



Cody has a new mate named Hope. *Julie Lawrence.*

The shedding season is upon us! The longer daylight (rather than warmer temperature) is what triggers our furry friends to start shedding their undercoat. All of our wolves are looking just a little ragged, with clumps of fur sticking out here and there. But I'm sure it's a welcome change for the wolves as the temperature rises.

I begin with some sad news – we had to say goodbye to one of our most iconic wolves, Bart. On April 26, Bart got stuck in his den, which was

very unusual for him. We suspect he had a minor seizure or stroke which prompted him to go into his den in the first place. Animal care staff had to immobilize Bart to safely pull him out (and block it so he couldn't get stuck again). Bart took a bit of time to recover from the drugs, but he seemed to make a pretty full recovery. Sadly, the next afternoon, Bart took a turn for the worse and suffered another episode. After discussions with our veterinarian, it was decided it would be in his best interest to help him in his passing. Bart was the face of Wolf Haven in many ways, and his

loss has left a big hole in the sanctuary. Please be sure to read Bart's tribute in this issue of Wolf Tracks.

Now for some good news – we were able to welcome little Hope to the sanctuary. Hope is a female coyote who is Cody's (Wolf Haven's other coyote) new companion. Hope is a wild born coyote and was the only surviving pup of her litter after her mother was killed. She was brought to a rehabilitator in Kansas, and lived in the rescuer's spare room for a couple of years. As such, coming to live outdoors at Wolf Haven was a big change for this little coyote! We're happy to report that Hope is getting more and more comfortable with her new home

and has really warmed up to Cody, her first coyote friend. She's still very shy around people, but we are hoping she'll eventually relax more in their presence.

We also did some wolf moves in the sanctuary. Bart's passing left Samantha by herself so we decided to try putting Samantha and Lonnie together. For several reasons, it made more sense to move Sam, so in late May we caught her up and made the transfer. The two get along very well and Sam adjusted to her new home quickly. You can see a video of their introduction on our YouTube channel.

After Sam and Lonnie were paired, we moved Lakota and Sierra into

Sam's old enclosure. This enclosure is much larger than their former one, plus we needed to do some significant modifications to the other enclosure. Needless to say, this is much easier done when there are no wolves in it. Lakota and Sierra immediately began exploring their new digs and both seem to appreciate all their new space. They are curious wolves and like the view from the mound, where they can survey all around them. Who knows – perhaps one day we will say that Lakota is the most photographed wolf at Wolf Haven!



Erik Wilber, Animal Care Specialist/
Education Assistant



Could Lakota be day-dreaming about becoming the most photographed wolf at Wolf Haven? *Julie Lawrence.*

Meet the pair: Lonnie & Sam



Lonnie (at left) and Sam appear to be very well matched. *Julie Lawrence.*

SAMANTHA AND LONNIE We are very happy to introduce you to our newest pairing of wolves: Samantha and Lonnie. Many of you likely recognize them, as they have been residents with us for years.

Lonnie and Samantha both recently lost their long-time companions. We had been looking for a female wolf to pair with Lonnie for months. He lost Meeka this past fall due to an inoperable bone cancer. Lonnie and Meeka had been together since he originally arrived at Wolf Haven in 2009. This past April Samantha also lost her own companion, Bart. Like Lonnie, she was

originally paired with Bart when she arrived in 2013.

Though there are several steps involved in introducing new wolves to each other, one of the big moments can be feeding time. Lonnie and Samantha's first feeding occurred just a couple of hours after they were introduced. After the drumsticks were tossed in, half to one side of the enclosure and half to the other side, they each went to their respective areas. After eating one drumstick, Lonnie went to see if he could have some of Samantha's. When Samantha saw Lonnie approaching, she bared just a

single tooth at him, without a sound – but that was all he needed in order to know that her food was not for him. He returned to his own pile to continue lunch. After eating, we watched them through a remote camera as the two lay down within 10 feet of each other and slept. They appeared totally relaxed, and at ease. We knew then, that Sam and Lonnie were going to do very well together.



Dan Monn, Animal Care/Gift Shop Assistant