



**WOLF
PARK**

WolfPark.org

Spring 2009

The Wolf Park News

Raising Wolf Pups with Human Moms

by Pat Goodmann

It is spring. A time for babies. "Are you having puppies this year?" our visitors ask. We are currently looking for pups for our park, but with the decrease in zoos breeding wolves other than Mexican gray wolves, *Canis lupus baileyi*, and red wolves, *Canis rufus rufus*, we have not, at the time of this writing, found any pups to be ambassadors at Wolf Park. When we do find some, either this year or next, we will hand raise them.

By hand rearing the young of many species from infancy it is possible for students of animal behavior to "infiltrate" the social groups of these infant animals as they grow and study them at very close quarters. The humans are accepted as part of the social community and their presence does not disrupt the flow of social behaviors in the same way that the near presence of a human observer typically disrupts the behavior of social groups of the same species of animal in the wild.

Nobel laureate ethologist Konrad Lorenz found that, though he could not become a greylag goose, he could still come very close to having a greylag goose's view of the world, by "imprinting" greylag goslings, which allowed him much closer experiences with the geese through their lives. While a detailed treatment of the imprinting phenomenon, as it is called, is beyond the scope of this article, in brief, it is possible for many species of animals to grow up in a social environment where they learn:

1) to treat only their own species as parents, social companions, or



Helene Moesinger with the Austrian Wolf Science Center's new pups (Left). Read about the WSC on page 10.



rivals, as they normally do in the wild; or

2) to treat their own species and an additional species as parents, social companions, or rivals, as we seek to do here; or

3) to treat only a different

species as parents, or social companions, or rivals, in place of their own species, which happens if infants are raised without exposure to members of their own species.

We use a hand-rearing or socialization "recipe" that results in wolves who show almost the full range of social behavior to us that they show to each other. This has several benefits for the wolves and for us. The wolves are much less stressed at being kept in close proximity to humans. We are a normal, typically benign, part of their environment. For us, it means that humans, including new interns and students who are strangers to the wolves can immediately start watching the pack, at close range, without their mere

presence disrupting what the wolves are doing.

Our socialization recipe calls for taking the pups from their mother before they are twenty-one days old. They are not weaned at that time, and so must be bottle fed. After we move the pups into the human "den," the mother typically searches for her pups. This agitation seems to wane to the point of being unnoticeable by the time her milk dries up. Some mother wolves show more signs of agitation on finding their pups gone than do other mothers. How much depends on their personality, age, and experience.

It seems that wolf pups have an inborn recognition of what constitutes an adult canine. We don't match that template, or pattern. Dogs, as well as wolves, both demonstrate this inborn recognition, but with dogs the preference for that inborn template seems to have been relaxed. Dog pups can stay with their mothers until they are weaned. They can have twenty-four-hour-a-day access to dogs and still form strong attachments to humans, if humans begin to socialize them before they are sixteen weeks old, with the sixth through the eighth weeks of life an optimum time to begin socialization

Continue on Page 9

Wolf Park is a not for profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of wolves in captivity and in the wild through behavioral research and education.

Wolf Park was founded in 1972 by
Erich Klinghammer, PhD.

Dear Members

As summer arrives at Wolf Park we have so much to be thankful for. Wolf Park continues to support a cohort of animals that thrive under the care of resident staff. Visitors continue to be amazed by the wolves and are hungry to learn more about their behavior, and to understand how to help this amazing predator survive in today's world. And you, our members, continue to support us so we can do this important work on behalf of wolves, and our wild world.

As news of the bad economy pours in from all sides, we are working hard to simply continue our work and trust that we will get through. We hope that predictions about how families will vacation are true – that while we may miss some visitors from far away, we will make up for it in families staying closer to home.

We also hope that our seminars will fill up as people spend their money carefully, focusing their energy and spending on things they really want to do. So far we have people signing up, but we could surely fit more of you in here! Our new one day Mini-Intensives are the perfect short vacation for anyone in love with wolves.

We thank you all for your continued support in these difficult times. And we promise to use the funds we receive in the best, most economical fashion possible.

News from the conservation front is mixed. Once again the wolves have been removed from the Endangered Species list in both the Midwest and in a portion of the Rockies. While we applaud the continued success of these wolf recoveries, we have some uncertainty about the long term safety of these populations in light of continued negative public attitudes towards wolves. Much work awaits us in learning to co-exist with wolves in different types of ecosystems, and different types of human cultures. The conflict arising in regard to the management of these wolf populations is evidence that organizations like Wolf Park have a lot of work ahead of them.

Make sure to read about our upcoming Walk for Wolves– we hope all of you will participate in some way in this fun new Wolf Park event! We want to make our inaugural Walk a success, because our success means success for the wolves.

Holly Jaycox
Managing Director



Orca and Pat

We realized that many of our members do not know the staff at Wolf Park very well, especially if they live far from here and do not get to visit often. So we are starting a series of staff profiles for each issue of Wolf Park News. We are starting with our longest standing staff member– Pat Goodmann!

When Pat came to Wolf Park back in 1974, she was a graduate student at Purdue University, after doing her undergraduate degree at Stephens College in Missouri. She actually attended Purdue primarily because she heard about Dr. Klinghammer's work with captive wolves, and knew she wanted to get involved.

At that time Wolf Park was just getting going, and had been incorporated as a non-profit organization just two years earlier. Pat joined a group of dedicated volunteers that did animal care and facility maintenance in all their free time. Pat also began her studies of the wolves at Dr. Klinghammer's side, eventually earning a Master of Science degree under his guidance. The graduate students did research, but were also assisting with feeding, scooping poop, and all the other dirty jobs associated with keeping captive animals.

Much has changed since those "bad old days". Pat eventually was hired

to do the work she was already doing, and in 1995 was able to quit her other job and work here full time! And many of the jobs she used to do are now done by our current interns and volunteers, allowing Pat to focus on research, writing, and hosting sponsors and seminar participants.

Pat is known for her quirky sense of humor, which is often exposed in her writings for sponsors and in the newsletter. (Remember Pat's Poetry Corner?) She is a veritable encyclopedia of wolf behavior, and thanks to her amazing memory is the Wolf Park historian. Other than fulfilling her passion for wolves and Wolf Park, Pat's time is spent with her horse Xan, and her dog Pogo. Pat has spent more than half her life caring for the wolves of Wolf Park, and we are thrilled that she has dedicated herself to our mission. Her devotion to the wolves is unsurpassed, and she instills in everyone that comes through here the same dedication to understanding animal behavior and to providing the best possible life to our captive family.

We would like to thank Pat for all her years of work here, and we encourage our members to take advantage of her knowledge and experience whenever they have the opportunity!

Newest Staff Member: Denise Pearson



We are happy to announce our newest staff member, Denise Pearson. She has stepped into

the position of Membership and Marketing Coordinator. What does this really mean? It means Denise lives in the office, keeping track of everything, answering phones, scheduling tours and sponsor visits, and using every extra moment to help find ways to increase Wolf Park's visibility and support. If you call or email us she is likely the person you will reach.

Denise has worked in the Lafayette area for years, in both paid and volunteer positions, and has wonderful connections in the community. In her first six months she has already found

many new ways for Wolf Park to partner with local businesses, and has begun creating new fund raising opportunities. Denise is a native Hoosier, and lives with her family in West Lafayette. She has a son and daughter aged 18 and 23, a grand daughter aged 2, and a cat named Annabelle. She and husband Jeff are enjoying more freedom since the kids have grown up!

We appreciate the benefits of Denise's experience, and her constant positive attitude. She has made the office a much happier place since her arrival! Denise is spear heading the planning of our new fund raiser, the Walk for Wolves we will be hosting in September.

Denise is enjoying learning about wolves, and getting to know the community of Wolf Park staff, volunteers and members. We are very happy she has joined us! Please welcome her if you get a chance.



This year's Open House was on Sunday, March 29th from 1-4pm. Visitors from across the country come to Wolf Park during our open season, to learn about wolves and their place in nature. However, most people don't realize all the different opportunities Wolf Park offers. OUR annual Open House is an opportunity for visitors to learn more about how they can become more involved with our organization. They can do so mainly by participating in

more of our activities, from our volunteer program to membership. Other activities we offer include: seminars, special events throughout the year, memberships and volunteer opportunities for kids and adults alike, as well as children's day camps and overnight camps. This year, despite the cold and rainy day, we had ninety-one people attend our event and we hope that we will see them again in this upcoming open season.

Open House Success!

Tristan is still showing signs of becoming more outgoing and less quickly startled. In early March, though, he startled himself with his own impulsiveness when he jumped up to lick my face, and then his eyes got big and round (“OOPS I don’t do this with you”) and he got down. I crouched down and we exchanged a greeting that way. Then he jumped up to lick Monty’s face, with whom he does do that... He also stole a towel, grabbed ankles and the spring is yet young.

Kailani is growing her fur back where Wolfgang plucked it out during the breeding season. She continues to act as a provocateur, seeking to dominate all of the males except Tristan, and has taken up the practice, when excited, of whining as she inhales as well as when she exhales.

Ruedi got an A on some of his cognitive research tests, but did not do so well on one where researchers reversed the rules for a game he already knew. He has been jumping vertically for treats more this spring, making it look as if he intends to take up bipedal dancing as a hobby. Sometimes he demonstrates better eye – mouth coordination than usual, by snatching pepperoni on the fly when Monty frisbees pieces to posing wolves during photo seminars.

Renki got some A’s on his Cognitive research tests. He enjoys this very much. Now he wants to go to college, get a doctorate, and so be qualified to stick hypodermic needles into Wolfgang and Wotan. Renki is not quite clear on the difference between an M.D. and a Ph.D. In early April he met a Flat Stanley, and after some half-hearted grabs at the papyrus homunculus, Renki consented to teeter-totter with Flat Stanley “riding” him. Seeing how well he has been doing with humans in the last year we, as his career counselors, plan to point Renki towards a career in PR with people with maybe a little acting on the side, rather than getting into medicine or psychology.

Wotan continues charming humans and causing Renki to mutter bad words. He had to endure opportunistic pinches from Renki while being simultaneously suppressed by Tristan, but Tristan can’t be next to Renki all the time, and Wotan got even.

Wolfgang has been looking for pockets to pick, reached new heights leaping for sausage in trees during photography seminars, and even learned to bend saplings to his will when the sausage was beyond his jumping level.



Left to Right - Renki, Tristan, Kailani, Wolfgang, Ruedi and Wotan

Name	Sex	Birth Year
Tristan	Male	1998
Kailani	Female	2004
Renki	Male	2004
Ruedi	Male	2004
Wolfgang	Male	2005
Wotan	Male	2005

Wolf Park Coyote Updates

by Pat Goodmann



Willow is greeting spring and humans. Twister is greeting spring and humans, but he still seems ready to turn surly and threaten at the drop of a hat or, sometimes for all we can tell, the friction of air molecules. Both will station on cue. Their willingness to stay on the hut roof or on the spool has deteriorated over winter, but we think we can bring it back up to par pretty easily. Stationing is a valuable behavior, helping us avoid conflict with the coyotes if we have to “commit maintenance” in their enclosure.

Coyotes (*Canis latrans*)
Its Latin name, *Canis latrans*, means “barking dog.”

Twister - Male
Born April 3, 2006
Willow - Female
Born April 2, 2006

Wolf Park Fox Updates

by Pat Goodmann



Basil, Devon and Ember have continued to enjoy mice and bunnies. Mice though, are still the exquisite food unsurpassed by all other foods. Odes are written to mice. They have been getting some of the mice I catch in my office – or not. If I catch them alive I give them a sporting chance to escape the foxes and on one occasion Devon and Ember saw the dear little deer mouse in their enclosure but could not be bothered to get up to warp speed and catch it. Actually, they didn't bother to get up at all. And Basil? He napped through the mouse's introduction to, brief tour of, and successful exit from the enclosure.

All our foxes are Red Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Basil - Male
Born 1995 (est.)
White

Devon - Female
Born 2000
Silver Phase

Ember - Female
Born 2000
Classic Red





Wotan chasing Kailani

At some point in working with captive wolves it will be necessary to separate a wolf or wolves from the pack, usually temporarily. The reason may be to give health care, to work on training or environmental enrichment, or perhaps to make sure that certain people and certain wolves are kept safely apart. Whether it is putting a wolf like Renki or Kailani in a holding pen so that it can't intimidate a sponsor or seminar participant, selecting whom to take to a wolf / bison demonstration, or removing a wolf to a holding pen for extended medical treatment, there is more to removing the wolf and returning it later to its pack mates than simply persuading it through a particular gate. We were made acutely aware of that back in the 1970's. A zoo told us how they tranquilized and separated an alpha female for some minor medical attention. When they returned her to the pack, there was a fight and the alpha female died of wounds sustained in that fight.

What's the big deal about a wolf being removed for a while and then returned? All the variables are difficult to predict, but here are some insights on this question. In the wild wolves come and go inside their pack's territory which is considerably larger than our wolves' enclosures. The wolves do not have to be quite as close together as ours do, for extended periods of time. The wild wolves spend lots of time and energy hunting, so they busy, and are tired at the end of the day. When they are away from their pack mates, they are usually out of sight and the remaining wolves have other things to do that keep them busy and use up energy. And even despite these facts, there are occasional times when a wild wolf's

return to the pack is less than smooth. A young female of the Druid Pack in Yellowstone learned this when her social rank was taken by another female during her temporary absence.

In captivity, the wolf who is removed is often close to its pack mates during its separation – sometimes just on the other side of a shared fence. The way it is handled for removal and the location of the holding area (is the wolf visible to the pack?) can attract attention to the wolf in a negative way, causing the wolf to be 'conspicuous' to its pack mates. If the wolf appears both conspicuous and vulnerable, such as if it is moving oddly while drugged, or acting frightened, that is even worse. If this happens, its human caretakers may have unwittingly set it up to be harassed or attacked upon its return.

The reunion after time apart can lead to an often exciting and high energy group interaction we call a rally. It typically includes lots of greeting, but does not necessarily stay friendly from beginning to end. When a group of excited wolves comes together, there is the chance that quarrels will flare, because someone was too rowdy, someone looked vulnerable, or because some wolves have a recent history of unfriendly interactions.

Relationships are very important in deciding whether and how to temporarily remove a wolf from and return it to its pack mates. So is the age of the wolf or wolves affected, and the time of year which also determines the wolves' hormonal profiles. If the pack has no history of recent unfriendliness outside normal bounds, reunions are likely to be friendly. If the wolves removed were puppies, the chances are excellent that they will be enthusiastically greeted and the reunion will stay friendly from start to finish.

When we split our pack of six wolves into two trios in April of 2003, the trio of Tristan, Chetan, and Erin could easily be separated and reunited for short periods all that summer and fall with no unpleasant consequences. Those three had good to excellent interpersonal relations.

Seneca, Miska, and Marion had to be handled more carefully. Marion regularly harassed Miska, and sometimes, especially during breeding season, Seneca would back her up. Even during the more mellow months of spring and summer, if we wanted to move them to another enclosure, separate one for medical care, or, in Marion's case, take her out to meet a sponsor, we often had to be careful not to set Miska up to be attacked when we reunited them. One solution was to move them all to another enclosure, taking care to release Miska and Seneca first so that Miska could be clear across the

pen before Marion could get to him. Exploring a new space and marking it would distract Marion temporarily from her tendency to harass Miska.

Taking Renki out to participate in a wolf / bison demonstration is safe for him as of this writing – as long as we walk him around the loup trail and return him to the Turtle Lake enclosure through the holding pen on its west side rather than putting him back in through the airlock where we took him out. This is true whether he goes out with pack members or when he is paired with Ayla, who lives at East Lake, for the demonstration. This system works well since the pack is rarely assembled at the holding pen waiting to get at him; if they are, we let everyone into the holding pen and provide distractions.

When we do these sorts of separations we always monitor the wolves closely for at least the rest of the day. Sometimes removing a wolf is deemed so risky that we will not hazard returning it to the pack. Such was the case with Ayla when her pack mates were harassing her. But we know that making such a decision impacts the rest of the wolf's life so powerfully, that we hesitate to make that choice unless absolutely necessary. With forethought and carefully gauging the variables that can promote, or interfere with friendly interactions, it is sometimes possible to remove and return wolves to a captive pack. This is part of the art and science of managing captive wolves.



Wotan left, Kailani on top of Ruedi

Our East Lake Wolves Updates



ERIN and CHETAN

Chetan is still pretty good about taking his pill-laced meatballs, but staff had to give them to him for a while, when he developed a suspicion that the interns were not simply trying to give him tasty treats, but also had a secret, sinister agenda: giving him pills.

Erin, who is having a false pregnancy, has not yet “whelped” pretend puppies and she is not begging food from Chetan consistently. When we visit them she shows a little tendency to “shark” but it is mild as yet. We anticipate it becoming more severe when she has a den of pretend pups to defend. Mostly she just enjoys ear rubs and back massages.

MISKA and MARION

Miska likes cognitive testing. He can earn treats. It gets him away from Marion. It gets Marion away from him. When they get back together, if Marion had a good session, she is actively affectionate and submissive to Miska, which according to Miska, is a very good thing.

Marion is a star pupil in cognitive research, but some of the tests are harder than she is accustomed to. If she makes the wrong choice and does not get a treat, this seems to really bother her. Like a smart high school kid suddenly finding that she must actually work to do well in college, Marion has to buckle down and think. If a session doesn't go well, woe unto Miska when she gets back. We have decided that even if we gave her a few easy questions at the end of a session so she can end on a good note, Marion seems so rankled if she doesn't get 95 - 100% on her tests that we had better keep her and Miska apart for a while until she cools down.



KIRI

Kiri is mischievous with people and likes to tweak them. He is so fluffy we have to look carefully to see if his hackles are up and since he has lost his voice we sometimes have a hard time telling if he is growling in a stage whisper or just needs to clear his throat. He adores a good massage, and seems to revel in the fact that his expanding social circle of human friends means that he has a platoon of hands willing to massage him. determined obstacle being Kiri.



AYLA

Ayla enjoyed a play date with Ruedi and Renki in early April, and she has been taking part in cognitive tests. She learns, but we think her brain gets tired because she will have sudden attacks of sleepiness in the middle of problem solving. Despite nap attacks she seems to enjoy the work very much.



APOLLO

Everyone needs a hobby. Especially old, newly single males like Apollo. Apollo has been taking part in cognitive testing and at first he took only a mild interest. With more trials he seems to become more engaged in the problems. The tests mean that, in addition to puzzle-solving, he gets rotated into other pens more often and gets some additional human contact. While I have not seen signs of moping or depression in him over the winter, he does seem to show increased interest in what we do outside his enclosure, and looking alert and perkier even when we are not actively doing something with him.



ECLIPSE

Eclipse tries to fence fight with wolves who go past her on their way to do cognitive research. She licks the staff when we go to visit her, and she came up and licked a new sponsor visiting her for the first time. We thought, briefly, that she might consider a tea party with Apollo but she has only expressed an interest in puncturing him when he walks past.



ECHO

April 21, 1992 - May 19, 2009
Echo, who turned 17 in April, was peacefully euthanized on May 19. She was in her own pen, surrounded by people she knew, and who loved her. Echo spent most of her life living in wildlife facilities in New York State, but thanks to the support of sponsors and all our members, we were able to provide her with a nice retirement since she returned here in March 2005.



ORCA

Orca has also been enjoying more human contact now that the breeding season is over. He still makes attempts to walk and welcomed resumption of physical therapy. He turns an amazing fifteen this year.





Pat, Wolfgang and Gale

You know the situation. You were only thinking of just maybe taking a stroll with your dog. You got up from the couch and were looking out of the window - just checking the weather - and already your dog is all excited and buzzing around your feet. He has brought his leash - perhaps even your shoes. How do they do that? Are dogs really mind readers?

At Wolf Park many visitors have doubtless seen the wolves reacting with excited anticipation to the entry of their beloved human companions to the main enclosure, who then interact with them, sometimes bearing treats. How well do the wolves really understand people their intentions? And how does that compare to the seemingly very intimate understanding of people that pet dogs have?

It isn't easy to design scientific experiments that can answer big questions like how dogs and wolves think, but my team and I made an attempt this last winter. We decided to focus on whether dogs and wolves comprehend that, if you can see them then you may give them a treat, but if you cannot then you won't.

We decided to give wolves and dogs a choice. They could beg for food from somebody who could see them, or from somebody whose vision was obscured. We explored three different ways of blocking a human's vision: the "blind" human might have her back turned, she might have a bucket over her head, or she might hold a book in front of her face.

You might expect that one of two things would happen: dogs and wolves would understand what it means that somebody cannot see you and always choose the seeing person in preference to the blind person, or they might not understand therefore just choose at

random. That is not what we found. We found that for dogs and wolves it makes a big difference how you obscure somebody's vision.

The wolves understood just fine that if somebody turns her back on you, you should not waste your time trying to beg from her. On the other hand, if the blinded person cannot see because she has a bucket or book in front of her eyes the wolves don't care - they continue begging from a person blinded in those ways.

When we got back home to Gainesville, Florida, we repeated the test on pet dogs and also on stray dogs at our local county pound. Again you might think that if dogs understand what it means to see and be seen, then they would only ever beg from the person who could see them not matter how the human's vision is obscured. Furthermore, you might think that either all dogs have this skill or none of them do.

That is not what we found either. The dogs we tested at the county pound performed similarly to the wolves. A few of them had some understanding that a person with her back turned was not going to deliver treats, but the other two conditions meant nothing to them.

Pet dogs were considerably more successful on this task. Most pet dogs comprehended the implications of turning your back, but most of them also understood that a person with a book over her face is not going to give treats, and some of them even understood that a person with a bucket over her had is not good to beg from.

So what does this all mean? Why do wolves and pound dogs only understand back turned, whereas the pet dogs living in the human homes also understand the implications of a person hiding her head

behind a book, and some of them even understand that a person with a bucket over her head will not deliver treats?

We think these results are very difficult to explain in terms of anything to do with what might have happened to dogs during their 15,000 years of evolution to become what they are today. Dogs at the county pound - who are just as much members of the species *Canis familiaris* as any other dogs - had only a very limited understanding of the implications of human vision.

What we think these results mean is that the life experiences of an animal are crucial to understanding what they can deduce about what people do. The wolves of Wolf Park are well loved by their human caretakers who interact with them a lot, but none the less nobody ever goes into the wolf enclosure and then sits down to read. For this reason the wolves have no understanding of what a book over someone's face might imply. In this regard, Wolf Park wolves are similar to dogs at the county pound - they too do not have people come in and read with them. On the other hand, pet dogs surely have quite a lot of experience of interacting with people who at some point grow tired of giving treats and settle down with a book or magazine - game over.

People who have been interacting with the wolves and giving them treats do quite often turn their backs when they have run out of treats or are ready to end the interaction for some reason. The staff often uses this back turn as a signal to the wolves that what they are doing needs to stop for more good things to happen. (This might be used for example if a wolf is being too pushy and demanding attention.) Pound dogs have likely also had experience of caregivers turning their backs and leaving them. These are the kinds of experiences we

believe are essential if a dog or wolf is going to understand that it should not waste time begging from somebody with her back turned.

So where does that leave us with the bucket? Speaking from first hand experience, I can say that to the human inside the bucket it is the most complete cutting - off of contact from the outside world of any of the conditions we tested. So why do none of the wolves or the pound dogs, and only a small minority of pet dogs understand this massive barrier blocking contact between the human and the outside world? Again wolves very rarely have a reason to interact with people who have buckets-or anything remotely like buckets-over their heads. In fact, the bigger puzzle for us is why there were four pet dogs who did successfully avoid begging from the person with the bucket over her head. We tried to think of life experiences that a dog might have that might prepare them for somebody with a bucket on her head. We asked the owners if they had any ideas, but they did not. We can only assume that these dogs had past experiences with people in helmets or children playing with boxes on their head, that somehow set up the conditions for them to notice that a person with something covering her head is not very responsive to them.

Dogs and wolves can be very astute readers of our actions and intentions, but they do this by comparing our behavior to their past experiences with us - they are not mind readers in the strong sense. Now to find where the dog has put my shoes.

Dr. Clive Wynne is Associate Professor of Psychology and leader of the Canine Cognition and Behavior group at the University of Florida. He was educated at University College London and Edinburgh University in Scotland and has studied animal behavior in Britain, Germany, the U.S. and Australia in species ranging from pigeons to dunnarts (a mouse-sized marsupial). His findings have been published in numerous scientific reports as well as in psychology Today, American Scientist and the New York Times. He is the author of a textbook Animal Cognition: The Mental Lives of Animals and editor in chief of the journal Behavioral Processes. His most recent book is Do Animals Think? (Princeton University Press, 2004). More information about the Canine Cognition and Behavior group is available on the web at: www.caninecognition.com.



Todd Satterfield has been volunteering at Wolf Park since 2001. He has done everything from giving tours to picking up incoming interns. Probably his favorite jobs are the many construction projects he has worked on, as well as doing some wood working, such as building the beautiful wooden cabinet in our Education Building. Todd has given so many hours to Wolf Park that we stopped keeping track after a while!

On February 21 Wolf Park had a fund raiser and celebration for Todd. He has had Type 1 Diabetes for his entire life and has been experiencing many health complications as a result, and last fall had a special pump attached to his heart to help it work. These sorts of things are not only unpleasant, but very expensive! So with Von Tobel's Lumber, Todd's employer, we participated in a fund raising t-shirt sale, and

collected donations from staff, volunteers and our friends and families. Former interns and volunteers from around the world sent in their donations when they heard Todd was in need.

The dinner in February was at our favorite local hangout, the Lafayette Brewing Company (LBC), located in downtown Lafayette. We surprised Todd by showing up all dressed in our special Todd Head t-shirts (see photo), and even LBC donated a percentage of their food sales from that night to Todd.

Since the event, Todd has actually received a heart transplant, and he is recovering well. But his expenses will continue... so we will probably find more ways to help support this member of the Wolf Park family. It is the dedication of volunteers like Todd that keeps Wolf Park going.

Continued from Page 1
for dogs. For wolves, starting socialization at six to eight weeks is much too late.

In wolves, the preference for forming attachments to adult canines (as opposed to humans) has not been relaxed. We simply could not compete successfully with the adult wolves, even if we visited with the pups, fed them, and handled them for several hours daily. We, and our colleagues Harry and Martha Frank, have experience with this situation from pups back in one of our first litters. The pups formed strong attachments to the wolves and very little to us humans. The pups that we left with their wolf mother did not want to be handled by the time they were six months old. While they showed a reduced flight distance from us, compared to a wild wolf, they were wary and aloof as adolescents and adults. Sometimes they gathered around and threatened us if we were doing something they did not like, such as "committing maintenance" in the enclosure. They could not be handled, or examined, without being drugged, and they could not be taken out for walks.

That inborn recognition of and preference for real adult wolves, as compared with humans, illustrates the difference between "domestication" and "socialization." Many people use these terms as if they were interchangeable. They are not interchangeable. They are distinct processes which compliment each other. Socialization is something that can be done to a single animal within its own lifetime. Our domestic animals typically receive some amount of socialization, and they are genetically predisposed, by domestication, to "make the most" of it. Individual wild animals may also be socialized.

This is why we hand rear pups, temporarily separating their mother from them. We learned the hard way that for wolves destined to live in captivity, removing the pups for hand rearing repays both them, and us, richly, whereas leaving them with the mother means that as they mature, their lives will be more stressful and impoverished in a variety of ways. We believe the good these wolves will do for their species, as ambassadors, and the benefits they receive, as individuals, from being easy to work with, outweighs the limited time of suffering the mother experiences when her pups are taken from her.

Benefits to the wolves includes easier delivery of medical care. We



need not resort so often to potentially disruptive (and sometimes physically risky) restraints such as nets, squeeze cages, or drugs. Much routine medical care and examination can be done with the wolf conscious. If an animal must be sedated, we can do that without having to catch it by netting it or shooting it with a dart gun. (See the on separating captive wolves from their pack article on page 5 of this newsletter.)

In some cases, routine medical care can be something that they enjoy rather than endure, or worse, dread. We "embed" potentially unpleasant medical treatment in an array of distractions and enjoyable stimuli. Then, if follow up care is needed, the wolf is more likely to be cooperative. Our wolves get their vaccinations, for example, as part of elaborate social greeting and grooming, so that it becomes part of their environmental enrichment. It has long been a joke of mine that our goal is to have our wolves run to the fence and bounce excitedly when the veterinarian arrives with a tray full of hypodermic needles. Often this actually happens.

Wolves are social animals but there is no guarantee, in the wild or in captivity, that they will always be able to live in a pack. For wolves who cannot live with a social group, or have even one companion of their own kind, we humans can be a source of friendly social interaction. While humans cannot completely replace the companionship of another wolf, in some cases, due to age, health, or personality conflict, there simply is no compatible other wolf available. In such a case, or when two wolves tolerate each other but do not seem to experience a strong attachment, human companionship can provide valid and necessary enrichment. For wolves who are still in the pack, but who have lost status and have little social freedom, humans may be their main source of friendly social interaction for a while.

Adopt a Wolf Program



Sponsor Benefits

One Year Sponsorship is \$175

Select a wolf, fox coyote or bison to sponsor

Receive quarterly updates and photos

Our Wolf Park quarterly newsletter

Invitations to special events

A keepsake of the animal's hair

Special educational session about wolf visits

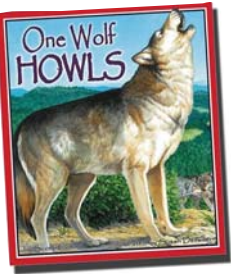
Personal visits with animal or "stand in" animal (restrictions apply)

Optional photo documentation of the visit

Free admission to park for you and your family

One Wolf Howls

We would like to recommend this recently published children's book by Wolf Park member **Scotti Cohn**. She consulted with us on the educational portions of the book, and is generously sharing her royalties with Wolf Park!



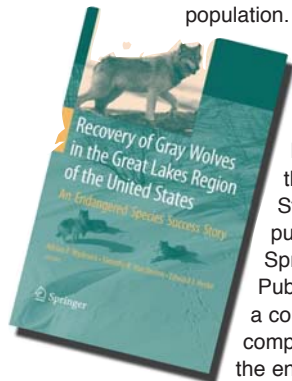
One Wolf Howls is an artfully written look at the lives

of a wolf pack. Told in creative rhymes, One Wolf Howls is both a counting book and an introduction into wolf life. Susan Detwiler's realistic and engaging illustrations bring the seasons and forests surroundings to life. With it's lyrical rhythm, this is an excellent book for reading out loud. Included in the book are activities, quizzes and fun information about wolves around the world.

Scotti will be here signing copies of her book for our Dog Days event coming up Saturday June 6, 2009. The book is available for \$8.95 plus shipping on our web store, www.wolfparkstore.com.

Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States

A new book was just published this spring about our Midwest wolf population. "Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States" was published by Springer Publishing. It is a complete compendium on the entire process of



recovery, from history, to legal issues, to handling human coexistence and livestock depredation, in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. There is even a mention of Wolf Park and our work assisting in the education of the public in this region during this recovery period. Whether you think wolves have recovered, or need more time and protection, this is the best source for scientific information on the subject of wolves in the Western Great Lakes available today.

Corporate Sponsorships

Wolf Park is developing a Corporate Sponsorship program. These sponsors will be given special privileges such as having links on our web site or mention in the newsletter. If you run a company, work for a company, or are aware of a company that might be interested in investing in Wolf Park's mission, please have them contact Denise Pearson to learn more about the benefits of joining our team. We can tailor benefits to suit different entities' interests, such as doing custom Howl Night programs for businesses that are close enough to visit! Wolf Park's wolves inspire interest in conservation and endangered species. We hope to partner with more businesses that value our work and can support it in some way, whether with financial support, or in-kind contributions.

Summer Camps

Sign up NOW for Summer Camps!! Our Day Camps and Overnight Camps are coming up in June, July and August. We offer programs for kids from age 5 to 14. Participants get to learn about wolves, wildlife, and captive animal care. They often get to meet the foxes, and get up close to our other resident animals. Sign up soon so you can get into the program of your choice!

Tributes

Put your name in a spot permanently overlooking the main pack enclosure by purchasing a spot on the grandstand! We will engrave a bronze plaque with the text of your choice and attach it to our grandstand for all to enjoy. You can put your own name, the name of someone you want to honor, a wolf's name or a beloved pet— and it will be displayed there for the life of the grandstand. A donation of \$100 purchases one plaque, and puts your name inside of Wolf Park forever! Contact us for details and to reserve your spot. We can usually fit up to two lines with 15 characters per line on one plaque, but we will work with you to make sure it is just right.

Wolves and Dogs Mini Intensive

In May Wolf Park premiered a new seminar format- the Mini Intensive! The more we talk to visitors about their experiences, the more we realize how busy everyone is and how hard it is to find time to do all the things they want to do. We created our one day seminars to give more people an opportunity to have an in-depth educational experience here, and to combine that with a chance to meet wolves up close from inside the fence. Our first Mini Intensive was a Wolves and Dogs seminar, and was a huge success! We got lots of positive feedback, and hope this bodes well for our future programs this summer. We will offer the Wolves and Dogs Mini Intensive again July 11, as well as doing a new wolf conservation program in August and October.

WALK FOR WOLVES at Wolf Park – In September we are hosting our first ever Walk for Wolves to raise funds to support the work we do on behalf of wolves, both our residents, and their wild cousins. Members and others can join in by creating teams and enlisting donations from their friends, coworkers, family and neighbors! Participants can walk, or can choose to sponsor walkers from

a distance and be 'virtual' participants. The actual walking will be Saturday September 26 from 10 am to noon. Lafayette television news anchor Jeff Smith will join us as Honorary Chairman. Walkers will be escorted on their first lap of the "Loup" Trail by a wolf (Which one? Come on out to find out!). This fund raiser gives members the perfect opportunity to invite friends and

family to support one of their favorite causes. Create your team today, and compete for fun prizes awarded for best dressed, most raised, and other categories. All funds raised will help Wolf Park continue our educational programming that fosters a passion for wolves, wilderness and conservation in our visitors of all kinds. Details will be posted on the web site in June.



Monty's photos are used all around the world in many venues. Our latest place to have the wolves featured was on the cover of the March 6, 2009 issue of Science. The photo was one taken back in 1993 of Kiri and Socrates, a black colored and an agouti colored wolf howling together. (More photos of these two wolves, as pups and at age ten, were included in the article text.) This feature article, *Molecular and Evolutionary History of Melanism in North American Gray Wolves*, Anderson, T.M., et al, discusses new findings on variability in melanism, i.e. coat color, in North American gray wolves.

This group of researchers looked at the genes responsible for melanic pigment in wolf fur that causes some wolves to be black. Among other things, they determined that a mutation in the K locus resulted in black pigmentation in Canis spp. and this gene has greater variability in dogs than in wolves. Their best explanation for this is past hybridization events with dogs. Hybridization could have happened any time between 500 years ago and many thousand years ago. They also suggest that such genetic changes have influenced morphological diversity and perhaps created an increase in fitness for forest dwelling wolves. To see the abstract on line, go to www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/1165448.

The Wolf Science Center

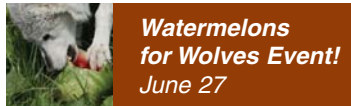
We hosted researchers from Austria this spring. **The Wolf Science Center**, located outside of Vienna, is a facility that is doing some of the same kind of work that Wolf Park is involved with— both research and education. Two of the directors of this facility visited Wolf Park in 2007 and decided that they wanted to use methods similar to ours in order to have happy, well-socialized wolves in their facility. This spring they returned, and brought along two members of their staff to spend some time doing cognitive research on our wolves, and learning about our captive management techniques. **Friederike Range** and **Zsafia Viranyi** manage the Wolf

Center in Austria, and escorted **Helene Moeslinger** and **Bea Belenyi** to Wolf Park. Friederike and Zsofi only stayed for two weeks, but Helene is spending three full months here, assisting us around the Park, and doing research with the aid of our animal care staff. Bea was only able to be here for a few weeks observing our staff interact with the wolves and discussing our training and handling methods. She then picked up some wolf pups to take back to Austria and socialize. The Austrians have been blogging about their stay at Wolf Park, on the Wolf Center web site. Go to www.wolfscience.at/english/research/blog/ to learn more about their work, and their reaction to their time at Wolf Park.

Thanks goes to the **Tony Stewart Foundation** for their grant of \$2500! We applied for a grant last December and received this generous amount this spring, plus a promise to talk to us about future projects that they might financially support. Tony Stewart Foundation was created by the race car driver, and is based out of Indianapolis. This funding was used to keep the wolves healthy and happy during our closed season, a time when funding is scarce. We hope to find more ways to work with them in the future, as Tony has an interest in conservation and animals.

The **Scovill Zoo** in Decatur, Illinois is home to three wolves born at Wolf Park. On April 11, the staff and volunteers hosted a bake sale to raise money for Wolf Park. Monty Sloan took a group of Wolf Park volunteers to visit Scovill and accept their check for \$300. Several Scovill staff members had participated in one of our captive management seminars, and want to maintain their partnership with our organization. We send our thanks to our friends in Illinois for their continued support.

This spring Wolf Park hosted more cognitive researchers. In March **Clive Wynne** and his crew came back for another round of experiments on how wolves respond to people. They do these studies on dogs as well, and compare these two closely related species. (see Clive's article on page 8) This time Clive invited another canid cognition researcher, **Sylvain Fiset**. Sylvain is a Canadian researcher who has been studying animal cognition, especially dog cognition for many years. Sylvain did the first round of an experiment here, and had such good success that he is already planning a return visit.



Watermelons for Wolves Event!
June 27

Wolves on the Web

Tracking wolves and other news about wildlife on the internet can seem challenging, partly because there is so much to follow. I find that sites that can gather information for me save me from doing a lot of the footwork myself. A site that I continue to return to due to its complete coverage is CarnivoreConservation.org. This site has both a constant stream of news articles relating to wild dogs, cats and bears, but also posts scientific papers as they are published.

— Holly Jaycox



Photo by Monty Sloan, Vanessa cardui - Painted Lady on Echinacea

WThis summer will mark the Butterfly Garden's third anniversary here at the park, and boy is it a jungle out there. Last season we were dwarfed by eight foot tall Cup Plants, and practically swimming in butterflies as they swarmed around our Butterfly Bush. We also began cataloging the butterfly species which visited, along with the native plant species that grow everywhere in the park.

This year we are happy to announce the addition of our first official butterfly count. Three counts in fact.

Join us on Sunday Aug 16th, September 20th, or October 18th for our regular Bison/Wolf demonstration, and then at 3:30 PM come to the Education Building for a short powerpoint on our local butterflies. Then from 4:00-5:00 PM we will head outside to count the butterflies in our garden and along the perimeter. In order to aid your butterfly identification, each participant will receive an ID handout. After compiling the numbers we will then add our totals to the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) website.

Thank You to Our Supporters!

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Wotan, Ruedi and Kailani enjoying fritatta

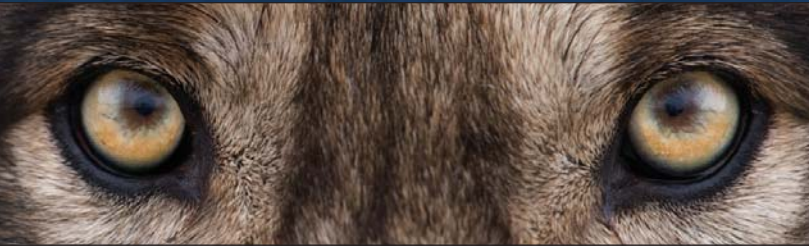
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2009 Seminars & Camps

Sign up for Seminars and Camps at WolfParkStore.com



June 12-14 Wolf Intensive Weekend 27-28 Overnight Camp for ages 11-12 July 11 Mini-Intensive – Dogs and Wolves 18-19 Overnight Camp for ages 8-10 24-26 Seminar with Ken McCort Wolves vs Dogs– behavior analysis	August 1-2 Overnight Camp for ages 13-14 29 Mini-Intensive – Wolf Conservation September 11-13 Seminar with Suzanne Clothier Relationship-based dog training October 5 Fall Photo Seminar #1 10 Mini-Intensive – Wolf Conservation 12 Photo Seminar #2 19 Photo Shoot # 1	November 2 Photo Seminar #3 6-8 Wolf Intensive Weekend #2 9 Photo Shoot #2 20-22 Seminar with Ray Coppinger (TENTATIVE) 23 Photo Seminar #4 December 5 Photo Seminar #5 13 Photo Shoot #3
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2009 Calendar of Events

Visit WolfPark.org for details and updates



June 6 Dog Days 6 Wolf Park After Hours 20 Meet the Director @ 3pm 27 Watermelons for Wolves July 4 Park Open 1-5 (No Howl Night) 18 Meet the Director @ 3 pm 18 Wolf Park After Hours August 15 Meet the Director & 3 pm 15 Wolf Park After Hours	September 4 Full Moon Howl Night 7 Park open today for tours 19 Meet the Director @ 3pm 19 Wolf Park After Hours October 17 Meet the Director @ 3pm 17 Wolf Park After Hours 24 Pumpkins for Wolves Halloween Event November 14 Wolf Park After Hours 21 Meet the Director at 3 pm 30 Park CLOSE for season	December 12 Santa Visits Wolf Park, open 1-4 pm 26-27 Open Hours 1-5 pm
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Are You a Member of Wolf Park Yet?

We offer Individual, Family, Special Group Memberships and Wolf Sponsorship

Membership Benefits

- Free entrance into the Park for the year
- Our Wolf Park quarterly newsletter
- Invitations to special events
- Discounts on books in our Gift Shop
- Being the basis of support for us!

Membership Rate:

- Single Membership ~\$35.00
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Open Hours and Admission Rates

	Sundays	Monday	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
Off Season December 1 - April 30	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Howl Nights 7:30 pm (Gates open at 7:15)
Visitor Season May 1 - November 30	Open 1 - 5 Wolf/Bison Demonstration Demonstrations & Lectures Guided Tours	Closed	Open 1 - 5 pm Guided Tours	Open 1 - 5 pm Guided Tours	Open 1 - 5 pm Guided Tours	Open 1 - 5 pm Guided Tours Howl Nights 7:30 (Gates open at 7:15)	Open 1 - 5 pm Guided Tours Demonstrations & Lectures Howl Nights 7:30 (Gates open at 7:15)
Admission	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$6.00 14 and older \$8.00	Closed	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00 Howl Nights Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00	Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00 Howl Nights Children 5 & under Free Children 6-13 \$5.00 14 and older \$7.00
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