



2022 January/ February

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by Marlene Armfield

westie rescue network



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A letter from our President ~Gene Bourque



Dear Friends of Westie Rescue Network (WRN),

Happy New Year from the WRN Board, all of our incredible volunteers and my family as we all navigate these tumultuous times in which COVID issues continue to exert some control over all our lives and businesses.

While WRN was slowed down by COVID issues, we managed to take in 19 dogs in 2021 as compared to 7 in 2020. We currently have one dog in foster waiting for vetting and one dog in hospice care who unfortunately is suffering from bladder cancer. The dog in hospice has been with us for three months with a wonderful WRN foster. When we

place a dog in hospice WRN maintains ownership and we pay all the costs of ownership related to the dog's wellbeing and comfort. I am in awe and truly blessed to work with fosters who have taken care of our hospice dogs suffering from such terrible outcomes.

At the end of last year we placed 17 dogs in their forever homes.

At the moment we have 19 approved applicants and 16 new applicants, most of whom have had phone interviews and have had their references checked. They still need home visits. Because we are not seeing the 30+ dogs a year that we have seen in the past, we are still telling new applicants that it might be up to a 2 year wait to receive one of our dogs.

In addition, the average age of the 46 dogs we received in 2019 through 2021 was 7-1/2 years. Older than what we have seen before 2019. The average veterinary cost per dog is just over \$2,000. We are now performing ultrasounds on almost all the dogs and well over 90% of the dogs coming in require extensive dental work. In spite of the financial concerns many people are facing, WRN is blessed with generous donors who have allowed us to continue to provide top notch veterinary care for our Westies.

I am thinking better times are ahead for all of us as more vaccine is distributed. I can't thank my Board, our incredibly loyal volunteers and our generous donors for their commitment to these wonderful dogs. Have a happy and blessed Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

Gene and Minnie Bourque and our two housemates....Clancy and Annabelle



Happy Tales

Recent Adoptions



Buddy

Who rescued who? Buddy or Patty? A perfect match for each other. They belong together!



Jessie

I have changed her name to Jessie after my husband's and cousin's Scottish grandmother. She's had her follow-up vet appointment, and she has appointment next week at Mountain Ridge for her dental work.

I've talked to, walked with, and had coffee variously with Julie, the foster host, and Sandy Arneson whom I knew before but has been enthusiastically involved in getting Ms. Westie settled here. I expect that we'll get together more, they are both knowledgeable, helpful, interesting and fun.

~Sarah





Dirty Dawgs



Ali from Beth Schlachter



from Ecko Prue



from Amber Illikman Cronk



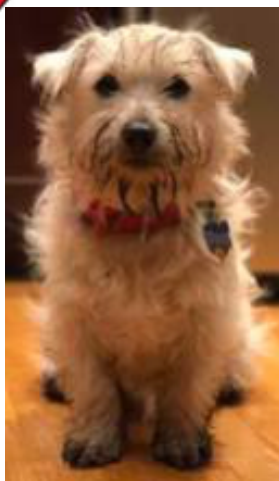
from Cindy Nydam-Greenwood



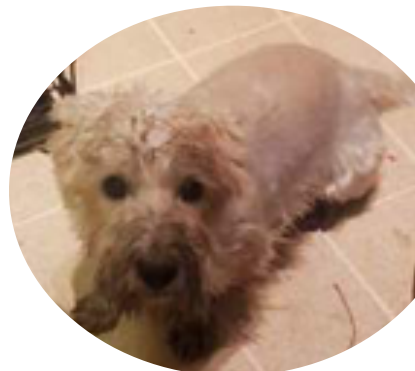
from Dara Gill



from Emma Bendersky



from Erika Falowski



Sweetie Girl from Janae Passalaqua

From the Editor

Send your Dirty Dawg photos, and any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfield@aol.com

Westie Love

★ You're Special ★



Hi all my westie friends. My name is Doc. My mommy and Daddy got married and I was in the wedding!
~from Trish Huddle Keppler



~from Carla James



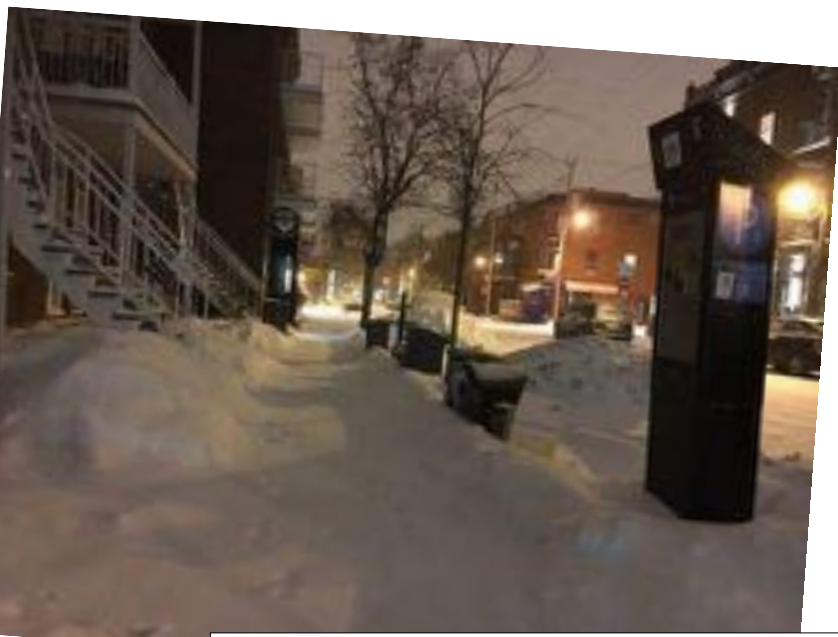
Loved each other the minute they met.
~Tara meeting her new parents Jim & Veronica



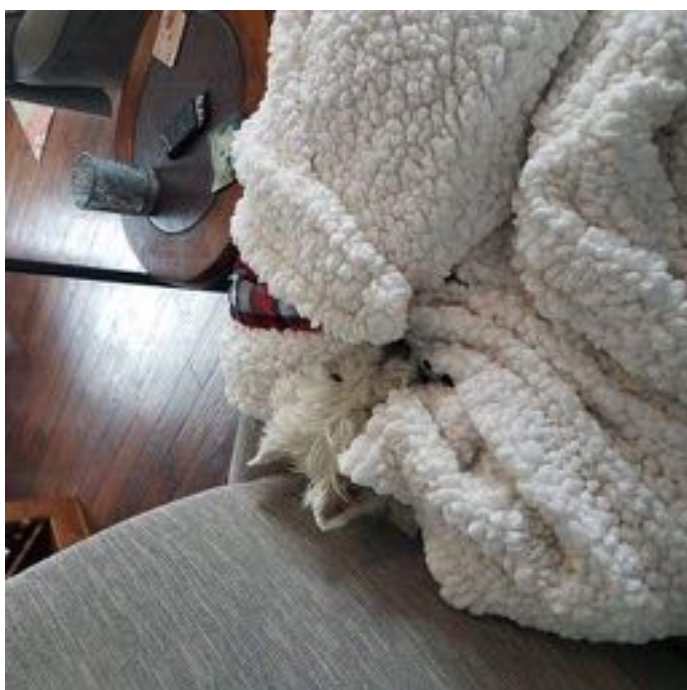
~Minnie & Annabelle



Spot the Westie



**SOMETIMES THE BEST HIDING PLACE
IS THE ONE THAT'S IN PLAIN SIGHT**
~STEPHANIE MEYER



From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and
any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

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In Memory of



Dolly

'Our Best Life' #21
'On the way to the Bridge'

Today Dolly went over the Rainbow Bridge. It was time to send her. She passed peacefully at home, surrounded by loving friends, assisted by a very skilled Dr. It is impossible to express what she meant to me. She made

me a better person. She taught me to love being out in the cold almost as much as she loved it, and to pay attention to the stars again... The twilight was our time, full of silence and rabbits, starlight and moonlight... It delighted me to say 'go for a walk' or 'ride in the car' just to see her light up and maybe bark her happy bark... I did anything she wanted just to make her life the best it could be, making her happy made me happy. And she did what she saw made me happy, smart and sensitive little dog that she was... Making me happy made her happy.

Goodbye my darling Dolly, my Westie Bestie... Rest in peace. You left my heart fuller than you found it. 🌈❤️

~John Rigg

Dakota

My wife Renee and I fostered and adopted Dakota on October 25, 2013. He passed on September 23rd, 2021. When Dakota (Doak) came to us, he jumped out of a car, and before he hit the driveway, he had my heart. Truly love at first sight! He was the most affectionate dog we have ever loved.

Doak had favorite outings in our neighborhood, along the Poudre Trail, and several places in Grand County near Berthoud Pass. For a short 30-pound chunk, he was a champ in the backcountry in all seasons of the year and he especially loved winter. In deep snow he'd trot behind me in my ski tracks. On compacted snow he'd range in circles around me, kicking up a rooster tail of snow, my three mile outing turning into four or five miles for him. Such sweet memories.

Now we still look for him atop the stairs, at the window, lounging splayed on a recliner or couch, by the door, on his bed, on our bed...all his favorite hangouts. We think we hear the jingle of his tags. Our initial grief has now morphed into a deep appreciation for his unique personality, an acknowledgement of gratitude for all the positive energy he burned and generated.

~Tom & Renee Adams



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from Kim
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Spotlight on Volunteers



Foster Mary Beth



Mary Beth has been a foster since 2007! I wanted to feature her at the beginning of 2022 because she had the distinction of fostering the first dog of 2021, and the last one. The first dog was Mack. He was featured in the 2021 May/June WRN newsletter. It took three months of patient care, and many vet visits to resolve Mack's many health issues. In March Mary Beth wrote to Gene (WRN President) to say, "Good news for you. Mack saw the vet for the last time and was cleared for adoption. . .Bad news for me. Mack saw the vet for the last time and was cleared for adoption." She ended up adopting him! Currently she has three Westies- Mack, Millie, and Quinn. She says the best part of the foster job is seeing the people bond with their new dog, especially if it is a dog in need, and you can see evidence of this with Tara, the last WRN dog of 2021, featured with her new parents in this issue on the Westie Love page.



Mary Beth says "I like putting together the puzzle pieces of a mostly unknown dog. When I talked to her, she had a notebook with information on all of the dogs she has fostered over the years. She says "they are all distinct," and she has stayed in touch with many of the owners. One of her more memorable fosters was a mother dog with a litter of 3 puppies. Mary Beth was ok with giving up those puppies because she "was ready for a normal life again." Puppies are a lot of work!

She said, "Westie Rescue Network values the dog enough to get them off on a good start, and after being in a foster home, they are going to a life they should have had from the beginning." Oh yes!

When I asked Mary Beth what hobbies or interests she had, her reply was "Volunteer work!" She is considering getting her dog Millie into Alliance Pet therapy; so she can bring her to the hospital where she currently volunteers. Wow. She certainly enjoys giving away her time! And that is why we at Westie Rescue love this lady!

President Gene Bourque added: "Mary Beth is a "font of knowledge" as regards Westie behavior and is a joy and a privilege to work with. My wife, Minnie, and I are blessed that Mary Beth was the Foster Mom for our Westie, Clancy. Thank you Mary Beth for all you have done for WRN and the Westie education you have provided to me!"

The Back Page



JANUARY

Walk Your Pet Month

Dogs get both physical and mental stimulation from walks, while you get a dependable walking buddy to help with your New Year's get-healthy resolution.

Get your 2022 Calendars!

Get your 2022 calendars and see a new Westie featured every month!



Sabrina is the cover girl!

She was adopted May 2021. She was a retired breeding female, and now she is living the good life! Her mom says, " She is learning to chase squirrels and loves being outside. This is a new world for her! She loves to go for walks, and has helped her new brother be more active."

To purchase Click the link or QR code below.

<https://westierescuenetwork.org/help-wrn/cool-stuff-to-buy/calendars-stickers>



THANK YOU from the Editor

As we begin a New Year I would like to thank each of you that has contributed to this newsletter. Awhile back I asked for pictures of your "Dirty Dawgs" and I got enough for three issues!! Keep those pictures and stories coming, from Spot the Westie photos, to stories about your pups, and sadly to report when they cross the Rainbow Bridge. My first issue was mid 2017 right after we got our rescue pup, Maggie. You see her a lot in the newsletter, but I would like to see more of your dogs!. Happy New Year!

~Marlene Armfield



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