

WestieMed News

Spring 2017

Imagine

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



Dear Westie Lovers,

Experiencing the feeling of pride and joy while watching rescued Westies thrive physically and emotionally in new loving adoptive homes is a powerful reward for anyone involved in rescue.

Sadly, due to the high cost of veterinary care and the limited budgets of most rescuers, not all rescued Westies are given an opportunity for restored health and a better life. Rescuers are often placed in the difficult position of making decisions based solely on available resources.

WestieMed strives to offer financial assistance to rescuers nationwide allowing them to foster, rehabilitate and nurture as many Westies in rescue situations as possible, worry-free of monetary constraints.

In this issue of the WestieMed Highlights, the official newsletter of WestieMed, we are pleased to tell you about WestieMed and to share with you a recap of the 6 Westies that WestieMed assisted during 2017. WestieMed's aid has allowed these Westies to move from a painful existence and, in some cases, certain death, to the happiness that every dog deserves. Giving Westies like these a second chance is the reason for WestieMed's existence.

WestieMed is making a difference...one Westie at a time!



Lucky

Lucky is a 6 year old Westie that ran in front of our van, sat down and stared at us. My husband opened the door and he jumped right in. It was obvious he had been on his own for a while. His fur is severely matted and even after a professional bath, he is still brown with dirt. We immediately took him to a vet and had them do a check up on him and check for a microchip. He was hook worm positive and we treated him for that ailment. He is also heart worm positive. When we got the estimate for the treatment, we were heartbroken. We knew we couldn't afford to pay it. Our kids were devastated, as they had already fallen in love within him.



We reached out to the San Antonio Area Scottie and Westie Rescue (SAASWR) and told them our situation. Read the rest of Lucky's story: <http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/lucky/>

Scout

Scout is our 3rd Westie and a 3 year old rescue. We are so happy he's here with us and is bringing us so much joy!

We were beyond heartbroken when our Callie passed away suddenly in September, 2016. Although Callie had been diagnosed with IBS and Addison's Disease she had been doing really well for many years with much love, monitoring and medication. She was almost 14 when we lost her.



We knew we would eventually would want to rescue another Westie so I contacted Sunshine State Westie Rescue. It was amazing for us when in a very short amount of time we found out about Scout who had been rescued and was being fostered.

Read the rest of Scout's story: <http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/scout/>

Lencsi

Lencsi is an approximately 9-10 years old Westie lady who was rescued in May 2016 in Hungary. She was found in the countryside on the street in horrible condition, so Westie Rescue Hungary picked her up immediately the day we were notified. She did not have a microchip and her owner was not found. Probably that was her luck.

During her first examination at the veterinarian the following was diagnosed:

- Ultrasound examination - small lime crystal sediments are visible on the liver and kidneys. Hernia, probably the uterus is protruded. Operation is URGENT.
- Lacrimation check - very low, KCS disease, treatment twice a day.
- Skin issues - infections, alopecia, scratching, postulate, overall state is devastating. Antibiotics for 2 weeks, mono diet with hypoallergenic pet food, biweekly bathing. Ear also infected, daily treatment.
- Blood taken and sent to the lab - result is promising, only the leukocyte is higher, but only due to the inflammation in her body.
- Heartworm test: POSITIVE
- Transponder inserted

So we needed to look into her eyes and decide how to proceed, we have to be honest we had doubts if we can succeed. She was in lot of pain and we have probably never had such a complicated case.



But her sweet face and calm, kind nature convinced us that she would fight, and she would recover so we started the long rehabilitation.

Due to the heartworms, before the surgery she had a heart ultrasound examination, which showed that the adult worms were in the lung artery, blood pressure was normal. We operated on her hernia and she was neutered at the same time. Although it was a dangerous operation, her will to survive was strong enough to stay with us. Both back legs had torn knee ligament - examined by specialist before the surgery -, but we concentrated first on the heartworms and her general condition.

In July allergy test were performed as the improvement was not that satisfying. After the results we continued with the suitable hypoallergenic pet food.

In August she was strong enough so we could proceed with the heartworm removal with catheter which was performed by an Italian specialist - first time we had this kind of surgery on a Westie. As a result 2 adult heartworms were removed and medical treatment was continued. Her skin became better and better with time. Read the rest of Lencsi's story:

<http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/lencsi/>

Wally

On November 29, 2016, we received a call from a woman who stated that her daughter has a Westie that she wants to euthanize due to his skin problems. She sent pictures of the dog and the neglect was so severe that we asked her to bring him to us the very next day. Wally arrived in terrible shape. He was grossly underweight and every bone in his body protruded through. For a dog his size, he should be about 18 lbs. His eyes were covered in discharge and he screamed when his ears were touched. He smelled so badly and it was quite obvious this dog had never been bathed. By the time we got home, his car seat was covered in yeasty crust. Read the rest of Wally's story:

<http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/wally>



The Paws and Remember Program

When you make a donation for either a Tribute Virtual Candle or a Memorial Virtual Candle, WestieMed will acknowledge 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.

www.westiemed.org/pawsandremember/

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 hear.

- 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.





Chauncey

Chauncey came into Westie Rescue USA 3 years ago at the age of 3. He was in good health and received his inoculations at the time of rescue. He was a very nervous dog and was unadoptable. As a volunteer, he came to my home where he is now a permanent foster. I have worked with Chauncey over the years but I just could not get him out of some very bad habits. If Chauncey was in a room with more than one person he would become wild eyed and start licking anything in sight. This included walls, furniture, floors and saliva would be coming out of his mouth like a rabid dog. About a month ago, I noticed a change in him where he would start licking his lips and swallowing rapidly. Read the rest of Chauncey's story:

www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/chauncey/



Piper

Piper is a 5 1/2 year old Westie who is a little sweetie with a heart of gold but, unfortunately, that heart is not working as well as it should be at this time.

She was owner surrendered to Scottie Rescue at age 5. She was spayed and updated on her vaccines and when she was ready for adoption, she was advertised as available. She went to a new home in Virginia with a Westie lover who already currently had two sweet

Westies and wanted to share his home with another one who could benefit from all he had to offer. She's fit in easily and has become one of the family over the last 5 months since her adoption. Although she'd been evaluated at her original vet before her spay, and also been seen by her new dad's vet after her adoption, oddly it wasn't until a subsequent vet visit with another vet in the practice, that the heart murmur was detected. At that time, she was referred to a veterinary cardiac specialist in the area. This specialist did a full cardiac workup and advised that the two lower chambers of the heart were not working as well as they should be, and she should have a pacemaker implanted to correct this before it became an emergency. Read the rest of Piper's story: www.westiemed.org/stories/2017/piper/

Nemo

Nemo came to us in terrible shape. He was found as a stray and picked up by animal control. The shelter contacted the owner and his owner said they gave him to another family member. When they were contacted, they stated they did not want him anymore. Nemo was found over 100 miles from his "home". It was revealed that Nemo was left in a cage for most of his existence. As a result, Nemo had 14 broken and fractured teeth from trying to chew his way out. This is no way to live!! The shelter asked us if we would be willing to take him on as his skin was a horrid mess, his eyes were infected and so were his ears and was coming down with kennel cough. He was in such bad shape that the shelter thought this 2-4 year old was a senior! For several weeks, we worked on his skin



with medicated soft brush baths and medication. Just recently, we had a complete dental done on Nemo.

WestieMed Alumni Updates



Chloe

She has settled in to our household and is a wonderful, playful, funny and in every way great dog. Our household now includes my sons rescue dog "Moose." Chloe and Moose are BFFs - they watch out the windows together, take a long morning walk together and usually race out to the back yard together.

She is really comfortable in her new home and not as needy of me as she was in the first months.

Rupp

Thanks to WestieMed, Rupp was able to receive allergy testing, allergy shots, and daily medication to help control his severe allergies. It was a long road for him to recover and for his hair to regrow.

We had many setbacks with flair ups and more medical treatment, so he stayed in his foster home for ten months total.

However, after a lot of searching, we found the perfect home for him in Louisville, Kentucky. He now also has a new Westie sister named Lexi who has shown him the ropes including where the squirrels like to hang out in the back yard.



The warm weather is coming, be prepared with the perfect gifts at the WestieMed Gift Shop!



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



WestieMed Fundraising Auction

Sept 15, 2017 – Sept 17, 2017

It is through direct donations and fundraising activities like our WestieMed Fundraising Auction that we are able to fulfill our mission of becoming a recognized force in the Westie rescue community by providing financial assistance for rescued Westies in need of medical treatment in order to give them a second chance to lead a healthy, happy life in a stable loving home.

You ask 'How can I help?'

1. Check that you are a member of the auction group when signed into Facebook. Upon going to the link noted below if the cover photo says you are 'Joined'.... you are in the group. You then can add your friends to the WestieMed auction group and preview all items that are posted/will be up for bid as added. Your request will be reviewed by an admin of the group for approval. If you are a joined member of the group, you can donate an item and later bid once the auction bidding is opened on September 15th.
 2. We need your donated items for the auction that other bidders can bid on. Items to be donated can be Westie related, dog related, and other gift items. As a donor of an item, you can post a photo of the item (or a collage if multiple photos are needed for the item) directly. Just follow the 'More' drop down on the posting window and pick 'Add Photo/Video'.
- Find your photo to upload and type a brief but complete description of your item or service including measurements, starting bid and shipping terms. (We have bidders both internationally and regionally so please take that into consideration when posting shipping terms.)
 - If you need assistance contact Gerry Cannavan or another admin for the auction group via FB Message with the photo and description for the item or simply do a post explaining that you have a donation that you would like assistance with. An Admin will contact you.
 - As a donor, you will be responsible for shipping the item to the winner when given the 'OK to Ship' after the end of the auction unless you have made previous arrangements with a WestieMed Board Member.
3. Participate in the auction as a bidder from September 15- September 17. Participation is fun and exciting. We will have some BUY IT NOW items that have not been seen before (A set price is placed on these and are not part of the bid process. They have a limited availability). However, we ask that you, as a donor, do not bid on an item you have donated. If you have questions regarding this, please contact an auction admin.

This year's auction is being held September 15- September 17, 2017 as a Facebook online auction at:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WestieMedFundraisingAuction/>.

WestieMed, Inc.
1546 Brandon Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45230
1-877-853-9469 (toll free)
info@westiemed.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President/Application Coordinator
Lucy Ryley

**Vice President/ Website
Coordinator**
Sandy Gilmer

Recording Secretary
Denise Sunkel

Corresponding Secretary
Brandy Daniel

Virtual Candle
Carolyn Piccininni

Treasurer
Jen Hosler

**Board Member/ Marketing
Coordinator**
Rachel Phelps

Board Member
Karen Spalding

**Board Member/Follow-up
Coordinator**
Linda Duncan

**Board Member/ Gift Shop
Coordinator**
Becky Walker

Board Member/ Newsletter Editor
Rachel Scott

Auction Coordinator
Gerry Cannavan

**Ex-Officio Board Member
Consulting Veterinarian**
Dr. Barbara Lee

**Ex-Officio Board Member
Consulting Attorney**
Lisa Curry

**Ex-Officio Board Member
Consulting Financial Advisor**
James Gniadek

**Ex-Officio Board Member
Website Consultant**
Lisa Gryskiewicz

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. 1546 Brandon Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45230
- Make a secure online credit card donation.
- Make an automatic monthly subscription donation.
- Donate Westie treasures for WestieMed's Facebook Auctions .
- 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 Facebook 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.

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