



The Endangered Wolf Center has led the pack in wolf recovery through breeding, wild reintroductions and education – by bringing together a diverse group dedicated to keeping wolves in the wild – YOU.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of the Endangered Wolf Center,

I came to conservation indirectly, and like many of you, I do not have a science background. However, like you, I have always been passionate about nature and animals. Exploring trails as an ultramarathon runner, hiker, and camper, outdoor spaces have brought me a greater appreciation of wild spaces and the animals that live in them.

This year has been one for the record books...

We were thrilled to announce the birth of three litters of nine American red wolf pups – each one representing hope for the most critically endangered wolf in the world.

We've maintained our prestigious certification from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, awarded to fewer than 10% of those with animals in their care.

We have 50 years of proven success as a conservation center founded by a visionary educator himself, Marlin Perkins of Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom and his wife, Carol. You'll see this historic relationship continue in an upcoming episode of "Protecting the Wild" with host Peter Gros.

The Endangered Wolf Center is a place that reminds us we are all connected in a way that stays with visitors long after they leave. Our Summer Camps returned to capacity again this year with kids eager to know more and do more. Our education programs establish connections between everyday actions and the health of our ecosystems, which inspire small yet impactful changes.

Like my ultramarathons, changing the cultural value of a deeply misunderstood species is about endurance, and it takes discipline, tenacity, and connections. We are in this for the long run, and I thank you for being a part of our pack.

Mark Cross

Mark Cross, Executive Director



2023 Events

April 16
Volunteer Appreciation Day

September 16
Members' Day

October 21
Wolf Fest

December 2
Holiday Boutique

Visit endangeredwolfcenter.org/
calendar for our full events calendar and
digital booking.

Managing Editor: Rachel Broom
Graphic Design: Angela Ewing
Editor & Photographer: Victoria Ziglar
Editor: Betsy Heck
Photographer: Michelle Steinmeyer

On the cover:
An American red wolf family pack shares a
moment between mother, father, and pups.

Celebrating our Certification from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums



The Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) establishes high standards of animal care and welfare, as well as ensures that certified facilities provide a fun, safe, and educational family experience. Facilities undergo a thorough review that includes a multiple-day, on-site inspection by a team of experts from around the country.

In their final report, they commended the EWC in a number of areas, which are quoted throughout this magazine.



"The Endangered Wolf Center's primary purpose is to contribute to the survival of wild canids, with a focus on Mexican and red wolf reintroductions into their historic ranges. EWC's commitment to their conservation mission was obvious in the collection and the staff."



"The success with pup fosters, releases and breeding of wolves is one of the more impressive conservation impacts in the Association."

– From the AZA Accreditation Commission Report

CONSERVATION NEWS



The World's Rarest Pups
Nine Pups Born to Three American Red Wolf Pairs

Hope comes in many forms, but possibly its cutest is a tiny wolf pup emerging from its den for the first time.

In the spring of 2022, the Endangered Wolf Center welcomed nine additions to our pack - all American red wolves born in three different litters, all to first-time parents.

VIDEO: Aster and Reid are Wonderful New Parents

"The Endangered Wolf Center recently built two new large, red wolf breeding habitats. We are so excited to see these habitats growing our ability to save this critically endangered species."

– Director of Animal Care and Conservation at the Endangered Wolf Center, Regina Mossotti.

Regina sits on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Red Wolf Recovery Team and is also the head of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums American Red Wolf SAFE Program (Saving Animals from Extinction).

By collaborating with these organizations and many others, the Endangered Wolf Center has been a leader in conserving this species since 1980. Within this collaborative effort, wildlife biologists pair wolves based on their genetics to help strengthen the genetic diversity of the populations both in the wild and in managed care.

Three Match-Making Success Stories

In 2020 the EWC received two brothers, Reid and RJ. Reid was paired with Aster, a small female with a beautiful red coat. In 2022 RJ was paired with Aster's sister, Witch Hazel.

Aster and Reid are now parents to three boys. The healthy pups are often spotted along our tour route where lucky visitors have seen them playing, nursing, and bouncing through the tall grasses of their natural habitat.

VIDEO: Behind the Scenes with Mutual of Omaha

Witch Hazel and RJ had five pups - one male and four females. During the filming for an episode of *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild*, host Peter Gros joined our Animal Care team to check on the pups for their seven-week veterinary exam and vaccinations. All five pups were healthy and cuddled together in their den.

In 2021 we received a new female, Cirilla from Lincoln Park Zoo. Cirilla is paired with a handsome and shy red wolf named Ash who came to us from Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium's Northwest Trek.

Cirilla and Ash had one female pup in April. These first-time parents dug a natural den and kept their pup well hidden from the eyes of our team until one day in June, the pup emerged from the den! You can imagine our excitement to discover this secret pup that mom and dad were so carefully protecting. These are great natural skills we like to observe in our recovery species.



Peter Gros, host of Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild, assists EWC staff during a red wolf pup veterinary exam.



The episode, "Tale of the Red Wolf," will air on RFD-TV and digital channels on March 31, 2023. Follow our social channels for reminders.

Three Ways You Can Support Our New Red Wolf Parents

- 1. Make a donation to support their care and our conservation work to save the American red wolf.
- 2. Symbolically adopt our pack of red wolves. When you do, we'll keep you up-to-date on all of these important new families.
- 3. Name a pup with a \$2,500+ donation. To name a pup, contact membership@endangeredwolfcenter.org



Research Aids American Red Wolf Conservation

A core component of the Endangered Wolf Center’s mission is to conduct research that aids in the conservation of endangered wolves. When it comes to the American red wolf, research is needed to identify suitable habitats and reintroduction areas within their historic range.

Why Study Red Wolves?

American red wolves are the only large carnivore solely native to the United

States. This is our wolf, and we need more information to ensure sound and effective decision-making to conserve the species.

Red wolves are currently only found in the wilds of a small area of North Carolina in and around the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. This area, as you can see from the map, is minuscule in comparison to their native range. In order to establish a viable wild population, research was needed to understand more about habitat suitability

for red wolves in their historic range. Are there other areas that can support red wolf reintroductions?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service formed a National Recovery Team for the red wolf to study the future of this species. Director of Animal Care and Conservation at the Endangered Wolf Center, Regina Mossotti, was invited to sit on that team. She said that a study like this is important to help determine the next steps for red wolves.

Collaborating to Save a Species

We’re excited to announce that this study, “An Initial Habitat Suitability Analysis For The Red Wolf Across Its Historic Range,” was just published in the Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management.

The EWC identified the need for this study based on the work of our staff in red wolf conservation. One of our former staff members, Lauren Toivonen, who was starting her graduate research, was brought



▲ While keepers stay hands-off with recovery species like red wolves, they provide veterinary exams to ensure their wellness.

on to the study, and the EWC reached out to Dr. Matthew Gompper at the University of Missouri-Columbia to partner in this effort.

In addition, Dr. Hong joined the team to help design and analyze this habitat suitability assessment.

The USFWS has said that they want to identify new recovery areas and ways to grow this critically endangered population. We are proud that our work can be used to help achieve that goal.

We are grateful to all of our collaborators, members, and donors whose support helps us complete valuable work toward our vision: that endangered wolves will be recognized and valued as vital members of a healthy ecosystem.

A Crucial Member of a Healthy Ecosystem

Once native throughout the entire Southeastern United States, the American red wolf was nearly hunted to extinction. Studies like these show how the wolves play a crucial role in their ecosystems. Because wolves prey on sick and diseased animals,

they help improve the health of deer and elk and maintain populations so they don’t become overpopulated. Wolves also keep herds on the move, which helps vegetation grow and provides a habitat for smaller mammals and birds. 🐾

The scientific projects completed since the last certification are impressive for the size of the facility and are in line with the mission of the EWC. The results of these projects are routinely published or presented through various journals and conferences.

– From the AZA Accreditation Commission Report

Red Wolf Recovery Update

For the first time in more than 30 years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has drafted a new recovery plan for the American red wolf. This strategic outline was drafted in collaboration with the National Recovery Team – a group of scientists, federal and state agencies, Tribal representatives, landowners, and zoological facilities, including the EWC’s Regina Mossotti, which formed in 2021.

Stepping Stones to Saving a Species

The initial draft was shared with the public and opened for comments in the fall of

2022. A virtual session with hundreds in attendance was held in September. Discussions emphasized public opinion that we need additional protected recovery areas within the U.S. as the only recovery area available for red wolves today, on the coast of North Carolina, is not capable of saving this species alone.

Once public comments are taken into consideration, a final draft will be released in 2023. This new plan will guide future strategies for organizations to release red wolves to the wild and further their conservation efforts.

Pressing Forward Despite Setbacks

The EWC is proud to contribute to this important recovery plan. In October, as

part of our community-based conservation initiative, Mossotti flew to North Carolina to attend a public open forum.

Local community members expressed concern due to the recent setbacks in the red wolf recovery efforts – after releasing 10 red wolves into the recovery area in 2021, three were killed by gunshot, two killed by vehicle collisions, and three returned to managed care in 2022. Despite these heartbreaking outcomes, conservation must continue. Saving a species is seldom easy.

“Their lives weren’t in vain – the recovery team has learned from these challenges and alongside conservation facilities, zoos, and passionate supporters, the USFWS has demonstrated a commitment to improving the program, which is evident in this updated plan and the collaborative steps taken to ensure the survival of the species,” said Mossotti.

Even amidst this unfortunate reality for the species, hope continues. For the first time in three years, a litter of six wild red wolf pups was born in the spring of 2022. And so we carry on, for them.

The EWC is committed to helping save the American red wolf, and we look forward to writing the next chapter of their recovery with hope and determination. 🐾



▲ (Top of page) Red wolves Aster, Reid, and RJ enjoy a snow day at the EWC.

Highlights of the 4th International African Painted Dog Conference

The Endangered Wolf Center was honored to host this important event for wildlife professionals, during which we heard from expert speakers - wildlife biologists, zoo professionals, and conservationists from around the world.

Why painted dogs?

There are estimated to be fewer than 4,000 in the wild, making African painted dogs an endangered species.

Family First

A painted dog's social behavior is unique. Pack members spend about 80% of their time in close association with one another, and if a pack-mate is ill, elderly, or injured, they will collectively provide care to ensure its survival.

Like wolves...

Fear and misunderstanding have been a major factor in the decline of painted dogs. So while on a different continent, their parallel stories indicate the urgency of their conservation.

Thirty-seven African painted dogs have called the Endangered Wolf Center home since 2003. The EWC has significantly contributed to their recovery program through educational programming, research, collaboration, and successfully breeding 23 pups.

Collaboration is key.

During the conference we identified some of the greatest challenges of conserving this species, two of which are awareness and education. Attendees broke into groups to brainstorm innovative ways to raise awareness about painted dogs through social media and community events.

VIDEO: Go behind the scenes with us during the conference week.



African painted dogs need our support, and together we raised more than \$45,000 to fund this conference and continue providing the best care possible for the painted dogs in our care.

Thank you to the sponsors, attendees, donors and volunteers that made this event possible! 🐾



▲ Panelists specializing in fieldwork in Africa and zoological backgrounds discussed the global efforts to save the endangered African painted dog.



▲ EWC staff attended the educational conference and enjoyed networking with like-minded professionals.

"EWC is a model example of commitment to SSP and SAFE programs. Staff serve in leadership positions in these programs, and EWC is committed to being a full participant in programs and fulfilling guidelines and recommendations. EWC routinely hosts SSP meetings, conferences/workshops, and participates in SSP sponsored research to advance the conservation efforts for wild canids."

From the AZA Accreditation Commission Report



Research sheds light on African painted dog growth; Our study published in the Journal of Zoo and Aquarium Research.

During a visit from researcher Dr. Gregory Rasmussen, he shared with us that in Zimbabwe he observed painted dogs in managed care looked slightly different than those in the wild. His theory was that we feed our pups/packs differently than they are fed by their parents in the wild.

When 23 painted dog pups were born at the EWC in 2018, our Animal Care Team saw a unique opportunity with the two litters to study how diet could affect their leg length and overall growth.

The separation of the two large related packs allowed us to feed one litter a typical, controlled zoo diet while the other was free-fed as much food as they could eat until six months old to mimic wild pups' diets.

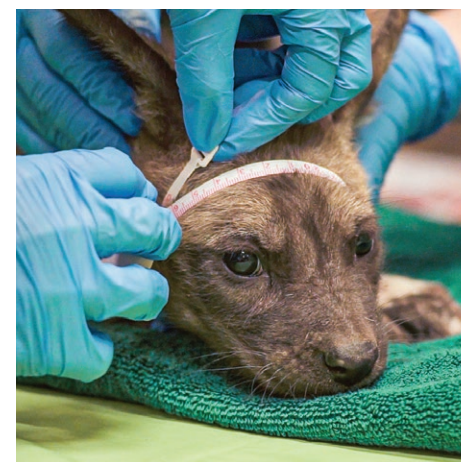
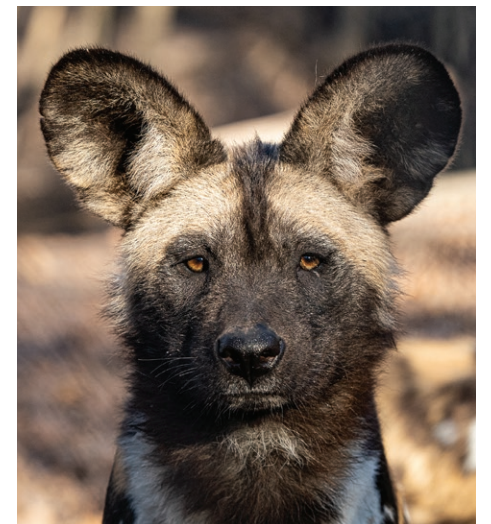
This free-fed diet was based on observations of how wild packs feed their pups... constantly.

Pups received health checks and vaccinations at six, nine, 12 and 16 weeks of age, where we recorded measurements to compare their growth.

From this research, we discovered that growth measurements between the two litters were comparable for body length, ear height, head circumference, and muzzle length at each age. However, leg and body lengths, and average body mass differed significantly between litters at each age.

Tammy Cloutier, then a Ph.D. candidate at Antioch University, collaborated with the EWC to record and analyze this data. "The litters grew/developed differently. The litter with access to food twice per day had longer hind legs relative to the rest of their body compared to the litter that had access to food all day. This is significant because if pups do not grow properly, it may affect how they move, hunt, etc. when they're adults - which may affect their survival. While we were only able to collect this information on these two litters, it highlights the importance of learning more about painted dog growth and development for both wild populations and individuals under human care," said Cloutier. 🐾

"The more we know about and understand a species, the better equipped we are to save them, to make conservation and management decisions that are thoughtful and effective," says Mossotti.



▲ Painted dog pups were carefully measured during their veterinary exams.



▲ Conference attendees gathered at the EWC to share research findings.



Inspiring Action Through Education

Specialty Tours & Education Programs at the EWC



Yoga in the Woods

These professionally guided yoga practices provided relaxing evenings of movement and mindfulness at the Endangered Wolf Center. These 60-minute outdoor yoga sessions were designed to ease the mind and energize the body during the hours when our wolves are the most vocally active. Sign up for our email newsletter to stay up-to-date on upcoming sessions.



Photography Tour

Guided by an EWC educator, Photography Tours provide a unique opportunity to capture stunning photos of our animals and practice your skills behind the camera. Our serene, wooded surroundings provide a beautiful natural backdrop as you photograph some of the most endangered animals on the planet. This tour makes a great gift for the photographer in your life!

VIP Tour

Consistently a favorite among our guests, VIP Tours offer a behind-the-scenes look at the incredible animals in our care. You'll learn how our Mexican wolves and red wolves are making history by adding to the wild populations and what it takes to care for endangered animals. VIP Tours also include a chance to see our animals enjoy special treats and toys during an enrichment experience.



Poetry in the Woods

This four-week poetry workshop was the perfect way to celebrate National Poetry Month in April. Poets found inspiration on nature hikes, shared in campfire poetry readings, and honed their poetry skills with award-winning poets and professors.

Summer Camps

Back to full capacity in 2022, our Summer Pup Camp, Wolf Camp, and Teen Camps are consistently ranked among the best in the St. Louis area. That's because in this digital age, kids need an opportunity to connect with nature now more than ever. Campers played fun games like the "zoo keeper relay," crafted artwork based on their favorite animals, met our keepers, and spent lots of time outdoors, making new friends. In 2023, camp registration will open February 1, so sign up early, as these camps fill quickly.

"Two notable education programs are: an anti-bullying program in partnership with a local children's book author and psychologist titled 'Big Red and the Little Bitty Wolf: A Story about Bullying' and; 'Week of the Wolf,' a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) based curriculum for educational outreaches (in person and virtual) that aligns with Missouri Grade Level Expectations for 4th grade. 'Week of the Wolf' was recently piloted to 4th graders in an underserved school district in St. Louis with much success in changing students' understanding and perception of wolves."

– From the AZA Accreditation Commission Report

Fund the Future for Wolves: Help us Build a New Education Building

While the essential role wolves play in the health and sustainability of an ecosystem is undisputed scientifically, fear and misconceptions about wolves are old narratives that take effort and persistence to shift.

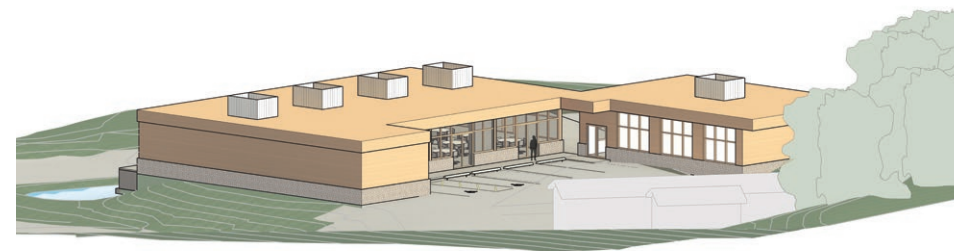
This makes education the foundation upon which all our efforts are built. It's the reason we're expanding our curriculum-based, quality education programs and activities tailored to children and adults, both on-site, virtually, in classrooms, in the communities near release sites and beyond.

As our educational pawprint expands, we need an education building to continue to grow and inspire individuals of all ages to value the wolf as a critical member of a healthy ecosystem.

These programs have been incredibly successful and we are on pace for a record attendance year with already a 25% growth in participants since pre-COVID times!

During the 2022 Summer Camp season, we rented a trailer to provide additional space for children to cool down after running and playing in the summer heat. For our Yoga and Poetry in the Woods programs, we utilized shared spaces thanks to Tyson Research Center. While we're making due now, the widespread impact this building would have on our education initiatives makes it a worthwhile investment.

We are currently planning for a new Education and Nature Center to meet our growing need and demand in educational programming. We have secured the land, completed the architectural drawings and bids, and raised more than \$1 million of the \$3 million necessary funds for the equipment and construction of the building. 🐾



Just imagine...

An Education Campus, complete with a wellness activity field, outdoor meeting space, nature play area, and distance learning classroom, aka the W.O.L.F. School (Wildlife Online Learning Facility).

Inside the building, which will be accessible to individuals of all abilities, new technology, event spaces, and interpretive and interactive displays will allow us to inspire even more individuals to fall in love with wolves the way we have!

We hope you will consider making a donation to help us begin construction. The building will serve as a much-needed venue for our onsite educational efforts.



Field Trips, Education Outreaches & Virtual Programs

Five Education Programs to Inspire Your Group



Field Trip



Assembly Style Outreach



Virtual Program



Event Booth



Classroom Style Outreach



Treat your group to an outdoor adventure that makes learning fun or a classroom/assembly experience that will stay with them long after they leave.

Based on science curriculum, each of our customizable programs provide 45-60 minutes of STEM-focused education, with the option to include an Animal Ambassador in your program.

We also provide interactive and engaging virtual programs tailored to your students or group.

Animals of the EWC | All Ages
Available as a Field Trip, Outreach, or Virtual Program

Wolves, foxes, African painted dogs, and maned wolves, oh my! During this 90-minute field trip, guests will enjoy a guided tour of animals from eight unique species of wild canids (animals in the dog family) in their natural environment while learning about each species. Focus will be placed on history, captivating stories, and the important role these animals play in a healthy ecosystem.

Animals in My Backyard | Grades K-12

Available as a Field Trip, Outreach, or Virtual Program

Did you know that the American red wolf is native to Missouri? Historically, we could have had American red wolves right in our backyards! During this program we invite you to join us as we investigate other native animals you might find in your backyard, learn about their important roles in the environment, and see our conservation efforts at work by viewing some of our animals.

Animal Behavior | Grades 6-12

Available as a Field Trip, Outreach, or Virtual Program

Why do wolves howl? Why do some birds dance? Find the answers to these questions and more by joining us for our animal behavior field trip! This program includes participating in classroom activities, playing an animal husbandry game, and observing the behaviors of the animals that live at the EWC. During our breeding season in January and February, students also will help our staff observe the breeding behaviors of our resident wolves.

Caught in a Food Web | Grades 3-5

Available as a Field Trip, Outreach, or Virtual Program

Everybody eats! This program explores the concept of interdependence in the ecosystem. Students will be challenged to determine what role a variety of plants and animals play in the balancing act of life as well as learn how energy flows in ecosystems. We'll discuss trophic cascades, create a fun and tangled food web, and visit some of our resident canids who paint perfect examples of energy transference in the wild.

Home Sweet Habitat | Grades K-2

Available as a Field Trip:

What is a habitat? What does every living thing need to survive? This program starts by examining how similar and different our needs are compared to other animals. During a nature walk students will take the scenic route down to visit the animals. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for signs of wildlife! Who might live here, there, or everywhere?

If you share our passion for these amazing animals and the places they call home, we hope you'll use and share these educational resources. 🐾

MEET ARTIE & DAISY



ARTIE THE ARCTIC FOX



DAISY THE FENNEC FOX

Adaptation Station

Adaptations help animals survive in their environment.

Think about it...

Arctic foxes have a fascinating adaptation in common with fennec foxes: They both have **fur on the bottoms of their paw pads!** Why?

The same thing is protecting Artie's feet from the cold, frigid ice as Daisy's feet from the hot, scorching sand.

Same adaptation, different reason!



Can you match the adaptation to which environment it helps an animal live in?

Draw a line from the question box to the environment, then check your answers.

Be careful – some adaptations can help in both!

1

Do your **ears** get cold in the winter? You lose a lot of body heat through your ears.

Where would animals want large ears to help them regulate their body temperature?



3

Where would animals benefit from this adaptation?

4. Both
3. Arctic
2. Arctic
1. Desert



Check the answer key!

How'd you do?



2

Just like ears, you can lose body heat through your **arms and legs**.

Where would animals want short legs to protect their body heat?

The colors and patterns of animals' fur helps them **blend in** with their environment, both to hide from predators and to sneak up on prey.

Where would an animal benefit from camouflage?

4

GIFTS RECEIVED OCTOBER 1, 2021 -
AUGUST 31, 2022

We make every effort to acknowledge all gifts received and to maintain accurate records. If you discover a discrepancy or have questions, please call Development Staff at 636-938-5900.



BEQUESTS

Betty White Ludden
Kathleen Secks

RED WOLF PACKMATES

(CONTRIBUTIONS \$1,000,000+)

Association of Zoos and
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Become a Leader of the Pack
 Our pack leaders make a difference for endangered wolves each day. Join our diverse group of major supporters by calling (636) 938-5900 or emailing membership@endangeredwolfcenter.org.



A Milestone to Howl About 50 and Still Wild Anniversary Celebration



On September 10, 2022, the Endangered Wolf Center celebrated 50 years of saving species. During the **50 and Still Wild** Anniversary Celebration, guests from around the country gathered to enjoy an elegant evening at the Saint Louis Zoo.

In their “elegantly wild attire,” wolf supporters posed for photos before enjoying a classy cocktail hour, complete with wolves and foxes handing them glasses of champagne.

During the featured program, attendees heard from Executive Director Mark Cross and Event Committee Chair Marguerite Perkins Garrick to learn about the important mission of the Endangered Wolf Center and its fascinating founding story.

VIDEO: Protecting the Heart of the Wild for 50 Years: The History of the EWC



Awards were presented to four Perkins Pillar Partners - Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom, Washington University, Mazuri, and the Saint Louis Zoo - all of which have played an instrumental and supportive role throughout the EWC's past 50 years.

“It meant more than I can say to see so many friends, family and EWC supporters coming together to celebrate my parents and this unique conservation success story. Onward to the next 50 years! We’ll need your support more than ever - it’s all for the wolves.”

– Marguerite Perkins Garrick

After accepting the award, Director Emeritus of the Saint Louis Zoo Charlie Hoessle shared his appreciation for his late friends and EWC Founders, Marlin and Carol Perkins.

Supporters raised their paws (paw-shaped paddles, that is) to pledge donations during the “Fund the Future for Wolves” portion of the evening, generously raising \$448,000, all of which will directly benefit the animals that call the Endangered Wolf Center home and their wild counterparts.

Guests then enjoyed a delicious meal and live music.

The evening provided the perfect kickoff for our year-end giving campaign!

Until December 31, 2022, all gifts and memberships will be doubled up to \$400,000 thanks to our generous donors, the Kevin Beckmann Charitable Trust and the August A. Busch III Charitable Trust. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to celebrate this 50th Anniversary milestone. 🐾



Remembering Betty White

Actress, Animal Advocate, and Friend



We are deeply saddened about the passing of Betty White. Not only is she known for her beautiful legacy of advocating for animals, but Betty is also credited for inspiring Marlin Perkins, world-renowned zoologist and TV Host of “Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom,” and his wife, Carol, to found the Endangered Wolf Center, making her our personal hero.

As a child, Betty loved hearing the song of wild wolves while camping with her family. She also understood their value and the important role they played as a keystone species.

Over the Endangered Wolf Center’s 50-year history, Betty visited several times to help raise funds for the wolves, often with famous friends including Jim Fowler and Jack Hanna. On May 21, 2005, during “An Evening With Wild Canid - Night Tales,” Betty was awarded the *Perkins Partner in Conservation Medal* in honor of her contributions to wildlife conservation.

Betty visited the EWC to meet with staff and see the inspiring animals in our care. She had a way of communicating with the animals like no one we’d ever seen, and she quickly mesmerized a pack of African painted dogs and made a special connection with a female Mexican wolf named Anna.

As Betty approached Anna’s habitat to congratulate her recent litter, the two

legends locked eyes. Anna walked away, entered a den she built on the slope of a hill, and emerged nudging one pup at a time out of the den and pushing them toward Betty. Anna proudly “introduced” each pup, and Betty felt honored to meet them all.

Betty wanted to inspire others to support them. During the gala, Betty stood up in front of the entire audience and announced the beginning of an exclusive Puppy Naming Club, where the funds donated would be used to name a pup born at the Endangered Wolf Center and directly support its care.

Betty was the first to name three Mexican wolf pups at the EWC: One pup was named Kitta after her golden retriever, another named Carolita after her dear friend Carol Perkins, and finally Perkins, after Marlin and Carol Perkins. In 2009, Betty named another Mexican wolf pup Redford after the actor Robert Redford.

Rachel Broom, EWC Director of External Relations recalls, “Betty told me that working in show business allowed her to support her other passion - helping animals. In my opinion, she worked equally hard at both. After the 2005 gala, we sat at her table for hours while she autographed photos for our donors, wrote personal notes, and made thank you phone calls. When Betty said she would help, she backed up her words with



▲ Perkins is the wolf that Betty named in honor of her friends.

meaningful actions. She was truly one-of-a-kind and sincerely cared about the animals and our conservation work.”

The Puppy Naming Club has raised more than \$420,000 since its inception in 2005. These crucial funds have supported conservation efforts in the wilds of New Mexico, Arizona, and North Carolina, in addition to supporting the animals in our care.

“Wolves play such an important part in the balance of nature. It’s the balance that we as humans have thrown so awry, that if we can get it back to normal we’ll save some of this beautiful planet that we are destroying as fast as we can.”

– Betty White from *In the Spotlight* with Monica Adams

Betty White would have been 100 years old on January 17th, 2022. To honor her legacy, the viral #BettyWhiteChallenge inspired more than 600 individual donors to raise \$25,000+ to save endangered wolves! CNN listed the Endangered Wolf Center among the top animal-focused nonprofits that Betty supported.

We will continue to honor our dear friend who will always be greatly missed. 🐾

▲ (Top of page) Betty White, Charlie Hoessle, and Carol Perkins pose together at the 2005 EWC Gala.



▲ Rachel Broom, Betty White, Virginia Busch, Karen Winnick





▲ Featured above is former staff member Rachel Broom and on the right is our new Director of Development, Kimberly Larson.

"I wish to thank the EWC team and our outstanding donor base for the support and opportunities provided to me during the last 20 years. I greatly appreciate the trust and confidence we share together. It is because of your involvement we have accomplished many projects and reached incredible milestones.

My admiration for the Endangered Wolf Center will always continue even though my role as a staff member has come to an end. I have learned a lot during my experience and will forever be grateful.

My career is taking a new path that will require much of my time, so I am thrilled to announce we have hired a new Director of Development, Kimberly Larson. Kimberly joined our team in August and came to the

EWC with 20 years in the nonprofit field as an experienced fundraising professional and as the previous Executive Director for the Field House Museum/Eugene Field House Foundation. Please reach out to Kim at klarson@endangeredwolfcenter.org and join us in welcoming her to the pack!"

– Rachel Broom 🐾



Volunteers that are Making a Difference for Wolves

On a warm April evening, staff and volunteers gathered around the Marlin and Carol Perkins Stage to share a meal and recognize the achievements of EWC volunteers over the past two years. After much laughter and reminiscing, Marguerite Perkins Garrick, Mark Cross, Regina Mossotti and Lindsey Olimpio shared stories and expressed their heartfelt gratitude for our volunteers' support.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to volunteers who went above and beyond in their support of the EWC during the pandemic, including Josh Thuman, Katie West, Erin Harms, Mike Lozano, Bill Courtney, Laura Courtney, Sue Forquer, Debbie Yauch, and Shawn Boedefeld.

Pins were given to those who reached milestones in the number of hours they have volunteered. A fox pin was presented to Ted Graham, Lori Schmoll, and Rick Zelle for reaching 500 hours of service and a wolf pin was presented to Glen Boggs, Sue Forquer, and Mike Lozano for 1000 hours of service.

Lisa Houska and Patty Clarke were recognized for 20 years of volunteering and received framed paw print casts from our resident animals.

Plaques were awarded to four volunteers who made a significant impact during 2021. Jim Kent received the Perkins award for his outstanding volunteer commitment and contributions. Michelle Steinmeyer was



▲ Volunteers helped plant a native garden near the new Richmond Family Veterinary and Nutrition Center.

presented with the Betty White Award for her passion to connect people to our animals. Lisa Houska received the Sue Berra Award for her dedication and passion. And Jeanie Ransom was presented with the Rising Star Award for stepping up to help further our mission.

A combined 1,411 hours of service were donated during 2021. We thank our incredible volunteers – they are a crucial part of our pack and we could not make a difference for endangered wolves without their unwavering support.

If you would like to join our pack as a volunteer, please email volunteers@endangeredwolfcenter.org to learn more. 🐾



▲ Volunteers of all ages can make a difference.

Cherokee Nation Films at the EWC for Red Wolf Documentary

In 2022, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, production began on a documentary about the American red wolf and its cultural significance to the Cherokee people.

The Cherokee people live by the principle of balance – with their family, clan, and the natural world. Historically, Cherokee citizens lived within a clan system. Prior to European settlement, every Cherokee person belonged to one of seven clans, which were inherited from your mother. Some still belong to clans that have been passed down for generations.

John Ross, an elder of the Wolf Clan, or **Aniwhaya in Cherokee**, was interviewed for the film and told an emotional story of his grandfather seeing a red wolf in Oklahoma. He expressed a deep sadness that throughout the great majority of their native range, American red wolves can no longer be found.

The filmmakers arranged a visit to the Endangered Wolf Center as a way to

reconnect him with the red wolf – a connection he felt had been missing his entire life.

During his visit, Ross was able to see several of the red wolf pups that were born at the EWC this spring and taught some of our educators and keepers a few Cherokee words, such as "**Wa-ya**," the word for wolf, and "**Gigage Unidoda**," the word for red wolf.

"We want people to learn Cherokee ways of life and how we always tried to live in balance with nature, animals, and plants. You take something and you give back. Have a respect for animals as living brothers and sisters," said Jennifer Loren, director of the Cherokee Nation Film Office and Original Content. Jennifer is also the director, executive producer, and host of this documentary.

She continued, "We want people to understand that there is a different way of understanding wildlife – we don't have to exterminate them."



▲ The Cherokee Nation camera crew filmed interviews and animal footage during their visit.

The documentary will also highlight how people are working to save the red wolf and the immense challenge that saving a species presents. They hope to inspire support for these conservation efforts. 🐾

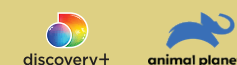
▼ Ross taught EWC staff Cherokee words; on the whiteboard, Cherokee and phonetic spellings are seen.



Catch the EWC on Mysterious Creatures with Forrest Galante on Animal Planet & Discovery+

Episode: The Ozark Howler

Wildlife biologist Forrest Galante, along with his wife and zoologist, Jessica Summerfield, traveled to Missouri to meet the wolves and film his latest episode of Mysterious Creatures – The Legend of the Ozark Howler featured on Discovery+ and on Animal Planet.





New Home, New Mate

Lucky the Maned Wolf Ambassador is Living Her Best Life

In our 2020 issue, we asked for your support to help us renovate one of our habitats. Rick Essen answered our call to build a new home for Lucky, the only Maned Wolf Ambassador in the world!

This beautiful renovation and expansion is connected to our new Richmond Family Veterinary and Nutrition Center. From the conference room, four large windows provide a view of Lucky's habitat, which allows our keepers to observe behaviors through the glass. The black fencing provides a sleek entrance to our other habitats. We sincerely thank all EWC volunteers, local businesses and craftsmen for adding special features that have made her feel at home.

The finishing touches were recently added - an educational sign, the first on property, to enhance our guided tours.

Lucky and her new mate, Caido, were officially put together late last fall in a temporary habitat; their initial interactions along a shared fence line were positive and playful, so their keepers opened the doors - they played and chased each other, then took a nap on the grass.

In late January we finished construction on their new habitat. When the keepers released them into their new home, it didn't take them long to explore the whole habitat. They played all day long, literally. Keepers had set up trail cameras to observe them as they ran and played well past dark! Lucky and Caido spent the next two days napping on their sunny hill right in front of the new Richmond Family Veterinary and Nutrition Center.

Last winter, Lucky went through her first breeding cycle with Caido. Lucky was confused as to why Caido wanted to follow her around all day. Keepers didn't see any breeding with them yet, but we are not giving up hope for these two! 🐾



▲ Rick made a generous donation in honor of his late parents, Roy and Lora Essen underwriting this new habitat and providing interpretive signage on the tour route.



▲ Caido is easy to identify - one of his ears is lower than the other, a birth defect that does not hinder him.



Lucky the Maned Wolf Visits the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra During Peter & The Wolf

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and Endangered Wolf Center joined together to create a new rendition of the popular musical piece, Peter and the Wolf. Our ambassador maned wolf, Lucky, made a special appearance during their educational concerts!



VIDEO: See Lucky's visit to Powell Hall



Lucky had a lovely time visiting Powell Symphony Hall, but that's not the end of this community partnership...

Teachers and families can register now for the Digital Concert of Peter and the Wolf, which features a special virtual adventure to the Endangered Wolf Center with SLSO Conductor Kevin McBeth.

Creative Tweaks to a Classic Tale

When the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra approached us with this idea, we were

impressed with their conservation-forward plans. Modernizing this classical musical piece, SLSO brought current conservation challenges to light through music in an engaging and educational way that inspires young children to make a difference for animals.

How "lucky" we were to have this opportunity! Maned wolves are unique animals, and not as closely related to other wolf species as you may suspect. Native to South America, these lanky members of the canid family have been nicknamed the "fox on stilts" due to their appearance.

Many of our wolves are critically endangered, and because they have a chance to someday be released in the wild, they can't interact with humans. With Lucky, however, because of the unique story behind her name, we have the rare opportunity to inspire the lives of children and adults that are able to meet her.

It's not every day you get to rewrite the story's ending for an endangered species,

but with the help of SLSO, we are glad we could inspire future generations to love animals and music. 🐾



▲ In Peter and the Wolf, the french horns play the theme of the wolf, so Lucky stopped by their orchestra section to pose for this photo with the musicians.

Benefit Endangered Wolves While You Shop

We've curated the perfect gifts that keep giving... to your loved ones and the planet.

Unforgettable experiences, Adopt-a-Wolf memberships, animal art, and thoughtful gifts for the animal lover in your life.

EXPERIENCES:

Find gift certificates for all of our popular tours.



Photographers will love the opportunity to photograph the animals that call the Endangered Wolf Center home.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Make an honorary pack adoption in your loved one's name and they'll receive a 12-month membership and other gifts to celebrate their sponsorship.



ANIMAL-THEMED GIFTS:

Shop in person or online at www.ewcgiftshop.org!



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Join our Pack Today!



Contribute to the possibilities of tomorrow. Join a growing group of people dedicated to wildlife preservation through your membership gift today.

Yes, I want to directly support the animals and help save wolves with my membership gift:

Basic Membership Levels

☐ \$50 Friend of EWC (\$5/month)

Includes free PredaTour for two, a member gift, discounts in gift shop and for select programs, and magazine subscription

☐ \$95 Family Pack (\$8.50/month)

Includes all of the above and free PredaTour for four

Adopt-a-Wolf Membership Levels

☐ \$135 Adopt-a-Wolf (\$12/month)

Includes all of the above plus an adoption certificate, photo, bio, plush animal and updates from Animal Care staff

☐ \$250 Animal Keeper (\$22/month)

Includes all of the above plus a Private Tour for 10 people

☐ \$500 Wolf Guardian (\$42/month)

Includes all of the above plus a beautiful photo book and an invitation to "Meet with the Keepers"

☐ \$1,000 Alpha Member (\$84/month)

Includes all of the above plus a free VIP Behind-the-Scenes Tour for four (ages 14+)

☐ I want to contribute with a recurring monthly gift.

☐ I authorize the Endangered Wolf Center to make the following automatic monthly transfer of \$ _____ from my (please check one option):

☐ Credit Card/Debit Account (fill out credit card form)

☐ I will set up a monthly bill payment at my bank

☐ Checking Account (fill out form and enclose a check for your first payment); automatic transfers will occur each month on the following day: (Please check one) ☐ 3rd ☐ 18th

This authorization remains in effect until I notify the EWC in writing I wish to change or stop my contributions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Payment Information:

☐ Enclosed is a check or money order payable to the Endangered Wolf Center.

☐ Please charge \$ _____ to my ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Account Number: _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code: _____

Signature (as it appears on the card) _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

My company, _____, will match my contribution.

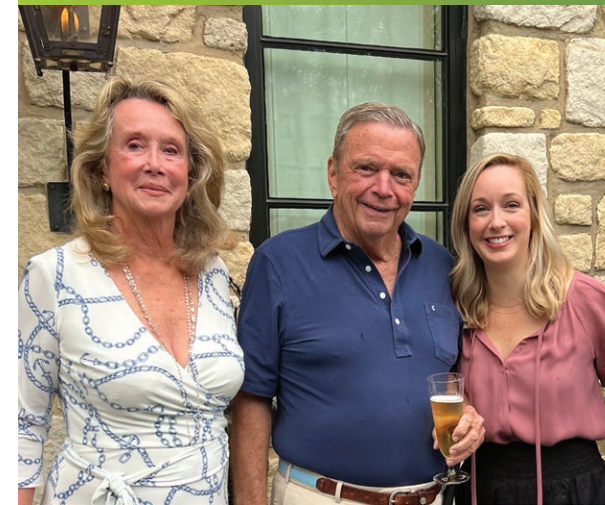
Send in enclosed envelope to: Endangered Wolf Center, PO Box 760, Eureka, MO 63025

PLEASE HELP US MEET OUR \$400,000 MATCHING GRANT

The Endangered Wolf Center is celebrating 50 years of proven successes with a bold plan to carry this momentum forward.

Over the next five years we need to raise \$20M (\$4M per year). We raised \$3M last year—can we count on your increased support to scale up the Endangered Wolf Center's exemplary work?

The August A. Busch III Charitable Trust and Kevin Beckmann Charitable Trust are offering to match dollar-for-dollar all donations up to \$400,000 until Dec. 31, 2022.



▲ Virginia and August A. Busch III with their daughter and EWC Chief Strategist, Virginia Busch.



▲ Rachel Broom and Kevin Beckmann at the EWC. Kevin's generosity and leadership continues to strengthen our pack and ensure a future for endangered wolves.

HOW TO DONATE

- ✉ In the enclosed envelope
- @ At endangeredwolfcenter.org
- 📱 Scan the QR Code below





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If you would like to GO GREEN!
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- Visit Us
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endangeredwolfcenter.org



News from the Wild

A helicopter survey performed annually by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service identified three pup-fostering successes from the Endangered Wolf Center this year.

1. Female 1866 (Nora) is one of Vera's and Mack's pups. Born in 2020, she was fostered into the Elk Horn pack.
2. Male pup 2594 (Cody) is one of Zana's and Jorah's pups. Born in 2021, he was fostered into the Lava pack.
3. Male pup 2597 (Bill) is also Zana's and Jorah's pup from 2021. He was fostered into the Hoodoo pack.

This report shows that pup-fostering efforts for Mexican wolves in the Arizona and New Mexico regions are helping increase the population.

