



WOLF PARK NEWS

Vol. 32 No. 4 - Summer/Fall 2006

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.

They Grow Up So Fast

By Pat Goodman and Jessica Addams

Renki, Wotan, and Kailani are becoming the new "Dream Team" for wolf-bison demonstrations, as the Alphas (Seneca, Miska, and Marion), our former stars, have been noodling about the pasture, not doing much bison testing. Renki and Wotan have intertwined practice and instinct and they look as if they have a clue about what they are doing. Kailani runs around with a manic canine grin and is obviously very happy to be there but she doesn't give the same impression of having done the assigned reading before showing up. She is fun for visitors to watch though, because she will hare off after small prey, including the large flying grasshoppers we get later in the summer. She entertains the audience with her comical leaps and snaps over these small prey animals. She also pays some attention to bison, so there is some hope she will eventually be a useful, as well as decorative, hunting partner.

Of course, there are ulterior motives for bringing Kailani instead of, say, Wolfgang – we do not wish to stack the odds against the bison. We find that bringing three good hunters can be a little more "exciting" than we like, and prefer to bring in two good hunters and comic relief.

The hot weather combined with the pond's duckweed covering has led to visitors repeatedly sighting green wolves this summer. Often the wolves rest along the pond's shore and this leads them to take an interest in the life aquatic.



Kailani and Wotan.

Photo by Monty Sloan

Renki, who doesn't confine hunting to bison, one day swam after a mother duck and her ducklings. (We gave her a lot of credit for being able to hide the ducklings as well as she did – there were quite a

few of them). Fortunately, they were able to outswim Renki. The ducklings flapped stumpy little wings as if trying to get airborne, but only looked as if they were trying to run across the pond. ("Must...go...faster!") As if to teach Renki that those who terrify baby ducklings will themselves be frightened, Renki was later startled into leaping back from the pond by a fish suddenly jumping out of the water. This happened twice within a few moments and we teased him about it for days afterward, and worked the incident into talks about the pack.

The Fourth of July watermelons were well received, though Ruedi and Ayla had to have theirs delivered later and by stealth, as they were unlikely to be able to defend such tasty treats from the Evil Twins, Wotan



Wotan.

Photo by Monty Sloan

and Wolfgang, and Kailani of the Pointy and Intrusive Nose. Everyone did eventually get some time alone with his or her own personal melon. July was disgustingly hot this year, with a week of heat indexes above 128 degrees Fahrenheit and the standard ten billion percent Indiana humidity. Both humans and wolves (separately) really, really enjoyed cold, damp watermelons.

We sometimes give the wolves impromptu treats as well. There was Deer á la Mode for the Sunday, July 30th feeding demonstration. When it is hot and melty we often have problems getting the wolves out of the shade long enough to be interested in a carcass. It was such an extremely hot day that we wanted to encourage the wolves to a) show up for the feeding demonstration, and b) eat something. Monty brought in

a big plastic tub of vanilla ice cream and upended it on top of the deer, where it sat holding the shape of the bucket until the rapid action of wolf tongues re-shaped it. Rather to our surprise, the wolves made little or no attempt to bite the ice cream, and just licked and licked as it got smaller and smaller, like human children licking an ice cream cone. Tristan and Wotan walked away from the ice cream social before they'd had enough, walked around for a while and then rejoined the ice cream social. We wondered – do wolves get brain freeze/ice cream headaches? Or were they just letting their tongues thaw so they could taste the ice cream better?



The main pack howls.

Photo by Monty Sloan

Tristan has been "doing unto others" by nibble grooming them whether they need it or not. He grooms his offspring until they are glassy eyed and occasionally squeak in protest as a patch of skin is stimulated past the point of pleasure. The humans are torn between being flattered by Tris' attention and fending him off. If even wolves, with their thick fur

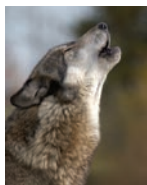
(continued on page 5)

SAVE THE DATE!

Wolf Park's 35th Anniversary Celebration will be held

April 20-22, 2007

There will be guest speakers, an exciting charity voice auction and much more!



From the Editor....

by Jessica Addams

In this issue of *Wolf Park News* we feature a remarkable wolf, Orca. (See page 9.) Despite setbacks relating to a paralyzing back injury incurred in November, 1997, when he was three years old, Orca has led an overall happy life at Wolf Park. Through therapy and patience, a wolf we were told was unlikely to survive has so far spent twelve delightful years with us.

Orca is, in fact, our "poster child" for the socialization of captive wolves. We hand-raise every pup born here, putting more than 2,000 hours of work into each animal, so that, as adults, the wolves are unafraid of humans. Socialized wolves are much happier in captivity than unsocialized wolves. They display their natural behavior in front of audiences rather than hiding from them. Routine medical care becomes less of an ordeal as the veterinarian can simply walk up and administer vaccinations instead of having to "knock down" the animal every time it needs shots.

If Orca had not been socialized, he would never have tolerated therapy, and would never have accepted humans helping him. We could not have gotten close enough to encourage him to stand or reward him for walking. He would never have let the unfamiliar physical therapists touch or manipulate him. We would have had to euthanize him back in 1997, because he would have been a terrified, defensive animal, surrounded by scary humans who kept poking and prodding him. Stressed, he would not have enjoyed life or lived very long.

Orca did accept therapy, however, and he is in high spirits today, although, at age twelve, he is starting to slow down a bit and we may have to at last admit to ourselves that he is probably never going to recover and walk like a normal wolf. We cannot complain about the progress he has made, however.

We are very proud of Orca. We hope that other facilities will learn from his example, and choose to socialize animals which will spend their lives in captivity. We believe that the benefits of being socialized to humans, both for the animal and for the facility and visitors, are more than worth the work. (For more information on socialization, refer to *The Management and Socialization of Captive Wolves*.)

We also make note of an event on the horizon: the possible removal of the gray wolf from the Endangered Species List (see page 4). A mere thirty years ago there were only about 1,000 wolves in the contiguous United States, with a small population in Minnesota and not much else. (Alaska, of course, had, and still has, a thriving population of wolves, which were not considered endangered.) Protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone has since given several states measurable wolf populations. Whether you think there are too many wolves or not enough wolves, the wolf population has definitely increased.

The population increase has prompted several attempts to change the status of the gray wolf under the ESA. In 2003, the government divided the country into wolf "population segments" and downlisted the status of the gray wolf from "endangered" to "threatened" in two of those segments. In 2005, that ruling was overturned, and once again the gray wolf was listed as "endangered" throughout 47 of the contiguous 48 states (the lone exception still being Minnesota, where wolves are "threatened"). Now proposals are being made that the wolf be delisted entirely in the "Western Great Lakes" region around Minnesota. This would remove its protection under the ESA, leaving the local wolves managed by the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan and not by the federal government.

This particular proposal, at the time of this writing, has yet to pass, and even if passed it may also be overturned. However, its mere existence is cause for thought. While it is certainly distressing to picture wolves losing their ESA protections, if one decides to look at the situation optimistically, it is a reassuring notion that there are enough wolves, now, that delisting them can even be considered. Around the time Wolf Park was started, it was uncertain that there would ever be wolves in any state other than Alaska and Minnesota ever again. Today, we have enough wolves that we can consider taking them off the Endangered Species List in some areas. Clearly we have made some progress!

Speaking of progress, 2007 will mark Wolf Park's 35th year in operation. Like the wolf population, we have only gotten bigger and better with time. Also like the wolf population, we could not have improved without the help of kind and interested humans. As we approach our 35th anniversary, we are amazed by the progress both we and the wolves have made, thanks, in large part, to you. We thank you all for your dedication and support, and look forward to seeing how much improvement there will be in the next 35 years.



SUPPORT WOLF PARK

THROUGH MEMBERSHIPS

SEE PAGE 7!

Membership benefits include:

- Free admission to the Park
- Wolf Park News
- 10% off books from the Gift Shop
- Invitation to Members Only events

OPEN HOURS

Weather Permitting

May 1 - November 30:

Closed Mondays

Open Tuesday to Sunday

1:00 to 5:00 pm

Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 pm
for Howl Night

December 1 - April 30:

Wolf Park is open every Saturday at

7:30 pm for Howl Night only

Check our website for special events!

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

(Sundays only) See wolves and bison interact as wolves test bison for signs of weakness. Our healthy bison have nothing to fear from the wolves.

Lecture at 1:00 pm 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 and 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

WOLF PARK OFFERS SEMINARS!

Three and Five Day Behavior Seminars

For those who wish to expand their horizons, these in-depth programs concentrate on taxonomy, physiology, ecology, behavior, history, folklore, and news on wild wolf populations, presented via lecture, slideshow, and video. All seminars include supervised hands-on experience with our animals.

Our special guest seminars feature added focus on more specialized subjects (topics vary by seminar). Past speakers have included dog trainers Suzanne Clothier and Ken McCort, dog specialist Dr. Ray Coppinger and professional wildlife artist Jan Martin McGuire. See our web site for topics and more details!



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, foliage and water for fantastic photo opportunities. Enrollment limited to 10 persons.



SIGN UP FOR SEMINARS AT
www.wolfparkstore.com
WOLF PARK'S ONLINE GIFT SHOP

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 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.

2006-7 SEMINAR DATES

Three Day Seminars (\$295 each)

Wolf Intensive Weekend October 13-15

"Dog Evolution and Cognition" November 3-5

Behavior Intensive February 9-11 2007

Photo Seminars (\$175 each)

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

Accommodations are extra (except for kids' seminars).

Seminars fill up, so reserve your spot now!

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, view 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/bi-

son 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.



Our 2006 children's programs were a great success. Here's all the stuff you missed! From top to bottom: making T-shirts, coloring with chalk on the bridge, and roasting hot dogs over a campfire!

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 may 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.

DELISTING APPROACHING IN WESTERN GREAT LAKES

by Holly Jaycox

The process of removing the Midwestern wolf population from federal protections is moving forward. As we mentioned in the last newsletter, in March the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) proposed "delisting" the wolves living in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, and a surrounding buffer region, which they are designating as a "Distinct Population Segment" (DPS). Delisting means removing the gray wolf from the list of endangered species, declaring it "recovered", and removing its protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The removal of an animal from the endangered species list is a long and complicated process involving proposals, reviews, revisions, public hearings, and more reviews before it is made final. We are in the middle of this process now, and it looks possible that gray wolves in the Midwest may lose federal protection, and move to state management, as soon as early 2007. However, previous attempts to change protections resulted in lawsuits — it remains to be seen if this one will inspire more.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW

The period for people to comment on the delisting proposal ended on June 26. The USFWS is currently examining the comments to see if they raise any serious concerns about the proposed delisting — concerns that are considered significant under the rules of the ESA. Comments that address valid holes in the biologically scientific basis of the decision to delist must be investigated, and then, if the concerns prove to be pertinent, the plan must be changed to reflect the concerns.

When all the comments have been studied, and appropriate changes made to the plan, it can move into the final approval stage. If the changes made to the plan are significant, it might need to go through another round of public comment. But for smaller changes, that is not necessary.

Ron Refsnider, the listing coordinator for USFWS, said that once the final decision package is done, it must be signed by several levels of authority before it is truly approved.

He said that quite a few people and organizations are supporting the delisting plan, but that some fears have been raised. Refsnider said they primarily fall in the following categories: those who do not trust the states to manage the wolves, those who fear a public hunt, those who generally believe federal protections are the best choice for wolves, and those that think wolves need a large carnivore protection act that is national in scope.

WHAT WOULD DELISTING MEAN?



Ruedi.

Photo by Monty Sloan

If wolves do indeed get delisted, removed from the endangered species list, they will then be managed by the states in which they live. Primarily that will be Minnesota (with about 3,000 wolves), Wisconsin (about 465) and Michigan (about 435), all of which have formal wolf management plans which are available for view on the web. (<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/>) Under this delisting plan, wolves will also lose protections in (currently wolf-free) portions of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and North and South Dakota (see map of DPS delisting zone). There will be a five year period during which the USFWS must monitor the states, to make

Gray Wolf - Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment



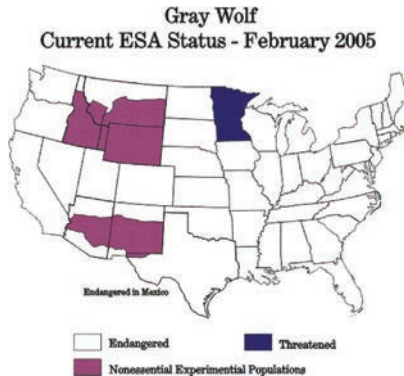
Source: US Fish and Wildlife Service

sure they are following the rules they created in their own plans. If it seemed at any point that wolves were in danger of heading back to extinction, the USFWS could step in and take control of them again.

All of the state plans offer some levels of protections for wolves, but also provisions for killing wolves that cause problems such as livestock depredation, or which move into areas that have been deemed poor wolf habitat due primarily to a large human presence. In general, the wolves have greater protections in the north, where the landscape provides a better wolf habitat. The details vary from state to state, but wolves living farther south, nearer the human population, will be subject to more lax rules around when a wolf can be killed, and by whom. Although hunting of wolves by the public would not be legal in the first few years after delisting, it is possible, even likely, that it could be approved in the future.

RESPONSE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Response to the plans to delist this wolf population have been mixed. Some environmental groups are supporting it. This is not totally surprising, since they sued the USFWS several times over previous plans, so this plan was written to satisfy many of the concerns of these organizations. The three primary states involved all support delisting, as they find that having more management flexibility increases their ability to keep people involved in wolf conflict happy. Adrian Wydeven, wolf biologist with the Wisconsin DNR, said that he fears a backlash against the growing wolf population if some ability to control problem wolves does not get approved in his state soon.



Source: US Fish and Wildlife Service

The wildlife protection organization Defenders of Wildlife (DOW) has strong reservations about the delisting plan, but admits it is overall scientifically sound in its approach. DOW's official comments say that state management plans need to be reviewed, and changes considered in light of the proposed delisting. For example, they believe

Minnesota has some questionable rules concerning the taking of wolves, including paying people who kill wolves a fee of \$150, which they say amounts to a bounty. They also question the use of terminology such as "threat" — a wolf is allowed to be killed if it is considered a threat, but the definition of "threat" is extremely broad. Both Wisconsin and Michigan are currently reviewing their management plans, and DOW thinks delisting should not happen until we see that the revised plans are acceptable.

Defenders is also concerned about the possibility of the states being unable to fund the plans they have in place. There are also fears about what might happen in the portion of the delisting area in states with no wolf management plans, such as Iowa and the Dakotas.

Like Defenders, the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) has serious concerns about the funding that will be needed for the states to adequately follow their own management plans. There is much discussion regarding who should pay for the continued management programs, the states or the federal government. However, NWF is officially supporting the delisting of Great Lakes wolves under the proposal.

(continued on next page)

MAIN PACK UPDATES

(cont'd from cover)

padding and flexible skin, find that Tris grooms too hard, it's a foregone conclusion that we humans will not actually like being nibble groomed. We say "It's the thought that counts" in tones of suppressed agony as we push his muzzle away, or try to reposition his incisors over several folds of clothing. Actually he often begins by grooming gently and both wolves and humans express pleasure. Tris then grooms harder and harder and grooming recipients of both species try to escape.

Sometimes Ayla, who is still the lowest ranking wolf in the pack, is able to hang out with the others, but Wotan and Kailani are still likely to chase her. Her best bet for getting close to the others is to rest near them and do a fast fade if several start taking an interest in her. Several times she has successfully kissed up to Wotan. In the early part of summer he, rather than Kailani, was her particular *betê noire*, and for a while in mid summer, if Kailani and Wotan both went after her, she was likely to wind up with some small cuts and punctures. However, her interactions haven't been all bad. Since Tristan often stayed behind when Kailani, Wolfgang and Wotan went over to check things out on the west side of the enclosure, Ayla took advantage of his delayed departures to run up and greet him and then run around in what looked like excited invitations to chase. She has had a few chances to meet people this summer and she certainly seems to enjoy it when she can have a good ear rub or belly scratch.

It's been a busy summer for the entire pack. Ayla kept her membership in the pack even if she is peripheral and harassed. Kailani is studying how to keep in Tristan's good graces while suppressing her hussy of a sister. And as for Tris, at eight years old, he is still the AWIIC (Adult Who Is In Charge), with no serious challengers to his status. The young males have instead been jockeying for status among themselves. Renki and

Ruedi should have an advantage over their little half-brothers, but Renki and Ruedi are fending off take-over attempts from the aforementioned half-brothers, who would like to be #2 and #3 respectively, and who will, if they can, eventually demote Renki and Ruedi to males #4 and #5 respectively.

All is not lost, however. Just when we are about ready to declare that Wotan is the new official Beta Male, we'll see him tucking his tail and kissing up to Renki who will be impressively high, wide and handsome, absorbing homage from little brother Wotan (who is actually taller than Renki now). Likewise, Ruedi will not give in and submit to Wolfgang. He tries, really tries, to find opportunities to intimidate Wolfgang. But Wolfgang will no more stay intimidated than a Weeble will fall down. So the boys do a lot of circling, and posturing, and growling amongst each other, with no definitive winner in sight.

The last weekend in August, Ruedi was clearly ascendant during Howl Night, and almost swaggered around Wolfgang (he spoiled the swashbuckling effect a little by repeatedly weaving between my legs). Wolfgang's tail and the corners of his mouth looked worried but he was growling and glaring. At Howl Night videographer Tom O'Dowd noticed that Wolfgang was actually Talking Like A Pirate, and saying ARRRRRRGGGGGHHH, instead of GRRRRRRRR, even though it wasn't the official Talk Like A Pirate Day (September 19).

Howl Nights have been consistently intense during August – probably because even with Eastern Daylight Savings Time, the sun sets very close to the end of the program. This means the wolves are inclined to be active and it is likely to be significantly cooler. With all the chasing, posturing and ritualized aggression we humans have had to be careful not to get hurt. We are less worried about being bitten than we are about being knee-capped by intercontinental ballistic wolves.



Tristan howls.

Photo by Monty Sloan



Ayla poses on the most-recently-added root ball.

Photo by Monty Sloan

NOTICE SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

With the help of Lafayette Printing, Wolf Park is exploring whether or not it is economically feasible to make *Wolf Park News* in color. If you would like to see more full-color newsletters from us, please "vote" by writing, calling or emailing — we want to know we are spending your money on things you want to see! (Please feel free to donate, too!)

DELISTING APPROACHING

(cont'd from page 4)

The Humane Society of the United States, along with the Minnesota Wolf Alliance, Help Our Wolves Live, and Animal Protection Institute, oppose the delisting of Great Lakes wolves. Their reasons for opposition echo Defenders' concerns about the state management plans. Their official comments say that wolf management would not abide by basic principles of conservation biology as the plans are written. For example, they do not believe the Minnesota management plan adequately requires habitat protection, an essential component needed in order to feel wolves are safe in the long run.

The official comments submitted to the USFWS by these organizations can be obtained by sending an email to holly@wolfpark.org.

WHAT IS NEXT?

If all goes smoothly in the government process, a final delisting rule will get published in the Federal Register in early 2007. The final proposal could be altered to reflect the concerns of the environmental organizations, or if USFWS

deems them not substantive, it might look much like it does now. Then look out for possible lawsuits.

Next on the horizon will be a proposal to delist wolves in the Northern Rocky



Chetan.

Photo by Monty Sloan

Mountains. Discussions are under way to remove ESA protections in Montana, Idaho, and surrounding areas, home to about 1,000 wolves. Wyoming has not yet written a management plan that the USFWS will approve, so it may not be included in this next delisting proposal.

To keep abreast of the changing landscape of wolf protection, visit the USFWS web site regularly, or sign up for our email list at www.wolfphotography.com. We send out important wolf news, as well as information about Wolf Park activities.

2006 Holiday Catalogue

Support Wolf Park!

clothes



Paw Print Knit Cap

One-size-fits-all knit yarn cap with embroidered gold paw print lets just enough of your inner wolf outside to play. Warm and stylish.

\$14.95

Wolf Socks

Wolves for your toes! "Sensura" polyester

wicks moisture, and adorable little pawprints and renditions of the word "wolf" will make your toes happy all day long. One size fits womens 6-11 or mens 5-9. Please specify white or blue.

\$7.95/pair



"Ethology

Department" T-Shirts

Are you a Wolf Park alumnus? (Sure you are!) Support your "alma mater" with one of these distinguished short sleeved t-shirts. Heather gray cotton; available in S, M, L, XL, and XXL.

\$16.50

Jewelry



Running Wolves Bracelet

Go out on the town in style with your wrist surrounded by a pack of running wolves. Tiny 3D sterling silver wolves follow each other around this stunning bracelet. Approx. 7.25 inches long.

\$41.95

Wolf and Sky Earrings

Release your inner animal with these beautiful metal earrings depicting a silhouetted wolf howling under a crescent moon. Earring approx. 3/4" high; sterling wires.

\$12.95



Silver Wolf Earrings and Necklace

Show others you've heard the "call of the wild" with these petite sterling silver earrings and matching necklace. Approx. 1/4" high. Sold separately.

Earrings: \$11.95

Necklace: \$10.95



Can't get enough? More stuff is available at
www.wolfparkstore.com

Hurry! **Supplies are limited!**

2007 FULL-COLOR CALENDAR



Thirteen months of beautiful color photos of your favorite wolves, taken by staff photographer Monty Sloan. Every month features two gorgeous wolf pictures and fun wolf facts. A great way to remember Wolf Park all year long! Give them as gifts, too. 8.5x11", glossy card stock.

\$11.95

toys

Tiny Plush Keychain

An impressive amount of cute packed into a tiny plush wolf. Fitted with a rugged little keychain, he's ready to guard your keys from anything, keep you company at the movies, or just whisper sweet nothings into your pocket.

\$3.95



Fuzzy Plush Gray Wolf

This little guy is about 10" long, floppy, and just perfect for sitting on shelf or shoulder keeping an eye on you. Sweet face, friendly smile, and just a few beans inside for the perfect "floop".

\$11.95

Plush Red Wolf

Soft and cuddly plush wolf with gold and orange tones in its glossy, very pettable fur. Tuck him under your pillow or sit him on your head — anywhere you put him, he'll look good. 11" high.

\$11.95



Painted Wood Wolf Puzzle



A unique full-color puzzle — punch out the flat wooden pieces and put them together to form a realistic-looking, three-dimensional, stand-up wolf you can play with.

\$7.50

"3D" Wolf Puzzle

This cute little guy is having trouble keeping himself together! Is the leg bone really connected to the foot bone? Find out with this 5" tall wolf-shaped plastic puzzle. For ages 3 and up.

\$6.50



Jumbo Plush Wolf



For those with big dreams. This massive plush animal is almost three feet (36") long from nose to tail and his fur is velvety soft. A great addition to any wolf collection, he sits regally on bed, shelf or desk, eats very little, and gives good hugs.

\$47.95

EAST LAKE UPDATES

CHETAN did the “hot spot” thing again this year, suffering from icky itchy skin allergies, and did his best to impersonate an elderly, threadbare teddy bear or someone’s favorite old coat. At times he resembled a dalmation. Aesthetically he was a little sub-par, but psychologically he was quite happy, especially compared to other summers when he had not only biting insects but biting puppies and yearlings to deal with. **ERIN**, who does not have such massive allergic troubles, kept most of her beautiful fur and spent a lot of time resting in the shade.

Both the “Fluffies” were happy to meet seminar participants, and made several people quite happy by coming up to say hello.



Apollo and Karin with treats. Photo by Monty Sloan

APOLLO and **KARIN** have achieved Old Married Couple status, snoozing away the summer afternoons and bickering about who ate the remote. Apollo lost weight and fur as he shed, revealing once again the “bony butt” he keeps hidden all winter beneath a

thick coat of fur — we mean, muscle. He has so far been relatively free of hot spots this year. Karin, despite her penchant for scent rolling on hair, greeted several seminars as the “beginner level” wolf, to rave reviews. Apollo, who still loves to pat people he doesn’t know very hard on the head, must watch from afar as Karin absorbs the attention and poses for photos.

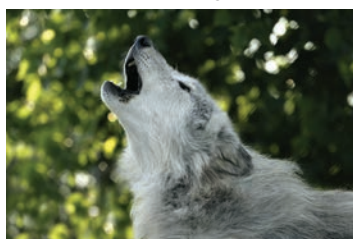


Echo and a watermelon. Photo by Monty Sloan

ECHO, who turned fourteen this spring, had a couple of urinary tract infections this spring, prompting treats, antibiotics, and a lot of fussing. She staged a Shakespearean production of “Goodbye Cruel World” one morning when she preferred to sleep in and would not be bothered

to get up until people came and poked her awake. Despite her slightly disturbing acting debut, she bounced back nicely. Echo was interested in the coyote puppies, Twister and Willow, when they moved in across the corridor, but could not seem to decide if they were puppies or snack treats. (In the wild, they would definitely be snack treats, so there are no plans to ever let any of the wolves meet the coyotes.) While her eyes still twinkle when near unattended human rumps, Echo has met several seminars’ worth of participants and been generally quite charming.

Both black **KIRI** and gray **SOCRATES** have, at the age of thirteen, whitened so much that sometimes it takes a double take to see if a white foot or the tip of a white tail visible in the grass is Kiri’s or Socrates’. Though Kiri has lost his voice (one of those “things old wolves do” that we don’t mention to him) he continues to “roo” and



Kiri. Photo by Monty Sloan

go through the motions of howling, and nothing is stopping him from reminding Socrates that he, Socrates, is still not the alpha male in their little pack of two. Socrates just seems content with smiling charmingly at interns and visitors, trying to convince them he’s just a big softy, really, and that rumors that he likes to carry off hand tools and wave them at people are greatly exaggerated.



Chetan and Erin Photo by Monty Sloan

ECLIPSE continues to become more outgoing, at least with staff. She will sit for treats and also solicit scratching and kisses, whereas before she preferred to view human visitors from a safe haven behind a large tree or a hut.

Occasionally she “walks with” a tour as it passes her enclosure. She is more interested in going for walks, even though this means being chained to a (sometimes scary) human. Even if she is being “spooky” about being directly leashed she will often walk right into an airlock, even if humans are involved, knowing that being in the airlock is usually a precursor to a nice walk or a change of scenery.

SENECA, **MISKA** and **MARION**

are still popular choices for the wolf/bison demonstration, both for their willingness to at least try to bother the bison before the bison chase them away, and their habit of wandering politely into the bison



Seneca and Marion. Photo by Monty Sloan

corral and waiting to be leashed on the hottest days. Seneca continues as the alpha male, and of course Marion is ever the alpha female. Marion’s relationship with Miska continues to be pointy at both ends and involve a lot of growling, but with increasing peaceful interludes.

WELCOME, NICK!

Wolf Park would like to welcome Nick Irwin, former intern and coyote “mother”, into its nefarious clutches — we mean, the fold. Nick started at Wolf Park as an intern in 2005, and returned this year to help raise our coyote puppies. Nick slaved from morning til night (and beyond, in some cases) for months and has been rewarded with a job mowing Wolf Park’s many lawns and retrieving deer!

Nick came to Wolf Park in May of 2005 for a three month internship, and received positive reviews on his work from staff and volunteers. This spring when Andrew was choosing who to invite to help raise coyote pups, Nick’s name came up as a person we knew and trusted after his previous year’s work.

In May Nick was just graduating from Appalachian State, in North Carolina, with a degree in Parks and Recreation, with minors in Biology and Sustainable Development. He was happy to return to Wolf Park to assist with the young coyotes. Again this summer Nick was a hard worker, easy to get along with, and full of enthusiasm for the work we do here at Wolf Park. When he heard Andrew was leaving, he did not hesitate to corner Amanda, hand her his resume and say “I am available!”

In short order Nick joined the ranks of Wolf Park Staff. Nick’s longer term goals include working towards including the practice of socialization in more zoos, to help improve the quality of life for the animals.

Coincidentally, staff member Dana Drenzek also graduated from Appalachian State, was an intern, and then was hired on. We fear we may be starting a trend.



Nick. Photo by Monty Sloan



ORCA UPDATES

Orca gets a page all to himself this newsletter, because his universe has been rather exciting as of late.

Back in 1997, Orca, who was the alpha male of the main pack at the time, injured himself somehow, rotating a lumbar vertebra, and paralyzed himself from the waist back. We don't know how he did it; he is the only one who knows, and he is not telling.

Immediately after the injury, Orca received all sorts of treatments, from acupuncture to hydrotherapy, and improved markedly. For a very long time, while he did not quite locomote normally, he was still more than capable of outdistancing us when we took him for walks, and he could walk a loop or two around the Park at a time. He has been seen by a variety of specialists, who all essentially concluded "If he can outrun you, he isn't broken." Things remained thus, on a peaceful plateau, for nearly ten years.



Orca.

Photo by Monty Sloan

This January, however, Orca overworked himself somewhat. For a little while, he forgot about his hind legs and started dragging them instead of using them for propulsion. Pat, Gale, and Monty spent hours each day rewarding Orca first for standing when boosted, then for taking little steps, then finally for walking. Over the course of a couple of months, and quite a lot of doggy treats, Orca regained a lot of his muscle mass and was once more doing laps around the enclosure, using all four legs, unassisted by humans.

In late April, Orca relapsed into dragging his hindquarters again (most discouraging as he was almost back to his old, pre-January form). He put a lot of time and energy into snoopervising

the new coyote puppies and the renovation of a permanent pen for them. It was very hard to get Orca to concentrate on therapy when much more interesting things were just yards away twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

On June 4th, one of the interns reported that Orca's right hind leg was badly cut up. He had pulled up some skirting meant to prevent digging out, and it looked as if he had acquired the leg injury from the wire or the stake that had been holding it down.

We made an emergency call to Dr. Becker, who came out to sedate, anesthetize and suture Orca. She cleaned him up, sutured him and wrapped the leg. Orca had a history of not leaving wraps on his lower hind legs when he first injured his spine, and he did shear through bandages and had to be frequently "repackaged." He took out some of his sutures prematurely, causing Dr. Becker to have to come out and re-sedate and re-suture him. After that we settled into having to re-wrap Orca's bandages at least every second day and more often if he wore holes in them, got them excessively muddy, or just wanted to eat the yuck on the inner dressing.

He did fairly well until he got an infection in the wound and Dr. Becker had to come out, anesthetize Orca again and debride the wound, give him more antibiotics, and, through gritted teeth, express the hope he would refrain from unbandaging himself for three days. He didn't.

The wound made progress slowly despite the infectious setback. We were giving Orca therapy by standing him up and doing some weight bearing, but because he needed such frequent re-bandaging we found we were using up a lot of his "units of cooperation" on the bandaging process. Then it got hot. Really, REALLY hot. So hot that no one with good sense would want to do anything until sunset, and even then it was still really hot (which was better than really REALLY hot). At best we got Orca to stand for a minute or two before he gave up and got crabby with us.

Throughout this, though, we noticed that Orca's back was stronger than it was during his previous episode of forgetting about his hind legs. He was repeatedly lifting his knees clear of the ground when he bipedaled around and we were grateful for that.



Gale (left) and Pat encourage Orca to stand by luring him with treats.

Photo by Monty Sloan

Now it is cooler. Orca has finished a course of antibiotics and his appetite has increased. This means we can negotiate for a larger number of units of cooperation. He has been consistently able to stand, bearing all or most of his weight for about four minutes. Since getting him past the three minute weight-bearing limit this spring marked the beginning of Orca making significant strides (literally and figuratively) toward recovery, we are cautiously excited.

Dr. Becker said jokingly that Orca is spinning out his recovery because he is getting a lot of attention. Dana reported seeing him jump at the fence recently. She remarked "He can't walk but he *can* jump!" When he is very excited he does his "hop twirl dance" which consists of hopping up and down while spinning like a top, with all four of his feet, as someone put it, going "wheel".

We think Ken McCort, who comes once a year to teach a behavior seminar at the Park, said it best. He asked how Orca's attitude is, after months of being able to walk only a little. Then he said that it seems that as far as Orca is concerned, sometimes you can walk, sometimes you can't ... but, either way, you get on with life.



PAT'S POETRY CORNER

They say that time flies when you're having fun. We must be having a lot of fun, because time is sure flying. Kiri and Socrates, our beloved "Boyz", have slowly metamorphosed over the years. They were born in 1993, and not even during our highest flights of fancy can we call them "Boyz" anymore. At some point they became the "Grumpy Old Men". When did this happen?

Pat created this little poem using the witty brevities of Ogden Nash for reference. Nash's couplet was "The old dog barks backwards without getting up./I can remember when he was a pup."

With Apologies to Ogden Nash

Kiri and Socrates both look old.
(Chinook is gone and they broke the mold.)
When did this happen? I just saw it now.
Kiri won't bother with a bucket squeeze.
He hoards energy to bother Brother Tease.
Short is his stretching and shallow his bow
When did this happen? Only just now?
A totter is part of their getting ups
I can remember when they were just pups.

Pat's Poetry Corner is brought to you by the letters M, Z, Q, and the number 9, as well as the generous support of people like you. Do not immerse in water, oil or benzene. Not for use as a personal safety device, underwater or on stairs. Pat's Poetry Corner is not a substitute for a properly balanced diet.

FOX UPDATES

July was melty. Very, very melty. For a few days the heat index was nearly 128 degrees in the sun, and the foxes became little fur puddles that didn't move.

Basil, who is around eleven years old now, gave us a scare during one of the hottest, ickiest days by pretending not to be alive when staff member Dana came to visit, causing her consternation and distress. When visited a few minutes later, Basil had climbed off the fox box upon which he likes to "take the sun", and into the cooler climes beneath another box in the shade. He grinned widely when approached and made adorable squeaking noises. He seemed pleased he had successfully fooled Dana.

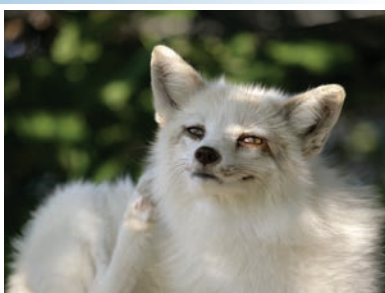
Devon and Ember dug a den, an enormous, labyrinthine den, in which they hid on vaccination day. Ember had to be removed from the den by slowly pouring water down it, making the den less pleasant than whatever the Evil Humans had planned upstairs. She emerged from the den with great dignity, soaking wet, and with irked glances consented to be herded into the airlock and corralled for medical poking. Eventually staff filled in the den, which was immediately re-dug by irritated and highly energetic foxes.

Both girls "melted" into svelte summer coat as they always seem to. Ember reprised her role as "Bill the Cat" (from the old "Bloom County" cartoons) as she lost just enough fur to look like she was having a very bad hair day. Basil, despite an early shed prompted by living indoors much of the winter, and despite staff members taking advantage of anesthesia while his leg was being worked on to comb two or three foxes' worth of fur out of him, still wore his floppy "pantaloons" proudly as big chunks of fur slowly shed out.

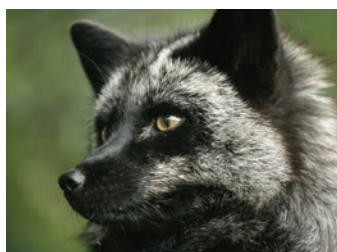
This year we had more kids' seminars than ever before. The kids are generally not old enough to meet our wolves (insurance difficulties prevent this), but they can meet the foxes, and the foxes delighted in the steady stream of treats and affection. In fact, they got quite fat, and very picky about their food for a while.



Ember and her watermelon. Photo by Monty Sloan



Basil. Photo by Monty Sloan



Devon. Photo by Monty Sloan

Basil absorbed quite a lot of petting, although to our disappointment he just doesn't seem to want to walk on people's heads and shoulders that much any more. He may be slowing down, but you wouldn't know it from watching him chase Devon around the enclosure at high speed.



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COYOTE UPDATES



Willow, Twister, and a stick. Photo by Monty Sloan

and a bratty foster sister (Willow) to chew on.

Later, of course, Twister went back to his program of being "helpful" by showing us where all the holes were in the enclosure that a coyote puppy might be able to fit through. (Fortunately, we had people in the coyote enclosure almost 24 hours a day, and he did not actually get through any of those holes.) He also entertained and excited the puppy parents by walking straight up an eight-foot vertical stretch of fence and putting his nose over the side. Staff promptly extended the overhang.

Willow found her place in life as a greeting diva and charmed everyone who so much as went near the puppy pen with a bravura display of squeaking, tail waving, and submissive wiggling. Coyote sponsors were guaranteed an in-your-face experience; both puppies loved to climb on people and really get into things like shirts, hats, pockets, and personal space. They thrilled several seminars, and even more sponsors.

Staff took to having the 'yotes greet people while standing on a hut, so that they did not try to stuff themselves into people's noses the second they opened the gate. Sometimes this worked very well, because, while standing on the hut, the coyotes could greet people face-to-face without having to launch themselves like suborbital missiles. Sometimes this backfired. On August 20, Twister attempted to leap onto a staff member's shoulders from the hut. He missed, but did not seem discouraged. We hope he is not trying to amass frequent flier miles.



Willow mouse-pounces. Photo by Monty Sloan

The 'yotes moved into their new, shiny enclosure on June 1, and were delighted. Twister, the male, who had spent weeks trying to simply walk up the side of the puppy pen and out to get pizza, suddenly couldn't remember why getting out had been so important. There were logs to climb and to hide under, tree branches to pull down, leaves and things to eat,



Willow. Photo by Monty Sloan

The 'yotes were not delighted to meet their new neighbors, the wolves. Although they could certainly hear and smell the wolves from the old "puppy pen", the 'yotes did not get their first sight of a wolf until they moved to East Lake. Twister was not amused by the appearance of a benignly interested Kiri, who wandered amiably along the fence, looking puzzled as a 20-pound coyote arched his back and threatened him from six feet away. Eventually Kiri found more pressing things to do, and Twister put his hackles back down and pretended he had "won".

Both Twister and Willow like to "sing", and their yip-howls now join the Park's chorus on Howl Nights, filling in a missing note that has not been heard since the passing of our previous coyote, Wild Bill, in 2005. Unfortunately, they get so excited when they sing that they forget precisely how that "howling" thing goes, and end up yelping and yorping and yeeeping and yapping and chasing each other around trying to put their mouths on each other. They sound like large, hyperactive Easter chicks. Sometimes they get so excited they trip and fall over. We are sure they will get better with practice.



Twister and Willow.

Photo by Monty Sloan

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.

Jessica Rose Hanley-Nickolls, intern, came to us from Scotland where she is attending the University of Glasgow, in the Zoology program. Rose intends to go on to do a PhD, possibly in a wolf related field, and has a passion for conservation. Rose's other passion is rowing. She is a British University Champion in the light weight coxless four.

Sally Ann Grassick, intern, came to Wolf Park from a horse farm in County Kildare, Ireland. She has spent her life working with race horses, and is now pursuing a career in the field of television, with a specialty in sports and wildlife.

Michaela Knosp, practicum, came to us from Vienna, Austria, where she attained a masters' degree in Biology doing an ethnological project with captive gorillas and chimpanzees. She has done practical training in biology and zoology in places from Costa Rica to Greece. Michaela came to Wolf Park due to her profound interest in learning about the social behavior of mammals.

Mary Katherine (Katy) Stick, practicum, came to Wolf Park from Michigan. She visited Wolf Park when she was a child, and was excited to return for the chance to study wolf behavior. She is working towards a degree in psychology, with an emphasis on animal behavior. Katy has attended Lansing Community College, but plans to attend a different school to finish her degree.

A FOND FAREWELL

This summer we said goodbye to the New Guinea Singing Dogs, Kodi and Katia. The dogs came to Wolf Park in 2004, on loan from the Columbian Park Zoo in Lafayette, Indiana. They were to stay with us while their enclosure at the Zoo was being renovated.

The dogs were wonderful to have at the Park. It is currently thought that New Guinea Singing Dogs closely resemble the very first dogs. Observing them can give us clues as to how dogs descended from wolves. Kodi and Katia did a very good job of demonstrating dog behavior. Kodi also "sang" for us, giving us a taste of the vocalizations that give the Singing Dogs their name.

Unfortunately, Miss Katia's exciting and ongoing health problems (which started with diabetes and went from there) became just too exciting for everyone's tastes. Kodi and Katia went home to the Zoo so the Zoo's vet could keep Katia under a closer watch.

Wolf Park extends its thanks to the Columbian Park Zoo for allowing us to spend time with Kodi and Katia — they were wonderful "houseguests" and are welcome back any time.



Katia (rear) and Kodi. Photo by Monty Sloan



MANY, MANY THANK YOUS!

The following persons and entities have recently donated to Wolf Park. We are deeply appreciative of their help (and yours!) Thank you to everyone who has helped us this season!

Bill Bane Jr	Sandy Prantl
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Tristan reclines on a fallen tree trunk.

Photo by Monty Sloan



Twist and Shout

While not matching the cat family for sheer "bendiness", wolves display remarkable flexibility and agility. Some wolves can climb low tree branches. Most swim well. And this young female can turn so her front and hind ends are pointing the same way.

The wolf's long, flexible spine may help to lengthen its stride, as well as serving as a "spring", storing and releasing energy when running. This makes the wolf's gait more efficient and allows it to better chase down its fast-running prey.

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 coyotes 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 wolf-bison 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.

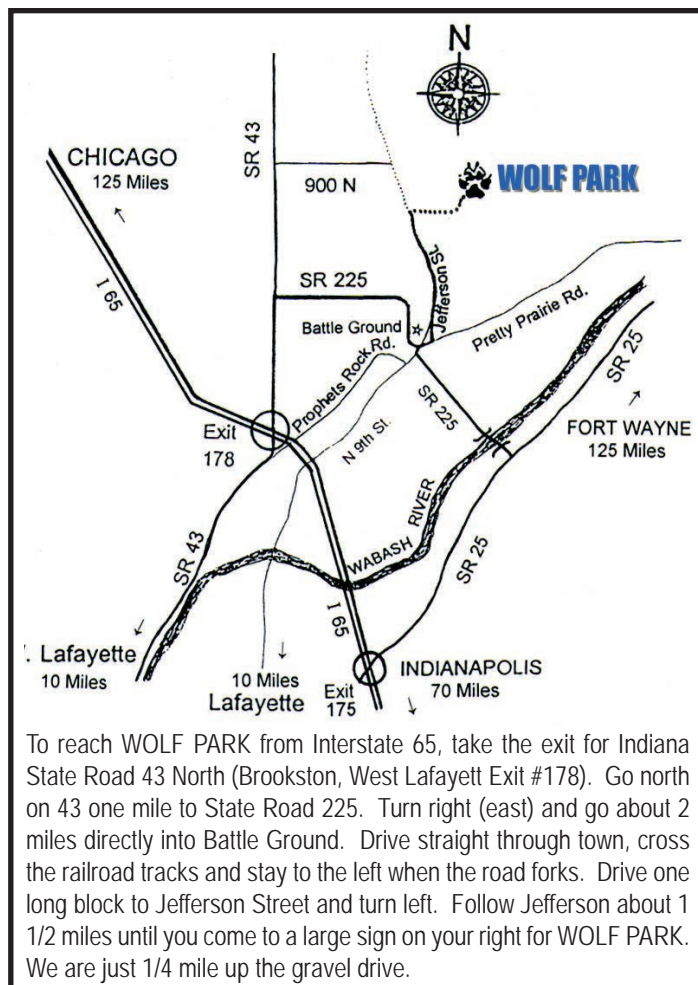
➤ MEET A WOLF

Meet a wolf, fox or coyote face-to-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!



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 one 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 when the road forks. Drive one long block to Jefferson Street and turn left. Follow Jefferson 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.



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