



We all knew when the year started off slow we would get swamped later in the year and that time has arrived. We have received numerous calls and emails from folks wanting to relinquish their Westies. Many of these dogs have been in their homes for years and for a variety of reasons the owners are wanting to surrender them now. We know from experience that once an owner has decided to relinquish, we need to act fast to remove the dog from that home. Thank you to our transport volunteers that help us with that very important task! The rescue world is either feast or famine and we are now in a "feast" mode.

Many of the dogs in the program came in with significant health issues that needed treatment. Paisley and Murphy, a senior pair we mentioned in the last newsletter, both had to have dentals with multiple extractions and surgery to remove cysts. Another dog recently entered the program with ear infections so severe that it was affecting his equilibrium. Several dogs have also entered the program with house training issues. When a dog with house training issues enters the program we immediately perform tests to see if there is an underlying medical condition. Some of these dogs just need someone who is committed, consistent and educated on how to train a Westie. One of the heartbreaking aspects of rescue is to take in a Westie with unchecked health issues that we discover can't be cured. In these cases our job is to make sure that dog is pain free and ensure that the end of their life is filled with lots of sunshine, lying in the cool grass, eating yummy treats and knowing they are loved. These situations are emotionally devastating to all of us and especially the foster families.

We are so fortunate to have so many folks on our list to adopt but it takes lots of time, training, patience, and funds to get these dogs ready for their forever homes.

### ***How can you help?***

- ◆ Donate to help care for these homeless Westies,
- ◆ Volunteer to transport Westies,
- ◆ Foster a needy Westie,
- ◆ Purchase a few copies of the 2014 Calendar – all proceeds go directly to caring for the homeless Westies in our program.



***Thank you for all the amazing foster families and forever families that continue to give of themselves to these homeless Westies!***

## These Great Stories Are Brought To You By Westie Rescue Network

### Husker Finds His Home



Husker, a Bichon-Westie mix, who was featured in a previous newsletter has joined fellow WRN alumni, Jenny, at her home in Wyoming. You may not know but, Westie mixes take us longer to place. Thank you to Husker's foster parents for their great care (and lots of training) while Husker was waiting to find his perfect match. Here is the latest from Husker's new home.

Jenny and Husker are doing great - we really noticed a lot more interaction between the 2 of them this past weekend, it's sort of like they said "ok, as long as we are here, let's play", as all of a sudden on Saturday morning they started doing a bit of friendly sparring & play bows with each other. Of course we don't know what they do all day together, I suspect sleeping & some barking out the windows!

We are extremely happy. Husker is especially bonding with Ben & that's great as Jenny always seemed to be a bit more of a girl's dog and hung out with me. But I'm the fun mom who takes them for all the walks...Thank you both & WRN again, we really are so Blessed to have made a connection with you & WRN when we 1<sup>st</sup> inquired about Jenny! Jenny & Husker are bringing us much joy & happiness! Susan & Ben

### Petey and Daisy Make a Perfect Match

You might remember 9 year old Petey from a previous newsletter. In his previous home a botched eye surgery had left him with an eye that did not properly close causing dryness, making him uncomfortable and would have only gotten worse. After surgery to correct his eye, Petey was adopted and went home to join Daisy another WRN alumni. Here is the latest from his forever home.

Daisy and Petey took to each other right away. They adore being outdoors and they have discovered the patio chair cushions to be ideal locations for napping. Petey is super laid back and has brought a calming presence for skittish Daisy. Two Westies are the perfect number for the Helton home!



### Dog Food Recalls

Recalls of dog food and dog treats are happening more and more frequently these days. We have heard of many dogs here in Colorado that have been affected by consuming these recalled foods and treats. To stay up to day on these recalls go to [www.dogfoodadvisor.com](http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com) and sign up to receive their recall alerts via email.



## Adopting the Older Westie

In our last newsletter we featured articles on adopting older Westies. Thank you to everyone that responded via email with gratitude and comments about the joys of older dogs. We thought we would share one of these touching stories from a WRN Volunteer.

Great Rescue Newsletter. I too know the feeling you get with the older Westies. The last two, we have had are great. We only had "Little Bit" for approximately one year, but she was wonderful. She only weighed about 9 lbs and was frail and tiny, but was truly a wonderful little Westie. Martha thought that she came from one of the puppy mills that was trying to breed downsized puppies. She had cancer when we picked her up at the Adams county shelter, and was very sick. We got her well and she did great for about 9 months, but the last three she needed lots of love and care. We do not regret every having her share our home - and she is buried out in the backyard with our other Westies.

Right now we have Abby, who we think is around 12 - 13 years old. She has been a delight. When we started fostering her, I did not think she would live very long, because of illness (could not hold down food), very thin, slept almost constantly, was frightened of everything and ducked every time you tried to pet her or pick her up. With lots of love (she would not let you even pet her at first and would not come out of her crate). But she too has now been with us for about a year. She seems very happy and thinks because of her age she should get all of the respect from the other two. She will put them in their place if she thinks they are getting out of hand. She too, has amazed us in her turn around.

Keep up the excellent work you are doing!

Dixie

## 2014 Calendars

The 2014 Calendars are completed and are at the printer. Sales of the calendar help us fund the care of our homeless Westies and provides you with cute Westie photos throughout the year.

Purchase one for you, one for your office and one for a gift. We have kept the cost at \$15 each or purchase 3 for \$40.

Calendars can be purchased on our website. For additional ordering information email Gene Bourque at [gbourque45@centurylink.net](mailto:gbourque45@centurylink.net) or leave a message at 303-665-1091.



### Want To Transport A Westie (or Two)

Most transportation requests are immediate so if your schedule is flexible we would love to have your help. When we need assistance we send out an email to our list of transport volunteers with information on the location and destination of the Westie. Some of these requests are to pick up a dog from its owner which requires sensitivity to the situation and making sure the paperwork is completed. Most requests are to get a dog from its current location, such as an owner or shelter to the Denver metro area, for vetting and foster. All WRN dogs MUST be crated while in transit and we are happy to provide the crates. This is a great way to help WRN. If you are interested in being added to our list please email [Betsywidner@yahoo.com](mailto:Betsywidner@yahoo.com).

**Do you have a great photo or story of your Westie –send it to [betsywidner@yahoo.com](mailto:betsywidner@yahoo.com) and it might appear in the next newsletter.**

## Westie Rescue Network Photo Album

Send us a photo of your Westie and it might appear in the next newsletter. [Betsywidner@yahoo.com](mailto:Betsywidner@yahoo.com)

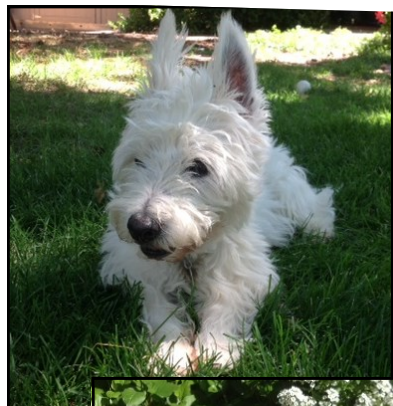


Thought you might like this shot of Toby & Coco – they're best buds!! We are just so much enjoying him 😊



We acquired Tigger two years ago after losing Cosmo. Tigger is 7 years old and a real character! We renamed him Tigger after watching him literally "bounce" like Tigger when he goes outside. He almost has us trained, but we are not quite up to his specifications yet!

## Paisley and Murphy Are Looking For Their Forever Home



Paisley, 10 years old, and Murphy, 15 years old, are looking for their forever home. They have both recovered from surgeries where each had to have quite a few teeth extracted and both had cysts removed. They may not have had the best medical treatment or living conditions but they are both incredibly sweet and loving and make great companions.

To watch Murphy chase the bunnies around the yard you would never guess that this handsome boy is 15 years old. The moment he hears the leash he starts jumping up and down and barking with excitement. Murphy has a way of just walking right up to you and giving tons of kisses as if he is saying—thanks so much for taking care of me!



Paisley, nicknamed "Sweet P" by her foster Mom, is a small little girl at only 14 lbs. She always wants to be by her person and if there is an empty lap she is more than willing to fill it! She has been debarked at some time in her life but that does not stop her from trying. Although getting groomed is not her favorite thing in the world, the groomer said she was charming and wished she could take her home.

Both dogs are house trained and have not met a dog or person they do not like. If you are interested in learning more about this charming duo please call Betsy Widner at 303-422-1620 or email [Betsywidner@yahoo.com](mailto:Betsywidner@yahoo.com)