

# CMF Newsletter

Winter 2013 Issue \* A semi-annual publication of  
**CARRIE MEHDI FOUNDATION**

[www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org)

A non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization

**Board of Directors: Candy Culton, Mike Culton, Diane E. Jones, Gregory Mehdi, Zafar Mehdi**  
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## A Message from CMF President

In August 2013, the Carrie Mehdi Foundation (CMF) family lost a beloved friend, mentor, and supporter, Polly Fleming. We honor and thank Polly for sharing her love of Dachshunds with all of us and thank her and Beth Ann Mills for the bloodlines they bred that resulted in the beloved dogs in all of the CMF Board Members' homes. This issue is dedicated to Polly.

A year ago, September 2012, my dear friend Carrie passed away. I'm grateful that through the generous support of Carrie's friends and family, CMF surpassed our first year donation goals. CMF biggest donation of the year was to the California State Parks Foundation for Point Lobos.

In September 2013, the CMF Board gathered with some of Carrie's family and friends in the Monterey/Carmel area to honor Carrie and celebrate the installation of the CMF Picnic Table at Point Lobos State Nature Reserve. Point Lobos was a place close to Carrie's heart. She was introduced to it by her own parents and the tradition continued with her own family. Carrie especially enjoyed sharing this special place with friends and family who hadn't visited there yet and I am thankful for her introduction. If you haven't been there, consider planning a trip in the future and take a picnic with you to enjoy on Carrie's table.

Polly Fleming was a big supporter of CMF and as Carmel was a second home to Polly and her family, it was very meaningful for the CMF Board to celebrate Polly and Carrie as we picnicked on the CMF table at Pt. Lobos. I hope you enjoy our "Blast from the Past" photos of Carrie with family and friends and some of Polly.

We thank Knickerbocker Dachshund Club and the Dachshund Club of California for dedicating their 2013 shows to Carrie. In 2014 they both are dedicating their shows to Polly Fleming.

Our "Haute Dog Picnic" May 2013 was so much fun, we have made it an annual event. Our 2nd Annual Haute Dog Picnic is Saturday May 17, 2014. All are welcome. Please check the Announcement page of our website [www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org) for RSVP information.

Please feel free to send your comments via mail to me to the address at the top of the page, or email to me at [dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](mailto:dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org).

Thank you for your support.

Diane E. Jones  
President, Carrie Mehdi Foundation

CMF Board members and friends visited Point Lobos, Carmel, on September 14, 2013 to commemorate the 1st Anniversary of Carrie's passing and installation of a picnic table in Carrie's honor. From L to R: Mike Culton, Candy Culton, Zafar Mehdi, Diane Jones and Jane Watkins.



Photo by Shareena Yee. Custom Dachshund on table by Rod Eden.



\*\*\*\*\* BLAST FROM THE PAST \*\*\*\*\*



Polly Fleming and Carrie enjoying DCA show in 2003.  
Photo courtesy of Andra O'Connell.

**CMF Donated a total of over \$3,600 in its first year to the following organizations. In accordance with our mission to support the kind of organizations that Carrie would have supported, CMF Board pledged to continue donations to the following organizations and give to even more organizations next year.**

- Dachshund Club of California
- Knickerbocker Dachshund Club
- East Bay Dachshund Club
- DCA National Specialty Show
- Dachshund Club of America Health & Welfare Trust Fund
- Point Lobos Foundation
- California State Parks Foundation
- The Salvation Army
- Los Angeles Mission
- National Kidney Foundation
- Union Station Homeless Services
- Vietnam Veterans of America

**A Big "Thank You" to our contributors who Made our First Year a Tremendous Success.**

CMF fiscal year 2012-13 ended on October 31, 2013. Following is the list of contributors who donated to CMF. We continue to look forward to donations from our generous donors for next year. We will keep updating this list in future issues of the CMF Newsletter as additional contributions are received:

**List of Contributors:**

- Zafar Mehdi  
 Gregory Mehdi & Elizabeth James  
 Diane E. Jones  
 Mike Culton & Candy Culton  
 Denise Siemssen  
 Jane Watkins  
 Qamar Zaidi  
 Simin Zaidi  
 Fouzia Niamat  
 Saara Niamat  
 Ashmead Niamat  
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 Alison Breidenstein & Gustavo Hueramo  
 Michele Huntoon  
 Polly Fleming  
 Kathy Jones  
 Bill & Beth Jones  
 Doug Jones  
 Rebecca Barocas  
 Frank & Monica Canestrini  
 Joyce & Dennis Warren  
 Rod & Charlene Eden

**\*\*\*\*\* BLAST FROM THE PAST \*\*\*\*\***



Celebrating Polly's birthday in Carmel in 2011: From R to L; Carrie Mehdi, Polly Fleming, Diane Jones, Jane Watkins and Beth Mills.



Carrie serving Polly's birthday cake in Carmel, 2011



Polly, Carrie & Kim Tucker assessing a puppy's show potential. Photo taken at Mike & Candy Culton's residence in 2006.



Carrie and Beth Mills enjoying DCA show in 2002. Photo courtesy of Andra O'Connell.



Carrie on her 2nd birthday



Carrie & Zafar going out in a limo to a black-tie event



Carrie's high school graduation picture



Carrie with 5 months old Greg



Carrie, relaxing at her home in Los Angeles



Carrie & Greg out on one of the first family vacations to Point Lobos Nature Reserve in Carmel, California



1998 Australian vacation: Carrie, Zafar & Greg in Sydney



2004 European vacation: Carrie & Zafar in London



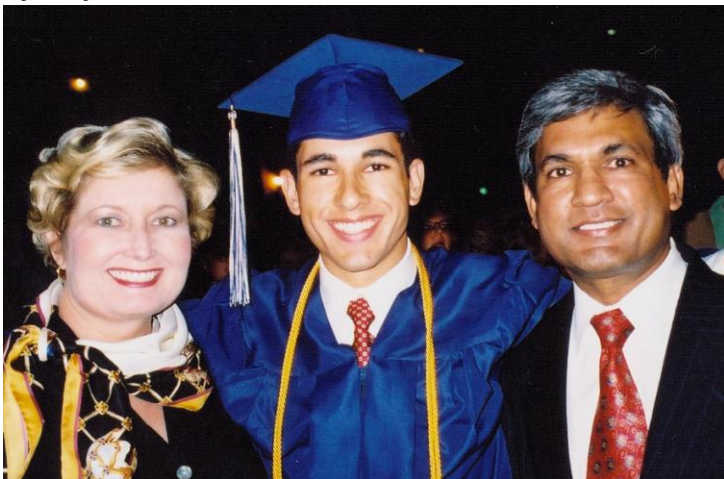
1998: Carrie loved holding a real live Koala bear in Sydney Zoo



2010: Carrie, Zafar & Greg in Carmel, California



Diane's dog, Francis, with the picnic table placed in Carrie's honor, in the Piney Woods area of Point Lobos State Nature Reserve, Carmel, California. Friends of CMF are invited to stop by and picnic on this table when visiting the Carmel/Monterey area.



2003 : Carrie and Zafar at Greg's high school graduation

**To Friends of CMF: Your ongoing support and donations to CMF are very much appreciated. CMF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable tax-exempt organization. All contributions, gifts and bequests donated to CMF are tax deductible under Federal and California State income tax guidelines. To apply towards 2013 income tax, please mail your donations postmarked by December 31st to the address on the front page. A certified receipt to prove your donation for tax deduction purposes will be mailed to you. You may also donate using credit card or Paypal on our website. Also, please mark your calendar for our 2nd Annual "Haute Dog Picnic" and fundraising event that will be held on Saturday, May 17th, 2014 at TeWinkle Park in Costa Mesa, California. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Tickets may be obtained by mailing a check or using credit card or Paypal on our website, [www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](http://www.CarrieMehdiFoundation.org). Please email any questions or comments to [dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org](mailto:dejones@CarrieMehdiFoundation.org)**