



CLAN MACCALLUM - MALCOLM SOCIETY

OF NORTH AMERICA, INC. - A 501(C)(3) NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION

Colonel Edward Malcolm (1837-1930) 16th Laird of Poltalloch

Breed Master of the West Highland White Terrier (“The Westie”) &
Past Chief of Clan MacCallum/Malcolm

The beginning of the modern West Highland White Terrier breed is attributed to Colonel Malcolm of Poltalloch, Scotland in Argyllshire in the late 1800’s.

The story has it that Colonel Edward Malcolm was hunting with his pack of cairn terriers when he thought he saw a rabbit running through the underbrush and shot it, only to find that he had shot his favorite Cairn. From that day forward, he determined only to breed white dogs, because they were easy to see. At the same time, the Campbell of Rosneath began to breed white dogs which he called “Rosneath” terriers after the name of his estate. Later, the “Poltalloch” and “Rosneath” terriers were combined into the West Highland White Terrier, a name coined by Colonel Malcolm of Poltalloch Estates.

In the United States today, Westies are the second most numerous of the terrier breeds, the most popular being the miniature schnauzer. Since demand is great and the supply small, good quality Westies are very pricey, if you can find them at all.

The Westie is a wonderful companion, with a happy, outgoing, energetic, courageous, independent personality, and as the standard says: “No small amount of self-esteem.”