



# The WolfWood Wayfarer

**November 2014**

**WolfWood Refuge**

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***Welcome to our nineteenth newsletter!***

## **Her Name is Majesty**

Once, and only once, she had a chance to go wild.  
Instead she felt trapped, nearly choking to death in the city.

She can swim like a champ, gets her feet in water every chance she gets.  
Maybe because she was born in the land of 10,000 lakes.

She learned to sing at a young age, has a deep and resonating voice  
for a girl. She usually sings with a chorus rather than solo.

Intelligent, too smart for her own good, she's been told. She's figured out most of the  
problems presented to her but almost none of those forced upon her.

She has runner's legs, long and lean and the eyes of a beauty queen.  
She is athletic and strong, wakes up at dawn and loves good food.

She smiles at people she cares about, snaps at those she doesn't.  
Lying in the warm sun with her back against a rock makes her sleepy.

Winter is her best season. She can never have children.  
Seeks high places over low; shares, but not often.

Once, and only once, when she was very young  
she had memories of a family. Now she sleeps alone.

Her name is Majesty.



***MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS AND THE NEW YEAR BE FILLED WITH LOVE, JOY AND MAJESTY!***

## **MEET OUR WOLVES**

In each of our newsletters we feature some of our wolves



### **MAJESTY AND KOHL**

We thought we would share with you two of our very favorite, and very different animals. Majesty and Kohl exemplify the wide range of animals that call WolfWood home. They also characterize the difference between wolves and dogs that we talk about.

**MAJESTY:** Majesty came to us from Pagosa Springs. She is a female wolf in her prime. Pound for pound she is our strongest animal. She is beautiful, intelligent, powerful and large. She is also very damaged. When we got her we realized she had some brain damage. It took months for her neck to heal from the trauma of being chained and choked. She is a very affectionate animal but has no impulse control and so is hard to handle. She loves her enclosure and her favorite activities are eating, swimming in her pool and getting pets from the volunteers.

**KOHL:** Kohl is our “just a dog.” We got him from the local shelter as a companion animal for Tonka, one of our original wolves. They lived a happy life together until Tonka died at 17 of old age. Kohl is also a big animal, weighing 135 without any extra fat. He is nine years old. Kohl sometimes thinks he is a wolf and will throw his head back and try his best to howl.

Kohl has a very important role here at WolfWood. Often times the wolves’ reaction to strangers is to hide and be quiet. Kohl, however, is a guard dog. His pen is the first one and he can see the driveway. He announces in his deep bark whenever anyone comes to the Refuge. Nobody gets to the wolves past him. He is the guardian and he takes his job very seriously and he is appreciated and loved by all of us, people and animals alike.

## KIDS AND CANINES

We are proud to announce that WolfWood gave over **50** educational programs this year. After rescuing animals in need, education of young people and the public in general is our main priority, and we are definitely accomplishing that goal. All of these programs are provided free of charge and everyone is welcome. The ambassador wolves and volunteers have been hard at work. We believe we are making a difference by dispelling myth and misinformation about these special animals.



*Hal and Oakley smile for the camera*



*The crowd at our annual Hermit Park event in Estes*



*Humane Society Kids Camp*



*Cub Scouts Service Project at WolfWood*



*Working the event at Five Branches*

### **Our Outreach Program**

5 Branches Camp Ground, Hermit Park, Lake City, Humane Society Kids Camp, Artist Tour, Spruce Academy, Audubon Society, Biology teachers of Colorado, Ignacio After School Program, Cub Scouts, Sunnyside Elementary, Park Elementary, Fort Lewis Collage classes, Home School Program, Life Long Learning Pagosa Springs, Liberty School.



*Craig, Chase and Keith pick up 30,000 lbs of food for the winter*



*Motor home donated by the Lampes*



*Completed evacuation trailers for 80 animals*



*Spraying concrete around Ra and Tala's pen to prevent erosion under the fence line*



**Improvements continue to be made at the Refuge. In case of an emergency we now have the capacity to evacuate all the animals thanks to the generous donations from the Dunns and the Dalzells. We have a wonderful motor home donated by the Lampes to use at events, trips and for guests. Ra and Tala's pen was literally falling down due to severe erosion. A generous donation from the Mercury Gives Program allowed us to fix the problem in this very large pen. To learn more about the projects and animals at WolfWood go to our website.**

## 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



**TIM BEYER:** Tim is the brother of Lynette and has put in a lot of time at the Refuge. He loves animals especially cats. The wolves don't hold that against him though. He enjoys feeding the animals and making them comfortable. He lives in Bayfield and is currently working at Home Depot.

**CHARLES STACY:** Charles came to us through Jaqui Jacobs. Charles has traveled the world as a filmmaker and photojournalist. When he moved to New Mexico in 2003 he was able to focus his songwriting and performing on projects that encouraged a sense of community. Charles felt that the two-legged and four-legged community at WolfWood represented hope for the broader world. He used his creativity, energy, contacts and a great amount of time recording an original CD of songs just for WolfWood. All proceeds go to the animals!

**SUSIE PETERSON:** Susie has been a La Plata county resident for 30 years and has been happily married for 28 of those years. She was a counselor at Fort Lewis and then became a life coach. Susie has always been interested in animal behavior and working with the wolves supports that interest. She says that nature is one of her greatest teachers.

### OTHER NEWS

I once again apologize for being such a lousy record keeper. I am sure there is much that is newsworthy I am not including. Here are some of the highlights from the past months. We passed our USDA inspection for another year. Serena is off to vet school at CSU and Colleen will be graduating from vet school in spring. Ben is moving into Durango to pursue a degree in education. Barb and Marcy got married and so did Steve and Christina. Congratulations! Keith and Tanya have a new family member, a puppy they rescued named Rango. We are going to be grandparents again and are expecting our first grandson in December. Lennette and Rodger also had a grandson. Michael moved to Arkansas.

**\*\* WolfWood is now connected with Amazon as a charitable foundation. You can sign up at Amazon Smiles (under Wolf Woods) and every time you make a purchase Amazon automatically donates a small percentage to us!**

### ART AUCTION

Thanks to the very generous volunteers, artists and sponsors, the 3rd Annual Art Auction was a huge success. We are so blessed to live in a community whose businesses support local non-profits. It took hundreds of hours of work from dedicated people, but it was our best fundraiser ever. Please go to [wolfwoodrefuge.org](http://wolfwoodrefuge.org) to see a full list of everyone who made this important event possible.



*Paula having fun at her birthday party*



*Adam came to visit (and work)*



*A motley crew*



*More of the volunteer crew*



*Long time supporter Nicole and Kody*



*Our mascot "Wolfie" visiting kids at the Art Auction*



*Stew setting up the beautiful art donations*

**THANKS**  
*For all our blessings  
Great and small  
We live with gratitude  
For you all*  
**YOU ARE ALL WOLF ANGELS!**



*Sita enjoys her big enclosure*



*Kweo enjoys his meat*



*Trinity does not enjoy recovering from her surgery*



*Trinity is back hard at work with Kadyn and school kids*

Dear Paula,  
We cant thank you  
enough for sharing  
your beautiful  
wolves with us  
today and teaching  
our children about  
the animals and  
your conservation  
efforts! This is  
definitely my favorite  
field trip that I

**Four Leaves Winery**  
invites you to enjoy Noel Night for the wolves



**Noel Night CD Release Party & Wine Sale**

- Four Leaves Winery in Durango is sponsoring a Wolfwood Refuge wine sale and CD release party during Noel Night. Gypsyfire, a Folk Group, will perform their new CD called Wolf Song, inspired by the special animals that call the refuge home and donating all proceeds from CD sales to Wolfwood.
- Four Leaves Winery will offer their exquisite wines customized with Wolfwood animals on the labels and donating a large portion for every bottle sold or ordered to Wolfwood Refuge.
- Don't miss this wonderful and unique holiday shopping opportunity for the wolf-lover on your gift list while helping Wolfwood raise funds for their ongoing costs caring for over 60 animals. Stuffed wolves and 2015 calendars will also be available Noel Night.

**Friday December 5<sup>th</sup>, 5-8pm**  
**Four Leaves Winery • 528 Main Ave • Durango**

## NEW ARRIVALS

**Dante:** Dante came to us from the Aztec Shelter. He had giardia and parasites when we got him. He was, of course, very thin and ill when he came to WolfWood. After vet treatment he quickly gained weight and muscle mass. He is only 1 year old and full of himself! He lives with Stella. He thinks he gets all the food and attention, and so we are working on manners, but he is a loving and rambunctious guy!

**Mica:** Mica is a young male under the age of one. He is very affectionate and obviously still a puppy. He loves everyone and we hope he will grow up to be an ambassador some day. He came from the local shelter. He was very thin and starved when he came (seems to be a pattern lately) and still gobbles his food down like he will never get any more! He also had to wear the “cone of shame” for two weeks. He is now in a large enclosure and very happy.

**Eileen (Leena):** Last Christmas a very generous donor asked if we could name a wolf after his wife, Eileen, as a special present. Well, we have been waiting and waiting for just the right animal to come in and it finally happened. Eileen is the newest member of the WolfWood family. We call her Leena for short. She is a very sweet girl who is already becoming a favorite. She is two years old and came from Utah. Her family loved her but did not have the right situation for her to be in, so even though it made them sad, they knew that coming to WolfWood would be the best thing for her. She is adjusting well and by the time the newsletter comes out we hope she and Mica can live together.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

**Odin:** Tom, a volunteer who has moved to Albuquerque, brought Odin to us in 2012. Odin had not been in a good situation at all. We quickly discovered that Odin had colon cancer even though he was only 6. We gave Odin a good home. He had 2 surgeries in an attempt to rid him of the cancer. In between surgeries he gained weight and was happy and pain free. He was loved by everyone and definitely had his favorite people. About a year after his second surgery his cancer returned again, and further treatments would not be effective. We kept him with us, with proper medication, as long as possible, but when the tumor grew too large, we had to let him go. We miss his smile and Majesty really misses him as her neighbor.

**Needs:** Even though we have had wonderful donations and paid large sums to our fabulous vet, as you can see, we have incurred a lot of **medical expenses** for the wolves this year. Any donations directed to paying off our large balance will be applied and appreciated. If we raise \$2,500 for this cause we can start the New Year with a zero balance. That would be a great start to 2015!

We are also in need of a good working **used truck**. The Ford we use to feed the animals, despite Keith's diligent efforts at keeping it together, is on its last legs. It had 250,000 miles on it when we got it and we have used it every day for over 6 years.

A **walk-in cooler** is becoming a priority. We got so much meat for the animals and the weather was so warm that we couldn't keep it all. The wolves need the meat and we hate to waste it.





**Eileen**



**Mica**



**Dante when he arrived**



**Dante now**



**Odin and LaVonne saying goodbye.**



**Wolf kisses**

*“Wolf..... teach me to know”*