

## Jim McCain

*WFA Board Member, Donor Manager*

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We got our first Westie in 1993 when my wife & I had decided to “downsize” from Labrador Retrievers. My sister had a Westie at the time and when we met her, it was love at first sight. Our first Westie was from a “backyard” breeder, not knowing any better at the time, who ended up having some health challenges. By virtue of 14 years with “Sam”, we learned a great deal about Westie health.

After searching for about a year, we bought our first “potential” show dog and put a championship on “Mike”. We also searched for our first brood bitch, we finished “Viva” and we have never looked back. In 2000 we were blessed with a litter of pups, one of which was our beloved MerryMac’s String of Pearls, “Pearl”. From Pearl, “Bonnie” and “Rose” were born in 2005 and we were fortunate to receive an inquiry from eventual

co-owners and friends, the Higginbotham’s, to whom one of the puppies, “Rose” was delivered to in early 2006. Three years and her championship later, we bred “Rose” who delivered a puppy, “Bode”. “Bode” ended up being the #1 Westie in the country in 2011, and in 2012 Bode showed at Westminster to the delight of his owners and co-owners. Ours has truly been a rags to riches story and I am truly blessed to have been owned by Westies, for the past 23 years.

I am currently training & trialing one of our Westies, “Quinn”, in K9 Nose Work. We recently achieved our NW 1 and NW2 titles. And, we are currently preparing for our NW3 trial later this year. I have also started training our “Bonnie” in K9 Nose Work and look forward to continuing the fun with her as well!

Professionally, I have been in the food business all of my life. I am currently the Director of National Sales for US Foods, a predominant National foodservice distributor. Being in the sales and service industry, I hope to be able to utilize my skills and experiences to successfully continue to serve the Foundation as I have done since 1997.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the Westie Foundation of America as we continue in our efforts to better the health and the quality of life for our Westies.