



Maryland Westie Watch

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MARYLAND WESTIE RESCUE, INC.

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AUTUMN 2008

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Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions made to Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc. are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Our Employee Identification Number (EIN) is 26-0612180.

The Boys of August

When you spend your "free time" rescuing West Highland White Terriers, sometimes it doesn't just drizzle, it pours. In

August 2008, Maryland Westie Rescue (MWR) took in four Westies, all boys and all with special needs: Littermates Rocky and Lucky, Double Trouble, and Ralphie. Between them, the boys have accumulated several thousands of dollars in veterinary expenses.

For Rocky and Lucky, their medical expenses will continue to climb as the vets at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital (GAVH) and the Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center (CVRC) treat them.

A Rocky Road, A Lucky Break

Two-year-old littermates Rocky and Lucky were purchased together at a pet store in Columbia, Maryland in early 2007. Unfortunately, in the summer of 2008 the boys came into rescue because of a divorce. MWR volunteers quickly noticed the boys "walked funny."

The vets at GAVH and CVRC diagnosed severe hip and knee problems in both Westies.



According to the vets, Rocky's hips need to be surgically repaired and his kneecaps slip out of position (luxating patellas) to compensate for the bad hips. Lucky is a bit worse off. Both his hips are in need of surgery as well, but additionally

his cruciate ligaments in his knees will both likely rupture, requiring more surgery.

Rocky underwent his first hip surgery (FHO or Femoral head ostectomy, removal of the ball portion of the hip joint) on August 18. Once he's recovered from the first hip, he'll undergo the same procedure on his other hip.



MWR met with a veterinary orthopedic specialist, Dr. Darren Roa, at CVRC to further evaluate our options for Lucky. Fortunately, for this lucky boy, he does not seem to need surgery now.

(Continued on page 3)

Buddy's Buddies



I don't know if you got to travel this summer, but I went to the Outer Banks in North Carolina! Not by myself, of course. My people, the Long family, took me with them because, as they said, they were not going anywhere I wasn't allowed.

But enough about me. I want to introduce you to my latest buddy, Sarah aka Sarah September. Isn't she adorable?

Sarah was found on the streets of Philadelphia, suffering from severe allergies and skin infection (believe me, I know severe skin



problems when I see them). She was taken to the local animal shelter where an "all-breed" rescue group from Delaware found her. They contacted Maryland Westie Rescue (MWR) who met the Delaware group representative on the Maryland Eastern Shore to pick up Sarah.

MWR gave Sarah the first of many medicated baths (boy, do I remember *those!*) Sarah will be in foster care for a *loong* time with expensive vet bills while she gets her fur coat back.

I haven't talked to her yet, but when I do, I'll let her know she is in the best of hands.

A Rescue Story: Life with Lilli

By Ruth A. Hill

The first time I saw her she was in the arms of Durie White. Thin, tiny (10 pounds), and filled with fear as I tried to make her acquaintance, Lilli displayed the effects of her years inside an Iowa puppy mill. Don and Durie White transported some of the 33 puppy mill dogs that came into the care of Maryland Westie Rescue during "March Madness." Lilli was among them. She had given birth to a stillborn pup the day before they got her.

I travel frequently for work, and I was hesitant to bring another pet into my nomadic life. So I agreed to be a Westie foster – to help dogs and partially satisfy my longings. But Durie had another plan. She asked whether I would consider adopting Lilli. And the rest, as they say, is our history...

She had to learn many things – like what to do on grass or ground, how to let humans love her, and how to walk and play with pleasure in the sunlight. Today Lilli is a healthy and happy little Westie. She loves to cuddle and have her tummy rubbed. I know trust takes a long time. Meanwhile, I am enjoying the journey with her.



Ruth and Lilli at Lilli's Basic Obedience class graduation

Maryland Westie Rescue Board of Directors:

Angie Gittles, President

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Rescue Coordinator:
Ann Piesen

Newsletter Editor:
Phil Margolies

The Boys of August (con't)

Rather, Lucky will be going to physical therapy, starting in October.

Because Rocky is a bit of a bully and Lucky (kindly put) does better as an only dog, the boys are being fostered separately and will be adopted out to different homes.

A Second Chance for Double Trouble

Affectionately known as "Double," this eight-month old puppy came to Maryland Westie Rescue (MWR) from a "backyard breeder" in southern Virginia who recognized that he had serious medical problems, but surrendered him to MWR because she did not want to spend the money to treat his condition.

MWR brought Double to Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital (GAVH) where he was diagnosed with an extrahepatic shunt (a congenital bypass that prevents the liver from filtering toxins out of the bloodstream). Double underwent surgery on August 13 at Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center (CVRC) to repair the shunt.

Following his successful surgery, Double returned to GAVH until he was well enough to go to his foster home. Double is currently in foster care as he awaits his (hopefully final) follow-up visit with his surgeon.

Despite his health issues, Double is a happy Westie who enjoys being around people of all ages and playing with other dogs. Though enjoying his foster families (and foster Westie siblings), Double is anxiously awaiting a clean bill of health from his surgeon so he can go to his "forever" home. (MWR would like to thank WestieMed for assisting with some of Double's medical expenses).

Safe Journey, Ralphie

Our fourth boy of August is our saddest story. Ralphie's owners initially contacted MWR in July 2008. Ralphie, a four-year-old Westie who lived in Delaware, suffered from diabetes and his owners were having trouble giving him his

shots (he was a bit feisty) and on a regular schedule. At the last minute, they decided to keep Ralphie.

Several weeks later, they contacted MWR again and said they were ready to give Ralphie up: they couldn't maintain his shot schedule and he was peeing everywhere (possibly because of an untreated urinary tract infection). A MWR volunteer met Ralphie on the Maryland

Eastern Shore and drove him to GAVH, where the vets evaluated and began treating his condition.

MWR found a foster home, with hopes his foster family would adopt him. Ralphie seemed happy and ready for his new life.

Unfortunately on the morning of August 20, Ralphie became very ill, panting, in a daze, and suffering a bloody nose. Initially it appeared he had suffered a

blood clot. He was immediately transported to CVRC where it was determined that he had actually gone blind. The following day a canine eye specialist determined that the blindness was not due to his eyes, but his brain. The causes were likely an infection, stroke, or cancer.

The Ralphie everyone had grown to know in just a few short days was gone. As difficult as it was, we have decided not let him suffer any longer. Ralphie was brought back to GAVH, where the wonderful staff that took care of and treated him had a chance to say goodbye before he was sent to the Rainbow Bridge.



A puppy named Trouble...Double Trouble!



Daisy Dishes



I know your dictionary says “erudite,” but I’m sure it’s spelled “a-roo-dite.”

Hello Readers-It’s Daisy:

I hope you all weathered Hurricane Hanna. Our house lost electricity for quite a few hours, but otherwise, all went well. We waited patiently for a break in the rain so that we could take a quick jaunt outside. None of us White family Westies likes wet paws, so we did our business hurriedly, then took shelter back inside the house.

My female person recently finished a book entitled Eat, Pray, Love, by Elizabeth Gilbert. She particularly enjoyed the author’s quirky sense of humor. I can do quirky humor quite well, if I may be so bold as to compare myself to an author of renown who has even been on Oprah. Had I chosen the title, it would have

been Eat, Play, Loaf.

My erudite sister Chivas, who crossed the rainbow bridge a couple of years ago, often speaks to me as a ghostwriter (my sister Mystic continually mispronounces the word “erudite” as “a-roo-dite”). But I digress. Chivas agrees with me that if one were going to get a publishing advance and choose three places in the world in which to do some soul searching, Italy would have been acceptable (we love pasta).

But we would have foregone India and perhaps chosen an island a bit closer than Bali, in Indonesia. We Westies have already attained a higher plane of conscientiousness, perhaps even Nirvana, so

we have no need for a sojourn in an Ashram. Being of Scottish origin, perhaps we would have chosen the Hebrides Islands, although haggis is not our idea of a gourmet meal.

My sister Chanel, always the party girl, would settle the question of what the Scotsmen do or do not wear under their kilts once and for all. She’s sure they would enjoy being goosed by a wet nose. Upon returning, she, more than any of us White family Westies, would bask in the glow of a guest appearance on Oprah.

Well, it’s time for dinner, so I will sign off for today.

Ciao for now from your dishing diva,
Daisy

Glory Days: Dining for Dollars

WHAT: A Great-Tasting Fundraising Event!

WHEN: September 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

WHERE: Glory Days Grill – all locations

WHY: Bring your friends, family, and neighbors because when you dine at any Glory Days Grill, the restaurant will contribute 10 percent of your total food purchases to Maryland Westie Rescue!

For locations near you, go to:
www.glorydaysgrill.com

Simply ask your server for a copy of your GUEST CHECK (not the credit card receipt) and mail it to:

Maryland Westie Rescue
P.O. Box 68
Spencerville, MD 20868



*When hunger strikes
Or
What, you didn't bring
me anything from
Glory Days Grill?*

Kenzie: Whisperings

As told to Bea and Rich Greenberg,
Kenzie's Foster Parents

In the beginning I lived with about 20 Westies. I don't recall a lot about that phase of my life except that when [every time] I went into heat I had an encounter with one of the boys. I don't know how many puppies I had and even worse, I don't have a clue where they are.



Kenzie (the small white one on the left, of course) plays tug with her new neighbor

One day someone came and drove us from Iowa to Pennsylvania. A group of people in a group called Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc. took us in. We got baths and haircuts. Some of us, including me, ended up at the Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital because we were not in the best of health. My friends all left after a few days, but I ended up staying at the doctor for almost a week because my ears were infected and the antibiotics they were giving me to get me well upset my belly.

After a week in the hospital two people came to pick me up. When we arrived at my foster home I saw two white dogs that

looked a lot like me. They were happy and showed me how to romp around a very large crate covered in something green they called a fenced yard. I didn't understand exactly what was happening but it felt like I was re-born

because I felt like I was starting a new life.

The foster people went out each morning, but not until I went out to potty, had

breakfast and got my ear meds. When the foster

people came home my new friends and I rushed to the back door to go outside and play. I really started liking this new dog life. My ears were feeling better and the vet said that the infection was gone.

A family came over to meet me at my foster home and we all knew that they were going to be my forever mom and dad. My new mom, who changed my name from Whisper to Kenzie, works at home and I plan on being by her side during each tax season because from now on she is accountable to a Westie!



Tail Mail



Dear MWR,

I have received your last 2 newsletters and have enjoyed them immensely. As a current Westie owner & a previous owner of rescued Westie—who had numerous health issues—I applaud your efforts.

Angie Gittles was able to help my rescue—when no vet could. Due to her help my Westie had a great quality of life during her

last few years. Thank you for your dedication to this outstanding need.

Please use my donation to help in anyway you see fit. Keep sending the newsletter, it is an inspiration.

Many many thanks,

Stacy O'Brien

P.S. from Bea and Rich Greenberg:

This was the first time for us and our Westies at fostering and we were grateful to have had the chance to have had Kenzie (although she will always be Whisper) as our first. This experience confirmed that love is the answer and our door is open to the next Westie in need. We thank Maryland Westie Inc. for the experience and all of their hard work on behalf of Westies need.

How You can help:

1. Provide foster care or transportation for a Westie in transition, or volunteer your time at our events.
2. Make a donation (in-kind or via PayPal or check) and see if your company or organization matches.

IN FOSTER CARE

Lucky — Aug 12, 2008

Double Trouble —

Aug 17, 2008

Sarah — Sept 5, 2008



Help find a home for Lucky!

Return Appearance: MWR on MPT



Arie (above) gets some tips on entering MPT donor information from Vickie Clafin (on phone) and Fred Askin. Violet (below) makes a new friend...the MPT lion!



With the success of Maryland Westie Rescue's (MWR) appearance on Maryland Public Television on June 8, along with members of the Chesapeake Bay West Highland White Terrier Club (CBWHWTC), MPT invited MWR, the Club, and especially the Westies back for another afternoon of answering the telephones. MWR volunteers and Club members took viewer pledges from 4 pm until 7 pm on September 7 during broadcasts of Andre Rieu: Live In Vienna and Jewish People: A Story of Survival.



Westie volunteer Lucy (above) naps between calls, while below MWR and CBWHWTC volunteers (human and canine) answer calls from MPT viewers.



Basket Bingo

On September 14, 2008, Maryland Westie Rescue (MWR) hosted a "Basket Bingo" at the Elks Lodge in Laurel, Maryland. In playing for Longaberger baskets stuffed with assorted donated goodies, attendees donated over \$1,700 to MWR for the care and treatment of our rescued Westies!



100th Westie Rescued!

In mid-September, Maryland Westie Rescue (MWR) took in our 100th rescued Westie, a young girl named Hillary who was given up for fighting with another "alpha" female and accidentally biting a person trying to break up the tangled Westies.

After an evaluation and treatment (and a mandatory quarantine) at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital, Hillary joined her forever family, Erin Lynam and Ryan Szuch, on September 28.

At last report, Hillary is "fitting in very well and seems to love being with us!"



Rescued Hearts

By Kathleen Parsons

Taking care of rescue dogs
Is something I do best.
I know because I've done it,
And I've surely passed the test.

The dogs I've bathed, the food I've fed,
The vacuuming I've done,
And all to watch a frightened soul
Sit dreaming in the sun.

My own dogs I've neglected,
But I tell them everyday
That I love and cherish each of them
Though a new dog's come to stay.

I know they understand this,
For in their eyes I see
The love that I have given them
Come shining back at me.

Some people think I'm crazy,
Some others think I'm great.
But very few can understand,
What really is at stake.

If I can love and help a dog
To find a better way,
My own life is much richer,
I look forward to each new day.

So now you know my secret,
It's there for all to see,
The love I give, the life I save,
I do it all for me.

We welcome your stories and pictures.
Address your comments, inquiries, and suggestions to
editor@marylandwestierescue.com

Forever Stamp Drive!



Simply send us a book (or 2 or 3) of Forever Stamps! Why Forever Stamps, you ask? Because, they can be used at the current first-class postage rate at any time, regardless if the postage rates go up (which they will). You can buy them now, and they will be good FOREVER without having to add any extra postage. Seriously!



RECENTLY ADOPTED

Max (above) — Sept 10, 2008

Hannah — Sept 13, 2008

Josephine — Sept 19, 2008

Ike — Sept 28, 2008

Hillary — Sept 28, 2008

(Add a name to the list...adopt
a rescue Westie today!)

Hurricane Season



Ike (top) and Josephine (bottom) on "rescue day"



While Maryland Westie Rescue volunteers were answering the phones at the Maryland Public Television studio on September 7, Rescue Coordinator Ann Piesen with her father, Ed, a first-time volunteer, traveled to western Pennsylvania to retrieve three Westies rescued from a puppy mill.

Deemed "Hannah," (right, after her first ever bath and haircut) "Ike" (top left), and "Josephine" (bottom left), these three stinky (all windows down, AC on high stinky) and matted Westies got a bath and a trim before arriving at GAVH the next day for check-ups.

Hannah, now named "Molly," went to her "forever home" on September 13. Josephine (who now goes by "Lucy") followed on September 19. Ike had to wait another

few days, but went to his adoptive family on September 28.

Molly's Adoptive Family Reports:

"She is a wonderful pooch. She and our chihuahua get along great. She pounces on him, and he takes it very well! We just have to teach her to go down stairs. She's still afraid of that."



Ike's New Family Says:

"The guy LOVES cheese so I've been able to get all his meds in. He really likes the back yard but only if we stay with him. We have a floor mirror in the living room and he is in love with the doggie in the mirror. We love the Ike man!"

Support (Maryland) Westie Rescue Buy a T-shirt!



Now you too can own a "Support Westie Rescue" T-shirt with the Maryland Westie Rescue logo! The shirts are just \$15 each.

To order, please send \$15 and your t-shirt size to:

Westie Rescue T-Shirts
c/o Maryland Westie Rescue
7503 Sweetbriar Drive
College Park, MD 20740

You too can "Support Westie Rescue" by proudly wearing your Maryland Westie Rescue t-shirt.

Coming Next Issue...

For our next issue, we are looking for short reports from adopted Westies (or their adoptive families if the Westie is not allowed on the computer).

Please send your articles to editor@marylandwestierescue.com

Maryland Westie Rescue Organizational License Plates

Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc., is taking pre-orders for its brand new organizational logo license plates. Maryland drivers can share your love of Westies and show the world you support Maryland Westie Rescue by displaying this four-color logo plate on your Maryland-registered automobile.

Below is a mock-up *similar* to what the new the plates will look like.



YOUR COST: Your total cost will be \$50, out of which Maryland Westie Rescue will keep \$25, and send the other \$25 to the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration.

ELIGIBILITY: Only members (donors/volunteers/adoptive families) of Maryland Westie Rescue are eligible for the organization logo plates. If you are not already a member and would like to be, you may go to our website at www.marylandwestierescue.com and make an online donation in an amount of your choice using PayPal, or you can mail a check payable to "Maryland Westie Rescue" to:

Maryland Westie Rescue, P.O. Box 68, Spencerville, MD 20868.

HOW TO SIGN UP: To pre-register for the new logo plates – we need your name (as it appears on the vehicle registration) **and the current license plate number** for which the logo tag will replace. Send this information via email or regular mail to:

Bob Kjellberg, Tag Chairman

Maryland Westie Rescue

c/o 29353 Glencoe Road

Kennedyville, MD 21645

or

logoplates@marylandwestierescue.com

SEND NO MONEY NOW!

Once we have enough members pre-registered, we will contact you to collect the appropriate fee.

Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc.

P.O. Box 68
Spencerville, Maryland 20868

Phone: 301-474-0838
www.marylandwestierescue.com
info@marylandwestierescue.com



It's all about the Westies!

Get Involved, Join the Fun!

- October 4 2008 National Westie Parade of Rescues (noon at Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Kimberton, Pennsylvania).
- October 11 Walk for Paws (08:00 am — 3:00 pm at Lake Elkhorn in Columbia, Maryland, off of Broken Land Parkway). More information at <http://www.animal-advocates.org/info/display?PageID=619> or call 410-880-2488 ext. 4.
- October 25 Fall Foliage Walk with Fido & Pet Expo (10:00 am — 2:00 pm at Lake Artemesia in College Park, Maryland).

Know about a Westie event not listed here?
Let us know: info@marylandwestierescue.com