

## Volunteer of the Quarter, Liz Hulbert

The volunteer team at Wolf Haven is fabulous! Our volunteers have such a wide range of talents and skills, and we witness the true giving spirit of people on a daily basis when our volunteers work with us.

Liz Hulbert is a prime example of this extraordinary spirit. Not only has she volunteered at Wolf Haven since 2006, she has spent a great deal of time sharing her time and talents in many volunteer roles over the years.

Liz grew up in a small town in Iowa. As a child, she had many opportunities to explore the simple beauty of the local trails and creeks. Her dad was a life-long nature lover, and he fostered Liz' natural attraction to the out-of-doors. Her early memories include visiting the fascinating animals at the local zoo.

As a young adult, Liz became a medic with the army. She spent time in states such as Texas and California and enjoyed a variety of hospital jobs, from the emergency room to labor and delivery. Her oldest son, Jacob, was born in California. In later years, Liz moved up to Washington where she was employed at Madigan Medical Center.

Liz' next career step was working for the Olympia post office, a job that she loved for 16 years. Since she had a walking postal route, Liz spent a great deal of time outdoors in all types of weather. To this day, she functions well under extremes of heat and cold – she always delivers!

Liz' family grew, and two more sons were born in Washington, Joe and Zach. After her post office career, she was able to explore other interests and passions. Liz was instrumental in the PTA, school council, and headed up the committee that built a skateboard park in Olympia, which was a five year project! She was always interested in education, and even volunteered as a disco dance instructor! During this time, Liz recalls hearing about a place called Wolf Haven. It remained a mystery for quite some time, but Liz finally explored the Wolf Haven website and she remembers it said "Volunteers Needed". Each detail of her first sanctuary tour is etched in her memory. When her tour group took the first left turn toward Chinook and Tonkawa's enclosure, Liz felt overwhelmingly excited and know this was a place she could be committed to.

Liz' first job was to be a tour guide in the sanctuary. Her true joy comes from connecting with people and knowing that her tours lead to greater compassion for wildlife. This dynamo of woman also helps with grounds work, special events, and classroom presentations for the school children who visit Wolf Haven. She has certainly touched hundreds of people in her volunteer role.

Liz, as Wolf Haven grows to reach more people with our message of conservation, please know that you have been a huge part of this effort. Your unselfish spirit is an inspiration to our entire team!