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Bichon Rescue of Orange County



Lots More To Be Done In 2021



Dear Friends:

As we began this year *Looking Forward with* **2020 Vision**, we could not have imagined the year that has taken place. Typically, each year has a few defining moments but 2020, so far, has contained far too many life-changing developments! Many thanks to all of you for helping us survive this chaotic year. We have been blessed to rescue 55 pups through the end of October.

It would be easy for us to look back shaking our heads with pained hearts, feeling battered and bruised. Instead, let's look back and find those upbuilding moments that encouraged us and kept us undaunted in spirit. Let's cling to those occasions and events that touched our heart and soul and reminded us why we do what we do. The following is one of my favorites.

We met Snuggles, a beautiful pure-bred Bichon Frise, in 2015. His owner, the daughter in a military family, had taken him home when he was 8 weeks old and lovingly cared for him his entire life. Sadly, in May of 2015, her dad

"received military orders moving the family to Virginia..." and available military housing did not allow pets. The family contacted Bichon Rescue of Orange County and reluctantly relinquished their precious 9-1/2-year-old Snuggles to us.

After three months with BROC, Snuggles was placed in a wonderful home with a local senior woman who absolutely idolized him. They were constant companions for five amazing years but in February, 2020 her son notified us she had passed away.

He asked, "Mr. Snuggles is a very loving and devoted companion. Our mom, who was of like mind ...would remind us constantly: "through thick and thin, Snuggles was her bestest friend". Please help us find someone that will love him like he will love them."

Well, of course we welcomed him back. He was still the beautiful Bichon we remembered but he was now 14 years old: blind, deaf and often disoriented, showing signs of canine cognitive disorder (doggie dementia). His first night with me, I pulled up his old file. As I reviewed his records, I was reminded of the circumstances that brought him to me. I recalled the sadness that enveloped his surrender so many years before and decided to update this wonderful family on Snuggles' status.

I sent a simple email that night ... "You surrendered your treasured pup, Snuggles to us in 2015. His owner for the last five years passed away in January and Mr. Snuggles was returned to me. Just thought if you were back in California you might want to see him." In less than 30 minutes came the reply...



"I am now retired from the Marine Corps and have relocated back to California. If possible, we would love to get Snuggles back. Please let me know if that is possible. Thank you very much for reaching out."

The family came the very next day and despite all my efforts to impress upon them that Snuggles was no longer the pup they gave me five years before, still they wanted to take him home...and they did.

Snuggles' age and health challenges only gave him a few months after he went home. We all grieved his loss but his family and I took great solace in knowing he passed away with the loving family with whom he had spent the better part of his life. He had been a wonderful companion to his family, and a faithful companion to his senior mom. *He deserved no less.*

Snuggles And Family Reunited





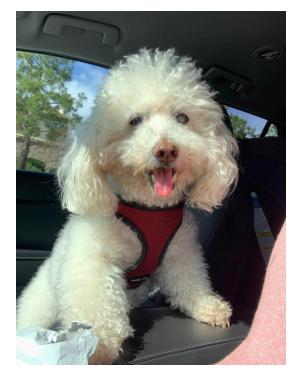


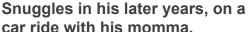


Lots More To Be Done In 2021

BROC is especially focused on rehabilitating and rehoming seniors. This takes time and money but with your generous support, we have successfully placed many senior pups – even over 15 years old. There are many loving families who are willing – even committed – to loving these pups and giving them the very best last days. With you by our side, we can continue to make this possible.

Yes, we began this year *Looking Forward with 2020 Vision*. But we know there's *Lots More to be Done in 2021*.







Naps are good at any age.

Giving Tuesday

Thank YOU for your support this year and for your continued support of our important mission. We can't do this without YOU!

On GivingTuesday—Tuesday, December 1—make your gift online by visiting our Facebook Page and donating via our <u>Giving Tuesday Fundraiser</u>.

Don't want to wait? Make your donation now using the donate button below! Your gift will be counted in the #GivingTuesday Campaign even if you give today.

Donate

Zelle is another convenient way to donate: info@bichonrescueoc.org

If you prefer, you can mail a check to:

Bichon Rescue Of Orange County 1400 N. Kraemer Blvd #1314 Placentia, CA 92871 866-822-7909

Spread the word about BROC on Giving Tuesday by creating a <u>Facebook</u> fundraiser!

P.S. If you have already made your gift to BROC — thank you! Your gift is counted toward the #GivingTuesday campaign.

Donate Foster Volunteer Adopt Sponsor

About BROC

Bichon Rescue of Orange County California is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming of neglected, abused, or otherwise homeless senior Bichon Frises, bichon mixes and other small non-shedding breeds, placing them into permanent, stable, and caring forever homes.

We believe in the value of our senior citizens as adopters as well as fosters and are committed to their advocacy and support through our "Seniors for Seniors" focus.

We believe in promoting awareness of the need to spay and neuter pets, and of the importance of proper medical, dental and nutritional care.

We believe in cultivating a volunteer spirit in our youth and educating them about the importance of pet advocacy.

Senior Dogs:

We believe senior dogs contribute positively to our quality of life and have much to teach us about patience, respect, responsibility, loyalty and unconditional love.

We believe every senior dog deserves to live out their golden years, months, weeks or even days in a place of love, security and peace.

We believe dogs are not a disposable commodity; rather, they depend on us to care for them through all stages of their lives.

We believe in providing educational support, advocacy, and sharing of best practices for those who support senior dogs.