



# The Highlander

## President's Message

We have already had our first snow of the season and it is almost time for our Holiday Dinner Party. We will be meeting at **7:00pm for Social hour** and have **dinner at about 7:30 on December 12<sup>th</sup> at Eddie's Creekside Restaurant and Bar** located in Millside Centre, 8803 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH.

Hopefully you have made your reservations and we will see you there. Don't forget to bring a wrapped Westie gift for the gift exchange!

Our October meeting was held at the office of Pamela Fisher, DMV. One of her employees, Libby Smith, gave a demonstration on pet massage and spoke about light therapy and essential oil therapy.

If your dues were not paid by Dec. 1st, your membership will lapse. You can still be a member by reapplying and we would be glad to re-approve you.

Hope to see you at the Holiday Party.

-- Gary



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

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**Randy & Chris  
Schriber**

4939 Suzette St. N.W.  
Massillon, OH 44647-1259

**(330) 833-5434**

fairislewestie@cs.com

West Highland  
White Terriers



**Kirkbride Westies**

Carolyn Bales  
Gary Hahn  
2795 Byron Drive  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

West Highland  
White Terriers

330-896-3331  
mombales@aol.com

**BAR-DAN  
WESTIES**



Barbara A. Krotts  
1069 S. Alpha-Bellbrook Rd.  
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305

tel: 937.427.0609

**WanRich  
Westies**



**Wanda & Richard  
Johnson**

**190 Smith Circle  
Michie, Tennessee 38357**  
(731) 632-4109

wanrich@direcway.com



**GAEFORCE  
westies**

NANCY ALICE STAAB

824 HUDSON STREET  
ST. ALBANS, WV 25177  
304/727-2510

MY PETS BY BETTE

Animal Portraits

By

Betty Miller

8850 Tanglewood Tr.  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023  
(440) 543-9004



**Kenlakes Westies**

**1100 Riverwood Road  
Murray, Kentucky 42071  
270.759.4556**

**www.kenlakes.com**

**Rose Carpenter**  
westies@newwavecomm.net

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Jason Roberts  
330 697 4428

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## WESTIE FOUNDATION UPDATE

Dear Westie Owners,

November, 2008

The Canine Genetics Laboratory at Clemson University (recently moved from Texas A&M University) is soliciting samples from West Highland White Terriers for a current project investigating an orthopedic disease, Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease (LCPD). LCPD is a developmental disorder affecting the hip joint of puppies (usually between the ages of 4 and 12 months of age). This disease typically affects toy and miniature breeds and many cases require surgical intervention to prevent early debilitating degenerative joint disease. Surgical intervention can place significant financial burden on owners, with estimates of treatment costing nearly \$1000.

Our study aims to identify (1) the mode of inheritance of LCPD in the Westie and (2) candidate genes that may either cause the disease or be involved in the disease process. Our ultimate goal from this work is to identify the mutation causing LCPD. This would allow us to develop a genetic test that would enable early classification of affected dogs as well as detection of carrier dogs. Breeders would then be able to make informed decisions in their breeding programs and eliminate LCPD from their breeding lines.

To accomplish these goals, we need your help. We currently have samples from 7 LCPD-affected Westies and 6 unaffected Westies. Our minimum number of samples required to complete this work is 20 affected and 20 unaffected Westies.

***The more samples we can accumulate beyond the minimal 40 will increase our chances of definitively identifying the gene(s) causing LCPD.***

The research plan we designed for this project uses unrelated dogs, so we are not trying to collect entire litters or parent-offspring relationships. We define dogs as unrelated if they do not share a common grandparent. We request that a copy of the pedigree accompany each sample so that we may ensure we run the most unrelated samples.

We request a small sample of blood be collected from participating dogs, and mailed to our laboratory. Most veterinarians are willing to draw blood for research purposes at no cost. The instructions for sample collection and return shipment (at our cost), our submission form, and a consent form are available through links on the Westie Foundation of America website at [www.westiefoundation.org](http://www.westiefoundation.org). Owners willing to participate in this study should contact Dr. Alison Starr at [astarr@clemson.edu](mailto:astarr@clemson.edu) for a FedEx account number to bill the sample shipment to.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this study. Please contact us if you have any questions or need further information. Sincerely,

Alison N. Starr, Ph.D., Keith E. Murphy, Ph.D., Kate L. Tsai, Ph.D.

Clemson University, 51 New Cherry Rd, 319 BRC, Clemson, SC 29634  
Phone: 864.656.0191



### FROM THE MAIL BAG

I'm pleased to announce the release of my book, *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life* (Trafalgar Square Books). My goal in writing it was to teach dog lovers how to navigate the sometimes overwhelming, confusing, and expensive world of veterinary medicine.

Thus far, the book has been wonderfully well received. Claudia Kawczynska, editor-in-chief of The BARK Magazine describes it as a must-read groundbreaking new book and the September issue of BARK includes an excerpt from *Speaking for Spot*. You can find additional chapter material and the complete table of contents at [www.speakingforspot.com](http://www.speakingforspot.com).

Dr. Nancy Kay  
Specialist, American College of Vet Internal Medicine  
Animal Care Center, 6470 Redwood Drive, Rohnert Park, California 94928



#### "Seeds the Day" T-Shirt

What is more indicative of summer than sitting in the shade on a hot afternoon eating sweet watermelon? Why not share that experience with your Westie and commemorate it with this t-shirt?

Sizes available: small, medium, large, extra-large

DONATION: \$15.00

Shipping: \$4.80 US Priority Mail

## JUDGING SPORTSMANSHIP

by Greg Alden Betor

When it comes to dog show, what is sportsmanship? In my opinion, it is a great deal more than saying "Thank you" to the judge or giving the winner of the class a big smile and a "Congratulations."

Sportsmanship at a dog show isn't any different than "sportsmanship" in life. Dog shows and life can't be separated for dog shows are simply part of life ... just as life is part of dog shows.

The "Thank you" and the "Congratulations" are outward manifestations of sportsmanship but unless they are sincere these two terms become simply gestures, good manners if you wish, but not true sportsmanship. And don't get me wrong, good manners are part and parcel to sportsmanship but not the whole picture.



The ability and the desire to be of help to your fellow exhibitor; to encourage newcomers to the sport; to give praise and encouragement to those who need it to see the positive side of the sport all fall into the category of good sportsmanship.

The experienced breeder or handler who jumps in to help some one who has multiple entries; the junior who suddenly appears at ringside to hold dogs between classes for an exhibitor without having been asked; the steward who knows that someone is hard of hearing and so informs the judge without being asked; the judge who readily "spots" the newcomer and takes a few extra seconds to put him/her at ease ..... all are examples of sportsmanship. And all are steps to be taken, nay, steps that are to be required if one is to partake of this marvelous sport of ours.

The rumor mongers, the naysayers, the constant complainers and whiners soon become known to most of us. They continue their negative ways even if they continue to win. The complaints may change as the wins increase but there are some folks whose very nature it is to complain and whine. You know the type...those who walk away holding the BOB ribbon complaining that the rings weren't big enough or the judge didn't give them sufficient recognition and time to "really move their dog" [I'm not sure what they think the BOB ribbon symbolizes!]

But in my opinion, sportsmanship is our dog world goes well beyond what we encounter in the ring. It deals with the entire show scene ... and the show scene begins long before one arrives at the show site.

If you know someone inexperienced in whelping a litter is expecting their first or second litter, do you offer help? Do you explain grooming to the newcomer [or even the inept old timer] and offer to help them prepare their dog for the ring? Do you mentor less experienced breeder/exhibitors?

There may be judges you think are totally incompetent [and we all have a few on our DNS lists]. Do you just write off these judges with the "I'll never show to them again, they get a whole page in my DNS book" or do you find a way to meet the judge and take the time to explain your breed to him/her, emphasizing what the standard says, what it stresses, and WHY. Most judges are eager to learn but can become defensive when the conversations begins with "You did a really rotten job today. Probably because you don't know or understand what our breed's all about." Not the way to influence judges.



**Continued on Page 7** 

## JUDGING SPORTSMANSHIP (from page 6)

But in a relaxing minute an approach of "Mr. Judge, may I ask what you were looking for in coat texture today. I noticed a number of dogs did not have the harshness of coat called or in the standard ... did you find the same?" I've had relative "newbies" [a term I personally hate!] come to me after judging and in the questions they have asked, I have learned much about both my judging and my breed. Remember, judges are human beings with the same feelings and defense mechanisms each of us as exhibitors have.



None of us, judge or exhibitor, like to be criticized in public. All of us, judge or exhibitor, like to think we are doing a good job and are appreciative when we are told. If you did not win but think the judge did a good job in the ring, what's to stop you from after judging telling him/her that you liked what they did even though you didn't win .... that's not sucking up to the judge, that's being a good sport if you are sincere.

If you're in the ring and the exhibitor in front of you runs up on the novice in front of him what do you do about it? Do you assume that the judge will notice and say something? Do you ignore it and think to yourself, "Well, that person's new, he'll just have to learn and he will in time". Or do you step forward and quietly say to the person committing the bad play, "Hey, cut it out. It doesn't do you any great service to act like a jerk." Perhaps you would want to use slightly less inflammatory language, but you get the idea.

Do you share information on the judge with your fellow exhibitors? No, I don't mean on the list, I mean at the show. If the judge insists on a loose lead, do you share that information with your fellow exhibitors or do you figure they'll find out in the ring? Or do you figure that if you tell them, you're giving them an "unfair advantage"? If the judge obviously dislikes squeaky toys in the ring, do you tell the competitor that you know uses a squeaky toy and may be in a later class?

If a strange face appears in your grooming area and is obviously unsure of themselves do you take a few seconds to introduce yourself and welcome them .... or are you too busy brushing to make sure that you win (or think you will win as the case may be)?

Corney as it may sound, sportsmanship at the dog show (and in life in general) is simply following the Golden Rule ... do unto others as you would have them do unto you. It's a tried and tested, principle that has been around for centuries.

On the other hand, many of our poorer sports have their own rule .... do unto others before they have a chance to do it to you!

Enjoy the shows, enjoy the people, but by all means do it in a manner that would have made your mother proud of you!



**Author, Greg Alden Betor is a member of [letsdiscussjudging@yahoo.com](mailto:letsdiscussjudging@yahoo.com), where this article was shared.**

*Thanks to Pat Ray for submitting this article.*

Do you have content to submit to *The Highlander* ?

Please email it to: [highlander@ohiowestie.com](mailto:highlander@ohiowestie.com)

mail it to: Highlander Editor — Cheryl Roberts @ 7713 Chaffee Road, Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067.

Please make sure you provide proper citation of the original source.



**At our October board meeting, the following new members were confirmed:**

Yvonne Huff—Hinckley, Ohio

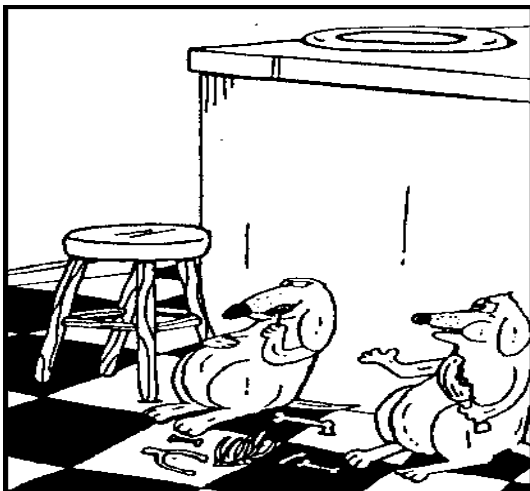
Gary & Janice Bethel—Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Charles & Susan Piovarchy—Chippewa Lake, Ohio

**NOTICE**

**Trey & Rachel Wackerly  
of Canton, Ohio  
have applied for club membership**

**Sponsors are:  
Chris Schriber  
Jeanette Layton**



What it really comes down to is a question of values... is a delicious, succulent turkey, baked to perfection, worth a few whacks on the nose with a newspaper?

**RESCUE REPORT**

Around the 10th of November a middle-aged male Westie was rescued from a freeway ramp on the west side of Cleveland. The kind lady who coaxed him into her car then took him to her vet who checked him for a tattoo or microchip as he was not wearing a collar. No identification was evident and he is still being fostered by his benefactor while being treated for an ear infection. An ad has been placed now in the Plain Dealer, and we shall see if he is reclaimed, or perhaps has found a new home on his own. If any members have information about his owners, please contact me.

— Chris Schriber

330.833.5434 / e-mail: fairislewestie@cs.com

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**IT'S  
 SHOWTIME!!**  
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Westie Judge</u>
Dec 11	Lorain County KC	Cleveland, OH	Ms E. Gonzalez
Dec 12	Medina K. C.	Cleveland, OH	Ms. B. Dale
Dec 13	Richland County K. C.	Cleveland, OH	F.T. Sabella
Dec 14	Western Reserve K. C.	Cleveland, OH	L.E. Stanbridge
Jan 2	Columbiana County K. C.	Tallmadge, OH	G.J. Hartzman
Jan 3	Rubber City K. C.	Tallmadge, OH	D.J. Kniola
Jan 4	Rubber City K. C.	Tallmadge, OH	Mrs. D. Kniola
Jan 9	K.C. of Buffalo	Hamburg, NY	Ms. M. Underwood
Jan 10	Kennel Club of Buffalo	Hamburg, NY	Mrs. M.K. Bryant
Jan 11	Ashtabula K.C.	Hamburg, NY	T. D. Parrotti
Jan 17	Oakland County K.C.	Detroit, MI	S. F. Hurt
Jan 18	Oakland County K. C.	Detroit, MI	Mrs. K. M. Grosso
Jan 24	Erie Kennel Club	Erie, PA	D. McIntyre
Jan 25	Erie Kennel Club	Erie, PA	Ms. S. Allen
Feb 9,10	Westminster K.C.	New York, NY	R. D. Black



**Important Note:** Deadline for Articles and Information for the February issue will be **January 15th!!**

## Officers & Board

President	Gary Hahn
Vice-President	Chris Schriber
Secretary	Cathy Blacklock
Treasurer	Carolyn Bales
Board Member - 2008	Carolyn Reinders
Board Member - 2010	Donna Harris
Board Member - 2008	M. Hackenberg
Board Member - 2008	Betty Miller
Board Member - 2009	Randy Schriber



**Published by the West Highland  
White Terrier Club of Northern  
Ohio since 1962.**

*The West Highland White Terrier Club of Northern Ohio was founded in the early sixties by a group of dedicated Westie breeders and owners. The club and its approximately 100 members are dedicated to the betterment of our breed. Club meetings are generally held the second Friday of even numbered months, the meeting location varies. Details about the next meeting can be found in this newsletter.*

*Our annual Specialty Show is held each year in August at the Canfield, Ohio Fairgrounds.*

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**VISIT US AT: [WWW.OHIOWESTIE.COM](http://WWW.OHIOWESTIE.COM)**

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**Cheryl Roberts - Editor  
7713 Chaffee Road  
Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067**

**First Class**



**Next Meeting: Friday, December 12th — Holiday Dinner (Brecksville, OH)**