

YEAR 2009

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN



WESTIE RESCUE

(West Highland White Terrier Club of SE Michigan)

THIS NEWSLETTER-See <http://www.westie3.fatcow.com/ChristmasNewsletter09/Chnewsltr09.htm>
CALENDAR 2010-See <http://www.cafepress.com/Westierescue>

WOW!!!!

We thought 2008 was a big year....but 2009 was even larger. In July we were running double the number of dogs we had at that time the previous year. Fortunately there was a break for us mid-year and then it became more normal until late fall when they started pouring in again. At 10/31 we had a total of 33 dogs.

DOGS WHO WERE IN CARE AT 10/31/08

Our cutoff date is 10/31 so that we can get the newsletter and calendar prepared and available by December. Last year we left 5 dogs listed as "in care" who were placed before the end of the year. Here is the rest of their stories:

Winston was in care but had some "grumpy" issues! He went to another foster home late November. He became such good friends with one of her other Westies that she decided to adopt him. Winston still has his "moments" but he is doing much better now and has become a member of the pack.

Casey overcame his housebreaking issues after his bladder stone surgery. He eventually found his forever home and is a valued member of his new family.

Ava (now Evie) was adopted in early December by a family with young (but over age 10) children. They are a great help in using up her excess energy and she has been doing well.

Roni was also adopted and we have received good reports on her progress.

Charlie was adopted in early November by his foster home and has learned to become a good foster brother to others.

LATE FALL 2008



Cooper (now Zoey)
Fostered 35 days in 2009

Cooper (now Zoey), age 6, had been in foster care in 2008 because she wasn't good with children. While in care, she managed to tear her ACL. We had the surgery done to repair it and she stayed in foster care until February 2009. She was then adopted and is doing well in her new home.

SURRENDER REASON: CHILDREN



Megan - Placed in 2008

Megan, age 3, came to us from Detroit Animal Control. We believe she was a dog we were trying to get into Rescue. The lady was going to senior living and had to give her dog up but she just could not make up her mind to do it. We suspect her son was supposed to surrender her to us when she moved but instead dumped her. She was picked up as a stray. Megan was in foster care and eventually was adopted by her foster mom. Megan has a strong personality but mom has worked hard to teach her manners. She has since been a foster sister and now has two Westie brothers and is doing well.

SURRENDER REASON: STRAY



Jack - Placed in 2008

Jack, age 8, came into rescue because his young owner had no time for him. His owner did love him but she was working extra long hours so he was home alone much of the time. The adopting family was looking for a new family member to fill a hole left when their beloved puppy died unexpectedly. Jack joined a family that already had a human named Jack, and despite attempts to try new names, he is still Jack. They call him Jack-the-dog (or JTD) to differentiate him from Jack-the-teenager. He is very well loved, and while he is still somewhat shy, he loves being with his new family and going for "walkies."

SURRENDER REASON: NO TIME



Roxie - Fostered 80 days in 2009

Roxie, age 2, came into foster care because she had severe allergy issues. Her skin was bad and she had a lot of hair loss.



Her family could no longer afford to treat her condition and was considering putting her down. She arrived into foster care and began treatment with Atopica. She quickly showed improvement and is now adopted. Her adopters report that her personality is wonderful and her skin issues are very well controlled.

SURRENDER REASON: MEDICAL/COST



Scruppy (now Ziggy Stardust)
Fostered 4 days in 2009

Scruppy (now Ziggy Stardust), age 1 1/2, was bred by his owners. They gave him up when they had a new baby. He was marking and chewing. He came into foster care and showed no issues. After a relatively short time, he found a new home and is doing well.

SURRENDER REASON: MARKING



Buttercup - Placed in 2008

Buttercup, age 6, came back into foster care when her mom got very sick and she could no longer care for her. Buttercup came from a breeder who would, of course, take her back but it happened that we were contacted by a potential adopter at just the right moment. This adopter seemed perfect for Buttercup and we were able to arrange the adoption. Buttercup has been very happy with her new, "only dog" status, something she has always wanted to be!

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER ILLNESS



Harry - Euthanized in 2008

Harry, age 1, was a stray at a shelter. He failed their temperament test and they were unable to place him. We took him in hopes that the problem related to the shelter environment and his experiences while a stray. We hoped we would be able to work through his issues. However, while Harry was often very nice, he also had biting issues that made him a dangerous dog, in our opinion. He was put to sleep with many tears from his foster family.

SURRENDER REASON: STRAY

MEET OUR RESCUE WESTIES FOR 2009!



Jazzie - Fostered 66 days

Jazzie, age 3, was not doing well with children. She had been diagnosed with White Shaker disease as a young pup but there is no sign of it now. She is not on any medicines for it at all. Jazzie did have a hard time living with other dogs so she found a new home without any doggie siblings. Jazzie is now a very happy little girl.

SURRENDER REASON: CHILDREN



Scrappy (now Wee Mack)
Fostered 40 days

Scrappy (now Wee Mack), est. age 4, was found under a hay wagon in the middle of a very cold winter. It took them 3 days to get him out and into the house. Once there, they cleaned him up but they could not keep him. He was surrendered to us. Wee Mack was a gentleman from the start and did very nicely in foster care. He was adopted and became a brother to Ziggy Stardust (above).

SURRENDER REASON: STRAY



Max (now Willie)
Fostered 17 days

Max (now Willie), age 7 months, was given to the owners as a gift. He was surrendered because they could not housebreak him. (Often when a dog is received as a gift, the owners are not emotionally prepared to make such a life-changing decision. As a result they are more likely to surrender the dog when things don't go exactly as they imagined. Please don't give dogs as gifts!) Max wasn't fostered long before he found his "real" home. He is living nicely with three cats and German Shepherd.

SURRENDER REASON: HOUSEBREAKING



Kadie - Fostered 15 days

Kadie, age 5, came to us when her family got divorced. Mom got Kadie and had to move and live with her daughter who has small kids. Kadie doesn't do well with small children so she was surrendered. Kadie was fostered and adopted by her foster home.

SURRENDER REASON: DIVORCE/CHILDREN



Jay Jay (Fostered 23 days)

Jay Jay, age 12, came into foster care when his mom had a stroke and could no longer care for him. He is a sweet boy. He is a bit hard of hearing. His adopters have room in their heart for an older boy so he now in a happy home along with a Westie "sister", who is also an older Westie.

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER ILLNESS



Scottie - Fostered 36 days

Scottie, age 7, came to us because he was marking. His owner did not want to try any longer to correct this issue. When he arrived at his foster home, he had no trouble going outside with the other dogs. He met a man on an outing at the local dog park and it was love at first site. His dad adopted him shortly afterwards.

SURRENDER REASON: MARKING



Gidget -Fostered 39 days

Gidget, age 6, was "purchased" by her original owner at a pet store. She saw Gidget in a cage off by herself and offered the owner a turtle in exchange for the dog. He made the deal! Gidget's owner has a heart condition and needed surgery. It was going to be several weeks of her own rehabilitation and she felt it would be better for Gidget to find a new home. When Gidget arrived we tried to figure out what else was in her besides Westie. We just aren't sure but she is a mix of some sort. Gidget did well in foster care and is now living in her new home.

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER ILLNESS



Finley - Fostered 67 days

Finley, age 12, came to us when his owner died. We don't know much of his background but based on his condition, we don't think he was cared for very well. Finley has arthritis in his knees and back legs. He has an injured front leg that may have been broken and not set. He had an untreated ear infection and dental disease that resulted in some extractions. His hearing is "selective" at best. BUT he is a wonderful little boy, full of love and just wants to be loved. When it was time to place him, his foster mom just wasn't able to do so. So Finley has stayed and become a permanent member of her family.

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER DEATH



Angus - Fostered 38 days

Angus, age 7, arrived when his dad lost his job. The family decided to move east and live with the daughter while looking for new work but daughter had children and Angus doesn't do well with small children. (sound familiar?) So Angus needed a new family. He was a nice boy, and he is now in a new home with the mom of another of our adopters.

SURRENDER REASON: JOB LOSS/MOVING