

## DIEMER

## PANDWYCK

### Dawn Diemer

1. Why Westies?

I fell in love with this bouncy, energetic, independent and slightly naughty dog. My exact words were, "I don't know what breed this is, but I must have one. I had a German Shepherd Dog at the same time that was being shown in obedience. My Shepherd became best fiends with the Westie in charge.

2. From whom did you obtain your first Westie?

My first Westie was acquired from Sylvia Kearsy.

3. Was this Westie purchased as a pet or show dog?

She came into our house as a member of the family.

4. Who was your most important mentor and why?

That was definitely Sylvia Kearsy, who encouraged and always made time for me.

5. What do you remember most about this mentor?

She was willing to share her knowledge with me.

6. Who were some of the other mentors that influenced you? How did they do so?

Mary Bucklew recognized the quality in my first bitch and encouraged me to show and breed her.

7. To date, what has been your most important/ memorable moment in Westies?

It was the arrival of a puppy born in April 2009 from 21-year-old frozen semen. My vets' staff was as excited as I was. We felt he truly belonged to all of us.

He attained his championship from the puppy classes and won some Specialties. He's "Back to the Future of Pandwyck".

8. What is your favorite dog show? Why?

I really enjoy the Steel Valley cluster in Canfield, Ohio—a four-show weekend that includes the Western Pennsylvania and Northern Ohio specialties.

9. Who taught you to groom?

I am happy to give credit to several experts for that:

Dora Lee Wilson----who taught pattern grooming.

Betty Ostrowski-----showed me finishing touches.

Bonnie and Hal Umbarger----had developed grooming to enhance the bone structure and musculature of the dog

10. Who taught you to evaluate litters and young stock?

I attended seminars by Carmine L. Battaglia, Ph. D. and purchased his books and videos.

He uses the stick figure method, which

I have found to be very helpful.

11. When you look back, which of your Westies would you consider your favorite or most influential? Why?

American/Canadian Ch. Peppermint Patti of Pandwyck ---who was very correct and whose puppies were outstanding. The puppy mentioned in #7 is a grandson of Peppermint Patti.

12. Also looking back, which sire, in your opinion, had a strong influence on the breed?

Ch. Mac-Ken-Char's Irish Navigator. He has proven his worth through his progeny.

13. What was your most memorable Montgomery County moment? Roving moment?

What has always stayed with me about Montgomery County was winning the Bred by Exhibitor classes

14. If you attended the Centennial in 2009, what were your greatest experiences from it?

The joy for me was being part of the committee and seeing it all happen as we envisioned it.

15. What Westie author/artist influenced you the most?

Barbara Hands--- her painted Westies are real.

16 Do you have a favorite Westie collectible(s)?

I have Tom Drexler pieces which are priceless to me. In addition, Tom was a friend.

17. Are you or were you active in any regional Westie Clubs?

I have been active in:

William Penn WHWTC

WHWTC of Northern Ohio

Western Pennsylvania WHWTC

I have been very active in the West Highland White Terrier Club of America. I was co-chair and responsible for creating and setting up the independent National Sweepstakes. I was chairperson of that event for several years.

I worked my way through the chairs of the Board of Directors of the West Highland White Terrier Club of America concluding with serving two years as president. During my presidency, the highlight for me was setting the beginning stages for the Westie Foundation of America. I continued on by becoming a founder and serving on the W. F. A. board for eight years

My last project for the WHWTCA was the 2010 Centennial Celebration week. This event was the result of three years of planning, meetings and work. This event culminated in an experience for the entire membership of the national club that will be treasured for a lifetime.

As I write this biography, my thoughts return to the breed. I would be remiss in not mentioning my latest accomplishment. I have successfully used 22-year old frozen semen which was collected in 1989 from American/ Canadian Ch. Pegasus of Pandwyck. The result is a puppy boy born June 27, 2011. His pedigree takes us back in time to the 1960's and to some of the great Westies of our time.

18. What do you think the future holds for the breed? Where would you like to see it in 10/20 years?

Good things will happen if we continue caring about health through the Westie Foundation of America. I would hope we will have solved some genetic problems by that time.

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

We must be true to the Standard and help each other to insure keeping the breed intact.

20. What advice can you impart to present and future Westie enthusiasts?  
Attention not only to the dogs, but to the Westie enthusiast must be maintained.  
Knowledge shared is a must.