

Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

Volume 6, Issue 2, July 2011

Inside this Issue

Page 1 Half-Way Through 2011
Page 1 Mylee
Page 1 Toby-Happily Ever-After
Page 2 Harley and the Baby
Page 3 Daisy Mae
Page 3 In Fond Memory Always
Pages 4 & 5 Foster News
Page 5 WWR (now named) Picnic!
Page 6 Calendar of Upcoming Events
Pages 7 & 8 Odds & Ends/Thanks

Half-Way Through 2011!

Summer is finally here and a month gone already! A lot has been happening in rescue this year. We are over 30 dogs through our rescue door for 2011 and that means lots of transports negotiated, shots, dentals, spays and neuters have been done, applications processed, home visits done and goodbyes said to foster dogs and hellos to new friends who adopted a dog from rescue. Some have been old friends who adopted before and some are new faces soon to become good friends. I would like to welcome all new comers to our WWR newsletter and extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped these dogs find their new homes! They say many hands (and paws) make lighter work and we have many great people helping us shoulder the load to get these dogs ready for a new beginning. Happy summer all!

Mylee

By Kathy Kann

Editor's note: Somehow this ended up misplaced and it didn't appear in the March edition of the WWR news! I apologize to Mylee and Kathy for the omission but it was worth the wait.

Since it is Valentine's Day I will share a bit of the joy and love Mylee has brought to Lily and me. She has been home with us 7 weeks as of yesterday. I am so blessed to have her. So many fears and 'social' skills are receding daily. Her sweetness is awesome for a girl who had 6+ years of whatever set all these fears in motion.

She is still easily scared by some noises, being trapped, mops etc. but oh how far she has come.

She no longer needs to be carried passed the scary doors and thresholds to go out to potty. Now she cautiously follows Lily and once out races like a greyhound in celebration. It is so cute! She has not had ONE accident in the house. She loves to snuggle on the sofa with me. This works well since Lily does not like being on furniture. She's my floor dog.

Mylee is pretty much "velcroed" to me when we are outside. She has learned to walk on a leash, be comfortable in car, and be left home with Lily for several hours 'cage free'.

She and Lily sleep on their big bed in living room at night and now she comes with Lily into the bedroom to greet me when there are sounds of life! She has barked several efficient low barks lately. Before no sounds. Can you tell how we love her?

I am so pleased to have found WWR and am awestruck with the compassion, dedication and thoroughness of your adoption process. I, of course, would expect no less of Westie lovers. But aside from that dogs like Mylee deserve a new start with the least possibility of further trauma. Thank you all!

Toby-Happily Ever-After

By Robert Boyle

Toby is living happily ever after! Toby, who was pictured in the winter newsletter while living with foster parents in Green Bay, has found his forever home in a retirement community in Evanston, Ill.

Bob Boyle and Mac Detmer are residents of McDaniel Courts, an independent living facility in Three Crowns Park, Illinois. Approximately 120



residents range in age from late 60's to nearly 100. Bob and Mac lived with a Westie named Duffy

for seven years. Duffy, from a northern Illinois rescue program, had been severely abused and took several years before he completely accepted women residents. He obviously remembered the mother and daughter who had abused him.

Last July, Duffy's physical and psychological systems began to fail and Bob and Mac reluctantly said good-bye to him at their vet's clinic.

Working with Lana Olson, Bob and Mac started looking for another Westie. Several were simply not suitable for "retirement" living. Then Toby came along. He had lived with an older man who was no longer capable of caring for him. Toby went from Dane county to WWR in Fond du Lac to foster parents Stephanie and Mike Stenz in Green Bay.

After a home visit by volunteer Michelle Robinson (accompanied by her husband and westie), Bob and Mac drove to Green Bay on Thursday, Mar. 24 to bring Toby "home."

From his very first day, Toby has been a big hit at Three Crowns Park. Unlike Duffy, Toby loves to be petted. He learned his way around the complex in two days. He was featured in the residents' newsletter in April. With approximately 200 dogs in the neighborhood and a forest preserve full of animals just a block away, he has plenty to sniff on walks three times a day.

Recently Toby went into a closet and tipped over Duffy's toy box. He then dragged every toy into the living room and became especially fond of a noisy frog that croaks when it hits the floor. Toby loves to play "fetch."

Toby still barks vociferously when the phone rings or when the groundskeepers mow the grass but he has learned to tolerate the maid's her vacuum cleaner.

Toby doesn't mind sleeping in. He is also very clear about his need to go out. He seems to tell time: 8 a.m., time to get up; 3 p.m., time for afternoon walk, and 5 p.m., dinnertime. He is especially emphatic about dinner. Bob and Mac have become very fond of Toby and are grateful to WWR.

Harley and the Baby

By Maria Graf-Schroeder

Editor's note: WWR has a policy to not adopt to families with children under the age of 8 years because westies have a strong prey drive and often will chase and nip at the heels of a young child. We do makes exceptions when the family has westie experience and knows in advance the specials 'joys' of young kids and and westies together

and plan accordingly as Marie and Justin have done with Harley and David.

This is an update on Harley Joan, who we adopted in April of 2010. Harley welcomed a baby brother, David, on December 23, 2010. Although this was an exciting and wonderful time as we prepared for our first child, throughout the pregnancy we worried "Is Harley going to accept this baby?" All we could think about was the reason her last family gave her up to WWR, which was due to reported problems Harley had with their baby. Justin and I decided long before David was born that we were going to treat Harley and David like they were twins. When one was taking care of David, the other would take care of Harley. When we brought David home from the hospital, Harley stayed away from him for the first couple of days. She stayed with whichever parent was not holding David and just kind of studied the parent holding the baby. She instantly began to do some new, quirky things -- like carry a single piece of her food out to the dining room, eat it, and then return to her dish to eat the rest. We kept her routine the same and she slowly, as the days went by, came closer to the baby. We let her approach the baby at her own pace. The first time Harley came close to the baby, first she smelled him and then she licked him. When we saw this happen, we both breathed a sigh of relief as this was Harley's universal signal that she "approves" of a person.

Since the day David joined our family, Harley has never once shown even the slightest bit of aggression. We, of course, have not allowed her the opportunity to get in trouble with the baby - I believe it we did or do by accident in the future, that would be our mistake and reflect poorly on us NOT Harley. Harley likes to be in whatever room the baby is in. In fact, we often refer to David as "Harley's baby". When David cries, Harley shows up by his side. When David is happy and cooing, Harley just seems happier as well. When we meet people on the walking path next to our house, Harley is protective in that she will stand between the stroller and the stranger until she feels comfortable with the person (this is usually quickly accomplished by the person showing attention to Harley and not just the baby). This is a different side to Harley that we did not see prior to David -- Harley the protector!

We don't want to make it sound like it was an easy or perfect transition because I believe each member of the family had to work very hard for things to go well. But, after months of worrying

about how the baby and Harley would get along, we can say that at this time there are no concerns.



We can also say that Harley could not have been a better dog throughout this transition. Sure, being the clever Westie that she is, she learned that there were benefits of having this new tiny person in the home. She learned there were times she could get by with more barking. She learned when a parent was holding David, she had a better chance of getting a quick bite of people food off a plate which is a strict rule that Harley would normally obey, but all in all, we wouldn't have changed a thing!

Daisy Mae

By Cheryl Parker

DAISY MAE arrived at our home the end of March, this year. I had dogs all my life but in the last decade, said goodbye to two lovely golden retrievers I had adopted from a wonderful breeder in southeastern Wisconsin. My Copper and Clue slept with me, traveled with me and in general became my family for years. Things changed after they both died, a month apart, one at 12 years, the other at 16 in 2002. I was suddenly without any dog-ness in my life for the first time since 1974.



My life path took me to Australia for nearly a decade, until recently when we decided it was time to stick around Door County on a more permanent basis. So in 2011, enters a friend with a Westie, she gave me the WWR web site address, and I took it from there. My husband just back from a visit to Australia agreed, we needed this new little dog in our lives. Today Daisy is a terrific companion, watch dog, typical terrier, who is delightful to spend time with. Her ability to be a good girl is amazing, I have

trained her to do a few tricks, twirl, sit and no bark are all things we are working on with glee. She has taken nicely to walks the leash, and she spends a great deal of time hiding things in cushions. When I go to my studio, she hangs out and sleeps. She barks when I need to pay attention to who is at the door, and she tries to play with the chickens as they roam the yard, she never threatens them, in fact they come running to see us like old friends and she doesn't threaten them one bit, usually.

I look at this expressive dog and wonder what her life experience has been up to now. When she comes up and puts her head on lap or knee, I know it doesn't matter what she had in the past, today is good for her and good for me. She has given us optimism and joy in the moment, and we have given her a new life of love and caring

In Fond Memory Always

The past few months we heard of the passing of several westie friends over the rainbow bridge. Although each made their home with a different family, all were part of our westie rescue family and we grieve for them as if they were our own.

For all who have lost a four-footed family member, perhaps the words of the following poem by Eugene O'Neill will ring as true to you as the words did to us a few years back when our westie Ping passed away. A friend sent this at that time I kept it because the words were comforting to me. I want to share excerpts of this beloved poem with everyone who has lost a furry companion and know that sometimes the greatest tribute to the one who has passed is to open your heart to love another. For full text of the poem, find it online at www.eoneill.com/texts/blemie/contents.htm

Doggie Will

Eugene O'Neill

SILVERDENE EMBLEM O'NEILL (familarly known to my family, friends, and acquaintances as Blemie), because the burden of my years and infirmities is heavy upon me, and I realize the end of my life is near, do hereby bury my last will and testament in the mind of my Master. He will not know it is there until after I am dead. Then, remembering me in his loneliness, he will suddenly know of this testament, & I ask him then to inscribe it as a memorial to me.

'I have little in the way of material things to leave. Dogs are wiser than men. They do not set great store upon things. They do not waste their days hoarding property. They do not ruin their sleep

worrying about how to keep the objects they have, and to obtain objects they have not. There is nothing of value I have to bequeath except my love and my faith. These I leave to all those who loved me, especially to my Master and Mistress, who I know will mourn me the most.

I ask my Master and Mistress to remember me always, but not to grieve for me too long. In my life I have tried to be a comfort to them in time of sorrow, and a reason for added joy in their happiness. It is painful for me to think that even in death I should cause them pain.....It will be a sorrow to leave them, but not a sorrow to die. Dogs do not fear death as men do. We accept it as part of life, not as something alien and terrible which destroys life. One last request I earnestly make. I have heard my Mistress say, 'When Blemie dies we must never have another dog. I love him so much I could never love another.' Now I would ask her, for love of me, to have another. It would be a poor tribute to my memory never to have a dog again. What I would like to feel is that, having once had me in the family, now she cannot live without a dog!.....No matter how deep my sleep I shall hear you, and not all the power of death can keep my spirit from wagging a grateful tail.'

FOSTER NEWS

We have gotten in quite a few seniors this year. Please remember our 'Seniors for Seniors' program if you or someone you know is age 62 or better and is thinking of adopting a westie. 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. As always, senior dogs will continue to be available to adopt by any age applicant and our senior age applicants are free to adopt a dog of any age, but a discount is available if both dog and applicant are seniors. For more information, contact Lana ланаolson@wildblue.net.

Looking for a Forever Home

Ernie



Ernie, an 8 year old westie male entered rescue this past weekend. Family changes brought Ernie to us

and we will be sending out his profile to the waiting list soon. Ernie is house trained and will make a wonderful companion! Ernie is fostered in Madison.

Baxter



Baxter is a delightful and charming 5 year old westie male with loads of personality. Coming to us from another rescue group, Baxter is looking for a home with lots of love and maybe a nice deck to snooze on. Baxter is fostered in Altoona where he is getting much-needed weight on his slim frame.

Milo (puppy)



Milo is an 8 month old westie puppy with plenty of westie-tude to spare! An owner turn in to rescue after the family found they did not have enough time to devote to raising little Milo. Milo's wish list includes a fenced in yard, another doggie playmate, someone home often to help with training (he has started clicker training already!), and be willing to snuggle a lot for sweet puppy kisses! Please contact Lana with questions on Milo and his availability. As with all of our puppies, we will be looking for the best possible match for this little guy. Milo is being fostered in Belleville WI.

Forever Homes Found!

Not too surprising with the number of dogs in rescue this year, we have many placements to announce! We welcome two new foster families to our fold; Renee Overland and Mike Morris and Holly and Bob Schoenecker!

Daisy Mae (see her story page 2) is keeping her chicks in line and living the life of riley with Cheryl

and Steve in Door County! Carole Phillips fostered Daisy Mae.

Shelby, our adorable floppy-ear westie is a big city girl now and lives in the windy city of Chicago with Mary Ann. Annett Nichols fostered Shelby.

Violet, a little girl as lovely as her name now calls Fitchburg home and loves curling up with Amanda and Phil. Liz Streubel & Vince Masterson fostered.

Misty Rae now calls Appleton her forever hometown. Kim, Scott and family fostered and adopted Misty Rae where she joins Pippin and Bandit as office dogs in charge of Kim's office.

Jojo our lovely lady with a floppy little ear found her way back to her first foster family and is now living back in Eau Claire with Carol and Cheryl. Thanks to Stephanie and Mike for fostering Jojo.

Brody our handsome Irish lad makes his home in Minnesota with new dad Terry. Amy Zion fostered our exotic boy from Ireland!

Buzby may be spending time watching Brewer games with Kathleen and Bruce, as he is now a Milwaukee boy! Buzby was fostered by our very own ultimate Brewer fans, Julie & Tom Risen.

Rascal joins Vicki & Lee in Winneconne. Rascal, 'the world's easiest foster dog' was fostered by Pedens until Barb broke her knee and wrist and then Carol and Cheryl gamely stepped in to foster until placement.

Mollie Sue wasted no time finding a perfect forever home and now calls Madison home and Tom, Todd and Sugar her forever family! Anne Plouff fostered.

Earl made a great choice in a forever home when he joined Mollie Sue a few weeks later! Earl, our darling blind westie boy is amazing having endured several hernia surgeries plus an eye removal and never once lost his happy disposition! Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth fostered this special boy.

Morgan our goofy little westie mix joins sister Chloe in calling Carolyn and Don his special forever family. Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth fostered Mogan.

Bella, a shy little female westie mix and Morgan's sister is happily making her new home with Debb and Garry in Muskego. Thanks to Dawn and Mark Schepke for fostering Bella!

Harriet is big sister to Ty and joins Kim and Mike in Green Bay (just in time for Green Bay Packer football camp!) Harriet got her good start in her new life from Barb and Steve Streubel.

Rina crosses over the border to Crystal Minnesota where she becomes Jodi's new best friend. Dawn and Mark Schepke fostered darling Rina.

Tuffy, is yet another Appleton westie now that he has joined his forever family Tim and Gisele. Liz Struebel and Vince Masterson fostered Tuffy.

Chispita knows how to 'sit' in English and Spanish! This bilingual westie mix is off to her new life with Lois and her family in Kimberly WI. Renee and Mike made their fostering debut with Chispita whose name in Spanish means 'little spark'!

Maddie also moved west to Minnesota! Our delightful spry senior girl took her tennis ball collection home to Kathy and Paul in Forest Lake. Carol and Cheryl Cutsforth fostered Maddie.

WWR (Now Named) Picnic!!

By Julie Risen

Everyone had a great time June 25 when around 50 people and 35 dogs gathered in Eau Claire for our annual Westie Rescue picnic. The weather was beautiful and the food was delicious. The dogs had a great time running off leash and playing with their new friends. All dogs were on their best behavior and only a few needed a break in the "time out zone". The humans had a nice time, too, chatting with other Westie owners and watching their best friends play. The dogs, as always, loved the hot dog eating contest and the ice cream game.



Chloe Weibel of Chippewa Falls and Andrew Liddell-Bowe of Lake Wissota, were named Queen and King for the year and wore their capes beautifully!!

Willis and Kate had best watch out for this dynamic royal pairing!



King Andrew (left) Queen Chloe (right)

We voted and by an ever-so-slim margin chose Waggin' Tails Westie Round-Up as our event name. Becca Moser submitted the winning name. Thanks to Judy Wagner for donating the prizes!

Next year's "Westie Roundup" will be held June 23rd in Madison (thank you Tom and Todd for volunteering to host 2012) so mark your calendars now and plan to attend. It is a lot of fun for dogs and humans alike! Hope to see you all in Madison next June.

Upcoming Events

WWR Benefit Thrift Sale

Hello WWR!

It's your friendly Thrift Sale Diva here, reminding everyone that our Annual Thrift Sale Extravaganza Fundraiser is coming up next month! The sale dates are Friday, August 19th and Saturday, August 20th. For the 2nd year in a row the sale is being held in Eau Claire at 2039 12th Street. If you're in the area, or if you're not busy and enjoy a good thrift sale we'd love to see you! We have lots of goodies - there is literally something for everyone!

This sale is a great opportunity for us to fundraise for WWR. I would like to take just a moment to thank everyone who has already donated items for us to sell and anyone who has already volunteered of their time in any way to help with the sale. WWR has the *best* volunteers ever, and we can't do any of this without you! Thank you!

There are some of you out there who we know have items to donate but still need to get them to Eau Claire before the sale. We're currently working on coordinating transport for the donations we know about. If you've just discovered a stash of thrift sale treasures in Aunt Sally's closet (or like me, in my own closet just last weekend) and you'd like to make a donation there is still time, but please let me know ASAP. We don't accept

clothing, but pretty much anything else is fair game. (And yes, I can hear all of you out in Westie-land right now going "oh...she said anything!")

We're also about to start the process of signing up volunteers to work at the sale, doing set up and takedown, and to make items for the bake sale, so please watch for those announcements. I can personally vouch that the takedown shift is a lot of fun if you're thinking of helping out for the first time but aren't sure where to start!

If there are any questions please give me a call at [715-514-4046](tel:715-514-4046) or email me at llbj77@gmail.com

Thank you!

Amy Wolfgram, Self-Appointed WWR Thrift Sale Diva

Oct 1 and 2 K9 Agility Concession Stand Appeal for Help!

Volunteers feverishly worked the concession stand May at the K9 Agility event in Menomonie Falls and in the end they netted \$1600 for rescue! A HUGE thank you goes out to everyone who volunteered to work, bake or donate food to this great rescue cause.

The next K9 agility event is being held this Oct 1 and 2 and Greg is looking for volunteers to help make this a successful venture again. The stand will be serving breakfast and lunch both days Please contact Greg at gverplank@wi.rr.net for more information on how you can volunteer help at the event, or Cheryl at cutsfocl@uwec.edu for donating baked goods to sell! Watch our website 'News' page as well for updates.

WWR Holiday Bazaar

Ah the weather outside maybe 90 degrees in the shade and a tall glass of cold lemonade is on our mind, but it isn't too late to be thinking about our annual Holiday Bazaar held every fall in Eau Claire! Crafts, gently used seasonal decoration, toys, antiques, giftables for all ages and baked goods are all welcome! Details will be coming soon so for more information please contact Cheryl Cutsforth by email at cutsfocl@uwec.edu or by phone at 715.839.7831.

WWR Holiday Silent Auction

Ok so maybe I am pushing the holiday news a bit early but we have some exciting donations you HAVE to know about ahead of time! Lori Lane has

donated to us a gorgeous hand crafted quilt (photos available now upon request), Loren Frank has donated a sweatshirt size XL autographed by Heisman Trophy winner and former Wisconsin Badge running back Ron Dayne, and Cheryl Lenart has donated an autographed picture of Elizabeth Taylor posing with her dog! Few people know Ms. Taylor's commitment to her pets but she loved them as family too.

The auction planned for late November/early December is a nice way to do a little holiday shopping. Look for photos of these three special items in the Nov newsletter.

If you have something you wish to donate to WWR for use in our silent auctions, please contact me at either aroooo@chater.net or 59barbie@charter.net and we will happily accept your gift! Tax letters provided for any donation of item(s) to WWR for use in any of our WWR fundraising activities.

Odds and Ends

Knitting for WWR

If you know how to knit and would like to help WWR raise some dollars at events or at our fall bazaar, Holly would love to talk to you! Holly has found some cute knitting patterns perfect for raising some much-needed dollars for rescue. If interested in learning more, please contact Holly at holly@hollyschoenecker.com more information and a link to view some of the patterns.

Forever Stamps for Westies

Once again our Forever Stamps for Westies netted a tidy number of stamps to go toward our WWR mailing including covering 2/3 of the cost of mailing this newsletter! Forever stamps are a wonderful way to send a gift to recue without breaking the bank. Next trip to your postal station, think of us with a gift of a book of stamps! Any amount is welcome!! Mail your gift of Forever stamps to us at:

WWR News
1332 Armstrong PL
Eau Claire WI 54701

Reserve Your 2012 WWR Benefit Calendar!

We are taking pre-orders for the 2012 WWR benefit calendar. Photo selection is currently under way with the final product ready by fall. To reserve your copy, please email Lana at lanolson@wildblue.net a today. Lana will

contact you when the calendars are ready to ship and finalize your order!

It's not too late to send in your photos for consideration! Deadline for submission has been extended to Aug 15th 2011. Please send photos to aroooo@charter.net or 59barbie@charter.net. Do NOT compress photos please!

Quick List of Contact People for WWR

WWR does not have elves like Santa's workshop, but we do have many volunteers who share the day-to-day running of a rescue group. Say you have question about rescue-related stuff so who do you contact for answers? Here is a quick list of people in rescue and our volunteer jobs!

- Laura Stafford-Hager-founder/president
- Cheryl Cutsforth-WWR volunteer coordinator cutsfocl@uwec.edu
- Lana Olson- WWR adoption coordinator lanolson@wildblue.net
- Anne Plouff microchip program Elizabeth.plouff@ucb.com
- Amy Wolfgram WWR database lbj77@gmail.com
- Greg Verplank WWR treasurer gverplank@wi.rr.nett
- Barbara Peden WWR web site, newsletter editor, intake contact person for WWR 59barbie@charter.net or (web site email) aroooo@charter.net

You can always contact us via the WWR web site at www.wisconsinwestierescue.com and we will get you in contact with the person you are looking for! We are here to help you help the westies!

Moved/ Moving Soon?

Please check your address on the label below. If not correct or if you plan to move soon, please remember to send us your new mailing address. Or even better yet, if you'd like to save us some money and can have internet access, the newsletter is available online with our WWR web site archive as an electronic copy saving us \$\$!

To change your address or to switch to online access, please email me at 59barbie@charter.net . If switching to an electronic version of the newsletter you will get an email announcement when the newest edition of the newsletter becomes available, and a pdf file of the newsletter to download and read at your leisure. Adobe PDF is a free download).

Thanks!

We would like to thank the following people for their writing contribution to this edition of this newsletter; Kathy Kann, Maria Graf-Schroeder, Robert Boyle, Cheryl Parker, Julie Risen and Amy (thrift sale diva) Wolfgram.

Write On!!

We encourage everyone to write about life with your special westie! If you prefer to send a cute photo instead we love those too! Submissions sent by email go to 59barbie@charter.net or by snail mail to the newsletter address below. Our next newsletter deadline is Nov 14th, 2011 so get those creative juices flowing!

SOS!

Due to 'technical difficulties (my hard drive crashed and my printer died and I broke a knee and wrist all in the same week) this newsletter is late. All of my old emails and files were LOST as was I. If you know someone who previously got an e-version of our

newsletter but did not have previous contact with WWR via adoption or volunteering for us, could you please resend email information to me? Send to 59barbie@charter.net and I will get an e-copy right out to them. In addition, if you sent me an email I did not respond to, it was probably lost too before I got to read it. Please let me know if I missed you!



Brewster celebrates his 2nd anniversary in Aug!

WWR NEWS

**1332 Armstrong PL
Eau Claire WI 54701**