

YEAR 2021



THIS NEWSLETTER - SEE [WWW.WESTIERESCUE-MI.COM](http://WWW.WESTIERESCUE-MI.COM) AND CHOOSE NEWSLETTERS

**To donate by**

**Check:** Send to Westie Rescue Michigan, 12460 Pamela Court, Hartland, MI 48353

**PayPal:** Choose "Personal"; Email address: [westierescuemi@yahoo.com](mailto:westierescuemi@yahoo.com)

(This is approved by PayPal)

Like the last few years, we have had very few dogs coming into Rescue. When they do come, they tend to be older and have more medical needs. Fortunately, our waiting list includes many who are interested in adopting older Westies and willing to deal with medical issues. This says a lot of good things about our adopter base! It is a true "rescue" when the dog is truly in need.

For those who have waited so patiently, we want to suggest some alternatives to your search efforts.

- Watch online for Westies to rescue. One good source to watch is Petfinder.com.
- Go to [www.westieclubamerica.com](http://www.westieclubamerica.com) There you can find a list of breeders who are National Club Members and who have signed a Code of Ethics. Many times, breeders have older dogs who they no longer wish to use in their breeding programs. In this case they are likely to be willing to sell the dog for much less than a well-bred puppy would cost. They also stand behind their dogs and may have a Westie who has been returned for some reason. They will be looking to find a home for these dogs. Contact the breeders and if they don't have any themselves, they might be able to refer you to another breeder who has an available dog.
- Talk to folks at your vet's office and let them know you are looking. They might not have anything immediately but might remember you if another client with a Westie needs help to rehome their dog.
- Check your local shelters and check them often. Not all use Petfinder. Look at this list...you will be amazed how many shelters there are, that you aren't aware of.  
[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdard/ANIMAL\\_SHELTERS\\_LIST\\_BY\\_COUNTY\\_07-09\\_20\\_635934\\_7\\_696550\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdard/ANIMAL_SHELTERS_LIST_BY_COUNTY_07-09_20_635934_7_696550_7.pdf)

You might want to give them a call and see if they have a website to watch.

If you adopt a dog from elsewhere, please let us know so we can cancel your application. We thank you for your patience and continued interest and support.

## *2021 FOSTER DOGS (Arriving between 1/1 and 10/31/21)*



Darby came to us in January. She was 16 years old. Her mom and dad had moved a year prior. She was left behind and was being cared for by their daughter for the last year. As with many older Westies, Darby had a bit of an incontinence issue. She also had a very large fatty tumor on her tummy which she had had for many years. Fatty tumors are often left alone because they are not a health threat. She also had a lot of tearing which may have been dry eye which isn't uncommon and requires eye drops. And she had a large wart above one eye which was bleeding.

When she came in, she was badly in need of grooming. She was fine with the resident dog and did not seem to have any "accidents" but was taken outside many times. She was given a veggie dental stick, but she licked it rather than eating it. She went to the vet in the morning. Unfortunately, the vet found some very serious issues. An ultrasound revealed a mass on her liver. The vet felt she could live with that for 6 months to a year. But the larger issue was an enlarged heart that was beating very irregularly. When they put her on her back for the ultrasound, she immediately began to cough because the heart was so large it was compressing her windpipe. The beat irregular and even missed beats. We were advised that she would not live much longer with it. Overall, she wasn't going to be very adoptable. Her dental disease was severe, and she had a shot of antibiotic to help with that.

We took her home to give her a good last night. She had a special dinner with meat included with her kibble. She was happy to eat all her dinner. During the evening, she chose to wander and roam the house for a couple of hours and then put herself to bed. While she walked around, we noticed she always had her mouth open and her tongue out. The vet felt that was her attempting to breathe due to the heart condition. The dental issues are probably why she wouldn't chew anything hard. She slept 14 hours until we finally woke her for breakfast.

We believe she was quietly suffering. And it wasn't likely that she would live long enough to adapt to a new home even if we were able to find one for her. In her best interest, we took her to the vet the next day and held her while she went to be with her mom who had recently pre-deceased her.

We were glad to be able to meet Darby and give her this last gift of release. Rescue isn't always easy.



Let me tell you a story about a little Westie mix named Peter. His owner called and wanted to surrender her dog because they had gotten a new puppy and the puppy terrorized her Westie mix. Peter lived under her bed and wouldn't come out for the last four months since the puppy had arrived. Peter was seven years old and had lived with his owner all his life.

He was afraid of these new foster people but went with us quietly. Once we got to his new foster home, we tried to get him out, but he got loose from his collar and hid under a car. He went from under one car to another and then he ran into the garage. We worked for hours to bribe him with food and water and toys, but he would not come to us. We left him with food and water and blankets to cuddle in. He was so very upset and growled, showed his teeth, and tried to bite us.

We did manage to get him into a crate the next day and we went off to his new foster home. Foster mom (FM) attached an x-pen to the crate and opened it so he could come out and get accustomed to his new family. Several times a day FM would climb into the x-pen and try feeding him and getting him to come to her. It took thirteen days before he would finally climb into her lap and let her touch him. She changed his name so he could make a clean start. His new name was Doobie. "Doobie, Doobie Do, where are you?" is what she sang to him again and again.

He loved her talking to him and singing to him but still he would have nothing to do with grooming or cleaning him in anyway. She worked with our Behaviorist every other day and keep inching him into a secure environment where he would go outside by himself and not be afraid. Everyone was so happy and excited when we would make some progress with him and then he would growl, show his teeth, and try to bite. He would bite his foster brother who would then try to show him it wasn't appropriate behavior, but he never seemed to understand.

He was on melatonin and Gabapentin and Trazodone on a regular basis. We finally were able to get Doobie into the Vet (delayed due to COVID) and had his teeth cleaned and his shots. He did have a broken tooth which we were hoping was the reason for his biting. Unfortunately, it wasn't, and FM was bitten badly when taking him in for a grooming. It was agreed by the Board that we would not be able to place him because he would end up hurting someone else. We loved him and loved on him but eventually we had to do the humane thing and end his turbulent and unhappy life.

We do hope he will remember his last three months of life and how hard his foster mom tried to help him. "Doobie, I, your foster mom, hope you will be there at the Bridge. I will be looking for you. Rest in Peace my dear, dear boy."



*PATTY*

Patty came to us at age 8. Her family loved her but when she developed diabetes, their work schedules would no longer allow them to give her the care needed. She requires insulin every 12 hours.

Patty has the best personality and likes people. Patty lets foster mom know when someone is at the door but welcomes them once they come inside. Patty knows a few commands and obeys like most Westies...like when they're ready. Patty LOVES her walks! The moment she sees her leash, or harness, or if you say, "walk," she heads to the door on a dead run! Patty also likes other dogs; she had no trouble getting to know her foster brother, Bolt, and it didn't take her long to know her place in the pack. She enjoys playing with toys - when her foster brother doesn't mind sharing.

Patty loves riding in the car, especially long rides. She looks out the window, then just settles down for a nap. When it's time for bed, Patty goes right into her crate and settles in for the night. She gets a treat every time she goes into the crate, so she thinks of it as her special place. Patty is a little cuddle bug. She can be trusted with no accidents in the house for up to 6 hours. Patty's calm attitude and gentle spirit makes her a precious girl. We were very happy to find a home willing and able to make the extra effort to care for a diabetic little girl.



**SNOWFLAKE**

Snowflake, age 5, was given away at a garage sale. The people who rescued her from the garage sale could not keep her and found WRM. (Thank you to them!) Snowy came to us with no vet records and was not spayed. We had her spayed and had all her shots completed. Also, a dental. She was in perfect health. Snowy was the perfect little foster girl. She was a little shy, at first, but she did well with her foster brother and quickly gained confidence in her new life. She loved going for walks, rides in the car and greeting everyone she met. She really craved attention and her foster mom looked for an only dog home.

The perfect home was found with a single woman who has a home with the biggest back yard ever. Snowy has already gone for a vacation up north in Michigan. She is now living the good life with a mom who loves her.



*KELLY*

Kelly is 13 years old and came to us because her owners moved due to health reasons and all the activity at the condo made Kelly anxious and she was acting aggressive toward children and other dogs. She is completely up to date on her medical and has a clean bill of health. She has been groomed and the groomer said she behaved perfectly. Her foster home exposed her to different situations where she encountered people and other dogs. She mostly ignores other dogs or is friendly. She has a 3-year-old foster brother who she gets along with just fine. They even engage in some Westie tag. She wants all the attention and her foster home thinks she will do best in an only dog home. She needs an owner who will let her know she doesn't have to be the protector. They need to let her know they will protect her. Then she can relax and just be a dog. As of this printing, a family is coming to meet her and we are hoping she finds her forever home.





While this newsletter ends at 10/31, this little guy arrived shortly after the deadline. To see more of Whelan, see our website and/or follow us on Facebook. Whelan, 5 yrs old, came into rescue due to behavior issues that may be due to owners time restraints. He is being evaluated in foster care but otherwise appears to be a healthy normal boy. After his vet appointment we will have a more confident feeling about him physically. His foster parents are exposing him to potential triggers and evaluating his understanding of basic commands. He is a happy playful boy! Stay tuned!

## 2021 FINANCIALS *THROUGH 10/31/21*

### **We received \$12,681.81**

*INCOME as of 10/31/21*

*Income included (rounded)*

Donations \$7,200  
Sales \$5,000  
Commissions \$ 500

### **We spent: \$14,840.72**

*EXPENSES as of 10/31/21*

*Expenses included (rounded)*

Acct/Incorp fee 500  
Website 300  
Insurance 2,900  
Vet 6,300  
Donation 1,000  
Products 1,500  
Ebay fees 800  
Shipping 500  
Other Miscellaneous 1,000

*Commissions includes income from Kroger and Amazon Smile.*

*Sales include Flags \$2800, Collars/leashes \$850, Cards \$600, Kilts \$500 and other misc.)*

*Expenses are mainly vet bills and insurance but other larger expenses are listed. Misc. includes things like Quickbooks fee, dropbox fee, Zoom fees, Vista Print, grooming, and misc. supplies.*

*YTD 10/31/21 REFLECTS A NET LOSS OF \$2,158.91. We count on year end donations from our supporters to make up the loss and keep us going for another year.*

**Please help us help our Westies**

**RESCUE DONATIONS TO:**

<b>WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN, INC</b> <b>12460 Pamela Court</b> <b>Hartland, MI 48353</b>
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**PayPal:** Use [westierescuemi@yahoo.com](mailto:westierescuemi@yahoo.com) and choose the "Personal" option to avoid fees; this is approved by PayPal.





CartoonStock.com

## *THANK YOU VETS!*

These vets have cared for our Westies so far in 2021:

Animal Medical Center  
Rochester Hills, MI  
248-852-9800

<http://www.amctroy.com>

Town and Country Hospital  
Brighton, MI 48114  
810-220-1079

<https://tcpetvet.net/>



## THANK YOU, GROOMERS & OTHERS!

Who gave us discounts or donated grooming for our dogs in 2021 or displayed items for sale at their location!

(Lisa) Kasy Klip  
Waterford, MI 48329  
248-673-5151

<http://www.facebook.com/kasyklip>

### Sale of Greeting Cards

Animal Medical Center of Troy  
Rochester Hills, MI

Timberstone Vet  
Sylvania, OH

VCA Sylvania Vet  
Sylvania, OH

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

So MANY people and businesses have helped us throughout the year in so many ways.  
We thank:

- **FOSTER HOMES and other VOLUNTEERS.**
- All **DONORS** of whom there are so many!!
- Our **behaviorist, Deb Duncan** (<http://www.thedogspeaks.com>)
- Those businesses who allow us to sell products at their locations (**Animal Medical Center of Troy, VCA Sylvania Veterinary Hospital and Timberstone Vet in Sylvania, Ohio**)
- The various vendors who give us a commission of sales
- So many others who help in many ways, some of whom wish to remain anonymous.

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Shopping at Amazon (Amazon Smile) <https://smile.amazon.com>  
Please go into Amazon Smile and choose Westie Rescue Michigan as your charity.
- Walk Your Dog <http://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.)  
This does not impact your gas points.

## FUNDRAISERS

Most of these items benefit Westie Rescue Michigan. Some benefit our local Westie Club (and will be noted as such) or Westie Education which is part of Westie Rescue. Most items can be found from this link: <http://westierescue-mi.com/fundraisers/>

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

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

EBAY STORE: <http://stores.ebay.com/WESTIE-CLUB-MICHIGAN>

- Garden and House Flags
- Kilts
- Collars and Leashes
- Other misc. items as we find them
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FACEBOOK RESCUE PAGE: Flash sales of misc. items.

## SHOP AND BENEFIT RESCUE

ART (including Custom Paintings). These businesses donate a commission back to Westie Rescue. Mention us to the artist so they will know to send us a commission.

- Gina McCormick's Creations email: [fivegina22@yahoo.com](mailto:fivegina22@yahoo.com)
- Denise Randall <http://www.gooddogjack.com>
- Lara Harris <http://studiolara.com>
- Mary Sparrow Smith <http://www.marysparrowsmith.net/>

BEHAVIORIST SERVICES:

- <https://www.thedogspeaks.com> Deb Duncan is the behaviorist who services our foster dogs. She also has an EBook which we highly recommend. Deb donates many, many hours of her time to help us help our foster dogs.



## BEQUESTS

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

