My Two Bichons
By Jamee Joseph

Editor’s Note: It’s always rewarding to adopt a FurKid to a wonderful family - and a family with kids is even better. Add the fact that there are six kids, a FurKid who was previously adopted several years ago - and the fact that the family returned to adopt another FurKid. That is the start of an even more wonderful story. Please enjoy this delightful story as written by Jamee, age 11 - proud sister to two bichons.

When I come home I am always welcomed by the two cutest and sweetest dogs in the world, my two dogs Shiro and Conrad. In dog years Shiro is 9 and Conrad is 6 months.

Bichons in general are great with kids, and with 6 of us kids they are just right for us. When I first saw Conrad and Shiro they were just dogs to me; cute, but still just dogs. After only a little bit of time I forgot they were just dogs, they seemed like humans, but better. They cuddle with me when I am lonely, and show sympathy for me when I am sick or hurt. For example, when I stayed home from school one day because I was sick, Shiro and Conrad came to me and comforted me.

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Shiro didn’t really pay much attention to Conrad when we first got him, but they grew into father and son, which was what we planned. After a few weeks, Conrad decided that he was the big guy; he no longer went where Shiro went when we took him for walks. It looks like Conrad is getting bigger and saying that he doesn’t want to be in Shiro’s shadow anymore. We noticed that when we went on walks with them these past few days.

My Dad got an attachment for a leash that makes it so that two dogs can share one leash. As we saw Shiro and Conrad use it we realized that even when Shiro goes left Conrad goes right, that means that our plan to make Conrad learn all Shiro’s tricks and how to do this and that has finished. Now Conrad still follows what Shiro does but does his own thing more.

My love for Shiro and Conrad is similar to what I read once saying “The more and more I meet humans, the more I love my dog.” That is just a short summary about my life with the two most outstanding dogs in the world, or how I like to call them, my brothers Shiro and Conrad.
Coco is the light of our lives. He came to us a few years ago, after we browsed the Bichon Furkids website. In the sea of cute white pups, we spotted this little brown bundle of joy and immediately fell in love.

We visited him at his foster home, where he was joined by three other dogs, all different shapes and sizes. Coco skipped right over to my husband and turned on his back, wagging his tail. We knew he had won our hearts in a matter of seconds, so we took him home that evening.

Coco loves to play, meet new friends, go to the dog park and cuddle up a storm. We discuss often how Coco is one of the top three best decisions we’ve ever made and are so lucky to have found him! Thank you to the Bichon Furkids Rescue Group for all that you do!

Thank you!

Jenna and Eric Farr
BFK Merchandise at Queensboro Store

BFK is happy to announce that we have our own storefront on the Queensboro online store. Choose from hats, shirts, totes, and much more, all embroidered with our official BFK logo. Below are just a few of the fun items you can buy and enjoy for yourselves, while also promoting Bichon FurKids and helping us to raise funds to fulfill our mission.

Please shop now at:  http://bichonfurkids.qbstores.com
Iggy Charms Brooklyn Heights
(An update on one of Cee Cee's puppies)

Editor's Note: While FurKids are generally adopted in California or some neighboring states, we had a request for one of Cee Cee's puppies from a couple in New York. They completed their adoption process and Jamie, the Mom, flew to California with sherpa bag in hand to adopt a little guy she decided to call Iggy (formerly Kenny). The story and photos that follow are an update on that adoption. We are grateful for the loving care that Iggy is receiving and the good word that he is spreading about rescue.

Hi Everyone,

Iggy (aka "Kenny," one of Cee-Cee's puppies) is quite the charmer around Brooklyn Heights! He knows all the local stores that offer doggie biscuits and loves running with me early mornings around Brooklyn Bridge Park, where he likes chasing seagulls.

Iggy also has a 'pup'perazzi following! People often ask to take his picture and say he looks like a cartoon character. People love guessing what breed he is.

After this weekend, he may be 1/2 snow-bunny because he loved jumping and running around in the snow. He is 9 months old this week -- and I'm grateful to Bichon FurKids for such a sweet pup and to his lovely foster family.
Spring Bichon Bash  
Saturday, May 18, 2013

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 18th, 2013 for the annual celebration of our FurKids and their wonderful families. Orange County is proud to once again host the Bichon Bash at the beautiful Irvine Animal Care Center, recipient of the 2007 Shelter of the Year Award, situated on five acres that look more like a park than an animal shelter. Our volunteers are working feverishly to pull this event together. We could really use your help. If you are interested in participating in the planning or on the day of the event, please contact Michele Olivier at Michele@bichonfurkids.org.

Invitations are going out soon, so if you have bichon lovers that you want to be invited, please let us know. For additional information, please visit the Bichon Bash pages on our web site at http://www.bichonfurkids.org/ and then click the white Bichon Bash link under the masthead.

PUParazzi Wanted!  
(Especially in Orange County)

Do you like to take pictures? Are you good with a camera? Do you HAVE a camera? (BFK as an organization doesn’t.) We need people who can take photos of our new FurKids to accompany their bios on the adoption pages of our website. The photographer plays a very important role in getting our FurKids adopted. Nothing clinches an adoption application like a few engaging photographs of cute little balls of fluff frolicking in the grass - or peeking out of a flower pot or bathtub.

Another of the photographer’s roles is taking pictures of the events that BFK participates in - such as adoption events, the Bichon Bash, and other activities - for the newsletter, website, and more. If you can frame a good picture and have a decent camera that takes high resolution photos (not a cell phone camera), and you have transportation, you can help the FurKids by being their very own paparazzi! Please email marti@bichonfurkids.org and say “I’d like to be a FurKid PUParazzi” - and we’ll be in touch.

We ♥ Pat Welch, Foster Hero!

A lovely new custom-designed BFK cardigan with “Pat 100+ Fosters” on the front was presented to BFK’s Pat Welch at this year’s Volunteer Celebration hosted by Marti Colwell at her home in Carlsbad. The shirt was presented by the Orange County BFK Volunteer Team in appreciation of her dedication to rescue, no matter what it takes.

As of Jan. 27th, Pat was fostering FurKid 102 and has since fostered FurKids 103 and 104. Please join all of us at BFK and the many FurKids Pat has fostered in sending Pat a most heartfelt THANK YOU for her amazing accomplishment - and all the hard work Pat does to help FurKids.

Thanks, too, to Pat’s husband Tom who supports her in this mission.