

YEAR 2018



THIS NEWSLETTER - SEE WWW.WESTIERESCUE-MI.COM AND CHOOSE NEWSLETTERS

To make a Donation by:

- Check - Send to Westie Rescue Michigan, 12460 Pamela Court, Hartland, MI 48353
- PayPal - Choose "Friends and Family" Email address: westierescuemi@yahoo.com
(PayPal approves this)

The year 2018 had a rather small number of dogs being surrendered to Rescue. Those who did enter were mostly older, and many needed a great deal of specialized medical care, so our expenses remained high. We are not sure why we are getting fewer dogs and even fewer younger dogs, but we suspect it has to do with the smaller number of responsible breeders in the area and the influx of "designer dogs."

Fortunately, we had a wonderful group of applicants; many who were open to adopting older dogs and even adopting those with medical issues. Unfortunately for the group of applicants who really wanted a Westie to love, we had fewer of them to offer. But we are very grateful to all of those who continue to be willing to help us pay for the medical care of those dogs that we do receive.

Even though we have a good size volunteer group, we still struggle to find foster homes when dogs need to come in. **PLEASE consider fostering.** Contact **Susan Bloomfield** at **810-399-8388** to discuss becoming a foster home. The dogs truly need your help!

CARRYOVER DOGS FROM 2017 INTO 2018

Our cutoff date is 11-1-18 so that we can get the newsletter prepared and available by December. We had three "Permanent" foster dogs and three "Carry over" dogs.

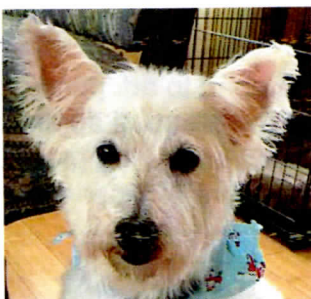
Permanent Fosters:

- **Toby** was adopted by his foster home.
- **Digger** remains in foster care due to illness. His condition and cost of his meds are such that he was never able to find a permanent home.
- **Mandy**, a Wheaton Scottie, has multiple ailments and will probably be with us for her life.

Carry over Dogs:

- **Toby**, who arrived at almost 11 years old, because he couldn't live well with grandchildren living in the home. We worked for more than a year to get past his issues, which included both behavioral and medical concerns. He seemed to move from one medical problem to the next, never really being well enough between new issues. He had a major surgery and we thought all would be well, but he could not get beyond a severe skin issue with a highly resistant staph. He was so sad, sore and hurting that his behavior worsened and we finally had to release him from his pain and misery.
- **Stevie** (now Wynter Starr) was a puppy surrendered to us late in the year and placed in her new home early in January. Wynn timer is now doing very well with her new family and brother Westie, who also came from us. She was one of the very rare puppies to come into Rescue.
- **Sassy** (age 4) arrived in December. She just couldn't get along with the other dogs in her home. It reached a point where the family felt they had to give her up. She spent a month in foster care with a foster brother. While her ability to tolerate another dog did improve, she was placed as an only dog, which suited her just fine.

2018 FOSTER DOGS (Arriving between 1/1 and 10/31/18)



Lilly – surrendered at 5 years old. Lily's mom passed away and she, along with two other Westies, were turned into a shelter. They all found homes, but Lilly was returned due to housebreaking issues. Then the shelter contacted us to take her. Lilly was unusually timid and had very little normal housedog experience. For instance, she learned to do steps, and was rather afraid of doors. But she loved other dogs. After two months of foster care, Lilly was placed in her new forever home with a playful Westie foster brother, Razz, and a loving mom and dad.



Ellie (5 years of age) was a puppy with us originally. She had a birth defect called an ectopic ureter. The tubes weren't connected properly so she leaked urine continually. This required surgery, which we did. She was adopted and had a happy family. But tragedy struck recently and both of her parents passed away, so she needed a new family. Ellie is healthy, but will always have some issues related to the original problem. She is on the med Proin to control any residual leaking and has a tendency towards urinary infections due to this condition. Ellie has a history of some fall allergies, which are treated with antibiotics. Other than that, she is a healthy, happy little girl. Ellie found a new family where she can be an "only" child, which makes her a very happy little girl!



Leo (9 years old) was a stud dog. The breeder advertised him on Craig's List and he was adopted by a couple that wanted to save him, but were unable to housebreak him. When they finally gave up, they surrendered him to us. Leo is a cuddly little boy and very lovable. His foster home worked diligently with him on his housebreaking issues, and his foster brother helped too. These Westie "boys" became fast and furious friends, and loved to romp and play. Leo really didn't have accidents in his foster home perhaps because they took him outside on a frequent schedule and made sure he did what needed to be done. Leo has found his wonderful new home and is living happily ever after.



Hope (6 months of age) was a "failure to thrive" puppy and very small for her age. She didn't develop normally and was surrendered to us. We did extensive medical tests, including an MRI and spinal tap. The diagnosis suggested that she had likely been deprived of oxygen at birth or shortly after, which caused brain damage. Hope was fostered in a home that planned to adopt her after being spayed. She is learning to be as normal a dog as she can be. Her pupils are pinpoints, which does impact her sight. Hope can hear, but for a long time, didn't seem to hear human voices. She licks like a cat, and didn't pick up food on her own, so she had to be hand fed or supervised to get food and water. Over time with lots of attention, Hope has physically improved in many ways, but most of all, Hope is already being cared for and loved in her forever home.



Duffy (8 years old) was surrendered when his mom died and dad could not care for him any longer. Duffy had been rather dominant in his normal life, but seemed to be well mannered when we visited him in his home. However, once in foster care, he suddenly became quite aggressive and sadly, we were not able to keep him, as he was just not a safe dog for placement.



Sammy (approx. 6-9 years old) came to us from the Detroit Animal Control and Care Center and turned in by his owner to be euthanized. The owner told them he was 9 years old, blind, deaf and crippled. The DACC didn't feel he was as bad as the owner claimed, and they were happy to have us take him into care. Sammie was "shut down" when he came to his foster home; he didn't wag his tail, take an interest in his foster brother, or even respond to human voice, but still a very sweet, mild mannered little boy. Our vets thought he was probably 6-7 years old, but born without any optic nerves and blind since birth. But Sammy DID hear, because he began "looking" when his name was called; we believe he just never experienced interaction with humans. His back, hips, and legs were very weak; he would topple over or sprawl when getting up or walking on slippery floors. We suspect Sammy was crated for long periods of time and for many years and his muscles grew weak and atrophied. Sammy's foster family took him for walks several times a day and to hydrotherapy every week for three months, but he was a source of such JOY! Sammy was adopted in October and now has a devoted mom and dad who live in a large motor home and travel south for the winter. Sammy will never be crated again, continue enjoying many walks a day, and will live the rest of his life being spoiled and dearly loved!



Abby (9 years of age) lived with a relative's family when her mom got sick and passed away. Abby's new family didn't really have time for her; the wife was ill and she didn't do well with two dogs in the home, so they surrendered Abby. She is a very nice little girl. She is working hard on learning to control her enthusiasm when visitors arrive. While in foster care, Abby was tentatively diagnosed with diabetes insipidus (non-insulin dependent diabetes). As a result of this diagnosis, Abby has seen the Internal Medicine experts at MSU's Veterinary Teaching Hospital where we learned there are many conditions that could be contributing to her symptoms. She is currently being tested for Cushing's disease. She has had some bladder control issues, but helped by the med Proin, which keeps her dry through the night. She's a tiny little 14-pound love bug and acts like a puppy. Her ideal home would be where she could get outside on a regular basis, be an only dog, and have the love and attention of her very own forever family. Once we receive a definitive diagnosis and determine her medical needs, she will be ready for a new home.



Zac, age 13, was surrendered by his third owner. She had recently lost her husband and had several surgeries herself. She just could not afford take care of Zac any longer; in fact, she had been skipping meals to feed him! When we got him, it was clear that he had some issues with his back leg, so off to the vet quickly and found that he has arthritis in that leg. Now he is on one pain med, and Zac is doing so much better. His toenails had curled under when surrendered, so a good clipping had him walking on the pads of his feet again. He fit in well with his foster family and got along nicely with his foster brother. Zac was adopted by a loving family who had a soft spot in their hearts for senior Westies, and Zac now has a Westie brother of his very own!



Buddy came into foster care at age 8. His owner thought he was a Westie/Shih Tzu mix; we're not sure about the Westie, but we still took this nice boy. He weighs 30 pounds and has a long body. His ears usually stand up and his tail sometimes goes up like a Westie. He has a black ear and a black ring around his tail. The lady who surrendered wasn't the first owner, but said his prior owner had beaten him with a broom handle. We are amazed at his friendly demeanor considering that treatment. He looked like he had skin issues but the vet said it was just a reaction to a body full of fleas. He was neutered, micro chipped, had his teeth cleaned, and now in good health. He is a friendly dog that will make a family very happy, even though he isn't going to be mistaken for a Westie! Buddy was adopted in November and now has a Westie brother named Izzo.



Libby came into Rescue on October 7, 2018. She was surrendered because her mom and dad were getting divorced and neither of them could afford to take care of her. She is 9 years old and came in with a very bad skin infection and ear infection. We had to have the groomer cut off mats on her coat and her toenails had not been trimmed in quite some time. After medication for her skin and ears, and a good grooming, she is now a healthy girl. Libby was a well-behaved girl from the first day she arrived in foster care, and now living happily in her forever home.

2018 FINANCIALS THROUGH 11/1/18

We received: \$28,419.10
Rescue INCOME as of 11/1/18

We spent: \$46,235.24
Rescue EXPENSES as of 11/1/18

Net deficit: **\$17,859.51** (one foster dog required 2 surgeries)

Please help us help our Westies!

SEND RESCUE DONATIONS TO:

WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN, INC
12460 Pamela Court
Hartland, MI 48353

PayPal: Use westierescuemi@yahoo.com and choose "Friends and Family" option to avoid fees; this is approved by PayPal.

THANK YOU VETERINARIANS!

These veterinarians have cared for our foster dogs in 2018:

Animal Medical Center

Rochester Hills, MI 48307

248-852-9800

<https://www.amctroy.com>

(Ellie, Wynn, Hope, Sammy)

Lake Lansing Rd. Animal Clinic

Lansing, MI 48912

517-484-8031

<https://www.lansingvetclinic.com>

(Abby)

Advanced Animal Chiropractic

<http://advancedanimalchiropractic.com>

(See website for locations/phone numbers)

(Sammy)

Euclid Veterinary Hospital

Bay City, MI 48706

989-684-4700

<https://www.euclidvethospital.com>

(Leo, Buddy, Sammy)

Companion Animal Hospital

Linden, MI 48451

810-735-7857

(Zac)

Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital

Harper Woods, MI 48225

313-881-8061

(Hope)

Mackinaw Vet Association & Rehabilitation

<https://www.mackinawvet.com>

Saginaw, MI 486034

989-793-8728

(Sammy)

Blue Pearl Specialty

Southfield, MI

248-354-6660

(Sammy)

VCA Woodland Animal Hospital

Grand Rapids, MI 49512

616-288-4954

(Lilly)

VCA Hartland Animal Hospital

Hartland, MI 48353

810-632-7698

(Libby)

Animal Neurology and MRI Center

Commerce, MI 48390

248-960-7200

(Hope)

Some dogs are listed more than once. That is because they were seen by more than one vet, either due to a special medical situation or because of a change in foster homes.

THANK YOU GROOMERS AND BUSINESSES!

These **BUSINESSES** gave us discounts for our foster dogs:

Klasy Klip (Lisa)

Waterford, MI 48329

248-673-5151

(Wynn timer, Leo, Zac, Sammy, Libby)

Bruno's Pet Parlor

Bay City, MI 48706

989-894-4622

(Buddy)

Maple Lawn Kennels (Virginia)

Eagle, MI 48822

517-626-6025

(Abby)

Brenda Aloff

Dog Trainer and Behaviorist

Heaven on Arf Training Center

Midland, MI

(Sammy)

SELL OUR ITEMS:

Claws-N-Paws Grooming

Clawson, MI

(Crate pads and coats)

Euclid Veterinary Hospital

Bay City, MI

(Handmade cards)

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

So many people and businesses have helped us throughout the year!

We would like to thank the following:

- **FOSTER HOMES**
- **DONORS**
- Our behaviorist, **Deb Duncan** (<https://www.thedogspeaks.com>) who donates many hours of her time to help us with our foster dogs.
- **Brenda Aloff**, dog trainer and behaviorist, who worked several hours with Sammy and his foster mom.
- These businesses who allow us to sell products at their locations: **Claws and Paws Grooming in Madison Heights; Animal Medical Center of Troy; Euclid Veterinary Hospital in Bay City; and Sylvania Veterinary Hospital, Sylvania, OH.**
- Everyone who participated in our **2018 Facebook Auction**.
- The various **vendors** who give us a commission from their sales.
- **Brent Hagood** – who donated his etched products.
- **VOLUNTEERS** who help out in so many ways, and thank you to some who wish to remain anonymous.
- **Kathy and Bill Sholudko** for donating two large gift baskets that we sold at the Novi Pet Expo.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- **Shop at Amazon** (Amazon Smile) <https://smile.amazon.com>
Go to Amazon Smile and choose **Westie Rescue Michigan** as your charity.
- **Walk Your Dog** <https://www.wooftrax.com>
Choose **Westie Rescue Michigan** as your shelter.
- **Kroger Community Program.** Sign up online by choosing **Westie Rescue Michigan**. This must be renewed every year and does not impact your gas points.
- **Follow us on Facebook at Westie Rescue Michigan Inc.**

FUNDRAISERS

Purchasing items (below) will benefit **Westie Rescue Michigan** and can be found using this link: <https://westierescue-mi.com/fundraisers/>

CAFÉ PRESS STORE: Choose <https://www.cafepress.com/westierescue>

MAILING LABELS AND BELLY BANDS: <https://westierescue-mi.com/rescue-fundraising/>

EBAY STORE: <https://www.ebay.com/str/westieclubmichigan>

- Garden and House Flags
- Kilts
- Etched products by Brent Hagood
- Necklaces
- Collars and Leashes
- Other miscellaneous items we find

VARIOUS EVENTS: holiday craft shows, Frankenmuth Dog Bowl, Alma Scottish Festival, and the Novi Pet Expo.

BEQUESTS

Occasionally someone asks us about setting up a bequest in their will. We have received a couple of these bequests and they truly help. If you are interested, please look at our website: <https://westierescue-mi.com/donations/>

REGGIE'S PAGE

Our Website has a page named "**Reggie's Page**" after the first dog that was honored in this way. <https://westierescue-mi.com/memorials/>

When a Westie passes, their owner or friends can send us a photo and paragraph about them along with a donation and we will put them in this memorial section. We also have a page for "**Special Memorials**," which are usually a memorial for a human or for other memories such as birthday, anniversary, etc. You will find more information about this on "**Reggie's Page**."

WESTIE RESCUE MI FACEBOOK AUCTION

Total from the 2108 Facebook Auction: \$10,481!

Many thanks to those who donated, bid, and worked the Auction.

We have no plans for a 2019 Westie Rescue Michigan auction due to the tremendous amount of work and volunteers needed in holding an auction.



509 Webb Dr.
Bay City, MI 48706

Angels don't always have wings
Sometimes they have

fur and paws

Angels don't always wear halos

Sometimes they wear collars

Angels don't always

sleep on clouds

Sometimes they sleep

nestled next to you

Angels don't always sing

in a heavenly chorus

Sometimes they bark and howl

*Do you have an angel
in your life?*

