

# Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

## CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

Volume 1, Issue 2, November 2006

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### Giving Thanks!

As we look forward to the holiday season and the new year, we give thanks to all of those who make WWR such a great group of individuals and families! We extend our warmest wishes to everyone in our WWR family who have helped make huge differences in the lives of Westies, Westie mixes and their families! You're the Best!

In this issue we will profile two of our Westies, Tasha and Frosty, who found their forever homes through WWR. From their stories we can see both dog and their forever family are grateful to have found each other through WWR.

Please see page 3 for ways you can help WWR and keep making a difference one Westie at a time! ☺

#### **Tasha:** by Jerry & Dianne Poe

Tasha, aka Betsy, aka Bertie became a part of our family in August of 2005. We'd never been involved with a rescue organization, never even heard of one for that matter, and after all the paperwork and the home visit we were finally blessed with a call saying that there was a dog available at one of the foster sites that we could visit to see if she met our needs and we met hers. I must say I was very impressed with the care and concern for these animals that had already been through so much. I cannot begin to say enough about what a great organization this is.

As you may have guessed "Tasha" returned home with us that afternoon. It was a change for her, for us and for our four cats! She adjusted better than any dog we've ever had before. After a few months she started to play with some toys, something that I'm sure was new to her. She even plays with our youngest cat as long as she doesn't feel that he threatens her place in our lives. She's not always real good at sharing but we continue to work on this. I've come to the conclusion that if anyone should ever break into our home we wouldn't be able to hide and go undetected. She's quite the barker and growler when anyone comes into the house.

So much for stealth! We're at least warned ahead of time. She accompanies us to work everyday and is a nice addition to the office. The first time we had to board her she stuck pretty close to the owner but we've been told that she now runs and plays with the other dogs and is in the thick of things. She is a confident and secure little girl, unlike the dog we acquired last fall. She has been a blessing. ☺

#### **Frosty's Story** by Jill Markgraf

Coming to us from his infinitely kind and helpful foster family--Kris, Tom and Wilson Thommesen--Frosty's new life was sure to be very different from the one he had always known. Having spent his first seven years with recently deceased septuagenarians, life

*Frosty's story continues on page 2*

## ***Frosty's Story from page 1***

with an active, busy family of four was sure to be a new adventure.

We will never know what Frosty's life was like before, but we are guessing that in his previous life he never:

- rode in a kayak
- went tent camping for a week (and delighted in the discovery of a beaver carcass on the beach)
- attended a slumber party with nine 10-year-old adoring girls
- rocked out to the tunes at outdoor concerts in the park
- cruised State Street in Madison
- delighted neighbors as he rode around town in a bike basket
- fell in love and went on daily walks with the enchanting Chihuahua next door
- went trick-or-treating dressed as a clown
- hung out with an electric guitar player

But those are some of the things he's doing now. Whatever Frosty's past, we are pretty certain that he was adored. A dog with such a sweet, affectionate and friendly disposition must have grown up with a lot of love.

Frosty has been with us since the end of July, and in this short time he has won over not only our hearts, but those of our friends and family. Grandma, who previously declared that no dogs would be allowed in her house, made an exception for Frosty. ("I think he likes me," she said.) The neighbors, who have long watched our daughter Alida gush over every dog in the neighborhood, are delighted to see her finally able to gush over a dog of her own. Frosty and Alida are thick as thieves, and the thing Frosty seems to hate most is the school bus that takes Alida away every morning. Despite his frantic barking and warnings, she still climbs aboard that evil bus day after day. As agitated as he gets in the morning, he knows no joy greater than when that school bus brings her back in the afternoon.

Frosty is not the only one adapting to change. We are too. Those cooing baby

voices we haven't used since our children were toddlers have re-emerged. Even our teenaged son, who mocked us for being smitten with this dog, caught himself "talking baby-talk and asking Frosty questions he can't possibly answer." There is, quite simply, no maintaining one's cool when in the presence of a charmer like Frosty.



*Frosty and Alida Halloween 2006*

People who stop to pet Frosty and ask about him, upon hearing of how we adopted him through Westie Rescue, inevitably shake their heads and exclaim, "He got lucky." We like to think he did. But when we think of how he makes us laugh and how he has managed to bring out a more tender and playful quality in our family, we know that we are the ones who got lucky. ☺

*Do you have a story to tell about your Westie adopted from WWR? Please send it to us at [59barbie@charter.net](mailto:59barbie@charter.net) and we'll get it printed in a newsletter and posted on our website! Photos optional. ☺*

## 7 Ways Help WWR in 2007!

There are so many ways you can contribute to WWR in 2007 and you can even start right now in 2006! We can always use you help! Come volunteer with us and Change Lives One Westie At A Time!

1. Financial donations. Our vet bills for September & October were over \$2350.00 so money is always urgently needed if we are to continue to operate. Remember your donation is tax deductible!
2. Donate items to our annual thrift sale! Household items, tools, toys and more are needed (no clothing please). Contact Cheryl or Carol Cutsforth for more information!
3. Transport dogs. We need volunteers to drive our incoming dogs to their foster homes. Please let Cheryl Cutsforth, our volunteer coordinator, know if you maybe able to help.
4. Foster a Westie. Got a little extra love to offer? WWR is always looking for foster homes. We pay the vet bills and you provide the love and basic good dog manners. Have questions? Feel free to contact Laura at [Westies@new.rr.com](mailto:Westies@new.rr.com).
5. Recruit Forever homes for Westies. If you know someone who would make a great family for one of our Westies, encourage them to fill out an application to adopt. Applications are available to download at [www.wisconsinwestierescue.com](http://www.wisconsinwestierescue.com) or email Lynn Sawyer our adoption coordinator at [weehaven@wctc.net](mailto:weehaven@wctc.net).
6. Be crafty and donate your creations to our annual Holiday Bazaar every Novemeber. Contact Cheryl at 715-839-7831 or email [cutsfocl@uewc.edu](mailto:cutsfocl@uewc.edu)
7. Donate items to sell or auction on eBay! Contact Barbara Peden at 715-832-6926 after 7:00 pm or email her at [59barbie@charter.net](mailto:59barbie@charter.net) for more information!

Have other ideas not listed? GREAT!! We hope our top 7 list gets your volunteering ideas rolling!! ☺

## Foster News!!

### Looking for Homes:



Grace

Grace is a wonderful petite (10 lb) Westie rescued from a breeder auction in WI. She comes with papers but due to her short tail and slightly weaker back leg, she was not bought by a breeder. Grace is 2 years old with a sweet playful Westie personality. She is currently recovering from being spayed and evaluated for her leg. Grace loves to snuggle, chase small balls, chew on rawhide and is working on her housetraining. She is very, very smart and open to meeting any human or animal. Anne Plouff is her foster mom in Milwaukee.

Annie

Annie is a 1 year old female turned over to WWR following the October 14<sup>th</sup> dog auction in Thorp WI. Blind in one eye due to a congenital defect, Annie is being fostered by new WWR volunteer Ann Marie in Brookfield WI. Annie is outgoing, playful and full of Westitude! Ann Marie says this little girl is doing wonderfully on house training and is ready to meet her forever family and bring joy to their home!

Baby Girl

Still another Westie puppy! Born June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006, this little girl comes from a puppy mill in southern WI. Just entering rescue, this

little one will be heading to her foster home with Tom and Kris in Madison.

### ***Forever Homes Found!***

#### **FROSTY**

Frosty, a 7 year old Westie Mix previously fostered by the Thommesens of Madison has found his forever home with the Markgraf family in Eau Claire (see article pg 1). Way to go Frosty!

#### **Buddy age 6**

Came into rescue as an owner turn in and now joins his forever family with dad Gary A. Best of Luck!!

#### **Buddy Puppy**

This lucky little guy was an owner turn in and joins his new family in Rockford Ill. where he is off to agility training with his kid! Good luck!

#### **Rory**

Rory was an owner turn after his owner became serious ill. Rory joins his forever family Maureen and Robert Wilson who also was his foster family. Another successful Fostering 101 failure!

#### **Annie**

Rory's daughter who was surrendered at the same time as her dad has found her forever home with her mom Barbara H here in Wisconsin. All the best to you both.

#### **Cody & Katie**

These two senior dogs, a bonded brother and sister were an owner turn in who found a wonderful forever family right here in Wisconsin.

#### **Paris**

Paris was an owner turn in after the owner was given a 'gift' of a puppy and couldn't

handle this bundle of love. Her foster family lost their heart to this little waif of a puppy and she will stay with Barbara, Blaine and daughter Micaela and her two Westie sisters!

#### **Josie**

Josie found her forever family when Cheryl and Carol Cutsforth adopted this sweet and shy little foster girl! Josie is currently enjoying to good life with her sister Amanda and especially likes cooked chicken and rice for dinner and her special bed by the kitchen.

#### **Molly**

Molly came to WWR at 11 weeks of age as an owner turn in due to personal reasons. This delightful little girl fostered by the Peden family is making her forever home in Eau Claire with Steve and Pam and their Westies Spencer and Ellie. Our best to all of you!

#### **Lilly**

*Lilly is a 6 year old Westie female fostered by Robert and Maureen Wilson. Robert kept a diary for us and we will finish Lilly's journey to her forever home with Jean Birkett! Thanks Robert and Maureen!*

Lilly spent the rest of the next month with us. She was paired up with Jean Birkett through WWR. Jean is retired from teaching, although I don't think she will ever retire completely (she is just so full of life). Jean mentioned she was familiar with Westies as she took care of her son's Westie a few years earlier. Jean asked if we would be willing to help her out by keeping Lilly for a little while so she could finish a book she was writing. She was in the process of finishing up the work with the publisher and she wanted to devote time to Lilly and the book would be in the way of doing that. Of course we said yes. Lilly was a sweet dog and Lucy and she got along great. We got another month to take walks with her on the bike trail, and she and Lucy would keep the evil squirrels away in the backyard.

Maureen and I were glad to see that Jean wanted to totally focus on Lilly. Lilly would know that she had a home in which she

could feel comfortable with an owner who could give her the attention that she needed and deserved.

Lilly went to live with Jean on August 9, 2006 in Richland Center, WI. Jean told us she has a nice back yard and plenty of squirrels for Lilly to chase. That absolutely must be a Westies favorite game because I haven't seen one yet who just doesn't go ballistic at the sight of a squirrel. Anyway, in the end it was difficult to see Lilly go but I knew she was a great match for her new forever home.



### **Pumpkin dog biscuits** recipe adapted for allergy prone Dogs

½ Cup Canned Pumpkin or Sweet Potatoes  
½ Cup Water  
2 Tablespoons safflower oil or canola (**not corn oil**)  
½ tsp each cinnamon and nutmeg (or pumpkin pie spice)  
¼ Cup Brown Sugar  
2 Cups regular white flour (**not whole wheat**)

**DIRECTIONS:** Combine pumpkin, water, oil, spices and brown sugar in bowl and stir. If dough feels too sticky, knead in a little more flour. Roll on floured board to ¼ thickness. Cut with cookie cutter.

Bake on parchment covered cookie sheet. Makes 4 dozen small or 2 dozen large dog biscuits. Bake for 35-40 minutes in preheated 350 degrees oven. **YUM!**

### *Upcoming Calendar of Events*

Come check out Holiday eBay offerings! We will be listing new items throughout Nov-early Dec. Our eBay user ID is [wiwestierescue.com](http://wiwestierescue.com).

November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Bazaar in Eau Claire WI at The Grooming Hut, 121 W. Grand Ave., Eau Claire WI.

November 12<sup>th</sup> 18th Annual Dog Fair, sponsored by the Badger Kennel Club of Madison. WWR will be hosting a booth in the Ballroom of the Marriott Hotel in Middleton (off hwy 12). Set up begins at 8 am and the event goes through 5pm. Lynn Sawyer will be the WWR rep for this event. Stop by if you're in the area!

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Deadline to submit news items or stories for our next newsletter. Let's hear from you!

### **In Memory of Coco**

On July 28th, Coco, the Grand Dame of WWR crossed the Rainbow Bridge at age 17 after spending her final two years with Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth. This issue of our newsletter is generously sponsored by the Cutsforths in memory of Coco. We are including excerpts from a letter written by Jordon Troka, the granddaughter of Coco's first family who were happy to know Coco had a wonderful WWR family.

*My mother and I will be eternally grateful to you, Cheryl and Carol, for taking care of our dearest Coco and I want to support the wonderful program in which you participate... I am so touched that people like you exist and open your hearts and homes to these dogs! ...Whenever I think of Coco, I will always also think of the Cutsforths for their love and kindness.*

If you would like to honor a special Westie or friend of Westies, sponsoring an issue of WWR newsletter is a great way to tell the WWR family how important that individual was in your life. You can sponsor the newsletter in 3 different ways: printing costs (\$25.00), postage costs (\$35.00) or full newsletter (\$60.00). This issue is in memory of Coco Cutsforth and Rose and Ping Peden. Please send your donations to newsletter editor Barbara Peden at 1332 Armstrong Place, Eau Claire WI 54701. Make checks payable to WWR. Feel free to send a story and photos if you'd like.

## End of Year Appeal!

Your tax deductible donation to WWR is a wonderful way to help Westies and get a break on your 2006 taxes! Clip and send the coupon below with your donation to WWR or make a secure online donation via Paypal to [www.wisconsinwestierescue.com](http://www.wisconsinwestierescue.com) and click on the donate link! Thanks to you and your generosity, we can continue to make a difference One Westie at a Time!

## Comments??

Do you prefer an electronic copy rather than paper copy of the newsletter? Email me at [59barbie@charter.net](mailto:59barbie@charter.net) and I'll put you on the list to receive your newsletter via email. Prefer no newsletter? Just let me know and I'll remove you from our list.

**Thanks!!**

Thanks to Jerry & Dianne Poe, Jill Markgraf, Cheryl Cutsforth and Robert Wilson!

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