

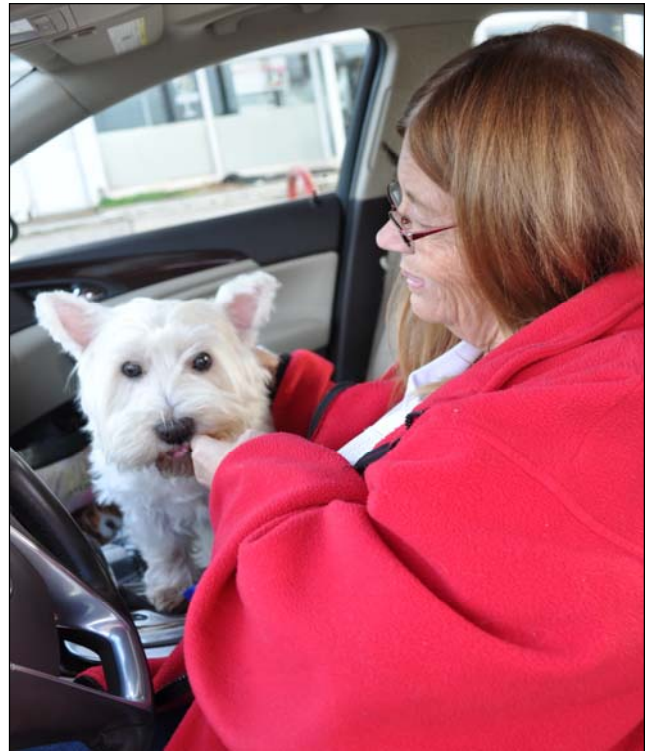


# WESTIE RESCUE YEAR IN REVIEW - 2015

**A**s 2016 kicks off, I would like to wish you and yours a wonderful Happy New Year and to share with you a few of our accomplishments that would not have been possible without the generous support of caring friends such as you.

It has been a very busy year for Westie Rescue Mid-Atlantic. In 2015 we rescued and found a home for our 1,000th Westie since our program was started many years ago. This year our volunteers provided assistance to 63 Westies, finding those open arms and hearts willing to adopt. We helped another 39 owners and their dogs get the right information for treatments, training, and care so the Westies could stay with in the current home. The website [www.WestieRescue.com](http://www.WestieRescue.com) continues to receive over 1,100 hits per day providing a connection for Westie owners and is in the process of being completely reconfigured. Our volunteers have driven over 26,800 miles to rescue abandoned Westies and to place them in new homes. And we have participated in several rescues with Westies coming to us for shelter, treatment and adoption from as far away as Missouri and Kansas.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, all of these Westies were given a chance when they needed it most. Such was the case with "**Sonny**", whose plight was brought to the attention of Westie Rescue earlier this year.



**Sonny** our 1,000th Westie rescued was an older guy, whose owner returned home to England to care for dying family members. His best buddy of 12 years would not have survived the 6 months of mandatory quarantine if he traveled with his owner. With lots of tears and worry, Sonny was given to us to find not any home, but a GREAT one. Early on Thanksgiving morning, I drove to North Carolina to meet Sonny's new owner, who was looking for a partner to watch football games together. Sonny jumped into the front passenger seat of her car as if to say "Hey, let's have a snack and get on the road!" Sonny has moved in to her heart and home wearing a Panther team shirt, laying belly side up, as the game plays in the background. Both are real happy with the arrangement.



*Westies and Cairns rescued from a Missouri puppy mill find their way to Northern Virginia and to Westie Rescue volunteers, an image repeated many times in the past years.*

This year found many Westies being given up as owners could not afford the medical treatments required and who became frustrated by the lack of knowledge of many vets to diagnosis and treat common issues like skin infections.

Mr. Percy was just one of the Westies who needed considerable medical treatments for his skin infection. After a few weeks spent with a volunteer foster family getting medicated baths and a few pills, Percy was adopted by his forever family this past fall and is living the life we all would wish for, fall/winter in Washington DC and summers in the south of France with his new owners, Sue and Roger. Percy's fur has grown in completely and his beautiful spirit shines brightly each day.

**Percy**



With your generous support, Westies like **Sonny and Percy** have been given the help they needed to get ready for a new life. Westie Rescue needs your help to pay off our remaining 2015 Vet bill, some \$7,600. Remember, all donations will go directly to helping abandoned and lost Westies from our community, as well as those whose families can no longer afford to keep them or able to provide basic care. From all of us at Westie Rescue, we wish you the best in this upcoming year,

*Stephen*

Stephen Di Giulian  
Volunteer President

### **Alexandria VA Scottish Christmas Walk**

Over 100 Westies were seen strutting through the streets of Old Town Alexandria pulling on their leads to be first behind the Westie Rescue Banner in the annual Scottish Christmas Walk, held each year on the first Saturday of December. This year we marked our 20<sup>th</sup> year of participating showing the public that "Second hand dogs make GREAT Pets!" It was wonderful to see the many faces of newly adopted Westies who have brought their owners to say hello and to provide an update on their best buddies. New owners are always amazed that when Westies meet up they sniff each other and wag tails, as if to say, "It's great to finally meet others who look just like us!"

The weather cooperated this year with warm sunshine, bringing out thousands of spectators to line the streets waiting to pet a Westie or two, three or more as they walked by or rolled by in the "geezer" wagon.

Mark December 3, 2016 on your calendars now to join the activities. All Westies and owners are welcome. We even get a few "want to be Westies" too!

Westie Rescue says thanks for helping make the day special for all our little buddies.



***P.S. Your generous gift of \$50 or more will go a long way to provide medical care for Westies looking for the help they need to be ready for that special home. Will you help us continue to help the little furry ones?***