

### A New Vision for Full Moon Farm

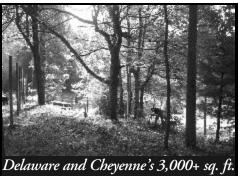
If there is one thing that wolfdogs cannot stand, it is to be ignored. Yet that was precisely what volunteer Morgan did after Banjo tried to steal the tools that Morgan had brought into the new pen. He was constructing a locking mechanism for the feeder that the mischievous wolfdog had learned how to

Banjo was insistent: obviously, if a volunteer brings tools into his pen, they are meant to be toys for him, right?

"No! Mine!" Morgan growled, then turned away from poor Banjo.

Banjo gave him a disgusted look that clearly said, "I cannot believe that you've come into my pen to do something other than play with me! The nerve!" He slowly walked away, flopped down next to a stump, and gave Morgan a mournful, dejected look. When Morgan continued to work on the feeder, Banjo turned to the clump of mushrooms growing out of the stump, daintily grabbed one with his teeth, pulled the cap off, and tossed it to the side. He then grabbed another and another, doing the same, throwing accusatory glances in Morgan's direction all the while. He soon had a clump of beheaded mushroom stems to one side and a pile of caps to the other, and his displeasure was obvious.

Finishing his task, Morgan slipped the tools out of the pen and turned to Banjo. "Banjo! Come here!" Immediately perking up, Banjo ran over and nuzzled up against Morgan's leg. Scratching him



pen was built this fall by volunteers

talked quietly with him. Watching the wolfdog and still petting him with one hand, Morgan bent and

down his back

and all along his

sides, Morgan

soothed Banjo's

hurt feelings and

picked up a large chunk of bark from the stump next to the gate of the pen. Straightening, he exclaimed, "Banjo! Look what I've got!" Morgan held the bark out to his side and started

running. Banjo gave chase and snatched the bark out of Morgan's hand in a flying leap, circled the pen at a full run, and climbed up to the roof of his cabin, dropping the bark and grinning, giving Morgan a playful invitation stance.

As Morgan went to find another trophy, however, Banjo's attention was caught by Yeddy, his pen-mate. She had picked up one of the empty plastic bottles in their pen-left as toys-



and was holding it in her mouth, playfully challenging him. Banjo leapt off the cabin and ran at her. She turned tail and fled into the little grove of hemlocks and laurels then out the other side, skirting a rhododendron in the back of the pen, and Banjo chased her in circles around and around the cabin. Finally, as she fled into the hemlocks again, he caught her, and after a brief tussle, Banjo emerged victorious with the plastic bottle between his teeth.

Before Banjo could rest, however, Morgan caught his attention with the short branch he had picked up, and Banjo was off again.

Banjo and Yeddy were the first wolfdogs at Full Moon Farm to enjoy the product of a new goal that we, their caretakers, set last year. We are working on re-constructing the entire farm with new, large, healthy pens. Many of our original pens are small and cramped, get muddy when it rains, and have no trees or greenery to play in. They share fencing on most sides ...continued on page 2 ...continued from page 1

with other pens and have no security gates. Shelters are small and uninteresting. These old pens are a far cry better than what the animals were rescued from, but they are not anywhere close to optimal. They don't allow for enrichment or much exercise. The single-entry gates make it too easy for animals to slip out when a person comes in. Also, shared fencing makes the animals nervous and raises anxiety and aggression in close quarters. Because many of the animals



Sierra is another wolfdog who has benefited from the new larger pens at the farm

that we care for are semipermanent or permanent residents of Full Moon Farm, the old pens are not acceptable.

So we have set a new standard, and we are slowly rebuilding based on our new vision. The new pens have plenty of space to run and play, with trees and greenery to give the animals a much more natural setting to explore. Large shelters and cabins with climbing space provide both enrichment and sufficient shelter. Doubleentry gates provide more security. No new pens will have any shared fencing, for the psychological well being of the animals.

It is a slow process. We buy fencing and building supplies in small batches as the funds come in, then immediately construct what we can with what we have. So far, using our new standards, we have constructed three new large pens (holding Banjo, Yeddy, Cheyenne, Delaware, Sierra, and Ashe), five medium-sized pens (holding Zodiak, Tala, Lucy, Cato, Cierra, Yeti, Teddy, Gideon and Daunkette, with one more pen ready for new occupants), and three small quarantine and socialization pens. We are now saving for another large sanctuary pen. As the new pens are built, we take down the old pens and recycle the supplies. We are drawing close to the point that the old messy lower compound can be completely deconstructed and done away with. What a happy

day that will be!

Most rewarding, however, has been watching the animals react to the new pens when we move them. To see them, for the first time in their lives, take off at a full run. To see them play peek-a-boo in the trees. To see them leap up on top of their new shelters. To see them chase one another at full speed around trees and over logs. The



waiting for funds, the measuring and lifting and cementing, the nailing and cutting and bending and stretching—it is all suddenly worthwhile, when you see those playful canine grins.

After nearly a half hour of play, Banjo was completely tuckered out. He and Yeddy joined Morgan in the little den that they'd dug out under the hemlocks. Banjo flopped down on his side, offering Morgan his belly to scratch, and Yeddy tried her very best to curl up into Morgan's lap. There are very few sights in the world more relaxing than two content wolfdogs.



Cierra (shown in her old pen) shares her new pen with Yeti (above) and Teddy (not shown). They have already made extensive excavations of their new quarters.

## Full Moon Farm Newsletter, Spring 2005

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Board of directors: President Nancy Brown, Vice President Melissa Ray Davis, Secretary Joan Vogt, Treasurer Sandi Rector, Janet Cantwell, Morgan Davis, Cindi Ellis, Mark Kahn, Jessie Rowles. Advisors: Tony Carr and Tam Nesbit.

# How You Can Help the Wolfdogs

- **Donate.** 100% of donations go toward care of the animals, and all donations are tax-deductible. Your donations help us buy feed and supplies, build new pens, and provide medical care. Even very small donations make a big difference. Ask us about donating directly to our vet.
- **Volunteer.** Our volunteers build pens, feed and water the wolfdogs, help with filing and paperwork, write letters, transport animals, clean pens, participate in fundraising and education events, and take pictures. More experienced volunteers can help socialize and train the wolfdogs. Do you have a special



skill? We could probably use it.

• **Sponsor.** For a \$20.00 monthly donation, you will provide partial care for one of the wolfdogs. You will receive a picture of the animal you have sponsored and a certificate of appreciation

along with howls and kisses when you can visit! Ask about our special \$5.00 per month children's rate.

- **Donate a Wishlist Item.** Our wishlist includes pen-building supplies, stainless steel buckets, blankets, stamps for mailings, and gift certificates for Home Depot, Lowes, Tractor Supply Co., PetSmart, Ingles, Food Lion, Bi-Lo, and Wal-Mart. See our website for more items.
- **Adopt.** We have many wolfdogs waiting for happy homes! See our website at <a href="http://www.fullmoonfarm.org">http://www.fullmoonfarm.org</a> or contact us for more on how to help. nancy@fullmoonfarm.org 1-(828)-669-1818

We'd like to thank our friends at **Greenlife Grocery** in Asheville, **Swannanoa Valley Animal Hospital** and **Berry's Feed & Seed** in Swannanoa, and **Bone-a-Fide Bakery** in Black Mountain for their continued support and donations!



#### **Newsbites**

Happy Homes - In recent months, we at Full Moon Farm have seen several of our charges placed in happy homes. Missy KK went to South Carolina, and we hear she is in love with her new swimming pool.

Baby Girl joined Shadow, whose companion passed away. Dusty and Yukon joined a family in in the Midwest just in time for Halloween, and Fawn went to New Hampshire. Lakota

went to Texas. Dream and Ten Bears have moved to a beautiful sanctuary in Maine, and Thunder is about to leave for Scotland. Gloria is looking beautiful in her new



snowy Colorado home. Maverick went to New Zealand to act in the upcoming film *The Lion, the Witch, and the* 



Wardrobe and then returned to a happy home in California. Monty and Rose have found a happy home locally--as you can see above, Rose has claimed the loveseat for her own, and Monty loves to wallow about on the

bed and go on long hikes through the woods. Jara found a new family locally as well.

# Your tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated. 100% goes directly toward care of the animals.

Donations by check or money order may accompany this form, made out to:

Full Moon Farm, Inc. P.O. Box 1548 Black Mountain, NC 28711

We are a not-for-profit organization and tax exempt under IRS code 501(c)(3).

Name:	me:Phone:		_ E-mail Address:		
Address:		City:		_ State:	Zip Code:
Donation Amount: \$	Notes:				

## Upcoming Full Moon Farm Events

For details on any of these events, please contact us at 1-(828)-669-1818 or nancy@fullmoonfarm.org.

May 7th & 8th - "Mountain Renaissance Adventure Faire," AB Technical College, Enka campus. Education and fundraising booth. See <a href="http://www.rennfaire.org">http://www.rennfaire.org</a> for details.

May 14th - Anti-Cruelty Walk at Lake Tomahawk in Black Mountain.

**May 28th** - Good Karma Day at Greenlife Grocery, Merrimon Avenue, Downtown Asheville.

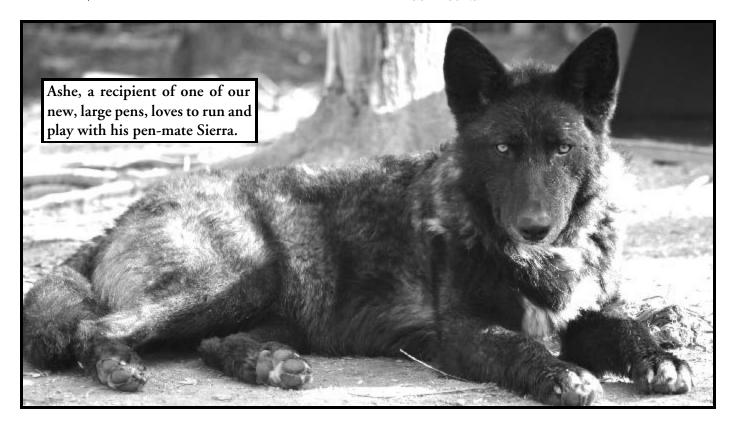
**May 29th** - 12-5 p.m. Meet-and-Greet at Bone-a-Fide Bakery, Cherry Street, Black Mountain.

**June 18th** - Howl-In at Full Moon Farm. Open house, potluck, barbeque, and bonfire. Come howl with the wolves on the full moon!

August 20th - Another Howl-In open house at Full Moon Farm

October 9th - Doggie Carnival, Asheville.

**October 29th** - Costume Contest and Parade, Downtown Black Mountain.







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