

S U M M E R 2 0 2 0

The Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc. National Specialty Issue





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Officers:

President, Gail Antetomaso
 Vice President, Myra Wotton
 Recording Secretary, Wendy Ball
 Corresponding Secretary, Debbie Hollan
 Treasurer, Matt Abbott

Directors:

Roz Allen
 Lillian Endo
 Sheri Kennedy
 Kayley Kovar
 Lynn Ramich
 John Wise

AKC Delegate:

Toby Frisch

Enclosures:

Membership Directory Update
 Health Times
 CHIC 5Star Report

Bulletin Editor:

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Fall Issue Deadline
October 20
(Publication November 1)

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.

President's Message

Hopefully, this message finds you and yours well during this frightening and trying time. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned everyone's lives upside down as we all deal with unprecedented, necessary shutdowns and cancellations.

We were all disappointed to have had to initially postpone and subsequently cancel the 2020 National Specialty scheduled to be held in Indianapolis. They were agonizing decisions for the Board but necessary to insure the wellbeing of our members and exhibitors. We are very happy to report to you that our judges scheduled for 2020 have accepted our invitation to judge our 2023 National Specialty.

Judges that were already voted on by our members to judge 2021 and 2022 will remain, and our next vote for National Specialty judges will be for 2024.

I'm a member of the AKC parent club google group and our counterpart parent clubs were all faced with decisions that led to cancellations of 2020 National Specialties for most clubs. Some have had very difficult times with hotels they were contracted with for 2020. We are thankful that our facility chair Myra Wotton, with the assistance of Susan Francois, of Helms Briscoe, was able to negotiate cancellations with the Indianapolis Wyndham hotel for 2020 with no penalty. Thank you both for your very hard work. Many clubs are still negotiating with venues they booked for this year some have had to hire legal counsel to negotiate on their behalf.

Our board has been working through the pandemic by email/telephone, and we held our Annual Board meeting by Zoom. Some of the parent clubs are investigating holding an annual membership meeting electronically. We will be looking into that possibility for this year. The board will continue to work and will keep you all posted by Constant Contact and in our Bulletin.

You all should have received the Futurity guidelines package by Constant Contact, and we will get the information up on our website as soon as possible.

For 2021 we've added an additional specialty called "Parent Club Specially" that will be on Saturday at the same venue. We will offer Conformation but we will not offer Sweepstakes. New BFCA member and AKC judge, Camille Bakker, has accepted our invitation to judge the Saturday Specialty. Thank you, Camille.

Next year's Show Chair is Cyndie Adams. Please contact her and volunteer to help her to make 2021 the best National yet.

Each year I invite members, particularly new members, to get involved. If you are willing to volunteer and/or have talents to share, please contact me. We are grateful for any time you can give to your parent club.

Please stay safe. Wishing you lots of ribbons when we finally get back to the shows!

Gail Antetomaso

Recording Secretary Report

Well, 2020 has definitely been interesting to say the least. Normally 20/20 is associated with eyesight, and, with everything going on in the World, it is eye opening for sure. I hope everyone is staying home with your precious bichons and getting ready to hit the ring when the time is right. We will all stay healthy and positive and look forward to the Nationals ahead.....

Judges for 2021 BFCA Nationals in Naperville, IL are:

Conformation: Rick Day

Sweepstakes: Scott Sommer

Special Attraction Bred-By-Exhibitor: Sheri Kennedy

Judges for 2022 BFCA Nationals in Tulsa, OK are:

Conformation: Bill McFadden

Sweepstakes: Carol Fellbaum

Special Attraction Bred-By-Exhibitor: Karen Graeber

Judges for 2023 BFCA Nationals in Minneapolis, MN are:

Conformation: John Hutchison

Sweepstakes: Kayley Kovar

Special Attraction Bred-By-Exhibitor: Joanne Rubin

Board Ballots

Ballot: 05-20A 4 Part Ballot Dealing with BFCA Futurity Documents

1. Document pertaining to Why Futurity?
2. Document pertaining to Futurity Rules?
3. Document pertaining to Futurity Litter Nomination Form?
4. Document pertaining to Futurity Puppy Nomination Form?

The results were *unanimous* to Approve on all 4 parts. (with the correction of the website to bichon.org).

* * * * *

Ballot: 05-20B Dealing with Cancellation of 2020 BFCA National Specialty

The BFCA Board of Directors regrettably hereby cancels the 2020 Bichon Frise Club of America National Specialty, scheduled for September 24 & 25, 2020 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This is due to the uncertainty of the current COVID-19 Pandemic and our concern for our members and participants from around the globe.

The vote results were *unanimous* to Cancel the 2020 BFCA Nationals.

* * * * *

Ballot: 06-20A Dealing with rescinding Motion #8 (during the Annual Board Zoom Meeting)

To rescind motion #8 (during the Annual Board Zoom Meeting) and the affirmative vote to invite John Hutchison to judge the BFCA Specialty to be held on the Saturday after the 2021 National Specialty.

YES: Unanimous

* * * * *

Ballot: 06-20B In Regards on Selection for the 2023 National Specialty Judge

To suspend the rules with regard to selection of judges for the 2023 National Specialty, and invite the 2020 cancelled National Specialty judges (voted on by the membership) to judge our National Specialty in 2023.

YES: Unanimous

OR:

To move on with a completely new balloting for the year 2023.

YES: None

Treasurer Annual Report

Financial Statement Beginning May 1, 2019 and Ending April 30, 2020

(3 pages)

**CHECKING ACCOUNT
BALANCE
INCOME:**

May 1, 2019 70,788.68

Amazon Sales	577.37	
Membership Dues	9,064.33	
2019 National Specialty	18,242.95	
2020 National Specialty	3,270.28	
Application Fees	300.00	
Breeder Referral	2,080.00	
Sales	391.41	
Total		33,926.34
Health		
Live Auction	1,150.00	
Sales	471.00	
Sales - Jewelry	1,260.00	
Raffle - Grooming Table	760.00	
Raffle - Basket	175.00	
Purina Parent Club Donation	678.93	
Donations	1,395.00	
Total		5,889.93
Agility		
Raffle - Jewelry	1,110.00	
Entries	12,504.00	
Return of Advance Excess	1,421.25	
Total		15,035.25

TOTAL INCOME **54,851.52**

EXPENSE:

EXPENSE:

2019 National Specialty	26,752.64
2020 National Specialty	2,481.48
Recording Secretary Expense	189.90
Judges Education	2,095.36
AKC Medallions	215.00
AKC Dues	25.00
AKC Delegate	1,567.93
AKC Puppy Pack Flyers	73.62
Meet the Breeds - AKC Championship	895.01
Federal Tax Return	500.00
Franchise Tax Board	10.00
Liability Insurance	808.00
Equisure	600.00
Stamps and Postage	114.45
Breeder Referral	113.71
Constant Contact	378.00
BFCA Website	238.85
Membership Committee Expenses	663.95
Membership Committee Printing	192.51
NAIA Conference	288.79
BFACT Donation	90.00
Bulletin Expenses	380.88
Paypal Expenses	265.87
Cash Deposit Fee	17.67
Sales - Returned check, closed account	6.00
Bank Charge - Returned check fee	12.00
Treasurer Expenses	411.50
Total	39,388.12
 Health	
Sales - Jewelry	4,825.00

	Raffle - Shipping	230.07	
	AKC/CHF Conference	820.85	
	Total		5,875.92
	Agility		
	2019 Trial Expenses	14,500.00	
	2020 Trial Expenses	357.80	
	Total		14,857.80
	TOTAL EXPENSE		60,121.84
NET GAIN/LOSS			\$ (5,270.32)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	April 30, 2020		\$ 65,518.36
PAYPAL BALANCE	April 30, 2020		\$ 500.00
BUSINESS SAVINGS BALANCE	February 29, 2020	60,252.55	
Interest Income		21.83	
BUSINESS SAVINGS BALANCE	April 30, 2020		\$ 60,274.38
TOTAL FUNDS	April 30, 2020		\$ 126,292.74

Matt Abbott, Treasurer - April 30, 2020

Treasurer Quarterly Report

**BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA
Treasurer's Report
Financial Statement Beginning May 1, 2020 and Ending June 30, 2020**

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	April 30, 2020		65,518.36
INCOME:			
	Amazon Sales	153.11	
	Membership Dues	1,781.74	
	2020 National Specialty (includes refunds)	(237.68)	
	Application Fees	30.00	
	Sales	38.71	
	T total		1,765.88
	Health		
	Donations	1,025.00	
	T total		1,025.00
	Agility		
	T total		-
TOTAL INCOME			2,790.88
EXPENSE:			
	2021-23 N/S Trophies	3,273.10	
	2020 National Specialty (includes refunds)	(341.48)	
	2021 National Specialty	25.00	
	Recording Secretary Expense	101.15	
	Zoom Videoconference	149.90	
	BFCA Website	319.96	
	Paypal Expenses	67.45	
	T total		3,595.08
	Health		
	T total		-
	Agility		
	T total		-
TOTAL EXPENSE			3,595.08
NET GAIN/LOSS			\$ (804.20)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	June 30, 2020		\$ 64,714.16
PAYPAL BALANCE	June 30, 2020		\$ 500.00
BUSINESS SAVINGS BALANCE	April 30, 2020	60,274.38	
Interest Income		0.99	
BUSINESS SAVINGS BALANCE	June 30, 2020		\$ 60,275.37
TOTAL FUNDS	June 30, 2020		\$ 125,489.53

Matt Abbott, Treasurer - June 30, 2020

Founded 1964

Corresponding Secretary Annual Report

The vast majority of correspondence I have received has been from AKC and has been forwarded to either the Board or the appropriate person.

Since it is the corresponding secretary's responsibility to handle the Crufts Invitation Certificates, I did pass out the appropriate certificates to the 2019 winners at the completion of the show. Obviously, this year there will not be certificates to handout.

The only other major correspondence I received was the complaint letter written by Almaza Kroschel regarding a dispute with Ms. Hunkins. This letter was sent via snail mail. All correspondence there after was done via email.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hollan

BREEDER REFERRAL ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020

by the

Breeder & Information Source Committee

Nancy Noonan (Coordinator), Mary Ann Clark, Sharon Hunkins, and Shannon Tupes

Phone: 860-405-5215*

E-Mail: bfcabreeder@comcast.net

Annual Cost: \$106.80

ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN

Month	E-Mail	Calls – No Message	Calls Rec'd or Left Message
May 2019	13	1	4
June 2019	3	1	4
July 2019	10	0	5
August 2019	4	0	6
September 2019	5	0	8
October 2019	7	0	7
November 2019	2	1	5
December 2019	8	3	3
January 2020	7	3	9
February 2020	2	1	6
March 2020	4	0	4
April 2020	10	0	24
TOTALS	78	10	85

* The Voice Mail Message refers callers to the BFCA website.

Summary Stats:

- The Breeder Referral phone *rarely* rings nowadays, so this data comes mainly from emails and my personal phone listing in the Directory. However, most folks do say they found my contact information on both the AKC website and the Directory. Occasionally, the webmaster and other BFCA members get inquiries which they forward to me for reply.
- The breakdown *does not* reflect any of the follow-up contacts.
- The average initial conversation lasts between 10 and 25 minutes. It has been the committee's privilege to help educate folks about the information found on the BFCA website and to excite them about our fantastic breed. Thank you for this continued opportunity to be educators.

The Breeder Directory has 15% less listings than last year. Revenue was \$1960.00. The inquiries for April 2020, increased tremendously (47% higher) no doubt reflecting our unique current stay-at-home situation. Unfortunately, even with this uptick, the overall volume of inquiries was **down 11%**. The AKC continues to report that registered bichon litters are down indicating that the popularity of the breed is still waning; even if we all know that the bichon is a truly fantastic breed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Noonan



BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA CHARITABLE TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

Est. 2003

INCOME STATEMENT AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

Jan - Jun 2020

Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Adoption Fees		1,600.00
Direct Public Support		
Corporate Contributions	348.90	
Individ, Business Contributions	<u>13,546.60</u>	
Total Direct Public Support	<u>13,895.50</u>	
Total Income		15,495.50
Gross Profit		15,495.50
Expense		
Contract Services		
Outside Contract Servic	<u>125.00</u>	
Total Contract Services		125.00
Grooming	241.96	
Insurance	750.00	
Operations		
Postage, Mailing Servic	104.93	
Supplies	343.52	
Telephone, Telecomm	<u>480.24</u>	
Total Operations		928.69
Other expenses		402.59
Rescue		450.00
Training	140.00	
Veterinary Expenses	21,481.22	
Website	<u>939.59</u>	
Total Expense		<u>25,459.05</u>
Net Ordinary Income		<u>-9,963.55</u>
Net Income		-9,963.55

Judges Education Annual Report

This virus has certainly added another dimension to judges education chairman...I have been very busy...as you all know judges need so many points and so many components to qualify for each breed.

That being the case...I have had 11 different judges who have called to conduct a question and answer conversation...In addition I have done 8 facetime hands on with other judges...which was quite tricky and laughable at times....so to total this up so far I have spent Approximately 19 hours doing this...It has been interesting...and being stuck in the house it did make some days more interesting than others..

The judges only receive one point for this towards their point accumulation ..but I hope it was helpful...

That about sums it up, since my last report.

Hope you are all healthy,

Mimi Winkler
Judges Education Chair

Membership Directory Committee Annual Report

Received information from Wendy to begin drafting the directory spreadsheet.
Completed the spreadsheets for all BFCA Members, both current and new.
Printed 200 Membership Directory Booklets, including 20 extra booklets that were sent to Wendy. Cost of Printing Books = \$413.60
Bought 200 Envelopes. Cost of Envelopes = \$49.27
Bought Stamps. Cost of Stamps and Postage = \$201.08
Total Cost for 2019 - 2021 BFCA Membership Directory = \$663.95
All Books mailed by 1/24/2020.
Sent all receipts to Matt Abbott and received the check from Matt on February 1, 2020.
Continue to receive updated information to add, change or delete data on members on the spreadsheets.

Thank You.

Diane Woodring
Membership Directory Chair

Membership Annual Report

Membership Administrator
Karen Chesbro
Sheri Kennedy
May 1, 2019 – May 1, 2020

This year, like last year, was busier than recent years past. We have seen an increase in performance applications as well as conformation enthusiasts. Most applicants seem to have a greater knowledge of the Bichon according to their applications. Most have been attending Nationals on a regular basis. It is assuring to see those who seem truly interested in the Bichon breed.

	<u>2018/2019</u>	<u>2019/2020</u>
New Members Welcomed.....	12	12
Unsuccessful applicants	0	0
Applications being processed.....	0	2

This will be my last report before retiring from the Membership Committee. I will be turning the reins over to Sheri Kennedy. I am confident she will do a wonderful job overseeing the Membership Committee, guiding applicants through the procedure and eventually welcoming them as new members. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as the Membership Administrator for the last 13 plus years. It is time to move on. Thank you to all who made my journey a rewarding one.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Chesbro
Sheri Kennedy
Membership Administrator

New Members & Sponsors Annual Report

**May 2019 - April 2020
(12 New Members)**

Members

Amamda Aaron
Elaine & Alfredo Arrastia
Camille Bakker
Nancy & Gary Brown
Linda Freidline
Paulette Ferruzzo
Cathy Morris
Patricia Putra
Jan Wilson & Van Ramatta

Sponsors

Lindsay Dicken & Paula Hendricks
Rick Day & Sheila Feldman
Paul Flores & Joanne Rubin
Kaley Kovar & Larry Letsche
Lynn Ramich & Linda Ross
Gail Antetomaso & Rick Day
Polly Cooper & Kathie Vogel
Barbara Chaffin & Paula Hendricks
Karen Graeber & Kathie Vogel

Sales Annual Report

**Merry Nicole Meyer – Chair
May 21, 2020**

Our biggest market is at Nationals and our biggest seller continues to be the *Your Bichon Frise* booklet along with the *Illustrated Breed Standard* that is currently out of stock. Many people really liked the weather vane and woodcarving signs available at Nationals and we will consider adding items for the next Specialty in 2021. Finding unique items that are profitable proves to be difficult and often the table is overlooked being ringside. For 2021 Nationals perhaps we consider putting the sales table with the vendor lineup and see what happens. It keeps traffic around the ring down and potentially quieter. Going forward we have a few tweaks to make on the SHOP tab of the website and I continue to look for new and unique products for our members.

Respectfully submitted,
Merry Nicole Meyer

Agility

I hope this update finds everyone well. Considering the current health concerns, we have decided to cancel this years' all breed agility trial for a multitude of reasons. We appreciate all the support and help we have received from you over the years and look forward to hosting agility trials in the future.

In the meantime, I will remain available for any questions regarding the fulfilling sport of agility.

Be well,

Rick Macias

Rickm813FLMN@gmail.com

Judges Education

First and foremost, I hope this brief note finds you all in good spirits... both physically and mentally.

Like the rest of you, I have been keeping my friends at arm's length and wearing a mask whenever I go out..

The reason I am telling you all this is simple...Aside from doing an AKC Webinar at the end of July for all judges, and answering hundreds of questions from judges applying for the breed on the phone...I have nothing to report.

Oh, I am judging the Virtual International Dog Show and I am very pleased to have been asked with such a distinguished panel.. ...and so far, the big Bichon Specialty in Finland that I am judging is still on the calendar...Well enough about me....

Stay well,
Mimi

Charitable Trust

Quarterly Financial Report

2:54 PM
07/16/20
Accrual Basis

BICHON FRISE CLUB OF AMERICA CHARITABLE TRUST
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2020

	Mar 31, 20	Jun 30, 20
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
PayPal	1,324.64	1,357.74
Regions	41,437.12	38,397.29
Total Checking/Savings	42,761.76	39,755.03
Total Current Assets	42,761.76	39,755.03
Other Assets		
National Inventory items	714.91	714.91
Total Other Assets	714.91	714.91
TOTAL ASSETS	43,476.67	40,469.94
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity	39,655.71	39,655.71
Unrestricted Net Assets	10,777.78	10,777.78
Net Income	-6,956.82	-9,963.55
Total Equity	43,476.67	40,469.94
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	43,476.67	40,469.94

Membership Report

Summer 2020

Sheri Kennedy

NEW MEMBERS (Sponsors)

Anna Hillman
5645 Oxborough Way
Johns Creek, GA 30005
(Terrell Potts & Rick Day)

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS (Sponsors)

*All BFCA members are invited to send comments (both pro & con) regarding applicants. Comments must be received by the Recording Secretary, Wendy Ball, 967A Boat Dock Rd, Somerset, KY 42501 or bichonbabe@mchsi.com by **August 15, 2020**.*

Erin Fitzpatrick
143 Carroll Ave
Williamstown, NJ 08094
(Karen Graeber & Janet Weiderhold)

Cherie Ekholm
3404 277th Pl NE
Redmond, WA 98953
(Dina Taylor & Lynn Ramich)

Lara Latshaw
10842 Michigan Rd
Plymouth, IN 46563
(Carol Felbaum & Shannon Tupes)

ROM/ROMX Report

Congratulations to the following dog that has been awarded an ROM title.



GCH BRERTON'S RISE AND SHINE, ROM

Bred by *Mary Spruiell

Owned by *Mary Sprueill

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.

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

1. An AKC Progeny Report for the sire or dam, listing the Champions of Record available from the AKC online store or a copy of the publications from the AKC Gazette, AKC Awards, BFCA Banquet Awards Booklets or Bichon Reporters verifying Champions of Record.
2. A copy of current AKC registration

Mail or Email to: Lindsay Van Keuren
5323 Sage Thrasher Rd

Obedience

Hoping everyone is doing alright during the Covid-19 time. We certainly are having an extremely trying 2020 year and I hope it has a change and returns to normalcy soon. I myself, have been out of work since March 16th and want so much to be back to work. Just about all the shows I was scheduled to Judge have been canceled and many I know have had no choice as to rethink how to get their dogs championships done as well as other numerous competition titles. Some of my friends feel like they are going bonkers, even training classes have been closed up. I will tell you, when you are use to doing special things with your dogs on certain days and all the sudden it comes to a grinding halt and you had nothing to do with the decision of it, it causes us to become very unhappy and bored. So much excitement that we took for granted is suddenly gone and we don't know what to do with ourselves once we are forced to stop what we love doing. I can only hope that we can go back to our old way of living soon but most of all, we all should come out of this still standing and healthy.

I do have a couple of shows still on my calendar for this year that have not canceled as of yet and on the judges link all we are talking about is safety, safety, safety rules that the AKC and the shows have put in place. This might become the norm when all the shows are back so please be aware to check with any show that you are going to to make sure that you are fully aware of the rules. Most are asking for a waiver to enter the shows and also not allowing anyone but the exhibitor to the show, no spouses or guests to watch the show with you or root you on. The indoor shows are going to be the strictest with rules and hand sanitizer will be everywhere. Don't even think about going without having a mask. Some shows will let you enter the ring without the mask, others will demand you keep it on the whole time, all will have you required to wear around the show grounds. All the shows seem to be limited so if you are thinking about entering a show, remember to enter as soon as it opens for now. I know a couple of shows that opened up for entries and closed the same day because the limits were reached!

There are lots of things going on within the AKC. Rules are being rewritten during these pandemic times. Here is something that came out on July 17th to me but it is retroactive from July 1 so keep note on this temporary new rules: (And remember to keep checking the AKC web site for rules are being changed every day to accommodate exhibitors)

Please click on the following link to see updates on Obedience and Rally:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/obedience/news-updates/>

This page is full of valuable information to Obedience and Rally exhibitors. Check it out!

For Virtual Rally courses, click here: <https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-virtual-entry-pilot/rally-virtual-courses/>

For updates about Trick Dog, please click here: <https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog/news-and-updates/>

For those of you who are nervous about going into the rings, this is an ideal way to earn new titles on your dog! I hope to hear of many new titles this year. In the rules it will explain to you exactly where they want the camera to be for copying your runs.

Enjoy, Good Luck and stay well!

Linda Ferrullo

Bichon Frise Club of Northern California



We are disappointed that our Day in the Park and October Specialties are officially cancelled due to COVID-19 related actions. At this point there is a glimmer of hope for our Christmas Party to still go on, but time will tell for that event as well.

We just wish everyone well and be safe.

Camille Bakker

Bichon Frise Club of Northern New Jersey

The Bichon Frise Club of Northern New Jersey held a Zoom meeting in April and May due to the pandemic. In June, we were able to have our annual end of season meeting outdoors at the home of Karen Graeber. Members practiced social distancing and safety procedures while enjoying some lunch and discussion on future planned events. Our Club had TWO Specialty Shows planned for fall: September, Somerset Kennel Club and October, prestigious Morris and Essex Show held once every five years. We were hopeful as both are outside venues, but, unfortunately, they were recently cancelled until 2021.

Our next meeting will be in September. We will meet via Zoom depending on local restrictions and mandates. Our N.J. Rescue continues to be active with ALL of our rescues finding homes during 2020 thus far.

Respectfully submitted
Karen Graeber
Secretary BFCNNJ

Sunshine State Bichon Frise Club

First of all, the state of Florida considers Sunshine State Bichon Frise Club to be a non-profit corporate entity – all the legal requirements have been met – we are a Club in the state’s eyes. AKC, however, has not yet sanctioned us to hold matches. Our struggle with AKC primarily consists of its reluctance to grant full voting privileges state-wide: that those members who reside outside of AKC’s imposed Central Florida boundaries would be considered “associates” due to the fact that distance would prohibit them from attending the six ‘person to person’ meetings a year requirement “at a set Central Florida location” (specifically Orlando). So, we’ve been attempting to negotiate with AKC. It does not recommend scheduled meetings at shows, neither will it bend in today’s electronic age to allow us a couple of electronic conference meetings throughout the year. AKC’s positions on these issues are unacceptable to us as several of our more involved and enthusiastic members hold residence outside of Central Florida. Our question has always been ... “why should AKC care?”

Meet the Breed – Royal Canin National Dog Show 2019

Our BFCA Meet the Breed booth took first place in the Non-Sporting Group competition at Royal Canin’s National Dog Show in Orlando December 14 & 15, 2019. This year’s committee included Angela Lewis Perkins, whose idea of the retro circus theme excited all of us. What better way to depict bichons historically than as one of the original circus dogs! Angela and Amanda Aaron did an amazing job on our tent; Elaine Arrastia’s creative ideas along with her assortment of items specific to a carnival/circus atmosphere completed “the look.” At our display/information table, head ringmaster Lin Friedline and her dogs could not have been paired more perfectly to interact with the public. Lin has an effluent personality and an astute knowledge of our breed.

A special treat for our spectators on Saturday afternoon (and for those who hastily came over from all directions) was the unexpected arrival of Sari Bankston and Anna Hillman with their agility/obedience trained pooches. They put on an awesome show – lucky us! Others who worked the booth included BFCA members Terri Vogel and Rick Day. Interestingly, several owners of other breeds utilized our set-up for a photo-shoot; Rick suggested we ought to charge a bit next year for its use as a money-maker for BFCA.

“Jazzing It Up” 2021 National Specialty

I'm sure everyone has missed seeing all their friends and all the beautiful dogs this year, but I hope everyone is planning on “Jazzing It Up” in Chicago May 6 and 7, 2021, for the 2021 National Specialty - PLUS the Parent Club Specialty May 8, 2021.

They will be held at the Sheraton Lisle Naperville Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Rd, Lisle, IL 60532.

Judges for 2021 BFCA Nationals are:

Conformation: Rick Day

Sweepstakes: Scott Sommer

Special Attraction Bred-By-Exhibitor: Sheri Kennedy

4-6-month Puppies: Jay Richardson

Juniors: Jay Richardson

Obedience & Rally: Fred Buroff

Judge for the Parent Club Specialty on Saturday, May 8th:

Conformation: Camille Baker

We are looking forward to being able to see all of you!!

Meanwhile, everyone, stay safe and healthy!

Cyndie Adams. Show Chair