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 United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed  
 Colorado Department of Agriculture, Licensed  
 Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Licensed  
 The Association of Sanctuaries, Accredited Member  
 American Sanctuary Association, Accredited Member  
 Alaska Wildlife Alliance, Member



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## Texas Rescue - Chapter 3

(by Cheryl Budler)



**"This doesn't look like Texas!"**



Our last installment of this major undertaking ended with the relocation of all of the animals from the old NAWA site. Two animals had been relocated to Colorado, five animals were placed at permanent homes in Texas and eight were placed at a temporary location in Texas while their permanent homes were built in Colorado. This chapter concludes the rescue as the eight are moved to Colorado.

If you missed the first two installments of this report, from our past newsletters, you can read it on our website under news or request a copy by writing to our P.O. Box.

It was Sunday, August 10, 2003 and time to begin the third and final trip to Texas to bring the remaining eight NAWA animals to their permanent home in Colorado. The crew this time: Indigo Mountain Nature Center (IMNC) founders Sue Cranston and Carol Scarborough, *Wolf* volunteers Nickie Koeller and myself, Cheryl Budler. Nickie and I departed Fort Collins around 3PM and began the tenacious driving experience that was to dominate the next four days. We made it to IMNC in three and a half hours and bed down there for the night with intentions for an early start.

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## Div. Of Wildlife Changes Regs



On June 30th, we received a notice from the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) that they were proposing changes to the Chapter 11 regulations. These regulations deal with the licensing of all wildlife facilities in the state. The proposed changes would:

- Prohibit any new nonprofit organizations from obtaining a license to maintain wildlife, and;

- Prohibit the use of larger habitat-type enclosures for big cats, bears and wolves, if they deviated from the current containment standards. They would provide exemptions from this rule by a special variance procedure.

The notice went on to say that the Wildlife Commission would hear public comment at their scheduled meeting on July 10th.

We were, needless to say, stunned by this letter. Although *Wolf* and other existing licensed facilities would be grandfathered on the prohibition, it would prevent existing facilities from moving to a new location in the state or opening a satellite facility.


We immediately called the DOW to make sure that we were reading these proposals correctly and if we were, what the goal was. We were informed that we were reading them correctly and that they were intended to discourage backyard enthusiasts from owning wildlife. They believed that many individuals were using the nonprofit guise to further their private ownership of wild animals because it was 'so easy' for them to become nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations.

Again we were shocked to think that this approach could be con-

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**Letter from the President**

**(Frank Wendland)**

 Life just doesn't seem to get any easier. This last quarter we have experienced the passing of three very special spirits. At the end of July a long-time volunteer and very dear friend lost her battle with breast cancer. At the end of August and middle of September both of our primary ambassador animals, Mesa and Sara, passed. Please read their stories on pages 8 and 9. Unfortunately, when Sara passed Pat was in New Jersey tending to her mother who had to undergo open-heart surgery. We also have spent a significant amount of time and energy trying to gather support to overturn proposed changes by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (see page 1). We lost that battle.



**Mesa & Sara.**

On the positive side -- the outpouring of emotion from our email supporters on the recent deaths has been extraordinary and reaffirming. We thank all of those who have shared their thoughts. We have concluded the Texas Rescue very successfully (see page 1). We also had a well donated by Precision Waterwell, Boulder GNC Water Well and Lockman Excavating. These guys did a fantastic job in a very professional and efficient manner. Their care and concern for the animals was also very evident. We can't recommend them enough. If anyone needs their contact information, please let us know. This donation will save us extreme amounts of time and energy hauling water from the spring. We can't thank these companies and the individuals involved enough.

We continue to struggle with the number of animals that need to be placed. We are receiving dozens of requests every week and realize that the majority of them are being euthanized. The situation mentioned previously about the pure wolves in Idaho that need placement is reaching its breaking point and there is still no sign of reasonable options for them. The other situation mentioned previously in Oregon is being resolved by one

dedicated volunteer who has been getting them placed, one or two at a time. Our hats are off to Kim Kahl who has persevered and only has two left to accommodate. We have sent her a donation so that she can build an enclosure to save these last two.

The one-acre enclosure that is being built for the Spirit, Indigo, Matoska & Kiki group is just about complete. We have unfortunately had to hire some casual labor to help with this endeavor. We are confident that once complete, it will set the new standard for containment at *Wolf*. We will be enlarging some of the smaller enclosures and then shuffling some of the packs into better accommodations. Our long range plans are to provide one-acre enclosures for all of the packs.

In that vein, we have hired an attorney to work with us to get the county commissioners to adjust some of the conditions of our special use variance in order to allow use of more of our land for the sanctuary. This will take some time and we will keep you updated on our progress.

Otherwise the rest of the animals are doing great, even though some of our geriatric residents exhibit typical ailments for their ages. Thanks for all your support! 🐾

**Putting in the Well!**



**Craig & Brian from Precision**



**Brad from Lockman Excavating**



**Jason from GNC & Steve**

## DOW Changes...

(Continued from page 1)

sidered logical or that it would even accomplish what the DOW intended. They were not eliminating for profit wildlife facilities, only the nonprofit organizations. How does this make sense? What was the real agenda behind these proposals? Did the DOW have the authority to do this?

As we began to collect more information about the situation it became clear that there were a number of issues that came into play.

First; the DOW had evidently stopped issuing licenses for nonprofit wildlife facilities at the beginning of 2001. This was done without notice and based on an arbitrary decision that the state statutes did not provide for nonprofit licensing. It appeared that the statutes only allowed licensing of 'commercial' facilities. The DOW interpreted 'commercial' to mean 'for profit'. Definitions of the word did not seem to support this contention. The intent seemed very clear to us, our lawyers and our CPA -- the legislature wanted to prevent 'private' ownership of wild animals. They did not intend that nonprofit sanctuaries should cease to exist. And if they did, why had the DOW licensed nonprofits to begin with?

Second; the decision to finally make this situation public evidently occurred at a DOW staff meeting, where a completely separate issue was the topic. There had been a situation where a big-cat nonprofit pseudo-sanctuary had been failed on their inspection due to a containment issue. They then screamed that another reputable big-cat nonprofit sanctuary was in violation of the same containment concerns and was not being failed at their inspections. This evidently began the discussion about why nonprofits were even licensed in the first place.

Putting this information together with what we already knew about the DOW, it became much clearer as to what was going on. The Colorado Division of Wildlife is a rather strangely chartered organization. Although they fall under the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, they pretty much only have to report or be responsible to the Wildlife Commission. The Wildlife Commission is made up of nine individuals appointed by the governor.

The DOW is also self-funding and gains its operating budget from licenses and fees associated with the exploitation of wildlife. These revenues come from hunting, fishing and trapping concerns. Therefore they act pretty much on their own and act as an entity unto themselves. Because their budget is based on exploitation or revenue producing endeavors, I don't believe they have much understanding or concern for nonprofit or charitable endeavors that do not increase the size of their budget. This factor on top of the controversy over enforcement of containment standards, which were eating up their time and budget, lead to only one conclusion -- get rid of these bizarre nonprofit entities.

Unfortunately there was not enough time, before the July meeting, to organize any sort of opposition. Therefore, the July meeting was only instrumental in getting a sense for the reception of this concept by the commission, which was not good. It also ended up highlighting the lack of understanding for wildlife sanctuaries that exists within the animal welfare community. The executive director of the Colorado Association of Animal Welfare Agencies (CFAWA) actually spoke in support of prohibiting nonprofit wildlife facilities. When questioned later, by *Wolf* about their position on this issue, it became very apparent that this organization maintained the 'old school' mentality that any animal which was not adoptable to a family setting should be euthanized. After several letters to the CFAWA board of directors and a refinement of their position to sound more politically correct the bottom line remained pretty much the same. This position was totally unacceptable to *Wolf* and resulted in our resignation from that organization.

The Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center (RMWCC), primarily a big-cat sanctuary located in Keenesburg, did present alternatives to the commission. They suggested that the DOW goal could be accomplished with the establishment of effective qualifications for nonprofit licensing and containment standards. They further stated that these could be developed through collaboration with the two national sanctuary associations, both of which *Wolf* is accredited through. RMWCC had also been in touch with DOW staff to suggest the same alternatives. The final vote on these changes would take place on Sept. 10th.

All reputable sanctuaries are the first ones to want private ownership of wild animals controlled, but you cannot abolish the appropriate facilities in order to do that. *Wolf* believed that RMWCC was much more informed on this issue and began to form a loose coalition with them and other organizations who shared the same mentality. Those organizations consisted of:

- Rocky Mountain Wildlife Nature Center**
- Bravo Bend Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Wildlife Legacy Trust**
- The Association of Sanctuaries**
- The American Sanctuary Association**

Although we tried very hard to get other nonprofit organizations involved in this endeavor, there was a significant amount of resistance to fighting this issue. We are not sure what the specific reasons were for their reluctance, but can only guess that they either, were afraid of retribution from the DOW or were actually in favor of the prohibition. Let's face it, with the prohibition of any new nonprofits there would be less competition for donation dollars. It would actually make more business sense to support the DOW initiative. The bottom line however, would mean the

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## DOW Changes...

(Continued from page 3)

unnecessary death of more animals.

The coalition began by informing all of their collective supporters about the situation. Unfortunately, because of the time frame involved, we could only notify those supporters of *Wolf* that were signed up on our email list. The coalition also initiated letters seeking support from national wildlife and animal welfare organizations. A letter was also drafted to the Governor and the Wildlife Commission to present the alternatives that would accomplish the stated goals of the DOW without prohibiting qualified sanctuaries from being licensed. It was suggested that this compromise could be worked out before the final vote in September. This letter was copied to all of the state and federal politicians in Colorado along with the media and a comprehensive list of animal welfare organizations. Again the collective supporters of the coalition were notified and asked to write to the governor and their political representatives.

Although the Governor and the Wildlife Commission never responded to the coalition, we did receive notification that the Captive Wildlife as Alternative Livestock Board (CWALB) would hold a meeting to gather public input and then make their recommendation on the issue to the Wildlife Commission. The CWALB is part of the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture and we took this as a sign that one of two things was happening: one, there was genuine interest in determining what would be most appropriate for this situation or; two, they were going to allow individuals to vent before the meeting in September, hoping that it would diffuse the situation somewhat.

The results of that meeting seemed to be very positive. They agreed that nonprofits should not be single-out and that new standards should be established for 'habitat' style enclosures. It was now only a matter of determining whether or not this maneuver was meant to placate or truly make adjustments. We would have to wait and see what the Wildlife Commission finally voted.

Not wanting to leave this to chance the coalition again drafted a letter to the Governor and urged all of its collective supporters to do the same. The coalition also urged every concerned individual and organization to attend the meeting and voice their concerns and opinions.

September 10th came fast and Frank Wendland from *Wolf* departed the facility at 3:30 am for the trip to the meeting site. The location moves around the state for each meeting held. Unfortunately, this time

the location was Lamar, which was 280 miles from the sanctuary. Frank picked up several supporters along the way who wished to attend and actually made the trip in plenty of time to still get breakfast before the start of the meeting at 10 am.

The following email letter to the *Wolf* supporters, by Frank, gives the result of that meeting. 🐾

**Yesterday's meeting of the Colorado Wildlife Commission reaffirmed my resolve to stay as far away from vicious animals as I can. I will be refocusing my efforts back toward the wolves and wolf-dogs at the sanctuary and staying away from politicians and 'so-called' animal welfare organizations. After this news update please send any concerns or comments on this issue to your elected politicians and the animal welfare organization of your choice.**

Needless to say the meeting did not result in a positive outcome for discarded wildlife. The Wildlife Commission had its decision made before the meeting started. They put a very pretty face on their concern for nonprofit wildlife facilities, but continued to insist that state statute precluded them from licensing any nonprofit organizations. Even though evidence to the contrary has been presented by many other sources, the Commission continued to follow its own agenda. The vote to prohibit all new nonprofit wildlife parks in the state was passed unanimously by the Commission.

This outcome will result in the eventual elimination of all nonprofit wildlife parks. Even though the existing nonprofits have been grandfathered, they will not be allowed to change their location or open satellite operations. As human development encroaches on the existing facilities and they are forced out of their current locations, they will either cease to exist or have to move out of state. A good example of this concern is the history of the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center. In their approximate 23-year existence they have had to relocate three times.

The turn out of concerned citizens, animal welfare organizations and Colorado nonprofit wildlife facilities was dismal. Whether this apathy was predicated on fear of retribution by the DOW or support for the elimination of nonprofit competition for donation dollars, doesn't really matter as the result was the same -- very few seemed to care. *Wolf* appeared to have more supporters, from their ranks, in attendance than all of the rest of the opponents combined. I am very appreciative for your support and dedication and am proud of my association with you.

At this stage of the exercise it will require judicial or legislative recourse to change the inevitable. *Wolf* does not have the resources to continue this battle. With the lack of support for this issue it would also seem that human-kind is just not quite ready to discard its arrogant and egocentric approach to life.

Again, thank you to all who helped fight this battle. I am comfortable that it was a battle worth fighting, if for no other reason than it should allow all of you to sleep better at night knowing that you did your part.

*"There will be no justice as long as man will stand with a knife or with a gun and destroy those who are weaker than he is."*

*(Isaac Bashevis Singer)*

## Texas Rescue...



***Darting animals in Texas.***

*(Continued from page 1)*

We were up by six the next morning, anxious to hit the road, but there were a few things that needed to be taken care of and we did not get started until after ten. Then we began the long trip to Orange, Texas, driving for eleven hours and stopping to spend the night at a friend's house. We took our time the next morning as we were not in such a hurry. We made the second part of the trip to Orange in eight hours, but by the time we made it to the wolves foster home, it was dark and pouring down rain so we could not get a good look at the animals. It would have to wait until morning.

With a few things to take care of, we got started by ten the next morning. We still needed to get the transport crates to the enclosures, pick up the tranquilizers from the local veterinarian, and wait for the transport driver and his driving partner to arrive with the hired truck and trailer. There was also the issue of the heat. As you may imagine, Texas in August is not pleasant fall weather. The previous week temperatures were in the 100 degree range with high humidity. That kind of heat combined with the stress of being darted, the health of the animals was potentially in



***Getting the 'four pack' ready for release.***

jeopardy. Lucky for us, the spirits must have been watching over us because the temperature seemed to be hovering around ninety degrees that day, with some cloud cover. We felt we would have plenty of daylight, as long as it didn't rain, to get the eight animals safely darted, in their crates and in the truck if we got started by three. However, since we all know how things happen, we decided to get started around one o'clock.

We arrived at the foster home and saw that the animals looked great. They had all gained weight, built up their muscles, were bright, alert and enjoying the space they had in their enclosures. We decided to start with the four pack since they were the most difficult to get down the last time. They were considerably more difficult to dart this time around as they had more room to avoid me. Yana Usdi proved to be the most taxing of the four; the darts seemed to bounce off him and he also appeared to have a slight limp. Finally we got them all down and in their crates. Once Usdi was out and relaxed, Sue Cranston was



***Unloading the last animal in Colorado.***

able to determine he had a disk out in his spine. Fortunately, it slipped easily back into place. While all of this was going on, I was moving onto the next enclosure.

The darting was going smoothly, but I began to see a trend that was surprising. The animals were not responding to the drugs the same way they did before. I had increased the dosages to account for their weight gain, but for some reason they were more drug resistant and would not go out. Things were taking much longer than we had anticipated. However, we had no alternative but to get all eight animals darted and loaded. We had to be on the road that night in order to avoid transporting them in the heat of the day. We had to continue.

We continued getting animals darted and in their crates. At this point we were not putting animals

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## Texas Rescue...

*(Continued from page 5)*

into the trailer as the sun had come out and it was too hot. But they were all doing fine in the shade. There remained only two animals left to be darted. I managed to get them darted without too much difficulty, but once again, the animals did not respond to the drugs. At this point we hit a crisis, we were out of the drugs that were working and time was not in our favor. Fortunately, the local vet was able to run to her clinic and bring an alternative drug that would potentially give us better results on the remaining two wolf dogs.

The vet returned in twenty minutes and the team got back into action. The female in the enclosure was finally sufficiently sedated and placed in her crate. We were down to the final animal, Dihi. Dihi had been successfully darted twice with our drugs and now we were attempting the new drug. He was darted and we sat back to wait as the sun had set and it was getting dark. After ten minutes it appeared that he was down and out, but once we got close enough for him to hear us, he was once again up and running. We



***The 'four pack' checking out the new home.***

had no choice but to corner him and attempt to herd him into his crate. Using a large cattle panel, we formed a wall and got the staggering animal into a corner. We placed his crate on one end of our "wall" and left enough space for him to get into the crate yet not run past us. Interestingly enough, once Dihi knew we had him, he gave up. Volunteers were able to get him loaded into his crate and then get him loaded into the trailer with all the other animals. It was now 9:30 PM, pitch black and starting to rain. We had done it. The four of us settled into the car for the 18+ hour drive to IMNC.

The drive was incredibly long, but thankfully uneventful. Our half of the group was the first to arrive, followed shortly by Doug and Cathy Joslyn, who had flown up from Texas to be present for the release of the animals. They had been involved with these animals since the beginning and it was a very exciting moment for them. The truck arrived with the animals, all healthy and surprisingly calm, an hour or



***"This looks like wolf country."***

so after we did. The time had come for the animals to be released into their new homes.

The brand new enclosures that were to be the new homes for these animals were spectacular. They contained pine trees and rocky terrain that they had never been exposed to before. Each pen also included a large trough that doubled as a pool. We were all excited to see them finally released into their new homes. We unloaded one group at a time and carried their crates into the designated enclosure. They were then set free and observed for a few minutes to insure that all was well. Each group reacted much the same. The first thing was to empty the bladder, and then begin exploring. It was amazing to see these animals actually stretch out and run. One small female even took advantage of her new pool and jumped right in. It was a fantastic day! After everything these animals had been through; being kept in tiny enclosures, losing pack members to distemper, being darted, poked and prodded by humans (on more than one occasion) and finally put into crates and driven for almost twenty hours, they were finally home.

**Our sincere thanks go out to all of the individuals who were instrumental with this rescue. Whether you participated or supported, please know that on behalf of the animals, it does matter. 🐾**

### The Jeff Corwin Experience

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, this rescue was partially covered by Animal Planet and will be presented on the Jeff Corwin Experience. We are not totally sure how they will slant the exercise, however if you read our accounts and watch their coverage you should get a pretty good idea of what was involved. The name of the episode is "[The Big Bad Wolf?](#)" and it is schedule to air on:

November 5 at 8:00 pm ET and 11 pm ET  
November 8 at 6 pm ET

You can check the online schedule for this show at:  
<http://animal.discovery.com/schedule/series.jsp?series=83463&gid=7349&channel=APL>

## Up-Coming Events

- 11 Oct • Journey Books & Gifts**  
 11:00a - 3:00p *Wolf Wisdom & Wolf Info* (visit the wolves)  
 • 6731 West Colfax, Lakewood - 303-239-8773  
 Info contact: 303-239-8773
- 18 Oct • SpiritWays**  
 11:00a - 4:00p *Wolf Info* (visit the wolves)  
 • 3301 East Colfax, Denver - 303-331-1070  
 Info contact: Pat 970-416-9531
- 26 Oct • Howl-O-Ween "Run With the Wolves"**  
 8:00a - 12:00p *Wolf Special Event, & Wolf Info*  
 • City Park, Fort Collins, CO  
 Info contact: Pat 970-416-9531

- 08 Nov • Journey Books & Gifts**  
 11:00a - 3:00p *Wolf Wisdom & Wolf Info* (visit the wolves)  
 • 6731 West Colfax, Lakewood  
 Info contact: 303-239-8773
- 30 Nov • ISIS Bookstore**  
 12:00p - 3:00p *Wolf Wisdom, Wolf Reiki & Wolf Info*  
 • 5701 East Colfax, Denver, CO  
 Reservations/Info contact: 303-321-0867
- 13 Dec • Journey Books & Gifts**  
 11:00a - 3:00p *Wolf Wisdom & Wolf Info* (visit the wolves)  
 • 6731 West Colfax, Lakewood - 303-239-8773  
 Info contact: 303-239-8773

For more information about programs please visit our web site:  
[www.wolfsanctuary.net/06-education/06-01.htm#Programs](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net/06-education/06-01.htm#Programs)  
 or  
 Call Pat Wendland - 970-416-9531

Remember to schedule

**October 26th**

**"Run With The Wolves"**

at City Park in Fort Collins



Start collecting pledges now  
 and win 1 of 10 outstanding prizes  
 for the most pledges!

Awards will be presented for  
 6 categories in the race and for  
 5 costume categories!

**Become a Run Sponsor!**

(see brochure for details)

**Sign In - just north of  
 Mulberry & Sheldon**

- Pre-Race Wolf Mingling 8:00 - 9:00 am  
 Packet Pick-Up &  
 Race Day Registration 8:30 - 9:30 am  
 Race Start 9:45 am  
 Awards Presentation 11:15 am  
 Post-Race Wolf Mingling til 12:30 pm

**Children 9 & under --- FREE**

- Pre-Registration - Before Oct. 20  
 (ages 10 - 17) \$ 15.00  
 Race Week Registration  
 (ages 10 - 17) \$ 20.00  
 Pre-Registration - Before Oct. 20  
 (ages 18+) \$ 20.00  
 Race Week Registration  
 (ages 18+) \$ 25.00

**Pledge Prizes**

(similar to last years prizes which included)

- |                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 35" Color TV             | \$650 value |
| Lori Salisbury Art Print | \$450 value |
| Stereo System            | \$300 value |
| 25" Color TV             | \$250 value |
| Pat Wendland Art Print   | \$250 value |
| X-Box by MicroSoft       | \$200 value |
| Karaoke Machine          | \$200 value |
| Grillmaster BBQ Grill    | \$200 value |

## Wish List

Materials

- 300+ acres of land
- Late model Suburban (or similar)
- ATV (Four or Six wheel drive)
- Generator (the bigger the better)
- Commercial Power Lawn Mower
- Flat Bed Trailer (12' or better)
- Fence Materials (9 gauge chain link, poles, gates, etc.)
- Motor Home Tires - 7.50 x 17.0 (so we can use it for programs)
- Construction Materials (shingles, 2 x 4's, plywood, cinder blocks, etc.)
- Vet Medications (Nemex, Cestex, Domitor, etc.)
- Chest/Upright Freezer (propane)

- Ink Jet Cartridges (Epson Stylus Color 3000)
- Rototiller (In good working condition)

Labor/Services

- Builders (with knowledge of codes)
- Bookkeeper (to help with data entry - unfortunately must be done at facility)
- Lawyer (with knowledge of land use/zoning)
- Fundraiser (to help organize events)
- Concrete/Foundation Contractor
- Grant Writer
- Auto Mechanic
- Printing (newsletters, brochures, etc.)
- Road Grading

## In Memory of Mesa



We are very saddened to report that Mesa was euthanized on August 26th. His illness and death are a tremendous shock to all who knew him.

On the 24th he was very lethargic and out of sorts. We took him to the vet hospital and he was diagnosed with pancreatitis. He was put on antibiotics and IV fluids. We brought him home that night and kept him on the regimen that had been prescribed. He spent that night and the next day on our bed hooked up to the IV and receiving his medications. The evening of the 25th his temperature started to spike and we took him to the CSU Vet Teaching Hospital. The doctors got his temp down, stabilizing him and then performed many tests on the morning of the 26th.

The diagnosis was acute pancreatitis. The doctors believed that his digestive enzymes were out of control and actually digesting his pancreas. The treatment plan was to perform surgery to flush his digestive tract. They would then implant a feeding tube that would bypass the pancreas altogether, allowing it to heal. When they opened him up they discovered a tumor the size of a cantaloupe that had enveloped all of the organs and tissue surrounding the pancreas. It was inoperable and the prognosis suggested that he probably only had a few days left to live and that as a result of the surgery, and the



severity of the pancreatitis, that those few days would be extraordinarily painful for him.

We made the decision not to put him through that torture. We kept him anesthetized until some of his special humans could make it to the hospital to be with him. He was euthanized in a very peaceful setting at 6:50 pm on the 26th.

Mesa was brought to *Wolf* by a Mesa County Animal Control Officer two days after Christmas in 1998. He had been a stray that was not

claimed and won the hearts of those at the shelter. They could not euthanize him and went the extra distance to save him.

He was very underweight and suffering from an old injury to his right hip. He would not eat, we believe, due to the pain from his hip. The hip however, could not be operated on until he achieved a healthy weight, which might actually relieve the pain of bone on bone. He required force feeding for several months before he began eating on his own and indeed the extra muscle mass seemed to alleviate his pain.

Although his right leg was somewhat smaller than the left, he enjoyed running, playing and generally being a wolf. In 2002 he did require hip surgery and recovered very quickly from the extremely invasive surgery.

His presence and personality won him the hearts of all those, two and four legged, he came in contact with. He slowly became the alpha male of the house pack and the main attraction at the public events he attended. As an ambassador for *Wolf*, he met and accepted thousands of humans into his company with grace and genuine affection. He sensed human pain and assisted in many healing efforts.

Mesa was and is a very special being. His physical presence will be sorely missed. ☹️



## In Memory of Sara



On September 20th our world was again shaken. A crowd of unruly wolves, in the house pack, ran along a two-foot wide ledge on the back side of the enclosure. Sara was pushed over the edge. Although the fall was a relatively short distance for wolves, 18 to 24 inches, Sara evidently landed hitting her head. She did not move. Frank and Donna (one of our volunteers), who were in the back area at the time, immediately rushed to her. She was not breathing. They began CPR compressions and mouth-to-mouth breathing. They continued for what seemed like hours. She did not respond -- she was gone.

Since Mesa's passing Sara was sort of uneasy and seemed somewhat lost. Sara and Mesa were the primary ambassador animals and frequently were together educating humans. They both, also participated in Reiki Healing sessions with numerous individuals. Their relationship was very close and we believe very special, although their personalities were quite different.

Mesa was the gentle giant and did not let anything bother him, accepting everything and everyone who came his way. Sara was much more vigilant and would sound the alarm whenever she was concerned. We believe that this concern was due to severe physical abuse that she received at the hands of an alcoholic,



bearded human that wore a baseball cap, before she came to *Wolf*. In a lot of cases her alarm was sounded because of those characteristics in other humans. Sometimes we could not figure out why the alarm was going off. Sara had also been known for being one of the strongest of the ambassador animals. Strong-minded as well as possessing extreme physical strength. When she made up her mind she was going somewhere, you had to hold on tight, because she was going to get there. This balance of

attitudes, between Mesa and Sara, provided an excellent exhibition for the educational goal of our programs.

Mesa and Sara fulfilled very different roles within the context of the house pack. Mesa was the alpha male and responsible for order and harmony. While Sara was actually the omega and gladly accepted the role of aunt to the pups that had been put into the house pack over the years. She raised Kasha, Shaman and Tunyan. She tended to their every need, including the regurgitation of food, cleaning them (including their private parts), and teaching proper wolf etiquette. She was an amazing surrogate mother for all of them. Even as Kasha and Shaman reached full maturity they would still allow Sara to tidy them up. Kasha and Shaman have been very tense since her death, but are coming around slowly with extra attention and love. Tunyan, now about 16 months old, is taking it much harder. With the loss of both Mesa and Sara, she will need a lot of time to understand.

We believe very strongly that although her death was physically an accident that spiritually it was not accidental at all. For whatever purpose intended, Sara and Mesa were needed together. We can intellectually accept this rationale, but emotionally we feel much the same as Sara did at the passing of Mesa -- sort of uneasy and somewhat lost. 🐾



## Words From Friends

### From Friend To Friend

You're giving me a special gift,  
So sorrowfully endowed,  
And through these last few cherished days,  
Your courage makes me proud.

But really, love is knowing  
When your best friend is in pain,  
And understanding earth-ly acts  
Will only be in vain.

So looking deep into your eyes,  
Beyond, into your soul,  
I see in you the magic, that will  
Once more make me whole.

The strength that you possess,  
Is why I look to you today,  
To do this thing that must be done,  
For it's the only way.

That strength is why I've followed you,  
And chose you as my friend,  
And why I've loved you all these years...  
My partner 'till the end.

Please, understand just what this gift,  
You're giving, means to me,  
It gives me back the strength I've lost,  
And all my dignity.

You take a stand on my behalf,  
For that is what friends do.  
And know that what you do is right,  
For I believe it too.

So one last time, I breathe your scent,  
And through your hand I feel,  
The courage that's within you,  
To now grant me this appeal.

Cut the leash that holds me here,  
Dear friend, and let me run,  
Once more a strong and steady dog,  
My pain and struggle done.

And don't despair my passing,  
For I won't be far away,  
Forever here, within your heart,  
And memory I'll stay.

I'll be there watching over you,  
Your ever faithful friend,  
And in your memories I'll run  
...a young dog once again.

Your faithful companion will be waiting for  
you at the rainbow bridge.

By Karen Clouster

### Simply For Us

The echoes of your howl shall ring in the canyon forever  
Haunting and beautiful, such a song can never fade  
A knowing glimmer in the depth of your eyes burns on  
Silent exchanges, justice words can not pay

Everything and nothing are the things that must be spoken  
In both our hearts, bonds will never wane  
Connected by fate and separated by the unchangeable  
Through sorrow, our loss knows pain

Soft moments we spent together I will forever hold dear  
The power of your spirit, I shall never forget  
A great number so deeply you touched in short time spent  
No deeper measure of character, ever I've met

Though we strive to know why the questions fall short  
No answer will quell, longing within  
Pieces do not always fit together but do not discard  
Life's puzzle so complex, learning therein

Breathe deeply and remember always deep in your heart  
Life knows no boundaries, transitions alone  
Great souls reflect their wonder within yourself always  
In time we will meet again, again we will roam

Steve Wolfson

### Wolves Cry and Wolves Die

Born into a world that has no place for you  
Your spirit wild and free with no place to run  
Man has contained the wilderness you need  
Causing you to live in captivity until your time is through

You exemplify the strength and power of the wilderness  
Intelligence shines brightly from your face and eyes  
Hunting for your kind you labored to keep them free  
While caring for your own you gave such tenderness


My heart aches that you and your kind will never chase the  
wind  
Buffalo charging across the plains and antelope springing  
high  
Grasses high as the wagons that cross the endless span  
Where now you lie beneath the earth while I am left to send

Pleas that your kind be allowed a place where the young can  
grow  
Where concrete and asphalt are not allowed to cover the land  
Where majestic creatures such as you can roam again  
My plea is that man will allow your kind to replenish and  
know

We could be walking in your footsteps,  
lest we learn...

Juanita - September 21, 2003

# 'The Witness' - A Change In Perception

 The mission of **Wolf** is a small piece of a much bigger picture. We try to educate the public to understand the value of wolves and thereby respect their needs & rights.

The following information is presented, not as part of our mission, but rather as a solution to our mission. If **all animals** could be perceived differently by humans our mission will have been accomplished.

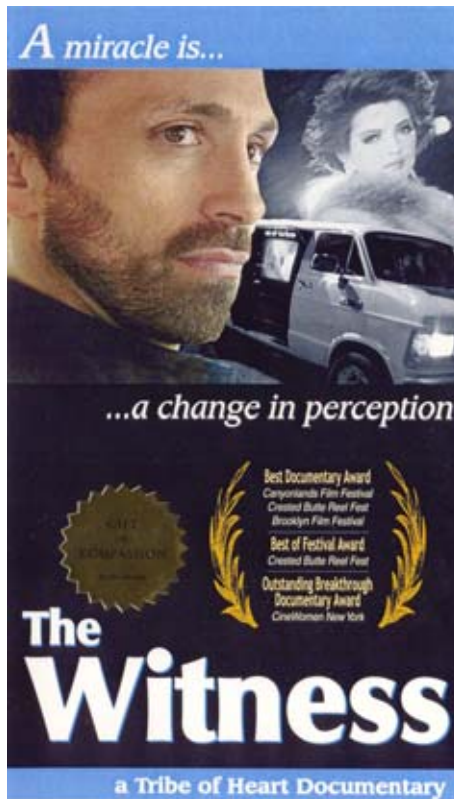
Some of the individuals we deal with on a daily basis and believe themselves to be very knowledgeable about the atrocities that humans bestow on animals don't like to view graphic situations. They believe there is nothing they can do about it anyway.

THE WITNESS, although somewhat graphic in places, focuses on one person's approach to doing something about it. His techniques include the very simple non-public personal changes in his mentality and lifestyle to the much more elaborate and public. The bottom line personal commitment being, "it won't happen because of me." There truly is something that everyone concerned about animal welfare can do.

**Wolf** believes that every individual has choices and the first most important choice is awareness. When they are not aware of what their dollars pay for there is no way that changes will possibly occur. We encourage every individual who is concerned about animals and their welfare to view this video.

THE WITNESS is the best approach to awareness that we have been exposed to. 🐾

THE WITNESS asks its audience to consider how a tough New York City construction contractor could possibly become an impassioned animal activist. Eddie Lama tells the story of his remarkable change of consciousness—how the love of a kitten opened his heart, inspiring him to rescue abandoned animals, become a vegetarian, and ultimately, to bring his message of compassion to the streets. This award-winning documentary provides insight into the intellectual and spiritual transformation that brought a man from a life steeped in violence to a life devoted to kindness and service. Featuring the song "Angel" by Sara McLachlan, THE WITNESS is a story of beauty and transcendence in the face of tragedy and despair.



### The Los Angeles Times

"THE WITNESS is one man's truth that cries out for mass exposure... a unique, indelible 43-minute documentary that may be the most important and persuasive film about animals ever made."

Howard Rosenberg

### The Fund For Animals

"THE WITNESS is a compelling look at the power of activism, and the ability of one person to make a difference. If the animal protection movement is going to be successful, it will be because films like this one were able to move people and empower them to stand up and speak out against injustice. This powerful film will undoubtedly make a difference in many lives—both human and animal."

Michael Markarian, Executive Vice President

### The Humane Society of the United States

"As Vice President of Investigative Services for the Human Society of the United States, I and my section have spent the past several years investigating various aspects of the fur industry both in the United States and abroad. Investigative Services has penetrated and documented the activities of fur breeding facilities, slaughter facilities, tanneries, manufacturing plants, wholesalers and retailers both nationally and internationally. I found the video depictions of the activities of the fur industry in The Witness to be consistent with our investigative findings and in some cases more humane than those observed by us in the field."

Richard W. Swain, Jr., Vice president Investigative Services

✂️ ----- 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐 **FREE** 🌐

Because **Wolf** believes that the bigger picture is important to our mission, we have purchased a number of these videos that we will send you at no cost.

We received a donation, separate from **Wolf's** operating mission, to institute this offering. The funds are limited so please request your copy soon. We also encourage anyone who can afford the \$ 13.50 cost of purchase and shipping to send a donation for that amount so that we can provide more copies to others. Thank you. 🐾

Please send a copy of THE WITNESS to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



# Wolf

a nonprofit corporation

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## Wolves Offered Life & Friendship

Summer 2003 & page 12

### Become a Member of Wolf



Wolf receives all of its operating revenue from donations or the sales of wolf-related merchandise. Annual Memberships are available for a variety of budgets that entitle members to receive a Wolf membership certificate, a car window decal that indicates your level of participation, a one-year subscription to our newsletter, a personal tour of the Wolf sanctuary and a Wolf button.

- **Helping an animal** puts your donation into a general fund where it is used for general care and maintenance.
- **Sponsoring an animal** would also put your donation into a general fund. With this level you receive the animal's story of your choice which includes photos.
- **Feeding an animal** puts your donation into the fund that covers food requirements. With this level membership you will receive the story of the animal of your choice, which includes photos.
- **Saving an animal** puts your donation into the fence-building fund. With this level of membership you receive the story of the animal of your choice, which includes photos.
- **Adopting\* an animal** puts your donation into the general care of that animal on an annual basis. With this level of membership you will receive the story of the animal of your choice, which includes photos. In addition, a plaque with your name is placed on the gate of that animal's enclosure.
- **Sponsoring a Pack** allows you to designate your donation to help one of the packs at the Sanctuary. With this level of membership you receive the story of the pack of your choice, which includes photos. In addition, a plaque with your name is placed on the gate of that pack's enclosure.
- **Sponsoring the Sanctuary** designates your donation to help the entire Sanctuary. With this level of membership you receive the story of the pack of your choice, which includes photos. In addition, a plaque with your name is placed on the front gate of the sanctuary.

Member



I Helped 1

*\* This level requires a commitment to make payments every year of that animal's life. Wolf believes that the word 'adopt' is taken much too lightly in our society and that adoption is for life. Therefore financially adopting an animal is a serious commitment that should not be taken lightly.*

signature (I understand this commitment) \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the level that you would like to participate at:

	Helped	Sponsored	Fed	Saved	Adopted	Pack	Sanctuary
Student	\$ 25	\$ 125	\$ 225	\$ 450	\$ 700*	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000
Single	\$ 35	\$ 150	\$ 250	\$ 500	\$ 750*	\$ 1,050	\$ 5,050
Family	\$ 45	\$ 175	\$ 275	\$ 550	\$ 800*	\$ 1,100	\$ 5,100
Group	\$ 55	\$ 200	\$ 300	\$ 600	\$ 850*	\$ 1,150	\$ 5,150

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_  
city: \_\_\_\_\_  
state: \_\_\_\_\_ zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_