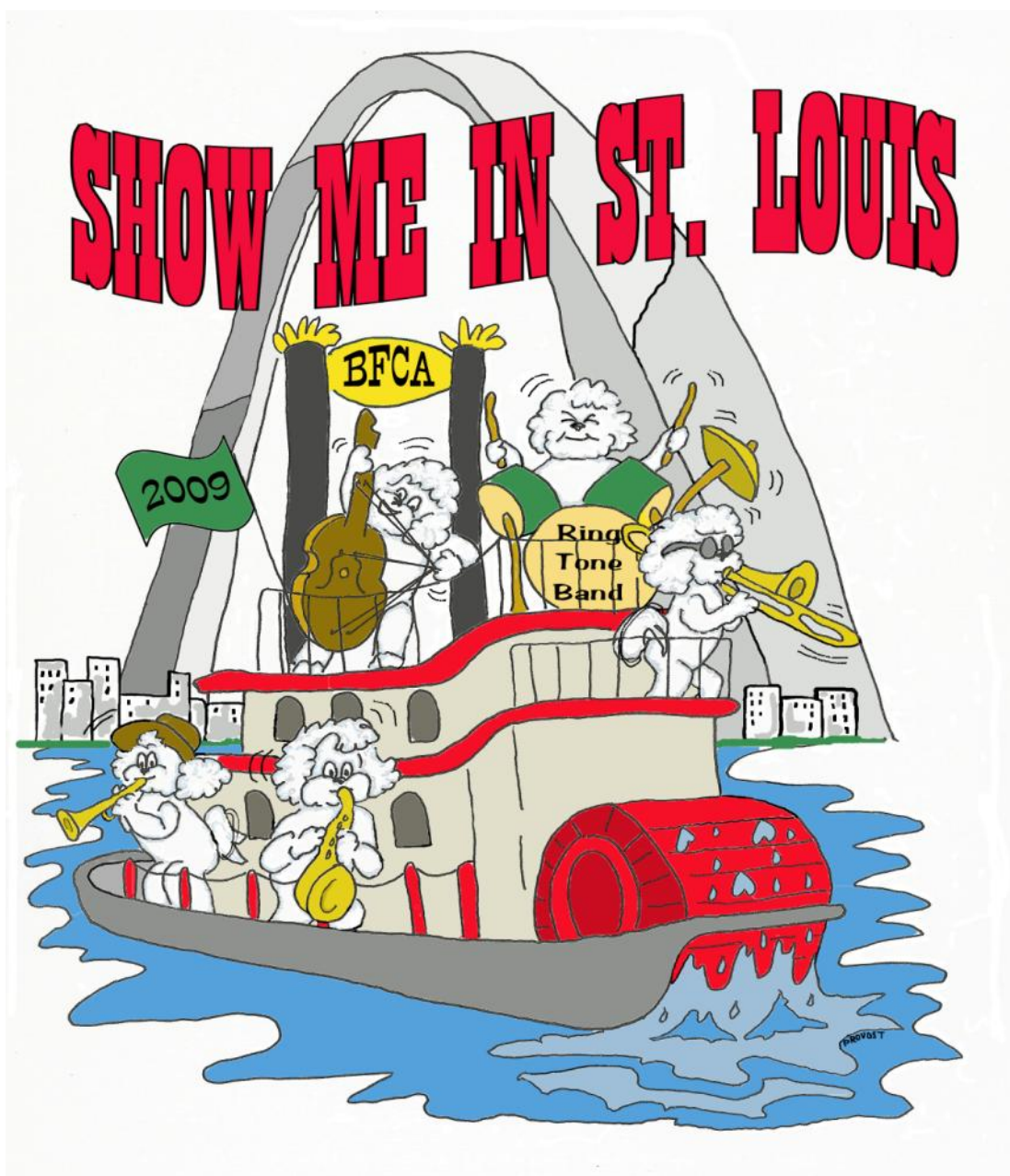


34rd National Specialty

2009 National Specialty
May 6-9, 2009





Bichon Frise Club of America Bulletin

Summer Issue 2009

Officers:

Avanell Sikes, President
 Kieth Hanson, Vice President
 Karen Chesbro, Corresponding Secretary
 Sandra Madia, Recording Secretary
 Mayno Blanding, Treasurer

Directors:

Gail Antetomaso
 Lisa DesCamps
 Katherine Dillon
 Judy McNamara
 Donna Rogers
 Chuck Watts

Enclosures:

- 2009 Pictorials
- BFCA Awards Booklet
- Order Form for BFCA 2009 National Specialty DVD
- BFCA Boutique
- Announcement for San Diego Pictorial
- Announcement from the Webmaster

**Deadline for the Fall
 Issue of the Bulletin is
 October 1.**

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BFCA BULLETIN: 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.

**Minutes of the 45th Annual Meeting of
The Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.
MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**

Roll Call

Cynthia Adams	Vickie Halstead	Lynn Ramich
Ben Anderson	Shirley Hamilton	Betty Ribble
Kathy Andrew	Kieth Hanson	Donna Rogers
Gail Antetomaso	Sandra Hanson	Linda Rowe, PhD
Danielle Ardagna	Paula Hendricks	Joanne Rubin
Sara Barkley	Debbie Hollan	Gayle Sarnar
Barbara Barton	Virginia Huddle	Harvey Sarnar
Paula Bender	Dale Hunter	Shauna Scarborough
Mayno Blanding	Donna Jones	Avanell Sikes
Steve Blanding	Ginger LeCave	George Sikes
Roberta Bleecker	Kathy Loynachan	Deedy Sorenson
Rosemarie Blood	Sandra Madia	Larry Sorenson
Howard Chesbro	Nancy McDonald	Mary Spruiell
Karen Chesbro	Judy McNamara	Barbara Stubbs
Polly Cooper	Melody Michel	Lindsay Van Keuren
Jane Daniel	Kay Mitchell	Kathie Vogel
Rick Day	Sally Mitchell	Robert Wallace
Lisa Des Camps	Cindy Morey	Charles Watts
Julia Dickinson	Nancy Noonan	Sherren Watts
Katherine Dillon	Gerry Paolillo	Janet Wiederhold
Patricia Dorris	Laurie Philpot	Mimi Winkler
Jewel Elias	Vincent Philpot	John Wise
Lillian Endo	Pedro Porcayo-Guevara	Leanne Wise
Jean Glass	Harriett Pritchard	Myra Wotton
Sandra Greenway	Mary Provost	
Nita Gryan	Laura Purnell	
Carol Haines	Tom Purnell	

Total members present: 78

The meeting was called to order by Avanell Sikes, President, at the Westport Plaza Hotel - Lakeside Chalet, St. Louis, Missouri at 1:35 PM on May 06, 2009. Roll was taken with 78 members present and a quorum was declared.

A motion to approve the 2008 Annual Meeting minutes was made and seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

BOARD MEETING DISCUSSIONS

The annual BFCA board meeting was held yesterday and all members were present. The minutes from 2008 board meeting were approved as written. The Treasurer gave her annual BFCA report as well as the 2008 National Specialty report and these were discussed. The Corresponding Secretary gave her report and passed her documents to the Recording Secretary for filing.

Avanell asked Lisa DesCamps to stand and the membership gave her a robust round of applause as Avanell listed some of her accomplishments with our website this past year. In addition to changing our

Minutes of the 44th Annual Meeting

hosting servers to a global company, the membership applications are on-line and historical information is on-line. She will be very busy with our website this coming year as many enhancements have been approved by the board.

The first thing the board approved was putting our beautiful Specialty Pictorial on our website. The board also approved having a page for displaying local club upcoming activities. These activities can be local specialties, seminars, puppies in the park or any other activity where the public is invited. We hope that all of you will participate in this so that we can help you advertise your events. Please make sure you give Lisa DesCamps or Sandra Madia all the detailed information of your upcoming events so your activities can be put on the website.

The board also approved the purchase of 3 or 4 large digital photo frames to place on the trophy table, in the banquet room and registration tables that will reflect pictures from the Specialty Pictorial. These frames can also be used for other public education activities.

Design plans are underway to put our Quarterly Bulletin on the website in the Members Only Section. Every member who receives the Bulletin by email will be given a user name and password to enter the Members Only section of our website. You will be able to retrieve the Bulletin and download, read, print all or part, or whatever. You will be notified by email that the Bulletin is available on the website. We feel that this will eliminate the huge email that you receive now and you can look at it anytime. It will slowly be archived so that you can see previous issues as well.

For those of you who do not receive your Bulletins by email, they will be mailed to you. For the next two (2) issues you will receive it both ways. One by mail and you will be notified by email of the availability of the bulletin. If you wish to be added to the "Email List" just let Shauna Scarborough know and your name will be added.

Sometime after last year's meeting a Historical Committee was formed. The committee consists of Ann Jones, Barbara Stubbs, Lisa DesCamps and Sandra Madia. (She then asked the committee to stand). This group has put a lot of work into this project. It's a lot of work to dig out and organize and then publish our history. If you go to our website, you will see an article about the Beginning of the Bichon on the history page. This part of our website is the beginning stages but additional articles and pictures are in preparation for publication. If anyone has anything they wish to contribute or just have questions, please contact Lisa.

In getting all this organized and trying to find all the records, Sandra Madia took on the task of organizing our club's storage boxes. They are now organized by type of document and by year. All of the Show Catalogs from the first show are together by year, the same with the Membership Rosters, the Bulletins, the Specialty Pictorials and anything else of importance. Permanent documents are stored the same way. A National Specialty Records book has been prepared by Sandy and will be available for viewing at the catalog table. It has lists of the various winners by category and the judges by year. It will be updated every year and at our catalog table every year. I encourage all of you to stop by the table and take a look at it. If you see anything that should be corrected please let us know.

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In order to encourage more sales for BFCA and for BFCA Health, we are going to sign up as a merchant with PayPal. This will be used for purchasing only and not for membership renewal at this time.

JUDGES EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chuck Watts addressed the membership and explained the activities of his committee. To start with, all judges who apply to judge Bichons for AKC have their names published in the Gazette. Sandee Hanson sends out Judges Education Packets to every one of them. The packets include the "Illustrated Discussion of the Bichon Frise Standard", the BFCA CD "Judging the Bichon Frise", and a letter.

We have had three of our members conduct Bichon Frise Judging Seminars. These presenters include Sandee & Kieth Hanson, Mimi Winkler and Judy McNamara. Please notify your All-Breed clubs that if they wish to have a judging seminar the BFCA would be happy to conduct one. We are also working on having more ringside mentoring available throughout the country. This gives us an opportunity to educate judges at ringside.

Note - the Judge's Education seminar is scheduled for Thursday, May 7th in the Bern Room, following the conclusion of the Parade of Champions event. If any member wishes to attend the seminar they are welcome; however, the seminar is given in an approved format. This presentation is Committee approved and Board approved. Should you attend, we request that if you have any disagreements over what is presented, hold those comments and discuss with the presenter when the seminar is over.

He has an idea that he thinks would be good if incorporated in the seminar. If you as a breeder can think of 4 words, not expressions, but JUST 4 words that describe the Bichon. If you can come up with anything or have any other thoughts along this line, please let me know. Just ideating right now, but maybe this could be helpful - you the members could help me perhaps.

PUBLIC EDUCATION: Avaneil mentioned that Donna Rogers has done a wonderful job. A lot of work has gone into Met the Breeds and other educational activities. Eukanuba is in Long Beach again this year and will be back to Florida in 2010.

AKC OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD: The AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award program was established in 2006 to provide each member club with an AKC Medallion to award one of its members on a yearly basis. This award honors that person who deserves special recognition by having made a contribution to the sport of purebred dogs, showed exemplary Sportsmanship in and outside the ring and has been a valued member of the BFCA.

The award for 2009 goes to Rick Day. (A warm and enthusiastic round of applause was given by the membership.) You can see his name listed along with other club honorees on the AKC website.

If anyone feels they would like to nominate an individual for 2010, please submit a written request to Sandra Madia, Recording Secretary, no later than February 15, 2010. Be sure to include the name of the person and a complete explanation of why you feel this person is deserving of this prestigious award.

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SHOW BUSINESS

2009 SPECIALTY REPORT: It does appear that things have been running smoothly so far. The staff of the hotel has been very accommodating and wants to please in every way possible. The food has been excellent so far and all the comments I have received from you have been very positive.

I want to give special thanks to the many people that have helped me chair this show; all the committee chairs and committee members plus every single individual person that has pitched in and made this specialty work. You have all formed a winning team and you are the very ones who have made this show work. And, each of you that are here now, buying banquet tickets, entering dogs, buying raffle tickets and the like. Each of you has made this Specialty work and I thank you. (Rounds of applause followed).

I also thank Avaneil for trusting me and encouraging me to accept this Show Chair assignment. It is my first assignment and we still have 2½ days to go to earn that trust. (Rounds of applause followed).

The Schedule of Events outlines the activities for the rest of the week. Everything is as published. Sandra then explained the location of the various meeting rooms and the elevator/stair accommodations. Table set-up in the ballroom should be available at 4:30 PM today. She also explained the complimentary rolls & coffee for Thursday and Friday mornings as well as the "Grab N Go" setup for the same two days.

There is a potty area for the dogs outside the hotel and of course please clean up after your dogs and try to keep them relatively quiet. Thank You.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURERS REPORT: Mayno Blanding presented the Annual BFCA report first. The beginning checking account balance as of May 01, 2008 was \$33,054.24. The ending checking account balance as of April 30, 2009 is \$15,419.04. During the fiscal year our total income was \$60,155.80 and our total expenses were \$54,791.00. The beginning savings account balance for the fiscal year was \$36,288.33 and our ending fiscal year balance is \$59,948.14. The total BFCA funds at the end of the 2008 fiscal year are \$75,367.18.

The details of the accounts were available at the sign-in for the meeting and are published in the Summer Bulletin.

Please note that even though we show a profit at the end of the fiscal year, we have several large expenses for this Specialty (approximately \$25,000.00) that will need to be paid by the close of day Friday. There are also funds that are allocated for Health that are not spendable for general use.

The 2008 National Specialty Report shows a Net Income of \$5,697.65. Our total income was \$35,334.19 and our total expenses were \$29,636.54. This report was also available at sign-in for the meeting and is published in the Summer Bulletin.

Minutes of the 44th Annual Meeting

A motion to approve the 2008 BFCA Treasurer Report and the 2008 National Specialty Report was made and seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT: Vickie Halstead had a few announcements to make. First of all she wanted to thank all her committee members for their hard work and contributions this past year.

More and more of our Bichons are receiving CHIC certifications. This is really good news. Just a reminder, in order to qualify for CHIC your dog needs to have a CERF Certification, Patellae Certification, and Hip Certification. The dog does need to have permanent ID to have these tests qualify. They do not need to have passed the tests but you have to sign a release of information if they do not pass to qualify.

The CHIC 5 Star Award: This involves obtaining and passing 5 tests. This requires the 3 CERF mandatory tests and 2 of the optional tests. This award is similar to a ROM. An application is available on the website that you complete and submit to Paula Hendricks. This information was available in an earlier bulletin and receivers of this award will be published in the Health Times.

DNA test kits are available at the Health Table in the ballroom at a discounted price.

Vickie stated she has been talking for over 3 years about a potential study of Calcium Oxalate Stones in the Bichon Frise to be conducted in Tennessee. I am sorry to say it just hasn't happened and Vicki is not sure if it will ever happen. She has heard about a researcher in Canada who is talking about researching several issues; the calcium oxalate stones for which she would like DNA samples and research of Renal Juvenile Dysplasia. For more information go to the Health Website and select "research".

Vickie wanted to give special recognition and thanks to the Western Pennsylvania Bichon Frise Club and the Bichon Frise Club of Northern California for their contributions to Health. Also, thanks to Loretta McDonald for organizing a successful DNA Swab Clinic at one of the BFCSD monthly club meetings.

RESCUE COMMITTEE REPORT: Lynn Ramich extended appreciation to certain BFCA members for their help in Rescue this past year. Those members include Sandy Phillips, Margie Rickards, Linda Rowe, Mary Provost, Bobbye Kuester, Rick Day, Donna Jones, Karla Matlock, Nancy Muklevich, Shirley Hendel, Charlene Williams, Linda Ferullo, Deedy Sorenson, Cyndi Adam, Lynn Bortman, Mimi Kegerize, Linda Lewis & Leanne Wise. Susie Williams went above and beyond in her efforts to help with a rescue dog afflicted with cancer. All of these people have gone out of their way to help in rescue. (A round of applause followed).

They have initiated a National Rescue Number, which is on the website, which has helped considerably with calls of every type.

One other thing that the committee has discovered is that a lot of people, members included, don't understand a lot about the quality of rescue dogs that are in the program. Yes, they do get abused and problematic dogs, but most are let go by their owners due to economics, divorce, death, etc. These dogs

Minutes of the 44th Annual Meeting

have been loved all their life. So when the committee is reaching out for short term or long term foster homes for the rescue dogs they are generally nice little dogs. So, please consider giving us some help as we really need it.

Gail Antetomaso presented the BFCFA Charitable Trust Financial Report. The total income for the calendar year January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 was \$59,102.96. The three largest sources of income was (1) Adoption donations \$16,776.00, (2) Donation from Tennessee Bichon Rescue \$20,000.00 and Donations \$18,998.32. Since we began our merchant account with PayPal we have received \$1,699.81 in donations. Our expenses were very high and totaled \$35,957.70. The primary expense category was Veterinary Expenses totaling \$35,957.70.

There is a wealth of information on the website and I encourage you to check it out and learn more about how this operation works. And please, help us if you can - we really need the help.

SHOW SITE/FACILITY CHAIRMAN: Donna Rogers is hoping everyone is enjoying the show and this hotel. She prepared a questionnaire that is on the back table and it is short and simple. It is mainly yes and no questions with a place for comments. I really would like to have your input to help define future locations with the things you enjoy. Please return this document to me at any time or to the catalog table in the Ballroom no later than Friday after the show.

Next year, the 2010 National Specialty will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Adams Mark Hotel. This is the same location that we used in 2005. The 2011 National Specialty is scheduled to be held in Houston, Texas at the Houston North Sheraton Hotel.

Howard Chesbro has distributed a questionnaire regarding the RV's. Please complete this form, if applicable, and return to him or respond to him via e-mail.

OTHER BUSINESS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Avaneil Sikes informed the board that the proposed slate of officers was published in both the winter and Spring Bulletins. No other nominations were received.

A motion was made to approve the new slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The Recording Secretary then declared the new slate of officers elected.

Avaneil introduced the new board for 2009 - 2011. President - Avaneil Sikes, Vice President - Kieth Hanson, Corresponding Secretary - Katherine Dillon, Recording Secretary - Sandra Madia, Treasurer - Shyla Newton. The Directors are Gail Antetomaso, Karen Chesbro, Lisa Des Camps, Judy McNamara, Donna Rogers and Chuck Watts. Shyla was unable to be here for this meeting as she was required to stay home due to a brand new litter - we are breeders after all. However, she will be here tomorrow.

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Avanell thanked Mayno Blanding for her outstanding contribution to the BFCA Board of Directors and to the BFCA in general. She worked very hard in her position as Treasurer and we appreciate all that she did. Avanell had her stand and she received a round of applause from the board and the membership in general.

AKC DELEGATE REPORT: George Sikes thanked the BFCA Membership and the Board of Directors for allowing him to be the BFCA delegate for the past 9 or 10 years. Sometimes this assignment is frustrating and discouraging, but just like you repair your car when it breaks down and you keep going, George is trying to assist in the repair of things for BFCA and the sport of purebred dogs so everyone here can keep going.

AKC struggles with finances just as the rest of the world does. We have been warned for years that Dog Registration is a large source of income for AKC and it has been going down steadily every year. Even though the litter registrations are holding even, the number of puppy registrations from those litters is down over 50%. Years ago 90% of the dogs advertised in the paper were AKC registered. Today, those advertisements reflect only 33% AKC registered.

It is very important that each of you do your part to support AKC by insuring that every puppy in each of your litters gets registered with AKC. If the BFCA along with the other parent clubs do their part to get their puppies registered perhaps we can turn this downward trend around.

George discussed the proposed AKC Group Realignment. The proposal is that there will be 10 groups. The division is as follows: (1) Sporting - Pointers & Setters, (2) Sporting - Retrievers & Spaniels, (3) Scent Hounds, (4) Sight Hounds, (5) Working, (6) Terriers, (7) Companion, (9) Herding and (10) Northern. The Companion Group name replaced the Non-Sporting Group name and this is the group that is proposed for the Bichon Frise. We are not proposed for the Toy Group as many had speculated.

The final subject George discussed was the AKC Mixed Breed Program. This program was approved by the AKC Board of Directors in April 2009. Effective October 1st 2009 mixed breed dog owners can list their dogs with the AKC's mixed breed program. The mixed breed classes can participate in Agility, Obedience and Rally as standalone events beginning April 1, 2010. Their competition can be at an AKC show but must have the competition scheduled in totally separate classes on a separate day. The titles earned are similar to purebred dogs but have a mixed breed designation in the title.

Information about both of these big changes at AKC can be found on their website. But anytime you have a question or want more information about AKC please feel free to email or call George - he will be glad to speak with you.

AUCTION ITEMS: Avanell had Katherine Dillon bring some auction items up to the front of the meeting room. There were many adorable hand sculptures, paintings, cards, gold pendant, gold bracelet and other jewelry. There are so many wonderful items that I think you will need lots of tickets. A lot of tickets have already been sold at the T-shirt table.

Minutes of the 44th Annual Meeting

MEMORIAL NEWS: One of our long time members, Sherry Fry, passed away recently and it was too late to include any information in the catalog to honor her. Judy McNamara has put together a very nice picture poster of her and it will be displayed on an easel in the ballroom. Please join me in extending our deepest sympathies to her husband, Lee, and her family. She will surely be missed by all of us.

Other members who have passed away since the last meeting are remembered in our catalog.

In the future, we will be publishing in our BFCA Bulletin a remembrance for those members who have passed away. This way you all will get the information on a quarterly basis. We sure hope the column is empty most of the time. However, if you know of a members passing, please notify Sandra Madia.

NEW BUSINESS OR QUESTIONS: Avaneil opened the floor for new business discussions or questions. There were not any, but she received a round of applause for her meeting.

COMMITTEE INVITATION: All of our committees have done an outstanding job this year, but they could really use your help. We would welcome participation from any and all of you. You don't need a special talent - just a willingness to help in whatever capacity you are comfortable with. Being on a committee helps you understand the workings of the club and provides a good way for all of us to get to know each other.

FINAL REMINDERS:

- (1) Donnas' survey is on the table in the back and will be on the catalog table tomorrow. Please fill one out and return it. Your input is very important to us and will help us with future plans.
- (2) Please do your best to clean up after your dogs and keep them quiet.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting ended: 3:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra J Madia, BFCA Recording Secretary

2008/09 Annual Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report—Mayno Blanding

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.			
Financial Statement Beginning May 1, 2008 and ending April 30, 2009			
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE MAY 01, 2008			\$ 33,054.24
Income			
National Specialty Income	\$34,745.19		
Health Income	9,979.50		
Dues Income	6,135.00		
Sales Income	5,180.50		
Breeders Directory Income	3,557.00		
Membership Income	393.61		
Legislation Income	140.00		
Miscellaneous Income	25.00		
Total Income		\$60,155.80	
Expense			
National Specialty Expense	\$30,392.22		
Bulletin Expense	3,716.53		
AKC Delegate Expense	3,269.75		
Health Expense	2,807.41		
Sales expense	2,635.33		
Judges Expense	1,866.94		
Insurance	1,594.00		
Legislation Expense	1,102.00		
Recording Secty Expense	1,086.58		
Awards Expense	1,020.26		
AKC Canine Relief Fund	1,000.00		
Membership Expense	980.00		
Judges Education Expense	651.14		
Printing and Reproduction	541.89		
Rescue Charitable Trust	500.00		
Ad - Local Specialties Exp	435.00		
Public Relations Expense	310.66		
Friendship Expense	261.56		
Telephone	232.59		
Website Expense	179.40		
Bank Charges	106.68		
Dues and Subscriptions	35.00		
AKC Club Dues	25.00		
Miscellaneous Expense	20.81		
President Expense	10.25		
Licenses and Permits	10.00		
Total Expense		54,791.00	
Net Income			5,364.80
Transfer to Savings, Net			(23,000.00)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE APRIL 30, 2009			\$ 15,419.04
BUSINESS PERFORMANCE SAVINGS BALANCE MAY 1,2008		\$36,288.33	
Transfer from Checking	\$28,000.00		
Transfer to Checking	(5,000.00)		
Transfer from Checking, Net		23,000.00	
Interest Income		659.81	
BUSINESS PERFORMANCE SAVINGS BALANCE APRIL 30, 2009			59,948.14
TOTAL FUNDS			\$75,367.18

2008/09 Annual Committee Reports

Health Report—Vickie Halstead

The BFCA health committee continues its dedication to the welfare of Bichons, evidenced by our progress in meeting our goals. I continue to appreciate the efforts of this dynamic, incredible committee: Anne Jones, Nancy McDonald, Lisa Des Camps, and Paula Hendricks. In addition, I would like to thank Carol Haines for her generosity in mailing thank you notes to those that made special donations/memorials to the Bichon health fund.

Bichon Health Web site

There is no doubt that after 2.5 years of existence our web site at <http://www.bichonhealth.org> is successful and fulfills a need for Bichon owners. We are indebted to our web master Lisa for keeping up with this committee's frequent additions and changes. During the first 1.5 years the average # of hits was at least 1000 per month, and now we average 3000 hits per month, demonstrating the increased awareness and usefulness of the site. The fact that the volumes of health-related questions via email that are generated from our "Ask Us" page have dramatically decreased demonstrates that the site has impacted the knowledge of Bichon owners. The inquiries have dropped from about 100/month to about 20/month. In the last year we added 10 new health articles composed by health committee members and 3 articles from other sources.

Fund Raising

We continue to work diligently to raise funds for Bichon health research, and we thank all of those who donated. Considering the current US economy issues, we decided to forgo production of new sales items until our current inventory was sold out, which was accomplished at our national specialty. In the near future new sales items will be posted in the boutique on our web site.

Research

Reports of the ongoing studies that BFCA has supported financially will be included in the next Health Times. These 2 studies are completed: patella luxation and allergies. The others that are in progress are: the rabies 7-year challenge, diabetes, mast cells (allergies/skin problems), and liver shunt.

DNA Bank

Those of you that were at the last 2 specialties may have taken home DNA swabs to either send to the CHIC DNA bank or keep at home for your DNA Cache at Home. If you did not receive the handouts with instructions at the specialty, go to our health web site <http://www.bichonhealth.org/DNABanks.asp> where you can download instructions.

CHIC Report by Paula Hendricks

The numbers for Bichons issued CHIC numbers continues to grow since BFCA joined in 2007. Reports are issued by CHIC quarterly, including new qualifiers and updates (dogs that have existing CHIC numbers but in addition have completed yearly updates on CERF exams and Patella OFA's). Currently there are approximately 500 Bichons with CHIC certifications. Details of reports are posted in the Health Times.

Annual Health Report Con't

To review, below are the requirements for obtaining a CHIC certification for your Bichon.

NOTE: Your Bichon must have either a microchip or tattoo for identification to qualify.

NOTE: Your Bichon does not have to pass the tests, but you have to release the results to the database to qualify.

Tests that are required:

1. OFA of hips completed at the age of 2 or more years
2. OFA of patellas completed at the age of at least 1 year, and recertified yearly thereafter
CERF exam completed every year

Tests that are encouraged but optional (not required to get a CHIC number):

1. Cardiac OFA certification by a cardiologist or practitioner
2. Legg-Calve-Perthes OFA certification
3. DNA registered with AKC
4. Urinalysis to assess for diabetes, bladder infection and crystals (a precursor to stones)
5. Bile acid blood test to rule out liver shunt
6. Standard veterinary blood panel that includes:
 - CBC (complete blood count—WBC's, hemoglobin, RBC's, platelets) to find anemia, infection, cancers of the blood, or bleeding and platelet disorders
 - Electrolytes, BUN, creatinine to assess kidney function
 - Blood glucose level to rule out diabetes
 - Liver enzymes to rule out liver disease
 - Pancreas enzymes to rule out pancreas disease

ANNOUNCING!!!! The new CHIC 5 Star Award

This new award offered by the health committee, in conjunction with our CHIC listings, was introduced at the BFCA national specialty. The award reflects quality, as in a 5 star hotel, and commends the efforts of breeders who augment health testing of their Bichons prior to breeding. Each issue of the BFCA Health Times will list the names of Bichons with this award, and a certificate will be sent to the owner.

To qualify, the Bichon Frise must have:

A CHIC #, which means 3 tests (eyes, hips, patellas) are completed and the Bichon is indentified by a microchip or tattoo.

Passed CERF and patella OFA certifications within the last year.

Passed OFA requirements that rule out hip dysplasia.

Health Con't

Passed 2 other tests listed in the BFCA optional CHIC tests (DNA registered with AKC, leg-calve-perthes, cardiac OFA, urinalysis and blood tests).

At least one owner who is a BFCA member.

Therefore, the Bichon must pass 5 health tests to receive this award. Although AKC DNA registration is not a test, it is included as one qualifier for this award. Mail or email the application to Paula Hendricks, which can be downloaded from our web site at <http://bichonhealth.org/CHIC.htm>. Just like CHIC, once a Bichon receives the award it cannot be revoked. The list published in the BFCA Health Times will be an ongoing, alphabetical list that will grow with time.



2008/09 Annual Committee Reports**Membership—Karen Chesbro****ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
Member of the American Kennel Club, Inc.**

May 1, 2008 - May 1, 2009

During this past year the membership process has undergone some important changes. We now provide all necessary information concerning the application process on our website under "Membership Inquiries". Previously people interested in applying for membership were required to contact the membership administrator and ask for a "request for application" packet. This contained the same information that can now be found on our website. Many times these request were from non breeders who did not have the required time and experience in Bichons necessary to apply. Now, with knowledge of the requirements and guidelines, prospective applicants can better determine whether or not they meet these standards. We still have personal requests for information, and they are offered an information packet by mail or referred to the website. It is important to note that the entire process is offered the "old fashioned" way if the applicant is more comfortable with that method or does not have internet access.

I am very excited to report that, most importantly, we implemented a new online application form. This is only sent out to prospective applicants after they have completed their "request for application" form and returned it along with a nonrefundable check for \$25, which is the application processing fee. Once they receive the actual application form, it can be completed right on their computer and submitted to us as an attachment to an email. The sponsor forms are then sent out, completed, and returned in a similar manner. The entire process has proven to take far less time than in the past. The applications and sponsor forms can then be forwarded to the Board of Directors for review and the vote. The applications are now more legible than the previously handwritten photocopies that were necessary for distribution to the Board. Since Board members are spread throughout the country, we can get the information to each other in a timelier manner. The response has been very positive, and after a few minor glitches with the form, no complaints have been received.

2008/09 Annual Committee Reports**Membership Con't**

Applications Requested	13
Applications Received	12
Applications sent to the Board (As of Above Date)	9
Approved Applications	7
Refused	2
Applications in Process	4

We would like to welcome all the new members and thank them for their patience and help while these changes were taking place. Also, a great big thank you goes to Lisa DesCamps without whose help this could not have been accomplished. She worked tirelessly until all the "bugs" were worked out. Thank you so much Lisa!

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Chesbro
Membership Administrator

2008/09 Annual Committee Reports

Obedience by Linda Ferrullo

We have a member earning the versatility plaque for 2008. To earn this award, you must earn titles in 3 different venues including a championship

CH. Sheramor Joie De Vivre CD RE - owned by Sherren Watts and Ernie and Vicki Hobbs
Sherren also gets a certificate for being the Highest scoring BFCA member earning a Companion Dog title.

4 BFCA members earned Rally Novice certificates for 2008

CH. Camelot's Heart Mender RN - *Pam Goldman 3/16/08

Shadowhill I Want To Talk About Me CD RN - Julie, Keith and Elisabeth Nelson & *Alice Vicha 5/18/08

CH. Brightstar's Dakota Dreams RN NAJ - *Joane Styles, *Harvey & * Gayle Sarner 6/7/08

CH. Gaylors Executive Folly RN - *Gail Antetomaso, * Krista Fileccia, * Laurie Scarpa, * Amanda Antetomaso 7/4/08

Many other Bichons that are not BFCA members have been working hard on their titles. 38 Bichons in total have earned titles in either Rally or obedience during 2008.

Submitted by Linda Ferrullo



Judges' Conformation Critique—Mr. Andrew (Gene) Mills Bichon Frise Club of America, 34rd National Specialty Show St. Louis, MO

What a privilege it is for a breeder judge to be invited to do his or her National Specialty. I sincerely hope that all who attended enjoyed the day as much as I did. To say that I was honored when asked to judge this show is an understatement. As a breeder judge, your placements make a statement as to your knowledge of your breed. Before I started the assignment I spoke to the judges that were attending the judges education and ringside mentoring. I passed on to them that if they take anything away from the event, it must be an understanding of the Bichons proportion and character. The Bichon is all about proportion and character. All too often lost.

The Winners Dog and Best of Winners, RIME LETO LIGHT RIDER is an extremely typey dog who came from a very competitive open class. From the moment he came into the ring, he showed the outgoing "with a mind of his own" breed characteristic that is so important to the breed.. He never let down. A nicely proportioned head with an undeniably "manly" expression. His body proportions produced a proper Bichon silhouette, sound in movement, he owned the ring on the go around. A special in the making.

The Reserve Winners Dog WHITEBREDS PEARLS HEIR TO THE THRONE also came from the competitive open class. He possesses a pleasing head and expression, with a very correct outline. Great breed character with well balanced movement.

The Winners Bitch, HEIGHTS ALL GUSSIED UP came from the 12-18 Class. She is correct in proportion with an outstanding silhouette. Her head and expression are hard to beat. Sound in movement. True Bichon character. A star is born.

The Reserve Winners Bitch, CAMEO GALLERIE OF MONA LISA, came from the 9-12 Class. A very typey bitch, wonderful in expression, correct proportions and sound movement. Another star in the making.

The Specials, what a magnificent group of dogs and bitches. CH RISGAE MIRABELLA SWEET GEORGIA was selected as Best of Breed. A stand out from the moment they came into the ring. A bitch of the highest quality that possesses all the proper characteristics that identify Bichon type. Character, proportions of head and body, silhouette, beautifully coated, with an unforgettable dark eyed expression. She came together on the go around like a ballerina, in perfect rhythm with her handler. A pleasure to witness.

Best of Opposite Sex went to CH PARAYS POWER PLAY, a very handsome dog that possesses all the qualities that define breed type. He is a lot of dog that's at the top of the standard, but quality that can not be denied.

Although the most competitive class of the day was the open dog class, I do believe that the bitches were more consistent overall in proportions.

My thanks to the BFCA members for asking my opinion of our breed. To the show chairman and her committees take a bow for a smooth and well run event. To my ring steward, well done, thank you.

Judges' Sweepstakes Critique—Michelle Konik-Brosdal

Sweepstakes Critique

34rd Bichon Frise Club of America National Specialty

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who entered the Sweepstakes Competition at the 2009 BFCA National Specialty. It was truly an honor and a wonderful experience. It was very important to me to make sure every entry received equal attention. There were many beautiful puppies and dogs, but in the end I had to judge what was before me on THAT day. Not what I believed the puppy would mature into or how they might have behaved if it was a different day, floor, or temperature.

In my first class, 6-8 puppy dogs, I was delighted to see such a fun group of boys. This is a tough group to judge because these pups are in their "adolescent" stage. There are so many growth spurts happening at this age we can only imagine what they will flourish into. However, there was one male that stood out above the rest. My first place winner was Gaylors No Spin - He is a well put together little package for his age. I really liked his long neck, pronounced chest and overall balance and carriage. He demanded that I look at him.

In the 8-10 Month Puppy Dog class the pups were more sure of themselves. My first place winner was Tikka's Gloryb Star Spangled Banner - very pretty boy - elegant. I liked his carriage and style. He had a great temperament in the ring. I would like to see a better coat on him and little more neck.

10-12 Month Puppy Dogs. My first place winner was Chalets Saks MVP - I really liked this boy. He had great balance, coat, head, and bone. He needs a bit more practice in the ring to see his full potential. I would love to see this boy when he matures.

Here come the girls!

The 6-8 Month Puppy Bitch class was a large one. I really liked the group as a whole. My first place winner was Musicbox Kaden Payday At Allure -absolutely ADORABLE. This little girl has such a presence in the ring. I loved her outline and her sweet face. She moved pretty. I wish she had more coat on her, but she deserved her class nonetheless.

The 8-10 Month Puppy Bitch class was very pretty. My first place went to Tikaa's Independence Day - very pretty girl, nice proportions, nice movement, and nice head - nothing extreme. Sometimes moderate and strong is a breath of fresh air.

My winner for the 10-12 Month Puppy Bitch class was Cameo Gallerie of Mona Lisa. She had nice balance, pretty face, moved well (when her feet were on the ground ☺.)

I was very pleased with the line-up for Best in Sweepstakes. The puppies did great. I was a bit torn between the 6-8 month boy and the 10-12 month boy for Best In Sweepstakes. I had to remind myself that this award went to the best on this given day. The older male wasn't that sure of himself. I learned later from his owner that this was his first show. Not bad for his first time in the ring. I awarded Best In Sweepstakes to Gaylor's No Spin. He was a doll and in my opinion, deserved it that day. My Best of Opposite went to my very pretty 8-10 month Bitch - Tikaa's Independence Day.

Judges' Critique—Michelle Konik-Brosdal
Special Attraction Critique
34rd Bichon Frise Club of America National Specialty

This competition is fantastic. I was thrilled to see and feel so many gorgeous Bichons.

12-15 months Dog- Destiny's Lay All Your Love On Me - He was the only one in the class - pretty boy. Larger boy - has to get his feel for the ring.

15-18 month dog - Whitebreds Pearls Heir to The Throne - Really liked this boy. Great outline, nice neck, nice bone. I would really be curious to see him when he matures and fills out more.

Champion Males - I loved this class. The boys were terrific. It was close between my first and second place winners. First was Ch. Craigdale Chip Of The Rock. Second place was Ch. Bodacious In Enemy Territory. Both males had strong qualities. Second place moved beautifully and was a striking dog. However, my first place winner got me with his absolutely effortless movement and huge, beautiful, broad head.

My winner in the 12-15 month bitch class was Crème's Sparkle and shine. She was as cute as a button. Sweet face, nice pigment .

15-18 month class went to Pawmark Secret Affair. I really liked her. Very nice broad head, nice side movement, clean coming and going. She would come back later and make my job very difficult J

Open Bitch Class - It was so wonderful that with every class they kept getting better and better. I loved this bitch- Risgae's International Affair . Great body, great outline, effortless movement and her conditioning was gorgeous.

Champion Bitches. This was a fun class as well. I was so happy to see such beautiful bitches. My first place went to CH Risgae's Gotta Lotta Moxie - loved her attitude - movement. I have to mention the little cutie I gave second place to - Whitebreds Star of Encore. She was adorable! Beautiful head. I wish she would have moved out a bit more.

So, now we are at Special Attraction Best Of Breed. The line-up was simply beautiful. I knew this would be a hard one to decide. I tried to give every dog a fair shot. It came down to my Open bitch and my 15-18 month bitch. I could have taken either one home with me. Both super quality bitches. My Best of Breed went to Risgae's International Affair. She was on the money. That girl showed her heart out and never missed a step - breathtaking movement from all angles. Her size, her style, her bone, her head, her expression.....do I have to say more? To match her up, I chose CH Craigdales Chip Off The Rock. He deserved to be honored as my Best of Opposite. Again, his steps were right on and his head is stunning.

It was a very long day, but in the end I was extremely proud to be in the company of such great breeders. I think breeders are doing a heck of a job. I would like to see better fronts and more rear drive. The heads were very pretty, bites were good, pigment was nice and the overall outlines were nice. Keep up the good work and thank you again for giving me the opportunity to judge your dogs. It was a very special experience for me.

SHOW RESULTS
2009 NATIONAL SPECIALTY
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
MAY 7 – 8, 2009

CONFORMATION: JUDGED BY MR ANDREW (GENE) MILLS

BEST OF BREED: CH RISGAE MIABELLA SWEET GEORGIA NP135930/03 (B) Birthdate: 06/26/2006 By Ch Musicbox Don't Call Me Sweet!-Ch Risgae's Queen Of Mean At Jet's BREEDER: Rick Day OWNERS: Sheryl L Kapella & Rick Day AGENT: Kayley Kovar

BEST OF WINNERS/WINNERS DOG: RIME LETO LIGHT RIDER NP125612/02 (D) Birthdate: 04/14/2005 By Ch PaRay's Paragon-Ch Rime Such A Riff BREEDER/OWNER: Deb Wentz. AGENT: Raymond Pittman, AKC Reg. Handler

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX: CH PARAY'S POWER PLAY. NP097369/01 (D) Birthdate: 05/25/2005 By Ch PaRay's Pop Star-Ch PaRay's Vanilla Sky BREEDERS/ OWNERS: Paul A Flores & Tray Pittman AGENT: Raymond Pittman, AKC Reg. Handler

BEST BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR: RIANE'S GLORYB SWEET SOPHISTICATION NP179522/05 (B) Birthdate: 08/19/2007 By Ch GloryB High Ridge Constant Comment-Ch Soquels Daze Of Glory BREEDER/OWNER: Mari M Kool

1ST AWARD OF MERIT: CH HEIGHTS WWW.COM. NP188544/01 (D) Birthdate: 06/09/2007 By Ch Heights Win Chester-Ch Pt Breeze Bonjour Bon Chance BREEDERS: Polly C S Cooper & Tamra A Roth OWNERS: Tamra A & Alvin R Roth

2ND AWARD OF MERIT: CH BODACIOUS IN ENEMY TERRITORY NP165133/03 (D) Birthdate: 02/28/2007 By Ch Judges Choice High Ridge Right On-Ch Paray's Whiter Shade Of Pale BREEDERS/OWNERS: Dan & Glenda Blue & Dennis Brown. AGENT: Dennis D Brown

3RD AWARD OF MERIT: CH CRAIGDALE CHIP OFF THE ROCK NP135187/02 (D) Birthdate: 02/16/2005 By Craigdale Morocco-Craigdale Flamenco Dancer BREEDER: Patricia Dale Hunter. OWNERS: Cheryl Blair & Patricia Dale Hunter

4TH AWARD OF MERIT: CH PARAY'S RIME TIME NP125612/01(B) Birthdate: 04/14/2005 By Ch PaRay's Paragon -Ch Rime Such A Riff BREEDER: Deb Wentz OWNERS: Laura Rosio & Martin Winston AGENT: Raymond Pittman, AKC Reg. Handler

5TH AWARD OF MERIT: CH RISGAE'S DUTCHESS OF WESSEX NP142780/02 (B) Birthdate: 07/05/2006 By Ch Wessex White Lightning-Ch Risgae's Sophie Choice BREEDERS: Loretta Marchese & Rick Day OWNERS: Michael Fahy & Rick Day & Phil Schafmayer

BEST PUPPY: CHALETS SAKS MVP NP211834/03 (D) Birthdate: 06/28/2008 By Ch Saks Encore-Ch Hamelot Saks Chalets Secret Code BREEDERS: Roberta Bleecker & Shirley Hamilton OWNERS: Roberta Bleecker & Sandra Hanson & Keith Hanson

BEST OPPOSITE SEX PUPPY: BODACIOUS MOONSTRUCK NP213606/04 (B) Birthdate: 09/01/2008 By Ch Risgae's Trip To The Moon-Ch Parays White Pepper BREEDER/OWNER: Glenda Blue AGENT: Dennis D Brown

RESERVE WINNERS DOG: WHITEBREDS PEARLS HEIR TO THE THRONE. NP189435/01(D) Birthdate: 01/24/2008 By Ch Fluffette Encore At Kenningway-Ch Whitebred's Kissed By A Rose BREEDERS/OWNERS: Karen & John Graeber AGENT: Anibal Faria

WINNERS BITCH: HEIGHTS ALL GUSSIED UP NP202018/01 (B) Birthdate: 01/16/2008
By Ch Donsi's Snugluygus-Ch Heights Over Alls BREEDERS/OWNERS: Tamra A & Alvin R Roth

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH: CAMEO GALLERIE OF MONA LISA NP215540/01(B) Birthdate: 06/09/2008 By Jimi's Captain Joe-Cameo The Cat Burglar BREEDERS/OWNERS: Virginia Le Cave & Mary Provost

BEST STUD DOG: CH WHITEBRED'S LITTLE RASCAL NM908414/02 (D) Birthdate: 05/06/2001
By Ch Dorianns Int'l Man Of Mystery-Ch Whitebred's Ruff and Rosie BREEDER: Karen Graeber OWNERS: Karen Graeber & Bernadette Molloy

BEST BROOD BITCH: CH WHITEBRED'S KISSED BY A ROSE. NM908414/01 Birthdate: 05/06/2001(B) By Ch Dorianns Int'l Man Of Mystery-Ch Whitebred's Ruff And Rosie. BREEDERS/OWNERS: Karen Graeber and Dr John Graeber

SWEEPSTAKES: JUDGED BY MRS MICHELLE BROSDAL

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES: GAYLORS NO SPIN NP214724/04 (D) Birthdate: 10/05/2008
By Ch Gaylors Fuhgeddaboutit-Ch Gaylors Sunny Valentine BREEDERS: G & A Antetomaso & S Grossman & K Fileccia OWNERS: L Ramich & G & A Antetomaso & K Fileccia

BEST OPPOSITE SEX SWEEPSTAKES: TIKAA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY NP214279/01(B) Birthdate: 09/03/2008 By Ch Soquel Special Agent Fox of Paray-Ch Ch Simply Tikaa's Amazing Grace. BREEDER: Tracy Lewellen OWNERS: Mike & Donna Russell & Tracy Lewellen

SPECIAL ATTRACTION: BRED- BY- EXHIBITOR JUDGED BY MRS MICHELLE BROSDAL

BEST BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR SPECIAL ATTRACTION: RISGAE'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR NP141524/01 (B) Birthdate: 08/03/2006 By Ch Musicbox Don't Call Me Sweet!-Ch Risgae's Stir Crazy Magnolia. BREEDER: Rick Day OWNERS: Dong Lim Lee & Rick Day

BEST OPPOSITE SEX: CH CRAIGDALE CHIP OFF THE ROCK NP135187/02 (D) Birthdate: 02/16/2005 By Craigdale Morocco-Craigdale Flamenco Dancer BREEDER: Patricia Dale Hunter. OWNERS: Cheryl Blair & Patricia Dale Hunter

JR SHOWMANSHIP COMPETITION: JUDGED BY MR ANDREW (GENE) MILLS

BEST JUNIOR HANDLER: Erin Fitzpatrick 19920125004 01/25/1992
Handled: RISGAE'S CHARMED ONE NP157408/01 (B) Birthdate: 01/24/2007 By Ch Musicbox 40 Winks Risgae-Ch Risgae's Pinky Victoire Breeders: Rick Day & Donna Jones & Harriet Pritchard Owners: Erin Fitzpatrick & Rick Day

OBEDIENCE TRIALS: JUDGED BY MS VIRGINIA (GINGER) KINION

HIGHEST SCORING DOG IN REGULAR CLASSES: CH PAW MARK ALLURE CHASIN WAVES LANDD NP137075/01(D) Birthdate: 02/28/2006 By Ch Ashbrooks Just Me-Ch Pawmark's Ice Cold Allure Breeders: Lisa Des Camps & Pauline Schultz Owners: Deedy & Larry Sorensen

Officer's Reports

President's Report—Avanell Sikes

What a great time we had in St. Louis! Sandra Madia did a fantastic job as Show Chair with the assistance of Donna Rogers. The hotel was super and the hotel staff was unbelievable. To all of you that assisted in any way to make this Specialty a success, your time and work are greatly appreciated. My special thanks to George who took care of all the things I volunteered him to do. A very special thanks to Gary and Laura Huddleston and all the members of the St. Louis Club for all their work and support. Communication and organization was the key to success.

We were very fortunate to have a breeder judge, one of our own members, Andrew (Gene) Mills judge the 2009 Specialty. Gene allowed every dog to have a special presentation. There was no doubt, Gene was looking for proportion all day long. Gene left a message for all of you. "We need more Breeder Judges to make judgement and decisions on our Breed."

It was exciting to watch Michelle Konik Brosdale with 29 years experience in Bichons judge Sweeps and Special Attraction Sweeps. We have all watched Michelle grow up in BFCA and take home many trophies and awards from the Specialties.

If you missed all the fun in St. Louis, you may still purchase the DVD by contacting Sandra Madia. The banquet and awards dinner is also on the DVD this year.

If we have your email address and you receive the bulletin by mail, you will receive the next two bulletins both by mail and by email. We want you to experience the convenience of receiving the bulletin early. You may print only the portions that you wish to keep or you can save all the bulletins on your computer. This saves Shauna a lot of time and work and it saves BFCA many dollars. Thank you, Shauna, for all your time and effort that you put into getting the bulletin to the membership. In the near future we will also have the bulletin on the Members Only section of the website. You will have a password to access it. You will be hearing more about this when it is available.

Be sure to read all the Secretary reports in this bulletin to be informed on any business transacted at the Board meeting and General meeting. The show financial report is incomplete at this time, but it will be published in the next bulletin.

We welcome Shyla Newton to the Board as Treasurer. I know that Shyla will be a great asset to the Board and to the membership. We are looking forward to working with her. Thanks to Mayno Blanding for her services to the membership and to the Board. We wish her great success as she serves the club in many ways.

President's Report Con't

Mary Provost and Lindsay Van Keuren established the Bichon Frise Club of America Logo Store for us. You can find it on our website at Boutique & Supplies, or you may go directly to the store website www.cafepress.com/bfca. You may purchase products with past national logos. The store is now open for business. Be sure to check it out.

The Board has been very busy since the Specialty. We now have a Legislative Committee to help with canine legislative issues affecting purebred dogs and their owners. The Committee will be Co-Chaired by Kieth Hanson and George Sikes. They will begin with five divisions of the country and work from that. They need assistance from all the membership and all the local clubs. They will be contacting you and asking for your help. Please take an active part. Your participation is essential.

The 2010 National Specialty will be held at the Adam's Mark Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN, May 3 thru May 10, 2010. Be sure to mark your calendars and visit our website to find all the details. Kathy Loynachan is the Show Chair. Kathy and the committees have plans already in process to provide a fun filled week for all of you.

Mrs. Houston (Toddie) Clark will judge Conformation and Junior showmanship and Mrs. Margaret (Maggie Hyde) Sherwood will judge sweeps and Special Bred-By Sweeps. Rally will be offered again in 2010 on a trial basis.

Hope you are all having an exciting and safe summer.



If you would like to view the bulletin on the Bichon Club of America web page, please email Lisa DesCamps at LisaD@AllureBichons.com. She will assign you a member number and a password. You will need this in order to access it on the "Members Only" page.

Officer's Reports

Recording Secretary—Sandra Madia

Ballot Proposals 2009 Summer Bulletin

Board Members	05-09A	06-09B	06-09C
Antetomaso, Gail	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chesbro, Karen	Yes	Yes	Yes
DesCamps, Lisa	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dillon, Katherine	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hanson, Kieth	Yes	Yes	Yes
Madia, Sandra	Yes	Yes	Yes
Newton, Shyla	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rogers, Donna	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sikes, Avaneil	Yes	Yes	Yes
Watts, Charles	Yes	Yes	Yes

Board Proposals:

05-09A: The Board of the Bichon Frise Club of America shall report to AKC that BFCA will not approve a specialty show conducted by the Bichon Frise Club of Greater Los Angeles in 2010. The absence of trophies donated by the club as "Supported Entries" for three of the four days of the Mission Circuit Events, along with the absence of trophies for their Specialty held in conjunction with the Mission Circuit on a fourth day, is the reason for this action. The motion passed unanimously.

06-09B: The BFCA will provide medallions at the 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show in Long Beach, California December 12-13, 2009. This is a special 125th AKC Anniversary Show and it is open to all dogs; class dogs as well as champion dogs. The motion passed by a majority.

06-09C: The BFCA will provide a "Supported Entry" at the 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show in Long Beach, California December 12-13, 2009. This is a special 125th AKC Anniversary Show and it is open to all dogs; class dogs as well as champion dogs. The motion passed by a majority.

**Note: NP means Not for Publication. NV means No Vote. AB means Abstained*

2008/09 Annual Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report—Mayno Blanding

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
Statement To Close Accounts

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE APRIL 30, 2009		\$ 15,419.04
Income		
National Specialty Income	\$310.00	
Health Income	30.00	
Dues Income	5.20	
Cancel checks not cleared	82.85	
Total Income	\$428.05	
Expense		
National Specialty Expense	\$19,680.42	
Bulletin Expense	487.37	
Judges Expense	671.00	
Bank Charges	32.00	
Dues and Subscriptions	35.00	
Bank check to close account	4,941.30	
Total Expense	25,847.09	
Net Income		(25,419.04)
Transfer From Savings		10,000.00
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009		0.00
BUSINESS PERFORMANCE SAVINGS BALANCE APRIL 30, 2009	\$59,948.14	
Transfer to Checking	(10,000.00)	
Interest Income	4.78	
Bank check to close account	(49,952.92)	
BUSINESS PERFORMANCE SAVINGS BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009		0.00
TOTAL FUNDS		\$0.00

Committee Reports

Delegate Report—George Sikes

June 8, 2009, I took the Raleigh Operations Center tour and met most of the Department Heads. We were divided in groups of 12. Glen Lycan was our tour guide. The Computer Control Room was amazing.

Monday afternoon, I attended the Parent Club Committee meeting. The Parent Club 2010 conference planning is in process. The date and place has not been determined. Each Parent club will be able to send only one attendee at a charge of \$150.00. Other discussions were exhibitor mentor programs and classes for altered dogs at National Specials.

The President, Secretary and Delegate will be receiving an announcement of a program called AKC Registration Pledge Challenge. We must take a positive assessment of this program. Of the total number of litters registered each year, only 44% of the puppies are registered. It is our responsibility to see that our puppies are registered.

Delegate Caucus was more discussion about realignment.

Phil Gidury was the principal speaker at the Legislative Caucus. Phil is the AKC Legislative Analyst. He reads bills and determines who these bills will affect and how it will affect them. He has read over 800 bills in the past year.

We heard Delegates from Texas, Connecticut, Ohio, Massachusetts and Oregon speak on legislative issues. Patti Strand, founder of National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA), and an AKC Board member spoke on Do's and Don'ts of how to contact your local and state officials. I also met with Patti and a group of Parent Club Delegates the night before the Delegates meeting. Patti believes Parent Clubs holding National Specialties in difference cities each year should write a letter to the Mayor and City Counsel of those cities stating why their city was chosen for the Specialty, and the financial impact it has on their City. Patti suggests that the clubs invite the city officials to the show.

You will be hearing more from the BFCA Legislative Committee in the coming months. BFCA members and local clubs will be asked to help with canine legislative issues affecting purebred dogs and their owners in your area. Please take an active part.

Register Your Puppies

Committee Reports

Friendship

Laura Purnell

This year I have sent out 10 cards, 2 plants and 1 donation to the Susan G Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer. These cards include both Sympathy and Get Well. We also received thank you notes for the plants as they were greatly appreciated by the families of the deceased.

History Committee

Anne Jones

For years there has been discussion of a History Committee but there never seemed to be a logical way to form such a committee, the object being to save historical items and information. The Pack Rat Committee, meaning Gertrude, Mayree and Barbara, all had items and records of historical significance and I was an honorary member, having received various publications and such from Gertrude and Mayree as they reduced their possessions to basic necessities. Recently Barbara decided she needed to make arrangements for her collection of photos and records.

Kennel Clubs, being businesses, have buildings and the ability to store records. Parent clubs are mobile with membership across the country. Club secretaries already inherit a truck load of materials that they must maintain. What to do? There are always important items that should be retained. Printed materials outside official records, as well as lots of photos, make up the bulk of historical matter. Enter Lisa des Camps! It turns out that she is also a believer in saving what is old and of interest from earlier times AND she is our computer genius! Thus was born the BFCA History Committee.

Committee Reports

History Committee Con't

Barbara and Sandra Madia spent a couple of weekends going through her albums of photos and Lisa and I began to talk of a format for putting on line as much material as we could. I say "we" but it is Lisa who has had the task of scanning old photos and will be the one to actually create our new web collection that we are calling "The Early Years". She has been busy putting photos on disks and Barbara and I have been writing articles. One article has been available for a few weeks and others will follow.

The plan for the photos is to identify the dogs and label them by registered name and then to place them in alphabetical order by kennel name. This will enable anyone who has a pedigree, whether pet or show, to look up ancestors on that pedigree. It may amaze some of us to see the differences in the early dogs, both in conformation and in grooming. The grooming has evolved dramatically from the original dogs that were shown in full coat and only a light brushing. Far different from today's show dogs that are "created" and sculpted.

There may also be reprints of old articles, new articles about the past, other printed material that is of significance. This is a work in progress and quite frankly we don't know what it will become. The first segment will be limited to events/dogs/people from 1964 to 1984, the first two decades of the US Bichon. There will be changes in years to come if the site is maintained but it should never be "modern" because this is about the past. We expect the members to critique the site and let us know your opinion.

We have 22 members who were club members in the first decade. The number shrinks with every year. I acknowledge them in this article and you should seek them out to thank them for their efforts. Gertrude and Mayree were our last charter members and founders.

1966 Barbara Stubbs

1967 Nina Tracy

1968 Bobbi Rothman Kuenster

1970 Doris Hyde

1971 Bernice Richardson

1972 Ann Hearn

Tom & Laura Purnell

Charles & Dolores Wolske

1973 Lee & Sherry Fry

Linda Myers

1974 Marsi Harvey

Bill & Lois Morrow

Gerry Paolillo

Alice Vicha

Estelle & Wendy Kellerman

Marilynn Koerber

Kathie Vogel

Committee Reports

Hotel Report

Donna Rogers

I have been very busy this past year trying to find and arrange for a hotel for our 2011 National. During this process we were approached by the Houston club asking us to consider a hotel near the Houston airport for our show. After a bit of negotiation, we have settled on the Sheraton North Houston Hotel. This will be the first time we will be having a show over the weekend - Thursday, May 5 through Sunday, May 8. By going to the weekend, we have been able to significantly reduce our rates. The hotel is a wonderful facility and should be a great place to hold our National.

Long term, the Board has decided to try to find 2 - 3 hotels, centrally located for our National Specialty. As we find a hotel that works well for us, we will repeat that venue every 2 - 3 years. By doing this, we hope to create continuity for the membership as well as a good working relationship with the hotel. In the past we have been scrambling to find a hotel, any hotel, that would take us. We hope that will not be the case in the future. Also, by going to weekend shows, we will be able to provide higher quality show sites.

Public Education

Donna Rogers

The BFCA participated once again in the Eukanuba Meet the Breed. It was held at the wonderful Longbeach Convention Center in Longbeach, California, December 13th & 14th. There were 146 different breeds represented. There was a huge turnout from the public. Needless to say, the cute, little, white Bichons were a big hit.

I can't say enough about the support we get from BFCA members members (in state and out) and pet owners for their help in manning our booth as well as bringing their dogs as ambassadors for the breed. This is a wonderful way to get accurate information to the public about our Bichons.

Committee Reports

Membership—Karen Chesbro

New Members

Cindy Morey
5347 W. Stoll Road
Lansing, MI 48906
(Paula Hendricks & Paula Bender)

Vicki & Bill Brunn
1929 Bunker Hill Woods Road
Oxford, OH 45056
(Rick Day & Donna Braden)

New Membership Applications (Sponsors)

Linda Cook
101 Whitney Court
Warner Robins, Georgia 31088
(Donna Jones & Mary Spruiell)

Stephanie Hart
137 Pebblebrook
Houston, Texas 77079
(Ceilia Ruggles & Virginia Huddle)

Lorrie Carlton & Larry Letsche
6565 N. Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(Harriet Pritchard & Mimi Winkler)

Marsha Nielson
6705 Lincoln Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
(Kay Mitchell & Rosemarie Blood)

Terrell Potts
1411 Parmele Drive
Wilmington, NC
(Rick Day & Donna Jones)

Sarah Rawlings
1610 Old Gulph Road
Villanova, PA 19085
(Nita Gryan & Mimi Winkler)

Paula & Matt Abbott
3129 Barberry Court
Murrysville, PA 15668
(Paula Hendricks and Mimi Winkler)

All BFCA members are invited to send comments (both pro & con) regarding applicants. Comments must be received by the Recording Secretary, Sandra Madia, 13631 Addison Street, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-1411 by August 31, 2009.

Committee Reports**ROM/ROMX—Sandra Madia**

REGISTER OF MERIT / REGISTER OF MERIT EXCELLENT AWARDS
Submitted as of 07/01/2009

Congratulations to the following dogs that have been rewarded ROM titles:

ROM:**OWNERS:****CH.WHITBRED'S KISSED BY A ROSE (D)**

Karen Graeber* &
 Dr. John Graeber

* Denotes BFCA Membership

Qualifications for ROM/ROMX

It is the responsibility of the Owner of a proposed dog to submit the required information to the ROM/ROMX Chairman for confirmation. The Owner must be a BFCA member in good standing. To be eligible for a Register of Merit (ROM) Award, the subject dog is to have been: the Sire of seven (7) or more, or the Dam of five (5) or more, Champions of Record. To be eligible for a Register of Merit Excellent (ROMX) Award, the subject dog is to have been: the Sire of twenty-five (25) or more, or the Dam of ten (10) or more, Champions of Record. The progeny are to be Champions of Record, confirmed by AKC.

How to apply for your award:

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 for \$25.00; OR **publications** from AKC Gazette, AKC Awards, BFCA Banquet Awards Booklets or Bichon Reporters verifying the Champions of Record.
2. Copy of current AKC registration, showing all owners of the sire or dam

Note: If you are unable or unsure about obtaining the AKC Progeny Report, then you may submit your request with a copy of the current AKC registration and a non-refundable check for \$25.00. I will obtain the AKC Progeny Report and mail a copy to you.

Mail To: Sandra J Madia, 13631 Addison Street, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-1411
Phone: 818-784-4240 E-mail: sandraj@winning.com

Committee Reports

BFCA 2009 Raffle/Auction

A VERY BIG Thank You to all of the members and non members !

WE Did It, we exceeded our expectations for monies brought in through our Raffle/Auction. I had some trepidation going into it this year with the economic times we live it. But each and everyone of you came through in so many ways, let me count them! Lots of raffle tickets were sold by "wonderful" cheerful folks, lots of raffle tickets were purchased by "generous" cheerful folks. SOME OF THE BEST Raffle & Auction items I've seen were donated by "giving" cheerful folks!

Thanks goes also to ALL THE CHEERFUL people who helped whether it was to sell tickets, be a spotter, run raffle items back and forth to the announcer. Our Auctioneer. Parading around the room with the items. Set up the Raffle table. Haul the items down to the Banquet Room. Run and get pens to write names with. Cleaning up. The list goes on and on, it took Team Players to make it happen and WE DID IT, WE ARE A Team of Bichon Loving Folks.

Thank YOU,
Katherine Dillon

Sales

Kathy Loynachan

Thanks to all of you for your support of the BFCA sales table at the national this year. We sold lots of merchandise and made some money for the club. If you missed the specialty you can check out our two new items on the BFCA website -- a logo themed mouse pad and logo themed luggage tag. At \$10.00 each, these would make great gifts for friends, kennel club grab bags, or a gift for yourself.

We are always looking for new things to add to our web site. If you see something that you think might make a good addition to our sales page, please let me know at ksl@lisco.com.

Membership Directory Corrections

Membership Directory Corrections

Summer 2009

Send any directory changes to:

Sandra J Madia e-mail: sandraj@winning.com

Please update your 2008 - 2009 BFCA Membership Directories to reflect the following changes:

Additions:

Vicki & Bill Brunn
Artwyrks
1929 Bunker Hill Woods Road
Oxford, OH 45056-9342
513-839-0044 Alt 513-756-0157
Artwyrks@fuse.net

Cindy Morey
MerryMaker
5347 W. Stoll Road
Lansing, MI 48906-9381
517-321-4949 Alt 517-803-3739
Cmorey@cablespeed.com

Corrections:

Note: The corrections are in italics.

Susan Brenden
wallabee1960@hotmail.com

Carolyn Cowan
Email: b.chonlv@att.net

Jane Daniel
Alt Phone: 352-425-0548

Rick Day
Alt Phone: 770-601-5720

Patricia Dorris
Email: pdorris1@windstream.net

Melanie Ferrullo
Alt Phone: 845-628-2867
Kennel Name: M & M Valley

Krista Fileccia
Alt Phone: 516-330-2040

Lee Fry
Email: leefry1@aol.com

Jean Glass
Phone: 610-678-1622

Sandee & Kieth Hanson
Email: saksbichon@centurytel.net (summer)
Email: saksbichon@att.net (winter)

John Hartquist
Email: jhartquist@verizon.net

Kay Hughes
Phone: 323-461-7190
Alt Phone: (cell) 323-422-9163

Kendra James
Phone: 403-242-1948
Alt Phone: (cell) 403-968-9284
Kennel Name: Kenningway, Perm. Reg'd

Bobbi Rothman Kuester
Alt Phone: 727-420-2506

Membership Directory Corrections Cont.

Corrections (Continued):

Note: The corrections are in italics.

Shari Lascell
Email: slascell@att.net

Brian & Bernice Lucas
Grp. 125, Box 18, R.R.1

Loretta McDonald
*2555 Ocean Cove Drive
Cardiff by the Sea, CA 92007-2218
760-230-6561 858-442-0413 (Cell)
lollimac@me.com*

Bonnie Pflum
Alt Phone: 704-846-1187

Laurie & Vincent Philpot
Alt Phone: 850-803-5307

Don Seymour
Email: donsi@qwest.net

John & Sigma Toth
Email: apachekid@roadrunner.com

Lindsay Van Keuren
Alt Phone: 303-641-6179

Janet Weiderhold
Alt Phone: 570-640-2206

New Information

2010 National Specialty Kathy Loynachan

We just completed a very successful 2009 specialty and we are already busy planning for the 2010 National. It will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Adams Mark Hotel. The hotel we visited in 2005. They are very dog friendly and are looking forward to seeing us again.

Our committees have been filled for the most part, but I would like to have some volunteers to acquire items for the goody bags, table decorations and ad promotions. If you would be interested in working on one of these jobs, or helping in another way please contact me at ksl@lisco.com. I'd love to hear from you.

See you in *INDY!!!*

Announcing the new

Bichon Frise Club of America Logo Store



What is it?

It is a place to buy items with past logos that are not sold at National Specialties. At this time you can purchase mugs, dog bowls, totes, etc. with the artwork from the 2007 BFCA National Specialty, held in Denver, Colorado. All proceeds go the Bichon Frise Club of America.

Where to go to browse and shop?

There are two ways:

Go to the BFCA website www.bichon.org Click on "Boutique and Supplies". You will see the **Bichon Frise Club of America Logo Store**. Click on the red link to take you to CafePress.

-or-

Go to the store website directly at www.cafepress.com/BFCA

**KEYSTONE
BICHON FRISE
CLUB**



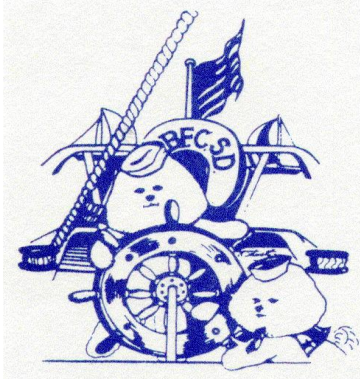
We hope BFCA members will join in our third Regional Specialty Show to be held in conjunction with the Berks County Kennel Club on Sunday September 13, 2009 in Kutztown, PA. Cyndie Adams and Paula Coulton will serve as co-chairs for the event.

We will also be a supporting entry in the September 3, 2009 show of the Non -Sporting Club Show in Long Branch, New Jersey. Please consider showing there as well.

Our picnic this year will be a 10th anniversary celebration for KBFC! Nita Gryan and her committee are coordinating the event which will be in Warrick State Park, Knauertown, PA on Saturday, July 18, 2009. There will be a catered luncheon and a fun match in which pet dogs will be "judged" by Lynn Ramich. The celebration promises to be a very special event.

A grooming seminar will be held on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009 at Canine Creature Comforts. Carole Thompson is committee chair. Janet Weiderhold will give us grooming tips for show cuts while Georgia Shupe will be showing us the cut for pets.

Lynn Speedie
For Keystone Bichon Frise Club



Summer has come and almost gone. This spring several of our members attended the Specialty in St. Louis. A good time was had by all and we are especially proud of BFCSD member Gene Mills who did a great job judging Conformation and Junior Showmanship. We thought he looked especially dapper with his cane. Well done Gene.

We are planning for our own local specialty as well as exploring the addition of Obedience and Rally to our repertoire.

Our biggest project is getting ready for the publication of the next Pictorial Review. We are hopeful the 2010 edition will be ready for distribution in early 2011. Keep your eyes peeled for information on how your dog(s) may be included in this new edition.

From: Sandra J Madia

To: Members of the Board & the Entire Membership

Thank you so very much for honoring me with the Spirit Award at the 2009 National Specialty. Words cannot express how much this honor means to me.

I will cherish the beautiful bronze Bichon forever and will continue to contribute as much as possible in the future to the Bichon Frise Club of America so that none of you ever have doubts about presenting this prestigious award to me.

Warmly, Sandra J Madia

In Memoriam of BFCF Members



IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP
WE WILL BE PUBLISHING MEMORIAL INFORMATION IN
THE BFCF BULLETIN.

IF YOU KNOW OF THE PASSING OF ONE OF OUR MEMBERS
PLEASE CONTACT
SANDRA MADIA, RECORDING SECRETARY



You Are Invited To The
2010 BFCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY



WHEN -- MAY 5TH, 6TH AND 7TH, 2010

WHERE -- THE ADAMS MARK HOTEL,
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46421

RESERVATIONS ---800-444-ADAM

WEB SITE ---WWW.ADAMSMARK.COM

QUESTIONS -- CONTACT KATHY KSL@LISCO.COM OR (641)862-3274