Welcoming Kyah Closed2Open Event a Success! Upcoming Events





Join W.O.L.F. Sanctuary at Odell Brewery's The OBC Wine Project

Join W.O.L.F. at Odell Brewery's The OBC Wine Project, on September 13th from 5-7 PM for an evening of art, wine, and philanthropy!

If you like wine and art, or even if you just like enjoying the company of fellow W.O.L.F. supporters, this event is for you!

During this intimate event in a beautiful setting, guests will have the opportunity to taste wine created in-house at The OBC Wine Project and bid on inspirational art. Live music will be provided by supporter Lucas Wolf who is so dedicated to wolves that he changed his last name to match! The OBC Wine Project has a beautiful indoor tasting room to enjoy or venture outside to their gorgeous patio!

The ticket price, **<u>\$50 per person</u>**, includes a glass of The OBC Wine Project wine and an assortment of gourmet vegetarian and vegan hors d'oeuvres. Additional glasses and bottles of wine will be available for purchase.

This event benefits the wolf dogs in our care and the broader work W.O.L.F. does. You will be helping to rescue captive-born wolves and wolf dogs around the U.S., educate the public about the wolf

dog crisis, and provide the highest quality care for the wolf dogs at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary. Not to mention meeting other W.O.L.F. supporters over a glass of wine and potentially leaving with a beautiful piece of art!

This is an exclusive in-person event only and tickets are limited so get yours today! This will be an event you don't want to miss!



To purchase tickets, visit wolfwine2022. givesmart.com, scan the QR code or contact our Development Manager, Kendra, at kkellogg@wolfsanctuary.net.



In This Issue





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Time for more fun Facts & Tracks! In this issue we are thrilled to introduce you to Kovu and Mayari.



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W.O.L.F. is participating in a number of fun community events and festivals this fall. We hope to see you at one or more of these events this year!



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

- **Rescue** Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs in need and find them appropriate placement at a sanctuary or other qualified site;
- **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 W.O.L.F. Friends and Supporters,

Summer is here and so is the heat. We've been fortunate to have some scattered rain showers. Let's hope that this is a relatively quiet summer across the world for wildfires.

As some may know, Queen Yuki decided she wanted to be a bachelorette and no longer wanted to cohabitate with Kieran. She is fine having play dates with Kieran for as long as the Queen deems acceptable and then she likes to return to her private habitat where staff and volunteers can lavish their attention on her. Kieran was pining for a new companion, and we found the perfect match for him, Kyah. We don't know what her history was before being rescued by a shelter in Minnesota, as she was in rough shape. Despite her injuries and being emaciated, she is extremely sweet and affectionate. And she is keeping Kieran on his toes playing to their hearts content. (Page 4)

> Progress is still moving along on our Red Feather property. The habitat builds are about three-quarters of the way completed. We are working on the buildout of our new 100% property in stages. We have raised approximately \$1.8M to date and have approximately \$2M more for a full buildout of our Phase 1 dream. Please consider donating to our goal. The complete build is state-of-art habitats for our furry ones, a meat pro-**90**% cessing building with an attached walk-in freezer, retrofitting the existing outbuilding 80% with offices for staff and volunteers and small veterinary exam room for routine procedures, a pavilion for visitors and a public restroom. At our new home, we will finally 70% be open to the public and you will be able to see the impact of your support! 60%

> We have a heartwarming story about Kris Paige who has been a longtime supporter of W.O.L.F. She takes naturally shed fur from our residents and with love and many, 50% many hours, creates beautiful works of art that helps to raise funds at our annual gala and are sold on her Etsy store. (Page 11) 40%

> We will be holding our Wine, Wolves and Art Event again this year on September 30% 13 at OBC Wine Project in Fort Collins. Come for wine, hors d'oeuvres and bid on art-

work to help in the care of our furry ones. 20% Everyone had a great time when we had 10% this event for our first time in 2019, putting planning for another event on hold due to COVID until now. (Page 1)



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Save the Date for April 22, 2023 for our annual fundraiser gala themed Howling for Mother Earth. It takes 8-9 months to plan for these galas and our theme will be focused on Earth Day and what we can do to help all that is our home - Mother Earth.

Excitingly we are starting to participate in in person tabling events and are so hap-

py to see the public once again to info them of our mission to help wolves and wolf dogs. A calendar of these events is later in the newsletter. We hope to see you at the events! (Page 14)

> As always, gratefully and humbly yours, Shellev



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WOLF

Welcoming Kyah

By Keith Laposh

In late May of 2022, W.O.L.F. received an email from a resident of Martin County, Minnesota. There was a wolf dog at the Martin County Humane Society and she was concerned about what might happen to it. W.O.L.F.'s Rescue Coordinator replied back to the email asking for more information about the animal and if there were any photos. The resident sent one photo and the contact information for the shelter.

W.O.L.F. gets many calls and emails like this every year, where individuals reach out seeking help for wolf dogs that they know about but do not own. Unfortunately, W.O.L.F. is unable to do anything if they are calling on behalf of a privately owned wolf dog unless the owner can be convinced to contact the Sanctuary directly. However, this individual was contacting the Sanctuary about an animal at a local shelter. In these cases, W.O.L.F. will reach out to the shelter and offer to help evaluate and/or find appropriate placement for the wolf dog in question.

W.O.L.F.'s Rescue Coordinator reached out to the shelter and spoke to a volunteer there about the wolf dog. The animal's name was Akela and she had been picked up as a stray. When she first arrived at the shelter she was severely underweight and had numerous wounds to her face.



Despite the trauma, she was very friendly with everv person she met and the shelter staff worked diligently to get her healthy again. Eventually Akela was ready to be adopted and a family with two young children took her in. She did amazing with her human fami-



ly, but as so often happens with wolf dogs kept as pets, Akela preyed upon the family cat, so she was returned to the shelter.

W.O.L.F.'s Rescue Coordinator left his contact information with the volunteer hoping someone from the shelter's staff would be in touch. The next morning, the shelter director returned the call asking who they were, what organization they are from and how they found out about Akela. After explaining why he had called, the shelter's director informed him that they had possible placement for Akela but thanks for calling. Our Rescue Coordinator gave the shelter W.O.L.F.'s website address in case they wanted a resource for wolf dog information before hanging up.

At this point, W.O.L.F. had been looking to bring in another individual. It became clear that Yuki and Kieran would not be living together as full time companions again. While Yuki thrived being alone where she could soak up all of the human attention without sharing, Kieran was obviously wanting canine companionship. Kieran was in need of a young, high-content, social female companion and Akela seemed to fit that description. After his communication with the shelter, our rescue coordinator reached out to W.O.L.F.'s Executive Director to let her know that there was an animal



that might work as a companion for Kieran. After a conference call with W.O.L.F.'s Director of Animal Care, the Exec-Director utive asked the Rescue Coordinator to call the shelter back to educate them on what sort of

challenges a private owner could encounter with a high-content wolf dog, the requirements needed to successfully keep a wolf dog a private home, and extend an offer to bring Akela to W.O.L.F. if their placement fell through.

Our Rescue Coordinator reached back out to the Martin County Humane Society and explained what private ownership would need to expect in order to successfully keep an animal like Akela. He told the shelter staff that W.O.L.F. would love to give Akela sanctuary because our young male, Kieran, needed a companion and Akela seemed like a perfect match. After learning more about the challenges of private care for wolf dogs, and the worry that being an predominately agricultural community, if Akela managed to escape from her new family, people had the right to shoot her if she crossed onto their property, the shelter staff decided that coming to W.O.L.F. would be the best option for Akela.

After sharing this news with the Executive Director, coordinating the rescue began. On

Mav 29th. 2022, W.O.L.F. resthe cue team boarded a plane and flew to Minneapolis, where they rented a van, drove to the Martin County Humane Society, picked up Akela and began the long drive back to W.O.L.F.



Upon their arrival early on May 30th, the team released Akela into her temporary habitat next to Kieran to begin the introduction process. Since W.O.L.F. already had a wolf dog named Akela, the Rescue Coordinator had the honor of renaming the new girl. He stated, "After seeing her photos and speaking with the shelter staff about her personality, I began searching female names. I wanted it to be something unique but not obscure. There were several different ways to spell Kyah, so I began researching meanings. Since she will hopefully be Kieran's companion, I looked up the Irish meaning, which is 'earth' or 'woman of nature.' A Native American translation is 'small but wise.' When I met her this morning,

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it sealed the deal. She looked like a Kyah and the name fits her personality. It just feels right."

Introductions between Kyah and Kieran started out a little rough, with Kieran being overwhelmed by Kyah's energy and excitement, but after being fence line neighbors for a week and a couple of carefully controlled face-to-face introductions, Kieran and Kyah were finally ready to be together full time. Since then their relationship has blossomed into a truly magical friendship. The two are always running and wrestling with each other, and often try to include their caregivers in their games. They both love to swim in their pools and are usually soaking wet whenever they greet their humans. Kyah still adores human attention but can be overwhelming with her affections, practically climbing her caretakers to get as close to them as possible. However Kyah has an amazing ability to go from 60 to 0 in half a second if she thinks she can get a belly rub. As soon as it looks like one is forth coming, she will throw herself to the ground, roll over and close her eyes. Usually she is happy to stay like that for as long as the belly rub is offered, but Kieran is less patient and will often interrupt the cuddle session, either seeking attention for himself or try to instigate a wrestling match. They have their whole lives ahead of them and we hope they enjoy each other's companionship for a very, very long time!







Kieran & Kyah

\$7215

OtterBox Closed20pen Event at W.O.L.F. a Big Success!

On June 16th, 2022 over twenty volunteers from the Fort Collins-based company OtterBox, dedicated a full day to wildfire mitigation efforts in the Poudre Watershed as part of their "Closed2Open" program. Working in partnership with three local nonprofits - The W.O.L.F. Sanctuary, Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) and The Ember Alliance (TEA) - the OtterBox group completed 2.3 acres of slash piling on a 38 acre project located at the W.O.L.F. Sanctuary near Red Feather Lakes, CO. The group also moved slash out of several wolf dog enclosures for later chipping. In total, the volunteers donated 200 hours of their time and energy. This work will help make the watershed more resilient, promote effective forest and fire management, create jobs and protect local communities. And, as an added bonus, the group was fueled up by a delicious lunch from the Mountain Mobile Café, a local food truck based out of Red Feather Lakes!

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The W.O.L.F. Sanctuary Wildfire Mitigation Project, led by CPRW and TEA, is using hand thinning,

age Robinson W.O.L.F. Volunteer since 2015 and Gala Gold Sponsor

By Megan Maiolo-Heath with CPRW

slash piling, pile burning, and chipping to reduce forest density and mitigate wildfire risk on 38 acres of private land located between the communities of Red Feather Lakes and Glacier View Meadows, in Larimer County, Colorado.

CPRW and TEA work in this landscape as partners in the Elkhorn Creek Forest Health Initiative (ECF-HI), a collection of organizations that are actively involved in forest management and wildfire mitigation along Elkhorn Creek. Elkhorn Creek is a critical watershed for wildfire mitigation treatments, as it drains directly into the Cache la Poudre River, the main water supply for over 300,000 people in the cities of Fort Collins and Greeley, as well as agricultural use. The Ember Alliance, a forest and fire management nonprofit organization based out of Loveland, Colorado, will complete the forest thinning and slash pile burning treatments on this project, and in the process, will train mitigation crew members in safe chainsaw use, slash pile building, and pile burning for fuels reduction goals.

The ECFHI has planned and implemented its





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treatments along Elkhorn Creek in coordination with larger Fireshed operational and strategic treatments in the area. These include the US Forest Service Magic Feather Collaborative Project, which will eventually treat more than 6,000 acres of private, state, and federal lands along Elkhorn and South Lone Pine Creeks, between Red Feather Lakes and Glacier View Meadows, as well as several other large USFS treatment area planning units in development in the immediate vicinity.

Finally, this project falls within the Glacier View Fire Protection District boundary and has been identified as an area of priority wildfire mitigation through the Glacier View Meadows Community Wildfire Protection Plan update currently being completed by TEA. The W.O.L.F. Sanctuary wildfire mitigation project will involve direct integration with the fire protection district in treatment planning and implementation, providing the fire district enhanced situational awareness for firefighting if a wildfire were to occur in the area.

The hard work of managing our forested watersheds requires collaboration across ownership boundaries and across sectors. The "Closed2Open" program at OtterBox is a great example of how corporate volunteerism can directly benefit local nonprofits and the health of our local watersheds while keeping communities safe. Thank you to every person that came out to make this day possible!

> Howling for Mother Earth Gala 2023 APRIL 22, 2023 THE HILTON FORT COLLINS

Unique Gifts that Support W.O.L.F. Meet Handspun Artist Kris Paige

For over ten years, we have been fortunate to have been gifted the talents of Kris Paige. She has been creating unique, handspun items made from the naturally-shed fur of our residents and donating them to our annual fundraiser gala auction. We recently sat down with her to ask her how she got involved with W.O.L.F.



How did you get involved with W.O.L.F. Sanctuary, and when?

I originally found out about the Sanctuary as a vet tech, when the vet I worked for came out to spay Arkte, in 2007. What an adventure, especially when she started to wake up on the table before we were quite ready for that! I've come out several times since, both as a tech and a spinner. It's always a magical experience, especially if I'm gifted a group how!!

Anyone who's a spinner or knitter knows getting to touch beautiful fiber is a treat, and while carefully monitoring Arkte, I got to touch her soft fur. Of course, I tried to "finger spin" some of what stuck to my scrubs...and I was hooked. Then I was gifted a small amount of Sigmund fur, and the idea to help raise money with items made from their brushings was born.

Who is your favorite resident?

Oh, favorite resident is tricky! Of course, Sigmund comes to mind...I jokingly called him a howling sheep...his fur was finer than fine merino wool, and he produced POUNDS of it. I love all of the residents, whether I can get to spin them or not.

However, I recently got my first experience with Ashima's fur...oh, my! My fingers were in love. I hope she consents to more brushing....she's howling cashmere!

What is your favorite item that you have ever created for W.O.L.F. Sanctuary?

Hard question, but it had to be the first scarf I made for a Gala auction from Shaman. I'd hoped it would bring in \$100. It went for 10 times that! I was floored (one of my friends sitting with me had their phone out, ready to call 911, because she thought I would faint as the bidding went up). Now, I try to make something every year that will do the best for the Sanctuary, and bring joy to the purchaser. It would be fun, some year, for past owners of the scarves/shawls to all wear them to a Gala, for a "fashion show". Some day, I will even make one for myself!

How do you turn wolf fiber in to a shawl?

Wolf fiber is always a challenge, because these animals often come from less than happy circumstances. This shows up in their fur, especially if they've been ill, or malnourished. What can look like gorgeous, long fur a couple inches long can snap down to 1/2" or less, creating a real challenge. The fur can also be very dry, and brittle, requiring more work.



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"The Process of Love"

- 1. Get a puffy pillowcase full of naturally shed raw wolf fur.
- 2. With gentle soap, wash in really warm water, rinse.
- 3. Repeat step 2.
- 4. Lay out in single layer on screen drying racks, let dry (usually at least a day).
- 5. Once dry, put through a picker...this fluffs the fur, minimizing matted bits, helping get rid of forest leavings, etc.
- 6. After picking, the fur is carded. This aligns the fibers, making it easier to spin a consistent thread.
- 7. To the wheel! My workhorse is a 30+ year old wheel that is designed for production spinning. I typically fill multiple bobbins, one after the other. I also spin the support, or second yarn.
- 8. Plying! Because of the unique properties of wolf fiber, I have to ply it with another fiber, usually a fine wool, to support it. I then combine the two, spinning the two singles into a two ply yarn. Spinning and plying takes up to 90 hours.
- 9. Washing! Once plied, the yarn needs washed again, to set the ply, remove any remaining dirt. It's then hung outside to dry.
- 10. While the yarn dries, I plan the weaving.
- 11. I warp the loom...putting the lengthwise threads onto the loom, through a reed, and the heddles.
- 12. Weaving! After a day of warping the loom, I get to sit down and weave. For the usual Gala shawl, this takes at least 3 days.
- 13. After the shawl comes off the loom, it gets another wash, then is carefully pinned out to shape (called blocking) to dry. This is another day's work.
- 14. After the shawl is dry, I trim the ends, fix any problems, give it a gentle press with a warm iron and pressing cloth, and deliver it!



Kris' art is not just limited to items created specifically for the gala. She also regularly makes smaller, one-of-a-kind knit items from the wolf dog's fur and sells them on her Etsy store, donating a portion of these sales back to W.O.L.F. If you are interested in owning one of her beautiful creations made from the naturally-shed fur of our residents, visit: https://www.etsy.com/shop/WildandWolfy.

Wolf Facts & Tracks



Mayari - Female

Birthday: March 23, 2019 Given Sanctuary: November 23, 2020 Companion: Castiel Guardian Angel: Maya Crockett

Likes: Playing fetch with herself. *Dislikes:* Sudden movements. *Favorite Food:* Everything.

Fun Fact: Despite being blind in one eye, Mayari is amazing at finding treats thrown into the habitat. *Personality:* Mayari is a curious mid-content wolf dog who loves to play with her companion Castiel and her neighbor Kovu. While content to follow her caretakers at a distance when they are in the habitat in hopes of getting a treat, Mayari prefers it when her caretakers are away. Then she will wrestle with Castiel and run the fence line with Kovu. If neither want to play with her, Mayari is perfectly content to entertain herself by tossing a toy, pine cone, or stick in the air and chasing after it.

By Michelle Proulx

Kovu - Male

Birthday: December 10, 2018 Given Sanctuary: February 27, 2020 Companion: Cree Guardian Angel: Karen Foy

Likes: Playing with Cree. *Dislikes:* Humans. *Favorite Food:* Baby food.

Fun Fact: When Kovu gets excited about something he usually bounces around and "spy hops". *Personality:* Kovu is an extremely reclusive wolf dog who wants absolutely nothing to do with his caretakers. Many have nicknamed him the "phantom" because he is so good at disappearing from view whenever his caretakers come by to do chores. However, through the use of trail cameras, his caretakers get to see his confident, playful side come out as he races around the hillside with his companion Cree or flirts through the fence with his neighbor, Mayari.



Summer 2022

W.O.L.F. Events Calendar

Saturday, September 10, 2022

What: Rist Canyon Mountain Festival When: 10 am - 4 pm Where: 11835 Rist Canyon Road, Bellvue, CO

If you are out for a mountain drive, make sure to stop and visit our booth at this fun, one day festival supporting the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department!

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

What: Wine, Wolves, Art FundraiserWhen: 5 pm - 7 pmWhere: The OBC Wine Project, Fort Collins, CO

Join us for an evening of wine, hors d'oeuvres, live music, and art. You will have the unique opportunity to bid on beautiful pieces of art, sip wine made in-house by The OBC Wine Project, and meet other W.O.L.F. supporters!

Saturday, September 17, 2022

What: Boys & Girls Club Day For Kids When: 10 am - 2 pm Where: Budweiser Events Center, Loveland, CO

Come see us at our educational booth. We will have both interactive and educational games.

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

What: Pour Brothers Community Tavern When: 5 pm - 7 pm Where: Pour Brothers, Fort Collins, CO

Come have a drink with us! All tips from 5pm-7pm will go to W.O.L.F. and we will have some fun activities throughout the night!

Saturday & Sunday October 1 & 2, 2022

What: Estes Park Elk Festival When: 10 am - 6 pm Where: 170 MacGregor Ave, Estes Park

Stop by and say "Hi!" at the W.O.L.F. booth while you enjoy a day in Estes Park at this entertaining festival. And don't forget to head into the park to hear the elk bugle!













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Spring 2022

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Every Donation Helps



Donations from valued supporters like vou are the reason W.O.L.F. has been able to help save and provide quality care for unwanted, abused and abandoned wolves and wolf dogs for over 27 years. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference.





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