THANK YOU
Howls of gratitude
for your continued
support!

Mission: Wolf

Mission: Wolf is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that connects people with nature using hands-on experiential education. Through volunteer internships and education programs, we inspire individuals to become stewards of the earth. While providing a home for rescued wolves and horses, we create opportunities for growth through community service and personal interactions with animals. We value education, sustainability, and improving relationships between people, animals, and the world around them.

FEATURED WOLF

Hailey (pictured left) overcomes health issues and charms with grace and grit.

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Ydun Joins the Pack

Ydun joins the pack (D. McKee)

In the Growing Domes

Inside the Growing Domes (L. McGehee)
Sanctuary

Mission: Wolf is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that has provided a sanctuary home to wolves and wolf-dog crosses for over 30 years. Our mission is to inspire respect for the wild and connect people with nature. As people learn compassion for the wolf, they also learn to respect all forms of life, which leads to further protection and enhancement of wild habitat. M:W is run by a group of dedicated and hard-working individuals, who live and work sustainably in the remote Wet Mountains of Southern Colorado. Read on to learn more about the people and wolves of our sanctuary.

A New Decade of Mission: Wolf

Who knew that what I started to write in early spring would be changed by a rapidly spreading virus? Who knew to care for a wolf would create a sustainable life of purpose and cooperation? Who knew that wild wolves create cascading environmental changes that would allow humans to flourish?

After 30 years of caring for captive-born wolf and wolf-dog rescues, all I know for certain is that life will change, and to accept change requires knowledge and action. I have watched the world shift from a cooperative society of working together for a common future, to a competitive society of hoarding wealth and resources. Change is what we need; experience is the only solution. To deal with change requires we learn new ways.

It is the eye-to-eye experience that makes a difference. In 1988, we put the land in the wolves’ names, set up a list of caretaking duties for people, and opened the place to anyone who could find us, provided they did not place a burden on the wolves or facility. If wolves have to live in a cage, we provide them with a large, natural space and enriching interactions with their human caretakers if they so desire. I have allowed over a million folks the chance to meet a wolf eye-to-eye, and it is this greeting that changes people. Every visitor has to step away from their challenges and be present to get a true greeting.

COVID-19 has opened a new chapter full of change. These obstacles are prime fuel to create a new norm: do we expand the potential for world cooperation, or do we continue on a path of financially dictated chaos? This time out has allowed the M:W staff to review, define, and focus on what really matters. We will work to grow our land conservation project, improve our sustainability and food production, expand the wolves’ enclosures, and provide as many one-on-one educational experiences that develop compassion and empathy. Our goal is to promote a greater understanding of behavior between people and animals that nurtures respect for all life.

The historic outcome of wolves and humans demonstrates the tragedy when fear overwhelms due to a lack of knowledge. A fearful human will justify killing; compassion, empathy and remorse do not exist in this world view. Change is the one and only constant that I know, and it has become daily life here at Mission: Wolf. -K. Weber

New Arrivals

Ydun

In June 2019, we took in Ydun (pronounced E-den), a young wolf named after the Norse goddess of spring, rejuvenation, and youth. Her behavior perfectly fits her name, as she is eternally joyous and playful. All the staff took part in raising and socializing her, and she quickly became a highlight for visitors. She now lives with Zeab and Nashira in the Ambassador Pack. The trio’s antics make an entertaining and educational experience for any visitor wishing to witness wolf pack dynamics. She is known for her exuberant greetings and boundless energy and is quickly learning from her elders how to behave like a wolf. She shows great potential for being a long-term ambassador and living a life of purpose through education. -M. Gaarde

Photo by E. Alvarado

Doeschka

Doeschka has come to us all the way from Alberta, Canada! She is turning three this year and we are excited to start saddle training and gently riding her this summer. Horse bones and joints do not fully develop until they are six to eight years old, when they are considered adults. Riding Doeschka sooner could cause her back or legs permanent damage, as is the case in most baby horses. In the meantime, we are sharpening our groundwork skills, and sharing what we learn along the way! Welcome Doeschka, we are over the MOON to have you and love you dearly already! -TAB

Photo by TAB

Merlin

Merlin is a 12-year-old female who came to us when the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Foundation unfortunately had to close. She is a very shy and beautiful wolf-dog who has never been handled by people and so was unsuitable for life in any place besides a sanctuary. It took several attempts and many days to even get her comfortable enough with our staff to come out of her den for transport! On the night of March 12th, 2020, our staff was able to successfully crate and transfer her peacefully to her new home. We are so thrilled to have this newest addition to our pack with us and look forward to getting to know this magnificent older wolf.

-L. McGeehe

Photo by K. Wilson

The shining gazes of Zephir (left) and Arrow (L. McGehee) sees how the MOON to have you and love you dearly already. -TAB

Photo by E. Alvarado
Hailey is quiet, intense, and commands attention whenever she agrees to be seen. Her brindle coloration perfectly masks her as a rock; it is only with the errant twitching tail while she dreams that her camouflage is revealed. Her life has been marked by miraculous medical recoveries, a lifelong partnership with Aria, and a charming grace that captures the hearts of everyone who gets the chance to spot her. Hailey came to M:W in 2009 from Bear Country, South Dakota along with seven other littermates. As the runt of the litter, she was picked on by her siblings and sustained serious injuries. Nobody could get her to come out of her den for the medical attention she needed, so one brave staff member named Hailey volunteered to crawl 15 feet into the den with a rope tied around her ankles to rescue the injured pup. Lil’ Hailey Star became the first and only wolf to be named in honor of a staff member.

It was when wolf pup Hailey was in the vet building recovering that she bonded intensely with the gentle Arctic wolf who would become her lifelong mate: Aria, who had contracted parvovirus and nearly lost his life. The two healed together and formed a companionship that still shines strongly today, eleven years later. At the end of summer 2019, staff began to notice decreased mobility as Hailey tried to move around her enclosure. Her caretakers decided she needed medical attention. Through body posture and mirroring techniques, staff were able to move her safely into an accessible part of her enclosure to be put on a stretcher and taken to a van, completely avoiding the danger of tranquilizing. At Powers Pet Emergency, an examination yielded that she likely had a tumor growing in her spine that was affecting her coordination, muscle movements, and sensory feedback.

Hailey was prescribed steroids to help reduce the tumor size and has since been able to reclaim her mobility and quality of life. She can once again be seen running across her enclosure with sure-footing and stealing bones from Aria when he is not looking. It has been astounding to see the rich and vibrant life Hailey has been able to lead through timely medical care and a safe home. Her tenacity and joy each day remind us all to cherish the beautiful and unexpected adventures we are able to experience. -L. McGehee

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Talon, also known as Timber, is one of our most social and outgoing wolf-dogs. For many years, Talon lived in the lower part of the refuge with his partner Valley Spirit and adopted daughter Asia. As he grew older, he started to experience age-related health problems. In the beginning of summer 2019, his symptoms became more severe and staff decided to move him to the enclosure by the staff kitchen for closer observation. After sustaining seizures, he was rushed to Belcrest Animal Hospital and transferred to Powers Pet Emergency for further testing. Although there was no specific diagnosis found, staff began a six-month seizure treatment through a combination of medication, diet change, and exercise. He has now been weaned off to a lower dosage and has regained much of his quality of life. Talon enjoys interacting closely with the staff, long walks with his buddy Minigan, and special meals delivered to him personally. -T. LePore

Soleil’s story is one of the most captivating illustrations of the difficulties of keeping a wolf-dog as a pet, and she has been a dynamic part of the refuge for most of her life. Arriving at the sanctuary when she was just seven months old, she began educating people about the best means of interacting with a fearful canine. She has taught us all so much about bodily communication and continues to do so. At the impressive age of fifteen, Soleil is the Sassy Silver Snow Queen with an unmatched personality: she can be either reserved or outgoing depending on her mood. Her transcendent howl regularly enchants all who are lucky enough to hear her. Everyone who has seen her on the hillside of her enclosure adores her demeanor and radiance. We are all very honored to be a part of caring for Soleil throughout her golden years. -T. LePore
A young and gangly canine with long legs, a narrow chest, and an oversized head gallops down the busy streets of Salt Lake City, Utah. It is the summer of 2007 and this four-month-old puppy gazes with amber eyes at the chaotic city around him. But before he can test his self-sufficiency for too long, he is taken into a shelter where he is labeled a wolf-dog. He is curious and social with just about everyone he encounters, but he is scheduled to be euthanized due to his wolf-dog classification. At the very last moment, a husky rescue steps in and helps to transfer the puppy, soon to be known as Abraham, to Mission: Wolf. Abraham will spend the next twelve years of his life falling deeply in love with his life partner Magpie, raising many adopted wolf puppies, traveling the country on the Wolfhound tour bus, and educating hundreds of thousands of eager humans.

Abe arrived at the refuge on July 9th, 2007; his gregarious and sweet nature was immediately clear as he introduced himself to everyone he encountered. After acclimating to the refuge, he joined lead ambassador Magpie and the two quickly bonded. Their relationship was one of mutual respect and kindness. Together they spearheaded the ambassador education program across the country and on-site at Mission: Wolf, all while building a supportive and grounded family unit with any adopted puppies who needed to learn how to be wolves. By the time Abraham reached a year old, he had grown into his huge paws and massive head. The staff started to question just how much wolf he had in him. At two years old, Abraham looked more like a husky than any of the wolves he was living alongside. His appearance combined with his passion for eternal belly scratches led staff to wonder if Abraham had any wolf in him at all. Luckily, wolf is in the eye of the beholder; Abe reigned as the paternal leader of the Ambassador Pack through each successive iteration of new puppy arrivals. Even when his adopted children outgrew him by the time they reached six months, he guided with a firm but loving growl and the goofiest of warbling howls. He earned his nickname “Sheriff Abe” due to his impressive ability to keep even the most rambunctious of wolf puppies in line.

For seven busy years, Abraham met people from coast to coast while embarking on adventures of his own with his life partner by his side. In 2015, he and Magpie retired from touring and continued to educate on-site with behavioral programs. After Magpie’s passing in 2017, Abraham lived with his adopted son Zeab and his newest adopted puppy Nashira. The three entertained visitors endlessly with their playful antics and made excellent teachers on the differences between wolves, dogs, and wolf-dogs. Abraham battled cancer for several years before ultimately passing away peacefully in the summer of 2019. His no-nonsense leadership, award-winning howl, and floppy-tongue grin will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of meeting him. Although Abe is gone from the refuge, Zeab and Nashira still lead the on-site education program, continuing the legacy he helped forge. The refuge has never seen such a charismatic teacher; Sheriff Abe, you were truly one of a kind, and we are at peace knowing you and Magpie can once again spend your days side-by-side. -L. McGehee
Tammen came to us when he was seven years old. He was a full-blooded Egyptian Arabian horse. All horses are special, but this ancient horse breed has something hard to quantify: it’s as if one can reach out and touch a piece of history. It feels like a closer connection to our ancestors, like we are standing right there with them at the time they walked the earth, forging our futures with horses by our side, underneath us, or out in front of us. The generous spirit of horses is largely responsible for the success of humanity today. Breeders continuing ancient horse breeds work hard to retain the original bloodlines; their honor and pride in their work is clear. Arabian horse blood runs through the veins of most of our modern breeds, serving to strengthen and give grace where needed.

Tammen brought the term “Wolf-Horse” to mind. On the day he arrived at the barn, it was apparent how different he was from the other horses we had at the time: none were as inquisitive towards people as Tammen. He was often interested in hanging out with the people more than the other horses. It wasn’t long before we discovered how intuitive he was, similar to the wolves we cared for. Soon he became the star teacher in the horse herd. He was one of the kindest and most generous horses. Tammen had the patience of a saint when it came to helping people learn about horses; anyone could handle him, and he loved being a teacher.

During wolf talks, Kent points out the narrow chest of the wolf, with long legs that are built to run and turn corners quickly. Tammen’s chest was similarly narrow, and he was just as agile and sure-footed. Wolves could travel long distances, and Arabian horses are known endurance champions. Tammen also shared a wilder sense of spirit, like the roaming, playful wolves. Tammen was exciting to be around and brought a sense of joy to those first learning about horses. He graciously shared himself with hundreds of people over the 14 years that we were grateful and blessed to have had him. Run free, we love you!

-TAB, Photos by TAB
Education

Mission: Wolf offers educational tours of our facilities to visitors and volunteers, as well as more comprehensive experiential programs for schools, universities, youth groups, treatment centers, and environmental organizations. We strive to present the most up-to-date scientific information about wolves and the vital role they play as a keystone species. However, our most important task as educators is to facilitate positive experiences between animals and humans. The wolves are the true educators at the sanctuary. No amount of research, no lecture, book, or film, can do justice to the feeling of looking into the piercing, contemplative golden eyes of a wolf. The wolves teach us to be more aware of our bodies, minds, and emotions. Our ultimate goal is to put ourselves out of business; we hope one day no more captive wolves will need sanctuary, and we can listen to them howl in the wild. In the meantime, we want to create a space that allows people to restore, or even establish, a connection with nature.

Ambassador Update

Ydun thrives in the Colorado winter (L. McGehee)
Since November of 2019, visitors have had the uncommon opportunity to witness the formation of a wolf pack, complete with all the wild antics of any sitcom family. Abraham, the beloved pack leader, passed away in September of 2019. Zeab, Abraham’s adopted son, mourned and lost confidence. As he struggled to cope with the loss of Abe, he began to notice fuzzy ears and inquisitive eyes across the refuge. Rambunctious puppy Ydun could just barely climb to the top of the shade structure in her enclosure, but each time she scaled it she could stretch to see the striking, distinguished elder wolf who stared back from the ambassador enclosure. The Mission:Wolf staff joked, “Zeab knows he’s getting that puppy.” Ydun was introduced to Zeab and two-year-old ambassador Nashira in November of 2019. Her eager confidence helped her step into the ambassador role, but irked her new mom. Nashira was challenged by her sudden promotion from baby-of-the-pack to mother.

Wide-eyed visitors watched Ydun and Nashira tumble over each other as they learned to navigate their new relationship. Like the visitors, Zeab looked on from afar. When a too-eager Ydun barreled into him as he greeted visitors, he trotted off in exasperation rather than choose conflict. One frigid winter day when Ydun crashed into him, Zeab whipped around and bared his teeth, letting out a loud growl. She hit the ground and twisted to expose her belly, whining her submission. Kent interpreted for the visitors that Zeab was regaining his confidence and learning how to be a pack leader for the first time.

A Day in the Life of a M:W Educator

1:00pm Ydun meets Zeab and Nashira (K. Weber) in his nine years. The future of Mission: Wolf’s education looks bright as the pack delights in meeting and teaching visitors. -C. Potts

### Ambassador Update

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### A Day in the Life of a M:W Educator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Summer Activities</th>
<th>Winter Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Begin wolf breakfast prep under shining sun</td>
<td>Shovel out six fresh inches of snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Feed out fresh, raw meat to entire pack</td>
<td>Feed out fresh, raw meat to entire pack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Human breakfast in the kitchen with fourteen other staff</td>
<td>Human breakfast with lots of tea and coffee to warm up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Play hacky sack with volunteer group of 15 teenagers while planning day’s projects</td>
<td>Process holiday season donations and write thank you letters to membership base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch break after a morning of processing firewood</td>
<td>Lunch break after a morning of office work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Set group up on an afternoon project, give a tour to visitors</td>
<td>Schedule groups for the following summer by email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Discuss sustainable living strategies with volunteer group</td>
<td>Sort through photos, order new metal prints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45pm</td>
<td>Facilitate a wolf visit with Kent and the Ambassadors</td>
<td>Start a fire as sun dips lower and chill settles in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Part with volunteer group, catch up on office work</td>
<td>Revise and edit latest M:W newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Walk resident wolf-dogs over rolling ridgelines</td>
<td>Feed resident wolf-dogs dinner while sheltering from cold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>Show around unexpected visitor(s) who arrive after hours</td>
<td>Eat community dinner before sun sets, plan for next day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Community dinner as signaled by ringing gong</td>
<td>Retire to living space as snow begins to fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>Hang out with community around the campfire, eating s'mores brought by the most recent Boy Scout troop</td>
<td>Fall asleep, cozy and warm while the fire rages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30pm</td>
<td>Reluctantly disperse for bed as the last light drains from the sky</td>
<td>Briefly wake up as the wolves let out one last howl for the night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ydun thrives in the Colorado winter (L. McGehee)
The Greenhorn Wolf
The Story of the Last Wild Wolf in the Wet Mountain Valley

The day after Christmas, 1923 was the last day a wild wolf freely roamed the Wet Mountain Valley range. In the rolling hills of scratchy Aspen and protruding scrub brush that Mission: Wolf now calls home, a singular, shadowy figure left three-toed paw prints in the fresh winter snow as she stalked a rabbit. She was called “The Greenhorn Wolf” in honor of the peak that was part of her expansive territory. After the dispersal and death of her pack in 1915 due to increased hunting efforts, she survived for eight more years as a lone wolf, outsmarting her human pursuers and reaching the astounding age of eighteen.

Most of the published accounts of The Greenhorn Wolf focus on her demise: those last few weeks where local trappers pursued her through the pine and aspen forests she called home. Famed wolf trapper Bill Caywood was called in from out of town to finish the job, and after several unsuccessful attempts he was finally able to poison her with a piece of laced meat left for the magpies. But what is much more significant is her life, and what she came to represent as one of the last wild wolves in Colorado.

The Greenhorn Wolf was smart. She had to be; the life of a lone wolf is hard enough without human hunters pursuing her at each turn. She learned from the death of her pack and knew to stay far, far away from people. She skirted around major cities like Walsenburg in favor of the wooded mountains and dusty valleys she knew as home. She was also a survivor: she sustained a bullet and escaped. She was caught not once but twice in steel-jawed traps and managed to evade capture each time, only leaving a toe behind. She encountered meat laced with strychnine and managed to vomit it up before the deadly substance took hold, and from then on, she knew to avoid the carcasses with that sickly sweet smell. She ranged from the base of the Wet Mountains through the expansive valley, along the Eastern side of the Sangres. She traveled as far as she needed to in order to find prey, primarily consisting on antelope. The Greenhorn Wolf is a true emblem of survival and ingenuity in the face of persecution. For eight long, beautiful, challenging, and truly wild years, this creature not only survived, but thrived. Wolves only live six to eight years on average in the wild. She tripled her life expectancy in the time of greatest danger to a wild wolf. What could be more demonstrative of the human spirit than this bravery, courage, and diligent hard work in the face of such overwhelming odds.

Although a few wolves were caught and killed in the following years along the state borders, The Greenhorn Wolf is widely thought of as the last wolf in Colorado, until now. In early 2020, Colorado Parks and Wildlife confirmed sighting of a wild wolf pack on the Northwestern border of Colorado. A reintroduction program will also be on the ballot for Coloradoans in 2020. The chapter that closed with The Greenhorn Wolf can once again be opened.

Humans are different now, but also, of course, fundamentally the same. As the people of this state and country navigate the murky waters of coexistence with wild animals, we can look to The Greenhorn Wolf to see just how incredible these creatures can be when they are allowed to live free and wild.

-L. McGehee (illustration by J. Goodman)
What is on the ballot?
The wolf reintroduction initiative would direct Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to make a plan for reintroducing and managing wolf populations in western Colorado. CPW would also be required to work with livestock owners to reduce conflict and pay for any livestock lost to wolves. [Source: Colorado Gray Wolf Reintroduction Initiative (2020). Ballotpedia]

Are wolves already here?
- In early 2020, CPW announced that a pack of wolves was spotted on the Northwestern border of Colorado for the first time since the 1930s.
- While this does confirm that Colorado has habitat suitable for wolves, this six member pack faces many obstacles, such as human settlements and highways.
- Reintroduction of wolves from other genetic lines will reduce the risk of inbreeding and make the population as a whole more viable.
- Researchers hope that a healthy wolf population in Colorado will create a “genetic corridor” between isolated populations.

Are wolves dangerous?
- Wolves are afraid of people and rarely aggressive.
- Since 1900 there has been only one fatal attack by a wild wolf in the US.
- By comparison:
  - Household dogs kill about 40 Americans annually.
  - In 2018, cows killed 27 people and 190 people died in collisions with deer.

Are wolves a threat to our land and livestock?
- This plan stipulates wolves will be reintroduced west of the Continental Divide, in areas with plentiful public lands and far from major cities.
- According to the USDA, over 3.5 million cattle died unintentionally in 2015.
  - Less than 8% of these deaths were due to predators.
  - Only 0.2% suspected losses due to wolves.
- Cows are 48 times more likely to die giving birth than getting attacked by a wolf.
- Proposed ballot measure requires that CPW compensates ranchers for livestock lost to wolves.

What happened in Yellowstone?
- Wolves chased elk and deer, causing them to aerate the soil and move away from water sources.
- New trees sprouted in the freshly aerated soil, stabilizing water sources and allowing the different layers of the tree canopy to be restored.
- Songbirds returned to the different layers of the canopy.
- The canopy shaded the water sources, allowing fish to return to the significantly cooler streams.
- Wolves outcompeted coyotes, allowing mice, rabbits, and other small game to repopulate.
- Lynx, bobcats, and birds of prey returned as small prey returned.
- Most Colorado forests have very large trees and very small trees; overpopulated elk and deer have erased our middle canopy by eating saplings over several decades. With the return of the wolf to Colorado, we may see the same cascading changes in biodiversity that we saw with the Yellowstone wolf reintroduction.

Will wolves take the food meant for humans?
- Wolves and humans both eat elk and deer.
- Hunting is a vibrant portion of Colorado’s economy.
- Colorado’s herbivores are overpopulated.
- CPW culled elk each year until 2011, and although elk populations are more normalized now, deer are again becoming an increasing issue.
- Wolves would naturally reduce deer populations and reduce resources humans must spend to control deer populations.
- Humans and wolves have very different hunting patterns: humans prize the largest animals, while wolves hunt the young, old, and sick.
- In Yellowstone, elk populations decreased after wolf reintroduction in 1995, but the elk that remained were larger, stronger, and healthier—exactly what hunters are looking for.

How can wolves return to Colorado?
- There are two ways of returning to previously inhabited land: recolonization and reintroduction.
- Recolonization means that wolves naturally migrate to the land.
- Reintroduction means that wolves return through the work of humans.
- In both scenarios, wolves can dramatically revitalize struggling ecosystems.
- Reintroduction comes with many associated political conflicts and concerns.
- Colorado will be voting on a reintroduction program on the 2020 ballot.

Text by E. Matsuda, Illustration by M. Fertig
Sustainability

The sanctuary is designed to keep our environmental impact minimal while we work to become as self-sufficient as possible. We continually strive to improve our sustainability efforts while educating visitors about resource conservation, gardening, sustainable building design, renewable energy, and recycling.

Inside the Growing Domes

At Mission: Wolf, we have two large greenhouses that give staff access to fresh, healthy produce year-round. These growing domes are expertly designed to allow us to garden in our high-desert alpine environment. Read on to find out more about what we grow.

Crop Rotation

Every plant uses different nutrients and attracts and repels different insects, so we rotate our crops to make our domes as productive as possible.
Flora of Mission: Wolf

Mission: Wolf was designed as a refuge for wolves, but we are also a nature preserve that creates a home for an incredible diversity of wild plant species. Here are just a few of the plants that make our landscape so beautiful.

We also have several plant species that were introduced from elsewhere. Our herbivores don’t like to eat these plants and they outcompete native plants that our ecosystem needs, so we remove them whenever possible.

Text by E. Matsuda, Illustration by K. Wilson

Land Conservation Update

Even our tiny mountain home is affected by rampant population growth and development; Mission: Wolf aims to protect as much of our surrounding land as possible. Only by preserving this crucial watershed area can we ensure a home for the wolves, wildlife, and flora for generations to come. In the last year, our directors Kent and Tracy have moved to the new property dubbed “The Ranch,” which is just around the bend from the sanctuary. We have been able to add 109.5 acres adjacent to the sanctuary and give our directors a beautiful life-long home. This purchase was made possible by a very generous donation. To help us preserve the Wet Mountain Valley for years to come, contact us at 719-859-2157 or info@missionwolf.org. Donations directly to the land conservation program can also be made online at www.missionwolf.org/donate
### How to Help: The M:W Wishlist
In-kind donations are a huge help in keeping our daily operations going. Here is a list of items we can use. Please call us if you have questions, or if you would like to ask about our current needs. Thank you for your help! For USPS, our mailing address is: PO Box 1211, Westcliffe, CO 81252. For UPS/FedEx, our mailing address is: 80 Sheep Creek Road, Westcliffe, CO 81252.

#### Wolf Care:
- 5 gallon buckets
- Galvanized water tubs (sizes 10-15, 30-80, or 100-200 gallons)
- Supplements and medications:
  - Vita Pet
  - MSM/Glucosamine
  - Vitamins A, B complex, C, and E
  - Devil’s Claw
  - Bravecto chewable flea and tick prevention (Large and XL)
  - TriHeart Plus chewable heartworm prevention (Large)
  - Vetericyn
  - General antibiotics
  - Rimadyl or Novox
- High quality butcher knives (non-serrated)
- Kibble (Wellness Core Original Formula and Wellness Limited Ingredient Lamb & Oatmeal)
- Fruits (watermelon, bananas, and blueberries)
- Wolf food (raw meat, no pork or salt/spices)

#### Sustainability:
- Potting soil or seed-starting mix
- Vegetable and native plant seeds
- Solar panels and batteries (contact us first)
- Solar-powered lights
- Solar cooker/oven
- Veggie oil converted vehicles
- Reusable produce bags

#### Construction:
- Concrete block
- Flagstone and brick pavers
- Rebar, sheet metal, angle iron, etc.
  - 2” diameter steel poles (10’)
- Chain link fence (9 ga., 8’ tall; 11 ga., 4’ tall)
- Fencing tools and materials (fencing pliers, hog rings, fencing staples, tie wire, etc.)
- 2” x 4” steel horse panel (16’ x 48’, 4 ga.)
- Lumber, treated or untreated (warped wood is fine)
- Hardwood flooring
- Log poles (especially lodgepole pine)
- Drywall, spackle, and drywall tools

#### Tools:
- Garden hose (¾ inch) and hose repair parts (splitters, couplings, valves, etc.)
- Hand tools (shovels, rakes, pickaxes, etc.)
- Ryobi battery powered tools (drills, saws, sanders, flashlights, etc.)
- Welding rods (all sizes)
- Air compressor
- Large flatbed trailer
- 3WD trucks
- Lathe
- Pipe bender

#### Volunteers:
- Sustainable (Green) Toiletries (septic-safe liquid hand soap, body wash, and shampoo; deodorant; toothbrushes; toothpaste; feminine products, etc.)
- Mattresses, futons, foam pads, pillows
- Dr. Bronner’s products
- Blue Dawn dish soap
- Simple Green all-purpose cleaner
- Environmentally-friendly laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies (scrub brushes, steel wool)
- Bulk toilet paper
- First aid supplies (bandaids, ibuprofen, antiseptic and antibacterial, etc.)
- Sleeping bags
- Headlamps
- Winter appropriate boots, hats, gloves, socks, etc.
- Trash bags (especially 13-gallon tall kitchen and 55-gallon contractor bags)

#### Horse Care:
- Clean grass hay and supplies (hay trailer, tarps, straps, and sheds)
- Grain buckets
- Horse trailer
- 4’ tall graduated field fence (12 ½ and 14 ga.)
- T-posts and materials for new horse barn
- Round pen panels

### Did You Know?
For the first time, Colorado residents have an opportunity to donate all or a portion of their tax refund to a non-profit of their choosing. This is an exciting new opportunity to support wildlife conservation, experiential education, and the lifelong care of rescued wolves and wolf-dogs here at Mission: Wolf. You can denote this when filing taxes, and you will need Mission: Wolf’s registration number. Visit refundwhatmatters.org to learn more. Mission: Wolf registration number: 20083014033

### Living Legacies
Mission: Wolf has survived over the years through very creative space for wolves to run and play without fences in sight. He was even nominated for Volunteer of the Year by the Mayor’s office of New York. After Eugene passed away in 2001, his estate provided the seed money for Mission: Wolf’s Education Endowment Fund. Gene’s Kitchen was constructed in his honor and has provided countless staff with a warm and comfortable cooking space. In addition, Gene’s Playpen above the refuge provides an expansive space for wolves to run and play without fences in sight. He will be forever remembered at Mission: Wolf; thank you, Gene, for all you give to the wolves!

### Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Medical Expense</td>
<td>$2,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Expense Reimbursement</td>
<td>$21,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Food &amp; Beverages</td>
<td>$72,377</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation Expense</td>
<td>$33,341</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Expense</td>
<td>$33,641</td>
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<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>$75,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$559,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mission: Wolf is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has been open to the public free of charge for three decades. Our goal is to operate the sanctuary and educational programs in the simplest and most efficient manner, and to keep overhead costs to an absolute minimum. Still, it takes money to pay for transportation, supplies, land acquisition, and insurance. All profit goes toward reducing our land debt. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Nancy, our bookkeeper at Sangre Solutions.
It’s the annual M:W coloring contest! Flex your creative muscles by decorating this original design any way you see fit. The contest is open to all ages, and a winner will be chosen in each of these three categories: Most Creative, Most Intricate, and Judges’ Favorite. Winners selected by the staff at Mission: Wolf will receive a Caretaker Packet for a wolf of your choosing, and an authentic wolf fur bracelet!

Submit your best work to:
Mission: Wolf
PO Box 1211
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Name: ___________________
Phone: ___________________
Email: ___________________
Address: ___________________

Submission Deadline: July 31, 2020
Winners will be notified by: August 15, 2020

Mimicry in the Wild Coloring Page

Ned Ludd (depicted above) was a Mission: Wolf resident from 1995 to 2008. The Owl Butterfly (scientific name: *Caligo martia*) has large eye spots resembling owl eyes on their wings. This appears to serve as a protection against predators in the wild.

Artwork and text by Tracy Ane Brooks
Generous Local Support:
Allen & Lisa Avery, Allison & Chris Sable, Elevation Meat Market, United Business Bank, Challenge Cycles, Chappie’s Bar & Grill, Jane & Sunflower Natural Foods, Mission: Wolf staff delight in visiting her shop to pick up healthy bulk food items for the refuge. Jane helps M:W to accommodate all different kinds of dietary needs and restrictions, so that the staff can stay healthy and strong.

M:W and the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation, The Daily Perks, La Plaza Inn, Dundee Bowling Alley & Rancher’s Roost Cafe, Sugar & Spice Mountain Bakery, Sean & West Custer County Public Library, the Courtyard Country Inn, the Westcliffe Inn, Store, Chappy’s Bar & Grill, Jane & Sunflower Natural Foods, a Westcliffe staple for organic and bulk foods. Mission: Wolf staff delight in visiting her shop to pick up healthy bulk food items for the refuge. Jane helps M:W to accommodate all different kinds of dietary needs and restrictions, so that the staff can stay healthy and strong.

Mission: Wolf - Thank You

Mission: Wolf Staff:
Mike Gaarde, Tricia LePore, Dan Morin, Kacey Wilson, Camille McGehee, Eric Alvarado, Camille Potts, Jordan Goodman, Ella Matsuda, Soo Kim, Schmidt, John Lemon, Ari Abrams, Sven Dijkstra, Michel Haddad, Chloe Madison, Christopher Pietrosz, Austin Hoffman, Alyssa Vallejo, Ryan Fadden, Maja Pitarina, Miranda Jones, Charles Mandemake, Jared Menze, Pelis Cannon, Megan Wolfe, Maja Al-Senseman, Reed Williams, Cliff Kuhl-Lynn, Red Freeman, Misha Brandlepp, Daren Ash

Board of Directors:

In Memory:
Wolf Angel Jane, Katl Flanagan, Erin Ruecklies, Mary Lou Church, Donna Nives

Caretaker of the Year: Jane Moyer

Jane has taken care of Custer. Wolf’s needs for decades. She operates Sunflower Natural Foods, a Westcliffe staple for organic and bulk foods. Mission: Wolf staff delight in visiting her shop to pick up healthy bulk food items for the refuge. Jane helps M:W to accommodate all different kinds of dietary needs and restrictions, so that the staff can stay energized to care for the wolves. A well-fed staff means well-fed wolves! Over the years, M:W staffers have had the pleasure of seeing Jane’s bright smile in town on food pick-ups and even hosting her out at the refuge. She has stocked and sold M:W merchandise in town and helped to get the word out about our mission. Thank you, Jane, for all that you provide to M:W and the Wet Mountain Valley Community!

Illustration by J. Goodman
The Wolves of Mission: Wolf

- **Apollo**: Wolf-dog; high wolf content. Lives with Farah. Calm, cool, and handsome.
- **Aria**: Arctic wolf. Lives with Hailey. Shy, elusive, loves food.
- **Asia**: Pitbull-wolf cross. Lives with Valley Spirit. Spunky and acrobatic.
- **Batman**: Pitbull-wolf cross. Like his namesake, usually found watching his domain.
- **Cephira**: Wolf-dog; high wolf content. Lives with Hailey. Shy, elusive, loves food.
- **Fenris**: Wolf-dog. Lives with McKinley. Aloof and observant.
- **Flash**: Wolf-dog. Lives with Saurya. Playful and loving.
- **Illiamna**: Wolf-dog. Lives with McKinley. Aloof and observant.
- **McKinley**: Wolf-dog. Lives with Saurya. Playful and loving.
- **Minigan**: Wolf-dog. Lives with staff. Loves long walks. Quirky heart and soul of the refuge.
- **Nashira**: Arctic wolf. Most impressive eater. Often mistaken for a rock when napping.
- **Saurya**: Wolf-dog. Lives with Nashira and Ydun. Laidback leader.
- **Tiger**: Timber wolf. Lives with Rosie. Sweet like his name.
Visit Us

Visitors who survive the dirt roads are welcome Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays are closed to drop-in day visitors. These days are reserved for volunteers who are willing to contribute their time and energy, for at least a few hours, to assist us on current sanctuary projects. Please contact us beforehand if you are interested in this option.

Driving Directions

From Westcliffe (coming from the north): Take Highway 69 south approximately 31 miles and turn left on Gardner Road (County Road 634). Follow this dirt road 13.2 miles, keeping right at two Y intersections in the first 5 miles. At the Blue Spring State Land Trust sign and cattle guard, turn right. Follow the Mission: Wolf driveway 1.6 miles along a fenceline and to the left up the hill to the sanctuary. DO NOT USE GPS. Once on the dirt roads, stick to the directions or you may get lost and find yourself on a horse trail.

Contact Us

Website: www.missionwolf.org
Email: info@missionwolf.org
Phone: 719-859-2157
Mail: PO Box 1211
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Follow Us

facebook.com/missionwolfcolorado
facebook.com/wolvesofmissionwolf
@missionwolfsanctuary
youtube.com/missionwolfsanctuary

Since the founding of the sanctuary, Mission: Wolf has depended on donations from our supporters and members. With roughly 30 hungry canines to feed, we go through nearly 1,000 pounds of raw meat each week. Your contribution goes directly toward the care of the animals, as well as the education of thousands of visitors. Please consider becoming a member of the Mission: Wolf family today, and help keep the wolves happy, healthy, and well-fed! Wolf membership packets make great gifts for birthdays, holidays, and memorials. You get a tax-deductible receipt, and your friend or loved one receives a wolf membership packet as a gift from you. Visit mission-wolf-store.myshopify.com to order, or use the order form below to sponsor one of the M:W wolves.

What’s Included?

- One year membership to the Wolf Caretaker program
- 8x10 color photo of your chosen wolf
- Your wolf’s biography
- Lock of your wolf’s naturally shed fur
- Mission: Wolf window decal
- Subscription to the Wolf Visions newsletter
- Personalized Membership Certificate

Feed a Wolf! Become a Caretaker at Mission: Wolf!

Which wolf would you like to sponsor? (please circle)

Name: ____________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________

____$25 Student/Senior
____$40 Individual
____$100 Family, Group, or School
____$250 Contributor
____$500 Patron
____$1,000 Feed a Wolf for a Year
____$3,000 Feed a Pack for a Year

Please send this form with cash or check to:
Mission: Wolf
PO Box 1211
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Visit mission-wolf-store.myshopify.com for credit card orders

Resident sweethearts Farah (black wolf) and Apollo teach us about non-verbal communication every day (K. Weber)