



Dear Friends of Westie Rescue,

It is a special privilege to be writing to you as the new President of Westie Rescue Network (WRN). I am humbled by the trust that the Board has in me to follow in the footsteps of Martha Smith. I take that trust very seriously and pledge to do my best to continue WRN's mission of rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming Westies in the greater Rocky Mountain region.

Maintaining the success that WRN has achieved over the past quarter century is only possible due to the efforts of our incredibly dedicated volunteers and our many generous donors. To them all I say, "Thank you" and ask for your continued help in the future.

Using data for the last five years it is worth noting the following:

- ♦ The average age of the Westies we take into our care has increased which has resulted in longer stays in foster homes because older dogs do take longer to place in their forever homes.
- ♦ While our Veterinarians provide us discounts for many services those costs continue to rise and represent well over 80% of our total expenditures.
- ♦ The average veterinary cost for a Westie in our program exceeds our adoption fees by \$258 per dog. It is our donors who have kept us financially solvent over the years and we will need their continued help as we move forward.

Since finances are a continuing challenge for WRN the entire Board is committed to responsible governance based on the best practices of fiscal management. I am pleased to report that the corporation is financially sound and regulatory compliant. Our financial team of Treasurer Hollie Hunter (formerly Trow) and Accountant, Vena Flax manages a system of controls that insure accurate, timely and professional reporting.

And there are the dogs. I can assure you that the entire Board will build on the vision and past efforts of Martha Smith, Joe Downey, Carolyn Foley and Laurie Peterson to insure there will be a place of safety and love for needy Westies far into the future. Our immediate goals are to add more experience to our Board, increase the number of foster homes we can provide and expand training opportunities for our volunteers. If you are interested in helping please email me at gbourque45@centurylink.net.

Thank you all for your support of and love for these wonderful Westies.
Warmest personal regards,

Gene Bourque, President
The Westie Rescue Network, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene Bourque".

A Message from Martha, Immediate Past President

It is with decidedly mixed feelings, but mostly gratitude and confidence, that I pass the leadership torch to our new, eminently qualified President.

When I first became aware of and involved in the breed rescue movement in the late 80's, it became increasingly clear that in order to make a rescue financially viable, it had to qualify as a public charity. Joe Downey and Carolyn Foley, two other members of the West Highland White Terrier Club of Denver, partnered with me to establish Westie Rescue Network. We incorporated in 1992, and Joe persuaded the IRS to make us a 501c3 in 1994. I still believe that dogs bred for specific characteristics do best when rehomed by the people who love and understand their purpose and consequent temperament. What is normal behavior for terriers can still get them into trouble when placed in the wrong environment, and we have made great strides in Colorado over the last 20 odd years by developing strong ties with our shelter communities to ensure a broad safety net for Westies and other purebreds who land there. I am both grateful and proud to have been a part of that process. We are very lucky to live in Colorado for many reasons, not least our strong, collaborative, and humane sheltering community. We have successfully developed a much stronger, more diverse board in the last few years, and we are extremely fortunate that Gene Bourque has graciously consented to take on the Presidency. His successful business background will be an invaluable asset in guiding us in the increasingly complex non profit world. And he does love the Westies.

The last 25 years have expanded my horizons in more ways than I can count, and I am grateful. I love Westie Rescue Network and look forward to its continued growth and relevance under Gene's leadership. I will always be here to serve in whatever capacity will be most useful to our group and our dogs.

I am also grateful to all who continue to contribute time and resources to help find our Westies the best new homes possible. If you have been thinking about becoming more involved, now is a great time. We'd love to have you.



A Special Dog Looking For a Special Home

Dexter, a 5 year old Westie, is a very special dog and needs a very special home. Dexter joined our program last year and we discovered that he had some unexplained health issues. The veterinarians at Colorado State University diagnosed him with Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency.

Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (EPI) is a disorder in which the pancreas does not produce an adequate amount of digestive enzymes. This deficiency results in maldigestion (poor digestion) and malabsorption (poor absorption).



It was an easy fix! Just give him his enzymes in a powder with his food on a daily basis. Very quickly he started to gain some much needed weight and his coat started to fill in beautifully. As he felt so much better his personality started to blossom and we discovered that he is a happy energetic Westie that loves other dogs, people and even cats.

He is completely housetrained and will let you know when he needs to go outside. He loves being with his people and many times will just lie down at your feet. He seems to really like his routine: go for a walk, sleep in the

window, and at the end of the day snuggle in bed with foster mom and the Chihuahua.

Once his condition was under control we could focus on his other medical issue—a luxating patella. His surgery was successful and with some physical therapy he was back up and walking and his leg just keeps getting stronger.

Dexter will need to be on his pancreatic enzymes for life and the specialists at CSU say he is destined to live a long and healthy life. His pancreatic enzymes require a financial commitment of \$85 per month which has made finding a forever home a bit more challenging.



If you are interested in finding out more about Dexter please contact 720-360-1212.

Please consider making a donation to Westie Rescue Network to help us continue to rescue, rehome and rehabilitate dogs like Dexter. Donations can be made through our [website](#) or by sending your donation to Hollie Hunter at 11160 Pinevale Lane, Franktown, CO 80116.

New WRN Board Member



After 35 years in public education, Jan Humphrey retired in 2009 as an elementary school principal in St. Louis, Missouri. She then moved to western Kentucky for four years before relocating to Colorado. After retiring she pursued several volunteer opportunities – helping at the local veteran's home, working with a dog rescue group that trained prisoners to rehabilitate unadoptable dogs. She also taught dog grooming to the prisoners as well as fostering rescued dogs. She served as a volunteer and member of the board of a non-profit recovery home for women.

Jan moved to Lafayette in the summer of 2013 fulfilling a lifelong dream to actually live in Colorado. Jan shares her home with her rescued canine and feline companions: Banjo (an Aussie), Pablo Picasso (a Chihuahua), and three cats Fiona, Lucy and Mr. Peepers. Jan is a big movie fan as well as enjoying reading, hiking and spending time with family.

We welcome you aboard!



Calendar and Note Cards



The calendar is at the printer and we will have the website ready to accept orders in September. This year's cover model is 8 year old Ellie and the photo was submitted by her foster family.

New this year are blank notecards which feature each of our calendar models. Sets of 12 notecards and matching envelopes will sell for \$15 plus shipping and will also be available on our website. We are printing a limited quantity of these cards so don't delay purchasing or they might be gone.

Thanks to everyone who submitted photo's for this years contest and a special Thank you to Christine Steghuis for coordinating this project.

For questions on the calendar or notecards please leave us a message at 720-360-1212.





A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town he planned to visit on his vacation.

He wrote: I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"

An immediate reply came from the hotel owner.

SIR: "I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bed clothes, silverware or steal pictures off the walls or use them as a coloring book.

I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel. And, if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too."

Westie Rescue Roundup

We have heard from many of you that you wish there were more social opportunities to get together with other Westie Rescue folks and their canine companions. No agenda other than get to know some of your fellow adopters and volunteers and let the dogs have a grand time. We are going to help facilitate some Westie Rescue Roundups within our group.

Our constituency is rather spread out with the majority of you in the Front Range.

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to host a group of Westies and their owners from your area. Our hope is that these will be casual, fun get togethers which are a breeze to host. We will provide you with a list of addresses and email addresses for folks that live in your area. We will also provide you with some suggestions for your party including things to have on hand. You get to set the date, time, the number of canines that you are able to host, and any other details. We are happy to even create the invitation for you with your information.

You can schedule these roundups anytime that is convenient for you and all the activity can happen outdoors. We hope to see photos in our newsletters of some of these events.

To volunteer to host in your area please contact Hollie Hunter at holliehunter14@yahoo.com.

Our Treasurer, Hollie Trow, has a recent name change. You can send donations to Hollie Hunter at 11160 Pinevale Lane, Franktown CO 80116. Holliehunter14@yahoo.com