

WISCONSIN WESTIE RESCUE

CHANGING LIVES ONE WESTIE AT A TIME

WISCONSINWESTIERESCUE.COM

WWR 2023 Calendars Are Hot Off the Press!!

The 2023 Wisconsin Westie Rescue calendars are now available for sale. The calendar contains many of our rescued Westies that have been placed in their forever homes.

Calendars are \$18 each and postage is \$4 for shipping single calendars and a shipping cost of \$8 for 2 or more calendars on the same order going to the same address.

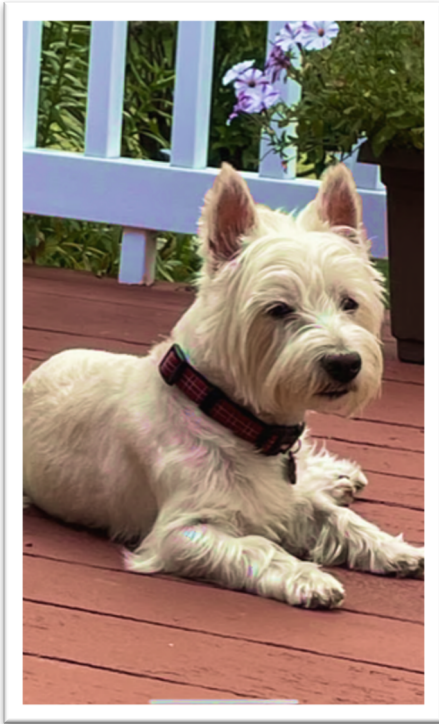
To order 2023 calendar(s), please send your name, address, and check payable to Wisconsin Westie Rescue to:

Wisconsin Westie Rescue 2023 Calendar
c/o Lana Olson
15213 W Union Dane County Line Rd
Brooklyn, WI 53521-9301

Profits from our 2023 calendar sales will support our organization in providing veterinary care and placement of our rescued Westies in forever homes.

Questions about the WWR 2023 calendar can be emailed to Lana Olson at lanasolson@gmail.com.





Meet Audie!

By Julie Risen

Hi! My name is Audie Murphy, Audie for short. My family named me after the famous WWII soldier. Unfortunately, they needed to move into an assisted living facility and were not able to take me with them so on June 11th I came here to the foster home of Julie and Tom Risen and their Westie, Otis. It didn't take long before they fell in love with me, and I became a permanent part of their family. I settled in on day one and never looked back.

I was an only dog before so having an older brother was new to me, but I love it. We keep each other company during the day in our cool "dog room" while our parents are at work. When they get home, we patrol our backyard hunting squirrels, bunnies, and birds. We also like to sunbathe together on the deck. At night we go for long walks with our parents. I'm still working on Otis wanting to wrestle with me. Hopefully, he comes around to that. Oh, the best part of having a brother, I eat his food when he's not paying attention!!

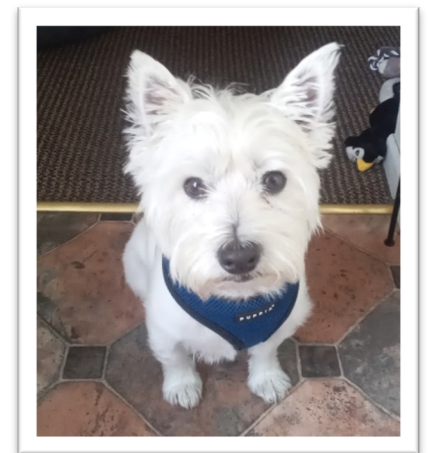
A few weeks ago, we hosted the WWR picnic and oh, my gosh, did I have fun! There were 25 Westies in my backyard. I played and made many new friends. I did need a "time out" a few times. (Sorry, Mom.) I think my new nickname became Naughty Audie. Did I mention I'm a cuddler? Yep, no one can sit

anywhere without me right next to them. It's only been a few months, but I love my life with my new family.

Murphy

by Becky McClone

I have had various pets in my life, but none in recent years because of work schedules. I became familiar with the Westie breed many years ago as friends owned them and I spent time and even pet-sat with them! When I met and began to work for Jane and Peter Olk, it was all about Westies! I came to love all of their rescues and knew that one day, I would have my own to love. The time finally came on Thursday, July 28th when Murphy came to me! We are learning each other's quirks and foibles, but are enjoying becoming "forever friends!" He has charmed everyone he has met and is such a joy to me! Thanks to the Rescue for finally helping me to become a Westie rescue mom!



Newsletter Editor Needed

WWR is looking for a newsletter editor beginning in 2023. The newsletter goes out two or three times per year depending on the amount of information we have for the organization. The choice of software to use and the newsletter format would be up to you as the editor. WWR covers the cost of supplies, printing, and postage. The newsletter editor also maintains the master, mailing, and email lists for the organization. If you might have any interest, please contact Jean Anderson at wwrnewsletter@gmail.com and we can chat.

Greetings—My Name Is Fergus by Dick Arnoldy

I would like to take a minute to tell you my story of my life with my adopted parents, Dick and Jeanne Arnoldy, over 13 ½ years ago. I remember getting loose in my first year of life and, being very inquisitive, I ran around chasing everything I could see. Eventually, I got lost and could not find my way back home. After being alone outside for a few days a friendly group of kids found me and took me home to their house. A few days later I was turned over to WWR in an attempt to locate my original parents. I was then put up for adoption and found my forever home with Dick and Jeanne. Being that I was a very friendly Westie I fit right in and enjoyed all the love and comforts of my forever home.

My new parents took me everywhere traveling all over the country and I never had to see the inside of a dog kennel. I loved to take rides and be included as part of the family. My parents kept me safe, fed me, let me sleep on their bed snuggled between them, and made sure all my medical needs were taken care of for all my years.

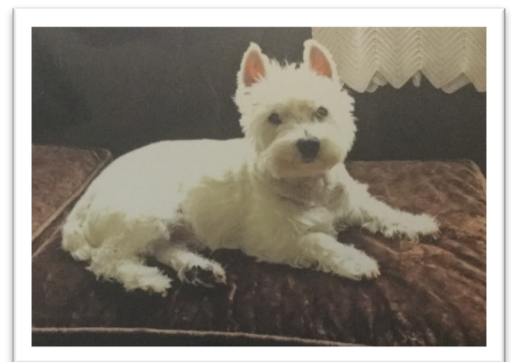
After nine wonderful years in my forever home, they decided to adopt another Westie, a little girl named Lilly. We ran around in the house and outside and played all day long. Lilly came to our home from a puppy mill and was very timid, not even knowing how to climb stairs, play with toys, or interact with people. After a short period, she enjoyed traveling with us and we had the whole back seat to ourselves. After 3 months of enjoying a free life and loving parents, she became very sick. We took her down to the UW Veterinarian Hospital in Madison where she was diagnosed with an aggressive stomach cancer. She could not eat or sleep so my parents were forced to put her to sleep. It was very lonely for me not having my playmate and having her steal all my toys and putting them in her little pile.

After 4 years, another Westie, LuLu, was available for adoption and we were picked to adopt her and bring her into her forever home. It took a while for LuLu to come out of her shell as she was a rescue from a puppy mill. She was deathly afraid of Mom and Dad as she was not handled very well in that mill. She took to me right away, always by my side for security. Eventually, she learned this was a loving home and her forever home. Life was GREAT.

Around March 15, a Monday, I wasn't eating very well and started with a short bout of diarrhea which continued for 3 more days. I was taken on Wednesday to the veterinarian office. They gave me some medicine to take for a couple of days to make me feel better and improve my appetite. By Friday, two days later, I was really feeling bad so my parents put me in the car that morning and we headed to the UW Veterinarian Hospital where I ended up in the ER section that morning.

After performing tests that day, the doctor informed my parents that I had contracted a serious intestinal bowel disease. This immediately started a 7 day stay under 24-hour care receiving pain medication and a series of additional tests in an effort to reduce the disease and make it manageable with steroids and antibiotics for the rest of my life.

During this 7-day period my parents' daughter, Dr. Courtney Arnoldy, who also works down the hallway and manages the animal rehabilitation section, came to see me 3 times a day to check on my progress and visit with me as this was a strange place to me. On Wednesday of that week my parents came down to see me and brought LuLu with them. LuLu immediately came up to me and her senses told her something was wrong.



Unfortunately, the now 7 days of tests and the serious disease had progressed so fast through my aging body and the next day at 2 a.m. on Friday morning the doctor called my parents and informed them that that a blood clot had formed and entered my brain which left me with very low blood pressure. It was at that moment that the hardest decision my parents had to make was to put me to sleep. Wednesday was the last day I spent with my loving parents and LuLu.

I so wish I could have beat this disease which would have then made it manageable so I could have continued on for a couple more years enjoying the peaceful golden years in my FOREVER home.

A dog is MAN'S BEST FRIEND, words that have been spoken that are so true.

Alfie's Story by Peg Olson

My friend, Kelly Burton, was fostering "Jack" in the spring of 2017 and said he was "a natural therapy dog." I'd taught a class in grief counseling at UW-O, and was interested, but not sure I was ready for another Westie. Kelly insisted on introducing us, and I was impressed with how well-trained he was. I renamed him "Alfie."

Alfie had three teeth and three epidermal cysts. He couldn't climb more than two steps, but he could eat soft food, walk, play, and yes, he was a natural therapy dog. Not long after we started visiting my husband in his long-term care facility, Alfie made friends with an Anatolian Shepherd whose "Grandpa" lived in the next room. The facility's administrator was impressed with this friendship and asked me to bring Alfie every time I visited. He was invited to participate in a training program at the main facility and did so well that he was allowed free rein at the smaller residence. Alfie even learned how to climb up a wheelchair wheel to be petted.

This "natural therapy dog" went on his rounds two or three times a week for three years until COVID-19 changed everything. Besides doing a few cute tricks for his treats, we learned that he had another talent. I had been worried about his newly erratic behavior until I was diagnosed by a physician who said, "You know some dogs can smell cancer." Alfie also made instant connections with two new residents who had other types of cancer.

Alfie knows when someone is unhappy. He will sit down close to a friend or neighbor who is sharing a problem or sad event with me. He's even had "sessions" with neighbors we meet on our walks. He and I co-facilitated a loss group at my church until he developed a serious intestinal problem.



Alfie's had a lot of experience with veterinarians; he's had excellent care at our local animal hospital and had two of his cysts removed at the UW-Madison veterinary hospital. He's lost one of his three teeth, and it's hard for him to control his tongue. One of our young neighbors says, "When his tongue hangs out, Alfie looks like he's thinking, like he has an idea!"

In Memory

A few weeks after I wrote the above, Alfie was having problems with eating and eliminating. He was given Prednisone and antidiarrhea medications, began to eat voraciously, and after a few weeks his albumin level was back in the normal range. The improvement didn't last long, though. X-rays showed that Alfie's liver was enlarged, and an ultrasound revealed a significant area of damage. Before long, he stopped eating and walking. Emergency surgery wasn't a good option, so I held him and said goodbye as his veterinarian gently sedated and euthanized him.

Alfie was twelve years old. I'd hoped for another year or more with him. Friends and family members have been very understanding and kind, but Alfie was my best buddy for five years.

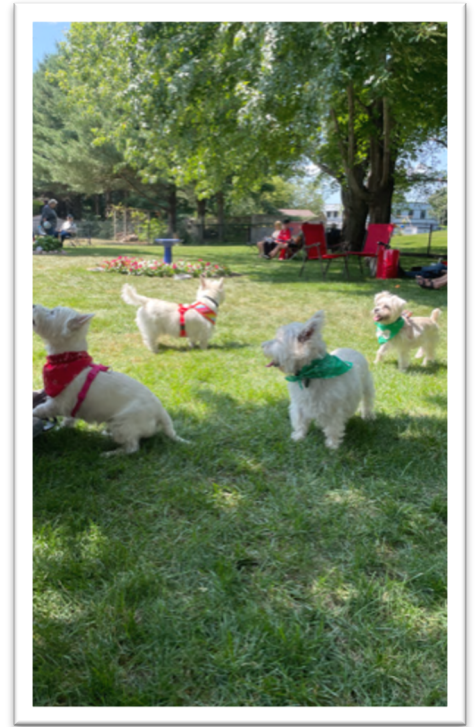
2022 WWR Picnic

The annual WWR summer picnic returned on July 30th at Julie and Tom Risen's house in Altoona, WI. It was a gorgeous summer afternoon for the humans and doggies to mingle. Everyone had a great time!

There were many, many highlights, but a few extra special ones included Gandalf helping himself to a drink in the birdbath and the Westie pack charging toward the box of squeaky toys when Tom dumped them on the ground.

Most of the adoptions in recent years have been mill release Westies. It was nice for those families to connect and share stories of how their mill Westie has transitioned into life after the puppy mill. It was wonderful to see old friends, make new ones, and watch our fur kids have a fun-filled afternoon.

Plans are already underway for the Summer 2023 WWR picnic. Watch future newsletters and/or the website for date and information. It's guaranteed to be the highlight of summer 2023! Janell and Ron Westimayer will be hosting us in beautiful Minocqua, WI.



Shopping With a Purpose! Meet Amazon Smile

Did you know that you can give to Wisconsin Westie Rescue when shopping with Amazon? Just sign up with AmazonSmile and name WWR as your 501 (c) (3) charity of choice, and then every time you shop on Amazon, check out through smile.amazon.com and .5% of your purchase will go to our rescue at no additional cost to you. How easy is that? As of November 2021, WWR received over \$1390.00 from this program!

For more information, or to sign up for Smile, go to aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile. Now you can feed your Amazon addiction and know that WWR is getting a piece of the pie!

Be Sure to 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.

We strongly encourage you to get the newsletter via email as it helps us save trees and postage, as well as time.

Keep your mailing and email addresses up-to-date. Thank you!

Check Out Our Website

If you have not visited the WWR website (<https://wisconsinwestierescue.com>) recently, please take a look. You will find information about adopting and surrendering, available dogs, current news and information, and lots of cute Westie pictures. If you have a picture of your favorite Westie that you would like to see on the website, please email it to wwrnewsletter@gmail.com. We will add it to our photo gallery. Please note, we do not use photos that include people.

Wisconsin Westie Rescue Newsletter

c/o Jean Anderson
4325 Tottenham Road
Charlotte, NC 28226