

After A Rough Start, Sammy Found A Loving Home

Sammy was a misunderstood little boy dog who just needed a stable home to call his own.
Almost nine months ago, Gary



received a call from WRN asking him if he would be willing to foster and work with Sammy, who had shown some aggressive behavior. Gary soon learned that Sammy's original owner was an elderly women who had passed away and that Sammy had been shuffled between several different homes. After some evaluation, Gary thought that Sammy just needed a little discipline and stability in order to feel safe and secure again. After six months, Sammy was a new little Westie. Sammy had a lot of energy, liked to play with Gary's grand kids and the other family pets. He was now ready to find his forever home and it didn't take long.

Robin met Sammy and it was pure magic. Sammy now has 2 new Westie siblings, sleeps at the end of Robin's bed and is loving his new life and new home. It is amazing how a little love can save a life.

If Your Westie Is Selected For The Cover of The 2017 Calendar, You Win \$50!!!



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What Do I Need To Do?

All pictures need to be taken with a 300 dpi high resolution digital camera in landscape format, in order to be considered for the monthly feature page. Photos taken with your mobile phone provide less than 100 dpi and can only be used for the smaller images within the calendar.

Where do I send my pictures?

You can email your photos to our email address:

<u>Westie@westierescuenetwork.org</u> or to our calendar editor Dianne Veno at <u>contessa5360@aol.com</u>.

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P.O. Box 884 Lafayette, CO. 80026 720-360-1212 or visit us @

<u>vww.westierescuenetwork.org</u>

Contact us @ Westie@westierescuenetwork.org



Does Your Westie Have Weepy Eyes? It May Be A Condition Called Dry Eye.

"My little Westie, Katie . . . " always had itchy gooey eyes. Our Vet at first thought she had allergies, so we changed her food, shampoo and bedding – nothing seemed to work until he tested her for a condition called "Dry Eye." Once we had the right diagnosis, Katie's quality of life dramatically improved. While "Dry Eye" can affect all breeds of dogs, females and neutered males are more commonly affected, especially female Westies. The reason for this association is not clear. If your little Westie is having eye issues, ask your vet for a Dry Eye Test.

Effects of Dry Eye*

Dry eye (keratoconjunctivitis sicca or KCS) is a painful and potentially dangerous condition caused by the inadequate production of tears. The eyes of affected animals – especially the outer covering of their eyeballs (the cornea) and the lining of their eyelids (the conjunctiva) – become dry, rough, red, inflamed, sensitive and fragile. Unfortunately, this condition is quite common. Dogs with dry eye have varying degrees of discomfort, ranging from mild to extremely severe. Their eyes always are irritated, scratchy and red. In most cases, they probably also are itchy and painful. As the condition worsens over time, the cornea can ulcerate, which means that parts of it will break down and slough off from the inflammation and mechanical trauma caused by lack of adequate lubrication. Being in bright sunshine is uncomfortable for dogs with dry eye, because their eyes become hypersensitive to light. Affected dogs may develop sores around their eyes from rubbing and scratching in an attempt to get some relief from their discomfort. They may lose part of their vision in the affected eye or eyes. In extreme cases, they can become completely blind. Sometimes, dry eye is so painful that the dog will become frantic and virtually inconsolable.

Symptoms of Dry Eye*

KCS can cause a number of different symptoms in dogs, all of which can be attributed to the dryness, scratchiness and pain associated with the condition. Owners may notice one or more of the following signs when their dog develops dry eye:

- Pawing or rubbing at the eyes (often persistent and frantic)
- Eye redness (conjunctival hyperemia; often pronounced)
- Dull, dry, lackluster look to the cornea, which is the outer surface of the eyeball (eyes lack their normal sheen)
- Ocular discharge (copious, thick, stringy, yellow-green gunk accumulates in the inner corners of the eyes; looks like mucus or pus; can be dry and crusty)
- Protrusion of the third eyelid (eversion of the nictitating membrane; "cherry eye")
- Hypersensitivity to light
- Eyelid twitching (blepharospasm)
- Swollen, inflamed eyelids (blepharitis)
- Squinting
- Excessive blinking
- Ulceration or scarring of the outer surface of the eyeball (cornea)
- Impaired vision
- Blindness
- The eyes of affected dogs may or may not be covered with a visible mucus film.

There are many others factors that can predispose a dog to developing dry eye. If you are concerned, please see your Vet for a proper diagnosis.

*Read full article at: http://www.petwave.com/Dogs/Health/Dry-Eye_KCS/Symptoms.aspx



Easy Cool Summer Treats

I love making these dogs treats for my little Westies and I hope you will too! Just 3 ingredients and these cool summer treats help your dog get revitalized after a hot summer afternoon.

Recipe*:

4 cups plain yogurt – I like to use full fat 2 tablespoons peanut butter – or you can use coconut peanut butter as well 3 bananas, ripe, peeled & mashed

- Blend all the ingredients to a puree in a food processor.
- Pour into 4 ounce plastic cups (2 oz cups for smaller dogs)
- You can also put into a candy mold and add a milk bone as well
- Freeze until firm.
- Pop the treat out of the cup and watch your dog enjoy!
- Store the treats in the freezer for up to 2 weeks

Portion size: For small dogs, 1/2 treat (2 oz); for medium dogs, 1 treat; for large dogs, 2 treats

*Find more recipes like this and more on Pinterest - Enjoy!!



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