

# WOLF

CONSERVATION CENTER



## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

*The Wolf Conservation Center teaches people about wolves, their relationship to the environment and the human role in protecting their future.*



Dear Friends of the Wolf Conservation Center,

The Wolf Conservation Center (WCC) salutes the close of 2008, an extremely dynamic and productive year for the WCC – despite the downturn in the overall economy. The WCC has again exceeded our goals in all areas, an accomplishment we would not have achieved without the dedication and commitment of our invaluable donors, volunteers and staff.

Our mission is to promote wolf conservation by teaching about wolves, their relationship to the environment, and the human role in protecting their future. We accomplish this mission in two ways:

- The WCC conducts onsite and offsite education programs with the help of our four resident ambassador wolves (Atka, Apache, Kaila, and Lukas), emphasizing wolf biology, the ecological benefits of wolves and other large predators, and the current status of wolf recovery in the United States. In 2008, the WCC provided education programs for more than 33,000 people including local schoolchildren, scouting groups, clubs, at-risk youths, and special needs classes. This number represents almost a 25% increase in the number of people reached in 2006.
- The WCC shelters and breeds both red wolves (*Canis rufus*) and Mexican gray wolves (*Canis lupis baileyi*) as part of the national SSP (Species Survival Plan) programs administered by U.S. Fish & Wildlife – helping to ensure the survival of these endangered species and assist in their return to significant portions of their traditional range in the United States.

As we begin 2009, our expanded Endangered Species Facility now houses twenty-three Mexican gray wolves and one red wolf – soon to be joined by a mate. The WCC is one of the three largest holding facilities in the United States for Mexican gray wolves, and on Earth Day 2008, a genetically important Alpha pair gave birth to our first on-site litter! A very exciting event and the culmination of all our conservation efforts!

In August of 2008, our curator was elected to the Red Wolf SSP Management Group, and by the end of this year, we will have completed a new enclosure for the red wolf breeding pair. This enclosure will serve both the education and conservation aspects of our mission, by providing not only a safe and sheltered environment for breeding, but also offering an opportunity for visitors to catch glimpses of this rare, elusive creature – and a chance to see red wolf pups in 2010 if the pair breeds successfully!

In 2009 we will strive to build upon our progress. We are able to take these steps and many others because of your ongoing support. It is an important time for wolves, wolf recovery in the United States, and our environment.

Thank you again -- and we look forward to seeing you at the WCC in 2009!

Warmest wishes,

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Wolf Conservation Center

## OVERVIEW OF THE WOLF CONSERVATION CENTER

The Wolf Conservation Center (WCC), founded in 1999 by Helene Grimaud and J. Henry Fair, is a private, not-for-profit environmental education organization located in South Salem, NY. The WCC's mission is to promote wolf conservation by teaching about wolves, their relationship to the environment, and the human role in protecting their future. The WCC accomplishes this mission through onsite and offsite education programs emphasizing wolf biology, the ecological benefits of wolves and other large predators, and the current status of wolf recovery in the United States.

The WCC also participates in the Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Recovery Plan for two critically endangered wolf species, the Mexican gray wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) and the red wolf (*Canis rufus*). The Mexican gray wolf and the red wolf are among the rarest mammals in North America. Presently there are approximately 400 Mexican gray wolves and fewer than 300+ red wolves remaining in the world. Both species were completely extinct in the wild. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under the Endangered Species Act, is re-introducing Mexican gray wolves and red wolves to portions of their historic range. It may take 20 years or more to fully recover a species that was extinct in the wild.

The WCC's goals are to be the pre-eminent facility in the Eastern United States for the captive breeding and pre-release of endangered canid species, and to continue to expand our education and outreach programs to reach greater numbers of people every year.

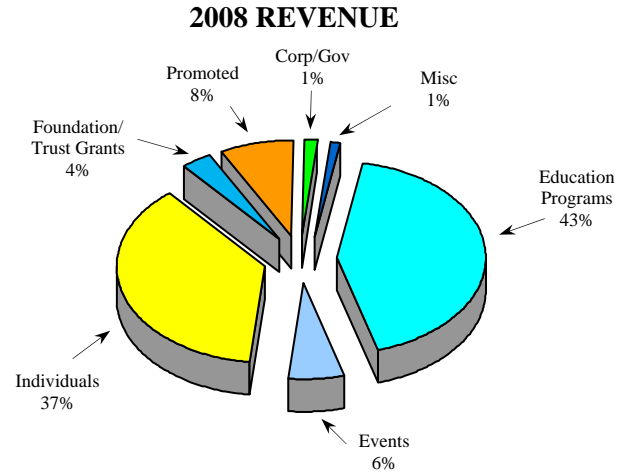


# 2008 INCOME AND EXPENSES

(Un-audited as of 03/20/09. Audited Financials will be forwarded mid-year.)

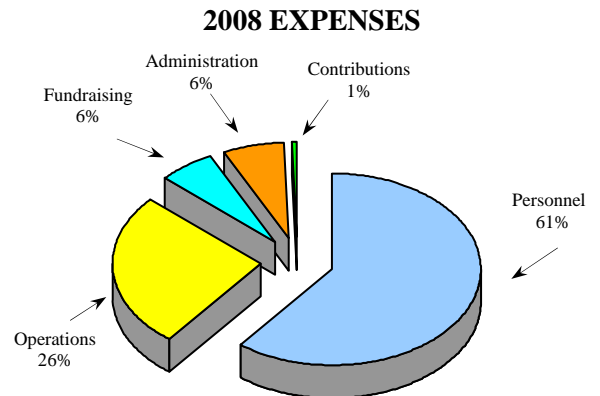
## INCOME

Education Programs .....	\$ 176,528
Fundraising Events .....	24,770
Individual Donations .....	153,067
Foundation/Trust Grants .....	14,500
Promoted Donations .....	32,491
Corporate/Government Donations .....	6,404
Miscellaneous .....	4,424
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$ 412,184</b>



## EXPENSES

Personnel .....	\$ 232,613
Operations .....	99,700
Fundraising .....	23,613
Administration .....	25,780
Contributions .....	690
<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$ 382,396</b>



## ASSETS

Current Assets .....	\$ 237,809
Fixed Assets .....	1,225,079
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$1,462,888</b>

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities .....	\$ -0-
Accumulated Fund Balance .....	1,433,101
Net Income .....	29,787
<b>Total Liabilities .....</b>	<b>\$1,462,888</b>

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The WCC education programs receive rave reviews wherever they are experienced. The programs are designed to conform to New York State Standards for Science Education and touch on a variety of disciplines from biology to history. People can experience the WCC's educational message in two ways: Onsite programs at the WCC facility in South Salem, NY, and offsite WCC programs in schools, museums, libraries and nature centers throughout the Northeast. Our programs are adaptable to all age levels and can be held indoors or out. Our traveling ambassador wolf, Atka, never fails to impress children and adults alike.

## VISITORS TO THE CENTER

The WCC conducted over 271 onsite education programs during 2008 – a jump of 5%. Our “Wolves of America” and “Evening Howl!” programs were consistently filled with visitors eager to learn about wolves. Programs are conducted year-round, and in 2009 we added Sunday programs so that visitors can come to the WCC six days a week! Our “Winter Wolves” programs have proved a major hit with participants, who enjoy watching the wolves when they are at their most active, are in full winter coat, and are easy to spot. The recently instituted Workshops for Photographers have also been extremely popular – and have been an excellent source of additional revenue for the WCC. In 2008, we also launched a new lecture series to offer our supporters an opportunity to learn about environmental issues and other species as well as the wolf. Guest lecturers like Jonathan Way PhD and Dr. Don Moore of the Smithsonian's National Zoo came to the WCC to talk about topics like the Expanding Range of the Eastern Coyote and The Plight of the Polar Bear. The WCC plans to continue developing fun and innovative ways for our visitors to learn about the natural world.



# EDUCATION PROGRAMS *continued*

## AMBASSADOR WOLF PROGRAMS

The WCC conducted 140 Ambassador Wolf programs during 2008 -- this is a 5% increase over the number of these programs in 2007. We need to extend our thanks and appreciation to the following schools and organizations for helping us bring our message to wide and diverse audiences.

Accion Academy	Green Chimneys	Public School 89
Accompsett Middle School	Greenbelt Nature Center	Resurrection School
Anheuser-Busch Baldwinsville Brewery	Groton Public Library	Ridgefield Academy
Animal Embassy	Hackley School	Riverdale country school
Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens	Harrison High School	Riverside Elementary
Beach Point Day Camp	Harrison High School	Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School
Berkeley Carroll School	Hawthorne Valley Farm Fall Festival	Rye City Middle School
Bethel land Trust	Hidden Valley Nature Center	Rye Counrty School
Binghamton University	Hommocks Middle School	Sargent School
Blythedale Children's Hospital	Indian Mountain School	Savin Rock Museum and Learning Center
BOCES	Institute for American Indian Studies	Saw Mill School
Borders Mt Kisco	Intermediate School 230	Scotts Ridge Middle School
Briarcliff Middle School	John Jay Middle School	Sharpe Reservation - The Fresh Air Fund
Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock	JV Forrestal School	Shepaug Valley Middle School
Brown University	Katonah Pack One	Somers Intermediate School
Bryant University	Laurence Woodmere Academy	Somers Library
Calhoun School	Long Island Wolf Expo	South Avenue Scghool
Camp Meechimuk	Madden Summer camp	St Luke's School
Camp Morty	Madison, CT Beach and Recreation	Staten Island Zoo
Charles DeWolf Middle School	Mahopac Middle School	SUNY Cobleskill
Clearpool	Maritime Aquarium	Swansea Mall
Colears school	Maritime Aquarium	Sweetbriar Nature Center
Cub Scout Pack 11	Marvelwood School	The Children's Museum
Daisy Ingraham Elementary School	Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center	The New York Botanical Garden
Darien Nature Center	Mildred Strang Middle School	Tompkins Cortland Community College
Davis School	Mohegan Tribe	Ulster Community College
Defenders of Wildlife	New Britain Youth Museum	Urban Assembly School for Wildlife Conservation
Durham Public Library	New Canaan Country School	Viola Elementary School
Easton Public Library	Nimham Singer's Pow Wow	Waccabuc Country Club
Elmwood Elementary School	North Haven Land Trust	Wallingford Public Library
Enfield Library	Oneonta Middle School	West Hill High School
First Congregational Church in Chappaqua	Pace University	West Patent Elementary School
Four Winds Hospital	Parkway Elementary	West Rocks Middle School
Fox Lane High School	Patterson, NY Parks and Recreation	Windsor, CT Parks and recreation
Fulmar Road Elementary School	Pelham Middle School	Woodcock Nature Center
Gayhead Elementary	Pequot Library	Woodstock Community Center
Grace Church School	Pleasantville Middle School	Yale Peabody Museum
Great South Bay Audubon Society	Pound Ridge Park Summer Camp	Yankee Lake Preservation Association

## ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM

The WCC participates in the Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Recovery Plan for two critically endangered wolf species, the Mexican gray wolf (*Canis lupis baileyi*) and the red wolf (*Canis rufus*). The Mexican gray wolf and the red wolf are among the rarest mammals in North America. Presently there are approximately 400 Mexican gray wolves and fewer than 300+ red wolves remaining in the world. As we begin 2009, our expanded Endangered Species Facility now houses twenty-three Mexican gray wolves and one red wolf – soon to be joined by a mate. The WCC is honored to be home to these endangered wolves and to assist with the recovery of these keystone species.

On April 22, 2008 – Earth Day appropriately enough -- the WCC celebrated the birth of our first SSP litter of Mexican gray wolves! The new pups joined their parents and their yearling brothers and sisters who all came to the WCC in November of 2007 when they outgrew their prior home at the Cincinnati Zoo. The new pups have grown and thrived, are now hard to distinguish from their older siblings, and will be excellent candidates for reintroduction because, unlike zoo-raised animals, they have had little human exposure. As a result, their natural instinct to avoid humans is intact – giving them the best possible chance of survival in the wild.

November 17, 2008, marked the second wild release of one of our own Mexican gray wolves. F836 and her potential mate were released in the southeastern Arizona portion of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. F836 spent over a year of her life at the WCC prior to being transferred to the Sevilletta Wolf Management Facility in New Mexico – all in preparation for her release in the wild.

In August of 2008, WCC curator, Rebecca Bose, was elected to the Red Wolf Management Group of SSP program – and will join the small group of individuals that governs the administration of the program, deciding proper procedures for wolf care and feeding, and which wolves will make the best match to ensure the future health of the species.

The WCC is now one of the three largest holding facilities in the United States for Mexican gray wolves. In 2008 we expanded our endangered species facility, constructing an additional enclosure to house our expanding Mexican gray wolf population. This expansion allowed the WCC to increase our contribution to the Species Survival Plan (SSP) for this critically endangered animal. Our participation in SSP captive breeding and our ability to accommodate endangered wolves is essential for these wolves to resume their rightful place in the wild. A new enclosure for a red wolf breeding pair is planned for 2009.

# VOLUNTEERS

*The WCC would like to extend its sincere thanks and appreciation to the dedicated volunteers who work so hard to help fulfill our mission.*

Alan Petre  
Alan Wiltse  
Alex Dawson  
Alex Knauz  
Alison Mcknight  
Allyn and Yvette Thompson  
Alyssa Bauer  
Amy Kubie  
Bill Schelling  
Bob Callahan  
Breezy Friel  
Brittany and Michael Fleiss  
Carrie Marshall  
Cheyanne Alberti  
Chris Evers  
Christine Milo  
Christine Ruppert  
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Erik Mariano  
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Sue Travis  
Susanne Schrader  
Susie Klein  
Taylor Tully  
Tess Morgridge

## IN-KIND DONATIONS

*The WCC would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their in-kind donations. We sincerely appreciate their contributions.*

Alanna Purdy  
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