

NAPADY

HALO'S

Susan Napady

1. Why Westies? Before Westies there was a Saint Bernard, Peanuts. He died at an early age from bloat and our family was now without a dog. My mother said no more dogs. Well it didn't take too long before my sister saw a picture of a Westie on a calendar and our search for one began.
2. From whom did you obtain your first Westie? My first Westie was acquired from Dr. Ralph Logan.
3. Was this Westie purchased as a pet or show dog? Our first Westie, Thistle, was a male bought as a pet however after talking with people in the dog community it was determined that he had excellent qualities and should be shown. He went on to complete his championship and win groups.
4. Who was your most important mentor and why? My parents, Tom and Stella Napady who were mentored by Bergit (Zakschewski) Kabel.
5. What do you remember most about this mentor? Bergit was always willing to share her knowledge which she had acquired through Mrs. Elizabeth Meyer of Reanda Kennels in England.
6. Who were some of the other mentors that influenced you? How did they do so?

No reply

7. To date, what has been your most important/memorable moment in Westies? There have been many, but what has meant the most to me is the lasting friendships that have been made throughout the last forty years not only in Westies but in the sport of dogs itself.
8. What is your favorite dog show? Montgomery County
9. If you groom your own dogs, who taught you to do so? Bergit Kabel was instrumental in teaching my parents the proper grooming of a Westie.
10. If you are or were a breeder, who taught you to evaluate litters and young stock? Again, it was Bergit Kabel; sounds like I owe her a lot. I do.
11. When you look back, which of your Westies would you consider your favorite *or most influential*? My favorite was our first Westie, Ch. Kenbrook's Wee Thistle. Why? Without his great personality and willingness to do whatever was asked of him our family would not have become involved with this wonderful breed and our sport. Which Westie not owned by you did you consider a favorite or most influential?

12. Also looking back, which sire, in your opinion, had a strong influence on the breed? There are a number of sires which have had a significant impact on the breed, two of which were Ch. Purston Pinmoney Pedlar and Ch. Ardenrun Andsome of Purston.
13. What was your most memorable Montgomery County moment? Roving moment? There have been a number of them; judging sweeps, the year or is it years when there were torrential rains that challenged all, however the number of great sunny fall days that are spectacular for the dogs, exhibitors and spectators outweigh the rainy days.
14. If you attended the Centennial in 2009, what were your greatest experiences from it? The camaraderie among all Westie exhibitors will always stand out. It was a fun time.
15. What Westie author/artist influenced you the most? That would have to be John Marvin.
16. Do you have a favorite Westie collectible? On a trip to England I saw an oil painting of a Westie, Scottie and Cairn. We have had and shown these three breeds. It was at the Windsor show and I saw the painting first thing in the morning. Well, I had to have it. The price was more than I wanted to spend but by the end of the day it was still there. The artist, Barbara Hands, made a slight adjustment in the price and the painting was mine. There is another part to the story about getting the painting back to the States but I will leave that for another time.
17. Are you or were you active in any regional Westie Clubs? Which one(s)? I am active in the WHWTC of Northern Illinois, having been an Officer and Board Member.
18. What do you think the future holds for the breed? Where would you like to see Westies in 10/20 years?

[There was no reply to this question. ~ Editor]

19. How best can WHWTCA members assure the future well-being of the breed?

[There was no reply to this question. ~ Editor]

20. What advice can you impart to present and future Westie enthusiasts? I think it is important that people involved not only with Westies but in the sport of dogs keep everything in perspective. It is not always about winning; there is much more to it than that.