



Westie Rescue

2022 Annual Review



Amazingly, another year is history! **Westie Rescue** would like to wish you and yours happiness, health, and prosperity in 2023. As we celebrate a new year, we would also like to look back at a few of our 2022 accomplishments which certainly would not have been possible without the generous support of caring friends, such as **you**.

The volunteers of **Westie Rescue MidAtlantic** in DC, DE, MD, NC, (southern) NJ, (eastern) PA, SC, VA, and WV assisted 60 West Highland White Terriers (**Westies**) who were in dire need of help. We want you to know that **your** donations made incredible improvements in these Westies' lives.

Lingering effects of Covid-19 continued to impact Westie owners' ability to care for their dogs. Before 2022 even began, Westies who needed help getting out of difficult situations began being brought to our attention. Westies came into our program from empty homes where their owners had died or from families which were overwhelmed by financial or health issues. Some dogs were in multi-dog living arrangements which had not worked out.

This year several young Westies came from homes where the owners were surprised by the time and energy requirements of an active terrier puppy.



Finn

Our little **FINN** immediately comes to mind. He was a normally curious, active Westie puppy. Unfortunately, these traits led to him finding himself locked in a crate 23 hours a day because the family's small apartment was a difficult place to raise multiple children plus a Westie with puppy-brains.

A nice Virginia State Trooper came to his rescue by providing a temporary home. He also called **Westie Rescue** so **Finn** could find a suitable home where he could have all the attention he needed to learn how to become a super pet companion. He is now living the good life snuggling in bed with Mom and Dad.

On the opposite end of life was **DUNCAN** who at the age of 14 years old had outlived the owners who adopted him from **Westie Rescue** when he was 12 months old. **Duncan** had seen his loving, caring owners slip away one at a time leaving him behind.

Duncan went on a couple of trial visits but was returned because he reportedly acted like a stubborn, grumpy old man who was determined to do things his way (*aka being a terrier*).



Duncan

Then one of **Westie Rescue's** repeat adopters saw his appeal for a new home and took him on a trial stay. After he arrived at the home, the two resident Westie girls looked at him and said "Daddy"! They followed him everywhere and also showed him all the places where a groundhog could be found. Suddenly, **Duncan** gained a new outlook on life. His daily tasks now include walking the yard to ensure no new scent trails have been left by that big big fat rodent followed by going inside to take a well-deserved nap until lunch time.

He just celebrated his 15th Birthday with a party. See all the **Duncan** action on **WestieRescue.com**. (<https://www.westierescue.com/theblog>)

Another Westie who came into the 2022 program was **IRIS**. She was a nine-year-old female whose owner moved away sadly leaving Iris without a home. She was placed but came back after having nipped her potential owners.



After re-evaluation, it became clear Iris needed a one person household where the human would provide a good neck scratch and ear rubs – on demand only – until **Iris** was confident in her new environment.

Her needs were quickly matched to a retired woman near Winchester, Virginia. **Iris** went on a trial stay and found her true home. She is now asking for belly rubs and doing frequent yard patrols to keep the squirrels at bay.

Once again, we find the right home is out there for each and every Westie who comes in. All that is required is figuring out the needs of the Westie and finding the right human match for those doggy needs.

In her “after” photo, you can see how **Iris** won "**Most Transformed Westie 2022**" due to a spa day which included a desperately needed grooming session



Then there was **JAVELIN**, a well loved and cared for Westie who was enjoying being Dad’s best and only friend. Then one day, he was shocked when a woman and several kids burst into his perfect life. It seems Dad had a wife and children who had been on an extended visit to overseas relatives due to Covid.

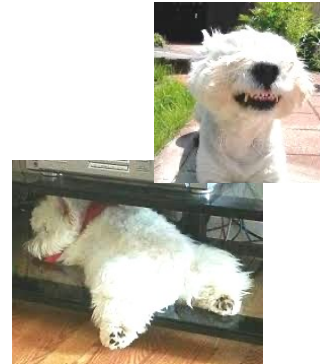
His formerly quiet house was suddenly filled with the noise and activities of a normal busy family. The new situation stunned **Javelin**, especially losing Dad’s full-time attention. After he nipped kids and Mom when they got too close to “his” Dad, **Westie Rescue** was called to find a home where he could learn to relax, have fun, and not be possessive of his adopter.

Luckily, a family which had adopted from **Westie Rescue** previously was interested in adopting another one as their last Westie had passed on. Their experience with Westies will help set Javelin on the right course. In fact, **Javelin** reports that he is being a really good boy and is happily playing run and fetch with a brand new ball and a great set of parents.

Yes, Westies do sometimes need help finding the right lifetime home where they can get lots of love, Vet care, a bit of doggy training, and a safe, cuddly bed to snooze in.

As many of you know, **Westie Rescue** was founded to connect Westies needing help with people who can provide a second-chance home where these wonderful dogs can offer years of smiles and laughter to those who love them.

Will you help us bring about more happy endings to Westies' stories?



This Year's Wee Westies



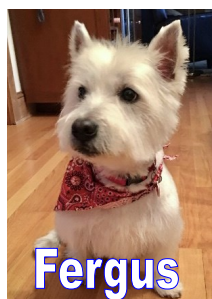
Addie & Teddy, Ali, Amy & Lola, Andy & Lucy, Apollo, Austin, Beau, Bourbon, Bradley, Bruno, Carla, Chrissy, Duffy, Duncan, Finley, Finn, Fontina, Gertie, Gunnar, Holly, Iain, Iris, Jake, Javelin, Joanna, Jock and Mick, Joey, Karin, Lilly, Mac & Bentley, Marsh, Matt, Max, Max B, Max NC, Mollie & Maggie, Moxie, Oliver, Penny, Ralph, Robbie, Rowdy, Royce, Scottie, Scotty, Shamus, Theo, Thomas & Jessie, Wess, Wilson, Wilson 2, Winnie, and Winston.



They ranged in age from 9 months to 14 years and originally lived in Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, or Virginia. The reasons for dog surrender included age or death of owner(s), divorce and/or move of owner(s), living situation (space, kids, cats, allergies, etc.), family financial crisis, and lack of dog training.

2022 Public Events

On March 8, **Westie Rescue** set up an info table at the **Montpelier Center's Celtic Festival** in Hanover, Virginia. It was our second year participating in this event and it snowed. We were moved inside the restored school house, where ambassadors **Fergus** and **Finn** were THE big celebrities of the weekend.



On Labor Day weekend, **Westie Rescue** hosted the **Terrier Races** at **The Virginia Scottish Games** (our 27th Year). Great weather and no outdoor COVID restrictions resulted in a large turn out. **Fergus** and **Finn** (a 3-year-old, not the one with puppy brains) once again did duty as ambassadors.



Finn thought the Scottish Deerhounds were amazing. As he gazed skyward at the dog towering over him, he said, "You are so big! What the heck do you eat? Maybe, I should eat some too."



2022 Public Events cont'd

Westie Rescue wrapped up 2022 with the annual **Scottish Christmas Walk Parade** in December. The sidewalks of Olde Towne Alexandria, Virginia, were crowded with hundreds of poncho-clad spectators who showed their enjoyment of the 45 wet Westies, who were dressed in Scottish finery or rain coats, by laughing, cheering, and clapping.



The “geezer wagon” hauling **Fergus** and **Cassie** got the most laughs as they looked like bedraggled sadsacks as they bumped along the streets.

There are more photos and details on **WestieRescue.com** at **Scottish Christmas Walk Parade Wrap Up**

(westierescue.com/2022/12/09/2022-christmas-walk-parade-wrap-up/)

Upcoming 2023 Events

2023 Date	Event	Location
January 14 - 15	Havre de Grace Winter Celtic Festival	Star Centre, 700 Congress Avenue Havre de Grace, MD
March TBA	The Montpelier Center's Celtic Festival	17205 Mountain Road Montpelier, Virginia
September 2 - 3	The Virginia Scottish Games	Great Meadows, 5089 Old Tavern Rd The Plains, Virginia
October TBA	Radford Highlanders Festival	Radford University Radford, Virginia
December 2	Scottish Christmas Walk Parade	Old Towne Alexandria Courthouse Sq Alexandria, Virginia

Visit one of these events and sit awhile with us in the Westie Rescue tent!



West Highland White Terrier

2022 Westie Rescue Program Statistics

60 Dogs Helped, Rehabilitated, and Rehomed in the Mid-Atlantic Region

30 Dogs Rescued and Rehomed in Florida - plus four permanent foster dogs

68 Dogs Rescued in other regions through the digital assistance of www.WestieRescue.com

336 Calls and Email Responses to requests from owners for help with Westie issues

3 Public Events where we joined with Westie owners to show potential adopters how wonderful Westies are

Financial Summary

\$51,139.05 in Vet bills were paid off by your donations

(Including checkups, spay/neuter surgeries, preventative inoculations, and providing specialized care)

97.5% of every dollar spent went to paying veterinary medical bills and direct wellness support (*such as cold weather shirts for the Westies with fur loss*).

The other 2.5% paid for software updates; website hosting, PO Box, postal expenses, and some desperately needed grooming.

Our goal is to see each Westie has a Second Chance to be medically fit (or at least having issues identified and treatments started) and live in a safe and loving home. By the way, it sure does help your Westie self-confidence, if you sport a new collar and leash on your way to a new life!

From all of the volunteers at **Westie Rescue**, we wish you the best in 2023.

Stephen

Stephen Di Giulian
President
Westie Rescue Mid-Atlantic



P.S. Your generous gift of \$50 or more will go a long way to provide medical care for Westies while they wait for their forever homes.

Please go to <https://WestieRescue.StarDonor.com/> to make a secure donation online.



Assisting West Highland White Terriers Find Loving Forever Homes Since 1991