



Presidents Message:



Eighteen years ago, my husband, Rick, and our sons, Jeff, and Adam, showed up at the SFBWHWTC Tartan Games possibly looking for a Westie since our bichon had recently passed. We were welcomed by many friendly and enthusiastic Club members, who taught us so much about these little white dogs. We were sold! First, we rescued Sugar. Then we fostered Gus and decided he belonged with us. After that we added Weber and his son Charlie. When Gus passed, we added Jack. Each dog was different and yet wonderful for our family.

For 14 years we had four Westies- so much fun! Currently our pack includes Charlie (almost 17), Lainey (almost 15), and our new puppy, Piper, thanks to Gail Krieger. The love and joy that these little white dogs bring to us is incredible. We owe a huge thanks to SFBWHWTC for helping us to find our way into this wonderful Westie world.

During our membership in the Club, Rick and I have run the Tartan Games and Spring Fling, edited this newsletter, and hosted multiple dog parties at our home. Rick has served as President twice, and now I am following in his footsteps. I am happy to take on this new challenge, especially since I have the support of some great members. Lisa Blutman and Gail Krieger are Vice President and Secretary- Treasurer. I feel so grateful to have their amazing energy and knowledge in my corner. Gail takes over as treasurer after many years of hard work from Jim Gilcrest. I am also thrilled to have a wonderful board of directors: Nancy Berger, Sherry Byrd, Linda Snook, Marie Thompson, and Roxana Twedt. To round us out, we are so happy to have Helaine Campbell as IPP.



As a club we have a lot to look forward to. Our next Specialty will be held April 14 in Lodi. After that we will have a meeting and event May 6th, followed by a special meeting and members event at our home on June 24th. Looking forward to seeing everyone at these fun events. Please check our Club calendar for more information. Also please consider joining one of our committees. It is a fun way to get to know fellow club members and their Westies.

With westitude,
Debbie

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on January 28, 2023, at the Pet Food Express in Danville. At this meeting this meeting, Michelle Ferneding from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Ophthalmology Department presented a program on Dry Eye, the most common eye issue found in Westies. Following this marvelous program, Michelle and her co-workers examined the eyes of the dogs in attendance and drew blood to assist them in their DNA profiles and added the extra tube for the Westie Foundation DNA Biobank. This was a terrific day and so much fun for the dogs and humans combined. The Pet Food Express staff graciously assisted us in our shopping endeavors. Thank you all for attending and participating in this worthwhile endeavor for both UC Davis and the Westie Foundation. The minutes of the meeting follow this:

San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club

Minutes of General Meeting, January 28, 2023

Pet Food Express, 609 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Danville, CA

The meeting was called to order by Gail Krieger, Treasurer at 12:10 pm

The following individuals were in attendance: Lisa Blutman, Gail Krieger, David Snook, Debbie Sklarin, Rick Sklarin, Jim Gilcrest, Linda Gilcrest, Nancy Berger, Vickie Cassaca, Mick Brown, and guests, Hondo Aguilar, Susan Indriasano, and Serena Indriasano.

Approval of Minutes:

Rick Sklarin moved, and Debbie Sklarin seconded that the minutes of the general meeting held on October 29, 2022, be approved. Motion Carried.



Debbie Sklarin moved, and Rick Sklarin seconded that the minutes of the general meeting held on December 3, 2022, be approved. Motion Carried.

Report of the President: There was no report

Report of the Board: Lisa Blutman said the board met on 10. Old business was discussed, and the Tartan Editor and Directors Job Description were approved. There was also discussion on the Insurance that the club carries. Other than that the only discussion was on AKC mail that had been received.



January
Board of

Report of The Treasurer:

There is a balance of \$15,269.09 in the bank. The 50th Anniversary had a projected loss of \$2075 with an actual loss of \$905.15.

Report Committees:

Awards: The Awards were announced at the December meeting with the exception of four: These go to GCHS Starlight Make I So, GCH Elvador Starlight Goblet of Fire and CH Elvador Starlight Mischief Managed owned by Roxanna Twedt, and CH Elvador La Rosa Blanca owned by Michele Belshaw and Roxanna Twedt. Again, Congratulations to everyone.

Fundraising: The new fundraising committee will be getting together to come up with ideas as we are in a position of declining funds.

Holiday Lunch: Marie Thompson said that the December 2022 lunch was fun, though we didn't have the turn out we had in the past. Our next lunch will be December 2nd at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, CA. Save the date now.

50th Anniversary Specialty and Celebration: This was a lot of fun and well attended. Gail said, the 50th Anniversary had a projected loss of \$2075 with an actual loss of \$905.15 which isn't bad.

Report of the Specialties: Lisa said all the paperwork is in and the April Specialty will be April 14 in Lodi, CA. Our sweepstakes judge will be Elizabeth Blake and George Wright will judge the specialty. The October specialty will be on October 28. Michele Schulz will judge our sweepstakes and the classes are yet to be announced. Our annual banquet on the grounds.

Membership Report: No prospective members were present.

WRAP: David said they have been active but there are no new dogs to place, and they have individuals regularly checking the shelters.

Election of Officers and Board for 2023: As there was a nomination other than what the nominating committee had nominated a written ballot was distributed to all members.



The following officers and board members were elected:

President: Debbie Sklarin

Vice-President: Lisa Blutman

Secretary/Treasurer: Gail Krieger

IPP: Helaine Campbell

Board members: Nancy Berger, Sherry Byrd, Linda Snook, Marie Thompson, and Roxanna Twedt.

New Business: There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.



Members of the new Board

Program: Michelle Ferneding from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Ophthalmology Department presented a program on Dry Eye. This was followed by their examination of eyes for the dogs in attendance and DNA blood draws for the ophthalmology unit and the Westie Foundation Biobank.



Pictures courtesy of Jim Gilcrest



The 2023 Specialties

The San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club hosts two specialties each year. We are asking for your help in presenting trophies to the winners of these important shows. For those of you unfamiliar with showing your dogs, the dog show offers a way to showcase the breed looking like the breed standard. People come up to those showing the dogs and ask questions, look at the dog and perhaps decide that a westie is the dog for them. As members of the club, we provide education and information on the breed and encourage them to come to westie meetings to get to know us while they are waiting for their own westie to come into their life.

Last October, for our 50th Anniversary Celebration we asked for trophy donations for the first time in over seven years. We are now asking for your assistance this year.

Our first show will be April 14, 2023 as part of the Northern California Terrier Association in Lodi, California. Our second show will be on October 28, as part of the Sacramento Dog Fanciers Association. Our October event also allows us to have a barbecue dinner on the show grounds. Your show committee is asking for donations to help us offset the trophies for these two important shows through a one time donation.

All donations are \$50.00 for one year, with general donations gratefully accepted. Please send all donations to Gail Krieger, 7721 Sparrowk Rd. Valley Springs, CA 95252. Please let her know which class(s) you would like to support. If you would like to sponsor a class or classes, but pay later in the year, please let Gail know at gailaurie@hotmail.com to enable her to document in her records.

The classes are:

- Best of Breed,
- Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed,
- Best of Winners,
- Winners Dog,
- Winners Bitch,
- Best Bred By Exhibitor,
- Best in Veteran Sweepstakes,
- Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweepstakes,
- Best in Puppy Sweepstakes,
- Best of Opposite Sex in Puppy Sweepstakes.

Thank you. Lisa Blutman



Westies and Weather

According to the groundhog, there will be six more weeks of winter. This means we need to be aware of the weather conditions. Westies should not be kept out of doors on the frosty mornings for any extended period. They should always be indoors during the night. Be aware if walking of snow and Ice

That is not to say that our westies do not like snow but be aware. We are still getting rain, so be aware of Leptospirosis can grow in standing water. Many of us do not vaccinate against this deadly disease, but if you live in an area where leptospirosis is common, speak with your veterinarian about this.



standing water.



Pictures courtesy of Roxanna Twedt

Spring is not far away, but some of the flowers and plants growing in your yard or those in vases could cause serious harm to your dog, according to Dr. Tina Wismer with the Animal Poison Control Center. Lilies can also cause harm to cats. Daffodils, some of the first plants to bloom in spring, contain lycorine and other alkaloids that can be poisonous for our dogs and cats. The toxins are mostly in the plant's bulb and, if ingested can lead to vomiting, salivation, and diarrhea. This can cause lead to cardiac arrhythmias, convulsions/tremors, and low blood pressure. Dr. Wismer further identifies the Sago Palm, Oleander, foxglove, and lily of the valley as they contain glycosides that can slow down the heartbeat and even stop it.



Tulip bulbs, begonias, Jimson weed, rhododendrons, azaleas, buttercups, and hyacinth ingestion can cause vomiting and diarrhea which can lead to dehydration and death. Be careful of our California beautiful outdoors.

<https://www.vetstreet.com/our-pet-experts/10-spring-plants-that-are-dangerous-for-pets>

Do Dogs Need a Flu Shot?

There have been reports of recent pockets of outbreaks of canine influenza virus (dog flu) in various parts of the country. As with human influenza, the dog flu will remain with us. The difference now is that we know what the viruses are that cause two different strains of influenza, and that helps veterinarians diagnose and treat the illness properly. There are now vaccines available for both known strains of canine influenza: H3N8 and the more recent H3N2. In fact, you may be able to obtain one vaccine for both.

Dogs most susceptible to [canine influenza](#) are those that frequent communal activities: competitive dog events, dog parks, grooming shops, daycare and boarding facilities. But all dogs can contract the virus from other infected dogs or from vectors (inanimate objects such as dog bowls, clothing, etc.) that have recently been exposed to the virus. People do NOT become infected by dogs infected with influenza, and dogs do not become infected by humans infected with the flu.

As recommended, discussion with your veterinarian regarding vaccination for influenza is warranted, especially in the previously mentioned higher-risk groups. Also, owners of boarding and daycare facilities may require vaccination of dogs frequenting their establishments due to the high amount of effort required to properly sanitize and quarantine as well as the possible high economic loss. In general, dogs that participate in events and social activities should be fully vaccinated for [core vaccines](#) as well as [Bordetella](#) and canine influenza.

Just like humans, it's best to get your dog a flu shot each year. To be fully vaccinated against influenza, dogs should receive two initial sets of vaccinations followed by a yearly booster.



Can Dogs Die from the Flu?



Though dogs can die of the flu, as in humans, most do not, though many will require veterinary attention. The signs of influenza are usually: lethargy, fever, decrease in appetite, cough, runny eyes/nose, and possible vomiting. Worsening signs are the development of [pneumonia](#).

Minimizing the Risk of Canine Influenza

Here is some additional information about the canine influenza virus and tips for how to minimize the risk and reduce the spread of the disease:

- Canine influenza virus is a highly contagious disease that is easily spread through:
 - Close proximity to infected dogs.
 - Contact with contaminated items (bowls, leashes, crates, tables, clothing).
 - People moving between infected and uninfected dogs.
- Almost all dogs that are exposed to the virus will contract it, and about 80% will show symptoms of the illness.
- Dogs are contagious 3-4 days prior to showing symptoms and 7-10 days after symptoms subside (this may cover a period of several weeks).
- Dogs may contract and spread the virus without showing symptoms.
- Most dogs will completely recover with proper treatment, but the disease can be fatal.
- The most likely victims of canine influenza virus are social dogs: [dogs that regularly interact with dogs](#) outside of their own family or frequent places where many dogs gather.

Symptoms of Canine Influenza

- Dry, hacking cough (similar to [kennel cough](#) but can progress to a moist, congested cough).
- Lack of appetite.
- [Lethargy](#).
- Discharge from the nose or eyes that may become green or thick.



- [Fever](#) (normal temperature is 101-102 degrees).

Preventing Canine Influenza

- The best prevention is vaccination. There is now a single vaccination to prevent both the H3N2 and H3N8 strains of the virus. The vaccination requires a booster shot two weeks after the initial vaccine. Vaccines take 3-4 weeks to provide immunity.
- Isolate sick animals and keep them isolated for up to 10 days after symptoms subside.
- Practice good sanitation. Use a bleach and water mixture to disinfect common areas such as tables, bowls, leashes, crates, etc. Allow items to thoroughly air dry before exposing dogs to them.
- Wash your hands frequently, ideally between handling different dogs. At the very minimum, hand sanitizer should be used between handling dogs.
- Use [disposable gowns](#) or wipe down clothing and shoes with a bleach solution between dogs or after leaving an area where dogs congregate.

Dog Flu Treatment

- Treatment of canine influenza virus requires veterinary assistance. If you believe your dog may have canine influenza virus, contact your veterinarian immediately. Untreated, the illness may progress to pneumonia or other, more serious problems.
- Although most dogs recover from this illness, some otherwise healthy dogs have died from it.
- Most dogs take 2-3 weeks to recover from the illness.
- Any dog suspected of having canine influenza virus should be immediately isolated from other dogs and should not attend dog shows, daycare, grooming facilities, dog parks, or other places dogs gather. Dogs are contagious for 7-10 days after they have stopped showing symptoms.
- Contact your veterinarian to let them know that your dog may be showing symptoms of canine influenza virus. If your dog is going to a veterinary hospital or clinic, call ahead to let them know you have a suspected case of canine influenza virus. They may ask you to follow a specific protocol before entering to minimize the spread of the disease, including waiting in your car until they are ready to examine your dog.
- Keep sick dogs at home and isolated from other dogs and cats until you are certain the illness has run its course (typically 3-4 weeks).



https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/dog-flu-shot-canine-influenza/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20230203_prco_mms_akc_communicates&utm_term=AKC%20Communicates%20Optins



Can Dogs Get Colds?

Rarely life-threatening but always irritating, the common cold is just a fact of life for humans. But can dogs get colds?

Dogs can get infections that make them sneeze and sniffle, just like we do. However, your dog's cold symptoms could also be the result of a more serious disease.

What Is a Cold?

When people talk about catching a cold, they are actually referring to a wide range of viruses. All of these viruses are grouped together as cold viruses because they cause similar symptoms, such as sneezing, sore throat, runny eyes and nose, and general malaise. In people, the most common viral cold agents are the rhinovirus, which is estimated by [WebMD](#) to cause more than 50% of colds in humans, and also the corona, respiratory syncytial virus, influenza, and parainfluenza viruses.

The causes of colds in dogs are similar. There is not one specific virus that gets the label "cold virus." Instead, several different viruses can cause cold symptoms in dogs. Some of these are more serious than others, which is why it is important to treat your dog's cold symptoms with a little more gravity than you might treat a human cold.

What Are the Symptoms of Colds in Dogs?

You may recognize some of your own cold symptoms in the symptoms of colds in dogs.

Common symptoms of colds in dogs include:

- Sneezing.
- [Coughing](#).



- Runny or congested nose.
- Watery eyes.

These symptoms could be the result of a dog cold virus, but they could also be symptoms of more serious conditions like [kennel cough](#), [influenza virus \(dog flu\)](#), the [parainfluenza virus](#), bronchitis, or even [canine distemper](#).

If your dog is experiencing these symptoms, your safest option is to call your veterinarian for advice. If your dog is also experiencing a change in appetite, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or any other changes in normal behavior, they could be suffering from a more serious disease that requires veterinary treatment.

Cold or Kennel Cough?

Kennel cough (also known as canine infectious tracheobronchitis) is a highly infectious respiratory disease in dogs. It gets its name from its most common place of transmission — kennels. At kennels and other places where large numbers of dogs congregate, it is easy for dogs to catch and transmit viruses. Kennel cough is treatable, and most dogs recover, but it can have more serious consequences in puppies and dogs with compromised immune systems.

The most distinctive characteristic of kennel cough is the dry, honking cough that dogs develop. Some people equate it to the sound of a honking goose. Other symptoms of kennel cough include sneezing, a runny nose, lethargy, appetite loss, and a low [fever](#). Since many of these symptoms can also be found in dogs with colds, it is important always to consult your veterinarian.

Are There Other Causes of Cold Symptoms?

Viruses aren't the only things that cause cold symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, or runny eyes and nose. Coughing could also be the result of bacterial or [parasitic](#) infections such as [heartworms](#) and [roundworms](#). Fungal infections and allergies can also cause cold-like symptoms and can lead to damage to lung tissue and possibly pneumonia.

How Are Dog Colds Treated?



If you suspect your dog has a cold, the first thing you should do is call your veterinarian. While a mild cold is probably not a cause for concern, it is very important to rule out any other causes of your dog's symptoms.

Your veterinarian will perform a physical exam of your dog to listen to their heart and lungs and may suggest running a series of diagnostic tests to make sure your dog does not have a more serious condition. Radiographs, fecal analysis, and bloodwork can help isolate the cause of your dog's cold symptoms and lead to the best treatment plan.

Treatment for your dog's cold will depend on the underlying cause. Mild colds typically resolve on their own. But if your dog's cold turns out to be an infection such as kennel cough, for example, your veterinarian will recommend a treatment protocol that could include rest, antibiotics for secondary infections, cough suppressants, and fluids, especially if your dog is a puppy or immuno-compromised.

Can Dogs Get Colds from Humans?

The chances of dogs contracting a cold from humans are extremely low. The viruses that cause cold-like symptoms in humans and dogs rarely jump from one species to the other, so you can rest easy about giving your dog your case of the sniffles.

Likewise, you probably won't catch a cold from your dog. But other dogs in the household or neighborhood could be at risk of contracting whatever virus is causing your dog's cold. So play it safe and keep your dog away from other dogs until they are feeling better.

Can You Prevent Your Dog from Getting a Cold?

Sadly, there is no vaccine for the common dog cold, just like there is no vaccine for human colds, thanks to the sheer number of viruses that can cause cold symptoms.

Some causes of cold-like symptoms, however, do have [vaccines](#). The vaccines for kennel cough, distemper, and canine influenza viruses can help reduce your dog's risk of contracting these diseases. Veterinarians generally recommend that all dogs be



vaccinated for distemper. Talk to your veterinarian about whether or not they recommend any other vaccines to keep your dog healthy.

As a dog owner, you can also keep your eyes and ears open for mentions of outbreaks of canine diseases in your community. During those times, avoid taking your dog to places where other dogs congregate.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/can-dogs-get-colds/>

San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club 2023 Calendar

Annual Meeting and Program	January 28, 2023, 12:00 noon	Pet Food Express, Danville
Spring Specialty	April 14, 2023	Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
Fun Day/Program	May 6, 2023	TBA
Members Only	June 24, 2023	Atherton, CA
HOLD THIS DATE	August 4, 2023	TBD
Meeting/Program	September 30, 2023	TBA
Fall Specialty	October 28, 2023	Dixon, CA
Holiday Party	December 2, 2023	Brass Door Restaurant, San Ramon, CA



getting ready for Spring



I just want to have fun



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER CLUB

2023 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Debbie Sklarin

Vice-President: Lisa Blutman

Secretary/Treasurer: Gail Krieger

*Board of Directors: Nancy Berger, Sherry Byrd, Linda Snook, Marie Thompson,
Roxanna Twedt*

2023 COMMITTEES

Tartan Lisa Blutman

Awards: David Snook

By-Laws: Lisa Blutman, Gail Krieger, Jim Gilcrest

Fundraising: Lisa Blutman, Chair, Debbie Sklarin, Gail Krieger, Helaine Campbell,

Holiday Luncheon: Marie Thompson

Education and Program: Gail Krieger

Job Descriptions: Gail Krieger

Membership: Cindy Kangas

Obedience, Rally, and Performance:

Standing Match and Show: Gail Krieger, Chair, Lisa Blutman, Sherry Byrd, Roxanna Twedt

Sunshine: Helaine Campbell

Trailer and Inventory: Gail Krieger and Lisa Blutman

Webmaster: Linda Gilcrest

Web Information Coordinator: Helaine Campbell

WHWTC of America Liaison: Lisa Blutman

WHWT Foundation: Roxanna Twedt

Westie Rescue and Placement of Northern California (WRAP) Liaison: David and Linda Snook

Please consider volunteering your time by serving on one of the Club's committees. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people and to help shape the future of our organization. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Blutman. We need assistance with Programs, Assistant Web Master, Special Events.

Visit us online at <http://www.sfbaywestieclub.com> for the latest news and updates!



The HIGHLAND TARTAN is published at least four times per year in March, June, September and December. We encourage any Club Member or Subscriber to submit articles or information which they feel would be of interest to the Club. Please send material of interest to the Editor by the first day of the month of publication. All materials are published at the discretion of the Editor. Opinions are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club. Send materials for publication to Lisa.blutman@aol.com.

When submitting information for an ad, please have it camera ready. Indicate the size (full or half page) and mark the areas to be used for written copy. Copy should be typed to size on white paper. Your photos and copy will be returned, if requested.

Subscription cost for non-members is \$15.00 per year. Advertisement costs for a Full Page: \$20.00; Half Page: \$10.00; Business Card size: \$15.00; for 4 issues. Advertisements are any show wins other than specialty photos in the specialty edition or professional advertisements of interest to the membership.

Whelping Box: List litter announcements in the Tartan: Number of dog and bitch puppies, sire, dam, whelp date and breeders. \$5/issue, members only. **This is not an advertisement for the sale of puppies.**

There is no charge for Rainbow Bridge notices

Please make **check Payable to SFBWHWTC**. Payment must accompany advertisement. Send subscription requests to SFBWHWTC, and mail to: *Lisa Blutman 710 Wiegand Way, Dixon, CA 95620*



Whelping Box and Rainbow Bridge

Should you have any news about litters you would like to share, or stories about your westies that have passed over the Rainbow Bridge, please send them to Lisa. Litter announcements are \$5.00 payable to the SFBWHWTC and Rainbow Bridge stories with a photo are free of charge.

