



Maryland Westie Watch

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MARYLAND WESTIE RESCUE, INC.

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

WINTER/SPRING 2009

INSIDE:

We Need Your Help!	1
Buddy's Buddies	2
A Rescue Story	2
Our Tales	3
Daisy Dishes	4
Tail Mail	4
2008 Alumni	6
2008 Donors	7
MWR License Plates	9
In Memory of Cappie	10
Save the Date: Wine & Fleas!	10

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

Maryland Westie Rescue Needs Your Help!

Maryland Westie Rescue needs your help. In 2008, we have rescued 84 dogs, including 34 last March alone. Many of these dogs came from puppy mills and/or had severe health problems. Maryland Westie Rescue has taken Westies into our program that no one else would take - saving them from certain euthanization.

Maryland Westie Rescue operates on donations, adoption fees, and fundraisers. Unfortunately, there have not been enough funds coming in this year to cover the expenses. For the first time, we find ourselves in a situation where we may have to start turning away dogs. Sadly, this could be a death sentence for a number of homeless Westies.

Please meet some of the Westies we currently have in foster care, and for whose expenses are yet to be paid:

Sarah was a stray found on the streets of Philadelphia. Almost completely hairless, bloated, with red, oozing skin. Sarah found her way to Maryland Westie Rescue and is recovering nicely. Sarah has undergone extensive medical testing, and she was diagnosed with Lyme and atypical Cushing's Diseases. She is responding beautifully to treatment. She has been in foster care since September. Sarah was placed in a home in February 2009, but unfortunately, her new family

decided "it just wasn't working" and Sarah returned to her foster family shortly thereafter.

In February 2009, Maryland Westie Rescue received a late night call from a family whose Westie, Bandit, was very ill. They had taken him to an emergency vet, but could not afford treatment. MWR rushed Bandit to the Anne



Arundel Veterinary Emergency Clinic at midnight. After he was stabilized, a vet with the Chesapeake Veterinary Surgical Specialists operated and found Bandit had eaten a spiky sweet gum seed pod, lodged in his stomach after scratching up his throat. Fol-

lowing surgery and a stay at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital, Bandit recovered and was recently adopted. His life-saving surgery and subsequent care cost over \$3,000.

So far in 2009, we have rescued ten dogs, including Bandit. We are asking for your help so that we can help the these Westies and those still awaiting rescue. Your generous tax-deductible donation will help ensure that we can continue rescuing Westies in need.

To donate via PayPal, please visit our Web site at: www.marylandwestierescue.com

From all of us at Maryland Westie Rescue, thank you so much for your support. We cannot do it without you.

Buddy's Buddies



Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope you are all doing well. I had a fabulous fall. So far, winter is a bit chilly, but otherwise not too bad (Boy, am I glad that my fur is grown back as much as it ever will, thanks to the wonderful people in Maryland Westie Rescue—especially my long-time foster mom, Angie—and the great vets at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital). But enough about me. I'd like to introduce you to my two newest buddies, Lilly and Daisy.

These older ladies (both 13 years



old!) came into rescue back in October of last year. They are currently living in "long-term foster care" (I know all about that—I was in foster care for 9 months!).

Lilly and Daisy both had a health scare about a month ago, getting really sick a few days apart, but both recovered quickly. Still, because they are older and a pair (raised together since they were puppies), nobody wanted to adopt them..until one day their foster parents called (Ann and Angie, silly, not me!) and said they wanted to adopt the girls!

A Rescue Story: Hillary

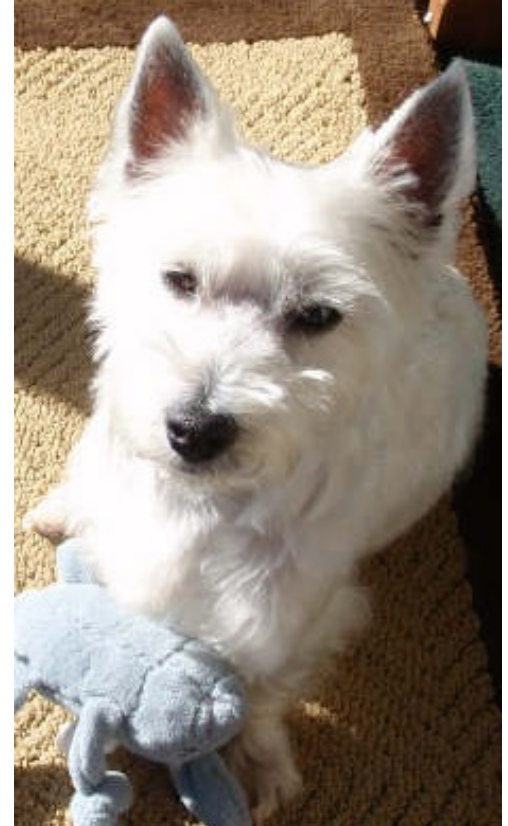
Hillary had been given from one family to another as a breeding dog. However, Hillary, an "alpha" female quickly came in conflict another female Westie at her new house. Her owner was bit trying to separate them and, unfortunately for Hillary, the rule was "last one in, first one out."

So, Hillary came to Maryland Westie Rescue in September. After the requisite "jail" time at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital because of the bite, Hillary found a new home with Erin and Ryan Lynam in New Jersey.

Happily, Hillary's new family reports:

Ryan and I are totally in love with her! She is the world's best dog, and I cannot imagine how anyone gave her up! The rest of our family got to meet her over Thanksgiving, and all love her too.

Right, Hillary hanging out with one of her toys



Maryland Westie Rescue Board of Directors:

Angie Gittles, President

Diane Pelton,
Secretary/Treasurer

Rescue Coordinator:
Ann Piesen

Newsletter Editor:
Phil Margolies

Rescued Westies Tell Their Tales

Daisy

My name is Daisy and I was recently adopted by Alexandra Graham and Michael Essig. I love my new home in Lexington, Virginia. I get to go on walks there and play with my new Westie brother, Calder. My new family is great and even made personalized dog bowls for my brother Calder and I. I spend most of my days eating, sleeping, and chewing on toys with Calder. Occasionally I have to teach Calder how to behave like a good Westie because he is still young and wild! But mostly we have a fun time running around and playing. Once we are worn out we usually curl up on the couch together and take a nap. I love my new home. Thanks for helping me find a home, Maryland Westie Rescue!. And thanks to [my Foster family] the Garner's for keeping me while I looked for a home! Best wishes to the other Westies!

Daisy

(Daisy was adopted in September 2008)

Scupper and Tiller

Our female human just received the Westie rescue T-shirt she ordered from you guys. We were very happy to see that it has a sailing theme. We did not know we were true sailors until we came to live with these humans...Scupper about 2 years ago and Tiller about a year later.

Well, we returned recently from the best adventure ever (other than coming to live here, of course!). We went sailing for 2 weeks on a 37 foot sloop named Zephyr. We heard the humans talk a lot about a Westie named Zephyr that went to the Rainbow Bridge in 2006. A zephyr, we learned, is a gentle west wind, so we take it they named the boat after him. They also talked about a little girl Westie named Breezy that was from you guys too. We suspect that we have nautical names too because they are different from the names we arrived with (Jagger and Flounder). Clever humans. Anyway, when Tiller arrived last year, we heard them say NO WAY a boat

You can also mail a donation to us at:

Maryland Westie Rescue
 P.O. Box 86
 Spencerville, MD 20868

Westie can be named Flounder. We didn't get it, but maybe you guys will??

The humans anchored [their boat] by a great beachy area or took us to a Chesapeake Bay town every afternoon. We got walks and treats, and even warm baths in the cockpit. And whoa....did we have appetites out there in the wind and weather! Tiller here, I have tummy trouble, so I suspect most of the little freezer was taken up with my frozen raw bunny burgers and half the frig with my brown rice and boiled eggs. No problem, the galley slave human seems to have managed just fine (besides, those humans will eat anything!)

We want to let you know that we give thanks to Westie Rescue everyday for taking us in and finding our forever home.

8 Sea-Legs Salute You,
 Scupper and Tiller

Max and Bear

Hi! My name is Max, and I was adopted from the Maryland Westie Rescue in July 2008. My "soul" brother (Bear) and I were put up for adoption when our family was separated due to our parents' divorce. We spent a great six weeks in a foster mom's home who wrote a REALLY NEAT letter to our FOREVER FAMILY. Bear and I now live in Northern NJ where we have settled in really well.

After the long drive north we made it to our new home, and after a few days of adjustment we learned to like this new place. It's not Maryland, but it will do. Well things are great... we have our own room (with big windows and lots of sun) when our parents are not home, a fenced-in yard (that doesn't

stop us (continued on page 5)

IN FOSTER CARE

Sarah: since Sep 5 (below)

Firecracker: since Feb 18

George: since Feb 23

Max: since Mar 5



Daisy Dishes



Daisy tests out more adjectives on her "Paw-C"

Hello Readers:

Recently, I dreamed that I had a tryst with a handsome Westie, a veritable Brad Pitt of the canine world. I awoke knowing I must write about this reverie. A kaleidoscope of images swirled across my mind's eye. I raced to my PC, impatient to put paw to keypad, pacing as the computer booted up. I wrote, and then sifted through clipart, hoping there would be a picture that could convey the intensity of my dream and do justice to my words.

As I searched, my imagination fast-forwarded and I saw my lovingly crafted oeuvre being dissected by a class of literary majors at a prestigious college. These pseudo-critics and book review wannabes were bandying about adjectives like "saccharine", "melodramatic", and "overwrought" to describe my masterpiece. How dare they mock my *pièce de résistance*?

My female person consoled me with assurances that *Westie Watch* was probably not on the curriculum of the Ivy League schools. I

can feel safe in sharing the story of my dream with you, my gentle *Westie Watch* readers, knowing you have a refined literary palate and would not mock my words. She assured me that my column would be received as the gift I can offer to all of you wonderful people who do God's work by giving my Westie cousins a forever home.

I wish you all a joyous holiday season and may you and your fur babies have a wonderful 2009!

Ciao for now,
Your dishing diva Daisy



Tail Mail



Dear Maryland Westie Rescue,

Just a note to fill you in on "Sweet Pea." She is a love! She is healthy! She does not particularly care for strangers--she doesn't attack, she just goes in another room. Just like Sadie and Lori, she jumps up on the back of the sofa to look out the window when we both are out of the house, and she stays there until we both or one of us come home.

She is a cuddler at night when she sleeps with Phyllis; other times she likes to be petted, brushed, and massaged, but not cuddled. When she is frightened (storm, fire crackers) she comes to me--even in the middle of the night. She comes up the ramp and walks on me to wake me up. That's the only time she uses the ramp to my bed.

She and Samantha (Schnauzer) get along very well. For some reason Sweet Pea likes Sam's bed, but she gets up if Sam insists. Sam occasionally plays with one of Sweet Pea's toys and they end up in a friendly tug of war.

Happy Holidays and God Bless,

Betsy Allen

[Sweet Pea, previously known as Hilda, adopted July 2007, ed.]

Dear Maryland Westie Rescue,

These are pictures of Scout (she was originally named Pamela). She is doing wonderfully. As you can see our backyard is quite large and it took Scout around 5 months before she would venture out into the

(continued on page 5)

Tail Mail (Con't)

yard. Now she explores the entire yard with her brother Ranger (a black lab we rescued from the pound). She can be at the far end of the corner of the yard and when we call her she comes running as fast as she can.



Scout and her "brother" Ranger

But, it took us quite a while to figure out her issues. When we feed her we can't look at her at all - if you look at her she cowers a bit and does not eat. She is getting better but still not great. Also when we first got her she did not like being picked up - would cower or run. Now, she just lays down waiting to be picked up.

Another issue we had was that every time I got home from work, she would revert back to her terrified self. Shivering. Not eating. Now she's an old pro - she sleeps on our bed the entire time we are gone and yawns and stretches when I come home waiting to be picked up to go outside.

She is also very attached to my husband. He comes home and she jumps up, wiggling her tail, howling, until he picks her up and plays with her.

The one thing that did scare us a bit, was about a month ago Ranger had to go in for

surgery and that was the first time they have ever been separated. For the entire day he was gone, she did not move. I would pick her up off the couch and put her outside and she just laid down. She wouldn't eat, (made her favorite roasted chicken and she still wouldn't eat). Exceedingly depressed.

Then the minute Ranger came home, she was back to her normal self. So it worries us a bit since Ranger is 8 years old.

So thanks to Maryland Westie Rescue League. She is a great dog. Doubt she will ever be a "normal" dog but a perfect fit for us.

Lee T. Phaup.

Dear Maryland Westie Rescue,

I just had to share with you a few photos of Grace (aka Snowpuff). I adopted her in March of 2008 and we just LOVE her - she fits into our home so easily and is such a joy. Thank you Maryland Westie Rescue!

Continue your good work - I Love that Newsletter.

Sincerely,
Mary Kay Diener

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 donations!

Recently Adopted

October 2008

Double Trouble, Sammie

November 2008

Duffy, Chrissy, Harlow , Chloe

December 2008

Missy Ann, Pearl, Clara, Rose, Juliette, Donna, Eve, Obie, Dancer

January 2009

Vixen, Comet, Owen, Alonsy, Lilly, Daisy

February 2009

Alene, Amy, Kiwi, Bandit, Hunter

March 2009

Sadie, Scooter, Sarah

Rescued Westies Tell Their Tales (Con't)

from chasing those nery beagles that walk in front of our house) and we get to play in our "Aunt Joan's" big backyard next door every few days... it's fun... sometimes I chase Bear and sometimes he chases me. We have successfully taught our new parents about feeding, brushing, snacking, play-

ing and "doing our business". Bear still cries in car rides, but what can you do... after all, he's not a Westie... but we love him anyway. To all you Westies waiting for a home... you too will find a "forever home" very soon.

Hugs and licks, Max

Maryland Westie Rescue's 2008 Alumni



Milhouse (top) and Angel (bottom) resolve to share their toys this new year (hah, right!)



Thanks to your donations and our dedicated volunteers, Maryland Westie Rescue took in over 80 Westies in 2008., including nearly 35 in March alone. Here are our 84 rescued Westies of 2008, in the order they came into rescue:

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------|
| MacDuff | Carson | Hannah |
| Obie | Corky | Ike |
| Ethan | Cassie | Josephine |
| Homer | Suzi | Hillary |
| Bart | Ricky | Daisy |
| Lisa | Rocky | Sammie |
| Milhouse | Neige | Chloe |
| Skipper | Beignet | Harlow |
| Missy | Snowflake | Daisy |
| Slinky | Cotton | Lilly |
| Snowpuff | Marshmallow | Jack |
| Pippin | Sunny | Chrissy |
| Merry | Snickers | Clara |
| Capri | Sugar | Duffy |
| Macy | Thistle | Pearl |
| Whisper | Luna | Alene |
| Breeze | Duncan | Missy Ann |
| Bianca | Max | Angel |
| Gwen | Bear | Juliette |
| Aspen | Mickey | Alonsy |
| Cassanova | McDuff | Donna |
| Snow White | Isabelle | Eve |
| Silly Lilly | Rocky | Owen |
| Dolly | Lucky | Rose |
| Pamela | Double Trouble | Comet |
| Westie 1 | Ralphie | Dancer |
| Westie 2 | Sarah | Vixen |
| Westie 3 | Max | Beasley |



Missy Ann (now known as Piper) doesn't mind the vet, as long as she gets treats!



Beasley says "Hello"

Thank You to All Our 2008 Donors!

Mary Jane Allen
 Betsy Allen & Phyllis Walker
 Fred & Duffy Askin
 Wayne & Sandra Bailey
 Kristin Bannerman
 Gary Barnes
 Patricia Beecy
 Michael & Margaret Benson
 Benson & Sheila Bernstein
 Rebecca Bettes
 Sherry Bittles
 Wendy & Robert Blakeslee
 Michael & Joan Bozik
 Huala & Bob Bradt
 Angelique Brady
 Amy Branum
 Susan Bratten
 Jason & Angeline Braun
 Rhonda Brodbeck
 Marilyn Buffaloe
 Victoria Burke
 Susan Burke
 Andrew & Alexis Butz
 Giovanna Calderone
 Virginia & Arnett Campbell
 Kedeesha Campbell
 Brienne & Michael Carozzi
 Ron & Ruth Carter
 Susan Casey
 Lisa Marie Casey
 Anthony Caterina & Joyce Zmuda
 Father Joseph Catrambone
 Chesapeake Bay WHWTC
 Sharon Christie
 Vickie Clafin & John Giamalva
 Catherine Clark
 Melissa Cole
 Ariel & Lauren Collins
 Roberto & Florence Coloso
 Debra Salzman Constante
 Henry & Bette Coogan
 Judith Cooper
 Nancy & Alberto Crego
 Janet Cyphers
 Lettie Davis
 Mary Kay Diener
 Daniel & Paulette Donnelly
 Carla Donofrio
 Mary Dooley
 Brian Drescher
 Richard & Cecilia Durham
 Terri Ebaugh

Margaret & Gordon Edison
 Christina & Daniel Elgin
 Edith Elliott
 Barbara Engerer
 Katharine Epperson
 Keith Estep
 Karen Fitzpatrick
 Douglas & Patricia Fletcher
 Suzanne & Kenneth Fodill
 Sharon Fosler
 Roy Fuchs
 Laura Lynn Gantzler-Was
 John Garner & Irene Marquez-Garner
 Donald & Marie Garvick
 Janell Gaucher
 Randall & Anne Gefell
 Elisabeth Gent
 Linda Gipson
 Angie Gittles
 Dennis Glanfield & Linda Mchale
 Elaine Golladay
 Linda Goode
 Alexandra Graham
 Glenn & Wendy Graney
 Dee Granger
 Richard & Beatrice Greenberg
 Wenchun Greene
 Cynthia Gricheck
 Barbara Haber
 Lyle & Ruth Hageman
 Lori Hall
 Allan & Elizabeth Harrington
 Sharon Hayes
 Victoria Hill
 Ruth Hill
 Elizabeth Ho
 Roberta & James Hobson
 Thomas & Barbara Hoffecker
 Gary & Lynn Hull
 Karen Hunt
 Andrea Hurlburt
 Thomas & Kristie Hutaff
 Sheryl Hutchison
 John & Laura Hutson
 Sharon Jacoby
 Cindy Janssen
 Randall Johnson & Gerard Racioppi
 James Johnson & Matthew Shepard
 Kristanna & Christopher Jones
 Bonnie Kalberer
 George & Jane Kays
 Tom Kelley

(continued on page 8)

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!

Want an eNewsletter instead?

If you prefer to receive our newsletter electronically, please let us know. Instead of a paper copy, we will send you an e-mail when the newsletter is posted to our Web site. Thanks!

Rainbow Bridge

Lucky: October 2008

Jack: November 2008

Star: February 2009



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

Thank You to All Our 2008 Donors!

Linda Kennedy
 Lisa Kennedy
 Jason & Ann King
 Bob & Linda Kjellberg
 Gail Knighton
 Baylor & Teresa Kobayashi
 Elaine Korzeniowski & J.P. Iglesias
 Ellen & Frank Lanahan
 Robert & Elizabeth Landgraf
 Rachel Langan
 Ingrid Langner
 Gwen Law
 Matthew & Suzanne Leffler
 Lisa Lehner
 Linda & Robert Lentz
 Laura Letcher
 Susanna & Matthew Levine
 Catherine Lindenau
 Tara Wiktor-Linne & Will Linne
 Steven & Stacy Litvin
 Jesse & Jane Lockaby
 Brad, Crystal & Brandon Long
 Gladys Loughery
 Mitchell Louie
 Sandra Lurz
 Curtis & Sondra Lushbaugh
 Erin Lynam
 Maureen Lynch
 James Malone
 William Mann
 Doug & Karen Marcinski
 Elizabeth Marks
 Theresa Marshall-Pac
 Jeanette Matlock
 Joseph & Judith McCabe
 Peggy Mcconnell
 Glenda McDonald
 Jana & Chris Mcguin
 Corey Mcvicar & Jorge Tavel
 Jessica Mehl
 Katharine Middleton
 Tina Moran
 Joann & John Moreland
 Kimberly Morrison
 Jan Moxley
 Rebecca Myers
 Heidi Nickell
 John & Rosa Nine

Christine Norman
 Suzanne Nowak
 Stacey O'Brien
 Dr. Kathryn O'Connell
 Wendy & Horace Opel
 Allen & Sheila Pack
 Jakub & Linda Passer
 Helen Payne
 Donald Peacock
 Lorraine Pelter
 Michael & Brenda Penn
 Leslie Perry
 Lee Phaup
 Ann Piesen & Phil Margolies
 Edmond & Roseanne Piesen
 Adelaide Pingue
 Stephanie & Andy Pollara
 Crystal Pone
 Jennifer Postell
 Veronica Potter
 Robert & Mary Pritchett
 Elaine Pruitt
 Bob Raab
 Billie Randolph
 Bill & Linda Ratcliff
 George & Chie Ridgway
 River City Westies
 Cynthia Rivers
 Donna & Floyd Robinson
 Beth & Carl Robinson
 Marlene Rodman
 Susan Rogers
 Dorothy & Patricia Rogers
 Beth & Philip Rosenzweig
 Barry & Linda Rudnick
 Donna Ryan
 Gloria Salzman
 Michael Sands
 Alfredo Santos
 Robin See
 Dolores Seitz
 Mark Shattuck
 Cynthia Shaw
 Susan Shawver
 Lisa Shenkle
 Barbara Shepard
 Teresa Showalter
 Nora & Dan Simpson

Charlene Smith
 Paul & Judy Smith
 Lawrence Snyder
 Andrea Somers
 Billie Soule
 Holly & Andrew Spaulding
 Stephanie Stefanow
 Gene & Beatrice Strupe
 Robin Teets
 Stephen Tenney
 Deborah & Matthew Testa
 John & Vickie Thorne
 Katherine Tinius
 Nicola & Willa Tranchitella
 Julie Travers
 Theresa & Bruce Trimble
 Denise Troeschel
 Brenda & George Tucker
 Elizabeth & Christopher Vaden
 Charles & Dorothy Valonis
 Alex Valsamakis & Andy Golden
 Charles & Barbara Vransy
 Mary Lee Vransy
 Roberta & Robert Walsh
 Tom Ward
 Alice Washburn
 Michael & Laurie Wasiljov
 Bonnie Weaver & Michael August
 Genevra Webb-Conlee
 Louise Webber
 Courtney West
 Ann & David Wherley
 Durie & Donald White
 Brenda Wiberg (Wiberg Gallery)
 Lynn & Wiley Wilkes
 Charles & Kim Wilslow
 Patricia Wilson
 Jean & Benjamin Wimberly
 Neil & Mary Wingard
 Nancy Wolf
 Joseph Wolinsky
 Wilson & Kathleen Wyatt
 Sharon Wylie
 Tyson & Catherine Yelvington
 Jeff & Julie Youmans



Alonsy (left), Owen
 (right), and all our 2008
 Alumni say, "Thank you
 for helping Maryland
 Westie Rescue help us"



Maryland Westie Rescue Organizational License Plates

Maryland Westie Rescue, Inc. has been approved for 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!

Save the Date — **Wine & Fleas 2009**
Sunday, June 14, 2009, at the Barrel Oak Winery
in Delaplane, Virginia

In Loving Memory of Cappie

By Angie Gittles
President, Maryland Westie Rescue

Some years ago, I met an older woman from my town who also had Westies. We used to meet up at the dog park and chat about things...mostly about Westies, and sometimes about her deteriorating health. Her dogs were her life. She often expressed her worry about her "children" should something happen to her. I always assured her that I would see that the Westies found a wonderful home. We had this discussion a number of times. A few years ago, her health took a turn for the worse. She called me from the hospital worried about her babies. I again gave her my promise that I would make sure the Westies were taken care of. This comforted her. Little did I know that it would be the last time I would get to speak to her.

So....Caspian, Nicky, and Andrew came to live with me for a while. Caspian ("Cappie" as I called him) was nearing 13 years old. I wondered if I'd find him a home. True to my word, I found each of them a great home...even Cappie!

In February 2009, I received sad news about Cappie. There is a special place in heaven for folks who adopt a senior dog, and I want to publicly thank the Kelly family for loving Cappie. I hope by sharing this kind note from Cappie's family, it may inspire others to consider opening their hearts to a senior dog:

"We adopted "Cappie" 3 years, 3 months ago! He became ill about a year ago with what was determined to be Cushings Disease but diagnosis was never definite; he developed diabetes this past summer. His disease was complicated but controlled for a while with meds, diet and insulin. He went blind in December in 1 week. The vet was wonderful and tried every non-invasive treatment but he could not stop losing weight although he ate like a champ! He lost his battle 2 weeks ago and it broke our hearts. He was a wonderful, loving and happy guy. We think he was about 15 1/2 years old but was always like a puppy. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to welcome him into our family. He was well loved."