

Quarterly Newsletter of the **North American Wildlife Park Foundation**

Vol. 32 No 3 - Spring 2006

Wolf Park is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of wolves in captivity and in the wild through behavioral research and education.

The Return of the 'Yotes

Bv Jessica Addams

Although Wolf Park's main focus is, of course, on wolves, we have long had a "token" covote, and often more than one, on display. Coyotes, close cousins of the wolf, still live wild in Indiana (and many other places), and our visitors may even have seen one, perhaps even mistaking it for a wolf. Our European visitors also like to see coyotes — they have wolves in Europe, but not 'yotes! Coyote-human interactions are also a hot topic these days, as coyotes spread into urban areas, displaced by humans moving into the country. Having a coyote display has made it easier to open up discussion on these topics.

As you may recall, our previous coyote, the venerable Wild Bill, passed away in January of 2005, at the ripe old age of very-nearlyeighteen. That year we were expecting a much-anticipated litter of wolf puppies, and did not want to have to split our time between two different species, so we put off getting some new coyotes until this year. In 2006 there would be no wolf puppies and the young coyotes could get all the attention they deserved.

Coyotes are not endangered, and are commonly regarded as pests, just as wolves There are few captive coyote once were. breeding programs. The University of Wyoming and the National Wildlife Research

Center, a venture of the USDA, appear to be the largest facilities conducting captive coyote research in the US. Their research is centered around perfecting nonlethal methods of predator control - scaring predators off by sound or smell, protective collars on livestock, etc. Both facilities were planning on having litters in the spring of 2006 and both were very willing to part with a "matched

Photo by Jessica Addams



The pups on their way home from Utah. Twister is on top.

pair" of a male and female to travel to Wolf Park for long and happy lives as ambassadors. (We would also like to thank Silly Safaris. offered to help pay for coyotes for us, but fortunately these coyotes were donated.)

As it happened, the Wildlife National Research Center (NWRC), in Logan, Utah, had their litters first, and so it was to their facility that we (in the form of Jessica and Andrew) traveled, on April 14. The



NWRC has a lovely, high-tech research building, with labs and offices and a vet room, as well as large, well designed

> enclosures and some research fields larger than our main pack enclosure, which had us drooling with envy.

> The coyote pups were waiting for us in a quiet room all to themselves, snuggled together in a cardboard box lined with a towel. The female, born April 2, had hand-reared parents who were part of the facility's historical bloodline; the male, born April 3, had wild-caught parents.

Both pups took the three-day trip home in They learned about formula and bottles (messily!) in a hotel room in Omaha, Nebraska. Otherwise, like most puppies of that age (they were not even two weeks old), Photo by Monty Sloan they slept. They slept through honking traffic

and growling engines and techno music and even through a number of thunderstorms.

The male puppy ended up being named "Twister" for these exciting thunderstorms, which he and his foster sister actually narrowly avoided on their long journey home. The female puppy was named "Willow".

Once at the Park, the puppies settled down to the serious business of growing up and looking cute. They got their teeth in, got their eyes open, and worked on being able to lift their ears. They both got the hang of getting off

(Continued on page 10)

UPCOMING PARK EVENTS

Jun 24-25 (ages 13-15), Jul 29-30 (ages 11-12) Kids Seminars Jun 29-30, Jul 13-14, Aug 2-3 Kids Day Camps (ages 8-15) Jul 21-23 "Getting In Tune" seminar with Ken McCort Aug 9-13 Five Day Behavior Seminar

Reservations required — see page 5 or phone (765) 567-2265

From the Director...

by Erich Klinghammer



With Holly Jaycox

Our members know what WOLF PARK is all about. We do behavior research. We lecture to school groups and various other groups, and we offer seminars on wolf behavior, dog behavior, and other topics. You can read more about our seminars on our web site, www.wolfpark.org. Monty Sloan offers photo seminars. John Davis offers an excellent youth program. We have an Internship program and an Ethology Practicum for students from the US and abroad. All these activities are centered around our human-socialized wolves, coyotes and foxes. We are the only facility that does wolf-bison demonstrations. We carry out behavior studies, and give lectures off-site from time to time. Monty Sloan keeps our web site going, which features Photo of the Day that shows the activities of our wolves, coyotes, foxes, bison and singing dogs. We also have an Adopt-A-Wolf Program that gives sponsors a chance to meet their adopted wolf. We talk not only about our wolves, we also mention how our work relates to studies of wolves in the wild. Staff members attend wolf conferences, and exchange information with other wolf organizations.

In the near future we will strengthen our educational efforts to emphasize conservation of wolves in the wild, and cooperate more intensively with organizations that concentrate on that. Our educational exhibits will soon provide information on wolf conservation efforts, with addresses so that our members can write letters in support of the conservation efforts addressed to legislators and state ands federal officials.

We will also become involved with helping ranchers to protect their animals against wolves and coyotes based on our studies of wolf/bison interactions.

Our web site already lists various scientific articles, and we call attention to new books regarding wolves. Our web site has links to numerous other wolf groups world-wide.

If any of our readers are interested in any of these new activities, e-mail me at klingham@purdue.edu or write to me:

Erich Klinghammer, Director WOLF PARK. Battle Ground, IN 47920. We would appreciate your assistance.

From Holly: Our Great Lakes wolf population has been recommended for delisting by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The wolves in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the upper peninsula of Michigan have been increasing, and their range expanding, since wolves were listed on the Endangered Species list in 1974. What started as a small population up in the Boundary Waters of northern Minnesota now amounts to close to 4000 wolves across the northern part of three states. When a species is 'delisted', it stops being managed by the federal USFWS, and is then managed by the state that it lives in, as it was prior to being listed.

Unlike the earlier plans that proposed delisting wolves from South Dakota to Maine, this one only removes protection for wolves in an area slightly larger than the area covered by these three states. (see map) The boundary is set so that parts of Indiana and Illinois, north of Interstate 80, would lose federal wolf protections. That means that states will need to create policies on how to handle wolves dispersing to those areas. South of I-80 the wolves will retain their endangered status, and accompanying federal protection.

The comment period for this delisting proposal officially ended on June 17, 2006, but to learn more about the proposal and follow the legal process, go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife web site for this program: http:// www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/ On that web site you can read the actual text of the delisting proposal, and see

the management plans that the three states will follow when management of this wolf population is returned to them.

Many wolf organizations are supporting this delisting, as they think that this population is stable and ready to lose the ESA protection. Defenders of Wildlife is proclaiming this a success story under the ESA. (see Defenders' press release: http:// www.defenders.org/releases/pr2006/pr031606. html) There are some organizations, including the Humane Society of the U.S., opposing the delisting because they believe that attitudes towards wolves have not changed significantly enough to remove these protections. They also think that the USFWS has changed the delisting proposal so many times since 2000, that it is using arbitrary reasoning, not scientific conservation biology principles for delisting. They do not even approve of the methods used to count this population.

A final rule on this proposal is expected in 2007.

Halle

Current Wolf Range

Gray Wolf - Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment

MANITOBA

ONTARIO

WOLF PARK Battle Ground, IN 47920 (765) 567-2265 FAX: (765) 567-4299

SUPPORT **WOLF PARK**

SEE PAGE 4!

Membership benefits include:

- Free admission to the Park
- Wolf Park News
- 10% off books from the Gift Shop
- Invitation to Members Only Events
- Visitation Privileges With A Wolf* *Adopt-A-Wolf Sponsorship Only

Open Hours

Weather Permitting

May 1 - November 30:

Closed Mondays Open Tuesday to Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. for Howl Night

Dec. 1 - April 30:

Wolf Park is open every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. for Howl Night only

Howl Night

Listen to the intriguing sounds of our wolves as they communicate through their howls. After the lecture, join in a chorus howl of your own.

Wolf-Bison Demonstration

See wolves and bison interact as wolves test bison for signs of weakness. Our healthy bison have nothing to fear from the wolves. Sunday Only: Lecture 1:00 p.m. followed by demonstration.

Admission

– Members Always Free — Tuesday - Saturday & Howl Night: Children 1 to 5 years - FREE Children 6 to 13 years - \$5.00 14 years and older - \$7.00

Sunday:

Children 1 to 5 years - FREE Children 6 to 13 years - \$6.00 14 years and older - \$8.00

Groups of more than 20 adults are admitted at \$5.50 each Tues. - Sat. & Howl Nights. On Sun., groups of more than 20 are \$6.50 per person.

The Institute of Ethology supports research and education:

- Wolf Behavior Seminars
- Internships and Practica
- Year-round research opportunities

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ALL HAIL OUR AWESOME MEMBERS!

You guys have been really busy recently! You've been doing a lot of hard work at Wolf Park! Have you noticed?

Wolf Park has been around nearly 35 years — in fact, next year is our 35th anniversary. In that time, you've helped install a new education building and a visitors' center, put up a bridge to finish the "Loop Trail", created a new enclosure for returning wolf Eclipse, and much, much more.

You continue to be hard at work! With your help, this spring, we

got our sad old freezer replaced with a shiny new one. The new freezer is larger than the old one, much better insulated, and even has shelves in it so we can organize our frozen things. (There's nothing like searching through stacks of frozen deer....) Our new cooler, which you helped us to obtain last year, is delighted — it finally has a companion its own age.

This spring you have also helped us fund a water fountain! (Well, CenturyTel, the Greater Lafayette Community Foundation, and Evan and Janet Shaad helped Installed in the too....) garden, the new water fountain will allow visitors to get a drink whenever they like. We inaugurated the water fountain in early May with a small photo





Freezer metamorphosis: old freezer, debris, new freezer!

Photos by Monty Sloan

opportunity, and let one of our new coyote puppies take the ceremonial first drink. (We may let one of the wolves drink later we're not sure it's designed for large canids.)

You've been doing an awesome job! We really appreciate all you have done for Wolf Park. Every time we drink out of the water fountain, we think about the members that helped make it happen. Whenever we walk around the Loop Trail, we think about the bridge you helped install. Whenever you read about things happening in our newsletter — remember that you helped make it happen. We couldn't do anything without your help!



(I-r): Cheryl Ubelhor (GLCF); Gary Miller (CenturyTel); the Schmuck (see box at right), Dr. Klinghammer, and Amanda.

Speaking of your help, of course — we have more projects ahead!

Two of our smaller "holding pens" at East Lake are being overhauled, because they are going to need to hold two obnoxious, exciting coyote puppies (see cover

story). These front pens once did a very good job containing an elderly coyote and occasionally some elderly wolves. They're not going to stand up to two young whippersnappers like Twister and Willow! We need to reset the posts. restretch and reinstall the chain link, and add overhangs, as well as merging the front two enclosures into a single larger enclosure so our coyotes will not feel cramped. Even though



Renovating the coyote enclosure. Photo by Monty Sloan

we do all the labor ourselves to save money, this may still end up costing upwards of \$5,000. You have already helped with this project — we're about halfway through! We need about \$2,000 more to put the finishing touches on the new enclosure. (We're denying Twister's request to add a whirlpool and wet bar.)

We are currently seeking funds to help us renovate the entry and exit ramps accessing our Visitors' Center. Our goal is to completely remake the ramps, replacing the wood with longer-lasting composite material, making the rise smoother and adding rest areas halfway up. This will cost about \$4,000 a ramp.

Want to help? It's easy! Sign up for a single or family membership, or adopt a wolf for yourself or as a gift for a friend or loved one!

A FOND FAREWELL

This year, Wolf Park regretfully says goodbye to staff member Andrew Miller. Andrew has successfully graduated from Purdue University, and, having received his degree, is moving to Chicago. We are very sorry to see him go, but we wish him luck!

Andrew, who came to us as a wolf sponsor in the late 90s, became an intern in 2000, was promptly "sucked into the Wolf Park vortex" and has been with us ever since. Andrew has proven invaluable in a variety of areas, from construction and grounds maintenance to wolf handling to public education, and helped to publish our fox husbandry manual. He was one of the "fox triumvirate" responsible for feeding, medicating, and entertaining the foxes, and for filling in fox dens in the spring. Members who have visited recently may recall Andrew giving Howl Night or Sunday wolf/bison lectures.



Andrew with Willow

Photo by Jessica Addams

Andrew is also responsible for, at a staff meeting, casually mentioning that the Park did not have a water fountain. The inquiry resulted in a two-year odyssey of paperwork and red tape for managing director Amanda Shaad. The exciting mountain of forms through which she had to wade, thanks to Andrew's careless comment, earned Andrew the title of "Schmuck" for causing the whole mess. It did result in a nice water fountain, though, so someday we may be prepared to forgive him.

MEMBERSHIPS



ADOPT A COYOTE!

Willow (left) and Twister are our new coyote puppies! They are very friendly and sweet and need sponsors to come and visit them!



Support Wolf Park's mission and activities and get the opportunity to greet the hand-raised wolves by becoming a wolf sponsor. A privilege of this program is the chance to meet a wolf first hand. The personal bond between a real live wolf and her/his sponsors forms a bridge of concern for wolves in the wild, for which our wolves are ambassadors. On behalf of the wolves in the wild and in captivity, we appreciate your continued support through our various levels of membership, including the Adopt-A-Wolf program.

A-Wolf program.
These Annual Memberships are Available:
Single \$25.00 ☐ Family \$40.00
☐ Group \$50.00
☐ Adopt-A-Wolf \$145.00
Single membership includes free admission for one to the Park for or year, a 10% discount on books in the gift shop, invitations to member only events, and our quarterly newsletter <i>Wolf Park News</i> .
Family memberships include all of the above plus free admission f

Group memberships include free admission to the Park for up to 12 members of a group on any one visit. (These can be different members on each trip!) Includes one copy of newsletter and materials (to share), and 10% discount on books in the gift shop.

up to 8 family members per visit for the year of membership.

Adopt-A-Wolf includes family membership, plus a personalized Leader of the Pack Certificate with a photo of "your" wolf and signed by the director. You will have visiting privileges and contact with your wolf during your sponsorship in most circumstances. If your wolf is aggressive or shy, or for some reason we do not believe a visit would be a positive experience for you or your wolf, another will stand as proxy. You must be 18 or older to meet a wolf. You will receive a life history of your wolf, quarterly updates and photos. After the spring shedding season you will receive a sample of wool from your wolf.

Only the Adopt-A-Wolf program includes the opportunity to meet a wolf.

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PAT'S POETRY CORNER

This summer we have our first litter (well, pair) of coyote pups in nearly two decades. It's been a while since we had "microyotes" around the place, and we are constantly being challenged by the little critters, who keep coming up with new and unusual ways to test our knowledge of animal behavior — and, often, our reflexes. They learn, and move, very fast! Please note that we don't actually yank our "'yoties" around by the tail — ever — but, sometimes, dear little Twister makes it very tempting:

Eenie meenie minie trail Catch a 'yotie by the tail If he hollers, call for Gale Eenie meenie minie trail.

The Pat's Poetry Corner Alert Level has been set to "Chartreuse". We encourage readers to stock up on sticky buns, wooden spoons, and cat trees. Do not deploy Pat's Poetry Corner until the little voices in your head utter the secret code phrase. Pat's Poetry Corner is not recommended for use as a personal protection device and will not under any circumstances explode upon impact. Pat's Poetry Corner contains no photoreactive substances but will glow in the dark if you set it on fire. Not for use with certain action figures, in low light, or underwater. Appropriate ID required in some states.



The Easter Bunny poses with the Junior Volunteers during the Easter Photo by Monty Sloan celebration. They have just delivered Easter treats to the wolf enclosure.

They have just delivered Easter treats to the wolf enclosure.

If you have some old equipment you aren't us

WISH LIST

If you have some old equipment you aren't using, consider donating it to a good cause! Any item you can donate will be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact us at (765) - 567 - 2265.

A heavy-duty bagless vacuum cleaner, or a shop vac

Rubber gloves in all sizes

Glass cleaner, toilet paper, dish soap, paper towels

55-gallon heavy duty "drum liner" plastic bags

1/2" three-ring binders with clear outside pockets

Six-foot rung folding (A-shaped) fiberglass or aluminum ladders

8.5x11" copy paper

Large abrasive scouring pads and heavy-duty brushes for cleaning algae off of metal splash tanks

Basic hand tools: Phillips head screwdrivers; standard socket sets 3/8" and 1/2", shallow and deep socket; hammers; heavy duty wire cutters; pliers

Stamps — 39 cents and 25 cents

Please DO NOT SEND WOLF TREATS! They make our wolves very round!

WOLF PARK OFFERS SEMINARS!

All seminars (except kids' seminars) include time inside the enclosures interacting with the animals.

FIVE DAY SEMINARS

Five Day Wolf Behavior Seminars consist of lectures, slides, video presentations, observations and hands-on experience with wolves, and more. Great for anyone who wants an in-depth, ethologically-based look at wolves.

THREE DAY SEMINARS

Wolf Intensive Weekends feature "everything you ever wanted to know about wolves", aimed at those who want an in-depth look at wolves, and to meet a few in person. Lectures and video include overview of taxonomy, physiology, ecology, behavior, history, folklore and news on wild wolf populations.

Special Guest Seminars cover various specialized topics ranging from solving behavior problems to evolution of dogs to art techniques and photographic reference to deepening our relationships with animals of all sorts. Special guests have included dog trainers Suzanne Clothier and Ken McCort, and wildlife artist Jan Martin McGuire. See our web site for topics and more details!



Seminar participants howl with the wolves.

Photo by Monty Sloan

KIDS' SEMINARS AND DAY CAMPS

Children's seminars do NOT include interaction with our wolves.

Curriculum varies, but all participants will learn about wolf behavior by watching our wolves through the fence, watch videos, make crafts, play games, and decorate a T-shirt to take home.

Other activities, which may not be held at all camps/seminars, include watching (and/or helping) staff feed the animals, distribution of ice cube treats to the animals in summer, making toys, novelty items or treats for the animals, and more. Older children may see the wolf/bison demonstration up close from the Wolf Park truck, and even meet our tame red foxes! Meals, snacks, and drinks are provided; lunch for day camps, all meals for seminars.

One-Day Camps run 9 am — 5 pm, and cost \$30 each. Lunch is provided.

Two-Day Camps run 9 am - 5 pm on two consecutive days. For ages 8-15. \$40 covers both days. Lunch is provided.

Kids' Seminars include an overnight (indoor) stay at Wolf Park! \$50 covers everything, including drinks, meals and a cookout (weather permitting). Participants also receive a book about wolves and a one-year single membership to Wolf Park. Camp runs from 3 pm on Saturday to 3 pm on Sunday. Participants need to bring their own supplies for an overnight stay.

REFUND POLICY

PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINARS: Non-refundable payment in full is required to hold a spot. There is a \$25 fee to reschedule UNLESS the seminar was cancelled by Wolf Park. In the event of cancellation, monies may be transferred to other photo seminars only.

THREE AND FIVE DAY SEMINARS: A deposit of \$100 holds a spot in five-day seminars; full payment is due one month before the seminar date. Payment in full is required for three day seminars. Cancellations more than 2 months prior to the seminar will receive full refund; cancellations between 2 and 1 months prior, half refund; cancellations less than 1 month prior will receive no refund. Monies paid will be considered a tax-deductible donation to Wolf Park and are not transferable to other seminars.

2006 SEMINAR DATES

(This is just a partial list! Go to www.wolfparkstore.com for current details!)

FIVE DAY SEMINAR (\$475 each)

Five Day Wolf Behavior Seminar August 9-13

THREE DAY SEMINARS (\$295 each)

"Gettin' in Tune" With Your Dog

with Ken McCort July 21-23

<u>Wolf Intensive Weekend</u> October 13-15 "Dog Evolution and Cognition"

with Dr. Ray Coppinger November 3-5

PHOTO SEMINARS (\$175 each)

October 2, 9, 16; November 6, 13, 27; December 4

KIDS' SEMINARS (\$50 each)

June 24-25 (ages 13-15)

July 29-30 (ages 11-12)

August 5-6 (ages 9-10)

KIDS' TWO-DAY DAY CAMPS (\$40 each)

June 29-30 (ages 8-15)

July 13-14 (ages 8-15)

August 2-3 (ages 8-15)

Accommodations are extra (except for kids' seminars). Seminars fill up, so reserve your spot now!

PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINARS

Photography seminars consist of a brief lecture, followed by 3 hours of supervised outdoor photography inside the wolf enclosure with photographer Monty Sloan. The wolves are in semi-natural habitat with trees, grass and water for fantastic photo opportunities. Enrollment limited to 9 persons.



Wotan, Wolfgang, and Tristan.

Photo by Monty Sloa

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SIGN UP FOR SEMINARS AT WWW.WOlfparkstore.com WOLF PARK'S ONLINE GIFT SHOP

CANCELLATION POLICY (For all seminars EXCEPT photography seminars)
Wolf Park reserves the right to cancel a seminar if there are fewer than 5 participants registered as of 30 days before the start of the seminar. In the case of cancellation, we will refund registration fees in full, or the participant can choose to transfer into a different seminar.

All participants wishing to interact with the wolves must be at least 18 years old and able-bodied enough to withstand enthusiastic greeting from a 100-pound wolf. Restrictions will apply.

MAIN PACK UPDATES

By Jessica Addams and Pat Goodmann

The breeding season ended with Kailani solidifying her status as alpha female. She mated seven times with Tristan, and also several times with Wotan and Wolfgang, who teamed up to shoo away Ruedi and Renki should they attempt to say hello. There will be no puppies from either Ayla or Kailani, however — the main pack wolves are all closely related, and have been sterilized to prevent inbreeding.

When Erin and Chetan were removed from the main

pack last fall — Erin because she was causing trouble, and Chetan because he was attracting it — Ayla and Kailani were once again free to leave the peninsula, and interact with the other wolves. Ayla was, at the time, still dominant over Kailani. Both girls were thrilled to get to see everyone again, and Ayla took advantage of her status as higher ranking sister to monopolize Tristan's time, wiggling under his nose, putting her feet in inopportune places and trying to trip him up in sheer exuberance. Kailani had to content herself with bopping Wotan and Wolfgang on the head every time they seemed to get some idea that they might be able to use her as a jungle gym.

Unfortunately, Tristan is not fond of exuberant females who try to put their feet up his nose. Ayla's excitable greetings did

not endear her to Tris, and while Tris was reading her various riot acts, Wotan and Wolfgang had a lot of time to figure out how to bite her firmly on the bottom. Eventually Ayla ended up fending off the "Evil Twins" while Kailani, who had been standing in the background <u>not</u> putting her feet in Tristan's face, began to have some free time available to court him.

Kailani was marking like a confident wolf before she started mating. Confident wolves (who are usually, though not always high ranking) do raised leg scent marks. Kailani went one step better than the usual way: she did a double raised leg scent mark, or "handstand",



(I-r): Ruedi, Renki, and Kailani. Photo by Monty Sloan

her weight shifted well forward over her forelegs with both her hind paws up at the same time. We saw Cassie, our original alpha female, do this It does not look once. "handstand" like the marking posture African Painted Dogs, whose torsos are vertical with rumps above their heads when they hand Instead it looks stand. as if the wolf is playing slow motion leap frog without a partner. We also noticed that Kailani



Wotan falls out of a tree. Photo by Monty Sloan

and Tris were marking over or beside each other's scent marks a lot. A high frequency of double marking between a male and a female indicates that they are probably each other's preferred mates.

As alpha female, Kailani has not been as keen on micromanagement as was Erin. While Ayla spends a lot of time on the other side of the enclosure from the other wolves, she is not "banished" to a tiny area and she still has pleasant interactions with some of the boys, especially Ruedi, who spent much of the breeding season hanging out near Ayla and resting near her. (They did not mate — the fact that they are brother and sister may have

something to do with that — but they did appear to enjoy just being near each other.) She even has pleasant interactions with visiting humans, when the other wolves are slow to get up and greet incoming visitors.

In fact, Ayla had a great time at the Easter event this year, on April 8th. (Each Easter, the Easter Bunny comes and brings treats, like marshmallow peeps and hardboiled and raw eggs, for good little wolves.) Ayla almost ran into the pen at East Lake where we were locking up the other wolves, but then realized she would be in a bad position there (trapped in a small space with the Pointy Twins, Wotan and Wolfgang), and ran back out. Gale and Monty put her in the holding pen up front so the Easter Bunny could hide eggs unmolested by curious wolves. From

there, she had a close up view of people hiding eggs, and, when all the wolves were let back into the enclosure, she had several minutes to snarf up goodies before the other wolves figured out what was going on. Even when the other wolves appeared, Ayla stayed and continued to gobble up treats, as there was plenty for all.

Monty helped "hide" treats by placing goodies way up on top of the big root ball. (He likes to get pictures of wolves standing up there, with the sky as a background.) Although Ayla, Renki, Wotan and Wolfgang all noticed the treats, none of them even tried to make it to the top. When Tristan saw what was up there he went up twice!

First he ate the cream cheese, his favorite, then he ate the summer sausage piece and the cubes of cheddar. As for the decorative pink peeps, he simply knocked them down and stepped on them. Tristan does not like peeps.

Pat occasionally caught the other wolves being especially endearing to Ayla. From her journal on April 6th: "I overslept this morning and almost missed wolf watch. I am glad I made



Wotan and Kailani.

Photo by Monty Sloa



Renki

it; if I'd hadn't I'd have missed endearing some very interactions between Ayla, Tris, and Renki. ears

(Continued from page 6)

Renki was lying down and Ayla approached Tristan submissively, wiggling, back and giving interspersed licks to his muzzle, and more wiggles, with bowing. Tristan stood tall, tail up like an exclamation point, and danced backwards. It was as if he was saying "That's enough, that will do! Don't fuss!" but he did not

actively chastise her. Later Tris and Renki both lay down on the North Sward and Ayla approached and began to greet Renki. She lay down and began licking his face excitedly. Renki gently pushed her face away with his paw. She still lay there, thumping her tail and kissing him.

He gently draped a paw over her shoulder and instead of pushing her face away again managed to gently switch her from incessantly licking to jaw sparring with him. It was a very tender interlude and showed that Ayla is still getting along well with some of the pack even if Kailani and Wotan continue harassing her."

Renki spent late winter and early spring poking people to see if they'd squeak. He was locked up for some new

sponsors and interns so that they could meet "entry level wolves" before moving on to "professional level wolves". Renki picks out a target he likes and tries to see if there is a space on that target to put his nose. If the person is not quite fast enough with their "No, I have enough wolf noses right now, thanks" or sometimes for no reason we can see, Renki decides to see if they can fit an entire wolf in their personal space. Few people deal well with this, so Renki has to go visit the holding pen for a time out.

This sort of thing is one of the reasons wolves do not make good pets — to Renki, there is no reason at all why he should not jump up and down on the nice people who come to visit him. He doesn't mean it personally — he is just treating us as he treats other wolves in the pack.



Wotan and Kailani. Photo by Monty Sloan

Unfortunately, while the other wolves deal well with Renki trying to occupy their personal space, humans are not similarly well equipped. and different rules have be to enforced for human safety. The problem is getting Renki to understand that there are rules....

Ruedi spent some time trying to regain some status over Wolfgang and Wotan. They had begun harassing him late last fall and early winter, but he appeared to learn at least a little from his bad political choices. Usually he selected Wolfgang, who is a little easier to intimidate than Wotan.

Ruedi, either through luck or learning, did not try for fights, not even ritualized ones. He kept things at a less intense level much of the time, by means of lateral threat displays, standing tall, and giving meaningful looks that meant "Look Upon Me and Tremble." Sometimes Wolfgang did tremble. Sometimes he would growl shrilly, whimper, and bare his teeth and snap, but did so with his tail tucked and while crouching.

Ruedi also mastered "shouldering," a maneuver that is similar to a hip slam. When Wolfgang lunged and snapped at him, Ruedi pivoted and shoved Wolfgang with his shoulder, and sometimes swept him along, once he

> got some momentum up, with his whole side. Wolfgang often backpedaled while shrieking protests and biting at Ruedi's face ruff. Ruedi did not push too hard; he appeared to have found the secret of Wolfgang's "balance point" where Wolfgang would retreat, even though protesting, and show fear and submission mixed defensive aggression rather than escalating to a more intense fight. We were quite pleased to see Ruedi, who



Ruedi, Kailani, Tristan, Wolfgang, Wotan, and Renki.

had to overcome health problems in puppyhood and early adolescence, showing signs of some "smarts" and were also pleased to see that he did not try to terrorize Wolfgang all the time. If Wolfgang was mannerly, including promptness in acknowledging Ruedi's higher status, Ruedi was likely to "play nicely" with him in group bouts of wrestling, chasing and "Can you feel it when I do this?"

All through the winter, Wotan and Wolfgang continued to chase birds (except while they were twitterpated over There were lots of crows, and other little miscellaneous birds, flocking to the "leftovers" in the enclosure and both pups acted as if stalking and rushing them was fascinating and fun even if they didn't catch

any. The flurry of wings, as the birds took off like a feathery exploding firework, seemed reward enough (though we wonder Wotan and would Wolfgang really like "eating crow.")



Kailani on the root ball.

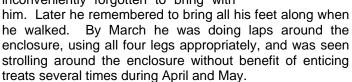
Photo by Monty Sloan

Wolf Park News Spring 2006

EAST LAKE UPDATES

ORCA suffered a mild relapse in late winter and began dragging his hind legs again. This is not entirely unexpected; Orca is twelve, after all, and old wolves, like old people, occasionally forget where they have put things,

like their legs. Monty, Pat and Gale immediately put Orca on a diet, so he would have less weight to drag, and began work with him, giving him rewards for, at first, standing, then standing unassisted, then taking a few steps, and then walking. At first he could stand for a few seconds on his own. Then he could walk if Gale or Monty assisted him by helping him position any feet he may have inconveniently forgotten to bring with





doing for a class. They filmed her standing and getting a vaccination. Echo is so blasé and the vaccination is so smooth that you almost can't tell Echo is getting a shot on the film unless you look very closely. Does your pet dog at home stand so still for shots? Our wolves love to see the vet coming, because they know she

ECHO starred in a little promotional

video some Purdue students were

Photo by Monty Sloan comes with treats and lots of scratching. Echo didn't mind getting her shot, and she got on television (well, in a classroom, at least) to boot.

As she tends to do in spring, KARIN dug a den under one of the big logs in her enclosure and devoted herself to phantom pups. APOLLO did his part by kind of halfheartedly guarding the den and giving Monty and Gale disapproving looks when they approached. Away from the den both Pillows were cuddly, and wanted scratches and tummy rubs. Karin was delighted when her daughter Eclipse moved in across the corridor in one of the games of musical wolves occasioned by our pen-mowing schedule. Eclipse is someone worthy of a fence fight or three when Karin is not in her den tending to pretend

puppies!



drifting loose this shedding season and accepted being plucked with a look of sybaritic pleasure. (How broadly can a wolf grin? Will the

enticing us (especially Gale and Jess)

to scratch him, and, as he sheds, proudly displaying Wolf Park's Second

Funniest Tail (Kiri, with his "corkscrew"

SENECA had huge continents of wool

tail, holds the title of Funniest Tail).

Photo by Monty Sloan

corners of its mouth meet behind its head?) coincided with a period of warmer than usual weather (August in May). Poor MISKA and MARION were not nearly as far along in shedding and had to bear their wooly "union suits" for a couple of weeks longer. Then Miska's coat began performing continental drift and Marion was

> beginning to shed too. Seneca has been letting Marion and Miska continue to sort things out between each other without much intervention from His Sometimes we hear shrieks emanating from their enclosure. We can't always be sure if it is Marion shrieking in protest or Miska shrieking in outrage. However, we are always encouraged when we see Miska hotly pursuing a fleeing Marion, instead of the other way around.

Gale and Pat encourage Orca to stand. Photo by Monty Sloan

Shy wolves sometimes become more shy in the winter and ECLIPSE did. but overall she is becoming more friendly with staff members she knows well. She has even come right up to some sponsors, so it is hopeful she may become even more social in the When the East Lake wolves were given their baggies-



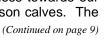
of-Easter-treats for the Easter event, Eclipse stayed at the rear of the enclosure and watched the bag sail over the fence. She waited until the audience had gone away to approach the bag and sniff it, but once its harmlessness was ascertained, she devoured it.

The Boyz (aka Grumpy Old Men) have been shedding their winter coats as well. KIRI let Monty and Pat pluck bales of wool from his coat and he looks rather odd with his long winter guard hairs not poofed out by winter underwear. He had a bunch of wool over his shoulders which was not yet loose enough to pluck, giving him the look of a wolf who either has perma-hackles or is auditioning for the role of Quasimodo in The Hunchbacked Wolf of Notre Dame (an unknown underground classic which Pat just made up). SOCRATES has been acting reluctant to come to the fence for his meat ball on quite a few mornings, leaving us to wonder if Kiri had A Word with

him. But they have also been spotted practicing synchronized marching shoulder to shoulder and Kiri has been seen gently licking his brother's ears.

ERIN and CHETAN got to go several wolf-bison demonstrations this spring, as they are enthusiastic but effectively clueless and bewildered and therefore relatively harmless towards our many young bison calves. The

Spring 2006





Chetan and Frin.

Apollo has been busy

FOX UPDATES

On May 2, Devon and Ember were seen sharing one of the new fox boxes. Devon's head peeked out of the door, with Ember's head piled on top, like part of a totem pole. They were both grinning widely.

Also grinning widely is Basil, who was released back into the outdoor enclosure on March 31. Basil broke his leg in late October 2005 and needed to live indoors until his cast came off. He got his cast off in early March, and was just waiting until Basil is delighted warmer weather before he could be upon his return to the Monty Stoan moved back outside.



outdoor enclosure.

He was released back into the enclosure with a small fanfare and an audience of interns and staff. Andrew carried him over in a crate and loosed him upon an unsuspecting, napping, Devon and Ember.

Basil immediately set to work inspecting all the improvements which had been made to his furniture while

calves are not really in danger — each one is guarded by

an 800-pound mama bison — but it does not hurt to stack

the deck even further in favor of the bison. Erin loves to

roll in bison poop. Really, really loves to roll in bison

poop. In pictures taken in the bison pasture Erin is

almost entirely green with bison poop. (She was well-

dressed for St. Patrick's Day!) Chetan works the herd a

little more diligently but he seems to know he is

outmatched and is simply putting on a show.

he was away. Staff and interns had installed a ladder, ramp or ledge on any piece of furniture over three feet tall, making as sure as possible that Basil would not have to jump more than two feet ever again. (We still don't know how he broke his leg in the first place, but "jumping from a great height" is a good guess.) Basil climbed on each piece of furniture in turn, enjoying the ladders on the way up, and just leaping off the side on the way down. Every

(Continued from page 8)



Devon.

time he jumped there was a collective gasp from the audience, but Basil never missed a stride.

Devon and Ember eventually noticed the people around their enclosure, and that Basil was back at home. Devon ran up to him and greeted and waved at him while Basil was busy trying to inspect his furniture and pooping possessively on things. Basil deflected her with bad grace and continued on his rounds with a shrieking, hysterical Ember yawns. Photo by Monty Sloan



female fox clinging to him and smelling him all over. At one point she was so anxious to sniff him that he did not see her coming and nearly pooped on her head!

Ember was not nearly so enthusiastic; she looked up as Basil came in, seemed to say, "Oh, it's him again," and went back to sleep. When Basil stumbled over her, though, she greeted him politely.

He does seem to be moving a little more slowly (shhh!) but Basil is once again happily climbing to the top of his favorite fox boxes and loves sunning himself on the six-

> foot-tall "Armageddon shelter", with its enormous sunny deck. He gets up and down with ease, and so far Devon and Ember have not jumped up and down on his head nearly as much as we feared they might. His only problem may be his beloved "hammock", the wire mesh originally intended to be an ivy trellis which instead supports the dozing bodies of foxes, and which used to be one of Basil's favorite haunts. We have seen him in it only once, and he needed help to get out of it. He

Photo by Monty Sloan may not be able to use his hammock again, but Devon will keep it warm for him.

Basil is also delighted to see sponsors. He finds it nice to have people come in, walk up to him, give him a massage, and leave. (Most of our animals think along those lines, actually.) Basil is delighted to see the children's seminars and day camps come in; he knows he is about to be showered with munchies and adoration. Devon and Ember are less enthused, but even the girls can be coaxed into approaching quiet (and supervised) children and accepting a treat.

In early May, Ember caught a robin. Peggy came to deliver a starling, courtesy of the Klinghammers' cat, Opie, and saw Ember streaking around the enclosure after a confused robin who'd gotten in through the wire. (The holes are big enough for birds to go in and out, but not for

Photo by Monty Sloar

Devon welcomes Basil back.

foxes.) The robin just couldn't seem to grasp getting out the same way it had gotten in, and eventually was snatched up by the fast-moving Ember. Peggy was impressed by Ember's speed and efficiency.



Erin flees from the bison's "Society of the Indignant".

Photo by Monty Sloan

(Continued from page 1)

the bed to pee and poop on the newspaper, and Twister, especially, looked for just the right newspaper article upon which to do his business. Once he pooped right on top of the opinions page.

Willow started out early with a love of being cuddled. She climbed onto humans, shoved her head into a warm spot, curled up and went to sleep. For a while she could only sleep while snuggled on a human. Then she developed an affection for a big plush pillow that a staff member brought to sit on. Willow would lie right in the middle of it like a princess on a satin cushion, and fall right to sleep. Sometimes she fell off the pillow. Once she slid off, sound asleep, right onto the top of her head, and slept that way for a while, balanced on her head, trying to wiggle her bottom back up onto the pillow.

Twister was very interested in food and would eat until he was enormous and football-shaped. Willow was less interested in formula, but once the pups were switched to solid food she became a voracious eater. (Well, first she peed on the food, and then she learned what it was for, and then there was no stopping her.) The pups got Nebraska Brand carnivore chow, frozen mice, and a supply of bunnies, chipmunks, and small birds kindly donated by the Klinghammers' cat, Opie.

They moved outside for the first time when they were about six weeks old. They spent one nervous afternoon and then settled down as though they'd always been They both greeted sponsors outside.

enthusiastically, although for a while Twister and Willow each picked out a couple of "favorite" staff members to challenge and spent some time testing them. We spent time giving the puppies "time outs" and holding them in the air with their legs dangling until they stopped growling. Eventually, thankfully, they grew out of this phase.

When wolf pups of the same age would be little lumps of fur snoozing in the shade, the coyote pups were highly active, busy little problem solvers. They ran rings around their puppy parents, sometimes literally. Humans had to work to keep the "kids" entertained, or Twister would engage in his favorite game: Where Can I Climb Over The Fence? Twister had found he could simply walk up the side of the tiny puppy pen fence and did so at every available opportunity. A patient puppy mother would follow

behind him and gently pluck him off the top of the fence; once set down, up again he went. Puppy parents did not have to resort to acts of mime in order to keep the pups distracted, but the furniture got re-arranged a lot and they went through a lot of chew toys!

Fortunately, they moved into a big pen at East Lake before the puppy mothers exploded from the effort of keeping them interested in newspapers and deer hooves. They made the



transition on June 1, and were delighted in the extra space and interesting wolf-scented things to roll on. They were not so thrilled to meet their new neighbors — the East Lake wolves. Twister saw Kiri for the first time (through the fence, of course), and backed away, looking squished and peeved. Kiri looked vaguely interested in the little moving things that weren't quite wolf puppies. Twister tried threatening Kiri, with airplane ears and an arched back. Kiri got bored



Twister

and wandered off. Twister paraded around as if he'd "won".

> We would like to point out that, no, we will not be putting the coyotes and the wolves together at any point. In the wild, they compete for food sources, and thus are not terribly good friends.

> Currently, staff members are hard at work putting up the "real" coyote pen, in which the pups will live permanently once it is completed. We are "melding" Wild Bill's old pen, which was more than enough to contain a single elderly coyote but was no match for two young ones, with the holding pen behind it, making one large pen in which two young coyotes can happily coexist. This involves replacing all the posts, re-stretching the chain link, repairing the ground skirting, and installing an overhang.

We are still paying for this project, and could use your help! Please consider adopting either Willow or Twister or donating money to the fence fund — you can do both at www.wolfparkstore.com.

NEW GUINEA SINGING DOG UPDATES

Katia, who has been having some trouble with mysterious, tiny "owies" upon her legs, got visited by the Columbian Park Zoo's vet on May 18, and got some new medication. Other than the "owies", she appears to be doing fine. She likes to watch visitors from the safety of her hut.

Photo by Monty Sloan

Kodi continues to be exceptionally cute, and began "hrooing" at the coyote puppies when they started spending days outside in an Kodi (front) and Katia. enclosure near the New



Guinea Singing Dogs. The coyote puppies unfortunately did not answer him, but they seemed very intrigued.

The Columbian Park Zoo, from which Kodi and Katia are on loan, is still updating the dogs' enclosure. The current estimate on their return to the Zoo is around 2008. Fortunately, they seem to be enjoying themselves here, and we love having them!

INTERNS, PRACTICUMS, AND VOLUNTEERS

Every year, some extremely nice people descend on Wolf Park, offering that most valuable of resources — their time. Volunteers visit for as little as a few hours a week to every day; practicums spend a month; and interns, the Park's most important resource, generously donate three months of their time. In return, the Park provides them all with an unparalleled opportunity for both research and fun, as they interact with the Park wolves, give tours, do landscaping and repair, exhaust the Park library and talk with the staff.

Sarah Brewer came from Pennsylvania where she is a sophomore at Pennsylvania State University in Abington. Sarah plans to be a veterinarian with a specialty in behavior. She has helped raise several seeing eye dogs.

Laura Clow came to Wolf Park from her home in Ontario, Canada, and is a junior in biology at the University of Guelph. She has an interest in animal genetics, and hopes to work in that field and travel the world. Her family lives on a farm, so Laura came here with valuable experience in fence building this summer.

Kendra Duhon is a sophomore at Purdue University. She is in the pre-vet program and hopes some day to be a veterinarian at a zoo. Kendra has been involved in a K-9 Search and Rescue group since 2002, in her hometown of Bloomington, Indiana.

Stephanie Herman is a practicum doing research on wolf feeding behavior, as well as doing plenty of work around the Park. She attends the University of Guelph in Canada, but is actually a native of Michigan. She hopes some day to be involved in conservation of rare wild cat species.

Nick Irwin was an intern here last summer, and is back this summer to assist with raising the coyote pups. He graduated from Appalachian State University in North Carolina in May, with a degree in Recreation Management. Nick hopes to work in a zoo, or other type of captive animal facility similar to Wolf Park, and work hands-on with animals of all kinds.

Caity Judd is back for her third internship at Wolf Park. Caity is from Michigan, and just finished her degree in English this spring from the College of Wooster in Ohio. She decided to spend a little more time at the Park before leaping into the big world. She helped with the coyote pups in May.

Philipp Krupczynski, from Ravensburg Germany, is back for his fourth internship at Wolf Park. He finished his degree (the equivalent of a Masters) this past winter, and will begin work on his PhD later this summer, studying sea horses. He helped raising the coyote pups in the month of May.

Joslyn Roberts is here from northern Indiana, and will be a senior in biology at St Mary's of the Woods College this fall. Joslyn is an avid soccer player, along with her passion for the environment. She would like to visit and possibly do research in as many different forests as possible, around the world.

Ashleigh Smith is back for her second long stay at Wolf Park. She was a practicum last summer, and has been commuting here from Rockford, Illinois to volunteer ever since. This winter Ashleigh completed her degree in Psycho-Biology at Ripon College in Wisconsin. She hopes to work as a trainer at a zoo. She will spend this summer helping raise the coyote pups.

Tiffany Smith came to Wolf Park from Virginia where she recently graduated with a degree in biology from Longwood University. She is planning on working in the veterinary field, and hopes to have the opportunity to study wildlife in Australia. Tiffany minored in Outdoor Education, and has led ropes course programs.

MANY, MANY THANK YOUS!

Thank you to each and every person who has helped us this season! Remember, it is YOU, our members, who make what we do possible!

Renate Allcock Wesley Anderson Brian Baginski Diana Barrowcliff Reason Biddle Bill & Carol Black Brenda Blacklock Kathryn Boatwright Mary Ann Borys Trevor Boyd Patt Breiling Marian Brock Jean Brooks Nancy Buchholz **Beverly Caliendo** Majorie Campbell **Emily Chase** Michelle Chevallier Alex Chodakowski Gay Coppage Raymond Coppinger John Corson Frank Cuncich William Dellande Michael DePaulo Phil DePoy Harriet Doolittle Shirley Dwyer Stephen Ellis Lee Engstrom John Ewing Tina Fields Barbara Fisher Sharon Fitzsimmons Margaret Flack Ashley Foster Lisa Foster Janet Fox Ed Franklin Denise Fung Mike & Elaine Gawlik Gail Gilmore Jeff Glover Samantha Grego Anna Grob Joan Gunn Richard Hackel **Emily & Allen Hallock** Mr & Mrs Vernon L Halterman Sandra Hammack-Riczo Mary Hardwick Lori Hebert Melinda Hewlett

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Wolf Park News Spring 2006

Susan Hochgraber

Herb & Debbie Holt

C Blake Powers

Nick Prentoff



Branch Out

Wolves are agile animals. They can jump six feet in the air, swim well, and run over thirty miles per hour in pursuit of food.

While wolves don't live in trees, and can't really climb trees, they can balance on fallen logs and reach up into the lower branches, especially if they can see something interesting up there.

This wolf is trying to get to a treat that one of her human friends has placed in the tree, and has wedged herself between two trunks for an unusual photo.

Check out more wolf facts at www.wolfpark.org!

WHAT IS WOLF PARK?

Wolf Park is a unique research and education facility located just outside Battle Ground, Indiana. Its hand-raised wolves, foxes and coyote and its herd of more than a dozen American bison give visitors opportunities available nowhere else:

> WATCH THE HUNT

View effective antipredator behavior by bison in the wolfbison demonstration each Sunday at 1:00 pm, May-November.

> HOWL WITH THE PACK

Hear wolves howl from less than 10 feet away during Howl Nights, Friday May-November, Saturday year-round, at 7:30 pm.

MEET A WOLF

Meet a wolf, fox or coyote faceto-face via our Adopt-A-Wolf program. (See page 4 for more details!)

Wolf Park also features guided tours, educational programs, talks on behavior and communication, "fox talks", wolf behavior and photography seminars, videos, slideshows, kids' activities and volunteer programs, a gift shop, and much more.

Check out our web site, **www.wolfpark.org**, for more information!

Join the pack -- become a member of Wolf Park and get up close and personal with one of the world's most misunderstood predators!



Directions to Wolf Park:

To reach WOLF PARK from Interstate 65, take the exit for Indiana State Road 43 North (Brookston, West Lafayette Exit # 178). Go north on 43 a mile to State Road 225. Turn right (east) and go about 2 miles directly into Battle Ground. Drive straight through town, cross the railroad tracks and stay to the left. Drive one long block to Jefferson St. and turn left. Follow Jefferson St. about 1 1/2 miles until you come to a large sign on your right for WOLF PARK. We are just 1/4 mile up the gravel drive.



Photo by Monty Sloan

Two male wolves, Kiri (left) and Socrates, "jaw spar" in a ritualized interaction.

Neither will be injured in this display.



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