

JULY/AUG 2016



West Highland White Terrier Club

of

Southeastern Michigan

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CLUB MEMBERSHIP: See web site for applications or contact Membership Chair (above)

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WESTIE RESCUE
See website for details
www.westierescue-mi.com

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$10/YEAR (but free on line!)
(Send check to Jackie Curtis, 12460 Pamela Court, Hartland, MI 48353)
PLEASE CONSIDER ON LINE VIEWING OF THE NEWSLETTER
<http://westieclubmi.com/newsletters/>

ADVERTISING RATES:
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\$15 FOR FULL PAGE WITH PHOTO \$10 FOR FULL PAGE WITH PHOTO
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FOR INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING, WRITE OR CALL:
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See our website for membership information: www.westieclubmi.com Choose Membership
Contact the Secretary (above) for meeting information

WESTIE WAGTALES IS PUBLISHED BY THE W.H.W.T.C. of S.E.M.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Bev Walker

Hi All! Picnic turned out to be one of the smaller ones we have had in recent years. Too bad so many missed it. It was a much more comfortable day and at the end the sun and blue skies came out in time for the last pontoon ride. Hope next year there are more attendees. As usual, it was awesome to see the tent set up and disappear. This week is the Ann Arbor Art Fair. I plan on attending and don't ya know it will once again be a scorcher. I hope I don't see people walking their dogs on those streets in that weather. It's always very disturbing to see that. I hope you and all the Westies have a wonderful rest of your summer. Will see you in the Fall. Thanks to all who came to picnic and helped with clean up.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 19, 2016 – Club meeting
Dec 4, 2016 – Club Meeting (Howell Rec. Center) 11am
Dec 4, 2016- Setup (12-1pm) and Westie Christmas Party 1-4PM

15 MINUTES OF FAME

Coursing Ability Test (CAT)

July 8 and 10, **Emily Anne Widdows** earned her first and second coursing ability legs.

Nose Work (CWAGS)

June 25, 2016 **Jake Widdows** earned his second leg of Level 4

June 25, 2016 **Emily Anne Widdows** earned her **Level 2 title** and her first Level 3 leg.



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES July 9, 2016

Present: Angela Evans, Cathy Kelley, Matt Kelley, Kathy Kittle, Janet Lindgren, Chet Mienaltowski, Sue Mienaltowski, Sue Peters, Clarence Sheufelt, Jean Sheufelt, Beverly Walker, Sheri-lyn Westlund-Burton

General Business

- ❖ **Minutes of Last Meeting** – (reading of the Minutes from the last meeting were waived by motion).
- ❖ **Report of President** – No report.
- ❖ **Report of Secretary** - No report.
- ❖ **Report of Treasurer** – Clarence Sheufelt provided a spreadsheet of account transactions, including checking account balance. Along with Jackie Curtis' assistance, Clare has been working on clearing up old accounts.
- ❖ **Committee Reports**
- ❖ **Rescue** - No report was given; however, as a separate addendum to these minutes, a report is attached.
- ❖ **Education** – A report as a separate addendum to these minutes is attached.
- ❖ **Specialty 2017**
Reports of Show Chairperson(s), General Discussion – Angela Evans reported the following information, as provided by Jackie Curtis: The AADTC has been reserved; MBF Contract signed, sent and conformation received; Photography - we lost our photographer. Gary Burton agreed to be our official photographer. We need to ask show people to discuss what photos need to be taken with him. A backdrop for the photos should be provided. Gary Burton indicated that he can make a backdrop to use. The theme for the show was briefly discussed. A gambling casino themed show seems to be the theme for next year. As the Club has the option of having a raffle in 2017, a few ideas were discussed regarding what prizes should be offered. Sue Peters suggested having a first, second or even third prize for the raffle. Sue also mentioned that interest for quilts has waned. Sue also threw out a few very interesting ideas to go along with this theme.
- ❖ **Nominating Committee** – Angela Evans read the slate for Club Officers and Board Members, for Jackie Curtis. The slate for 2017 is: President, Beverly Walker; Vice President, Beth Widdows; Treasurer, Clarence Sheufelt; Secretary, Angela Evans. Board Members: Gary Porrett, Janet Lindgren and Cathy Weishaupt.
- ❖ **Club Fundraising** – The sale of candy sleighs around the holidays have been the most profitable fundraiser for the Club so far. The sleighs were Adela Rivera's fundraising idea. We sold them for the last three years. It was decided to make and sell the sleighs again this year. In 2015, Adela made the sleighs on her own and purchased the supplies without any reimbursement. Angela Evans suggested the Club pay for any supplies Adela uses and to ask Adela, if she would like to be reimbursed. Sue Peters stated if Club members donate money for sleigh supplies, then someone needs to keep track of any sleighs sold.
- ❖ **Wagtales** – Articles and information are due to Beth Widdows, by Monday, July 25, 2016.
- ❖ **Website** – No report; however, a new Web Master is needed to manage the website.
- ❖ **Membership** – No applications at this time.

❖ **Miscellaneous**

Novi Pet Expo November, 2016 – Sue Peters reported that this year the Pet Expo will not be the weekend before Thanksgiving, it will be held on November 11, 12 and 13. Janet Lindgren asked if it is worthwhile to attend. Sue indicated that the main reason for our presence at this event is to promote the breed by educating the public and for Westie Rescue. Sue said that the show organizers' have charged \$150 for our space on the floor. Sue is going to attempt this year to have the same fee. Sue did pay an extra \$50, to get extra space. The area reserved is 10 x 20, with a total cost of \$350, split between Club, Education and Rescue. Chet Mienaltowski moved that between \$150 and \$400 be an acceptable fee to pay for floor space at the Novi Pet Expo and that Club, Education and Rescue continue to be a part of this event. Jean Sheufelt seconded the motion. A vote was held and unanimously passed.

Christmas Party, Sunday, December 4, 2016 – Clare Sheufelt confirmed that both rooms have been reserved for December 4th. Club Meeting is at 11:00 a.m., set up between 12 and 1 p.m. The buffet lunch begins at 1:30. Sue Peters is going to ask for and assign jobs to members who would like to help out. Nearer to December, a volunteer list will be posted to the message board. Last year many dogs were lifting their legs, and there was an incident in the meeting room, where the Club had to pay to have the carpet cleaned. Jean Sheufelt volunteered to make sure that all dogs were either wearing a belly band (with a pad insert) or piddle pants.

New Business and Other Business – Angela Evans reported that in response to the request by the TCM and Progressive, to join in with their specialty in 2017, she sent out an email to both organizations politely declining their offer.

Janet Lindgren stated that she paid \$25 for the Bred-By-Exhibitor Dog trophy and \$25 for the Bred-By-Exhibitor Bitch trophy. The trophy that was given in each case was far less in value than the \$25 she donated. Kathy Kittle suggested in lieu of trophies, putting together a basket, with a gift card or leftover trophy in the basket. Requests were made to Bev Walker, to provide a list with an inventory of all trophies, so to know what is on hand that might be used for gift baskets.

Angela Evans asked Janet as to the status for obtaining judges for next year's spring show. Janet stated that a judges' committee was assigned to pick the judges for the 2016 show. However, she ended up with the job of choosing the judges for that year. Chet Mienaltowski moved to discontinue with having a judges' committee and appointing Janet Lindgren, as the chairperson to choose the judges for the 2017 Specialty. Kathy Kittle seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously by a vote.

General Information/Club Members

Kathy Kittel has a litter of four puppies. Another is expected at the end of this month. Beverly Walker has a litter of three boys and one girl, who are six weeks old.

Adjournment

Net Club Meeting – Monday, September 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Bennett Rec Center, Howell, Michigan

WESTIE RESCUE

Updates on previously reported Westies:

- Mandy, the wheaten Scottie, is still in care.
- Kirby has been adopted
- Milo has been adopted
- Rascal (Razz) has been adopted
- Levi has been adopted
- Paris is still in care
- Willie has been adopted
- Kyre has been adopted

New Into Rescue:



Belle, 17 months old, is friendly, but takes awhile to warm up. She is a bit fearful and skittish. She has only really been around her sister and she has growled and barked at other dogs. She has never attacked another dog to the point of causing harm but did get in a tussle with an 11 lb terrier mix. She also has some of the famous skin allergies and has been on Apoquel. Belle is in foster care with other dogs in the home and is so far doing very well with them. [Belle has been adopted.](#)



Grace, age 19 months, is a Cairn. She came in with Belle. Grace is described as friendly with everyone, well adjusted, loves other people (any age), and dogs. She has no known medical issues. Both dogs were surrendered because their owner has had several surgeries and is on disability. She isn't able to take care of two little terriers. Grace is doing well so far in foster care. [She is looking for her new home.](#)



Casey, age 8, is being surrendered due to her owner's health. The owner was unstable on her feet, and apparently this girl has a lot of energy. She seems to be full of Westietude and sometimes her mom falls when walking her. She is healthy aside from being on a special food for a sensitive stomach. Casey has done very well in foster care. It took some training to get her to leave the cat alone but they are now living together without incident. [She is likely to be ready for placement in a month.](#)



Bobby came to us at age 11. His dad died and the adult daughter moved in with her 2 year old and 2 other dogs. No one had time for Bobby and he was beginning to have strong reactions when the toddler pulled on his collar or his hair. In foster care Bobby has been a perfect little gentleman. He is friendly, gets along with the other dogs, and always seems happy. Buddy arrived with infected molars and a UTI. He had an antibiotic shot and feels much better. He quit marking once the antibiotic had a chance to work. He has begun to play with toys and loves running around the yard. [Bobby will be looking for a home sometime in August](#)



Simba is about 5 or 6. He came from a owner who had too many pets. His foster Mom reports he is a real sweetie. He has already made friends with her dogs and is making himself at home. He has not seen a Vet in a few year. He sure is a cutie! A big thank you to the Boston Terrier rescue for working with us to get this boys safely in our care.



Gabby, age 9, came to us because she could not tolerate small children. Before we took her, we had her evaluated and she came through the evaluation very well....but the recommendation was that she be placed in a home without children. She can be with other dogs although she might prefer to be an "only. It will be at least a month before she will become available for adoption. During this month, our foster home will watch to see how she reacts to various things and will use that information to help in placing her appropriately

FUN AT THE WESTIE PICNIC

The Westies loved the mild temperatures and so did their moms & dads! Thirty people and ten Westies enjoyed a delicious buffet potluck followed by pontoon rides on Lobdell Lake. Westie Bonnee Burton, owned by Gary & Sheri-lyn, won the Doggie Door Prize. Club friend, Julie Ladouceur, won \$46, her portion of the 50/50 raffle. Each Westie took home a treat box. Thank you to Club President, Bev Walker, for hosting and organizing this event!



Should dogs have legal rights?

(Reprinted with permission <http://www.mnn.com/family/pets/stories/should-dogs-have-legal-rights>)

The courts are seeing dogs in a different light these days, but man's best friend is still considered property under the law. [Laura Moss](#)



While you won't find mention of dogs' rights in the Bill of Rights, to some degree, dogs do have rights under American law. (Photo: Barna Tanko/Shutterstock)

In 2011, Bob and Elizabeth Monyak took their dogs, Lola and Callie, to an Atlanta pet kennel. During the dogs' stay, kennel staff mixed up the animals' medications, which landed Lola in the hospital with acute kidney failure. She died nine months later.

The Monyaks sued, but under the law, dogs are considered property, and the kennel claimed that Lola had "no fair market value" because she was a rescue dog that was adopted for free. The Monyaks' case eventually made its way to the state Supreme Court, and this month, in a unanimous decision, the court ruled that a jury can decide the monetary value of a pet — not the market.

Ultimately, Lola was still considered property in the eyes of the law; however, by acknowledging that a treasured pet is worth more than simply what was paid for it, this case joins a host of others that reflect a significant change in how American society regards man's best friend.

Why should dogs have rights?

While you won't find mention of dogs' rights in the Bill of Rights, to some degree, dogs do have rights under American law. "The last couple of decades, there have been a lot of laws that target cats and dogs specifically and give them what a lot of lawyers would consider rights, whether it's the right to be free of cruelty, the right to be rescued from a natural disaster or the right to have their interests be considered in a courtroom," journalist David Grimm told [National Geographic](#).

Still, according to law, dogs are property, making them no legally different from furniture or other items in your home. However, experts say decisions like that in the Monyak case are changing this. After all, this certainly wasn't the first time [a court weighed a dog's value](#), as well as its right to life. When a Texas dog was wrongfully euthanized in 2012, the Second Court of Appeals in Fort Worth ruled "the special value of man's best friend should be protected" and effectively gave dogs increased legal status by acknowledging pets are more than simply property.

Rulings like this seem to reflect our sentiment. According to a Harris poll, 95 percent of Americans consider their pets to be members of the family. Nearly half of those polled purchase birthday presents for their pets, and three in 10 frequently cook for the animals that share their homes just like they do for family.

"As pets have become family in our homes," writes Grimm in his book, "Citizen Canine: Our Evolving Relationship with Cats and Dogs," "they've also become family in the eyes of the law."

But it's not just our affection for man's best friend that's led to companion animals' growing legal recognition. In recent years, research has revealed dogs aren't that different from us. They not only have the capacity for emotion, but they also have the ability to [read our emotions](#).

"Science has demonstrated that the mind of a dog is roughly equivalent to that of a human child two to three years of age," writes dog expert and neuropsychological researcher Stanley Coren. "Like a toddler, the dog has all of the basic emotions: fear, anger, joy, disgust, surprise and love."

And in 2013, after two years of studying MRI scans of dogs, Emory scientist Gregory Berns concluded, "dogs are people too."

Even Pope Francis has weighed in on the sentience of animals like dogs, noting "every act of cruelty towards any creature is contrary to human dignity" and that one day we will see animals in heaven because "paradise is open to all of God's creatures."

This growing body of scientific evidence, combined with a compassionate understanding of the bond between human and companion animal, has led to changes in how our legal system operates. For example, it's becoming more common for pet owners to sue for mental suffering and loss of companionship when a dog or cat is killed, and judges have even started taking the best interests of pets into account during custody cases.

What if man's best friend had the same rights as man?

In 2014, French parliament reclassified animals as "living beings" instead of simply property. Last year, New Zealand passed the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill, acknowledging that animals are sentient beings just like humans. And in December, Quebec granted animals the same rights as children under its laws.

With so many countries recognizing a new legal status for animals, especially pets, it seems only natural others would follow suit. But not everyone wants the law to look upon man's best friend differently, and one of the biggest opponents to it here in the U.S. is the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

It's understandably beneficial to veterinarians that [we treat our pets like children](#). After all, if you think of your dog as a member of the family, you're likely willing to spend a great deal of money to keep that family member healthy.

However, organizations like the AVMA are concerned that if the law recognizes pets as family members, then veterinarians could easily be sued for malpractice. In other words, a dog that's legally worth only its adoption costs is much less risky to operate on.

"The veterinarians are in a very tricky situation," Grimm said. "They benefit when we consider our pets members of the family, but they are also starting to see the other side of that, too. When we view our pets like children, we sue like they are children when things go wrong."

There are also concerns that by recognizing pets as humans under the law, pet owners themselves could lose rights. Critics say granting animals such legal status could lead to arguments that dogs can't be spayed or neutered against their will, for example. Other say that taking such a step could spawn a great deal of frivolous and expensive litigation, as well as a slippery slope that could lead to the end of hunting and breeding.

As farfetched as some of this stuff may sound, we're on this dramatic trajectory, and it's really unclear where we're going," Grimm said. "There are a lot of unintended consequences to treating pets as people."

(Items in blue have links which you will find on the webpage sited above)

WESTIES ON THE MOVE!

Visit our booth at the

Novi Pet Expo

Novi, Michigan

Friday – Sunday, November 11-13

www.novipetexpo.com/

The Westies will celebrate Christmas
at their annual

Christmas Party

Howell, Michigan

Sunday, December 4

(watch for more details)



Westie Christmas Party

Sunday, December 4, 2016

**Howell Recreation Center, Howell Michigan
Club Meeting 11 am | Party 1 pm**



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