

# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser

by Judy Huston & Sharyl Sadowski

The 7th Annual WSGP Fundraiser held at Currey's Family Pet Care for the 5th year in a row raised \$2,894 for our breed. Add in the \$370 contributed to the WSGP by Robin Davey and we have \$3,239.00

Everyone who had a part in the success of the 7th Annual WSGP Fundraiser - that's everyone who attended and exhibited and some who didn't attend but who donated. And especially thank you for their work in coordinating the show and making it happen: Melanie Fuellgraf, Lynda Proulx, Diana Updike, Sheryl Sadowski, and the kids.

Special thanks to Pat Curry for "donating" his site five years in a row.

It looks like we can count on the same crew to put on the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser in 2013. The dates are already established as August 24 and 25, 2013.

Thank you from my heart, and I know from the hearts of all of our beauties - the ones we have now and the ones who have gone before us.

If you didn't make it to the White Shepherd Genetics Project Dog Shows, Raffle, and Auction, you really missed a good time. Thank you to all the wonderful people who donated items for the Raffle and Auction. Many of the members of United White Shepherd Club and the American White Shepherd Association donated items. Also, a big thanks to Melanie for all her hard work getting items donated from businesses.

The Raffle was a huge success both days thanks to the work of our Junior Handlers who hawked the tickets. Brandon Sadowski helped Melanie and I set-up the raffle, Kayla and Aidan Lee and Brandon worked very hard to maximize the sales of tickets and call the winning ticket numbers on Saturday. Brandon and Kayla were back for more action on Sunday, selling tickets, choosing the winning tickets and called the winning numbers. Then even stayed around to help us clean up! What an awesome group of young handlers we have in our clubs!

The Auction was held on Saturday and had many unique White Shepherd items, including a one-of-a-kind White Shepherd pulling a cart statue, 2 Quilted WSGP Banners with photo pockets, a Crystal Beer Stein, a Crystal Statue, and Keychain all of which were etched with a white shepherd, a glass white shepherd statue, to name a few.





**Kayla**



**Brandon**



**Aiden**

## FUNDRAISERS

2004	Sam Malatesta	Dog Training Howell, MI.	\$250.00
2005	Cesar Millan	Dog Whisperer Davisburg, MI.	\$7,000.00
2006	Cesar Millan	Dog Whisperer Waterford, MI.	\$20,000.00
2006	1 <sup>st</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Fowlerville, MI.	\$600.00
2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Livonia, MI	\$2,010.00
2008	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Romulus, MI.	\$3,300.00
2009	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Romulus, MI.	\$3,500.00
2010	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Romulus, MI.	\$5,000.00
2011	6 <sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Romulus, MI.	\$7,000.00
2012	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual WSGP Fundraiser	Romulus, MI.	\$3,239.00
2010	Robin Davey and Team	- Calendar project	\$1,000.00
2011	Robin Davey and Team	- Shirt project	\$2,100.00
2011	Missy Lee	- Benefit Wines	\$200.00
2011-2012	VGs	- Judy in Howell, MI.	

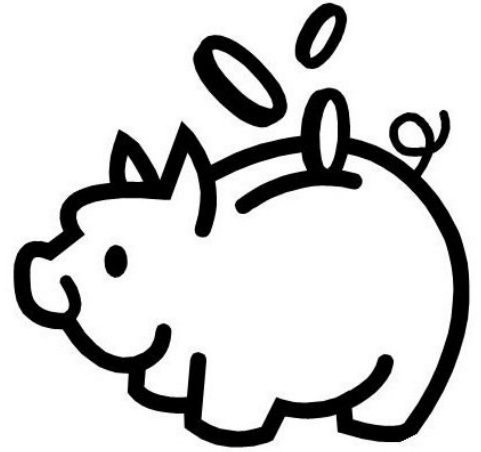
# When Little Things Mean A Lot

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*Submitted by Judi Wellins*

These days, there are times when I get very nostalgic. I think it's a natural part of getting older. My Grandmother didn't seem to notice her aging or seem bothered by it. At least she never let us know. Now, when my own grandchildren refer to my trusted, thirty year old dictionary as an antique, I hope I'm as stoic as my Grandmother was in not letting them know how old their comment makes me feel.

When I turned 40, I began wearing eyeglasses. Now, whenever I try to do something that demands close visual attention, I notice there's always doggie nose "stuff" on my glasses. Of course, it's from my dog, Caleb's close investigation of my eyeglasses, which he likes to do daily. One day, Caleb's fussing with my glasses gave rise to my thinking back on "the old days" - which I find I do more often as I age but, I've already made that point and it has nothing to do with the value of small donations.



Lest I go too far adrift, I'll try to stick with one "old days story" before I start on another one. When I was a kid, my mother taught me to begin saving money - even the smallest amount - from my \$1.50 weekly allowance. She told me to "put some of it away for a rainy day". If we think of our beloved White Shepherd Dogs as going through a series of rainy days in terms of the research that needs to be done, the necropsies that must be performed, or the illnesses that await a cure, now is the time to make a donation to the WSGP to help our dogs through their rainy days. As far as donations go, I often wonder if most people feel they need to be made in large sums of money, so they don't donate the few dollars they have to spare. Times are very difficult for everyone now, but donations do not need to be made in large sums of money to count and to help our dogs.

Back to my Mom who helped me learn to save by teaching me about something banks had, in those old days, called "Christmas Clubs". All you needed to do was put a small amount of money in the bank. I saved a dollar a week, and then deposited \$4 dollars a month in my Christmas Club. At the end of the year I had a whopping \$48! I could do whatever I wanted with it because, as Mom pointed out, it was mine. I learned, way back then, that small amounts of money added up to larger sums, and the process of saving those small amounts of money was painless and easy. If each of us donated a small amount (of course you know what I'm going to say now) it would add up to large sums of money. Think of what we could do with those large sums of money for our dogs on their "rainy days".

I'm the eternal optimist who believes that, one day, we will cure the diseases that plague our breed, find necropsies no longer necessary, and see all our dogs added to Jen's group of Longevity Award Winners.

There are two easy ways to set up regular donations of small amounts of money. One is with a credit card, the other with a personal cheque or money order. If you would like to make a small, monthly donation and utilize your credit card, simply go to the WSGP web site's first page. On it, in the lower right hand corner, you will see our familiar, lovely logo - a White Shepherd with a big, red heart - under which is the word "Donate". Click on that word and you can sign up for whatever amount you would like to donate, on a monthly basis, to the Project. You can make this amount as small as you wish! Your payment will be made through Pay Pal with the use of a credit card - which is convenient and, again let me say, easy. Also, Pay Pal will NOT sell or give your information to any other organizations and you will NOT be deluged with advertisements and/or unsolicited offers from other companies. I promise! Plus, you will get two records of your donation: one from Pay Pal with your payment amount and the date of that payment on it and the other, on your credit card statement,



giving you the same information. Again, Pay Pal is an easy, convenient, reliable way to make your monthly donation without any hassle. I signed up with Pay Pal and am not the least bit embarrassed to say I donate only a very small amount. I do know that at the end of the year it won't add up to a large amount of money, but it will add up to **something** - all of which will go to the WSGP and that will make me feel very good.

Do I wish I could donate more? You bet. But, it's something and in my own, small way, I'm giving back. Our pets give us buckets full of happiness, joy, and love - day in and day out. We owe it to them to return some of that joy in the form of pain free, disease free days, longer lives, and less need for necropsies because we've found some of the answers and know much more about the diseases that presently plague them.

If you don't have a credit card or prefer not to donate, monthly, using your credit card - there is another easy, pain free way to contribute. Keeping your dog in mind and heart, perhaps the next time you come home from the grocery store, or from buying the kids clothes, or yourself a new pair of shoes and find you have some change left over - perhaps you can put it in a jar, an envelope, or one of your dresser drawers. Like my Christmas Club, all those years ago, at the end of the month, the money adds up. When you are ready, simply take the money to the bank, deposit it in your chequing account (or buy a money order) and make either your personal check or money order payable to: The White Shepherd Genetics Project, Inc. Put a stamp on the envelope and address it to: WSGP, Inc., P.O. Box 404, Howell, MI 48844-2068. Then drop the envelope in a mailbox! Simple, painless and easy.

Guaranteed, your contribution will make you feel even more delighted the next time you pet your dog, give him or her (or them) kisses, or reward them for coming when called, sitting on cue. Your dog will give you their paw in gratitude for what you did for them and all the other White Shepherd dogs that will benefit from your donation, regardless of the amount.

It's **WRONG** to end an essay the way I'm about to end this one. All the textbooks I had to read in school and professors who taught me to write said to always end your essay by repeating what you said in your opening paragraph. I'm not going to do that: I'm not going to talk about getting older, my Grandmother or Christmas Clubs. I am going to talk about how much each of us loves our dog(s). When they hurt, we hurt. When they have an issue or are sick, we know where we can turn - to the WSGP list to discuss the issue with the assurance we will get helpful suggestions, answers to our questions and soothing for our hearts if one of our beloved dogs has just crossed over.

All of this is **free**: WSGP does not collect an annual membership fee. There is no charge for the value you get from the camaraderie you share with other people who post to our list. These are people who share and understand what you are experiencing whether it be joy or sorrow.

But the deep friendship you share with your dog comes with the responsibility of taking the best care of him or her that you can. Our breed is unique in its beauty, intelligence and loyalty. Our breed is also unique in the problems they face and we need to help them through research, necropsies and learning more about what ails them. All of this costs money and that's why contributing whatever you can counts for a lot. So, please, count your change, donate a small amount monthly - just contribute in any way you can. We need donations to do the work that must be done to help our "beautiful breed" through their rainy days. Donate just a few dollars and the next time you cue your dog and he/she comes quicker than they did before, you'll pet him with praise and you'll see that he knows what you did for him by donating whatever you can. Your dog will know from the look in your eyes and return your love tenfold. Guaranteed.

p.s. Everybody who donates will, unless we hear that you do not want your name published, see their names listed - **WITHOUT THE AMOUNT DONATED** - on a list that Judy will write up at the end of every month. It's our way of saying "thank you" which doesn't come close to the "thank you" you'll get from your dog!

# ROBIN DAVEY

## FUNDRAISER EXTRAORDINAIRE

When we think of Robin Davey we think of a tireless fund raiser - which she is. Still, there are many more aspects to Robin's life. They all revolve around dogs and helping to make their lives better. Robin raises an amazing amount of money for our annual fund raiser.

Dogs are in her life and everything she does. As a professional groomer – caring for dogs is her profession. She is also an accomplished photographer whose videos and still shots of her two White Shepherds, Prince and Lulu Royale, need to be seen to be appreciated. She dresses the both of them up for holidays, special occasions, change of seasons, anything and everything - White Shepherds fill Robin's life and we, as a part of the WSGP - are all the more fortunate for her efforts and her love of the breed we all love.

Whether Robin is raising money through selling embroidered t-shirts or hand-made items, she brings her love of dogs to the task. The result is that much more money to WSGP for the work we have yet to accomplish. Work that includes such things as: research into cures for the illnesses that plague our dogs, necropsies, and a web site undergoing constant revision which, as Judy says, costs money as all real estate does. We all can thank Robin Davey for helping to cut our costs through her tireless work on behalf of the WSGP.

