

# Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

## CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

Volume 5, Issue 3, Nov, 2008

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### Thankful for WWR

One of the best things about being the editor of the WWR newsletter is I often get to be this first to read the rescue stories and see all of the photos of our WWR 'graduates' before sharing them with our newsletter readers and posting them on our website! Nothing warms the heart more than receiving these wonderful stories and photos and knowing what a difference WWR has made in the lives of so many families. It's clear to me that adoption through WWR creates a special bond that lasts a lifetime!

In this issue we are featuring several of our Alums and their new forever families. One of the common themes running through each story is how thankful these families and their dogs are for finding one another through adoption. I think you will agree that together we are making a difference One Westie at a Time! Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays from WWR!

### **Katie!**

*by Lori and Corrin Oudenhoven*

A year ago last May, my daughter and I adopted Katie from Westie Rescue. From the moment we met Katie, who was being fostered by Ann Marie Lubert, we knew she belonged in our family. Ann Marie did an amazing job fostering Katie. She is such a neat person and we were blessed to have her be Katie's "foster mom."



*Katie*

When we first brought Katie home, she lived up to her nickname of "Katie the Wonder Dog." She was able to knock down and chew through baby gates, bust through screen doors, and move her kennel across the floor. We were amazed. We are glad to report that Katie no longer does this. It took her sometime to adjust to our home and to trust us, after we showed her how much we wanted her and gave her the love she so deserved. We had to teach her to fetch toys, which she loves to do now. She also loves go under our beds until we say, "where's Katie?" and she peeks her head out and gets very excited that we found her. Katie also loves to take walks. We take her for walks around our neighborhood, the beach and different trails. Katie also likes to take car rides. This past March, we took her on our vacation Arkansas. She was such a good little traveler and enjoyed the trip as much as we did.

This past February Katie celebrated her 6th birthday and we hope she celebrates many more birthdays with us. She is a wonderful dog and great companion.

*Sissy by Donna Palmquist*



*Sissy*

Here is an update on Sissy. We have been very busy and we have been adjusting to each other. We just love her and so does everyone that meets her! She is the perfect dog for us. She

and the cat have continued to work on their relationship and they are close to being good friends. She loves our neighbor lady and even got along with her cranky old dog until he passed away. Now my neighbor comes over when I am at work and borrows Sissy for an afternoon companion.

Sissy has continued to walk me every day, morning and night. She is my constant companion except when she is playing with the cat or watching out the window for squirrels. She is a great cuddler, greeter, watchdog and pan-licker.

She loves her daddy, too, although he watches too many noisy movies to her taste. She does like to walk in the woods with him. She has gotten much better at riding in the car and hasn't thrown up for a whole month.

I know there are lots of other tidbits of her life that I could share with you but that is enough for now. We are so grateful that your organization exists and we thank you for the care you use in placing the dogs.

### **Good Sport Hudson!** *By Gale Price*



Hudson had adjusted well to his new adoptive home. He was greeted by his big sister Chocolate Lab Dakota upon arrival at home. He has adjusted well to the almost nightly walks in the neighborhood with Dakota and his adoptive parents Gale and Mandy. He enjoys the occasional rough house play and chasing Dakota when allowed. An occasional visit to the local dog park is made when time and bathing permits. When not being the energetic Westie that he usually is, he lays on Gale's lap for some petting and watching the Brewers or Packers.

In the above photo he is demonstrating his fumble recovery ability for the current football

season. The second photo is Hudson and Gale just before watching an important Packers game.



Gale and Mandy are very thankful for the opportunity to adopt Hudson through Wisconsin Westie Rescue and it appears that Hudson is thankful for that also.

### **My Name is Libby!**

*By Libby Lehmann*



Libby!!

My name is Libby. I am a 7 year old Westie girl. I was adopted by my forever family in April of 2007. My mom always says she should write a letter about my adoption but she is so busy, so I thought I would help her out. She doesn't know I'm writing and I want to keep it that way, otherwise she may think I have the time to write our Christmas letter this year too!

Like I said, I came to my family in April of 2007. Before that time I had been a puppy mill mama. Since coming to my family I have come to enjoy many things. One of the greatest is going on walks and visiting with all my friends in the neighborhood. I am especially partial to visiting with a few Golden Retrievers on our walk. Mom wonders why I especially get excited when I see them, and not some of the other breeds, but at this point she just doesn't understand "bark" enough for me to explain.

There are two younger human boys who live with me, also Mom & Dad, and a bird! When I first came there was also a Black Lab named Chloe, who introduced me to many things in our yard. This past summer I lost my friend Chloe to death. In Chloe's final weeks I was the one who told Mom when Chloe had to go out, (her

arthritis was so bad it was hard for her to get Mom so I did), I was the one who first informed Mom of Chloe's seizures and I was the one who kept Chloe company. It was a sad day when Chloe left us. I didn't want to go out in the yard alone. Chloe always went with me. Eventually, over the summer, I did start going out when Mom was in the garden. All the squirrels, rabbits and chipmunks kept me busy and I soon forgot about being afraid to go out alone.

My boys keep me busy as well. If it were up to them, I would get many more treats. As it is Mom wonders how the treats disappear so fast when no one takes responsibility for giving them to me. As for me, I'm not talking! Mom seems to think I need to watch my weight. Fortunately my walks have slimmed me down, this summer, to a svelte 20 lbs.!

I guess that's all I have to say for now. I really enjoy my home. I take my kitchen floor patrol and back yard varmint patrol very seriously, and I think my family appreciates it.

I am very grateful to the Westie Rescue for giving me a second chance for a good life. I don't know where I would be without them.

Take care, and remember if anyone asks, you have no idea who wrote this lovely letter about me!

Forever grateful and forever home,

Libby

### Rescue Dogs Can Fulfill A Dream

*By Judith Wagner*

Our first Westie was age 11 when she died of pneumonia. We had learned of the Wisconsin Westie Rescue (WWR) and decided adoption would be the best way to fill our emptiness and share our home with a Westie in need.



Marlee!

A female named Sweetpea (now Marlee) became available. She had White Shaker Dog Syndrome.(WSS), the cause of which is

unknown, but is thought to be neurological. If treated early the symptoms can decrease. It does not affect life span or the ability to share love and affection.

[http://www.westieclubamerica.com/health/white\\_shaker.html](http://www.westieclubamerica.com/health/white_shaker.html)

Marlee was saved from life in a Puppy Mill, where she would be in a cage and used for breeding her entire life. She was lovingly fostered by WWR volunteers, immediately treated and her symptoms decreased. She has an occasional "head bobble" when watching chipmunks or squirrels, but otherwise she is a most loving, caring companion.

Rescue volunteers nurture dogs that need to be transitioned from less than favorable circumstances, so that they can feel safe and secure. These volunteers make it possible for families to adopt dogs that have begun their journey to a life filled with love and security. That is their unselfish gift.

A rescue dog is a unique gift to the adoptive family. They give you an opportunity to receive love and dedication from an animal that has been saved. Your gift is to give them "a forever home" where unconditional love can be shared.

### Foster news

#### *Looking for a home*



Scruffy is a darling Westie mix with loads of terrier attitude! She came to us as a stray and is estimated she is about 2 years of age. Scrappy is fostered in Onalaska and the potential adoptive family will need to travel there to meet her. Please contact Lynn at [weehaven@wctc.net](mailto:weehaven@wctc.net) or on our website <http://www.wisconsinwestierescue.com/gallery1-4-scruffy.htm> for more information on Scruffy.



Lionel and Richie, a bonded pair of male Westies 8 ½ years of age, are looking for a forever home together. There is currently an adoption application pending on this pair!



Scrappy is a 2 year old Westie male turned over to rescue because he was not a good match for a very active child. We currently have an adoption application pending for Scrappy.



Betsy is a sweet and energetic 3 year old puppy mill survivor. Cute as a button and twice as smart, Betsy is ready to adopt and become the center of your universe! Betsy is fostered in Eau Claire and her potential adoptive family will need to travel there to meet her. Please contact Lynn at [weehaven@wctc.net](mailto:weehaven@wctc.net) or go to our website

<http://www.wisconsinwestierescue.com/gallery1-5-betsy.htm> for more information on Betsy!

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

*Julie*, our cute little Westie/schnauzer mix found her forever home with Michele and John. Best wishes to you all! Julie was fostered by Anne Plouff and Richard & Kay Straumann.

*Doc* found Sandra and together they are finding life together so much better than ever was apart! Jennifer Ipsen fostered Doc.

*Colt* found a special place to call home in Minnesota when he met LeAnne & David. Dawn and Mark Schepke fostered Colt.

*Bruno*, a 10 month old spit-fire found a perfect match with Amanda and Ian and is currently living in Madison. Deidre Elter fostered Bruno.

*Katie* looked around her foster home and decided this was the perfect place to call home forever! Congrats to Julie & Tom.

*Wonky* one of two 4 month old brothers found the perfect place to call home with two boys who love him as much as he loves them! Best Wishes to Wonky as he joins his kids Duncan & Willis and parents Lindsay and Glenn in Chicago. Wonky was fostered by first time foster parents Lana & Tom Olson.

*Westin*, Wonky's brother joins his new family Jeff & Anthony in Minneapolis. Life in the big city suits Westin just fine! Dawn and Mark Schepke fostered Westin.

*Reggie*, our spry senior found a very special mommy when Amy decided to make him hers forever! Julie & Tom Risen fostered Reggie.

*Misty* found her very special forever home when she met Tim & Pam. Misty was fostered by Kris and Tom Thommesen and their Westie Wilson!

*Marty* had a rough start in life but has found a wonderful new life with Vincent & Susan. Best wishes to all for a bright future. Cheryl & Carol Cutsforth fostered Marty.

*Sammi* charmed them and soon Katherine & John couldn't help but adopted this sweetheart! New foster parents, Teresa and John Prichard fostered Sammi!

*Georgie*, a lovable and handsome 3 year boy found Valerie and Dean and soon joined their family forever! Amy and Chris Fleming fostered.

### **Why Own a Dog**

*By an unknown poet*

Why own a dog? There's a danger you know,  
You can't own just one, for the craving will grow.

There's no doubt they're addictive, wherein lies the danger.

While living with lots, you'll grow poorer and stranger.

One dog is no trouble, and two are so funny.  
The third one is easy, the fourth one's a  
honey.  
The fifth one's delightful, the sixth one's a  
breeze,  
You find you can live with a houseful of ease.

So how 'bout another? Would you really dare?  
They're really quite easy but, oh, Lord the hair!  
With dogs on the sofa and dogs on the bed,  
And crates in the kitchen, it's no bother.

They're really no trouble, their manners are  
great.  
What's one more dog and just one more crate?  
The sofa is hairy, the windows are crusty,  
The floor is all footprints, the furniture dusty.

The housekeeping suffers, but what do you  
care?  
Who minds a few noseprints and a little more  
hair?  
So let's keep a puppy, you can always find  
room,  
And a little more time for the dust cloth and  
broom.

Your folks never visit, few friends come to  
stay,  
Except other "dog folks" who live the same way.  
Your lawn has now died, and your shrubs are  
dead too,  
But your weekends are busy, you're off with  
the crew.

There's dog food and vitamins, training and  
shots.  
Entries and travel and motels which cost lots.  
Is it worth it you wonder? Are you caught in a  
trap?  
Then that favorite one comes & climbs in your  
lap!

### Santa Paws!!

Here is a healthy version of a favorite frozen doggie  
treat! Try it with mashed sweet potatoes, applesauce  
or other favorite fruit or veggie!

32 oz container Vanilla Yogurt  
1 mashed ripe banana  
2 TBSP Peanut Butter  
2 TBSP honey

*Blend together the above ingredients and freeze  
in small paper cups (3oz) or in an ice cube tray.  
Yummy!!*

### Volunteer and Make a Difference!

Wanted! Any individual who would like to make  
a difference in the life of a Westie. This  
person should care more about helping a dog get  
a second chance at life than the looks of their  
carpet, furniture or woodwork. Must be patient  
with the dog (and sometime other WWR  
volunteers) and be a real team player! The pay  
comes in the form of a warm heart, lots of  
doggy kisses and the knowledge you made a  
difference in the life of the dog on his or her  
journey to a new forever home!

WWR is always looking for volunteers to help in  
many ways and we especially have an urgent  
need for more foster homes. WWR has seen a  
huge increase in the number of dogs coming into  
rescue and our ability to help these dogs lies  
first and foremost in having a foster home to  
place them into. We need both emergency  
short-term homes as well as longer-term foster  
homes. Please consider opening your heart and  
your home to foster a dog in need. You'll make  
new friends and be treasured by a dog and his  
or her new family forever. How great is that?  
For more information on becoming a foster  
home, please contact Cheryl at 715-839-7831  
or by email at [cutsfocl@uwec.edu](mailto:cutsfocl@uwec.edu) for more  
information and help us change lives one Westie  
at a Time!

*...And a Special WWR Thank You Goes To!*  
Our volunteers and adopters help us in so many  
ways and sometimes we need to acknowledge  
some of the special volunteers who go out of  
their way for WWR. You are appreciated!  
First we sadly wish good-bye to Ann Marie  
Lubert, one of our hardest working and most  
generous volunteers. We could always count on  
Ann Marie to say "yes" to fostering any dog any  
time. She has even been known to adopt out one  
foster dog in the morning and pick up her next  
that same afternoon. Ann Marie recently moved  
to Tennessee where she plans to form a much-  
needed Westie rescue group there. She leaves  
behind those wonderful WWR magnets she  
donated and the grateful memory of all she has  
done to Change Lives One Westie At A Time.

Also a big thank you to Judy Wagner for  
replenishing our supply of hand-made belly  
bands for those leaky unneutered Westie boys  
we get into rescue from time to time. Thanks

also, to Judy's groomer for donating many bags of Charlie Bear treats for the foster dogs and to Kendra Gefke for distributing them for us.

### WWR NEWS

#### *2008 Holiday Bazaar Results*

Our annual WWR Holiday bazaar held earlier this month was a big success and brought in over \$2000.00! Thanks to everyone who baked, crafted, donated, shopped or volunteered to work this sale! We'd especially like to say thank you to Maren Books and Jan Doud for the use of the Grooming Hut once again for this event.

### We ♥ Hearing From YOU!

We have two adorable photos submitted to us from our readers for this issue. First we have Kim Keller-Chicoine's dog Pippy lounging at his 'desk' in her office! That's the life!



Amy Wolfgram shared this cute Howl-Ween photo of her dogs Frodo and Samwise. Frodo (chicken) and Samwise (purple monkey) pose for Halloween photos. We hope they got plenty of yummy biscuits for these adorable costumes!



Do you have a photo to share? Jpeg photos work nicely or we will scan your printed photo. Please send photos and a brief description, or if the writing muse strikes, full rescue stories to us at the newsletter address below, or by email to [59barbie@charter.net](mailto:59barbie@charter.net). Deadline for next newsletter is March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. ☺

### Thanks!

We'd like to thank Donna Palmquist, Lori and Corrin Oudenhoven, Gale Price, Libby Lehmann, and Judith Wagner for their writing talents in this edition of our newsletter! ☺

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