

Kay McGuire, DVM, MS

WFA Vice-President, Health



I am a practicing veterinarian in my home town of Houston, Texas. I have a BS in Wildlife and Fisheries, a MS in Veterinary Epidemiology, and DVM from Texas A&M University.

My interest in dogs began with a pet Irish Setter and the many AKC obedience titles I earned over the next 33 years. I bred Champion Gordon Setters under the kennel name Wildwind for over 30 years and acquired my first Westie in 1985. In 1986, I became a member of the West Highland White Terrier Club of America (WHWTCA) and have bred and owner-exhibited approximately 40 Westie Champions under the Ashscot prefix.

As a veterinarian that has had a personal interest in breeding quality animals, my goal is to produce the healthiest dog possible. I treat dogs daily with the problems we all try to avoid in dogs we produce. About three years ago, I encouraged the WHWTCA to recommend health clearances of hips, patellas and eyes in our Westie breeding animals to attain a CHIC number. The goal of the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) is to provide a database of dogs with health clearances so that breeders can gather more health information on prospective breedings. I currently serve as chair of the Health Committee and director on the board and have served as 2nd Vice-President.

Elected to the Board of Directors of the Westie Foundation of America in 2006, I serve as the Vice-President of Health and have held this office for four years. My responsibilities include promotion of health education, committee chair of health grant funding, and liaison to the general Westie owning public. The research community is advancing huge leaps in recent times with improved technology. We MUST prioritize health research as our number one goal along with health education to the pet owning public to help the dogs we love so much. Not only will this benefit the health of our Westies but it will enhance human health research as well.