

# The Corolla Wild Horse Fund

A Registered 501 (c) (3) Not-for-Profit Charity

Winter

2017

## WILD AND FREE

P.O. Box 361  
Corolla, NC 27927

### A SEASON OF GIVING

**The Mission** of the Corolla Wild Horse Fund is to protect, conserve, and responsibly manage the herd of wild Colonial Spanish Mustangs roaming freely on the northernmost Currituck Outer Banks, and to promote the continued preservation of this land as a permanent sanctuary for horses designated as the State Horse and defined as a cultural treasure by the state of North Carolina.



#### Staff

**Jo Langone**  
Acting Executive Director

**Meg Puckett**  
Herd Manager

**Stacey Dailey**  
Farm Caretaker

**Nora Tarpley**  
Trainer

**Carrie Laird**  
Finance Manager



Before the holidays, CWHF herd manager Meg Puckett and trainer Nora Tarpley sat down and made a wish list of items for the rescue horses and farm. Everything from bits and bridles to brooms, pitchforks, and water trough heaters. While these things are critical to the Fund's work with the rescued Corollas, they do not come before necessities like hay and veterinary care so there is not always money budgeted for them. We are pretty talented when it comes to working with what's on hand! Such is life at a non-profit. But we thought maybe our supporters would enjoy sending the horses a little holiday present so we posted our wish list to Amazon and thought we might receive a couple items if we were lucky.



Boy were we surprised at the results! As soon as the list was posted to Facebook the boxes started rolling into the Corolla post office. We were picking up literally truck loads of boxes every other day; the generosity was overwhelming! Every day felt like Christmas morning, and our tack room at the farm was quickly filling up with things that made our jobs so much easier and more efficient. We received a bridle that fits the smaller horses, saddle pads and surcingles, an array of bits and other hardware, cleaning supplies, some special treats for the horses, and so much more.

Probably the biggest hit were the Jolly Balls that we got for each horse pasture. These apple-scented rubber balls are nearly indestructible and the horses love playing with them. We also received two giant, inflatable balls that bounce and roll and encourage the horses to run around and play. In addition, we received slow-feed hay nets for each horse, so that they are able to "graze" all day and night. We feed them their appropriate amount of hay twice a day, but the hay nets slow down their intake so that

it takes them much longer to eat. This is more natural and healthier for the horses.

Nora has been able to use some of the training tools we received from the wish list to further every horses' education. Surcingles go around the horse's middle and tighten much like a saddle, so they are a good first introduction to being tacked up. Roamer gets lunged in one several times a week. Now that we have a bridle and bit that fits our smallest rescue, Felix, he is being worked under saddle regularly and has even been sat on a couple of times! New rope halters have helped advance our work with Amadeo, who is now happily standing to be groomed and is even lunging. Not bad for an old, blind guy!

Every item on our wish list had a practical purpose and is being put to good use, but the fundraiser as a whole served an even greater purpose that we did not even anticipate. The influx of good cheer and generosity motivated and energized us, and enriched the lives of the horses at our farm in ways that go beyond normal, everyday operations. Hopefully it had the same effect on the wonderful people who took the time to send us something. We appreciate every single item - from the double-end snaps to the salt blocks, the tank heaters, and the cotton lead ropes.

Thank you for making our holiday season truly great. Your generosity will continue to impact the Fund for years to come.



## Hay For A Day

The Fund spends about \$5000 a year on hay for the horses at the rescue farm. Our goal is to mimic the horses' wild diet as closely as possible, and the most important component of this is forage. A high quality grass hay is the cornerstone of our nutrition program for the Corollas on the farm.

In the wild, horses graze for 17-20 hours per day. A harem will cover many miles every day in search of food. Grazing is one of the most natural horse behaviors and it's important to make sure that our horses at the farm are always chewing and digesting grass. Unfortunately we can't give our rescued horses 7000+ acres of land to graze, but we can provide them with hay in slow feeders, which encourages grazing-like behavior and extends the length of time that the horses have hay to munch on between meals.

We spend about \$14 a day on hay for the horses, and could really use your help offsetting that cost. On our website you'll find a PayPal button that lets you easily donate a day (or more!) of hay. The horses would appreciate it!



Visit our online store for gifts and clothing that will please every horse lover in your life!

[www.corollawildhorses.org](http://www.corollawildhorses.org)

All proceeds benefit the CWHF.

## Fast Facts: Winter 2017

<b>72,000</b>	Number of Facebook fans CWHF has! If you haven't 'liked' our page, you are missing out. Follow us for daily updates, pictures from the field and the farm, and news about wild horses in North Carolina and across the country.
<b>5,000</b>	Did you know that National Geographic came to the Outer Banks in 1926 and counted between five and six thousand wild horses living on the 175-mile long stretch of islands? In 1938, the National Park Service put a bounty on the horses as they began to purchase land for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.
<b>1856</b>	The year Edmund Ruffin visited the Outer Banks and observed the horses, calling them "of small size, with rough shaggy coats, and long manes." Over 160 years later and we can still describe the horses in the same way!
<b>7,544</b>	The wild horses that once called the entire 175 miles of this barrier island their home, are now confined to an 11 mile stretch that amounts to about 7,544 acres of the north beach. Almost 70% of the land they roam is privately owned and therefore subject to development.
<b>70%</b>	Horses spend the majority of their time grazing—around 70% of their day. They are selective foragers, meaning they only eat what they "need," either nutritionally or based on palatability.
<b>3,051</b>	The Corolla Wild Horse Fund is a non-profit, registered 501(c)3 organization with over 3000 supporting members. Be a part of saving this historic herd, their land, and the state horse of North Carolina by becoming a member today! Forms can be found on our website: <a href="http://www.corollawildhorses.org">www.corollawildhorses.org</a> .

