

MEET OUR WOLVES

In each of our newsletters we feature some of our wolves

TRINITY



Trinity came to WolfWood when she was just 4 months old. She was weak, thin and depressed when we first got her from a shelter in northern Colorado. Trinity has problems with her hips because her leg bones are too big and do not fit into her sockets properly. This makes her a little clumsy and unsure of her footing. In spite of this, Trinity is our premier ambassador animal. She goes to every WolfWood event, letting hundreds of people pet her to help out the rest of the animals at the Refuge.

Trinity has had one surgery to correct her bone problem, but unfortunately she will have to have another extensive and expensive operation again this fall. She will need several months to recover and get strong again. The goal is for Trinity to live a pain free life.

We also have Trinity's sister, Akayla, at WolfWood. She had been hit with a pipe, and both her front legs were broken when we got her. After a year of casts and rehabilitation, she is doing very well. A year after the girls came to us, we took in their brother Rowen. All three animals are well taken care of and loved. Trinity is an outgoing, bouncy girl who likes everybody. We are so glad she is part of the Wolf Wood family.

SUMMER EVENTS

If you would like to meet Trinity in person, here is a list of our upcoming events.

Aug 3rd: Five Branches Campground at Lake Vallecito, 10am-3pm. A picnic lunch is provided at noon for \$5 and all proceeds go to the animals of WolfWood. The educational talk will be presented at 1pm and the all-day silent auction will end at 2pm. This is a great chance for our local friends to come and visit.

Aug 17th&18th: Hermit Park in Estes. Always a premier event, we will spend two days in Estes Park. It is the only time we will be there this year so we hope all our supporters from up north will come out to see the wolves. We will be available for visits and petting from 10am until 8pm. Two educational presentations will be given each day in this beautiful open space. Check our website for specific times.

Aug 31st: Navaho State Park. For the first time we will be having an all day event at Navaho Lake. This is another chance for anyone visiting the area to come and see the wolves, and locals to come and show their support. Check the website for specific times.

Sept. 13th: Our Second Annual Art Auction. Anyone who went to this gala event last year knows what a great success it was. This year promises to be even better. Don't miss out on the wonderful art, food and wine. It will be outside at the Durango Discovery Museum from 5:30-9:00pm.

KIDS AND CANINES

We already have done many educational programs and we are just getting started. A special thanks to Tanya Feely and the Mercury Group, who held a great fundraiser for us. What a privilege to live in a community where businesses support local non-profits and care about animal welfare. Below is a partial list of places we have given presentations or groups that have come to WolfWood so far this year: *Toss in the Tundra, Cortez Library, Bear Smart, Bayfield Library, Girl Scouts, Mercury Group, Healthy Hounds, Montessori School, Needham School, Lake City, Byron Turner Family and Friends work day, Dolores Elementary School, Axis Group and we are busier than ever with tours.* A huge thank you to everyone who participated in these many events, especially our wonderful ambassador animals!



Trinity at Dolores Elementary School



Big O at the Bayfield Library



Talking to the Girl Scouts about wolves

Darla at Lake City (below)



Scouts camping overnight at the Refuge





The new ambulance/ soon to be "wolf mobile"



A full container of dog food

There has been more drama in the continuing saga of the Alaska Nine Pack. We had to separate them into two groups. Billy, Sita and Ginger formed their own sub group, and there was a lot of dissention in the pack this spring. It was a traumatic few months for all of us. Both packs are doing very well now. Our original plan was to divide the puppy enclosure, but the bigger group of six needs all that space, so once again we will be building a new enclosure this fall for the smaller pack. They are all two years old now and act like typical teenagers.



We tried to move Billy in a crate



That obviously didn't work!

So we had to do it the hard way

NEW ARRIVALS



Samoa



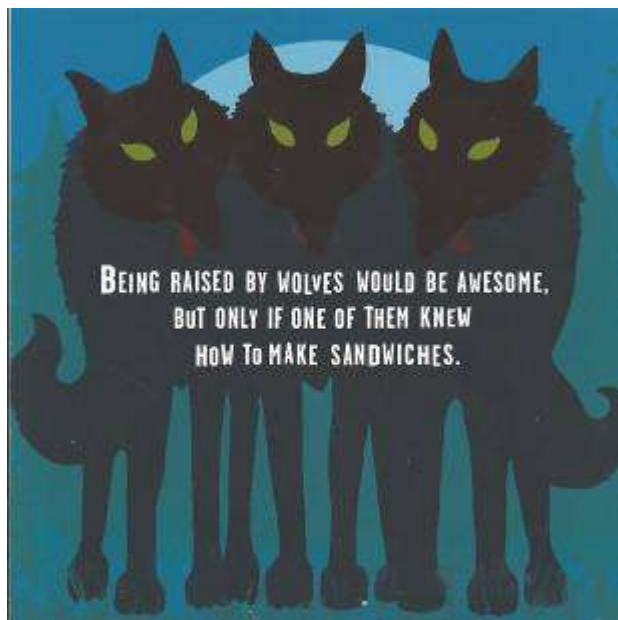
Justice

Samoa: Samoa came from New Mexico. She was kept in a small trailer for almost a year. The Aztec Shelter agreed to take her, spay her and give her all the required vaccinations. She was quarantined for a few weeks and then we went to pick her up. We had promised the Girl Scouts that we would name one of our rescues after a cookie and since “thin mint” just didn’t sound right, we named our new girl Samoa. She is very skittish, but has room to run and is beginning to feel at home.

Justice: Justice came from Ignacio. His owner had to move into town after a divorce and had no place to keep Justice. The neighbors were complaining about him and were becoming threatening, so we agreed he could come live at WolfWood. Justice is a five-year-old male. He likes to play and bark.



Alex and Cori, our granddaughters, visit the wolves



VOLUNTEERS

WolfWood currently has a small, but extremely dedicated group of volunteers. Our volunteers are the heart of this organization and help take care of and save lives every day. Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow, nor even MUD keeps them from their duties.

NEW VOLUNTEERS



Lynnette and Rodger



Marissa



Darla and her dog Nico

Lynnette & Rodger De Forest: Rodger is a retired pharmacist who enjoys mountain biking, reading and photography. He came with Lynnette in January and volunteers at least once a week. Rodger has answered our emergency calls more than once. Like many of our volunteers, he says he prefers the company of wolves and dogs to humans. Lucky us! Lynnette is a pharmacy tech working full time at Mercy. She still manages to volunteer once if not twice a week. She has been interested in wolves for over 25 years and found “a little slice of heaven” at WolfWood. Her passion for animal advocacy shows in her dedication to the wolves. Lynnette and Rodger have done everything from go to events, to buying swimming tanks, to offering their land as an evacuation site. We have come to love and depend on this “power” couple.

Darla Lange: Darla moved here 4 years ago from Wisconsin where she managed numerous projects for Head Start, Energy Assistance and State Conferences. In addition, Darla is a wellness coach and does her best to keep Paula on track! Family obligations keep her from spending much time with the animals, but that doesn't stop her from using her amazing managerial skills in numerous ways to help the animals. She has a lifelong history of making a difference and improving the lives of others.

Marissa Duffy: Marissa moved here this past summer from Chicago. While waiting to be approved to become a substitute teacher in the Bayfield area, Marissa looked for a group of people who would share her passion for animals. Through a mutual connection she found WolfWood and now volunteers at least twice a week. “I have grown attached to many of the animals and can't imagine what it would have been like living here without them.”

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust, sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs.....and if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly.”

Theodore Roosevelt

Thank you to everyone who is in the arena with us, the men and women who stumble and sweat and bleed for the animals. You allow us to dare greatly.

OTHER NEWS

Since our last newsletter, it has been a time of real ups and downs at the Refuge. It was a cold winter and we struggled with many difficulties, like the pipes freezing and breaking in the -20 temperatures. We filled up water jugs in Tanya's bathtub and Darla's field. Thanks to Tom Dunn, we did get a very large load of food that we are still using and the wolves had plenty of meat all winter. The loss of so many of our animals, all due to old age and related illnesses, was very hard to handle. Some were great ambassador animals and we are missing them in our education programs. But in all that, some animals, including Majesty were moved to bigger enclosures and are happier in their new surroundings or with their new friends. Our wonderful vet, Dr. Wagner, was married to Fred Lockard in a beautiful outdoor wedding. In much sadder news, Gary Jacobs, Jaqui's husband, passed away. Our only consolation is that he is no longer in pain and has found peace, and he had a beautiful memorial service attended by many loving people. Some of our younger volunteers are moving along with life. Colleen continues to do well in vet school and will be here this winter for an internship. Serena is currently at CSU also working at a vet internship. Ben is back! He has continued to come and help as needed this summer. He will be returning this fall to attend radiology school. However, some of our older volunteers including Rich, Barb, Craig, and Jeanette, all had major surgeries. Everyone is recovering and doing well. Harry, Joan's husband, broke both legs and his pelvis. All our good wishes for healing go out to them during this very long period of rehabilitation. Our young animals continue to grow and thrive. Our older animals continue with their own health issues. Ranger had surgery to remove a tumor, Zion struggles with disc problems. Keith tries his best to keep the vehicles running, with no less than 2 down at a time. We received a gift of an ambulance to be converted into a mobile carrier for the wolves. As you can tell, there has been a lot happening as we enter into our busiest summer ever. Love and life, death and grief go on. And so do we.

We are updating our on-line store and the 2014 calendars are here. Tanya did a beautiful job on them and they are great. Order them while you can!



Evacuation trailer



WolfWood Refuge 2014

New Calendar

THANKS

We are so grateful for all of our blessings. Just when things get almost too tough to manage, we receive support and caring from so many people in so many ways. We are honored to be part of this special place. So many people went above and beyond. As always, a special thanks to Keith and Tanya, who give of their time, energy and talent every day; and to LaVonne, who is our security blanket when we are gone; and to Ben, who drives down from Denver every time we need him. We want to thank all the people and businesses, especially Shur Fine in Ignacio, who give us meat. The blanket drive was a big success. We appreciated Wildcat Canyon Liquor being the designated drop off spot. Our most exciting project this year is ready to go. Our evacuation trailer is complete. We can now evacuate 40 animals at once, thanks to Tom and Barbara Dunn, who funded the project. It was custom built by Keith and Tanya, with help from Brian. Pictures do not do it justice. It is amazing, and Tom says he hopes it sits and rusts and we never have to use it! A second trailer will be built this winter so by next year all the animals can be evacuated at once. What a relief. We are also the proud owners of an ambulance, donated by a local fire dept. This generous gift will be refurbished into a heavy-duty transport vehicle that can carry wolves, supplies and people to schools and events in a climate controlled and safe environment. It can also pull the evacuation trailer. Our vet bills were greater than ever this year, and for all of you who send donations, great and small, on behalf of the wolves, thank you.

YOU ARE ALL WOLF ANGELS!

IN LOVING MEMORY

Kia: Kia was our singer and delighted the visitors by howling for them. She was a gentle and loving animal. She came to the Refuge from CA in 2002. She was 14 when she passed away from lung cancer. We miss her beautiful greeting as we walk up the hill

Casey: Casey was one of the few animals born at WolfWood. His mother came to us pregnant and he was born in 1998. He lived a long and happy life here. He lived with Kia and died a few months after she did. Casey was shy and sweet.

Misty: Misty was 16 when she passed. She was part of the Oakland pack that came to us in 2002. Misty lived with Adamma, who was a late-in-life pen mate. The two were very content to spend their golden years together. Misty was a volunteer favorite and her gentle spirit is mourned.

Big Timber: Big Timber was the last of the Oakland six pack. He was a great escape artist and lived with Ria in a 14 ft. high enclosure. He was a big, handsome wolf that lived a very full life. He has joined his sister Cassidy and the rest of his family.

Noche: Noche came to us in 2001 and made the move here from Pagosa. He was a big teddy bear, but when his pen mate passed away, he did not want to be with any other animals. He was 15 when we lost him to cancer.

Johnny: Johnny also made the move from Pagosa. He came to us from Idaho. He died of cancer at 14. He was a barker and expressed his feelings loudly and often. Johnny was very afraid of lightning.

Inepea: Inepea was always smiling. When he came to us in 2005, he had spent the first 4 years of his life on a chain. He did not know how to interact with people at all and would run up and nip us to say hi. He also was almost blind, and so would bark if he didn't know you. He died of heart failure. He was a joy and loved all of us at WolfWood.

Willow: Willow was one of the hardest losses of all. She had been an ambassador animal for years and has touched many lives. She and Ranger were one of our best "love" stories and the outpouring of affection and support when she passed was needed and appreciated. We miss her everyday. She will be honored on our art auction poster again this year. We thank her for all she did for the people and other animals at WolfWood.

Raven: Raven was adopted to Joan as a young animal and lived with her most of her life. She was an abused animal and was very skittish, but Joan gave her a comfortable and spoiled life. She was a beautiful girl who was well loved and cared for.



Willow



Inepea



Noche



Casey



Johnny



Kia



Misty



Big Timber

Wolf.....Teach Me To Know