
WISCONSIN WESTIE RESCUE

CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

WISCONSINWESTIERESCUE.COM

2018 Year in Review

As many of you have noticed, 2018 was a bit more quiet than usual for WWR. We started the year off slowly and kept that pace for the rest of the year. While we handled fewer dogs than usual, we still did some great work in 2018.

WWR maintains a database of the dogs that come through Rescue, separated by year. We divide the dogs into three categories: permanent fosters, dogs from the previous year carried into the current year, and new dogs that come in during the current calendar year.

Dogs from the previous year that carry over are those dogs that, for example, came to us in 2018 that were not yet adopted as of January 1, 2019. New dogs are those that come in new to the calendar year. Permanent fosters are those dogs that, usually for health or age reasons, are not typically able to be adopted and live out their lives in a WWR foster home.

In 2018, our breakdown of dogs is as follows:

- Permanent fosters: We started 2018 with four permanent fosters.
- 2017 carried in to 2018: We carried three dogs over from 2017 to 2018.
- 2018 new dogs: We took in sixteen brand new dogs in 2018.
- Total = twenty-three dogs "handled" by WWR.

That translates into the following adoption numbers:

- Permanent fosters: We had one adoption.
- 2017 to 2018: three adoptions.
- 2018 new dogs: thirteen adoptions.
- Total = seventeen dogs adopted, three dogs from 2018 carried forward to 2019.

We came out almost exactly even on males to females in 2018, with twelve males and eleven females. Our oldest dogs were about thirteen years old, the youngest (technically surrendered in 2017, but adopted in 2018) was a four-month-old puppy who I happen to know is still very much a goofy puppy! Owner turn-ins were the main source of our dogs in 2018 (14), followed by dogs from the puppy mills (7) and other sources (2).

I am happy to report that the three dogs that were carried forward to 2019 have all been adopted, so we are off to a great start. Thank you to everyone who helped make 2018 a great year for the Westies who needed us!

Wisconsin Westie Rescue is a 501(c)(3) federal non-profit organization.

Donations are tax deductible. Wisconsin State License # 268578-DS

Can You Help?

WWR is compiling a list of our adopters who have experience with dogs with special health concerns and are willing to mentor families with dogs recently diagnosed with serious health conditions. Examples include chronic conditions such as diabetes, Cushing's disease, Addison's disease, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (Westie lung), and white shakers syndrome, as well as dogs with severe allergies.

Often, when facing a daunting diagnosis for a beloved four-footed family member, it is nice to have the experience of someone else who has "been there, done that" and can offer support during this difficult time. Support groups formed from this list of adopters within rescue dealing with a sick Westie are encouraged, as well.

If you have or have had in the past a dog diagnosed with any serious illness and are willing to talk with someone new to the condition, please email us at aroooo@charter.net and let us know. We will add your name and preferred method of contact to our database as someone willing to help another Westie owner. If you have recently received a diagnosis for your Westie and are looking to have that extra support, check with us and see if we have a resource for you.

We encourage every Westie owner to work with your vet or their recommended specialist. This list is in no way a substitute for professional care.

Reunion Reminder

We hope everyone has their calendars marked for Saturday, June 29th!! The 20th Anniversary WWR Reunion is being held at the home of Jerry and Connie Wolfram in Mauston, WI. The little elves on the Planning Committee are very excited and are looking forward to this shindig. We are hoping to see all of you there! Please keep an eye on your mail, as the official invitation, RSVP, and some additional important information will be coming to you in early spring. Or when this ice age passes and it becomes Road Construction Season in Wisconsin, whichever comes first....

Calling All Dogs!

It's that time of year again--time to look through last year's vacation and holiday photos and send your favorites to us to use in our 2020 benefit calendar. When sending photo files remember to not compress the photos for best print quality. I do not mind getting a lot of emails with your cute dog photos at all! If you have multiple dogs, try to let me know which dog is which so I can be certain to get a photo of every dog in the calendar.

Send your photo files to aroooo@charter.net and actual photos to 1332 Armstrong PL, Eau Claire, WI, 54701. I can scan photos and return them to you if you wish. We strive to get every dog in at least once!

Deadline for sending photos is Sunday, April 28th. This deadline gives us enough time to arrange the photos and get everything to the printer and back so we can sell calendars at the reunion picnic in June.

The yearly benefit calendar has become one of our most popular fundraisers for WWR and this year we sold out of calendars for the first time ever! For those of you new to our calendar, they are beautiful, full-sized color calendars and feature our adopted rescues from over the years. You will be proud to show off your fur-baby's photo in this calendar!

Make Sure You Get Your Newsletter

If you move or change your email, please be sure to update your mailing and email addresses with Wisconsin Westie Rescue. Changes can be sent to wnewsletter@gmail.com.

In addition to snail mail, the newsletter is available via your email or online at the WWR website: www.wisconsinwestierescue.com/archive.htm. It comes in PDF format and all the pictures of those adorable Westies are in color!

Help us save trees and postage. Keep your mailing and email addresses up-to-date. Thanks!

Recent Adoptions

- ❖ Abby -- Sweet Abby was scooped up by previous adopters Gregg and Sue from Greenfield, WI. Thanks to Jerry and Connie Wolfgram for fostering.
- ❖ Otis -- Julie and Tom Risen failed foster with this wonderful little guy. Otis now lives with them in Altoona, WI with Westie siblings Tupie and Mickey.
- ❖ Henry, aka Bandit -- Greg and Sue VerPlank fostered our honorary Westie Henry, aka Bandit, until he found his forever home in the Milwaukee area with Sarah and Jeff.
- ❖ Sally -- Previous adopters Ron and Janell Westimayer also failed foster and adopted this little honey.
- ❖ Ellie -- Ellie won the hearts of previous adopters Cheryl and Steve and is now a country girl in Door County, WI. Thanks to Anne Plouff for fostering Ellie.
- ❖ Kittie -- Previous adopter Brenda Blum fostered this little sweetheart. Kittie knows a good thing when she sees it and decided not to go anywhere, so Brenda is joining the ranks of failed fosters.
- ❖ Sadie -- Ken & Judy Grau made their debut fostering Sadie. The Graus just couldn't play defense against Sadie and their own two Westie girls, so we also welcome the Grau family to the Failed Foster Club.
- ❖ Buddy Holly -- After a bit of a rough road, Buddy Holly has just recently gone home with previous adopters Donna and Roger, and has a wonderful home in Redwing, MN that includes lots of snuggles, treats, and a cat that ignores him completely. Amy Wolfgram fostered.

As of the writing of this article (end of January), we have no dogs in Rescue. Of course, as I like to say, that information is only good for the twelve seconds after I hit the "send" button because things change all the time. WWR does maintain a waiting list for adoptions; if that is something you are interested in (and you have not previously been in contact with Cheryl/Amy to get on the list) you can reach out to Amy via email at llbj77@gmail.com

Ferris

by Donna Decker

I adopted Ferris from Westie Rescue in October 2018, after my best friend, Beethoven, passed away. Ferris is a little "love bug." He loves to be hugged and cuddled, and will fall asleep in my lap. He loves to go for walks and he loves to eat. He is always hungry!



Amish families live in our community and horse/buggies go by daily. One day we were out in the front yard (unleashed) and a horse and buggy went by. Ferris took off after them so fast, it took me a few minutes to realize what had happened. I called and called, and he stopped before he reached them. I don't think I have ever seen a Westie run so fast. Ferris has such short legs, but he is quick and has tons of energy.

Sometimes when I talk to him, he looks at me and winks, like maybe he has a secret or he has something to tell me(??) so I have nicknamed him "Winky."

It took Ferris about six weeks before he settled into his new home. I would like to thank Amy Zion for fostering Ferris and for the love and care she gave to this little doggy. He has surely won my heart! Westies make your life much sweeter. Thank you to Westie Rescue for making Ferris a part of my life!

Westies have little black noses like roses.
They have claws on their paws instead of toes-es.
Westies have feelings like you and me.
They want to be fed and they want to run free.

Chaz

by Alice Oakey

Hi! My name is Chaz. I am thirteen years old and have lived in three loving homes. I lived three years with a couple that had a house and yard, but needed to move to an apartment. Lucky for me, a woman knew me and offered to give me a new home. I lived with her for ten years and gradually the two of us added a man and then two beautiful babies. The woman decided it would be best for everyone if she could find a suitable retirement home for me so on a sad day in September the woman packed up my food, bed, and toys and waited by our front door.

Soon two people I had never met, Alice and John, came to the door. I was introduced to them and they seemed very nice. The man carried my things to their car. Everyone hugged and cried and smiled. I looked at the woman who had cared for me for ten years and tried to give her my best smile, which is hard because I do not have very many teeth. And then I left with Alice and John for the car ride to their house in Madison.

At my new home I was greeted by a Westie named Jax and a young woman named Tyler. They belong to Alice and John. Jax showed me around and Alice, John, and Tyler taught me how to sit on laps and introduced me to new people and dogs.



I cannot hear so I watch Jax and my people so I know what is going on. Alice said I am especially special because she can play her harmonica around me and I do not complain.

There is a woods near my new home where we go for walks everyday. At night we go for a walk before bed and if it is a clear evening, Alice shows me the stars and planets. My favorite star is Siriu. It is so bright, I can see it perfectly.

I am Alice and John's third Westie. All of us have been from Wisconsin Westie Rescue. Alice's first Westie was Arlo. She loved him very much and said when she retired she would foster and adopt senior Westies like her Arlo was his last few years. I think I was supposed to be a foster, but Alice and John fell in love with me and I with them and their family and friends, so here I am.

I have been very lucky to have such wonderful homes and people, but I am glad to be settled in my forever home where I have learned to love clementines, cheese curds, lap-sitting, naps, cuddling, and a furry playmate. Alice was a librarian so she reads me *Fergus* by David Shannon and *McDuff* by Rosemary Wells. Alice knits big furry sweaters and I sit on them. We are a great team.

I am grateful to WWR for helping me meet Alice and John and their family.

Henry

by Laurel and Bob Scrivani



Our first adopted senior was Casper in 2016. He developed cancer and had to be put down last September. One month later a thirteen-year-old boy needed a new home and we gave him ours. This guy, Henry "Too," came from a good home and is a joy to have. He plays like a puppy at times and hogs the bed at night--typical WESTIE. He loves adventures and our walks in the woods. We are very happy to adopt seniors. It is very gratifying to see how happy they can be with us.

Ellie

by Cheryl Parker and Steve Lavell

This fall, after two years of mourning the loss of our first much loved Westie, Daisy Mae, we decided it was time to open our hearts and our home to another Westie. We were able to visit



Anne in early December and meet her fostered Westie, and her own two Westies, Rose and Duff. They had Ellie for just over a month, sharing their home and showing her the ins and outs of home life after she had spent nearly four years as a mill mama.

We have had Ellie about a month. She impressed us right away with her sweet demeanor, and occasional Westie trickster behavior, such as hiding our socks in her bed. She has settled in, but is still shy, yet wants to connect with all who see her. She enjoys walks along Kangaroo Lake, and is learning the leash as she explores the smells and tracks along the roadside. At feeding time we have noticed Ellie nearly inhales her food in a matter of seconds, and I'm told that is typical of mill dogs. We are now able to stand by her dish as she eats and she has slowed down a bit. Ellie loves time on our bed and was so enthused one day that she surprised us when she accomplished a leap and landed in the bed. I think Ellie was as surprised as we were and proceeded to snowplow through the duvet and pillows and was pretty thrilled with it all.

Ellie loves her lamb chop squeaky toy which must be her baby. A highlight of her day is when our cat, Taz, and she connect by touching noses. Ellie is welcoming and we may eventually see the two become real friends. We are so happy with our Ellie and grateful to the WWR for the good work you do to help these giving, loving and wonderful dogs. Thank you.

Neely

by Jane and Peter Olk

Hi! My name is Neely and I am nine years young. I spent all of my life with my older mom and dad who loved me very much. Unfortunately, they both became ill and had to move to a new home and couldn't take me with them.

Fortunately for me, my new mom and dad, Jane and Peter Olk, were looking for someone to move in with them! On August 10, 2018, I got to meet my new family! It was love at first sight for my dad and me and I have become soooo attached to him! (My mom says I have severe separation anxiety because I can't live without knowing where my dad is every single second of every single day). I do admit I can't live without him! And I love to just sit and stare at him in awe!

I am learning all kinds of new things in my new home. First, I have to share with my new sister, Gracie. Gracie was adopted from WWR, too, and she is quite the clown! We still try to decide who should be boss, but I am getting really used to having a sister. I don't understand what everyone means when they tell me I have to share...it's just more fun to bark and try to get the toys away from Gracie!

Mom says I must have been "the queen of the house" because I am very determined and know what I want to do and when I want to do it. But I impress her all of the time with how smart I am and how many commands I am capable of doing if I choose to! I pretended in the beginning to not like my mom so much, but I think she has figured out that I really do like her because she catches me waiting for her by the front door to come home. I wag my tail, get excited and do the cutest little dance on my hind legs so she knows I love her.

I continue to relax more and more every day. I know now that my new home is going to be my forever home and I can be myself again. It really feels so good to be loved again!



Wisconsin Westie Rescue Newsletter

c/o Jean Anderson
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Penny by Shawn and Kathy Davis

We adopted Penny (Suzie Q) in June/July of 2017. She was three and a half years old when we picked her up. We had two other dogs, one of which was also a Westie (Mini). Mini had a terminal heart condition when we got her as a puppy, but she was the sweetest!!!!--full of spunk, but even more full of love. We knew Mini's time with us would be short so we applied to adopt another Westie. We were approved and blessed to have Penny join our family. Penny also has quite a bit of spunk and is full of love. Westies truly have a lot of energy.



Mini passed away this past year and we now have Penny and our Yorkie-Poo, Chester. Penny likes to give Chester a bit of a hard time, but she loves him.... Penny has truly become a huge part of our lives. We attended the Rescue picnic this past summer and plan on attending again this summer. Westies are great dogs....