

Spring / Summer 2018

Questions? Comments?
Suggestions?

www.westiefoundation.org
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we each look at our lives and the contributions we each want to make in the lives of our dogs and our breed, we realize we have a limited amount of time to make a lasting impact on the legacies of our individual dogs. We have even less time when a Westie is chronically ill or has a terminal disease like Pulmonary Fibrosis or certain forms of cancer.

The board of the Westie Foundation of America (WFA) believes many factors impact paths to cures and treatments for diseases that affect our breed. A core component is having effective researchers who are highly regarded in their fields and are dedicated and determined to find answers. The WFA is becoming a greater player in the world of medical research to benefit all Westies.

This issue is worth a double read. We are delighted to include another chapter from our **The Westie Health Book** in this Spring/Summer issue of *The Westie Wellness* newsletter. "Tumors, Cancer, and Your Westie" by John Robertson, VMD, PhD. Subtopics include Introduction and Overview, Detecting and Diagnosing Tumors, Common Tumor Problems in Westies, Diagnosing Urinary Bladder Cancer in Dogs, Definitive Diagnosis and Options for Therapy, and Transitional Cell Carcinoma.

Please make note of the information on page 23 to order your personal copy of **The Westie Health Book**. It is an excellent resource for all Westie owners and veterinarians.

Take a little time to peruse the Donor pages. Without our dedicated donors, the WFA could not work to improve the health of all Westies. We thank them one and all and encourage you to become a donor. Please contact us at donormanager@westiefoundation.org or www.westiefoundation.org.

The *Daphne Gentry Scholarship* fund was established in memory of this wonderfully dedicated woman to help support the next generation of veterinary research professionals. It is my pleasure to announce Chie Tamamoto-Mochizuki, DVM as the first recipient of the *Daphne Gentry Scholarship*. All the details are included in our media release "Westie Foundation of America Awards First Veterinary Scholarship".

According to the "Financial Report—Fiscal Year 2017", expense ratios included Program Services 80%, Fundraising 9%, and Management 11% (well within the



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guidelines for a 501 (c) (3) organization). Program Services includes grants for research and education projects, such as the Westie Wellness newsletter and sponsored health seminars. Thanks to our donors for their loyal support and WFA board of directors for its effective fiscal management and creativity to leverage assets.

We are very excited about our project with Cornell University. "Solving Allergic Issues in Westies with a Little Help from Human Science" by Teresa Barnes, Vice President Communications, provides an insight to an important project the WFA is funding. Thank you to the West Highland White Terrier Club of New Zealand for its generous donation as well as many donors of the WFA who have made this grant possible.

The final article is one of survival, recovery, and leadership. Teresa Barnes wrote "Veterinarian Escaped Hurricane Harvey with Her Westies, Created Safe Haven for Others' Pets" so that you could follow the personal experience of Kay McGuire, DVM and her Westies as they dealt with Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath.

Don't forget about the WFA's annual Facebook auction August 17-19, 2018. Check out the details from Marianne Jacobs, Vice President Fundraising on page 15. Please consider donating items and bidding. Marianne can help you!

We need your help and encourage you to support our mission by becoming an annual WFA donor. We are an active board for a canine foundation that is making real progress to improve health in the Westie breed. You may contact Jim McCain, Donor Manager at donormanager@westiefoundation.org or visit our website www.westiefoundation.org for assistance. In addition, I would be delighted to visit with you about what the WFA has accomplished and major projects and research underway.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the WFA but most of all, your love of Westies!

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The Westie Foundation of America, Inc is a nonprofit corporation, recognized by the IRS as a 501 (C) (3) organization. The mission of the Foundation is to advance and support medical research to benefit the health and quality of life of West Highland White Terriers: and to further develop and communicate information regarding the health, care, breeding and quality of life of Westies to Westie owners, Westie breeders and veterinarians.



Request for Samples

RESEARCH PROJECT	SAMPLES NEEDED	CONTACT INFORMATION
Genetic marker for Atopic Dermatitis	Saliva swabs or blood samples from dogs with skin disease or from normal dogs 5 years of age or older from family lines free of allergies	Kim Williams North Carolina State University 919-513-7235 kdwilli4@ncsu.edu
Genetic susceptibility of Transitional Cell Carcinoma (TCC) (Bladder Cancer)	Blood samples from dogs diagnosed with TCC and dogs over the age of nine who have no known cancers	Gretchen Carpintero Ostrander Lab National Human Genome Research Institute 301-451-9390 Dog_genome@mail.nih.gov
Genetic marker for Addison's Disease	DNA from cheek cells and/or blood from affected dogs and unaffected dogs over the age of 7	Dr. A.M. Oberbauer UC Veterinary School (Davis) 530-752-4997 http://cgap.ucdavis.edu/
Clinical Features and Genetic Basis of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)	Blood samples from dogs diagnosed with PF and healthy dogs over age 8 without lung disease	Drs. Ned Patterson and Peter Bitterman Katie Minor (contact) University of Minnesota 612-624-5322 minork@umn.edu
Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)	Cheek and/or blood samples from dogs diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis	Dr. Victor J. Thannickal University of Alabama Sample collection coordinated by Dr. Pamela Whiting, DVM pgwhitingdvm@aol.com 707-529-9222 (cell/text) 707-837-8101 (clinic)
Dry Eye Syndrome (keratoconjunctivitis sicca)	Dogs diagnosed with dry eye and dogs over 7 years old with no ocular abnormalities *participants must be available for appointments at UC Davis Veterinary Center (CA)	Dr. Sara Thomasy UC Veterinary School (Davis) 530-752-1770 smthomasy@ucdavis.edu

For more information about any of the above projects visit www.westiefoundation.org