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Happy Fall



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Spotlight on Fosters

John Bourne & Chris Comer



John Bourne and Chris Comer are the parents of Parker, who is a famous 16 year old Westie. He has his own instagram account, PeterParkerStevens, with 5 million views! They are also one of Westie Rescue Network's newest Fosters.

Parker modeled for the Christmas photo shoot → for American Dog toys in 2019, where they met Gene and Minnie Bourque. They visited, and Gene gave them his card. This year they decided it was time to join Westie Rescue Network as Fosters. They "passed inspection" last summer.

Their first foster dog was this adorable 13 year old Lola. I got to meet Lola, because they ended up adopting her, on Fathers Day 2022. Perfect! Now Parker has a companion. Lola also has her own Instagram account! Her Happy Tales story is below. John says "The dogs come to you when you are ready." So true.



They adopted Parker as a puppy and, like many of us, are now smitten with this breed. John always had a dog growing up, and prior to Parker he had a Yorkie, that ended up being his parents' dog.

When he is not being a Westie Dad, John is a field trainer for Peloton, the exercise company. Chris is the Director of Events for UCHEALTH, the largest health system in Colorado. They are good at juggling their schedules so the pups have somebody around most of the time.

"President Gene Bourque said that WRN is very fortunate to have two such devoted owner/fosters taking care of these special senior Westies. Thank you John and Chris."

Happy Tales



The Lola Story

Lola McGee Stevenson joined our family on 6/5/2022. Lola was her given name, she is 13 years old and obviously had come from a very loving home.

Lola settled in almost immediately, with her two dads and 16 year old westie brother Peter Parker Stevenson. We added the middle name McGee in honor of Parker's bestie westie Rug McGee, because Lola reminded us of Rug. Lola is quiet and loving and loves a good snack of salmon or pumpkin. She is friendly with the neighbors and a social butterfly with older dogs. Puppies or high energy doggies aren't her thing, so the easy living lifestyle of our household was a perfect fit for her.

It wasn't long before Lola joined her big brother on instagram @lolathec coloradowestie Parker is @peterparkerstevenson and is one of the most followed westies on the platform.

We look forward to giving Miss Lola a loving home in her golden years!

**DOGS' LIVES ARE TOO
SHORT. THEIR ONLY
FAULT, REALLY.**

AGNES SLIGH TURNBULL



Spot the Westie



~from Diana Frost Feeney



Sometimes the best hiding place
is the one that's in plain sight.
— Stephenie Meyer

From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfie@gmail.com



In Memory of

Robby

Our sweet little gentleman, Robby, passed away from us on July 23, 2022 and is waiting for us at the Rainbow Bridge. He is a Westie Rescue Network alumnus and we got him at the estimated age of four years. Boy, did we have fun! We went places, saw things, chased even more things and ended up in Northern California. Wiggling and wagging his way into our hearts, arms and lives, Robby was our constant companion and playmate. He loved to make us laugh. He loved his toys. He loved to go on walks. Whatever was happening at the moment was his favorite thing.

Several years ago we noticed he had recurring problems with digestion and he was put on a low-fat prescription diet. Every once in a while he would have an episode of diarrhea sometimes vomiting and general malaise, not eating for a day, and then would come out of it. Apparently not for the worse.

Well into thirteen years of life, things changed. He was not able to do all the things we all loved. We made accommodations for that in many different ways. Walks were not so fast, but as long and as far as he wanted to go. Toys were not interesting. Most of the day he slept in his bed near a window.

The vet did tests and determined that his kidneys were not working very well and he probably had pancreatitis. We still don't know for sure, but we tried all the meds the vet suggested and none seemed to help.



Food was difficult to eat, even foods that were deemed treats in the past. Vomiting and diarrhea became more frequent. Likewise with not eating. He was losing weight. I hand-fed cooked chicken breast or white fish. After a short time, he refused that. When life became a burden, it was time to say good-bye. And a difficult thing that was. We will always remember our "Robinator", because he could actually terminate varmints (Robinate?), as the great and valiant dog he was. Dogs like him have a special place in doggy heaven and will always have a place in our hearts. We miss him terribly.

-Judy and Steve





Why Do Westies Bark at Certain Persons and Not At Others?

As you may have realized, Westies are always on alert when someone new arrives on the scene. They usually perceive people they do not know immediately, however, sometimes they start to growl or bark at some, but not at others. This momentary bad temper could indicate aggression, a defensive attitude or simply some kind of anxiety. But, why do they have different reactions depending on the individual? Could they know something about them that you do not know? Few people can summarize the reactions of all dogs, and definitely, each case is unique, although we can see the way dogs perceive their world and, perhaps, get an idea about this interesting question.

For them, each person emanates a different scent. In addition, they have a much more advanced sense of smell than that of humans; In fact, they are between 10,000 and 100,000 times better at it. Because of this huge difference, we have a hard time understanding the amount of information they must process when they receive the smell of another person. Surprisingly, trained dogs are able to distinguish between two identical twins from the same environment, even if they have the same diet. To make matters worse, you could know where they have been or with whom.



For different reasons, your westie might smell something in someone else that would make him growl, even though your human nose could never feel it. However, it does not have to be something worrying; I could notice something that, for him, is negatively associated, like another strange dog or someone's

fear. All of them are products of their own experiences, and since they can not tell us about practical practices, the only thing we can do is try to guess. Some individuals seem terrifying to certain dogs, since they use smell more than vision, although this also to a significant degree.

Moreover, they also make use of facial recognition to communicate with each other, and human beings can not do it in the same way as they do. Therefore, when your westie growls or barks at one person and not to another, he may be seeing a feature that reminds him of a past threat that he keeps in his memory. People differ in size, features and the way they move, and that can make your faithful friend remember some danger or something unfamiliar, feeling fearful and insecure. In fact, you will have seen that humans can be threatening to westies and other dogs if they perform some unusual movement or noise, such as putting on a hat or opening an umbrella, for example.

There are also many other reasons why a particular westie might feel a certain aversion to someone in particular. If you have had your canine since he was a puppy, you will know how he has been socializing because you did it. However, if you adopted him when he was somewhat older, you may not have knowledge of what happened in his early years, may have been traumatized or abused and having generated distrust of people or a certain disdain for certain subjects or gender in particular.

Furthermore, westies can be both territorial in their everyday space and protect their family humans, so they may react badly to anyone who seems to be invading their space or acting in a way that may be perceived as threatening to their owners. The behaviors that can trigger a protective reaction in your dog include a sudden hug or an enthusiastic greeting. They are also usually good judges of character, so if your westie does not like someone in particular constantly, for no apparent reason, you may need to exercise caution with that person. When your westies are alarmed by someone all the time, they may have a compelling reason to react with that force. If you are sure that the person your westie barks has good intentions, try to teach him not to feel angry or protective with everything around him. You can have on hand a handful of the treats your westie likes the most so you know that you will get certain rewards if he behaves well. You can also try to train him with certain key commands so that he feels or reassures when there is someone new nearby, repeating the process until your westie knows what to do without really thinking about it. Then, if you see that it is fulfilled when someone is known, give him another reward so that he knows that he is doing well.

You have to consider that you should not doubt the character of people, in the first instance, just because your westie begins to feel uncomfortable in their presence. It is very likely that he only is smelling or perceiving something that he is not sure of, and you can always build trust through training and its rewards. However, as we have mentioned, pay close attention to the emphasis and prolongation that your westie puts on his aversion to a certain person, as many studies have determined these animals can really determine whether a person is trustworthy or not.





Westie Fun

Westie Fest

August 28, 2022

An event for newest Westie adopters and volunteers.

Thanks to Bill Ryan for hosting this event!

Thanks to Sharon Bolsinger for the photos!





A Life of Wonder



from Dr. Bob Luckin and Murphy

I live every day in wonder. My name is Murphy, and I'm a dog. Some people think dogs are dumb, but we're not. We just see the world with different eyes.

When I see people on their morning walk arguing on their cell phones or hear people complain about the neighborhood ducks, I'm nearly overcome with sadness. I listen carefully trying to understand the pain humans feel when stepping into their day like it's a battlefield. Sometimes I'm able to distract them by chasing my tail or jumping as high as I can to catch a frisbee.

I wish my humans realized how much they require moments of joy and wonder. My humans enjoy watching me do things that, from their point of view, have no meaning. They fail to see how living a life of joy and wonder isn't attached to doing everything with a purpose or meaning.

I listened to a man tell his wife that the morning rainbow was a sign they were about to have a good day. I found myself wondering if they had seen the rainbow with the joy and wonder I experience or if what they saw was a hopeful sign in the sky.

Embracing each moment as though it is a gift can change the life you are living. Allowing yourself to approach the world around you in a mindful state of wonder can fill your heart with unmanageable riches. ☸



Are you ready to welcome great riches?

Try being mindfully aware of the glory of Spirit surrounding you. Your life will change.



Thank You! Amy Nedwell

and Good Times Burgers



For the PawBenders* you donated to our Westie Fest Event!!

*Pawbenders are frozen custard and peanut butter treats made just for dogs, sold only at Good Times Burgers locations. Here are 2 dogs enjoying theirs at Westie Fest.



2023 Calendars are available for purchase at our website. Here is the link.

<https://westierescuenetwork.org/help-wrn/cool-stuff-to-buy/calendars-stickers>

Every month features a different Westie!



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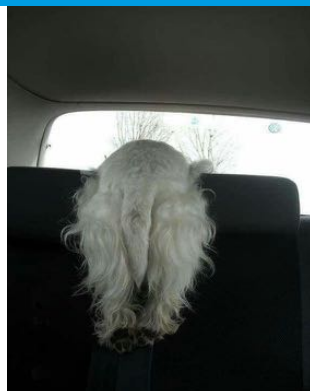
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westie rescue network



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This picture was posted on our WRN FaceBook page Aug 4, asking for some captions. It had 130 likes. Some fun captions were--

When wet, merely drape your westie over a nearby clothesline or chair back and just like magic, they're dry!

I'm just leaving everything BEHIND me

Just hangin' out!

The end!