

WEISS, HELENE GLENGIDGE

Helene Weiss

1. Why Westies?
Not answered
2. From whom did you obtain your first Westie?
I purchased my first Westie from a pet shop in Manhattan.
3. Was this Westie purchased as a pet or show dog?
Idget was purchased strictly as a pet and she was good at it.
4. Who was your most important mentor and why?
Starting out in Westies I really never had a mentor.
5. What do you remember most about this mentor?
Not answered
6. Who were some of the other mentors that influenced you? How did they do so?
Later, I met Bill Ferrara and John Price and I learned some valuable lessons from them and from Sylvia Kearsey. Joanne Glodek had a major influence on our Glengidge breeding program.
7. To date, what has been your most important/ memorable moment in Westies?
That would have be retiring the Wishing Well Trophy for Best in Sweepstakes at Montgomery County weekend. Also, the owner handled Group firsts our dogs have won.
8. What is your favorite dog show? Why?
Montgomery County takes that honor. Why? There are too many reasons.
9. If you groom your own dogs, who taught you to do so?
I know the look I like, but leave the grooming to "You Know Who."
10. Who taught you to evaluate litters and young stock?
My husband taught me to do this, although we seldom agree.
11. When you look back, which of your Westies would you consider your favorite or most influential? Why?
The favorites among our own dogs include Ch. Glengidge Precocious (Klutzy, our first champion), Ch. G. Easy Virtue (Violet), Ch. G. Tabitha Twitchett (Twitch), Ch. G. Golden Charm (Sari), Ch. G. Blast From the Past (Mac) and Ch. G. Watch Out World (Ricky). All were influential and memorable in their own ways either as show dogs, producers and precious companions.
12. Also looking back, which sire, in your opinion, had a strong influence on the breed?
Obviously, Ch. Mac-Ken-Char's Irish Navigator stands out. Others include Eng. Ch. Pillerton Peterman, Ch. Ardenrun Andsome of Purston and Ch. Kenwood's Measure for Measure. And there were more.
13. What was your most memorable Montgomery County moment? Roving moment?
This would have to include retiring the Wishing Well Trophy and winning BOS at the Roving in the early 1990s..
14. If you attended the Centennial in 2009, what were your greatest experiences from it?
None that stand out.
15. What Westie author/artist influenced you the most?
John T. Marvin influenced my thinking more than anyone else.
16. Do you have a favorite Westie collectible(s)?
I have been collecting "Westiana" since becoming interested in the breed and today the Glengidge collection is too large by half. Still, I enjoyed acquiring them and enjoy having them to admire.
17. Are you or were you active in any regional Westie Clubs?
I was a founding member and Secretary of the WHWTC of Northern New Jersey and have recently rejoined. I was a member and past president of the WHWTC of Greater New York.

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

I honestly couldn't hazard a guess.

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

We should all breed to the Standard and not try to change it to more closely suit our own dogs.

20. What advice can you impart to present and future Westie enthusiasts?

Always stay true to what the breed was meant to do. Keep to that and the breed will have a bright future.