
WISCONSIN WESTIE RESCUE

CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

WISCONSINWESTIERESCUE.COM

Notes from the Volunteer Coordinator by Barbara Peden

Wisconsin Westie Rescue has for well over a decade taken dogs “retired” from breeding facilities in Clark County. Currently we are halfway through a fourteen-dog mill release from one mill, but we take dogs from any mill that releases dogs to us. We have seen some mills stop breeding Westies, but others remain in operation. We will continue our efforts to help these dogs to freedom as long as both human and financial resources allow.

Due to the high number of mill dogs being released already in 2019 (nine mill dogs and three owner turn-ins), we are asking if any of our previous volunteers, especially those who have adopted retired mill dogs in the past, would be open to fostering. As I write this, we have nine foster dogs in our care and only fourteen total foster homes. Nine is a lot of dogs, and gives us very little wiggle room, especially since many of our foster homes can take only certain types of dogs into their homes.

The backbone of any rescue like Wisconsin Westie Rescue is the volunteers. We are an all-volunteer rescue group that accepts our pay in Westie kisses and happy adoptive families. In order for those kisses to come though, a lot of work goes into making things in rescue move as smoothly as possible, and that is where our volunteers, most notably our foster families, shine. While it’s easier to see the efforts of some of our volunteers as they are more high profile, (for instance, everyone who adopts has contact with the adoption coordinator), it is the foster family that has been there from day one of the dog’s new life. We are extremely blessed to have wonderful and committed foster families that give so much more than they ever get back.

Perhaps you were thinking of adopting again, or maybe would like to, but extra dollars are not in the piggy bank. Rescue pays for everything the foster dog needs so you get to collect kisses for free!

It isn’t always easy to say goodbye to a dog you have invested so much into, but our foster families do so time and time again for the love of the breed. If you’d like to know more, send me a note to aroooo@charter.net or a call at 715-514-8681.

Crates Needed!

Foster families or people with a spare plastic crate—if you have a crate from a transport, or one you no longer use and are coming to the picnic in June, please bring it along. Our supply of travel crates is dwindling and with at least seven more mill dogs coming in, we need to get some of ours back for the next batch of dogs. Please look for Barbara Peden and she will happily take your crate!

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

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

Looking for Our Forever Homes!

Momma (five years old) recently came into WWR foster care with a group of younger retired breeding Westies. She is by no means old, but, unfortunately, spent a couple more years having puppies. The younger "Westie girls" seem to be friendlier, happy, more confident and, at least one (my other foster Westie from this breeder, Josie), kind of nosy and a little imp!

Momma, on the other hand, is more of a typical puppy mill dog--more shy, nervous, and scared of new things. She has made some progress in the month here with me, and although they may sound like little steps to the average person, anyone who has fostered or adopted a retired puppy mill adult knows that these are really some pretty big hurdles! Going up steps, going down a few, riding in a car, grabbing a toy and playing fetch, and letting a few people pet her are all major accomplishments for Westies that have lived their lives in kennels. She does love being petted and shows her affection by licking your hands. Given time, patience, and a lot of love Momma will surely blossom into the companion she is meant to be. -- Susan J. (Momma's foster mom)



Editor's note: Those of you who have welcomed retired breeding dogs into your home know the joy of helping them become the cherished family members they deserve to be. If you are interested in being considered as Momma's new, loving forever family please contact Amy Wolfgram, WWR Adoptions Coordinator, at llbj77@gmail.com or at 715-450-6845. Momma is fostered in Menomonee Falls, WI. The successful applicant will need to have a visible fenced yard.

Helen is a delightful, small, seven-year-old retired mill mama in search of a good home. She is smart, playful, funny, and sweet with a little Westie sass thrown in. She likes to chew on toys, go for walks and keep an eye on squirrels. Helen is very curious and wants to be where you are at all times. She does like other dogs, but can be bossy with the more gentle ones. As long as she is recognized as Queen of the Westies, she is happy.

Overall, Helen is in very good health, having recently been spayed and her mouth cleared of bad teeth. Unfortunately, Helen also came into rescue with very infected ears. The long-term ear infections have



caused significant scarring and narrowing of her ear canal. This has led to two things. First, the scarring has pulled her ears down. You can see this in the picture. Although this does not allow for the classic perky Westie ear, it does not detract from her overall

cuteness! Second, the narrow ear canal makes it extremely challenging to treat her current ear infection and any future infections. For this reason, the specialist has recommended that Helen have her ear canals removed. Helen currently does not hear much and this surgery would reduce it further. She does have great eyesight and very perceptive nose.

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 wwrnewsletter@gmail.com.

20th Anniversary Wisconsin Westie Rescue Reunion

Greetings, all! It has been 20 years since WWR got started. Come one, come all to celebrate!

When: Saturday, June 29, 2019. Food will start around noon. You are always welcome earlier. The people aren't coming back to pick up the tent until Tuesday, so hang out!

Where: Jerry and Connie Wolfgram are hosting at **N4520 Johnson Road, Mauston, WI**. Please note that GPS can have a sense of humor about their address, so while we will have signs up, if you would like directions please call Jerry at 608-562-3749.

Cost: \$10/person or \$15/family; includes all food and beverages and all the fun you can stand!

- As this is our 20th anniversary, we ask that everyone bring your memories from the last 20 years. We always talk about them when we are together, but this time we want to see them. Bring pictures, write a letter, anything that you are inspired to do as you reflect on your time with WWR. We will have a special place to share them (you can take them home) so we can all see our history together!
- This year all past Kings and Queens of the Reunion (or their personal representatives!) can stand and be recognized. As it is our 20th Anniversary and because we make all our own rules, all dogs in attendance get to be King or Queen for the day.
- We will have a large event tent set up this year so there will be shade. We do always ask that everyone bring their own chairs.
- Food! And lots of it—come with your appetite ready! We are having a special anniversary cake made for us. We anticipate there may be photo opportunities!

Of course, if all this proves to be waaaay too much fun, Westie jail will be provided.

Please **RSVP by June 15th** by:

Completing and signing the attached form.

Writing a check to WWR for the fee (\$10/person or \$15/family).

Sending both form and check to Julie Risen, 924 Windsor Forest Drive, Altoona, WI 54720.

Questions? Email Julie Risen at westiecb@msn.com, Amy Wolfgram at l1bj77@gmail.com, or call Jerry and Connie at 608-562-3749.

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20th Anniversary WWR Reunion RSVP

Name(s) of person(s) attending: _____

Name of dog #1 _____ male/female (circle) Name of dog #2 _____ male/female (circle)

Name of dog #3 _____ male/female (circle) Name of dog #4 _____ male/female (circle)

Please read the following statement and sign/date on the space below to acknowledge the receipt of this waiver and agreement to the contents expressed. Return to Julie Risen by mail with the above RSVP.

I/we* agree to hold WISCONSIN WESTIE RESCUE and its volunteers harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of my dog(s) while in or around the premises while attending this WWR event. I/we* assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and we further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless to any such claims or loss of my dog(s) or injury to this dog(s). I/we* further will not hold WWR or its volunteers responsible for the negligence of any other person and their dog(s) in attendance at this event, as to property damage, injuries, loss, or death due to alleged or unalleged activities. By signing I also certify that my dog's vaccinations are current.

Signature _____ Date _____

*One signature needed per family.

Wisconsin Westie Rescue Newsletter

c/o Jean Anderson
4022 Doves Roost Court
Charlotte, NC 28211

Let's Raise Some Money

Stop by our Silent Auction and Sales tables while you are at the reunion picnic and help us raise much needed dollars! Some of the fun and unique items up for bid include a gorgeous handcrafted Westie quilt (thanks to Thora McClain), an 18-kt diamond cross pendant, a sterling and diamond Westie pendant, and outdoor décor featuring fair trade items. The sales table offerings include many fun Westie-themed items such as figurines, coffee mugs, jewelry, and totes. We have gifts for your favorite Westies including cozy doggy blankets and quilts, and don't forget to get your copy of our 2020 rescue calendar from Lana Olson!

If you have items to donate for either the sale or auction, email Barbara at aroooo@charter.net or call her at 715-514-8681! With vet bills from the influx of so many mill dogs rolling in, help us help more Westies while also having fun!

In Memoriam by John and Kay Carroll

Our beloved companion, Tanya, died on February 9th this year of complications from diabetes. She was almost sixteen years old and was totally blind and needed constant monitoring from us. We have cremated her and plan to spread her ashes in her favorite spot. Like many who rescue Westies, we never considered Tanya as a dog we owned—if anything, she owned us. She was sweet and easygoing and loved getting her hair cut every six weeks. It didn't take much to imagine her thinking how good she looked after being trimmed. She loved sitting in Kay's chair watching TV, jumping out of the chair only to ask to be picked up again. That was a game she would play all night if we would let her. Tanya always seemed to sense when bedtime rolled around. By 10:00 she would pace down the hall and back until we relented and turned off the TV. Once in bed she would cuddle up next to Kay and sleep there until morning.

We are grateful to have had Tanya in our lives and we know we gave her a more joyful existence than she had as a breeder dog. We will remember her as a playful, gentle creature who brought a lot of joy into our lives. Tanya is now in her forever home in our hearts. To honor Tanya's memory, we have made an unrestricted donation to be used by WWR as it sees fit.