

WOLF

**W.O.L.F. Reflections Continued
The New Boys on the Block
Saying Goodbye to Drake & Hachi**



Summer 2015

Thank You!



In our last newsletter we asked for your help getting containers to store our daily meat feedings for the wolves and you came through in a big way! We now have more than we asked for and not only are the wolves happy but the humans are ecstatic. Thank you for your generosity!

These containers are just the first step in revamping how we feed our animals. Currently all the wolves have access to kibble all the time in large self feeders and the meat is just thrown on the ground. With our new system we will have greater control over how

much each wolf dog is getting and help to ensure that everyone in each enclosure is getting their fair share!

We recently received a grant to help us build enough welded steel new feeder boxes for every animal. These boxes provide secure housing for the dog bowls, allowing the animals to be safely fed from outside of the enclosure and ensuring that the wolves don't run off with the bowls. Unfortunately the grant does not cover purchasing the metal dog bowls that will be inserted into each feeder every day, once again we are asking for your help.

We need 60 ten inch diameter metal dog bowls for our new feeder boxes (that makes two bowls per animal). If you would like to help us with this we would be truly grateful. You can find these on our Amazon.com wish list.



Mark Your Calendars!



Join us in 2016 to celebrate all you do for W.O.L.F. and wolves at our Great Growlsby Gala on June 11th, 2016! Enjoy a fun, "Roaring 20s" themed event. Though not required, you are encouraged to get into the spirit of the event and come in costume. So join us for what is sure to be a growlin' good time!

Event Info:

June 11th, 2016

4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

The Hilton

425 W. Prospect Rd.
Fort Collins, CO

In This Issue

Cover Photo: Denali



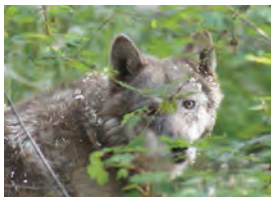
Remembering Drake..... 5

Drake, the gentle giant, quickly became a favorite at the Sanctuary, following his smaller companion around the enclosure and cuddling up with her at night.



W.O.L.F. Reflections Continued..... 7

2012 was a year of enormous, unexpected change for W.O.L.F. precipitated by string of natural events that ushered in a new era for the Sanctuary.



The Journey to Holbrook..... 11

In May 2015, W.O.L.F. rescued a wolf dog who was running feral, harassing live-stock and making nighttime garbage raids in Navajo County, Arizona.



Ahote: The Restless One..... 13

We had been looking for a new companion for Kaileah when W.O.L.F. was alerted to Ahote through Wolf Haven Sanctuary in Washington State.



Remembering Hachi..... 15

Given at a young age to a hoarder, Hachi lived most of his life as one of 80 animals neglected on a condemned property without proper shelter or care.



Summer Intern Spotlight..... 17

This newsletter's Volunteer Spotlight is dedicated to our summer interns to honor their hard work and dedication to the sanctuary.



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Colorado Nonprofit & Tax Exempt Corporation
United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed
Colorado Department of Agriculture, Licensed
Colorado Parks and Recreation, Licensed
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.

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Letter from the Director

Dear Supporters:

Happy Summer 2015! Hope you are enjoying the sun and warm temperatures. We had concerns at the beginning of the year because we set a record for high temperatures with below average precipitation. Since the weather warmed in the spring, we resumed our efforts to get our off site evacuation center ready for the fire season. Colorado's fire season runs from March through October. Fortunately in late spring, we began to have cooler temperatures and almost daily precipitation, alleviating our immediate concerns



for potential fires. Now as we approach the oppressive heat of August, our evacuation site is ready. We are turning Murphy's law – "anything that can go wrong, will go wrong" – on its head. Our motto is: "If we are prepared, we will not need to use it." Thank you to the volunteers and supporters who have helped us with these efforts.

Let's say "Hooray" for the 2015 Gala: A Truly Wolf Affair: Mardi Growl! Our attendance reached over 225, and we set a new record in net proceeds of just over \$40,000. THANK YOU so much for your support! This was our first year for a theme based gala and we're ready for next year with "The Great Growlsby". It will be a roaring good time! Thank you for your feedback on the comment cards. We listened and we will be making some exciting new changes for next year.

It is with a heavy heart that we said "Goodbye for now sweet ones" to Drake and Hachi. Drake was a gentle giant and touched so many hearts. Hachi, oh how I miss him. Even though Hachi kept his distance from people, this little boy had a very special place in my heart. It is difficult to write this without tears. In my heaven, I will be greeted by Hachi, Drake and all the four-legged, furry children I have come to love, when I too pass over the Rainbow Bridge.

We have two new family members at W.O.L.F., Orion and Ahote. Orion is a strong willed boy who is beating medical odds because I believe, quite frankly, he found that W.O.L.F. was the paradise he had been waiting for his whole life. "Damn what the vets say," says Orion. "I'm not ready to depart this world." Ahote is our newest boy, arriving on July 18th. Michelle immediately fell in love with Ahote when she saw his picture. He reminds her of one of our past residents, Hammer, who was a shy favorite. You can read their stories in this Issue.

Also, mark your calendars for this year's Colorado Gives Day on December 8th. Last year we had an anonymous donor who matched every gift, dollar-for-dollar up to \$40,000, and put the challenge to us. We asked you to help and you did, raising just over \$80,000 last year! So, who out there is going to help us with a matching challenge gift to kick off this year's Colorado Gives Day – do I hear any takers?

As always, humbly and gratefully yours,

Shelley

Mardi Growl Masquerade

By Marla Morine

The night was magic and sparkly and the Hilton Hotel in Fort Collins was a dazzling venue. The banquet room was gorgeous, lovingly arranged and dressed to the nines with tons of festive bling for the Mardi Growl Masquerade. Staff and guests were masked and mysterious. Amelia grabbed me for a big hug then laughingly revealed her face, and, as I toured the fabulous display of magnificent silent auction items, veiled and feathered Shelley came up behind me for another big hug. Together we admired a stellar oil painting of Meeka, Tala and Matoskah; it was most definitely a heartstrings inspiration piece. I resumed my tour of items and came upon the Guardian Angel table. What a fantastic idea! It held individual groupings of framed photo, coffee mug and a pin for each animal at the Sanctuary.

I went in search of Tonka's Guardian Angel display. I found it, swallowed the lump in my throat, and placed my bid. I then admired more of the auction offerings and finally found a seat.

After a while I went to check on my bid to be Tonka's Guardian Angel and someone had outbid me! I didn't know her. It was an unfamiliar name. I blinked and looked at it again. Someone loved Tonka! I have to admit I had a brief moment of disbelief. He isn't a stand-out member of W.O.L.F. He doesn't draw attention or get mentioned much as anyone's favorite. He's kind of a quiet loner there. Yet someone besides me wanted to be his Angel, and the bliss of that recognition overwhelmed me. I stood there at the Guardian Angel table and imagined a person who loved him through his beautiful golden eyes, for his shy nature and darting glances, his huge heart, huge enough to match his giant head, and the freckles across his nose, mostly lost now in the gray of his aging yet still majestic coat that turns into his woolly mammoth coat in winter. Someone loved him. How had I imagined that someone else

could not love him as I do, that he could not steal hearts as he did mine so very many years ago? I stood and looked at that signature on the bid sheet and I was so very proud of her, this person that loved Tonka and had lovingly placed her bid to be his Angel. And then I outbid her. After all, it was an auction.

I toured more of the items and settled in for dinner, conversation and the evening's entertainment. The belly dancing troupe was amazing, and Master of Ceremonies delivered just the right delightful blend of funny and poignant. Shelley's speech was beautifully delivered and heartfelt, and the videos of W.O.L.F.'s past and current residents were skillfully created and, with thoughtful

and caring commentary from Michelle and Amelia, caused lots of tears in the room. It was a wonderful and superbly arranged event. There were so many hours lovingly donated to make that event happen, and it was perfect.

In the end, I learned I'd been outbid again. The same thrill of delight went through

me, that Special Someone would also bother to check yet again and make sure they won that item. But was it the same person, or perhaps a different someone bidding to be Tonka's Guardian Angel? I don't know the answer to that; I only know I am so proud of him for being the sweet, kind and gracious creature that he is, and that I am so grateful that such wonderful people are out there that appreciate his life and the gifts he brings. Tonka traveled a very long road from his tentative beginning to his position as a Senior Resident of W.O.L.F. and I, his old foster Ma, am very proud of him, of W.O.L.F., its staff, volunteers, and supporters.

And while I missed winning the actual item that night that I really meant to win, this deep and infinite gratitude that I feel is by far the best auction item W.O.L.F. offered that evening. I can't wait for the Gala in 2016. See you there!



Competition Images/Photography 2015



Remembering Drake

By Michelle Proulx

Drake came to our attention in Spring of 2013. His owner was looking for placement for Drake as he was being forced to move and couldn't take Drake with him. Drake was all alone since his two companions had recently been hit and killed by cars after someone cut a hole in their enclosure fence. Since we had the space we agreed to accept Drake.

His owner drove Drake to the Sanctuary and walked him into the enclosure on a leash. Drake was tolerant of attention from his new humans but was very unhappy to be left behind. Eventually, with the help of his companion Kasota, Drake settled into his new life. He seemed to enjoy the amount of space he had and gradually stopped seeking attention from his caretakers, instead being content to stay just out of reach as he followed them around the enclosure.

It was a few months after his rescue that we received an unsettling phone call. Drake's owner was looking for him and heard he had been given to W.O.L.F. What?! He had been surrendered to the Sanctuary by his owner...hadn't he? Concerned about the truth of Drake's situation, we agreed for the gentleman to come and visit Drake. It was during his visit that his full story came to light.

This gentleman and the man who had surrendered Drake to W.O.L.F. had been partners and were in the middle of a nasty break up when Drake had gone "missing". The gentleman had been told by his ex-partner that Drake had been killed along with the two other wolves Drake had lived with. Desperate to find out the truth, he had begun researching the situation and found the Sanctuary. Luckily for us, he was not looking to reclaim ownership of Drake. He simply wanted to reassure himself that Drake was indeed alive and well taken care of.

Drake, the gentle giant that he was, quickly became a favorite at the Sanctuary. He would follow his much smaller companion around the enclosure and cuddle up with her at night. Eventually his size became an unintentional issue with Kasota and though he wouldn't mean to he would often knock the ancient wolf over with a turn of his head or a wag of his tail. It was decided to separate the two of them and place Drake with a younger female we had recently rescued, named Kaileah.

The two hit it off instantly and became practically inseparable. Despite Drake's much larger size Kaileah was clearly the one in charge and it became a challenge trying to get Drake enough food to eat as she would constantly chase him away during meat feeding. Kaileah's social nature also encouraged Drake once again to seek attention from his caretakers and he would often try to engage them in play or allow a quick scratch under the chin.

Drake's death came as a shock to all of us. Though he had had a few "off" days in the months leading up to his death, there was nothing obviously wrong with him. He had recently been taken to the vet to get some dental work done and showed no other signs of illness. Ninety-Nine percent of the time he was active and engaged with life. The day before he died was a great day for Drake. He had tons of energy, dancing around his caretakers trying to play with both them and Kaileah, allowing a full body massage and he had a hearty appetite. So it came as a shock to find he had passed away the next morning.

The necropsy showed Drake had a tumor on his heart that ruptured. It appears to have been a quick death. Though the shock and pain of his loss still haunts us, this is what we wish for every wolf in our care: that the animal is happy and active one moment and gone the next with no suffering or prolonged illness.

W.O.L.F. Reflections Continued

By Susan Weidel

2012 was a year of enormous change for W.O.L.F. The changes were unexpected and precipitated by string of natural events that ushered in a new era for the Sanctuary. The changes will have a lasting and positive impact on the resident wolves and wolf dogs who are at the very center of W.O.L.F.'s mission.



On June 9, 2012, the High Park Fire, one of the most dangerous and fast moving fires in recent history, spread rapidly through Rist Canyon, CO, the home of the Sanctuary. The fire started early that Saturday and was believed to have been caused by a lightning strike. High winds and dry conditions provided perfect conditions for a firestorm. By early afternoon the fire was creeping rapidly down the canyon. WOLF staff and volunteers realized the danger from fire and smoke was now a reality for the wolves. Teams quickly assembled both at the Sanctuary and at a staging area in Laporte and the evacuation began. The wolves who were easy to handle were rapidly placed in kennels and transported down the mountain to the rendezvous point with other volunteers. On that first night and the following day, 13 animals made it to safety. However, 17 animals remained at the Sanctuary for the next five days. The fire was simply too dangerous and staff and volunteers were not permitted back up the canyon to rescue the remaining animals. Heroic firefighters checked on the animals and provided water to those wolves who were still at the Sanctuary.

Miraculously, when help arrived to transport the remaining animals to safety, they were all alive, and though frightened and stressed, they were quickly kenneled and driven to safety by a team from The Wild Animal Sanctuary in Keenesburg, CO. W.O.L.F.'s years of fire mitigation and a bit of luck kept the animals safe until help arrived.

In early July 2012, the wolves returned to the Sanctuary and W.O.L.F.'s Founder and Executive Director retired. The W.O.L.F. Board of Directors appointed Dr. Shelley Coldiron as the new Executive Director and a new era for W.O.L.F. began. Dr. Coldiron, who has a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, was an active volunteer at W.O.L.F. and a recent member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Coldiron spent over 34 years volunteering in animal rescues in Ohio, Utah and Colorado. She brought a wealth of business and animal welfare and rescue experience to her new position.

W.O.L.F.'s struggles with natural disasters

continued for the next 13 months. Flash floods, a result of the burned out soil from the fire, damaged W.O.L.F.'s infrastructure including the access road, well, and generators. In September 2013, torrential rains caused unprecedented flooding in Northern Colorado and W.O.L.F. was again faced with



challenges from road damage, infrastructure and utility problems, and damage to the ponds and enclosures with ash and sludge runoff from the High Park Fire. All of the wolves remained safe and no evacuations were needed, but it was a challenging time and W.O.L.F. made the decision to look for a new home. The Board of Directors worked with the Executive Director to identify a preliminary site, but intervening circumstances made the

property unavailable.

Dr. Coldiron's business experience was critical to the successful rebuilding of the Sanctuary infrastructure and planning for the future. She brought a spirit of renewal and a celebration of survival. The fire and flooding highlighted the need to review and revise W.O.L.F.'s disaster plan and to create an emergency evacuation site that could be activated if another natural disaster required the evacuation of the Sanctuary's animals. Dr. Coldiron and her staff revamped the disaster plan, created a permanent evacuation site, and initiated new protocols for keeping the wolves safe in the event of another natural disaster.

Dr. Coldiron also created a Veterinary Committee to assist W.O.L.F. in providing annual medical exams and a network of veterinary resources for animals who needed more specialized care. She began new staff and volunteer training initiatives and forged stronger, positive relationships with local and state government officials and community members.

The heart and soul of W.O.L.F. continues to be its mission to rescue, provide sanctuary and educate the public on the plight of captive born wolves and wolf dogs. Since the High Park Fire, W.O.L.F. has said goodbye to 19 animals who have passed away. Many of these animals were long-time Sanctuary residents who lived well into their teens. The oldest resident, Mucqua passed away at the age of 21. The spirit of rescue and renewal has continued with the rescue of 18 animals who desperately needed W.O.L.F.'s assistance. You can read the stories of the newest wolves, Orion and Ahote, in this issue.

As W.O.L.F. celebrates its 20th anniversary year, the future looks bright. The wolves and wolf dogs continue to flourish. The staff and volunteers are excited and active in animal care, educational programs, and sanctuary maintenance. The Executive Director and the Board of Directors continue to work toward a day when W.O.L.F. will relocate to a new home. None of this would be possible without the support of the thousands of donors who have supported W.O.L.F. and its mission for 20 years. W.O.L.F. looks forward to another 20 years of progress and renewal, and invites you to join in the work to create a future for the amazing wolves who inspire us all.

**We remember those
who have passed:**

Arkte
Atlantis
Boots
Cowboy
Drake
Hachi
Kasota
Kiki
Lena
Matoskah
Meeka
Mucqua
Peta
Rachane
Renata
Tala
Tate
Tunyan
Webster

**And those we have
welcomed:**

Ahote
Ariel
Bella Roux
Cowboy (passed 2014)
Cree
Denali
Drake (passed 2015)
Hachi (passed 2015)
Jacob
Kaileah
Orion
Outlaw
Reese
Spartacus
Thor
Trigger
Tundra
Zoey







Zoey & Pax

The Journey to Holbrook

By Susan Weidel & Abby Matzke

In May, 2015, W.O.L.F. rescued a wolf dog who was running feral in Navajo County, Arizona. He was with several other wolf dogs who were harassing livestock and making nighttime garbage raids in a residential area. A Navajo County Animal Control Officer managed to catch the animal in a live trap and contacted W.O.L.F. to see if a sanctuary placement was available. This same Animal Control Officer helped us to rescue our girl Cree back in 2013. Initially Animal Control staff estimated the animal was a large, young male. Based on the initial description of his size and shy personality, W.O.L.F. thought he would be a good match for Kaileah who lost her companion Drake in May.



Orion Captured in Arizona

The journey to Holbrook, Arizona was filled with anticipation. Tall, majestic mountains gave way to rolling desert plateaus; excitement filled the van as the W.O.L.F. staff and volunteers became closer to finally seeing the wolf they had heard so much about. Finally, after twelve hours they pulled into the little town of Holbrook and down the barren dirt road leading to the local Animal Control office. The building was small and dim, the sun setting fast behind it. Upon entering the establishment, the volunteers were greeted by a friendly animal control officer, who seemed to be very excited that the wolf was going to a safe new home. He led the group through a doorway in the back of the building that opened up into a large garage-like room. Ten animals barking from their indoor-outdoor

runs greeted the new humans as they entered. However, one resident didn't stand up to bark at the newcomers, or even lift his head to see who came in. This character was a lovely, sad-eyed wolf, looking extremely out of place in his kennel. They could tell immediately that this wonderful animal had a old soul, there was something about him that was so gentle and so wise. He was surprisingly calm, and was able to be loaded into a kennel in the van with little difficulty. Once he was safely inside, the W.O.L.F. crew set off on the long drive back to the vet in Wellington, Colorado.



Orion at the Shelter

During the exam, the Vet delivered sad and shocking news. In her words he was 'ancient' with a very serious heart condition. Despite weighing over 90 pounds, he was bone thin with a distended abdomen due to fluid retention. Though his blood work indicated he is otherwise healthy, the vet did not believe he would live more than a couple days or know if he could survive the change in elevation to get to the Sanctuary. Because of this she presented euthanasia as a possible option.



Checking Out Wellington Vet Hospital

Our hearts were broken. Surely there was something that could be done for him. It seemed so unfair to have his last days as ones of being trapped, taken from his pack, held in a noisy, concrete kennel and driven 14 hours to a vet exam. The Vet said there were some medications we could give him that would ease the burden on his overworked heart and give him some more time, but how much, she wasn't sure.



It was a difficult and emotional choice but after determining that he was not in any pain, W.O.L.F.'s Executive Director Shelley Coldiron made the decision to provide the frail wolf dog with a sanctuary life for whatever time was left for him. The group who underwent this long journey immediately named the wolf dog Orion after the hunter/warrior constellation that hung in the sky on the way home. They felt it was fitting for a big wolf who had survived the test of time.

Orion was given some medications at the vet hospital to help with the change in altitude and

he was driven the final leg of his journey to the Sanctuary. After being placed in a large 1/2 acre enclosure, Orion immediately started to explore his new home and meet his new neighbors with howls of greeting.

It has been over two months since that fateful day at the vet and Orion has decided to beat the odds. He is still going strong and looking better than ever. He appears to be putting on weight and, thanks to the medications he gets twice a day with his meat, his belly is no longer distended from fluid retention. Though he remains alone, Orion shares a fence line with Cree (who we believe probably came from his same pack) and Denali. They are happy to spend time socializing with him through the fence. Orion has settled in nicely to the routine at W.O.L.F. and while still somewhat nervous about the intentions of his caretakers if they get too close, he seems to be enjoying the good life.

Orion will now live out the rest of his days in peace. He has made fiends with his neighbors, he enjoys the meat we give him everyday, and he especially loves sleeping next to his doghouse listening to his new family howling all around him.



Orion Being Released



Ahote: The Restless One

By Susan Wiedel & Michelle Proulx



Ahote at His Home in Washington State

Not much is known about Harley's early life. He was purchased by a couple in Texas, presumably from a breeder. When the couple moved to an apartment in Washington State they soon realized that it was totally inadequate for a young wolf dog. Desperate to find a new home for Harley, they advertised him on Craig's list. A woman, experienced with wolf dogs, immediately responded to the ad. She knew that it was dangerous to advertise an animal, especially a wolf dog, on Craig's list because many unscrupulous individuals prowl the ads looking for animals to "rescue" and use as bait dogs in dog fighting operations (animals that the fighting dogs can use for practice). Because private ownership of a wolf dog is also a huge commitment, the woman knew that an inexperienced owner might also be a disaster for Harley.

The woman decided to adopt Harley and gave him a good life for five years. Early this summer, when the property where Harley lived would no longer be available to him, she started a desperate search to find him a home at a Sanctuary.



Ahote With His Owner

W.O.L.F. found out about Harley through Wolf Haven Sanctuary in Washington State. We had been looking for a new companion for Kaileah since Orion hadn't worked out (see his story on page 11) and had already had a number of potential candidates come and go from our list. As soon as we heard about Harley we decided to see if he was still available. Luckily for us, he was. We were told he was about five years old, shy around strangers, not food aggressive and loved to play with other animals. Harley seemed like a good match for Kaileah and luckily for W.O.L.F. he was still in need of a home; we made the arrangements to adopt the handsome boy.



Meeting Ahote in Boise, Idaho

It was in a McDonald's parking lot in Boise, Idaho (the half-way point in Harley's journey) that W.O.L.F. staff and volunteers first saw Harley in person. His owner had mentioned that he was very dependant on having a routine and anything that disrupted it made him very nervous. He was obviously uncomfortable with the new situation and refused to sit or lay down in his kennel during the transfer. It was an emotional farewell for Harley and his owner and we were soon on our way back to W.O.L.F.

His owner had tried to get him checked out by a vet before bringing him to us but had been unsuccessful, so our first stop when we got back to Colorado was the vet's office. He had settled down during the drive and when we arrived early at Wellington Vet Hospital, we let him out of the

**Ahote at the Vet Office**

kennel so he could have a chance to stretch his legs. It was amazing to see how calmly he explored his new area and even let one of the volunteers put him on a leash and walk him around the lobby. When it came time to get looked at by the vet, however, Harley made it very clear that he wanted

no part in what was going to happen.

It took nearly six hours to get Harley examined and on his way to the Sanctuary with a clean bill of health, but the experience was unfortunately a traumatic one for him and once he was released he ran to the top of his new enclosure and refused to come down. We wanted to give him time to settle and adjust before introducing him to Kaileah, but after three days of refusing to explore beyond the top of the enclosure, we became concerned.

We decided it would be best to bring Kaileah to him and let them meet in hopes of calming him down. Our only other option was to consider antianxiety medication but we weren't ready to go there yet. It was because of his constant pacing that we decided to give him a new name, Ahote, meaning 'restless one' in Hopi.

At first Kaileah and Ahote ignored each other, Kaileah being very interested in and clingy with her caretakers while Ahote paced his run as far away as he could get. Since there were no antagonistic interactions, we decided to leave them together and see what happened. The first day

there was very little interaction between the two and there was no change in Ahote's stress level. We knew we were going to have to try putting him on medication. Or would we?



First thing the next morning we were treated to a surprise. Not only had Ahote stopped pacing but he was waiting for treats at the bottom of the enclosure with Kaileah and the surprises didn't stop there. When staff and volunteers went in to poop scoop the run later that day, Ahote quietly approached each one for a quick sniff. He didn't even need Kaileah around to give him support! He followed the volunteers all around his enclosure, checked out everything they left behind and even started eating out of the kibble feeder. He was interacting not only with Kaileah but also his neighbors. This was a completely different animal. We were thrilled!

Kaileah and Ahote are adjusting well to each other and we have high hopes for their future. We now know that Kaileah was just what the doctor ordered to help calm Ahote and hopefully he will get used to the routine at the Sanctuary and feel safe in his new forever home.

**Ahote Being Released****Welcome Home!**

Remembering Hachi

By Michelle Proulx

Before coming to W.O.L.F. Hachi's life was a difficult one. Given at a young age to a hoarder in Adams County Colorado, Hachi lived most of his life as one of 80 animals neglected on a condemned property without proper shelter or care. Though he didn't lack for canine companionship, the hoarder did not socialize with the animals, leaving them skittish, fearful and in poor health.

In October 2013 animal control officers were forced to confiscate the animals from this repeat hoarder for a third time. Many were in such bad shape that it was kinder to euthanize them rather than make them suffer longer. It took months before the hoarder agreed to sign over ownership of most of the animals to the Adams County Shelter. Some were adopted out; the ones that couldn't were surrendered to other rescue organizations. This was how Hachi came to our attention.

The call from the shelter was desperate. Hachi had already been with them for over three months. Not only had he been labeled a wolf dog (making him unadoptable), but the shelter staff were afraid of him. If we couldn't take him or know of a wolf rescue that could their only option for Hachi was euthanasia.

When we went to the shelter to do an evaluation on Hachi, it was not our intention to bring him home with us. We only had one opening at the Sanctuary and that meant Hachi would have to remain alone for who knew how long. Yet there was no way we could say no to his fearful, snarling teddy bear face when we saw him. He had obviously been through hell and deserved a chance to live a better life.

As soon as Hachi arrived at the Sanctuary, his fear aggression began to subside. He still curled his lip or barked at his caretakers if they came too close but he stopped charging the fence whenever a human approached. Soon this behavior turned from a fear response into a game and Hachi would often follow his caretakers around the enclosure barking loudly while wagging his tail. Because Hachi was so skinny with almost no fur when he was rescued in January 2014, he was given a specially prepared diet three times a day. Though only intended to last for a month or two, Hachi's adorable face succeeded in talking his caretakers into continuing this special treatment until the day he passed.

About the time we began thinking of getting Hachi a companion we noticed a growth on his leg. Taking him to the vet, we learned the heartbreaking news. Our little wolf dog had a bone tumor in his wrist. The only treatment would be amputation. We couldn't ask a 13 year old animal to go through the pain of surgery and recovery when he was uncomfortable being around humans, so Hachi was put on a regimen of pain killers and watched carefully. Because of the location, a fracture or break was extremely likely and we felt that having a companion animal would increase the risk of injury, so he remained alone. Luckily Hachi seemed to enjoy being a bachelor and had a huge crush on his next door neighbor, Isabeau, content to watch "Izzy TV" between naps.

In May of 2015 the tumor once again began to grow rapidly and Hachi was having more difficulty moving around. His attitude remained unchanged however, and he continued on as if everything was fine. This more than anything is what broke our hearts when he finally fractured his wrist where the tumor was located. With no way to treat the fracture the decision was made to help Hachi pass. On June 7, 2015 Home to Heaven came to the Sanctuary to help Hachi pass peacefully. Determined to the very end, Hachi's fighting spirit is still an inspiration to us all and he is greatly missed.



Summer Intern Spotlight

By Amelia Wieber

This newsletter's Volunteer Spotlight is dedicated to our summer interns. Working as though they are staff, our interns have become an important part of W.O.L.F.'s daily operation. They care for the animals, prepare meat diets, and help with various maintenance tasks such as enclosure repair, landscaping, and road repair.

They are in this newsletter to honor their hard work and dedication to the Sanctuary. Sanctuary staff strives to provide interns with a well-rounded education in non-profit sanctuary work. It is our wish that they all find success in their chosen careers. We wanted to find out how they felt about interning at the Sanctuary and asked each of them to answer a few questions for us.

Mia Petrocelli

Colorado State University: Psychology with an interest in Animal Psychology/Behavior.



Why did you decide to intern at W.O.L.F.?

I have always been interested in animal psychology and behavior. When I learned that I would be able to intern at W.O.L.F. as a Psychology major, I was beyond thrilled! Being able to get to know the wolves, as well as the staff and other volunteers who work together to keep them happy and healthy, was exactly what I was looking for in an internship. It's a really inspiring organization to be a part of, and to have the opportunity to intern here has been life-changing in the best of ways!

What is your favorite thing to do while interning?

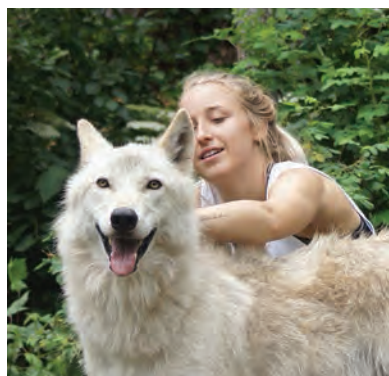
My favorite thing to do as an intern is to observe and interact with the wolf-dogs! As an intern, I get to spend a good portion of the day watching how the wolves interact with their companions, their surroundings, and their caretakers. Since I study mostly human psychology in school, it's fun to be able to take what I have learned and apply it to wildlife. It's a very special experience to be able to get to know all of the wolf-dogs and their different characteristics and qualities that make them distinctly unique.

Do you have a favorite animal at W.O.L.F.?

It's always difficult choosing a favorite, but if I have to pick just one, it would be Thor. He is quite the character! I was intimidated by him at first because of his size and the fact that he's a Level 4, but I quickly learned how sweet and silly he is and fell in love with him.

Abby Matzke

Colorado State University: Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism with a concentration in Parks and Protected Area Management.



Why did you decide to intern at W.O.L.F.?

Wolves have always been my favorite animals, and I wanted to be in an environment where I could be surrounded by these amazing animals and other people who think the same way about them I do. There is no better feeling than helping these wonderful creatures live full, healthy lives away from harm!

What is your favorite thing to do while interning?

This might sound really strange, but I absolutely love poop scooping. I feel like that isn't something you hear very often, but it is fun at W.O.L.F.! You get to see the inside of the enclosure, pet the wolves if they want you

to, and hang out while still getting work done!

Do you have a favorite animal at W.O.L.F.?

I feel like we shouldn't be picking favorites! They are all so different and have quirky personalities. However, I am definitely biased when it comes to picking my favorite animal. I would have to say Orion simply because I went on the rescue to pick him up from New Mexico, and he will always have a very special place in my heart.

Alex Avrin

Colorado State University: BS in Wildlife Biology.



Why did you decide to intern at W.O.L.F.?

I decided to intern at W.O.L.F. because I wanted more experience working with animals and this was one of the most hands on sanctuaries around. Also I love wolves!

What is your favorite thing to do at W.O.L.F.?

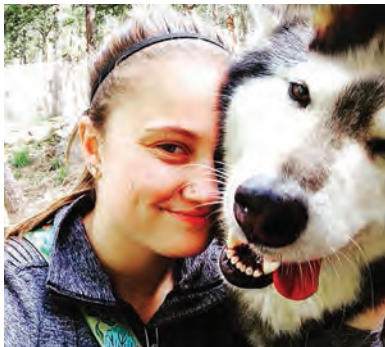
My favorite thing to do at the sanctuary is poop scooping (gross I know) because it is time we get to visit with the wolves.

Do you have a favorite animal at W.O.L.F.?

My favorite animals were Drake and Kai, and I still love Kai of course!

Courtney Larson

Colorado State University: Wildlife Biology



Why did you decide to intern at W.O.L.F.?

I decided to intern for WOLF because I love animals and I wanted to get more experience with working at a sanctuary.

What is your favorite thing to do at W.O.L.F.?

My favorite thing to do while interning is being able to spend time with the animals and get to know them better.

Do you have a favorite animal at W.O.L.F.?

I could never choose a favorite animal but Bella and Rajan always know how to make me feel better!

Mark Speth

Colorado State University: Conservation Biology.



Why did you decide to intern at W.O.L.F.?

Amelia offered the internship at a CSU career fair after we talked about our respective work with hybrids. And I guess you can say that your motto of "Wolves Offered Life and Friendship" played out and I found many new friends human and wolf. Since then I've loved coming up weekly. :)

What is your favorite thing to do at W.O.L.F.?

That's tough...I love interacting with the animals, but I also love helping you guys with the vet checks.

Do you have a favorite animal at W.O.L.F.?

Isabeau, I love getting scent rubbed by her and occasionally getting groomed.

For information on how you can become an intern or volunteer at W.O.L.F., contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Amelia, at AWieber@wolfsanctuary.net or (970)416-9531.



W.O.L.F. Sanctuary

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Summer 2015

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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.



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