



WestieMed News

Fall 2013

For the Love of Westies

**Thank You to all of
you for your support.
Without you, we
would not be able to
help so many sick
Westies.**

**WE APPRECIATE YOU
MORE THAN YOU
KNOW!!!**



LILY MARLINE

Lily Marline is a sweet 13-year-old Westie whose owner recently passed away and trusted Westie Rescue of Northern California, San Francisco Bay Westie Club to find her a new forever home. She was one of many animals in the household but the only Westie.

Rescue needed assistance in picking her up in Stockton, so Jo Fleming agreed to fetch this Westie. She settled in and became fast friends with Duffy, Jo's 5 year old Scottie.

Within a few days, Rescue was informed that Lily would not be leaving. Jo began the needed vet work but as a single working terrier Mom, she needed assistance to handle Lily's needs. A generous donation from WestieMed helped tend to this neglected senior Westie.

To celebrate Lily's official adoption on July 27th, Jo threw a "Gotcha Party" in Lily's honor. Have you ever seen a happier dog wearing the head gear? Lily Marline loved the Frosty Paws!

Read Lily's full story on our website:
<http://westiemed.org/stories/2013/lilymarline/>

“Why should I visit the WestieMed website?”

By now, you probably know that you can find information on the WestieMed website about the dogs that have been helped. You can also check on the current fundraising activities, see even more volunteer opportunities, find out where the donations go, learn about the application requirements and more.

But...there's more!

Did you know that WestieMed provides information on various Westie health issues on the website?

<http://www.westiemed.org/health/>

Looking for the perfect gift for a Westie lover or something special for you? You have a couple of options that will assist WestieMed and you can shop for items in the WestieMed Gift Shop on the website.

<http://www.westiemed.org/shop/>

Shop with our affiliate companies and a portion of your purchase will go to help WestieMed.

<http://www.westiemed.org/affiliates/>

Thanks to CafePress.com, we are now selling a number of products featuring unique and beautiful Westie designs donated by renowned artists Kirsten Fox, Carol Sanger, Suzanne Renaud, Barbara Scotten, Ann Kallal, Dawn Barnes, Anne Huddleston and Allison Platt.

<http://www.cafepress.com/westiemed>

**Read about the dogs helped January - September 2013
on the WestieMed website:**

<http://westiemed.org/stories/2013/>

SHANDY...

The Toss-Away Dog

Shandy is the definition of a toss away dog. Her life story started happy, with Shandy being loved for her first 11 years by her senior caregiver. Shortly after his death, she was repeatedly discarded by people who were supposed to love, care for, and protect her.

In early spring 2012, Shandy was living in a crate at a local Orlando groomer. The deceased owner's son inherited Shandy but said he was a "cat person, and not a dog person", so dumped her. She was circulated through local rescue channels, but was considered a difficult placement due to age and bladder issues. Luckily, one of the rescues did offer to courtesy post her and had photos taken which did find an adopter. The adopter did not take Shandy to a vet for the leaky bladder and returned her after only two weeks.

At this time, Mina Johnson and her husband were contacted to retrieve Shandy. She was vetted and discovered to have giardia, as well as a bladder infection causing the leaky bladder. After several months of healing she was up for adoption. All thought Shandy had found the perfect home with a Westie-experienced family. After seven weeks in this home, she became ill and was once again surrendered.

Upon hearing how sick Shandy was, Mina and her husband, along with the aid of two rescue groups, went into overdrive to save her life. She was presented to the Johnson family vet near death. After six days in critical condition, she was transferred to a specialty hospital for another nine days. She was diagnosed with Irritable Bowel Disease (IBD), was on the mend, and expected to make a full recovery.

However, there was an enormous debt incurred to save Shandy's life. An application was filed with WestieMed, and a grant was approved. Considering all she had been through and how much she had touched them, Mina and her husband realized that Shandy had found her permanent home with them.

You can read Shandy's full story on our website: <http://westiemed.org/stories/2013/shandy/>



UPDATE: Sadly, Shandy did not get to enjoy that wished-for long life. Mina Johnson wrote: *On September 21, 2013, our beloved Miss Shandy left her earthly existence. Although I write this with much sadness, I also write it in celebration of the happy memories of her sunbathing, and going to outings at her favorite park (see photo below), activities which she enjoyed for many months due to the generosity of the donors who support Westie Med. Most importantly, Shandy did not pass away feeling abandoned. She left this earth belonging to a family, who wanted her and cherished her. We miss her very much, but realize only her physical body has left, as she will live on in our hearts and memories forever. "Fly free little girl, until we are together again. We love you!"*



A Story of Faith... The Belief and the Westie!

In the Spring 2013 newsletter, we told the story of Maisey, now known as Faith. It turns out that was the perfect name for this wee Westie lass! Here's an update!

Hello Everyone at WestieMed!

When we last corresponded with you Faith was about 2 lbs, 8 oz. While she was "out of the woods" with her bronchopneumonia, we still had to monitor her condition and keep her on two antibiotics for the next two months. We had her back to the internal medicine doctors two more times.

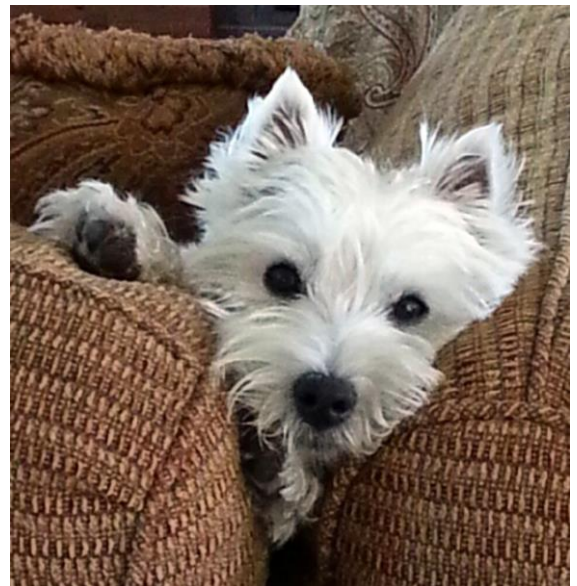
Faith was unable to receive any of her puppy shots while still on antibiotics so taking her off of our property or into public places was not an option. While she continued to be on medication and recover, we spent her waking hours teaching her to walk on a leash and learn basic rules and commands. Thank goodness we live on a fully fenced acre with lots of areas for her to learn to dig like all happy, healthy Westies. Our other Westie Miley and Bichon Maggie were allowed to play with her when she wasn't sleeping. Faith continued to do well and gained a whopping 6 more pounds.

Around the first of April she received her first set of puppy shots and three weeks later the last booster. At that point Faith had learned to walk on a leash and the world just opened up for her. She was ready for walks with Maggie and Miley who go out twice daily for two-mile walks. For the first few weeks we only took her on the morning walk, and sometimes I would carry her on the way back if she got winded. You see, not only did she have bronchopneumonia, she had a collapsed lung. The internal medicine doctor informed us that this likely happened when one of her litter-mates stepped on her when she was only days old. It will never inflate again and she will have to live with it for the rest of her life.

Don't think for a minute that these chronic conditions have slowed her down.....to the contrary. She only has one large lung lobe, and still has a loud heart murmur, but she is like every other happy healthy Westie, and gives our other two dogs a run for their money. The vet told us that she will set her own pace.

So far her pace is FULL SPEED AHEAD!! When it's bedtime and she runs up the stairs with Maggie and Miley headed towards her kennel, we can hear her wheezing. She takes three breaths for every one Miley takes, so it appears that she is panting all the time. It's not something we ever get used to.

Our vet tells us that her life MAY be shortened by her ailments or she may live to a ripe old age. There is no way to tell. What we DO know is that had it not been for WestieMed and their love for Faith she would not be here at all. Thank you again for your support, for your love and for your resources. We are deeply grateful to your organization.



imagine

A WORLD WITH NO HOMELESS WESTIES. THAT'S WHAT WESTIEMED IS ALL ABOUT...



Please Shop With Our Affiliate Companies... Here Are Just Two!



Just register with iGive:
<http://www.igive.com/welcome/lp7/wr22.cfm?c=8745>
 With over 700 participating stores (where a percentage of each purchase is donated to WestieMed), there's something for everyone. This is a free, easy way to help WestieMed, just by shopping online at stores you know!



<http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=wesinc-20&camp=211041&creative=374005&linkCode=qs1&adid=0HM96HEW71Z8NQ2NVGW2&&ref-refURL=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.westiemed.org%2Faffiliates%2F>

Shop for books, movies, music, games, electronics, toys, apparel, jewelry, tools and more at Amazon.com!

The Paws and Remember Program

Please take a moment to *Paws and Remember* your special friends.

Make a donation to light an "ever-burning" Virtual Candle from WestieMed's *Paws and Remember* program. This is a wonderful way to show your admiration, love and devotion for those you hold closest to your heart.

- Honor your own special family members,
- Celebrate a living friend, pet or person, with a Tribute Virtual Candle, or
- Remember those you have loved and lost with a Memorial Virtual Candle.

When you make a donation for either a Tribute Virtual Candle or a Memorial Virtual Candle, WestieMed will send a lovely



personalized card to the designated recipient acknowledging your thoughtful gift.

Our acknowledgment card features the *Paws and Remember* logo — Toto — The Rescue Angel designed and donated exclusively to WestieMed by artist Suzanne Renaud.

<http://www.westiemed.org/pawsandremember/>

How Can YOU Help WestieMed?

There are a number of ways and opportunities you can help WestieMed raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued Westies in need of medical attention. We appreciate your support!

MAKE A DONATION

- Mail a check or money order donation to:
WestieMed, Inc.
2108 Fulton Avenue, Unit #3
Cincinnati, OH 45206
- Make a secure online credit card donation.
- Make an automatic monthly subscription donation.
- Donate Westie treasures for WestieMed's online eBay Auctions or Raffle.
- Make a *Planned Gift* consisting of such items as stocks, bonds, cash, personal property, bequests, trusts, life insurance and IRAs.
- Make a donation with your company's *Matching Gift Program*.
- Donate your artistic Westie designs for fundraising purposes through our *Artists To The Rescue* program.

MAKE A PURCHASE

- Obtain "ever-burning" online Tribute and Memorial Virtual Candles from the *Paws and Remember* program on the WestieMed website.
- Shop in the online WestieMed Gift Shop for unique Westie items.



- Shop with WestieMed's Affiliate Companies and a donation will be made to help us help rescued Westies.
- Shop in WestieMed's online eBay Auctions.
- Shop at our Cafe Press Store - the WestieMed Cafe featuring Westie designs by many talented artists.

VOLUNTEER

- Help organize a Fundraising event or a Westie Walk for the benefit of WestieMed.
- Offer your talents and time for a WestieMed project.
- Get WestieMed news and updates through our Friends of WestieMed email list.
- Join the WestieMed group on Facebook.
- Help spread the word about WestieMed.

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The Mission of Westie Med, Inc. is to help raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued West Highland White Terriers (Westies). WestieMed provides these Westies with a second chance at adoption and the opportunity to lead happy, healthy lives in stable, loving, forever homes. In addition, through its efforts and the example it sets, WestieMed aims to stimulate a dialogue, which will educate the general public about rescue animals and rescue organizations.