



Westie Rescue USA



The Scottish Games And Westies: A Great Combo



At The 2025, Virginia Scottish Games
Westies Reigned Supreme In The Terrier Races



The Virginia Scottish Games (VSG) 2025 was held August 30-31 in Great Plains, Virginia. Westie Rescue coordinated the VSG Dog Events. There were Scotties, Cairns, Border Collies, Collies, and, of course, Westies galore! Visitors could talk to rescue groups about adopting one of the 13 Scottish breeds or get advice about their own dog. There were Terrier Races as well as a Parade of Scottish Breed Dogs. We had a great time. Consider coming to the Scottish Games in 2026 and bring your dog!

The Next 2025 Westie Event



Scottish Christmas Walk Parade

Saturday, December 6
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Olde Towne
Alexandria, Virginia

Come Walk With Us!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
<https://westierescue.com/events.html>

LAUGH AND GROAN

Why did the poor dog chase his tail?
He was trying to make ends meet!

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In this issue, read about where Westies socialize, see whether a dog with a behavior issue can find a new home, learn about the origin of Westies, and find out what our volunteers have been doing to help Westies everywhere.



Westies Rescue USA is a non-profit, all volunteer dog rescue which assists West Highland White Terriers (Westies) who need new homes and the people who seeking to adopt them. Our volunteers also work with other rescue groups to help ensure Westies everywhere in the United States get the help they deserve.

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Westie Rescue Home Front News

It seems impossible but it's time for another update of what Westie Rescue has been doing and has planned the coming months!

On The Home Front

- Westie Rescue has rescued, rehabilitated, and rehomed **60** Westies so far in 2025. By the time this newsletter reaches you, more will have been received.
- WestieRescue.com, our website, provided tips to over 239 people searching the internet for information about Westie behavior, training, grooming, and healthcare.
- Volunteers answered owner inquiries about specific Westie behavior and health issues.

The Westies most recently rescued, rehabilitated, and rehomed in the Mid-Atlantic region are **Abby, Ben, Binks, Callie, Cody, Colton, Daisy, Dave, Dougal, Fritz, Gracie, Griffey, Hamish, Heidi, Jamie, Jenna, Maggie, Mirabel, Molly, Murphy, Patti, Pumpkin, Remy, Sophia, Stan, Whitley, Winnie, and Zeus**. They came to Westie Rescue from Delaware, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia and ranged in age from 4 months to 12 years old.

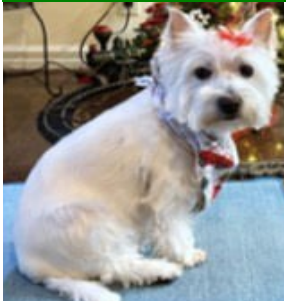
The reasons a Westie needs a new home vary greatly, from the owner health, moving to a nursing home, or dying; dog health or behavior issues; owner being transferred to a new job out of state or overseas, or the Westie being

found as a stray, turned in to an animal shelter, or being "retired" by the owner of a puppy mill. Westie Rescue USA supports not only Westies in the Mid-Atlantic region. Our volunteers offer actively communicate and forward give up and adoption inquiries with 27 independent Westie Rescue groups all over the country. We share adoption applications and surrender notifications with those groups.

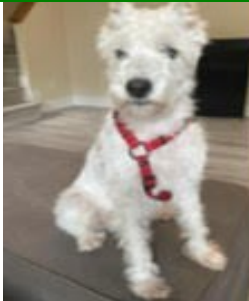
One of our volunteers also searches the web for Westies being given up on social media or located public shelters all over the country. This effort alone saves 2-8 Westies per week from ending up as bait in training fighting dogs or being euthanized in overcrowded shelters.

Westie Rescue's goal is to be the candle in the window for any Westie who seeks help.

DAISY



FRITZ



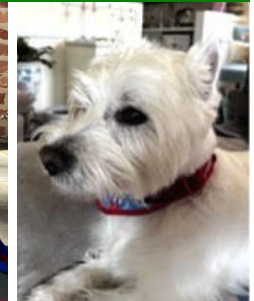
JAMIE



STAN & DAVE



TUCKER



SOME OF OUR RECENTLY ADOPTED WESTIES

Is There A Westie Rescue Group In Your Region?

You can find out where Westie Rescue groups are located in the [United States](#) and [around the world](#) on **WestieRescue.com**. Under the front page heading "**Westie Rescue USA**," you will see a tab bar where you can click "**Rescue Groups**."

Once on the group page, choose **International Westie Rescues** (outside the US) or **Local Westie Rescues** (within the 50 US states).

If you choose "Local," a page will appear with a list of states. You can then click on various states to explore rescue group options in those areas.

Westies Need YOUR Help

Unfortunately, some Westies start life without getting preventative care and arrive at Westie Rescue's door with health problems. The increased cost of Vet care is making it increasingly more costly for Westie Rescue to serve the medical needs of these little survivors.



The sad truth is it will be difficult for Westie Rescue to afford the medical care needed to give all of the Westies the Second Chance they deserve without YOUR help.

Please consider making a donation! **WestieRescue.com**, our **secure website**, provides options for making a donation.

We deeply appreciate your continued support.

DOGS WHO HAVE WORKED THEIR WAY INTO MY HEART: CODY

By "Uncle" Stephen Di Giulian, President, Westie Rescue

"Mr. Cody," a 3-year-old old male Westie, came into our program a few months ago after a failed breeder placement. He had tested positive for a genetic condition called CMO (Lion Jaw), a calcium build up in a dog's jaw during its first few months of life. Since the breeder could not use him as a stud dog, she sold him. Sadly, he quickly lost that first home due to his aggressive behavior toward women. *He may have been mistreated as a pup by the breeder and developed defensive behavior (perceived as aggression by humans) during interactions with all women.*



After I picked him up for Westie Rescue, I quickly learned he truly did not trust anyone, including me, his new guy pal. He absolutely did not want to be touched or picked up. Once, he even tried to eat one of my hands ... starting with my fingers!

Our first trip was for a check up by the wonderful Vets at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital, where we have taken 1,200+ Westies for 34 years. Although not having made a good first impression, he was quiet on the ride. Once in the waiting room, he became a calm "Mr. Happy," who wagged his tail at all of the staff. The Vet who examined him reported he had exhibited perfect behavior during the exam, blood draw, shots, and neutering. Needless to say, I was shocked.

After his stay at the Vet, Cody came into my home to begin Doggy Training 101. Upon arrival, he was guarded and untrusting but not aggressive. He just was not open to being touched. On day three, I sat on the floor watching him eat. Cody gulped down his food. Afterwards, he walked over, placed a paw on my leg, and sniffed my hand (yes, the one he tried to eat). To my great surprise, he allowed me to pet his back and then plopped in my lap for a tummy rub. From that day forward, he became my best buddy (*Fergus, my own Westie, had died a few weeks earlier*).

Cody became a super suck-up, face-kisser, lap dog who just wanted a quiet and safe life. If I worked in the office, my feet became his head rest. If I read the paper, I had to share the chair with him. Of course, he had to lie upside down to get a tummy pet. As his trust grew, Cody took to long walks, sitting on the front porch watching the neighborhood activities, and regional adventures like a gentle pro. If he encountered something new, he would look at me to see whether it was safe. After a simple "It's Okay" from me, he would relax and trot along. He soon was walking through crowds and even sitting on my lap at an outside café (see the photo at the top).

He quickly showed he wanted one adult male owner and no females allowed in his house. Outside, females were okay. However, they were not welcome in his home. He demonstrated this rule by racing across the room to nip my tolerant wife when she happened to pick up a toy he had previously been playing with. Needless to say, she quickly moved him into the "Not staying here" category.

Otherwise, I found Cody to be a great little buddy who responded well to voice commands and would run across the room to jump up into my lap for a tummy scruff. To see how he would react to having other Westies in his home, Cody went to a foster home in Berryville, Virginia, with "Uncle" Lucian and his three Westies. Much to the dismay of Lucian's other four-legged boys, who also wanted to be the Number One Dog, Cody spent a lot of time sleeping on Lucian's lap.

During Westie Rescue's search for permanent adoption candidates, Cody spent Labor Day weekend at the Virginia Scottish Games sleeping in Lucian's arms or jumping into my arms to lie upside down like a big baby. For two days, he snoozed away the time while hundreds of attendees came to say "Hello" in Westie Rescue's information tent.

Even though the search was long, Westie Rescue found a single guy who was searching for a new buddy. After a few hours in his new home, Cody confirmed it was a good selection as he had a fenced yard to patrol and no dogs to compete with new Dad's attention.

Cody writes: "Hello from my adopted home. I am great guy who needed a second chance. I love my New Dad! I have an official chair in our home office where I can drift off while Dad does a bunch of 'work.' I love how he holds me when we are in strange places because it makes me feel safe. So, I am seriously following 'Uncle Stephen's Rules for Adopted Westies': Rule 1- Suck up to your new human so they will not return your sorry butt, Rule 2- Don't be stupid and screw up a good thing, Rule 3- Follow Rules 1 & 2 each day so you will permanently insinuate yourself into your human's life and heart to ensure they can't help but take care of you for the rest of your days!



Cody is just one of the 60 Westies we have rescued and place so far. His story shows that Westies just need the right home and environment to shine as a true Best Buddy.



Fact Or Myth? Westies Originated In Scotland



West Highland White Terriers, known as Westies, were first bred in Scotland around 1717. The Westie originated



from litters of the Lowland Terrier, a short-legged, wiry-coated dog common in Scotland which could be white, tan, red, and black at that time. As the legend goes, a favorite reddish

Scottish Lowland dog, emerging from hunting in the brush, was mistaken for a fox and shot.



Photo of Actual Early Westies

The dog's owner decided to prevent the loss of more dogs by breeding only for white puppies, which could later be easily identified in the field. The West Highland White Terrier was the result.

The word "terrier" derives from the Latin word "terra," meaning "earth." A terrier is type of dog bred for hunting and controlling rodents, particularly those

living in burrows and underground tunnels. Westies have high energy levels and are very good at chasing the small game.

Initially, the breed was known as the "White Terrier of Roseneath," named after a Scottish estate of the man who bred the first Westies. The breed was listed officially as the West Highland White Terrier in 1907 at the Crufts dog show in England. They gained popularity in the early 20th century, especially in the United Kingdom and the United States. The West Highland White Terrier was recognized by the American Kennel Club in 1908, solidifying its status in the US as a distinct breed.

Westies are known for their friendly dispositions and distinctive white coats. They make truly beloved companions.

Many people like to give their Westies Scottish names to reflect their heritage. Here are a few names. **More are found on WestieRescue.com.**

Female Westies:

Bonnie, Brydie, Ceilidh ("Kaylee" - a party), Elsie, Ennis, Fiona, Flora, Freya, Kirsty, Maggie, Maisie, Moira, Molly, Iona, Maeve, Keltie, Lassie, Sine ("Shenae"), Michie, Munro, Murray, Nish, Niven, Norie, Shona, Tara, Torry, and Wallis.



HOW WESTIES "REMEMBER" THEIR ANCESTORS

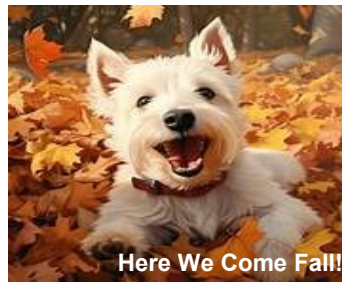
Male Westies

Alfie, Angus, Archie, Barkley, Brodie, Carrick, Connery, Dougal, Duffy (McDuff), Duncan, Dylan, Ewan, Fergus, Finlay, Finnegan, Hamish, Hardie, Ian, Jaimie, Laddie, Logan, Malcolm, Murphy, Oggie (Ogilvie), Robbie, Stewart, and Wallie (Wallace).

Both Female and Male Westies

Bairn (baby), Cam/Cammie (Cameron), Fergie (Ferguson), Firth, Haggis, Innes, Lindsay, Tosh (MacIntosh), MacKenzie (Kenzie), Neeps, Nessie (Loch Ness "monster"), Piper (a bagpiper), Revie, Skye, Tartan, Thistle, Tyree, and Tweed.

Great Scottish Names For Great Scottish Dogs!



Summer, with its sunshine and outdoor activities, is a great time for people and their dogs. However, Westies love the moderate temperatures and sunny days of autumn. They enjoy taking long walks and basking in the warm (not hot) sun. Their humans get to enjoy sunny, brisk days and beautiful gold, red, and orange foliage. **Perfect!**

