

WOLF



**Learning About Wolves
Howlly Wood Gala a Success
In Loving Memory of Ariel**



Summer 2019

Wine, Wolves and Art

Help Support W.O.L.F.'s Wild Hearts at Home Campaign

September 5th, 2019 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Blendings at the Preserve

3924 Bingham Hill Rd | Fort Collins, CO 80521

Tickets: \$50 per person *Limited tickets available*

Join W.O.L.F. Sanctuary on Thursday, September 5th from 5 – 7 pm at new Northern Colorado hot spot Blendings at the Preserve for an evening filled with delicious wine, unique art for auction, live music from artist Sofie Reed on the patio, and more! Meet one of W.O.L.F.'s special rescued wolf-dog ambassadors, indulge in an assortment of vegetarian and vegan canapes, and enjoy the beautiful ambiance while sipping a glass of Wild Hearts Wine.

Proceeds raised from the event will benefit W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's Wild Hearts at Home Campaign—an effort to generate funding in support of infrastructure and operational costs spread across 160-acres at the new Sanctuary near Red Feather Lakes, Colorado. W.O.L.F.'s new home will include state-of-the-art habitats for the rescued wolves and wolf-dogs, in addition to a much-needed on-site vet care exam room, and a re-purposed barn to accommodate staff and volunteers who support the animals, just to name a few of the new features!

Tickets to Wine, Wolves and Art are \$50 per person, and include a glass of Blending's custom Wild Hearts Wine and gourmet canapes.

Reserve today at www.wolfsanctuary.co/wine-wolves-art. Limited tickets available. Purchases can only be made online. For more information, please contact JKole@wolfsanctuary.net.



SAVE THE DATE!

W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's 16th Annual Gala Fundraiser

May 2, 2020

The Hilton Ft. Collins, CO

Save the date for an icy evening adorned with twinkling lights as you enter a wolf wonderland, paired with special auction items, gourmet vegetarian and vegan meal entrees, a wolf ambassador, and more.

Legendary wolf biologist, Rick McIntyre, will once again be joining W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's Gala as a VIP speaker! You'll learn more about the wolves of Yellowstone in further detail as Rick shares stories from his new book, *The Rise of Wolf 8*. Rick will also be available to sign books on sale the evening of the event!

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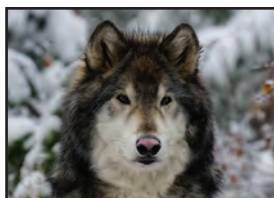
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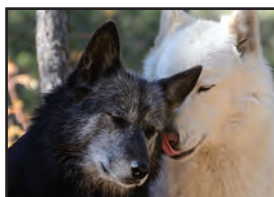
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Ariel was found as a stray wandering in the woods near a rural home in Ohio with two other dogs.



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Enjoy our latest installment of "Facts and Tracks!" This quarter we are excited to introduce you to Nashoba and Nysa.



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There are many ways you can help ensure the future of W.O.L.F. and the wolves and wolf dogs we all love so much. One way to help is often overlooked.

Cover Photo: Tenali



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American Sanctuary Association, Accredited
Community Shares of Colorado, Member

Mission: To improve the quality of life for wolves and wolf dogs through:

- Rescue** - Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs who need sanctuary in order to survive;
- Sanctuary** - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. in a natural habitat that takes into account each individual's physical, medical & emotional needs;
- Education** - Provide the public with education about the plight of wolves and wolf dogs (both captive-born and wild) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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Letter from the Director

Dear WO.L.F. Supporters,

We are still basking in the success of our Howlly Wood Gala, and I would be remiss if I didn't thank our wonderful volunteers and supporters who helped to make the event our best ever. We also want to thank the amazing guests: actress and animal activist Kristen Bauer; Gina Carano, star of the new film *Daughter of the Wolf*; Defenders of Wildlife's Suzanne Asha Stone; and Yellowstone wildlife guides Linda Thurston and Nathan Varley. Their presentations were inspiring, and the Q & A was an extraordinary opportunity to talk about wolves, Yellowstone, and movies! It was a special evening, and the proceeds from the Gala help us care for our wolves and wolf dogs throughout the year.



It is finally summer in the Rockies, and we are enjoying the seasonal weather --- hot and wet, or cool and dry. We have it all, and our wolves and wolf dogs are always ready for summer fun. We provide large stock tanks as wolf wading pools so our animals can splash around when the days are warm. They love it, and it's a regular splash party on the mountain.

I have two exciting updates on our Red Feather Lakes Sanctuary property. We are about to break ground on our new home! Larimer County is conducting the final review on our site plans, and we will begin construction on the new sanctuary late summer or early fall. We have also launched our

fund-raising campaign "Wild Hearts at Home" to raise \$2 million for the new sanctuary. To date we have raised \$1,277,400, and we know our supporters will help us finish the job over the coming months. See Development Director Jessica Kole's article about ways you can help.

We are delighted to share a wonderful article from our very special "intern," the French screenwriter Monica Rattazzi who spent several weeks with us gaining experience and background information for a screenplay she is developing on an ancient Native American wolf legend.

We were featured on an episode of *Hanging with the Hendersons* that premiered on Animal Planet on July 13. The episode is named "Call of the Wild." If you missed it, you can watch the full episode here: <https://www.animalplanet.com/tv-shows/hanging-with-the-hendersons/full-episodes/call-of-the-wild>; It was a treat to watch young veterinarians Dr. Ross and Dr. Ryan work with W.O.L.F. staff to provide annual physical exams for several of our wolf dogs.

Finally, we have sad news to report that the beautiful and elegant Ariel has passed away. She left this world on a sunny day in May. Ariel was 15 years old, and it was W.O.L.F.'s privilege to provide her care for six years. She was a shy animal, and we loved her very much. You can read our Director of Animal Care Michelle Proulx's moving tribute to this wolf dog who touched so many hearts.

We wish you many happy adventures this summer. We know our wolves will be enjoying the season too.

As always, humbly and gratefully yours,
Shelley Coldiron, Executive Director

Learning About Wolves

By Monica Rattazzi



It all started with a book about wolves I saw in a store. Retrospectively thinking about it, it feels normal that it should start with a book since my job is to be a writer...

But on that day, as my hand was reaching out for the book, the reasonable little grumpy voice in my head said:

Really? A book about wolves? And why not a book about red ants in the Amazonian forest, while you're at it? Are you aware that with all the unread books at home, you could probably go for two full years doing nothing but reading?!

I was forced to agree that she was right and so, I sadly put the book back on the shelf...

A few days later, I was invited to dinner by a very dear friend of mine from my home country, Morocco. It was just passed my birthday and so she treated me with a little present: This very same book I had seen in the store. My first thought was: Thank God for girl friends over reasonable voices in our heads!

So - contrary to what the little voice assumed - I immediately started reading the book. I was extremely moved by learning about those amazing animals and their lives, the way they move around in packs, the extreme importance of social rules amongst them, the family feeling...

At that time, I was beginning to write the script of a long feature movie that I'll be directing in 2020. The story is about the coming of age of a young boy, rejected by his family and by society. And, as I was writing and reading the book, the tale

of the white wolf and black wolf came to my mind. It is an ancient Native American about a little boy who comes and asks his grand-father whether it is true that we all have a black wolf and a white wolf inside of us. The Grand-father nods and adds: it is true, my loved one. Inside of us, there is a Black wolf who is vindictive, cruel, selfish, jealous. And a White wolf who is gentle, sweet, loving and caring, generous and shining. And they keep fighting within us, all the time. So, the little boy looks at his grand-father with worried eyes and asks: but, Grandpa, which of those wolves shall win at the end? And the old man answers: the one you will feed, my love. The one you will feed...



And from there, more and more wolves kept coming into my story... And so I kept doing my best to learn about them.

Yet, at some point, I felt reading books and looking at documentaries wasn't going to be enough. I needed to actually see, touch, hear, feel wolves - I won't start telling you what the little voice said about this - Yet, as the need kept becoming more imperious, came this idea: what if I did some kind of internship that would put me in contact with wolves?

After a few researches and applications, I received an answer from W.O.L.F. Sanctuary. It was on a cold grey week-end and I was going through a very rough emotional time. I had driven to Normandy, to escape, to find air. Just like when you've been under water for a while and your lungs crave for you to swim back up... I needed air and, on this rainy Sunday morning, I found this

message from Susan C. Weidel at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary telling me I was welcome to visit. The tone was so gentle and caring, and generous. I was breathing again...

Now, the little voice couldn't say much. Yet my daughter soon replaced her: What now, mum? Wolves? What if they eat you up? My daughter worrying about me? It felt like roles were being reversed here. But I kept moving on. And all the people I was exchanging with by email, organizing it all, seemed so nice and generous. Nothing would go wrong.

As I boarded on the plane, the little voice inside tried her last attempt: Let me tell one thing: don't come and complain if those people cut you into pieces to feed you to the animals... But an even stronger voice kept gently hushing her as I boarded on the plane and arrived – almost 24 hours later – very late at night, in Fort Collins where Bob Proulx came to pick me up and met Michelle on the very next day.



From there, it all has been a wonderful experience that started with poop scooping - So, you hear the little voice now? Just to give you a hint, it involves being a mother abandoning her children to come and scoop poop at the other end of the world...

No matter what I was doing, my heart was overwhelmed with excitement: I could see wolves. I could hear their long collective, heart melting, goose pumping howls. I could see them move in this very elegant delicate way. This very cat like, independent behavior. The touching paradox between their powerful body and their shyness. The paradox between their reputation of cruel beings and the cruelty of the lives all of them had experienced, making them so vulnerable. The paradox between this wildness still in them and their present life in an enclosure. And most

of all, I could see their eyes... This intense look in their eyes. This feeling that they were looking right through my eyes, straight into my soul...



And of course, most of all, I met Ashima... Or, should I say, Ashima decided that we should meet... I didn't know why I felt so attracted to this crazy little she-wolf. But as I was staying with the Proulx family who sheltered her when she was a baby, I got to learn about her childhood. A very cruel, abused childhood where she physically got hurt and wasn't supposed to ever walk again. And the more I was learning about her, the more I could feel how close this was to my own experience in life. Including this accident I had when I was a young child that made it impossible for me to be a dancer as I had always dreamt of. I spent hours petting her through the fence, looking at her, feeling her licking my fingers. And being so grateful that I could experience such a connection.

I also attended the fundraising Gala in Fort Collins in May. Back with human beings... and this was an amazing evening: all these people gathered around their love for wolves. And the generosity they showed to make the work at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary possible: this rescue work, this saving life task implies an enormous amount of work from all the team at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary. And money as well as time. And my heart kept melting as I could see how people were being generous. So people could actually care? And most of all, what was it then that those people cared about? Saving lives, of course... But I had to know more: what is it that fascinated people in this way? Including myself.

So I started asking questions. And the more answers I would get, the more the picture was becoming clear. It felt as if those animals would represent what is happening in the world today: in an



outside world that is becoming more and more cruel to wild life and life itself, those wolves were telling us that there is always a flame inside that will keep us going. The fierce look in their eyes told us how much we need respect. To respect and be respected. They were telling us

about respect and generosity and sharing and solitude and the wildness inside each of us. And how no matter the pains and sufferings, no matter how unsecure the future may sound, respect, care, trust, humility and generosity were the answers.

The little voice in my head was silenced with awe: she could see the importance of the major healing lesson I was being taught... And now that she is at peace and knows how much she and I have grown, time has come to thank, from the bottom of my heart and soul, all my wonder-

ful teachers - Ashima and Outlaw and Jacob. And all of the wonderful people at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary, and the generous donors and the people in Fort Collins who made it possible for me to benefit from this life changing experience.

Monica Ratazzi is a French writer and screenwriter who lives in Paris. She was born in Morocco and studied literature, theatre and cinema at Paris University (FR), Reading University (UK) and Brooklyn College (NYC). She has worked as an actress, an assistant theatre director, and as a production and script writer in Paris, Amsterdam, and New-York.

After her acting career was interrupted by a stage accident, Ratazzi became a professional translator, a playwright (received the Beaumarchais Award) and was accepted at the prestigious *Conservatoire Européen d'Ecriture Audiovisuelle* that specializes in education for screenwriters in film, television and animation.

Since then, Ratazzi has worked as a script and screen writer and has written her first novel that won the Prix Polar, a French literary prize awarded each year for the best crime or thriller novel by a European author in French or a French translation.

W.O.L.F. has raised funds for 80 trees to be planted at the new Sanctuary!



Thanks to our supporters, during the month of June, W.O.L.F. has raised the funds necessary for 80 Ponderosa Pines to be planted at the new Sanctuary to provide shade for the rescued wolves and wolf-dogs.

W.O.L.F. partnered with Bonfire to create a custom shirt featuring W.O.L.F. ambassador Ashima—selling over 150 to our donors! A percentage of the proceeds directly impacts W.O.L.F.'s mission to bring vibrant and robust shelter to the animals amongst their habitats spanning across 160-acres near Red Feather Lakes, Colorado.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a t-shirt or made a direct donation. It is because of YOU that we can successfully work towards providing the animals with the best future possible.



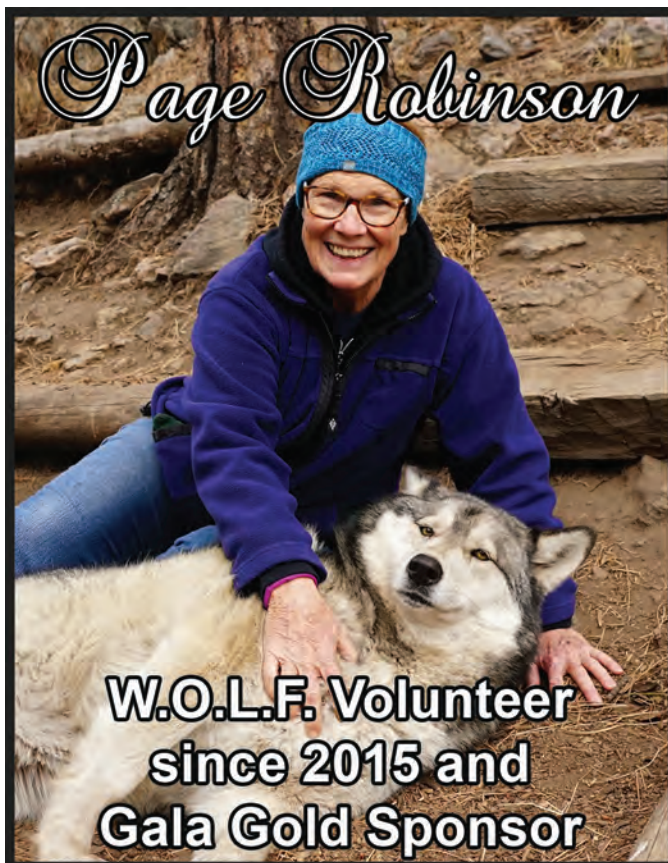


Castiel & Bella Roux



Celebrities, wildlife biologists and supporters help raise howling results for W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's 2019 Howlly Wood Gala—\$116,000!

By Jessica Kole



On May 11th, at the Hilton Fort Collins, Colorado, W.O.L.F. Sanctuary held their 15th annual fundraiser to support the rescued wolves and wolf-dogs who reside at the Sanctuary. The event featured a special appearance by rescued wolf-dogs Takoda and Kira, gourmet vegetarian and vegan meal selections, and a unique selection of auction items—a trip to Cozumel, Mexico, a naturally shed wolf shawl, a Yellowstone wolf trekking adventure, and more—to raise funds for the organization's Mission of Rescue, Sanctuary and Education.

The Howlly Wood Gala attracted over 325 attendees and offered supporters the opportunity to hear from political representatives, wildlife experts and guest celebrities. The evening opened with a video from Colorado's First Gentleman, Marlon Reis, as he shared his passion for wildlife, and in particular, wolf conservation. Additional appearances included key notes from Congressman Joe Neguse, and Roland Halpern from Colorado Voters for Animals to discuss the importance of bringing wolves in the wild to Colorado.



Actresses Kristin Bauer and Gina Carano with the Howlly Wood Gala Team



Co-existence specialist Suzanne Asha Stone from Defenders of Wildlife

Gala attendees listened to inspirational wolf stories from Nathan Varley and Linda Thurston from the premier wildlife viewing organization, Yellowstone Wolf Tracker, and wolf co-existence specialist Suzanne Asha Stone from Defenders of Wildlife.

Guest celebrity Kristin Bauer of ABC's *Once Upon a Time* and HBO's *True Blood* shared personal experiences of her passion for animal welfare to the crowd, and joined a Q&A session with actress Gina Carano from *Fast and Furious 6*, *Deadpool*, and recent feature film *Daughter of the Wolf* which launched in June.

Thanks to the dedication of our sponsors, supporters and VIP guests, the event raised \$116,000 net towards W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's operational costs and new sanctuary buildout. The rescued wolves and wolf-dogs currently located off Rist Canyon Road will be relocated to 160-acres near Red Feather Lakes, Colorado, in a safer, more accessible location, aimed to be open to the public in the future for supporters to learn more about the animals at the Sanctuary and the plight of wolves in the wild.

Save the date for W.O.L.F.'s 2020 fundraiser event—Snow Ball Masquerade—May 2nd at the Hilton, Fort Collins, Colorado.



Nathan Varley and Linda Thurston from Yellowstone Wolf Tracker





In Loving Memory of Ariel

By Michelle Proulx

Ariel was found as a stray wandering in the woods near a rural home in Ohio with two other dogs. The owners of the property, being animal lovers, caught up the three animals and worked to find placement for them. While the two dogs were easy to find homes for, the same could not be said for Ariel who was extremely shy and avoided contact with people whenever possible, despite their best efforts to socialize and care for her. When euthanasia was recommended for Ariel, the family adopted her and placed her at a boarding facility where she could be with other dogs while they searched for a sanctuary to take her.

As is often the case with low to mid content wolf dogs, they struggled to find a sanctuary or rescue to take Ariel. She was either too low or too high content to be accepted. Days turned to weeks then to months and finally to years and still no one took Ariel. In early 2013, a friend offered to help them try to find placement for Ariel and contacted W.O.L.F. and we agreed to take her. They went to the boarding kennel, loaded her up and drove her non-stop from Ohio to Colorado.

Ariel was originally placed with a high-content, social animal named Thor. Thor was wonderful with her, and helped Ariel become more confident with her surroundings. While she never sought out direct human attention, she would often come down to the front of the habitat and do a little happy dance for food or to “chase” her caretakers away from her habitat whenever they weren’t “looking”. Unfortunately, Thor passed away in 2016 and Ariel lost much of her new found confidence after he passed.

Ariel was placed with another male named Sigmund and while she did not bond as deeply with him as she did Thor, she settled into a comfortable routine with him. Unfortunately Sigmund passed away in 2017 once again leaving Ariel by herself. Having lost two companions in quick succession we decided to place her with a younger wolf dog named Pax. We were a little worried about the introduction as Pax is a bully but things worked out very well between the two. While neither were really interested in spending much time together they both seemed more content having a companion near by. Ariel didn’t push Pax or try to butt into any of his activities and Pax, for the most part, kept all the human attention focused on him, giving Ariel a chance to relax.

Ariel was 9 years old when she arrived at W.O.L.F. and by 2017 she had started to show signs of her age. Though her physical condition deteriorated over time, her mind never did. To try to help her body keep up with her mind, Ariel received numerous stem cell treatments and shock wave sessions. These worked wonders for helping her stay mobile and active.

Unfortunately, by late March 2019, we started to notice that the effects were lasting shorter and shorter amounts of time between treatments and weren’t having the same degree of benefit afterwards. Her lab work also showed that her liver values had begun increasing. Concerned, she was scheduled for an ultrasound. The ultrasound discovered two large masses in her abdomen, one in the liver the other in the spleen, most likely cancerous. Though the results were upsetting they were not surprising or entirely unexpected.

As Ariel was 15 and a half years old we knew we would soon have to say goodbye, but she wasn’t ready quite yet. We made her as comfortable as possible and evaluated her condition daily for quality of life. Finally on May 22, 2019, Ariel let us know she was ready. That afternoon she was helped to pass away peacefully. Though she never desired or appreciated human interactions, Ariel touched the hearts of everyone who worked with her, even if they only ever saw a bit of ear or flash of tail through the bushes at the top of her habitat. Her perseverance and quiet zest for life is an inspiration to us all and she will always be remembered fondly.

Wolf Facts & Tracks

By Michelle Proulx



NASHOBA - Male

Birthday: February 27, 2007

Given Sanctuary: March 19, 2008

Companion: Isabeau

Guardian Angel: Sarah Arnold

Likes: Laying with his head resting on a log.

Dislikes: Feeling itchy.

Favorite Food: Liverwurst.

Fun Fact: The only time he enjoys being pet is when Nashoba is shedding his winter coat.

Personality: Nashoba is an older high content wolf dog who is comfortable approaching his caretakers only if they are safely on the other side of a fence. When his caretakers are in the habitat doing chores, Nashoba always tries to make sure that there is as much space between him and the humans as possible. However, so long as they are on the opposite side of the fence, Nashoba will readily come up to take treats and even allow himself to be touched on occasion.

NYSA - Female

Birthday: March 5, 2016

Given Sanctuary: January 29, 2017

Companion: Wayaho

Guardian Angel: Jeffery Mullins

Likes: Running the fence line with her neighbors.

Dislikes: Caretakers entering her habitat.

Favorite Food: Treats.

Fun Fact: Nysa likes to play peek-a-boo with her caretakers.

Personality: Nysa is a standoffish young wolf dog who has a 15 foot personal space bubble around her at all times. If her caretakers get within that bubble, Nysa will often pick up whatever item is closest to her (a toy, stick, pine cone, etc.) and run off with it so that her caretakers don't steal it as they clean her habitat. She maintains her safety bubble even when her caretakers are on the opposite side of the fence from her, often "dancing" just at the edge as she waits for them to leave.



Where there is a Will, There is a Way



There are many ways you can help ensure the future of W.O.L.F. and the wolves and wolf dogs we all love so much. One way to help is often overlooked. That is a legacy gift – a bequest through your will or through another estate planning method such as a charitable trust or making W.O.L.F. the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, a retirement account, or a financial investment account. Several of these legacy gifts are quite simple and only require the completion of a beneficiary form through your financial institution or insurance company.

W.O.L.F. was pleasantly surprised this year with legacy gifts we received from supporters who wanted to guaran-

tee the safety of our animals for many years into the future. These gifts mean the world to us because we know they will allow W.O.L.F. to continue the vital work of rescuing and providing sanctuary for wolves and wolf dogs in desperate need.

If you would like to help guarantee the future for W.O.L.F. and our animals, we hope you will consider a legacy gift as you make your estate plans. As you review and make your estate plans, please feel free to contact Susan Weidel at sweidel@wolfsanctuary.net if you need information about W.O.L.F. for your attorney, estate planner, or financial planner.

It is our passion and our promise to keep these animals safe and provide for the ability to care for many, many more wolves and wolf dogs as long as there is a need. We hope you will follow your passion and help us protect these animals who are so often abused and tossed aside to die in shelters or at the end of a chain. Helping to save these beautiful animals is a lasting legacy.



An easy way to support the wolves everyday.

By logging on to Smile.Amazon.com instead of Amazon.com, the Amazon-Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of all your qualifying purchases to the charity of your choice. This may not seem like much but it does add up. So select W.O.L.F. Sanctuary as your charity of choice and shop!





W.O.L.F. Sanctuary

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W.O.L.F.

Summer 2019

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 (which can be renewed yearly), I will receive a quarterly newsletter, window decal, annual calendar and additional gifts (depending on my member level) unless I specify otherwise.

☐ \$50 Member

☐ \$200 Supporter

☐ \$500 Advocate

☐ \$1,000 Protector

☐ \$2,500 Champion

☐ \$5,000 Phoenix Rising

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