazell will judge the Specialty; fundraising activities for winter and spring; prizes for the 2014 May Specialty; planning for the future Pet Health Fair and Responsible Dog Ownership event and ways to increase club membership.

Also, meeting dates were set for the first half of 2014.



Happy New Year! Chicago started the year with a visit from a Polar Vortex. About 2 feet of snow was on the ground on New Year's Day, with temperatures well below zero for several days. After shoveling the back yard, getting the Bichons to "do their thing" outside wasn't easy, as paws quickly froze up. The best thing about Chicago weather is that it will be completely different in a few months.

At our last meeting of 2013, the following officers were elected for 2014:

President - Nancy Muklewicz

Vice President - Larry Fitch

Recording Secretary - Carolyn Knuth

Corresponding Secretary - Laura Pfab

Treasurer - Carol Haines

Our club isn't planning to have a specialty in 2014, however, we will participate in "Meet the Breeds" being held at the International Kennel Club show in late February.

A retired breeding male from a puppy mill came into local rescue recently. Sonny, age 9, had only four teeth, all molars, when he came into rescue. Because his breath was so bad, the teeth were cleaned at the same time as his neutering. All four teeth were bad, so now he has no teeth. In the week that I have fostered him, I have been pleasantly surprised at how well he is adjusting. I can only imagine what he has endured prior to being rescued. The resilience of this breed continues to amaze me. He wags his tail when I come home from work and doesn't mind being held now. At least in this area, the breed seems to be declining in popularity, which means that fewer dogs are being bred in puppy mills. I can only hope that this trend continues.

Nancy Muklewicz

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA

Incorporated (Member of the American Kennel Club)



39th National Specialty Show Sweepstakes, Obedience & Rally May 1—May 2 2014 Activities start April 29, 2014

Sheraton North Houston 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd. • Houston, Texas 77032