

Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

Volume 1, Issue 1, July 2006

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A New Venture for WWR!

Welcome to our first issue of Wisconsin Westie Rescue Newsletter! We're excited to begin this new project and plan to do a new issue every four months. Our goal with the newsletter is to connect all of our volunteers, adoptive homes and friends of the rescue together to share news, stories and advocate for our favorite little white dogs! This is your newsletter so please send us anything you think other Wisconsin Westie Rescue members would like to read or know about. Please see page 6 for more information on how to submit a story. Deadline is November 1st, 2006. Let's hear from you!! ☺

FOSTER HOME APPEAL

WWR is actively seeking new foster homes for rescue Westies and Westie mixes. If you love the breed, have some experience with the often winning and sometimes challenging ways of Westies and live in Wisconsin, Minnesota or northern Illinois consider opening your home and your heart to a foster dog.

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Pearl at home with the Robinson family

Pearl's Story by Michelle Robinson

When we came across Pearl on the website, our hearts went out to her. We already had one Westie and knew we could handle another one. So, we began the process to adopt her. Throughout the process, I kept thinking that this was a good thing we were doing...that Pearl needed a good home and we could provide one. However, what I did not expect was just how much our home would benefit from Pearl.

Pearl, like many rescue dogs I have heard, eats up every bit of love we give her. She is the sweetest dog we have ever had. She has such a spirit and such love to give. I think some of this is due to the fact that she has had such a bad life. But, I also think that in every rescue dog there is a spirit and a love that can brighten any home.

Pearl's Story continues on page 3

What is Fostering All About?

Continued from page 1

Westies and Westie mixes come into rescue from shelters, retired from breeding mills and directly from owners who must surrender their dogs due to family concerns or conditions. Some dogs are house trained while other dogs are not. You can state a preference if you'd consider fostering a dog that has issues with house training.

Some dogs are healthy and up to date on vet care while other dogs may have allergies, untreated infections, diabetes or other illnesses we must assess and treat before the dogs are placed. Again you can state what types of dogs you'd consider having in your home. Only you know what works with your family and your schedule and we will work within your parameters.

Some foster dogs are puppies but most are adult dogs. Some are socialized, some are shy and some think they can rule the world, but no matter where they are on the socialization spectrum, all of them need love while being evaluated before placement in permanent homes.

Most dogs that come into rescue are not perfect, not yet anyway. The foster home is where they start on the road to Westie perfection. The foster family assesses their temperament, gives them basic "Good Dog" training (how to walk on a leash, how to ride in a car, not to potty in the house, how to climb the stairs, etc.), takes them to the vet (WWR pays the bills) and, first and foremost, loves them like their own until the day the forever family adopts them.

The amount of time a Wisconsin Westie Rescue dog is in foster care will vary from a couple of weeks on up to several months depending on the individual dog. Let us know if you'd consider a special needs dog that would require the extra time and care. We're always looking for those unique individuals who have the time to spend with a dog who needs a little (or a lot) of extra TLC!

To become a foster parent you either need to already have adopted a Westie from us or you'll need to fill out our Foster Home

Application, have your references checked and finally a home visit done.

Other Ways to help besides Fostering

Not able to foster for WWR? There are other ways you can help. The number of Westies we can help is dependent on available resources: foster home openings, money to pay vet expenses, and volunteers to transport the dogs. We need volunteers to plan and carry out or assist with fund raising projects, transport dogs from shelters or homes to foster care, make home visits to approve adoption applications, and assist in other ways too numerous to mention.

Have questions about fostering or other volunteer opportunities? Feel free to contact Laura at Westies@new.rr.com. Come volunteer with us and Change Lives One Westie At A Time! ☺

Karin's Naa Ner- Naa Ner



Banana Biscuits

Perfect for allergy-prone dogs!

Recipe by Karin Parish, Washington State Westie and Scottie rescue

- 2 Ripe bananas smashed
- 3 Tablespoons canola oil (not corn oil)
- 2 Tablespoons of Honey
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 Cups regular white flour (not wheat)

DIRECTIONS: Combine bananas, oil, spices and honey in bowl and stir well. Add flour and stir in and form a ball. If it feels too sticky, knead in a little more flour to make it like a soft bread dough.

Roll on floured board to ¼ thickness. Cut with cookie cutter. Bake on a parchment covered cookie sheet in a 350 degree oven for 35-40 minutes. Makes 4 dozen. YUM! ☺



Pearl at home with Payton Robinson

Pearl's Adoption Story: Foster Family

Continued from page 1

By Carol & Cheryl Cutsforth

Pearl came into rescue February 2, 2005, picked up at a small puppy mill located in west central Wisconsin. Pearl was 6 ½ years old and had spent her whole life having puppies, from her first heat until she was "retired" to Wisconsin Westie Rescue. She came into rescue a sweet, friendly little Westie but with health issues that had gone untreated including a chronic eye infection, a very large bladder stone and a rectal polyp as well as needing to be spayed and have all her vaccinations updated.

Pearl's good nature never failed her, though, despite being spayed, having a bladder stone removed and a rectal polyp repaired all in the same surgery. In addition to all of that, Pearl needed a lot of dental work done including having some teeth removed. She came to WWR volunteer, De Onne Moser's home with plenty of pain medications and began treatment for her eye infection.

Although Pearl's luck had changed for the better in rescue, her challenges were not over. It is rare for a Westie adopted through WWR to be returned to us, but Pearl had one more challenge to face. The person who adopted Pearl developed serious health problems that prevented her from keeping Pearl. It was a hard decision, emotionally wrenching for both Pearl and her caregiver, but on August 21, 2005 Pearl came back to WWR to be placed once again.

Pearl's foster home this time around was with Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth. In the time since we had last seen her, Pearl had developed glaucoma in one eye from the years of untreated eye infections.

But Pearl's travail had not soured her disposition. She still liked everyone she met, dog and human alike. She still liked to collect all her special toys in her special place and then lie down in front of them so nobody would notice all the loot she had hidden in there. Pearl missed her loving companion, of course, but it is part of the charm of Westies that they usually quickly learn to love again. Pearl quickly adapted to her new foster home, enjoying car rides, walks on a leash and sleeping in bed with Carol and Coco, our 16 year old Westie.

While in foster with Carol and Cheryl, Pearl embarked on a busy social whirl, attending the Wisconsin Westie Rescue annual get-together and the Small Paws Bichon Frise Rescue picnic where an innocent stranger put down a plate of leftover food only to find Pearl snarfing it down eagerly. Pearl liked those rescue picnics very much indeed, and thought there ought to be one of those to go to every single weekend.

In September Michelle Robinson contact WWR about adopting Pearl after seeing her on the website. Michelle insisted it was Fate, that Pearl was meant to live with the Robinson family. October 2, 2005, Pearl once again found a home to call her own. And Michelle was right, it WAS a perfect match!

All of us, WWR volunteers and the two families who adopted Pearl, worked together and together we changed Pearl's life. That's what we do in Wisconsin Westie Rescue, change lives one Westie at a time! ☺

OUR CURRENT FOSTERS

Josie



Josie is an 8 year old former mill dog currently being fostered by Cheryl and Carol Cutsforth in Eau Claire. Josie is a shy little girl who is working on potty training, walking on a leash and dealing with sudden loud noises. Sweet and possessing the longest of eyelashes, this little lady is well on her way to finding her special forever family.

Frosty



Here's Frosty! *By Foster Mom Kris Thommesen*

Frosty is a 7 year old Westie/Maltese mix from the Milwaukee area. His senior, female owner had passed away, and he was probably very lonely, not understanding all the changes. It's amazing how resilient Westies are! He looks like a Westie but has a Maltese, fluffy, circular tail. It reminds me of the 4th of July holiday season---fireworks spiraling up into the sky. He's such a little sweetheart---weighing 13 pounds. Being quite shy and calm, we didn't hear his bark for over a week. Whenever you sit on the couch to read or watch TV, Frosty is right there next to you. He's a lap dog! He probably was his former owner's constant companion.

Would Frosty ever play with Wilson, our 4 1/2 year old, spunky Westie? Yes!!! They have chased each other in the house and have even played tug-of-war. Balls are favorite toys, along with fuzzy doggie toys. Walks in the neighborhood together are the best, hitting most trees and bushes along the way. And when they return home, after each one gets a treat, Wilson and Frosty have curled up on the same loveseat in the sun.

So, when Frosty finds his forever home, will they miss each other? They might, but not for long, because Frosty will find a new owner that loves and appreciates him, and Wilson will move on to the next foster dog. And while Wilson waits for that next foster dog, he knows that he's definitely top dog and enjoys all our love and attention.

Lilly

Lilly is a 6 year old Westie female who is being fostered by Robert and Maureen Wilson. The Wilsons are keeping a diary for us on Lilly's life in her foster home. We will start Lilly's journey here in this edition and will continue her story in our November edition. Thanks Robert and Maureen for sharing your time with Lilly with other WWR members!!



Lilly's Diary *by Robert & Maureen Wilson*

6/23/2006

Maureen and Michelle (our daughter) drove to Rochester, MN to pick up Lilly from her owner. Maureen said there were plenty of tears from the owner in giving her up. Maureen said Lilly did have an accident that evening but no big deal. The owner said that she was giving her up for that very reason. They were getting new carpet and didn't want Lilly to continue to do that. I've never heard of a dog that didn't have an accident once in a while. Lucy and Lilly seemed to hit it off pretty well.

6/25/2006

I just got back from a weekend outing of Amateur Radio to meet Lilly. She was a little shy at first but Lucy helped break that as the "LuLu Bear" was jumping all over the place and kissing me like crazy! Lilly came over to check me out and I must have passed pretty well. The first thing that came to mind was how close in size, shape and coloration she was to Lucy. Wesley, our first foster was a lot bigger than Lucy. As the evening grew to a close, she warmed up pretty well.

6/26/2006

We learned this morning that Lilly does not like ironing boards. Maureen was setting

ours up and Lilly was about to come unglued. She barked and growled and even bit at it. You'd have thought she had a squirrel cornered and was in for a fight. That evening, Lucy and Lilly seemed to like to rough house for our entertainment.

6/27/2006

We went to the groomer for Lucy's appointment and Jessica (the groomer) said that she had time to touch up Lilly too so off they both went. Lilly had a cut that looked more like a Silky than a Westie. Long hair over the ears definitely a different look. Came back awhile later and they looked like twins! We had to look at the collars at first to tell them apart. Was that a shock!

6/28/2006

I'm noticing that Lilly really does have a problem with separation anxiety. If you go outside, she'll sit by the door and whine for a while to get you to let her out but as soon as you are back in she's right there wanting back in. She's never more than 10 feet away. She does have preference for Maureen. I think I rank #2.

6/29/2006

Lilly does a few tricks. She'll come to a whistle and she'll sit pretty for a treat. She isn't a lap dog but she likes to share the couch with you. She lets you touch her on her terms unless you just reach down and snatch her up. She lets Maureen hold her like a baby looking over her shoulder but not me.

6/30/2006

I was home today all day and was never left alone. Either one or both dogs were always next to me. I started to play a little rough with Lilly to see how she reacted. She would grab my hand with her mouth but she never bit hard. She likes to get a little feisty too. Tug O War was a good game played. I tried to get her and Lucy to play but dog jealousy usually intervened.

7/1/2006

We've been taking the dogs for a walk most nights. Lilly does pretty well. She doesn't heel but she stops to smell enough that she isn't pulling too much. We've been walking about a mile at a time.

7/2/2006

Our daughter Michelle and our grandson Hayden came over today and Lilly just couldn't wait to see him. He's 3 ½ months old. Lilly jumped up on the couch where Michelle set Hayden and Lilly got so excited she just had to kiss him on his feet! She was very attentive to Hayden while he was there today.

7/4/2006

We all went to the farm today. Lilly got to meet 2 Bassets, a Coon hound, numerous cats, horses and 5 kids ages 4 – 13. She was great with them all. She really wanted to check out those barn cats but they didn't want to have anything to do with her. The other dogs and she were just one more in the pack. Lucy is used to this. "Controlled chaos" is close to how our family events can sometimes get and Lilly did fine. She was great with all of the kids. We took her to the fireworks display this evening in Westby and she wasn't bothered by them either.

7/5/2006

We took the dogs on a 3 miler (walk) today on the bike trail just to see how Lilly would do. She did OK; she was tired and she slept well but she did it. Lucy does it regularly so she is in shape for it. Lilly could use a little more building to do it on a regular basis.

Please check back with us in November to see how this sweet little lady is doing on her journey to her forever home. ☺

Forever Home Found!! Roxy

Roxy, a 1 year old female Westie mix who was fostered by Jennifer Ipsen in Madison, has found her forever home. This lucky little lady, now named Madisen, has been adopted and is making her new home in with her mom, Brenda in Wheaton Illinois! Good luck and congratulations to your both from Wisconsin Westie Rescue! ☺

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Come check out Holiday eBay offerings! We will be listing new items on October 1st-8th. Our user ID is wwestierescue Please contact Barbara Peden at 59barbie@charter.net or phone 715-832-6926 after 7:00 pm. if you have items to donate for auction.

November 4th Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held in Eau Claire WI at The Grooming Hut, 121 W. Grand Ave., Eau Claire WI. Please contact Cheryl or Carol Cutsforth at 715-839-7831 for more information or to donate items for the bazaar.

November 5-12. More eBay offerings listed. ☺

Submitting a story to our newsletter

It's easy to add to our rescue story! Just email Barbara at 59barbie@charter.net or Cheryl at cutsfocl@uwec.edu with your story or mail it to B. Peden, 1332 Armstrong PL., Eau Claire WI 54701. Nov 1st. 2006 is our next deadline for submission of stories or events. Let's hear from you!

Thanks!

We'd like to thank the following volunteers for contributing their time and writing skills with this newsletter. Without their input, this newsletter would not be possible! A big thank you goes to Michelle Robinson, Robert and Maureen Wilson, Kris Thommesen, Laura Stafford, Karin Parish and Cheryl and Carol Cutsforth for their contributions. ☺

