

# WestieMed News

## WestieMed Auction News



### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

WestieMed's Fall Auction raised \$13,200 that will be used to help rescued Westies in need of medical care. Thank you Gerry Cannavan and all of our volunteers who worked around the clock. We would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all of our donors and bidders who made this auction a great success! We could not have done it without you!

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### **FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!**

It is through direct donations and fundraising activities like this auction that we are able to provide financial assistance for rescued Westies in need of medical attention. Please consider adding your friends, donating an item and participating in our next auction in September 2019.

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**MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE ONE  
WESTIE AT A TIME**

**DONATIONS  
GRACIOUSLY  
ACCEPTED!**

# DOG STORIES



## KIKI | SEPTEMBER 2018

Kiki is a Westie female about 5 years old. She came from an East Bay (California) shelter on July 9, 2018 with a terrible skin condition and two diagnosed mammary tumors. She was not spayed and appeared to have had multiple litters of puppies. The shelter believed she was a breeding dog. She weighed in at a skinny 16 pounds. She was picked up as a stray.

Kiki was placed in a foster home and baths were immediately started along with a vet appointment to get medications. Kiki responded to her new environment immediately with medication, diet, baths, lots of love and toys.

A consult was arranged to evaluate her tumors and a suspicious cyst on her side that appeared to be a sarcoma. Surgery was scheduled for August 2, 2018 in an effort to get her skin condition under better control before surgery. Her skin infection posed a risk of infection. Her surgery was fairly successful per her oncologist. She recovered quickly and without any infections but Kiki's oncologist did not feel the margins were sufficient on the cyst (sarcoma) and follow-up treatment was needed.

Kiki After evaluation of the treatment options, it was decided the best option for Kiki and her long-term survival was a second surgery called a 'scar revision' on the sarcoma to get an adequate margin although it could do some muscle damage. The surgeon felt she would bounce back from the second surgery quickly. There is very little medical evidence to support radiation in the treatment of mammary tumors in dogs. A second opinion was sought from another oncologist who reviewed Kiki's medical records. He also felt the scar revision surgery was Kiki's best option.

A scar revision surgery was performed on August 30, 2018. The oncologist felt the news was excellent on the second surgery and there was "complete excision" and "no further treatment is needed for the cancer".



## SONNY | AUGUST 2018

February of 2017, I went to the Humane Society of Broward County and laid my eyes on the cutest white Westie-mix. I knew at first contact I had to rescue him from possibly being put down.

After getting him home we voted as a family to name him Sonny because of his bright personality.

After a few months of having him, I noticed that Sonny walked to the left and then started to limp a little. It wasn't until after I took Sonny to see the Vet a few times we came to the conclusion that x-rays were needed to be done to rule out cancer and get to the root of the problem. I agreed and even though they ruled out cancer they informed me that my son Sonny has Hip Dysplasia, a torn CCL, and Arthritis. The doctors felt ...

... Sonny suffered from these conditions for a while and without surgery or intensive rehab he will become lame and damage his good limbs.

Sonny has a true Westie spirit and loves to play and be active, but with those types of injuries, he had to stay medicated and sometimes restrained to help the healing.

Although Sonny is a rescue dog he was the one who truly rescued me. Being diagnosed with Lupus 3 years ago my world seemed a little overwhelming and I felt alone in this process. Sonny came into my life this bubbly and loveable creature that stayed by my side during terrible Lupus flares, I would be remiss if I was to give up on him when he never gave up on me. As the cost of Vet visits added up and now the new cost of treatment I was at a loss.

Only with the help of WestieMed, I am able to move forward in Sonny's intensive rehabilitation so he can be that typical over-active Westie that he was designed to be.

Thank you so much for assisting us with the care of our family member SONNY!



### MISSY | AUGUST 2018

Missy was found wandering on a golf course in coyote country by a Good Samaritan. She had no identification or collar, so they took her to the shelter. She was microchipped and the shelter called the owner.

The owner stated he did not want the dog back. Because of her multiple issues, a huge growth on her inner thigh, mammary tumors, and bleeding from the rectum, the shelter deemed her unadoptable.

They called Westie Rescue of Orange County (WROC) as a last resort and, of course, we took her. The growth turned out to be giant wart, the mammary tumors were fatty tumors, and the bleeding was caused by a non-cancerous polyp. Our vet removed the wart, fatty tumors and the polyp which took 3 surgeries. Missy never complained and remained her happy sweet self. She has recovered beautifully and is now available for adoption.

Thank you for your consideration.

## GET TO KNOW THE BOARD

### Gerry Cannavan

#### WESTIEMED AUCTION COORDINATER

Westies have been a part of Gerry Cannavan's life since 1990. Once that breed found her, she was hooked. Lucky, her first, was a very loving feisty protective little guy but unfortunately he passed at the age of 13 ½ of kidney failure. During the time that she had Lucky, Lady and Rocky were added to her pack. Lady was a little huntress and Rocky was always the 'baby' of the threesome loving his baby rocks. She lost Lady at the age of 16 due to a seizure. Rocky was diagnosed with inoperable bladder cancer at the age of 13. With all of the loving TLC, he was with Gerry 4 months longer than the vets expected. Unfortunately having experienced the loss of a beloved Westie, her love for the breed lent her to help in whatever way she could and to adopt more needing a furever home. That is when she sought out Westie Rescue Southeast (she always said that Lady led her there in 2010).

Gerry thought a way she could help the rescue effort was by working the fundraising auctions for several Westie rescues as a 'pay it forward' for the love she has received from all her beloved rescues. She started this in 2014 and continued after her retirement in 2015. Some of the rescues and organizations she has helped as an admin are WRNT, WRSE, WRAP, GLWR/ WRT-AL/TN, Hailey's Wheels for Life, and WestieMed.

Gerry joined the WestieMed Board in 2016

# PULMONARY FIBROSIS

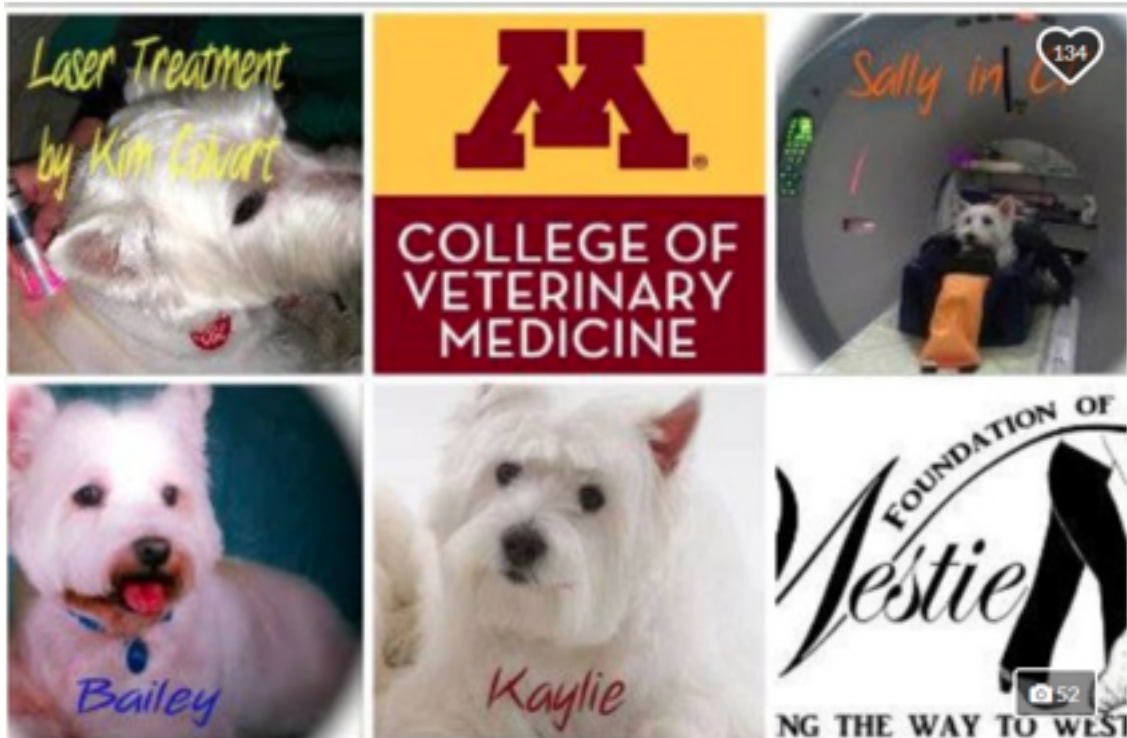
WESTIE OWNERS SET UP GOFUNDME PAGE FOR PULMONARY FIBROSIS STUDY.

YOU CAN HELP!

We need your help to support a new drug study that may have the ability to change the treatment of Pulmonary Fibrosis in Westies. Scientists from Yale, Tufts and University of Minnesota are seeking to study a human thyroid drug (currently approved for another disease) in the treatment of Pulmonary Fibrosis. First studied in mice by the Yale group, the drug was found to inhibit fibrosis and lung scarring! We are extremely optimistic that this could be a drug that does the same thing for Westies. And it might even help people or cats with this condition! Please join other Westie owners and lovers to fund this exciting study! Please help end the suffering caused by this dreadful and heartbreaking disease.

The Pulmonary Fibrosis Drug Study needs \$30,000 to get underway. The Westie Foundation of America (WFA) serves as a catalyst and can provide a tax receipt for donations. To make a donation please click the the GoFundMe link below:

<https://www.gofundme.com/wfa-pulmonary-fibrosis-drug-study>





# HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There are a number of ways and opportunities you can help WestieMed raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued Westies in need of medical attention.

We appreciate your support!

## 1 MAKE A DONATION

- Mail a check or money order donation to: *WestieMed, Inc.*  
13 Spire View Road  
Ridgefield, CT 06877
- Make a secure online credit card donation
- Make an automatic monthly subscription donation.
- Donate Westie treasures for WestieMed's Facebook Auctions .
- Make a Planned Gift consisting of such items as stocks, bonds, cash, personal property, bequests, trusts, life insurance and IRAs
- Make a donation with your company's matching Gift Program.
- Donate your artistic Westie designs for fundraising purposes through our Artists To The Rescue program.

## 2 VOLUNTEER

- Help organize a Fundraising event or a Westie Walk for the benefit of WestieMed.
- Offer your talents and time for a WestieMed project.
- Get WestieMed news and updates through our Friends of WestieMed email list.
- Join the WestieMed group on Facebook.
- Help spread the word about WestieMed

## 3 MAKE A PURCHASE

- Obtain "ever-burning" online Tribute and Memorial Virtual Candles from the Paws and Remember program on the WestieMed website
- Shop in the online WestieMed Gift Shop for unique Westie items.
- Shop with WestieMed's Affiliate Companies and a donation will be made to help us help rescued Westies.
- Shop in WestieMed's online Facebook Auctions.
- Shop at our Cafe Press Store - the WestieMedCafe featuring Westie designs by many talented artists.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lucy Ryley

### **Vice President/ Website Coordinator**

Sandy Gilmer

### **Recording Secretary**

Denise Sunkel

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Brandy Daniel

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Jon Elkow

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Rachel Phelps

### **Virtual Candle Coordinator**

Carolyn Piccininni

### **Auction Coordinator**

Gerry Cannavan

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Linda Duncan

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Becky Walker

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Jen Hosler

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Karen Spalding

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Rachel Scott

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#### **Consulting Veterinarian**

Dr. Barbara Lee

### **Ex-Officio Board Member**

#### **Consulting Attorney**

Lisa Curry

### **Ex-Officio Board Member Consulting Financial Advisor**

James Gniadek

### **Ex-Officio Board Member**

#### **Website Consultant**

Lisa Gyskiewicz

## The Paws and Remember Program

Please take a moment to Paws and Remember your special friends.

Make a donation to light an "ever-burning" Virtual Candle from WestieMed's Paws and Remember program. This is a wonderful way to show your admiration, love and devotion for those you hold closest to your heart.



- Honor your own special family members
- Celebrate a living friend, pet or person with a Tribute Virtual Candle, or Remember those you have loved and lost with a Memorial Virtual Candle.
- When you make a donation for either a Tribute Virtual Candle or a Memorial Virtual Candle, WestieMed will acknowledge your thoughtful gift.
- Our acknowledgment card features the Paws and Remember logo & Toto — The Rescue Angel designed and donated exclusively to WestieMed by artist Suzanne Renaud.

[Light a Virtual Candle >](#)

## Our Mission

The Mission of Westie Med, Inc. is to help raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued West Highland White Terriers (Westies).

WestieMed provides these Westies with a second chance at adoption and the opportunity to lead happy, healthy lives in stable, loving, forever homes. In addition, through its efforts and the example it sets, WestieMed aims to stimulate a dialogue, which will educate the general public about rescue animals and rescue organizations.

**Together**  
**we**  
**make the**  
**difference**

## CONTACT INFO

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[www.westiemed.org](http://www.westiemed.org)