

Volume 54, Number 3 August 2025

A person with a dog on her shoulder

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Presidents Message:**

Hi everyone:

Here is your August/September Tartan. Included are more activities for you and your dog. When I got my first westie, all I wanted was a pet. I got it and more. I learned about westies from my vet, and from reading. I found out about the Westie Club and eventually became a member. In the 1980’s we held fun matches. They ran similarly to dog shows, but there were no AKC points. At this time, there were two approved AKC titles, the Championship title and the CD or Companion Dog title in Obedience. There are now about 200 individual titles one can earn with their dog!

We had a Board and General meeting in August via Zoom and discussed the results of the survey. Basically, it showed members were interested in Fundays, Barn Hunt, Westie Health Seminars held via Zoom, the Holiday Party in December and other get togethers. After discussion was held, we encourage all members to get together with their friends for Westie Walks-informal gatherings. We will look at the various Scottish Games to see if Westies are welcome to have a booth to let everyone see what wonderful dogs we have and of course, we will look at holding fun events with other terrier clubs, something else that came up. In the meantime, we do have our annual holiday lunch scheduled at the Outback in Dublin. No host cocktails will begin at 11:30 with lunch at noon. More information will be sent out later, so mark your calendars now. The Cairn club will be joining us and are having a fun day (see last page of the Tartan) that we are invited to attend)

If you know anyone with another terrier breed and are members of their local club, have them contact me so I can get together with their Board to see if they want to participate in our activities.

See you in December!

**Scent/Nosework**

Fascinating fact:  
Dogs have a sense of smell that's between 10,000 and 100,000 times more acute than ours! The sport of Scent Work celebrates the joy of sniffing, and asks a dog to sniff to their heart's content; turning your dog's favorite activity into a rewarding game. It is a terrific sport for all kinds of dogs, and is a wonderful way to build confidence in a shy dog.

In so many dog sports the handler is in control but this isn't true in Scent Work. Neither the dog nor handler knows where the target odor is hidden. The handler has to rely on the dog, and follow the dog's nose to success. In Scent Work, it is the canine who is the star of the show.

A person standing next to a small white dog

AI-generated content may be incorrect.The sport of Scent Work is based on the work of professional detection dogs (such as drug dogs), employed by humans to detect a wide variety of scents and substances. In [AKC Scent Work](https://www.akc.org/sports/akc-scent-work/), dogs search for cotton swabs saturated with the essential oils of Birch, Anise, Clove, and Cypress. The cotton swabs are hidden out of sight in a pre-determined search area, and the dog has to find them. Teamwork is necessary: when the dog finds the scent, he has to communicate the find to the handler, who calls it out to the judge.

All dogs (purebred and mixed breeds) can participate. Your dog must be 6 months of age or older and must have an AKC number via one of the following:

* [AKC Registration](https://www.akc.org/) Number – This number is provided to a dog owner via a registration certificate received from the previous owner, or via a puppy registration paper given to the new owner by the breeder.
* [Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL)](https://www.akc.org/register/information/purebred-alternative-listing-pal/) – If a dog is purebred but an AKC Registration Number is not possible, owners can apply for PAL number
* [AKC Canine Partners](https://www.akc.org/register/information/canine-partners/) Number – This number is given to either mixed breed dogs or a purebred.
* [Foundation Stock Service®(FSS](https://www.akc.org/products-services/breeder-programs/foundation-stock-service-program/program-home/)) Number – This number is used for breeds whose status is currently in the foundational stage of being recorded into our registry and requires a copy of the dog's pedigree.

Get Started

* First, make sure you understand [**How a Scent Work trial**](https://www.akc.org/events/scent-work/getting-started/) ("competition") works.
* There are two divisions:
* The Odor Search Division where your dog searches for the odor of one or more specific essential oils
* The Handler Discrimination Division where your dog searches for the scent of his handler. Each division has four levels of difficulty (Novice, Advanced, Excellent, and Master).
* Teams are judged on a qualify/non-qualify basis. Your dog must use his nose to search out the hidden odors, and then alert you when the odors are detected. Dogs may paw, bark, point with their nose or body, sit, lie down, or use any other behavior to communicate the location of the odor.

#### NACSW Nose Work

Nose Work is a sport modelled on the scent detection skills used by police and military detection dogs but without the danger these valuable dogs face in real life. It requires the dog to detect the exact location of the source of a particular known scent in four different scenarios: Container, A dog on a leash next to a car

AI-generated content may be incorrect.interior rooms, exterior and vehicle. The dog must pass all four scenarios in a day to earn a title which makes it a challenging test requiring consistent excellence. It is really a fun activity that Westies enjoy and which does not require as much physical activity by the handler as tracking.

The tests were created in 2010 and are administered by the [National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)](https://www.nacsw.net/). By September 2015, fourteen Westies earned their NW1 title, four earned their NW2 and one earned their NW3.

AKC has not recognized NACSW titles although they may do so sometime in the future. But the tests all have the same essential attributes as AKC tests and their titles are worthy of the same respect for the accomplishment they represent. The Club recognizes the titles within the Scenting category of their [Versatile Dog Award program](https://westieclubamerica.com/club-awards-Versatile-Dog-Award.html).

Obedience

Obedience has been the primary performance activiging for dogs for over 50 years. It demonstrated the dog’s ability to work with and for the handler. This is recognized b the American Kennel Club and the United Kennel Club and offeres different title, CD, For Companion Dog, DCX for Companion Dog Dog Excellent and UD for a Utlity Dog. Westies have earned over 900 CD’s, 211 CDX’s, and 48 UD’s.



Rally

Rally is newer to Obedience and is a team sport where the dog and handler work together. Handlers can speak to the dog and encourage the dog doing rally exercises. There are also many Rally titles available.

  

Therapy Dog

Have you thought about bringing your westie to a convelescet home or to a school for children with special need to read to? The facilities usually want the dogs to be certified as a Therapy Dog.

Therapy Dog is an AKC program which recognized the necessary therapy work performed by the dogs through accpeted organizations. This involves volunteers ho schedul visitis to various facility and locations such as nursing homes, classrooms, libraries, assisted living centers, hospices, funeral hoes, shclters, and event courtrooms. In threrapy dog programs, dogs can provide a valuable sence of reassurance and calmness to people experiencing stressful, lonely, or depressing situations in their life.



Trick Dog

Does your dog like to show off tricks? Do they like to dance? There are five AKC titles you and your dog can earn.

AKC Novice Trick Dog (10 skills) [Novice Link](https://images.akc.org/pdf/trick_dog_novice.pdf)

AKC Intermediate Trick Dog (Novice title plus 10 intermediate tricks) [Link](https://images.akc.org/pdf/trick_dog_Intermediate.pdf)

AKC Advanced Trick Dog (Intermediate plus 10 tricks from the advanced list) [Link](https://images.akc.org/pdf/trick_dog_Intermediate.pdf)

AKC Trick Dog Perfomer (handlers perform a short routine with at least 10 tricks using props) [Performer Link](https://images.akc.org/pdf/trick_dog_Performer.pdf)

AKC Trick Dog Elete (Highest level perfoming a routine with a story) [Elete Link](https://images.akc.org/pdf/Elite_Performer.pdf)

Canine Good Citizen

The Canine Good Citizen can add a title after the Dog’s name on your dog’s registration. This rewards dogs who display good manners at home and in public. Some of these skills involve sitting politely for petting, walking on a loose leash, walking through a crowd, coming when called and reaction to an approach dog. It is open to all dogs, including Mixed breeds and can be earned at any age.

After your dog earns the CGC tile they can earn the AKC E=Community Canine, and the AKC Urban title. The CGC title can begin with the Trick Dog and Therapy Dog Programs.

[Link to AKC Canine Good Citizen](https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/)

As you can see from this and the previous issue, Westies can do it all and they do not have to earn Championship titles. Rescues and those dogs with limited registrations can participate in most of the performance events.

 

A dog sitting on a skateboard

AI-generated content may be incorrect. A dog with a toy in its mouth

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

San Francisco Bay West Highland White Terrier Club 2025 Calendar

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Annual Meeting | January 25, 2025  General Meeting 11:00 am | Via Zoom |
| General Meeting | March 1, 2025, 11:30 am potluck lunch, 12:00 pm Program | Lafayette Community Center, Cedar Room |
| Annual Specialty | April 11, 2025 | Lodi Grape Festival Grounds, Lodi, CA |
| Member only Fun Day | June 21, 2025  Potluck. Club provides water and Dessert | Home of Rick and Debbie Sklarin  Canceled |
| Zoom Meeting | August 16, 2025 | 10:30 am via zoom |
| Holiday Lunch | December 6, 2025 | Outback Restaurant, Dublin, CA |

**Hot Weather**

Just as Children and Elderly have issues in hot weather, so do dogs. On hot days, do not walk your dogs on cement except for early morning. Do not leave them in hot cars, even if you just run into the store for one item. With Windows slightly open, dogs and people perish as heat builds up. I thought the 100-degree weather was ending, and Labor Day weekend is telling another story. Take care of yourself and dogs.

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY**

**WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER CLUB**

**2024 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*President: Lisa Blutman Vice-President: Debbie Sklarin*

*Secretary/Treasurer: Gail Krieger*

*Board of Directors: Sherry Byrd, Jim Gilcrest, and Helaine Campbell*

**2023 COMMITTEES**

*Tartan Lisa Blutman, assisted by Gail Krieger, Rick Sklarin, Sherry Byrd*

*Awards: Debbie and Rick Sklarin*

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

*Specialty chair: Lisa Blutman*

*Member Engagement:*

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

*Holiday Luncheon: Marie Thompson*

*Education and Program: Gail Krieger*

*Job Descriptions: Gail Krieger*

*Historian: Helaine Campbell*

*Membership: Cindy Kangas*

*Obedience, Rally, and Performance:*

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

*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:*

*Westie Rescue and Placement of Northern California (WRAP) Liaison:*

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

Visit us online at [http://www.sfbaywestieclub.com](http://www.sfbaywestieclub.com/) for the latest news and updates

 Rainbow Bridge

Please let us know if any of you have lost your loved pets

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.

Advertisement costs for a Full Page: $20.00; Half Page: $10.00; Business Card size: $15.00; for 4 issues. Advertisements are any 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.*

Holiday Party

December 6, 2025

Outback Restaurant, Dublin California

6305 Regional Street

11:30 am no-host cocktails

12:00 lunch

Menu and prices will be sent at a later date. We will have a section of the restaurant, but not a special room unless the weather is great and we can use their outdoor seating.

Save the date.

Northern California

Cairn Terrier Club

Invites all Westies to their Funday

Sunday, September 14, 2025

11:am-2:pm

Napa Valley Dog Training club Facility

68 Coombs Street, #7,. Napa, CA (www.nvdtc.org.)

Potluck, Fun and Games

A-L main dish or sides

M-Z desserts

Costume Contest, hot dog toss and other games with prizes.

NCTC will have a membership meeting then the fun and games will begin.

Please have belly bands on males who mark

Questions: Pam Nicolai pamelafaye@earthlink.net