

### 2019 March/April

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### **WRN Board Members**

Gene Bourque Jan Humphrey Hollie Hunter Martha Smith Sarah Doud

### Contact US

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# A letter from our President ~Gene Bourque

Dear Friends of Westie Rescue Network (WRN),

I hope your 2019 is starting off happy, healthy, safe and prosperous. This year will mark our 29th in which we have rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed Westies primarily in Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming.

We adopted out 15 dogs in 2018 and currently have no dogs in foster. Total dogs adopted since our founding is just over 950. As noted in earlier letters the number of dogs surrendered to us over the last 5 years has steadily declined to an annual average of 19 dogs. This is approximately 50% of the annual average in the 2009 to 2013 timeframe.



In keeping with what we have experienced in the number of dogs received over the last 5 years the average age per each dog rescued continues to increase. 8.2 yrs. for 2018. We had five dogs this year that were 12 yrs. or older. Fortunately, they were all adopted into loving homes. 7 of the 15 dogs came to us from shelters in Denver, Brighton and Colorado Springs. I expect we will receive more shelter dogs moving forward as the shelters realize what a top notch job we do vetting and placing our Westies.

Regarding veterinary expenses, the average total expenses per dog surrendered to us in 2018 was \$1,621. In 2016 and 2017 the equivalent amount was \$950 and \$1,228, respectively. Fortunately, our donors have allowed us to continue to provide exceptional veterinary care for the dogs we rescued. We expect veterinary costs to continue to increase so donations will always be needed to continue our mission. In this newsletter you will find a Thank You page listing all our wonderful donors and volunteers. We cannot do the work we do without their help and generosity. A heartfelt *Thank You* from me!

Another news item to bring to your attention: Announcing WRN Revised Website. Before the end of March we expect our new website to be up and running with new and improved software. Our website consultant is working hard to launch the revised page on the first day of Spring, March 20th. He convinced us that because Spring is about renewal, growth and new beginnings we should strive to meet that date. I most heartily agree and we will send you an email announcing the revised webste as that date draws near.

If you have any questions/comments/suggestions about any of the items mentioned above please feel free to get in touch with me.

Blessings and good health and a hug to each of you.

Gene Bourque President



## We Can't Thank You Enough

# We at Westie Rescue Network want to thank the following people for their generous financial donations in 2018.



Susan Abernethy
Jeff & Jackie Anderson
Jolene Armburst
Neal & Marlene Armfield
Jim & Cathy Atkinson
Audry Baird
Jeananne Bartleson
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### Gene & Minnie Bourque

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### David and Dianne Veno

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West Highland White Terrier
Club of Greater Denver



# Happy Tales Recent Adoptions







We got the best Christmas present ever!
We picked Pee Wee up Saturday from the Neff's (his wonderful foster parents) and he is just delightful. Happy, scampish and so loving. We took him to the vet to get checked out on Monday am and they said he looked like he had been ours forever.

We also

~from Pee Wee's new parents Sharon and Donald

TOBY

We knew we wanted a Westie.

knew we wanted to adopt a rescue dog instead of buying one from a breeder. That's where Westie Rescue Network came into the picture. I was searching on the internet for Westies and found the WRN website. After filling out the information online, we received a phone call explaining the adoption process to us. We knew it might be awhile before a dog would come available for us but were willing to wait. After our home visit, we received a call that there was a 3 month old male Westie ready for adoption if we wanted a puppy. We immediately said yes!

Toby became part of our family January 16, 2019 and is already an integral part of our world. He loves his big brother Jake, our Golden Retriever. They play every day, which is great for both of them. He enjoys sitting on our laps and stealing shoes. Toby sits for food and treats and loves to take walks. He is growing fast. He loves to join us in bed each morning with Jake and snuggle. We are thankful there is WRN to give Westies the home they deserve.

~from Toby's new mom, Paula

# More Happy Tales







Dec, 2.

Brodie and I are finally home with Teiko. After days

of weather delays, our new fourteen year old companion joins us on the farm.

Teiko settles right in, as if he already knows us. He responds to commands and conversation; he "woof"s! I dine with two conversant Westies. Ten days after arriving and when whistled to, he bounded off the window seat and ran into the kitchen for our morning walk.

#### Feb 5.

Mostly I grin at Teiko. With his haircut he looks more like a tackle than a floor mop. This Westie is no faltering, frail tubby: His big black eyes sparkle with enthusiasm, energy and élan. Playing with Brodie, he attacks, dodges and feints with piercing barks. He runs through chest-high snow like a plow and climbs snowbanks and stairs lickity-split. He arrived with railroad semaphores for ears and wore a chest of tags to do a sheep proud. Heavier than Brodie, Teiko walks with a roll as if on waves. And he has turned Brodie into a leaping kangaroo, though I doubt

walks with a roll as if on waves. And he has turned Brodie into a leaping kangaroo, though I doubt kangaroos "rooo" as does Brodie. On these daily winter excursions the two greet my snowy barnyard with heads high and trotting joy.

The "frail, old age" warnings have dissolved under Teiko's lively companionship. We are a happy three.

# Jan Humphrey Spotlight on Board Member Spotlight on Board Member

Jan has always been a dog lover and owner. She has had a Husky, Aussie, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Chihuahua, and Dalmatian to name a few, but never a Westie.

Jan is a transplanted Midwesterner...born and raised in Missouri with short stints in Kentucky and Wisconsin. After retiring from 35 years in public education, first as an art teacher and later as an elementary school principal, she moved to a small town in western Kentucky to be near her parents. She volunteered with a local dog rescue and fostered dogs. According to Jan, "That is how I acquired the sweetest Chihuahua in the world, Pablo Picasso and the gentle Australian Shepherd, Banjo Paterson." While Jan fostered many different rescued dogs those were two dogs that just had to become a part of her family! She says, "As a foster I've been asked many times 'How can you give them up?' I've always believed that when a foster dog goes to a forever home they are getting a great life and I will have a space in my home to save another dog."



When Jan lived in Kentucky she worked with a program called "Death Row Dogs" which paired unadoptable dogs from local kill shelters with inmates at a state prison. The dogs lived in the prison and they trained the inmates how to train the dogs to become companions for both families as well as veterans. Part of the program included an optional class in dog grooming, which Jan taught. She says she is not a

professional dog groomer, but rather a teacher at heart! President Gene Bourque stated that "Jan has a wonderful and caring manner in dealing with canines and humans alike. She is a dear friend and confidant and has made my job easier. The WRN Board is blessed to have someone with her work and volunteer background helping the organization continue to move forward".



Jan left Kentucky to move to Colorado six years ago- bringing Banjo, Pablo Picasso and three rescued cats with her. By a twist of fate she met Minnie Bourque at the local pool

and when Minnie found out she had been a foster for rescued dogs she encouraged her to sign up with Westie Rescue. The rest is history. Four years later Jan is a foster as well as a member of the WRN Board of Directors. She is the Board's secretary, and part of her job is to monitor incoming phone calls from potential adopters as well as calls about Westies that are being relinquished. She then directs the call to the appropriate volunteer. She also checks the WRN mailbox at the local post office where we receive inquiries, bills, applications and donations.

When not volunteering for WRN, Jan serves on the neighborhood HOA Board, participates in a book club, works part time at a local shop, volunteers at the annual Telluride Film Festival (She is a bit of a cinefile), and travels when she can. She also explores new restaurants with her weekly Happy Hour group and she is a quilter.

She said, "The best part of my job with WRN is when a Westie comes to us after having lost the security of a loving home, with significant health needs or being abandoned and I know we are going to be able to change that dog's life for the better. Yes, it's hard to give up a Westie after they have become a part of my



life but even better is when I see a dog become a part of a loving home for the rest of their life. Dexter, Simon, Ruffio, Tinc, Katie, Dottie, Brodie, Willie, Wilson – just a few of the names of Westies that will always remain a special part of my life."



# Spot the Westie





Duffy, submitted by Jan Humphrey





#### From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and any other pictures, stories, and ideas to marmfield@aol.com

May/June issue will include a special page for our Westies that have gone over the Rainbow Bridge. Send names and/or pictures for submission.



West Highland White Terriers and their people! are invited to participate in the 34th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade will be held on **Saturday**, **March 16**, **2019**, **at 12:00 Noon** in Downtown Colorado Springs.

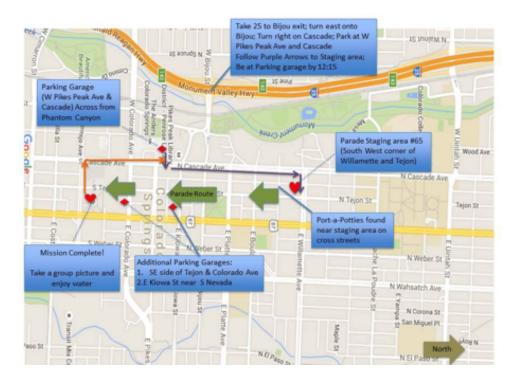
The Parade Route starts at Tejon & St. Vrain Streets, marching south on Tejon Street to Vermijo Street where we will disband. See map below. Immediately before the parade, the "5K on St. Patrick's Day" Race will be held at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Wee Leprechaun Fun Run at 11:00 a.m. Both races start at Acacia Park. And if that's not enough, we have a 50K Bike Ride starting at 8:30 a.m. too! It's going to be a fun-filled day!

### Reminders:

No Alcohol allowed.

No throwing of Candy.

Pooper Scoopers: All animal groups mist have a pooper scooper following their unt.



### Westie Rescue Network

Please RSVP your name and number of dogs to mark.ianacone@gmail.com



### The Back Page



### Is your pup at risk?

Canine influenza vaccination is recommended if your pup:

- plays in the dog park
- •has a dogay play date crew
- participates in dog shows
- •competes in sporting events
- stays in a boarding facility



### for more information

copy this link:

https://www.vetcoclinics.com/services-and-clinics/clinic-locations-and-schedules-dogflu?utm\_source=petcoach&utm\_medium=articles&utm\_campaign=fluarticle

or scan the QR code with your smart phone



# Shopping at Amazon Gives You and WRN The Best Rewards

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Westie Rescue Network every time you shop--at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, they will donate a portion of the purchase price to WRN.

**Step 1:** On your first visit to *smile.amazon.com*, select Westie Rescue Network, before you being shopping. **Step 2:** Amazon remembers your selection, and every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.



### March 21 National Westie Day

March 21st is National Westie Day marked by the passing of the 16th Laird of the MacCullum-Malcom! Edward Donald Malcolm died on March 20, 1930, at 92 years old. He was fortunate to have witnessed the development of his breed into not only a working dog, but a show dog and popular pet worldwide. Today, Col. Malcolm is regarded as the man who not only bred the right type, but brought the Westie to public notice.

