

# Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

## CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

Volume 5, Issue 3, November 2010

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### Happy Holidays from WWR!

Wisconsin Westie Rescue has so much to be grateful for this holiday season. We faced some major challenges in the money department after having several medically challenged dogs over the past 2 years and you answered the call to help! We have so many awesome families that believe as we do that helping these little white dogs is not only the right thing to do but also adds so much to our own lives. Really, how many of us are as wonderful as our dogs' think we are? As a mom of a teenager, thank goodness for my dogs many days!

Enjoy the holidays with those you love (furry and not so furry) and know that you are in our best wishes for a wonderful and healthy 2011.

### Harley Jane

*By Maria Graf*



For the past 7 years, we have wanted a dog. We both grew up in "dog loving" families where the beloved pet was the center of the home. We knew we had to wait until our schedules allowed us to provide a wonderful home for a dog. In early 2010, we were ready for such an honor. Despite countless hours researching breeds and reading dog ads, in the end it was Harley who found us with the help of a neighbor with ties to a WWR volunteer.

Harley Joan became a member of our family on April 28th of 2010.

Each day we have Harley, we somehow manage to love her even more! We are continuously amazed at how smart she is, her charming curiosity, and how well she adapted to us and her new home despite so many changes in her life before adoption. She is a confident, self-assured, loving Westie girl. She loves treats, riding in cars, belly rubs, going on adventures and trips, lots of daily walks, and snuggling. She has quickly become a neighborhood favorite! In fact, our new names are "Harley's parents" when we are out walking.

We are so grateful to the Wisconsin Westie Rescue and all those who volunteer their time and energy to this incredible organization. We are especially grateful to Amy Zion and Kris, Tom and Wilson Thommesen who took such wonderful care of Harley as foster parents.

### How Scruffy Got Her Name

*By Bob Wilson*



When people hear us call Scruffy by name, most seem to think she's a male dog. So here's the story. We received an email from Cheryl that she needed a home for a rescue from a shelter in Minnesota. We said we would take her because we weren't maxed at 3 dogs yet. The shelter thought she was at least part Westie and our rescue was a good place for her because she was a sweet girl. She had already been spayed and had her shots so it would be just some training and socializing to get her ready to adopt. This was not too much for us to do when compared to some others we've had. Soon we were to learn why she was given up so easily when Cheryl showed up with her. Scruffy had one of the worst cases of fleas we have seen on a Dog that didn't have mange. She was nearly hairless except for a patch of woolly hair on the middle of her back and her stubby little tail. We couldn't

figure out how the shelter could have made a guess that she was a Westie from what we saw. When we got her home we had to sit down and do a flea check. She had been dipped and there were literally hundreds and hundreds of dead fleas on her. We didn't see any alive but her skin was really red and hot. I called our Vet and he said we could give her an oatmeal bath to help calm down the irritation from all the trauma from the fleas and dipping. So she got the bath and a good brushing the next day to clean out the mess and try to de-flea her. She looked a lot better than she did. Now we could see that she had some light tan patches on her back. A few days later the redness subsided and she was looking better. The spots on her belly were more defined and she was light pink with some blackish spots and not red anymore. She was a bit shy around our two Westies, but Lucy, our alpha female was up to letting her be here as she has with all the rescues we've taken in over the last few years. Rory, our 12 year old rescued boy was the one we were worried about. He doesn't always play well with other dogs being a stud dog for most of his life. Thankfully he just kind of ignored her. Now.... what to name her. We had been talking about it and we hadn't made a decision as to what to call her. Maureen liked the name Dottie because of her polka dotted belly but I was stuck on Scruffy. It was my first thought when I saw her and I was sticking to it. I told Maureen " It doesn't really matter anyway the new owner will probably change it to something they like anyway" So Scruffy it was for now and I was kind of happy about it because she was warming up to me pretty well by now. Then the recession hit us and people were not adopting as much, so a couple of weeks turned to a month and still she was here. She finally was able to have her hair cut and she started to look like a Jack Russell Terrier. Her little flippy ears, short nose and markings I'd say JRT but she didn't act like one. This girl was as calm and easy going like our other guys, surely she wasn't JRT. Most Jack Russell Terriers seem very hyper. We took new pictures after the hair cut and sent them to the webmaster to try a new profile but still no luck. She was listed in Emails as Scruffy/Dottie for a while but to no avail. She was, and still is very much a runner. Her drive to hunt is just as bad as any Westie. She'd run thru eight lanes of traffic to try to catch a rabbit, bird or squirrel. Maureen and I felt it would be impossible for someone to keep her unless she was fenced in. She has slipped the door on us and it took over an hour just to catch her. We wouldn't have except we got Lucy, her hunting partner on a leash and she came to us to get her to go hunting with her. So a month turned to two and two turned

to four and now we're up to nine months. All the people that seemed to have any interest in her weren't willing to come to terms with our concern about her running. She was really sweet. So Maureen and I sat down and had to make a decision. Do we keep this scruffy little girl who now has taken over as our semi-permanent guest to go to a permanent home? It wasn't too difficult for us to decide but it would mean we couldn't take in any more fosters as our town has a three dog limit. I looked at Maureen and she knew I was hooked on this little dog that had come to us in such a mess. I also pleaded that Lucy would be lost without her hunting partner. Finally we all agreed that Scruffy was home and she was safe and she would never have to hunt to survive again. So her name permanently became Scruffy.

### Frankie and Johnny

*By HRM Frankie Broznowski*

Hi! This is Frankie (now Broznowski) bringing you up to date on what has happened since we left Eau Claire. The ride down was long but I passed it sleeping in Dottie's lap most of the way. When we got home to Northern Illinois, Dottie stopped to get us dinner, flame grilled hamburgers. I thought OK, one less training class to hold with them. But the next morning, they brought out Kibble! I thought they had lost their minds. Well after a few hours of fasting, they brought out the left over hamburgers. But as a full time diet, it was not to be and so the training began on my part.



Sir Johnny

We went through at least 4 or 5 types which was a tiring trial at best. Finally we found one that was at least acceptable. It has a picture of us on the cover although I am sure, I am much prettier. I heard Mike say, "Of course, the most expensive one." Well, duh, is he dumb or what? Only the best for the best. Of course, it doesn't hurt that they supplement it with steak, chicken and hamburger from the table. I just wish they would eat less and feed us more. Oh well, one more thing to work on.



HRM Frankie

Of course, Johnny has been no help. Typical male, He wags his tail at everything. Although the walk thing he did was great. Who thought he could have held it in through those long walks with Mike until he could do it in the kitchen. Not bad. But he's weakening. I think he feels sorry for them so he's been using the grass instead of the carpet. He's only had a few indoor things. But Dottie just shakes her head, says "Oh well" and picks it up.

All in all, it has been EXHAUSTING and I am so glad they are finally getting it. Dottie is constantly telling us she loves us. It's kind of cute actually.

Well, I am just exhausted from all this, so if you'll excuse me. It's time for my nap.

Will someone puh-leez tell me why I have to bark three times to get lifted up onto my couch?

See you all at the get-together next June. I'll be the one with the tiara. Ho-hum. Hugs from the Princess. XOXO Frankie

### My Lovely Calla Lilly!

By Susan Porter

This is my Callie (Calla Lilly). She is an amazing dog! When I first started the adoption process, I did not have any idea what would come from it. I had lost my Westie, Harley that I had for 15 years. It was so hard and I refused to get another dog again but, I missed him and started looking round. Westies are fantastic dogs and I knew I wanted another.

I found Callie thru WWR. She looked so cute, her hair was really short, and she had big puppy ears and had skin problems. Her foster parents were great and I met Callie and fell in love!



She was afraid of stairs and had some house training needs. At first she was a little nervous and it took her a little while to adjust but it didn't take long at all! She is so gentle and calm. She has been a blessing. She stays in the yard, listens well, and eats well. She loves to lie on her back and have her belly rubbed!

I find out new things about her every day. She loves to play and wrestle with me and her toys. She has a lot of spunk, yet is so mellow. I have a lifestyle that she fit right into and is such a blessing!! I am so glad

that I went thru the adoption process and have my little girl to be my buddy! We are already very attached and bonded. She is also great with other people, a little shy, but has to meet everyone and gets along well with other animals.

She is such a gift!!! Thank you so much!!! Everyone was so wonderful and helpful!

### Chloe

By Carolyn Weibel

Four years ago, we lost our beloved Westie, Quincey to cancer. She was 15 ½ years old and we had had her since she was 12 weeks old. My heart was broken and I didn't think I would ever be ready to have another dog. But hearts do heal with time and I realized that I was finally ready to love another dog. My husband and I talked about it for a long time and when my birthday rolled around this spring, we decided to welcome a new four legged family member into our lives. I lost no time in applying to Westie Rescue of WI (we never even considered another breed – whenever we talked about getting another dog, it was always a Westie!). Soon we were approved and the wait began. One day Cheryl emailed us info about a sweet and social 3 year old Westie with significant allergy issues that had come into rescue. We had concerns about dealing with allergies but after talking to our vet, talking to other Westie parents dealing with allergies, and doing a lot of research, we decided that we wanted to meet this little girl to see if she was "the one".



When we arrived at her foster parents' home, Chloe greeted us, looked us over and by the end of the visit, she snuggled with us and allowed us some petting time. She was quite mellow by Westie standards, a most adorable little girl and we fell in love. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Chloe came home with us and became part of our family.

We had a relatively pain free adjustment period. Chloe had always lived with people and had very good house habits and manners. She loved interacting with people and decided that if we provided food, walks and love, she would happy to be our "Westie-girl!". She quickly picked out her

favorite places in her new house to nap and watch the world go by. She expected to sleep in our bed at night and had some difficulty with the concept of a doggie bed on the floor but eventually decided that she could live with that restriction in exchange for other fringe benefits we could provide. We have settled into a comfortable routine of walks, potty breaks, play time and naps. On mom's day off, she helps with chores at home and errands. On mom's work days, she goes to the violin shop with Dad, greets customers and helps Dad work. There is nothing better than our "Westie-girl" greeting us at the door at the end of day and snuggles on the couch when we watch TV in the evening. This has been a rough year for allergies for both people and animals and Chloe's allergies have been a challenge at times. We are working with our vet to keep her allergies under control with medications, special diet and special shampoo. Dealing with Chloe's medical issues is a small price to pay in order to enjoy her companionship, see the joy in her eyes when we come through the door, see her blossom with good health and to see her eyes sparkle with anticipation at a treat or a walk. Our lives have been blessed by the addition of our "Westie-girl". We have Wisconsin Westie Rescue to thank for our good fortune.

### Mickey and Katie

*By Julie and Tom Risen*

The Risen household has had at least one Westie running around in it since the summer of 1992. Casey and Brock were our first Westies and each of them lived to be almost 16 years of age. Our first foster failing was little Tessie in 2004. She was a very sweet little dog who had some health issues and lived her final two years much happier than the first 14. In the spring of 2007 after we lost Tess we were to foster the bonded pair of Mickey and his brother Spencer who was a Westie in a Scottie body. They were a lot of fun and fit in nicely with our other dogs. After a couple of months Spencer was adopted to a family in the Eau Claire area. They changed his name among other things, but that is another story. Mickey (short for McTavish) had an issue with one of his back legs and that was thought to be the reason he was not adopted. He and Spencer were an owner turn in because they had small children and the dogs were nipping at them, so they said. In the following months Mickey became more comfortable at our home and thus we failed fostering again and he was ours. He has been a great companion and very loyal friend, as he is the only dog we have fostered that took to Tom more than Julie. He has a very playful and happy

temperament. He loves to chase the squirrels in the backyard and play with the neighbor dogs.



*Mickey and Katie*

In the fall of 2008 we were asked to foster a frightened small little mill mama named Katalina Rose. We knew on the second or third day that this little shy girl was already at her new home. Katie immediately bonded with Julie and is a mama's girl all the way, except when her dad is eating then all bets are off. Katie has turned into one of the cutest Westies right off of the Caesars can. She has gotten along with our other fosters over the last two years (especially Johnny), but did not get along with our Brock very well. She is the queen of our house and lets you know when it is dinner time. Katie has also developed some puppy like tendencies like ripping up newspapers and playing with some of her many toys. That shy little dog of two years ago has changed into a very cute, but slightly plump little girl.

Mickey and Katie have become most accommodating when they host other fosters. We love having them in our home and hope we all grow old together.

### FOSTER NEWS

We are pleased to introduce our readers to Lana Olson, our new WWR adoption coordinator. Lana made the 'mistake' of wanting to be more involved in rescue so she is now handling our adoptions! We're very happy to have Lana aboard as our coordinator in this very important WWR role. Contact Lana at [ланаolson@wildblue.net](mailto:ланаolson@wildblue.net) for answers to your questions about adoption.

WWR also announces a new adoption program called 'Seniors for Seniors'. This program allows our senior age foster dogs (age 9 and up) to be adopted by a senior aged applicant (age 62 and up) and receive a \$25.00 discount at the time of placement. Senior dogs will continue to be available to adopt by any age applicant and our senior age applicants are able to adopt a dog of any age, but a discount is available if both dog and applicant are seniors. For more information, contact Lana at the above email address.

### Looking for a Forever Home

**Mylee** (photo coming soon-please check the website for updates) is a 6 year old Westie female retired from a West-central WI puppy mill. She came into WWR very shy, underweight and ill, but is getting plenty of extra TLC and is feeling better every day and will soon be available to adopt. Mylee is very sweet and lives for a warm lap to snuggle on. She is fostered in Superior.

### Penny



**Penny** (pending) is estimated to be a 4 year old female Westie from the same puppy mill as Mylee. Petite and pretty, Penny is making great progress toward becoming a full-fledged Westie with an attitude! Penny likes playing with other dogs and eating prime rib. Ok, so she's spoiled a bit-she deserves it! Penny is fostered in Mauston.

### Joey



**Joey** (WI) is a really cute 6 year old male Westie who came to us from the same mill as Mylee and Penny. Joey is also a bit shy but is making good progress but patience will be required to bring him into his full-potential. He is a small boy at 14 pounds. House training is going well for Joey but expect a little back sliding when he first comes home. Joey is fostered in Altoona.

### Buzz



**Buzz** (pending) a Westie mix, is estimated to be about 2 years of age. Originally a stray from Minnesota, Buzz

has been looking for a home that can provide him with a safe place to run and play and plenty attention! Buzz does not get along with cats and has some fear of big dogs. He is fostered in Milwaukee.

**Molly** (pending) is a very pretty 9 year old Westie female surrendered to WWR along with Toby. Molly and Toby are waiting to meet their prospective new family early Nov. Molly is currently fostered in Eau Claire.

**Toby** (pending) is a 10 year old male Westie surrendered to WWR with Molly. Both he and Molly are looking forward to life with their new owner and going home for the holidays together. Toby is also fostered in Eau Claire.

### *Forever Homes Found!*

**Sasha** our lovely lady with the unforgettable ears has the best home any dog could want when she convinced her foster parents Lori & Duane to make her a permanent member of their family. Sasha joins doggy siblings Widget and Joey in Superior.

**Janie** has the best of both worlds spending summers on the lake in WI and winters in North Carolina with her new family Robert and Jean. Anne Plouff fostered Miss. Janie.

**Buddy** joins Emily & Greg's family in Green Bay WI. Think he has his own Packer jersey yet? Congrats to Buddy and his family and thanks to Tom, Kris and Wilson Thommesen for fostering him.

**Frankie and Johnny** our darling bonded pair from the mill, found running a household much to their liking and now reside in IL with Dottie and Mike. Think the Westies allow their new mom and dad on the sofa? Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth fostered Frankie and Tom and Julie Risen fostered Johnny.

**Cody** wasted no time finding a perfect forever home and now calls Whitefish bay home and Steve and Edie family! Steve & Barb Steubel fostered.

**Duffy** made a great choice in a forever home when Julie and Scott asked if he'd like to make their home his new home and he said 'YES'! CindyLou & Doug Seefeld fostered Duffy.

**Libby and Annie** didn't come into rescue together although both came from similar situations as puppy mill mommas. Ron and Janelle of Minocqua saw how much the two girls needed a home and decided two Westies are better than one any day! Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth fostered the two girls.

Joey (IL) joins out Illinois contingent and now is the face of his mommy Cheryl's grooming business! We congratulate the new family and wish to welcome Marilyn Killimanes as our newest foster family!

### FINAL CALL to Order 2011 WWR Benefit Calendars

Your gift giving problems are SOLVED! The WWR 2011 benefit calendars are a beautiful full-size color calendar certain to please any dog lover on your gift list! Calendars are \$17.50 each which includes first class mail postage. We will even send them directly to your gift recipient for you thus saving you time as well as money!! Please make checks payable to Wisconsin Westie Rescue and send % of Lana Olson to:

WWR 2011 Benefit Calendar  
15213 W. Union Dane County Line Rd,  
Brooklyn WI 53521-9301

For question on ordering your calendar or pricing for multiple calendar purchases to one address, contact Lana at [ланаolson@wildblue.net](mailto:ланаolson@wildblue.net).

### Upcoming Events

#### *WWR Westie Lovers Silent Auction*

The votes are in and in a LANDSLIDE reader chose having an online Westie lover Silent Auction (similar to the one we ran for Westie Fest 2010) for their opportunity to bid on this lovely lap quilt handcrafted by Pam Simpson over a traditional raffle drawing! I bet you all know someone, maybe even yourself, who would love this beautiful lap quilt for a holiday gift!



We have several other awesome Westie-themed items including a handsome pair of Westie bookends, a set of hand-painted Westie salt and pepper shakers, sterling silver and diamond Westie pendant, a CZ sterling silver Westie pendant and many more fun items. For the folks (ok, mostly

guys), not into Westie collectables, we have SPORTS-themed items including WI Badger and Green Bay Packer apparel and giftware for both men and women. Email us at [arooooo@charter.net](mailto:arooooo@charter.net) for a full list of items and the dates of the online auction! We will send you the URL for the silent auction site and full details on how to bid on the items of your desire! Happy bidding just in time to help you fill out that Santa list for the holidays!

#### *Forever Stamps for Westies*

Would you like to give WWR a donation for under \$10.00 that actually increases in value as time goes on? Sound like a deal too good to be true? It isn't because a gift of a book of *Forever* stamps from the USPS costs \$8.80 until the next rate increase and with the cost to send first class mail going up again, you'll be giving us MORE than an \$8.80 gift! When you do your holiday mailing, think of WWR and a gift of stamps! Mail your gift of *Forever* stamps to us at:

WWR News  
1332 Armstrong PL  
Eau Claire WI 54701

### Odds and Ends

#### *WWR Benefit Thrift Sale Results*

WOW!!! Amy Wolfgram and her father Jerry Wolfgram sweated and slaved away for days on end with our benefit thrift sale and in the end netted \$ 1,100 out of a bunch of junk-well it was pretty good junk-and nice chunk of change into WWR general vet fund! A huge thank you goes out the Wolfgrams and the Eau Claire/Altoona WWR volunteers and friends of rescue who made this sale possible.

#### *K9 Agility Concession Stand Results!*

Greg and Susan Verplank worked their tails off manning our concession stand Oct 1-3 at the K9 Agility event in Menomonie Falls and in the end they netted a WHOPPING \$1739.00 for rescue!! A HUGE thank you goes out to everyone who volunteered to work, bake or donate food. The word on the street is the baked goods especially rocked and Greg did not have to eat any leftovers (sorry Greg)! Greg is considering doing this event again in next fall but will need LOTS volunteer help if he does. Watch for more information in our July 2011 newsletter on how to volunteer and maybe we can convince Greg it's a good cause to take up again next year!

***October Cookies for Westies!***

Barb Streubel, one of our talented WWR volunteers, foster moms and an all around great lady, designated October as 'Cookies for Westies' month at her work place and sold 1600 cookies and earned \$553.00 for WWR! Barb donated the labor and the ingredients to make her famous chocolate chip cookies and turned dough into dough for WWR! What a great idea! Thank you Barb!!



**Rare sighting of a Brewsaurus!!  
Photo submitted by Loren Frank**

***Badger Kennel Club Event***

WWR had our very own rescue booth at the Badger Kennel Club (BKC) in Madison on Sunday Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. Lana Olson, Loren Frank, Sheri Rice, Kris and Tom Thommesen along with Laci, Brewster and Pebbles spread the news of the wonderful work WWR does and they even managed to make \$110.00 for WWR in the process! What a great deal!



**Bodie catching a nap! Photo by Grant Van De Breken**



**Brewster at BKC**

Thank you to Sheri Rice for the wonderful photo boards and gorgeous new brochures for WWR used for the first time at BKC! We look forward to proudly using them at upcoming WWR events for years to come. We also unfurled our new WWR banner with Dewey as the new face of WWR! Looking good!



**Chloe's 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Banana slices! Photo by Carolyn Weibel**

**Photo Gallery of WWR Alumni**



**Katy Wolfgram in her Halloween finest!  
Submitted by Amy, Connie and Jerry Wolfgram**



**Marty camping and hogging the bed! Photo by Vince Rosso.**

## **Write On!!**

If you'd like to write about your life with Westies, or just send a cute photo (perhaps from the upcoming holidays?), please do! The stories and pictures are the best part of the newsletter! Submissions can be sent by email to us at [59barbie@charter.net](mailto:59barbie@charter.net) or by snail mail to the newsletter address below. Our next newsletter deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 so get those creative juices flowing. ☺

## **Thanks!**

We would like to thank the following people for their writing contribution to this edition of the WWR newsletter; Maria Graf, Frankie (with help from Dottie) Broznowski, Susan Porter, Carolyn Weibel, and Julie & Tom Risen. Great stories about life with Westies!

**WWR NEWS  
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