

# WOLF



**W.O.L.F. Reflections**  
**Remembering Peta**  
**Jacob & "Little Girl" Come Home**



**Spring 2015**

# Will you be there?



## When:

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
5:00PM to 9:00PM

## Where:

The Hilton  
425 W. Prospect Rd  
Fort Collins, CO

## Tickets:

\$55 per Ticket  
\$250 5 Tickets  
\$500 10 Tickets

Don't forget to buy your tickets early. This is sure to be a fantastic event. For a sneak peak at some of the amazing items featured at the Gala, check out page 4. Tickets can be purchased online, over the phone (970.416.9531) or by mail.

Details at [www.wolfsanctuary.net/gala](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net/gala)

## Choose Your Entrée

### **#1: Tri-color Tortellini (vegetarian)\***

Fresh Tortellini pasta tossed in Madeira Cream Sauce with sun-dried tomatoes and caramelized onions.

### **#2: Teriyaki Tofu (vegan)**

Blackened Tofu rested atop a bed of bean thread noodles with a Sweet Teriyaki Sauce and fresh vegetables.

\*If an entrée is not chosen, guests will receive the Tri-color Tortellini entrée.

**Send your reservation to W.O.L.F.  
PO Box 1544 - Laporte, CO 80535**

Tickets also available online at  
[www.wolfsanctuary.net/gala](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net/gala)

name: _____	
address: _____	
city, st, zip: _____	
phone: _____	
email: _____	
credit card: _____ <small>(Visa or MasterCard only)</small>	
exp date: _____	security code: _____
check #: _____	cash: _____
<small>(please make checks payable to W.O.L.F.)</small>	
<b>Number in Party</b> _____	<b>Number of Meals: #1 _____ #2 _____</b>
x \$55 per Ticket \$ _____	Guest 1 _____
\$250 5 Tickets \$ _____	Guest 2 _____
\$500 10 Tickets \$ _____	Guest 3 _____
Total \$ _____	Guest 4 _____

**Can't Attend? Make a Tax Deductible Donation!**

# In This Issue

Cover Photo: Sasha & Jacob



## Gala Sneak Peak..... 4

This year's auction includes unique art pieces created by renowned artists Rosetta and Monty Taylor, sculptures which were inspired by W.O.L.F.'s residents.



## Welcoming Jacob..... 5

Jacob came to W.O.L.F. from a non-profit, rescue organization in New Jersey called Howling Woods Farm.



## W.O.L.F. Reflections..... 7

For over 16 years I've met and loved over 60 wolves who I have kissed, hugged, fed, protected, and held in my arms as they died.



## The Canis Ceilidh..... 14

We had so much fun at this event that we are planning on hosting it again! So keep your ears open for information about next years Canis Ceilidh.



## Remembering Peta..... 15

Peta (meaning 'fire' in Lakota) arrived at the Sanctuary a 12-week-old terrified bundle of fluff in June 1999 with his siblings Makoce and Tate.



## "Little Girl" Arrives..... 17

As this issue of our Spring Newsletter was going to press, W.O.L.F. rescued a one-year old female wolf/dog we are temporarily calling "Little Girl."



IRS Tax Exempt Status Under Section 501(c)(3)  
Colorado Nonprofit & Tax Exempt Corporation  
United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed  
Colorado Department of Agriculture, Licensed  
Colorado Parks and Recreation, Licensed  
Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, Accredited  
American Sanctuary Association, Accredited  
Community Shares of Colorado, Member

**Mission:** To improve the quality of life for all wolves and wolf dogs.

### Strategic Objectives:

- Rescue** - Save captive-bred wolves and wolf-dogs whose guardians are no longer able to care for them.
- Sanctuary** - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. that takes into account each animal's physical and emotional needs.
- Education** - Provide the public with information about wolves (both wild and captive) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

Reproduction of materials from this publication is permitted provided that the content is not altered and credit is given.

"Reprinted from W.O.L.F.- [www.wolfsanctuary.net](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net)"

# Letter from the Director

Dear Supporters:

Spring has sprung and so has the mud and slush! The wolves are having fun in the wet spring snows and they love getting muddy, and sharing the fun with staff and volunteers. If you are coming to volunteer before the landscape dries with mid-summer breezes, come prepared to look like you were in a mud wrestling contest.

Once we rescued Jacob, who is quite a lively companion for Sasha, we turned our attention to finding a new companion for Pax. His new girl arrived only days before the Newsletter went to print. For now we are calling her "Little Girl" and at this year's Gala, we will auction off naming rights for her. In our naïve optimism, we hope that Pax will fall madly in love with her. If our dreams come true, both Pax and Sasha will live happily ever after with their new companions. Just like the old song: "Love is better the second time around."

As we noted in our last newsletter, we are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of W.O.L.F. In this Issue, Donna Nayduch, a prominent volunteer for over 16 years, writes about her memories of her years at W.O.L.F. She will take you down memory lane with the wolves she has loved and lost over the years. Her article is a heartwarming reflection on the animals and she eloquently describes why they need us and why we need them. Donna's reflections will help our readers understand W.O.L.F.'s devotion to providing a loving, happy, healthy, lifelong home from whence they came. In our Summer Newsletter, we will describe the experiences we have had since 2011 which will complete our 20-year, memorable journey to the present day.

Come help us celebrate at our Annual Fundraiser: A Truly WOLF Affair – Mardi Growl Masquerade on May 30th at the Hilton Fort Collins. This year's auction includes unique art pieces created by renowned artists Rosetta and Monty Taylor, sculptures which were inspired by W.O.L.F.'s special, beloved residents.



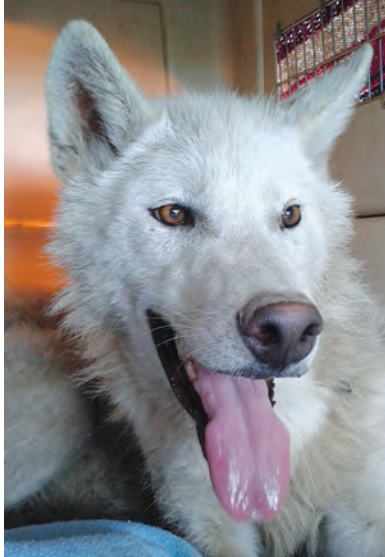
At the Gala we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of our mission to Educate, Rescue and provide Sanctuary for captive-bred wolves and wolf dogs. W.O.L.F. provides lifelong care for up to 30 animals. In addition, W.O.L.F. is connected to a nationwide network of rescue organizations and sanctuaries to help those animals that we cannot directly provide care for at W.O.L.F. We help find placements for these animals at available sanctuaries or in appropriate, loving homes. W.O.L.F. also conducts educational programs, speaking to the plight of these captive-born animals and to the importance of wolves as a keystone species to keep our ecology in balance. Additionally and proudly, W.O.L.F.'s 20th anniversary coincides with the 20th anniversary celebration of the historic release of wolves into the wild in the Western U.S.

As Always, Humbly and Gratefully Yours,

Shelley

# Gala Sneak Peak

Here are some highlights of some of the items to be auctioned at the Gala:



**Naming Rights for “Little Girl”:** The winning bidder will have the right to name W.O.L.F.’s newest resident who we are temporarily calling “Little Girl.” Rescued from Illinois April 30th she is unique to W.O.L.F. for coming to us without ever having had a name. In addition to choosing her forever name, the winner will become “Little Girl’s” guardian angel for the coming year and will receive quarterly updates and pictures.

**Rosetta:** Rosetta created a special small bronze sculpture for W.O.L.F. based on a photo of Thor, one of our resident wolves. His peaceful and contented demeanor reflects the safe and caring environment surrounding the furry residents of W.O.L.F.

Rosetta will be donating casting #1 for the Live Auction. This photo of the clay casting is a hint of the magnificent final bronze piece to come.



**Monty Taylor:** Monty’s sculptures are often inspired by literature, poetry, or animal encounters as is the case of “Call of the Wild”. During his early adult years in Alaska, he encountered several wolves up close. However, on many occasions, Monty listened to their call...the “call of the wild”...sometimes close, sometimes far in the distance. This sculpture is Colorado Alabaster on a Black Granite Base, 11.5 “ tall and will also be offered in the Live Auction.

Other items include a photoshoot at W.O.L.F. with professional photographer Gary Batha, a day at W.O.L.F. with Veterinarian Ron Bright, a scarf woven from the naturally shed fur of our residents including beloved Arkte, an adorable sock wolf in the likeness of Tundra by fabric artist Stacy Hsu, a Black Pottery Seed Pot from renowned artist R. Diane Martinez, a remarkable charcoal sketch of our much loved girl Tala by artist Dawn Johnson, and beautiful paintings from various wildlife artists, a Salida vacation package, and much, much more.



We are once again inviting you to come join us for a night of festivity with: a Photoshoot with a W.O.L.F. Ambassador, Live Entertainment, One-of-a-Kind Items for Auction, Dancing, Fun Games, and much more all while helping W.O.L.F. raise funds to continue our mission to care for these majestic animals.



# Welcoming Jacob



**Jacob running loose  
in New Jersey**

Photo taken from video:  
[vimeo.com/61071880](http://vimeo.com/61071880)

Jacob is the newest addition to the W.O.L.F. family. Jacob came to W.O.L.F. from a non-profit, rescue organization in New Jersey called Howling Woods Farm. They are dedicated to saving abandoned and surrendered wolves and wolf/dogs and finding placements where the animals can have a high quality of life in a forever private home, farm or sanctuary. Howling Woods Farm has a mission that is very similar to W.O.L.F.'s mission. Executive Director Michael Hodanish is dedicated to rescue and public education about the plight of captive bred wolves and wolf/dogs in America. Unlike W.O.L.F., Howling Woods does not provide lifetime sanctuary for most of their animals, instead they are committed to re-homing most of the animals they rescue. By finding good placements, they can continue to serve as an entry point for the animals who so desperately need a safe place to rest and recover until they can be safely evaluated and transferred to appropriate homes and sanctuaries.

Jacob was originally owned by a private individual in New Jersey.

He and his two companions lived in an alleyway between two houses that had been fenced off at both ends. When the three escaped from their enclosure in 2013, they wandered the streets of a small town in New Jersey for hours. Their adventure could easily have turned into a disaster if law enforcement and citizens had not acted responsibly to round up the trio. Jacob was the last animal to be recaptured and the video of his time on the streets is frightening and sad. He wandered for several miles down busy streets and through traffic. He caused a stir with local residents when he approached school areas where children were just ending the school day. Luckily Jacob was never aggressive or threatening and was eventually captured, snared on the ground and returned to his owner. You can see the harrowing event at: <http://newjersey.news12.com/news/3-hybrid-wolves-caught-in-rahway-area-1.4749666>



**Jacob caught by Linden PD**



**Jacob at Howling Woods**

Many months later, one of the three animals passed away. Jacob and his companion Rani howled in sorrow and the neighbors in the small town complained about the noise. Howling Woods Farm quickly stepped in and rescued Jacob and Rani and brought them to the safety and tranquility of the Farm in 2014. Jacob instantly became a favorite of volunteers and visitors alike. His sweet nature and beautiful good looks endeared him to everyone who met him.

At the same time that Jacob and Rani were being rescued by Howling Woods, W.O.L.F. was dealing with the break-up of Sasha and Pax who had irreconcilable differences. Sasha is particular about her companions and W.O.L.F. wanted to find an animal who would have the greatest chance for success with her. Jacob's personality seemed to fit the bill.

Jacob made a cross-country journey by car from New Jersey to Colorado in three days. His care givers from Howling Woods met W.O.L.F. staff at a pre-determined transfer spot near Chicago. Jacob was easily

transferred to the W.O.L.F. vehicle and Donna, one of his New Jersey caregivers stayed with him for the remainder of the journey to Colorado. Jacob was an excellent traveling companion and his transfer was stress free because he had his good friend Donna with him for the entire trip.

Once Jacob arrived at W.O.L.F., Donna helped to get him settled into an enclosure prior to introducing him to Sasha. He seemed to adapt to the Sanctuary without any hesitation. Jacob and Sasha met for the first time under the watchful eyes of W.O.L.F. staff. Sasha was standoffish and Jacob was calm and reserved. The two had several small skirmishes but these eventually subsided. Sasha was used to the inappropriate antics of Pax and she was anticipating the same behaviors from Jacob. However, Jacob's manners were impeccable and he was able to show the proper amount of respect Sasha seems to crave. With a few minor exceptions, Jacob was the perfect companion.



Jacob enjoying the car ride



Sasha's biggest issue with Jacob is over meat. Sasha prefers to eat in a leisurely fashion, savoring her meal and burying some for later. Jacob on the other hand is an "all-you-can-eat" kind of a fellow. The two are separated for meals but as soon as Jacob is allowed back into Sasha's area, he unearths her food cache. Sasha is not pleased but she is slowly learning that if she wants to eat she has to do it before he is let back in. Still Sasha has to wait until the last minute.

Sasha also enjoys the undivided attention of her humans so she can have a belly rub every day. She was concerned when Jacob followed close on her heels for these encounters. During these times, her former ill-mannered companion Pax would pounce on her exposed belly. Sasha still grumbles at Jacob, but now she understands that he will not pounce on her. Jacob stays a respectful distance and when Sasha is done, he is able to have the attention he also loves. At W.O.L.F., we enjoy lavishing our social animals with pets, belly rubs and all the affection they want.

Just like at Howling Woods, Jacob has rapidly become a favorite of staff and volunteers. He is a beautiful, big wolf with enormous feet and soft eyes. He is sweet and likes attention from his humans. He loves to eat and will do a leap for joy as his daily meat comes sailing over the fence. Jacob has charmed his caregivers and we are excited to take him for walks with Sasha. Eventually we hope they will be ambassadors for W.O.L.F. and will attend educational programs together. Sasha has always enjoyed these outings and Jacob will be the loyal companion she has longed for on her excursions out of the Sanctuary. Jacob was an ambassador at Howling Woods and he loves the experience. He is easy to harness, attentive to his handler, and walks very well on leash. Move over Brad and Angelina. There is a new super couple on the horizon.



# W.O.L.F. Reflections

By Donna A. Nayduch

2015 marks W.O.L.F.'s 20<sup>th</sup> year in operation and we have been blessed to care for over 100 wolves since our founding in 1995. With so many animals who have come and gone we feel we should take a moment to remember our friends who have helped to shape us over the years. Luckily W.O.L.F. is blessed to have many long term volunteers who have been able to travel this journey with us. What follows are the reflections of one such volunteer who generously dedicated her free time, energy and affection to the wolves for over 16 years.



May 21, 1999 -- On that day, I donned my shorts, t-shirt, and sneakers and headed to Ft. Collins to meet my trainer for my first day at W.O.L.F. as a volunteer. I made the call to W.O.L.F. a few days earlier and asked: "Can you use any volunteers?" The answer: "Can you come on Saturday?" So there I was, ready to meet the animals who would become my best friends and the loves of my life. It was an experience that would forever change me. I still remember the name of every wolf I met that first day and every moment of that experience. Over the next 16 years, I met and loved over 60 wolves who I have kissed, hugged, fed, protected, and held in my arms as they died and were laid to rest facing east on a bed of pine. Here are the stories of my time with them.

**Whisper** – My first day as a volunteer, I met Whisper, a timber wolf who was rescued from Wyoming where she was being offered for sale on the Internet. She was in every way a formidable wolf. On my first day, I was asked to fix the fence in her enclosure so I climbed a ladder and started to work. I loved every moment and my first forever friendship with a wolf started that day. A year later when fire caused an evacuation of the Sanctuary, Whisper was the last wolf off the mountain. She rode in my car as we raced down the canyon road to safety at 1:30 in the morning.



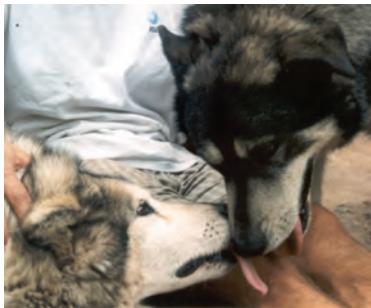
**Bear, Cherokee, Spirit, and Cheyenne, the Fantastic Four** – Bear was a bit stand-offish until he realized everyone else was being petted and then he wanted some attention too! Cherokee liked to stand behind you and if you reached back you could pet his belly. He just never wanted you to look at him. We lost Cherokee after the first fire, learning the hard way the lesson of the effect of stress on wolves. Cheyenne was the fastest kisser in the West. She had to drink water to replenish her spit just to keep kissing. That was a bit rough in the winter. Spirit became a friend for life and we often sang together, talked together and shared so many moments. He missed Cheyenne so much when she died. Kiki eventually became his new companion and she adored him in every way.





**Kenai, Sammy, and Lakotah Boy** – Kenai loved hair. The only successful greeting by Kenai was a full head to end of hair scent rub followed by one good “wolf kiss” to the skull. The shy Kenai who smiled so much often seemed to say: I love you so much I have to bite you – you know, love bites. Sammy ruled that roost as the most fabulous girl. She and Lakotah Boy would later become ambassador animals. They loved visiting with humans and car rides -- as long as Lakotah wasn't fed before we left the Sanctuary. Lakotah Boy was the sweet omega in the group and he loved to be loved.

**Ashley and Jasmine** – These two wolves lived long lives and spent many years at W.O.L.F. They were sisters who lived together for their entire lives. Jasmine became blind as she grew older and Ashley was always biting her butt. The most common words heard were “Ashley stop picking on your sister!” Jasmine one-upped Ashley in the end. Ashley passed first and Jasmine had free run of their enclosure for a month with no butt biting—until she too joined her sister. My friendship with Ashley didn't really begin until the second serious fire threat. I came to tell her she was safe on an 80 degree day in June, 2000. Suddenly the weather turned cold and the snow started to fall. The snow that day turned the fire back on itself and saved the Sanctuary.



**Chana and Peter** – These two malamute-wolf mixes, (a mother and son) were brought to W.O.L.F. when the neighbors threatened to kill them. They had already shot one animal. Peter became an ambassador animal. Chana was a chunky girl from a pituitary tumor. She received chemo for nearly three years. She was the second wolf to pass during my early volunteer days. Peter brought her a giant femur bone when she was barely able to get up. It was as though he was saying: “Here Mama, this will make you better.” When it started to snow in June, we brought Chana inside W.O.L.F. headquarters and she was able to enjoy any food on the pantry shelf that she wanted.

She chose to walk outside the gate on her own and she picked a spot among the pansies as her final resting place. It was very Chana. She was always joyful.

**Bacchus** – This wolf lived up to his name and was a party animal. But whenever anyone approached his gate, he showed a formidable set of teeth. Once you understood that he was bluffing, he was a lush for petting inside his enclosure. When the fire evacuation was necessary, we leashed Bacchus and put him in the front seat of a car. He thought it was a party. I think he would have loved to go for ride in the front seat every day.



**Merlin and Artemis** – These two wolves were devoted to one another. No one told me that Merlin loved sleeves. On the first cold day -- well so much for that shirt. He also loved hair. He grabbed my pony tail one day and pulled me up the enclosure. That was a new experience. Artemis, was always the lady and always the source of Merlin's deep sighs and looks of absolute love. Then he would bite her neck. No worries- she usually won.





Cree & Denali



**Ghost and Jazzy** – These two wolves were also a love match. Jazzy was a small Alaskan husky wolf who could hold her own anywhere including with her 168 lb mate Ghost. They were a fabulous pair to the very end. Most men were afraid of Ghost, but Ghost loved the ladies. He also loved his bones and had a hoard of them that had to be quickly removed from his enclosure when he wasn't looking.

**Akyra, Kai, and Sabi** -- Akyra and Sabi arrived at different times although they were siblings from the same litter. Akyra had been badly abused by burns, beatings, and fractures of her arm and jaw. She finally jumped off a balcony to get away from her abusers. In spite of her horrific treatment, she loved people, especially if she decided you were her person. Then she was devoted and never wanted you to leave her enclosure. One time Akyra escaped from her enclosure and moved in with the Housepack. Suddenly there was an extra wolf in the backyard. She caused quite a bit of excitement that day. Sabi was the lover of the group. He had gorgeous eyes and could not love you enough. Akyra was a bit jealous so they were finally separated and Sabi was placed with a young wolf named Indigo from FL. Kai belonged to a lady who abandoned him in Walden, CO. W.O.L.F. was contacted by town officials and we rescued him. He became forever best friends with Akyra. He was a kind and sweet animal.



**Azheem, Sky, and Nugget** -- Nugget was a princess and the love of Sky's life. She would often lie back, offer her belly, and seem to say "You may serve me now." She went to an alternate location with Sky for a brief stay, but unfortunately, she never came home. Azheem liked to challenge but truly wanted petting. When it was time to leave his enclosure, you had to watch your sleeves. He was always sneaking up behind people to see what he could grab before you made it out the gate. Sky was the shy one who always took his time to decide if he liked you. Once that friendship was set, he was your greatest protector, someone to snuggle with when it was cold, and he could shed enough fur to make several more wolves.

**Kiki** – She was found running wild in Alaska and visiting with sled dogs. She was also killing rabbits for food but only drinking the blood which seemed like very odd behavior. She had either been released or got away from the humans with a puppy collar around her neck. As she grew, it began to cut off her ability to swallow, so was saving herself by drinking the blood of the rabbits. Through the grace of a family in California, she was rescued, had surgery on her neck and arrived at the Sanctuary as a partner for Bear and Matoskah. When Bear passed away, Kiki was placed with Spirit who met her requirements for a "hot guy." Later she was partnered with Rajan who was also a gorgeous male she could observe and with whom she could share her enclosure.





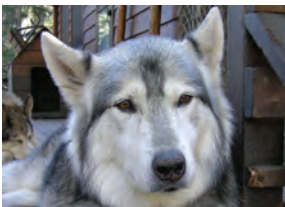
**Makoce, Peta, and Tate (earth, fire, wind)** – The trio arrived together as Mexican gray wolf pups who needed a mom. Whisper offered to raise them and she did a fabulous job. Makoce was the only one who allowed herself to be petted. Tate stood nearby wishing for pets but he was just too shy. At one point Makoce decided she was ready to lead her family. She did just that by pushing Whisper out of the pack and taking over as the leader. The boys always deferred to her. Peta chuffed at the humans but was the first to hide. He sent his sister Makoce to investigate

**Matoskah, Meeka, and Tala** – These three arrived at the Sanctuary out of nowhere. They were simply dropped off. Matoskah was a barker until he shared a run with Whisper. It seemed clear that she told him to stop. Meeka and Tala spent their entire lives together. In a sibling fracas, they both lost matching pieces of their ears. At one point W.O.L.F. tried separating them to match each female with a male partner. Tala dug under the fence to be back with her sister. They were never separated again.



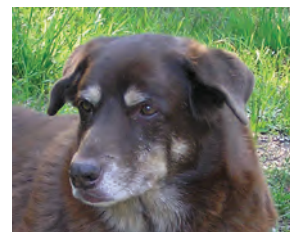
**The Housepack** -- There were 14 animals to greet you at the gate. If you could navigate through the pack, you were prepared to handle just about anything W.O.L.F. had to offer. The Housepack slept inside at night (except for the wolves who preferred to roam the yard at night.) Sleeping on the couch usually meant that any or all of the pack would be sleeping on, under, or next to you.

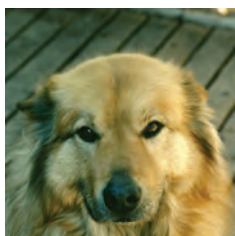
**Sara and Mesa**---These two were best friends who were inseparable. Mesa escaped from his owners. Even with an old hip injury, he was a Reiki master and a fast runner. He was the primary animal ambassador with Nanook. We traveled many miles together going to educational programs. Sara also traveled for programs and would do her happy dance when it was her turn. She sat for her harness and then waited at the gate so she wouldn't be forgotten. We often took long runs together to expend energy during programs and we found fountains to cool off in the summer months.



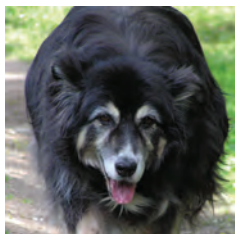
**Nanook** --- He was the logo animal and he was the magnificent, supreme alpha male who led the Housepack. He raised the young ones, was an ambassador, and the symbol of W.O.L.F. He was regal in every way except when he encountered marshmallows. Marshmallows and brie were his favorite food and he would beg until you slipped him some.

**CC** – She was the house dog and was affectionately called “pond scum.” She loved to swim in the pond and carried the smell all summer. She could hold her own even among the wolf pups who were twice her size. She lost her tail from an injury and regained her leg function. In the end she was deaf but still enthusiastically wanted pets, love, and cookies. Her problem with passing gas was a running joke and she would even walk away looking like “WHO did that?”

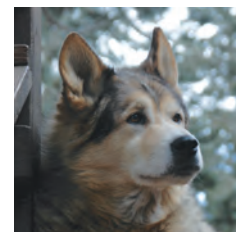




**Shaka** – She was the first wolf/dog rescued and when she kissed, she did the lick, lick, nip that is so common with wolves. Her family wanted to euthanize her but she was rescued instead and began the long W.O.L.F. journey. She loved belly rubs and would run to the bed waiting for her turn.



**Lakotah Sioux** – She was the sophisticated, alpha female who ruled the roost and was able to run free on the property with CC, the Sanctuary dog. Once Lakotah Sioux was outside the gate, she usually returned quickly and begged to come back inside.



**Xavier** – He was the omega because he was a coy dog – a coyote-husky-wolf. He howled like a coyote and loved a butt rub. He would do his happy dance and he was filled with joy. In the end, he was the last boy from the Housepack and he earned his moment as the alpha.

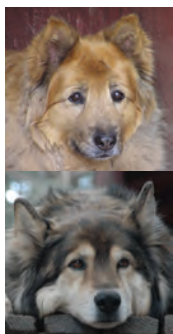


**Zeke** – He was the wolf with one crazy blue spot in his dark brown eyes. He loved to be on the couch tempting you to pet him. But you had to watch his eyes. He would let you know when he was done with you and it was always his choice.



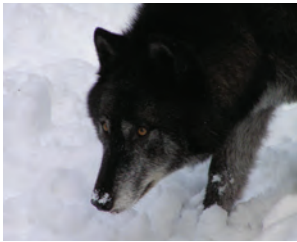
**Shaman** – He arrived in 1999 as 3-week-old arctic wolf. He was the spirit brother with Kasha. They were raised together and spent most of their lives together. Shaman was a young spirit who marveled at falling leaves and stuffed toys. He went to educational programs until he was about 3 years old. We spent time at folk singer John Denver's property where Shaman thought it was a good idea to go swimming in the rancid pond. We were not thrilled at the idea. I decided to hold my ground as the only way to stop the pond dunking. Shaman wasn't happy but I remained dry and disease free. With Shaman, any cheesecake was fair game.

**Kasha** – He was the spirit brother to Shaman and the biological brother of Spirit. He was a tundra wolf, lanky and shy. During his first educational program, he began to show shyness with people. I remember he decided to go under the table for safety and he took me with him. Kasha had a disease that caused his front leg bones to grow differently, necessitating surgeries to correct them and allow him to walk on the pads of his feet. He lived a long life despite this but he always remained people shy. There were only a few people he truly trusted. Kasha ended up being the mate of Tunyan rather than his spirit brother Shaman.



**Sequoia, Nika Shaga, Chocolate Face, and Rami** -- These four were part of the family of nine pups raised at W.O.L.F. with their mother until most of them were placed with families. This was the only time W.O.L.F. ever placed wolf puppies in private homes. Nika was the shy one but full of love. Chocolate was the announcer. She was terrified of loud noises and would bark before the humans could hear thunder. She paced until everyone was inside and safe. Rami loved a belly rub and Sequoia was the "mother." She raised all the pups including others like Shaman, Kasha, and Tunyan.





**Tunyan** – She arrived a few years later and was originally intended for Spirit, but she stayed with Kasha until his death. She then had Sigmund as her companion. He was rescued from California and met every qualification as a beautiful boy. Sigmund was a collie/wolf mix and Tunyan was an enormous Mackenzie Valley black wolf. I was night bottle mama for her and then stayed as her “Mom” for her entire life. It was a great honor.

These were the first wolves I met and grew to love. I will always hold each one in my heart. They changed my life in so many ways. I will never forget them. They are the magic that is W.O.L.F.



## The Canis Ceilidh

This past March marked our first ever St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser, the Canis Ceilidh! Being a last minute event, the idea was kept simple; find a bar or brewery was willing to donate a portion of their sales on St. Patrick's Day to the Sanctuary. Despite having only two weeks or so to advertise the event we were blown away by the outpouring of support for the Sanctuary. The Horse and Dragon Brewing Company not only graciously allow us the use of their tasting room for free but

generously donated \$2 of every pint sold during the event to W.O.L.F.! Even Spartacus was thrilled to be attending the event.

We had so much fun at this event we are planning on hosting it again! So keep your ears open for information about next year's Canis Ceilidh.



## A Special Request

Here at W.O.L.F. we feed each of our wolf dogs two pounds of raw meat each day in addition to their kibble. Every Friday we pick up meat donated by local supermarkets and process it into what we call “loaves”. However the containers we currently use to store and freeze these two pound loaves are in dire need of replacement. In order to have a week's worth of loaves made for each of the wolf dogs, we need at least 200 containers which would cost us over \$1,000 to purchase. So we are asking you to help us feed our wolves!

If you are able to buy one or two or ten of the Rubbermaid 4.5 cup Freezer Blox containers for W.O.L.F. we would be truly grateful. You can find these on Amazon.com or at Walmart.



# Remembering Peta

Peta (pronounced PAY-tah) arrived at the Sanctuary as a 12-week-old terrified bundle of fluff in June 1999 with his siblings Makoce (Mah-co-chay) and Tate (TAH-tay). They had been saved from a horrible breeding situation by a rescue in New Mexico when they were only four weeks old (earning them the nickname "The New Mex Pups" which in later years resulted in much confusion among new volunteers). Originally part of a litter of five, all of the pups were extremely malnourished and so full of parasites they were close to death. As they were treated and their health began to improve, the rescue contacted W.O.L.F. to see if we had space for Peta and two of his siblings. We said yes.

Peta arrived healthy but extremely scared of people and his aggressive fear biting had already earned him the nickname "Snapper". Because of this it was decided to place him and his siblings with an adult female who had recently had a litter of pups before she was surrendered to W.O.L.F. Peta lived with Whisper and his siblings until they turned two years old. At this point his sister had decided she was done listening to "Mom" and began fighting with Whisper. Peta, of course, chose to side with Makoce and Whisper was removed from the group.

Peta remained with his siblings for the rest of his life. He was always the most reserved of the three and would chuff and bark at his caretakers when they entered his enclosure. Well into his old age Peta was agile and difficult to get close to. There were many occasions where staff simply had to give up on trying to catch him after spending hours trying to coax and herd him into a corner or kennel. On the few occasions staff managed to catch him up for a vet exam, everyone had to be careful not to get within biting distance as Peta never did outgrow his tendency to bite.

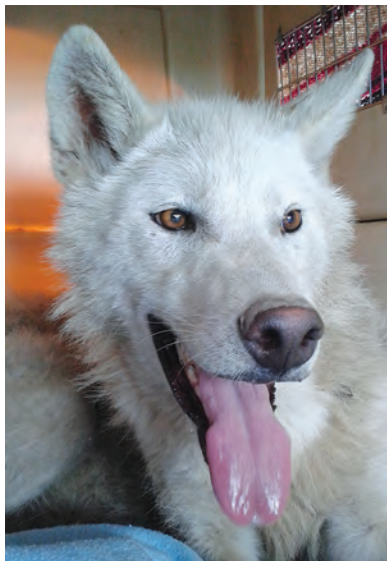
Like his brother, Peta developed some issues with arthritis in his back end. Unlike his brother, who would come to the fence for treats, Peta had to have his meds thrown to him. This was often a source of great frustration to staff as Peta seemed to develop a sixth sense about the medications and with unnerving accuracy look away just as the med treat was airborne and miss seeing where it would land. Makoce, on the other hand, had no problems tracking the treat's movements through the air and staff regularly found themselves scrambling to recover the treat before she did. Peta had no issues with treats that did not have meds in them however.

In February of 2015, staff noticed a slight disfigurement on the side of Peta's face. Within a week it had doubled in size and just kept getting bigger. Because he was so difficult to handle, photos were taken and sent to W.O.L.F.'s veterinarians to assess possible causes. Two possibilities came back: a tooth root abscess (which could be treated with antibiotics) or cancer. We decided to try the less invasive treatment first in hopes it would clear up with the help of some antibiotics and pain meds. Unfortunately after a week of treatment there was no sign improvement. If anything it was still getting worse. Still hoping for the best, it was decided to catch him up and bring him in for x-rays and surgery.

At the vet hospital what we learned broke everyone's hearts. We were dealing with an extremely aggressive, fast growing bone cancer that had within only a few weeks destroyed most of the right side of his upper jaw and nasal cavity. The only possible treatment would be to remove the affected area followed by extensive radiation or chemo. There is no way we could put him through that kind of pain so the decision was made to help him pass. Peta was a wild spirit to the end, one we will always treasure and miss.



# “Little Girl” Arrives



As this issue of our Spring Newsletter was going to press, W.O.L.F. rescued a one-year old female wolf/dog we are temporarily calling “Little Girl.” On April 28th, our staff members drove to Illinois to pick up this Little Girl from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. She was part of a group of 15 wolf dogs who were confiscated when the owner failed to maintain a required U.S.D.A. license.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources stepped in and seized the wolf dogs in late February 2015, after receiving complaints about the living conditions for the animals. They were living in rough circumstances and were not receiving proper care. Seven of the animals were relocated to zoos in Texas and Washington by the time W.O.L.F. was contacted but time was running out for the remaining animals. W.O.L.F. and one of our rescue partners, Grey Wolf in Wisconsin, stepped up to help coordinate the rescue of the remaining eight wolf/dogs.

When W.O.L.F. staff arrived with Grey Wolf and a law enforcement officer at the property, we were appalled by how much worse it looked in reality. All four girls were trapped in a small corner of a larger dirt enclosure with no water or shelter. Although their catchup was unnecessarily traumatic, all four remaining girls were kenneled and safely loaded into the transport vehicles in less than a half hour.

Little Girl handled the long drive from Illinois to Colorado relatively well considering the stress of being separated from her litter mates for the first time in her very young



life. Because we had no information about how these animals were cared for medically prior to their seizure by the Illinois DNR, we made arrangements for her to go immediately to the vet upon her arrival in Fort Collins. Much to our relief, she was in considerably better health than she appeared and after a little spa treatment at the clinic she is looking like a new wolf!

Little Girl arrived late in the afternoon and was released into one of our isolation runs. She was stressed from the 16+ hour car ride followed by a 6 hour visit with the vet and

eager to stretch her legs. We decided to let her have a few days to adjust to her new surroundings before introducing her to Pax. We hope once we do, they will develop a lasting relationship.

**We have exciting news about “Little Girl”!** Since, unlike most of the individuals we rescue, this beautiful, shy girl came to us without a name, W.O.L.F. is auctioning off the privilege of giving her a permanent name to the highest bidder at our annual Gala on May 30th. This is a unique opportunity for a lucky bidder.



# Volunteer Spotlight



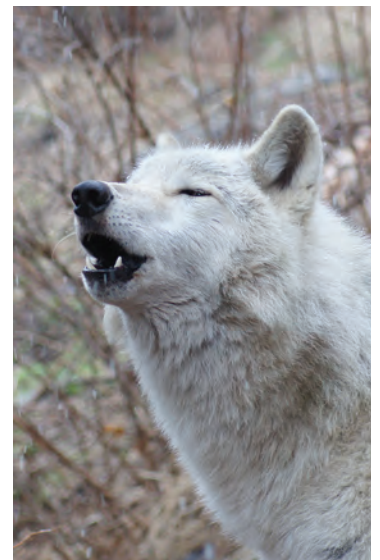
Lisha is one of our hardest working volunteers. She is always willing to help with whatever she can. She has spoken to large companies and coerced them to become Gala sponsors. She comes up to the Sanctuary almost every Tuesday to do chores and has helped us with two rescues so far. We are so grateful for her hard work and enthusiasm. That is why she is this quarter's "Volunteer Spotlight"!

**Why did you start volunteering for W.O.L.F.?** I am quite passionate about wildlife and wildlife protection. Although I love all wildlife (all animals for that matter) wolves have al-

ways had a special place in my heart. I had tears of joy in my eyes the very first time I saw a wolf in the wild, through a spotting scope of course. We learned about W.O.L.F. Sanctuary during the High Park Fire, but could not do any volunteering then, because we had our summers committed with volunteer work in Red Feather Lakes and we were only in Colorado for the summer. Shortly after moving here permanently in the fall of 2013, I attended the US Fish and Wildlife Service wolf de-listing meeting in Denver where I had the wonderful opportunity to sit next to Shelley Coldiron and I came home with lots of brochures. The next day I sent her an e-mail saying that Tom and I absolutely wanted to become volunteers. Our orientation was in December 2013. My love for the animals and the work that W.O.L.F. Sanctuary does to protect them grows with each visit.

**What is your favorite thing to do when you volunteer?** Believe it or not, poop-scooping! Well, really it is being in the enclosures with the animals and if poop-scooping is the best way to be there, then that is what I like. I really enjoy being a handler for educational programs. I think it is wonderful that W.O.L.F. Sanctuary does these programs to educate students and others about the importance of protecting wolves, but also to respect their wildness and to not keep wolves and wolf hybrids as pets. I love watching the faces of the people when they see the animals. I also love arriving at the Sanctuary and being welcomed with a magnificent group howl - or any time of the day when we are treated to a group howl. The wolf howl is the most wonderful and soulful sound in the world to me.

**Jacob's Rescue:** Participating in bringing Jacob to W.O.L.F. was the longest 36 hour day of my life and also one of the most rewarding. Bob Proulx and I met at 1 am on 18 March to drive to the Indiana / Illinois border to rendezvous with the team from Howling Woods Farm. We traded off driving, talked a lot, and slept none at all. We made it a challenge to find the cheapest gas along I-80 with the help of Gas Buddy, or Gas Puppy as Bob called it. We arrived just inside the Indiana state line at about 6 pm. We found a nice park to let Jacob stretch his legs and to do a peaceful transfer. Bob and I each were treated to a vigorous face licking from Jacob while we were at the park. Donna, his caretaker from Howling Woods, rode back with us to Colorado so that Jacob would have someone familiar in the vehicle with him. He was such a sweet and patient passenger. He laid down most of the time, but it was so wonderful to watch him stand up, look around, and get very curious and excited once we arrived in Rist Canyon. All of the Sanctuary staff were there to greet Jacob to his new home. It was nice to see him check out his enclosure, cache the meat that was given to him, and announce himself to the rest of the residents with a soulful howl.





**W.O.L.F. Sanctuary**

Post Office Box 1544

Laporte, CO 80535-1544

970-416-9531 wolfsanctuary.net

info@wolfsanctuary.net

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Fort Collins, CO  
Permit No. 627

**W.O.L.F.**

**Spring 2015**

**W.O.L.F.**

**YES!**

I would like to become a member of W.O.L.F. and help to care for abandoned captive-born wolves and wolf dogs. I understand that by becoming a member, I will receive a quarterly newsletter, window decal and annual calendar unless I specify otherwise. (Membership is renewable and is tax deductible.)

☐

\$35  
Senior

☐

\$50  
Individual

☐

\$200  
Sponsor

☐

\$500  
Advocate

☐

\$1,000  
Protector

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ NEW

\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

(We accept Visa & MasterCard)

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to W.O.L.F.)

☐ I **do not** want to receive member gifts

☐

Please send me an e-receipt for my donation

Want to keep up to date on the happenings at the Sanctuary? Follow us online to find out about upcoming events, learn more about the animals in our care, or simply enjoy the videos and photos.



[www.wolfsanctuary.net](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net)



[www.facebook.com/wolfsanctuaryco](http://www.facebook.com/wolfsanctuaryco)



[www.twitter.com/wolfsanctuaryco](http://www.twitter.com/wolfsanctuaryco)



[www.youtube.com/user/WolfSanctuaryDotNet](http://www.youtube.com/user/WolfSanctuaryDotNet)