

YEAR 2010
SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN



WESTIE RESCUE

(West Highland White Terrier Club of SE Michigan)

THIS NEWSLETTER-See <http://www.westie3.fatcow.com/RESCUE/ChNewsletter10/Chnewsltr10.htm>
CALENDAR 2011-See <http://www.cafepress.com/Westierescue>

Year 2010 was a "strange" year for us. Suddenly we were no longer receiving dogs whose owners had lost their jobs or lost their houses. Instead so many dogs this year were older dogs whose owners were ill and no longer able to care for them. We had fewer dogs to place than in past years and those we did have were often "special needs" dogs. We had two who were simply "permanent foster dogs" because there wasn't any real chance of finding them a home. And more than ever before, we took in "Westie mixes".

DOGS WHO WERE IN CARE AT 10/31/09

Our cutoff date is 10/31 so that we can get the newsletter and calendar prepared and available by December. Last year we left 6 dogs listed as "in care" who were placed later before the end of the year or early in 2010. Here are the rest of their stories:

Max(2) was our little boy who was so neglected that both his eyes and ears were damaged. Max made a wonderful recovery and, while he may have some deficits from his history, he is now leading a normal life. His adopters have adopted special needs Westies from us in the past and are now taking wonderful care of little Max. He was placed in January 2010.

Katie was the little girl who had been back in rescue 3 times through no fault of her own. She had a surgery while we had her and was then adopted by a lady who had previously babysat for her. Katie is doing very well now. Katie was placed in January 2010.

Max(3) and his sister, Maddie were adopted together. They are very lucky to have found a place where they could stay together and they now also have a dachshund brother. They were placed in January 2010.

Daisy was being boarded frequently due to her owner's travel. She also "barked too much and was a runner". Daisy was having housebreaking issues. She was treated for an infection which cured the housebreaking issue and she was adopted by a family that adores her enough to be willing to work with any other issues she may have.....but she doesn't seem to be exhibiting these problems in her new home. She was placed in late 2009.

Wrigley was surrendered because his owner was allergic but Wrigley also has allergies and skin issues. He stayed in foster care for quite a while and when it was time, his foster mom asked to adopt him. So Wrigley is now doing well and is a foster brother to other Westies. He was placed in late 2009.

LATE FALL 2009



Corky/Timmy
Fostered 22 days in 2010

Corky (now Timmy), age 3, came back to us because he was marking in the house and the owners didn't want to do the work to correct this. He went into housebreaking boot camp in foster care. Corky did very well and, of course, his foster parents fell in love. Only the best would do and he finally found his new home in Port Colborne, Ontario. We don't often go out of state much less out of the country but applications were slim, especially for a boy who has housebreaking issues. We found this home by using Petfinder.

SURRENDER REASON: HOUSEBREAKING



Tony/Bandit
Fostered 72 days 2009/10

Tony (now Bandit), age 6 months, was a Westie/Maltese mix. Tony was found dumped in someone's backyard. He was taken to a shelter where we were contacted and asked if we would take him. Tony was adopted by a lady who had recently lost her son, also named Tony, so she changed his name. Bandit is doing very well now.

SURRENDER REASON: STRAY



Chumley
Fostered 115 days 2009/10

Chumley, age 9, came back to us when his adoptive dad passed away. The family had always planned to keep him but the granddaughter who was going to do so was in a car accident and broke her back. She just couldn't handle a dog at the time and since he didn't like cats, the rest of the family had to say "no". Chumley stayed with us for a while and then was adopted by a couple who are "sharing" him with their elderly aunt and uncle in a nursing home. Chumley visits them and the other residents regularly.

SURRENDER REASON: DEATH OF OWNER



Petey
In Permanent Care

Petey, age 12, came in because he was being abused by a 2-year-old. Mom felt really bad but admitted that she was unable to control her toddler. A side issue was "really stinky gas". He could clear a room. He turned out to have a tapeworm and with that treated and new food, more frequent meals, and Prozyme, the situation improved. Unfortunately, we later discovered that he had Westie Lung Disease, a fatal disease with no effective cure. Petey will stay in foster care until he passes.

SURRENDER REASON: CHILD ABUSING DOG

MEET OUR RESCUE WESTIES FOR 2010



Maggie - Euthanized

Maggie, age est. 5 to 9 yrs, came in with Robbie and Mac. It was a sad situation which had the whole Rescue group very upset for quite a while. They were owned by a Westie "breeder" who died. She was in Midland, MI. The family gave her Westies to a lady who does Jack Russell rescue as an independent. The breeder's son kept a 12-year-old female, but these three Westies made their way to us. Maggie, who was anywhere from 5 years to 9 years of age, had had CMO* as a youngster. It was not treated and it did not regress. Her jaw was fused shut. She could only eat through a spot where a tooth was missing. She had to put her head down in the water bowl sideways and push through the water to get it into her mouth. She did the same thing with food. She could not bark, only squeak, and she could not even lick your hand. None of the dogs were socialized. We felt it was most humane to put Maggie to sleep. SURRENDER REASON: OWNER DEATH



Robbie - Euthanized

Robbie, age 12, had some injury or birth defect to his front legs and they were very sensitive. He wanted to be loved but even as he was being petted, he would turn to bite. Robbie was with us for a few days but it became clear that he was too damaged, both physically and emotionally, to save. He was euthanized shortly after.

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER DEATH



Mac
Fostered 119 days

Mac, age 5, was the only one of the group who had a chance. Mac was, we think, a littermate to Maggie. He had been to the vet last July, probably for the first time, when he tore a toenail and was in great pain. The vet scolded the owner for his horrible condition but treated him and wrapped the foot in an Ace bandage. She never returned for follow up care. When the dog went to the Rescue group in January, he was still wearing the Ace bandage because the owner could not get near enough to him to remove it. We had no idea if he would make it or not. He had not bitten anyone but he was rather vocal and did not want anyone near his injured foot. As time went on, though, he began to be more trusting and showed a lot of improvement. Then one day, he hopped into his foster mom's lap! He had to be neutered and then had to have many bladder stones removed. After 4 months, he was finally ready and was adopted by a family who wanted to love him and give him a chance at a "real" life. Dad is the pastor at his church. Mac has made a spectacular adjustment and now helps his mom and dad greet the congregation at social events.

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER DEATH



Zoe
Fostered 45 days

Zoe, age 4, came into Rescue because the family could not housebreak her and because she has allergies. They could no longer afford the vet bills. We discovered through her paperwork that she had been diagnosed with White Shakers in 1998 but she is not on meds for it so we doubt it was a correct diagnosis. Zoe did very well in foster care and is now living in her new home.

SURRENDER REASON: HOUSEBREAKING AND ALLERGIES



Mario
Fostered 23 days

Mario, age 10 months, came into foster care because he had CMO* and was getting snappy at the baby when the baby came near his face. It is hard to tell if this was because of pain or because he was maturing and becoming a "terrier", or both. He is a happy little boy and the CMO is not severe. He should live a normal life. Mario was adopted and is living happily with a new mom and human sister who adore him.

SURRENDER REASON: ISSUES WITH CHILDREN

*CMO = Craniomandibular Osteopathy For details see <http://www.westiefoundation.org/westiehealth/healthbook.htm>



Spooky/Spencer
Fostered 17 days

Spooky (now Spencer), age 5-8 years, came into foster care from the Westland Humane Society. In his original home, he had snapped at the baby a couple of times. The shelter wanted to move him because he was terrified by the environment. A volunteer picked him up and transported him. Spooky (now called Spencer) went to Dr. Sharon Lawrenchuk at Westland Veterinary Hospital for boarding. She fostered him until we found another foster home. Then he was quickly adopted and is doing well.

SURRENDER REASON: SHELTER-ISSUES WITH CHILDREN



Entei/Sandy/Mac
Fostered 35 days

Entei (now McGregor), age 3, came in to us for an unusual reason. He was fine but his owner has a history of sleepwalking. She found that if he barked in the night, it triggered the sleepwalking. Because she would do dangerous things in this state, and they could find no drugs to help, they gave up the dog. He was called Sandy while in foster care but he has now been adopted and his name has been changed to McGregor (Mac).

SURRENDER REASON: OWNER ILLNESS



Piper
Fostered 29 days

Piper, age approximately 7, was in a shelter when her original owner went to a nursing home. She was adopted but didn't do well with the four-year-old child so was surrendered to us. Her foster home tried hard to give her up but just couldn't. So Piper was adopted by them.

SURRENDER REASON: ISSUES WITH CHILDREN



Chance/King
Fostered 59 days

Chance (now King), age 2, came from a shelter near Indiana. They called and said he was a Westie/Cairn mix. They also said that while he was a good dog, he was scaring away all adopters by his barking and aggressive behavior when people went by his cage. They were about to put him down. We said we would take him and did even though he was not a Westie/Cairn mix. (He looks like he could be part Brussels Griffon.) We knew if we refused to take him, he would not make it. Chance stayed in foster care for a while and turned out to be a charming little fellow. His behavior in the shelter was due to the stress of the environment. He has now been adopted.

SURRENDER REASON: SHELTER-NOT SHOWING WELL