

# WILD AND FREE

## LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE GIRLS

Talk about Girl Power—there are twelve mares at the rehab farm right now! They all live together in the new pasture and every single one of them is coming along amazingly well in their training. They are all so smart and willing to learn, and have been a real pleasure to work with. Here are some highlights.

Luna and Little Star, two of the Dews Island horses, recently took their first field trip off the farm. We spent the spring practicing trailer loading, and in July we hauled them over to the Currituck County Rural Center. The CCRC is a lovely facility right down the road from our farm with several riding arenas, stocked ponds, a playground for kids, access to the Currituck Sound, and lots of open space for horses,



humans, and dogs. We walked the girls all over the grounds and let them trot around the indoor arena. Luna and Little Star were perfectly behaved and easy to manage, and we are confident that they are ready to begin their careers as outreach ambassadors. Look for them soon at an event near you!

The four mares that were a part of the harem in False Cape State Park are also making huge strides. Virginia Dare, Kitty Hawk, Ocean Pearl, and Bonita are all leading, have been bathed and wormed, and can be easily caught in the field even when they aren't wearing halters! We're working on teaching them to lift their feet and we're sure that they'll get their first pedicures in no time. The mares will be receiving their vaccinations at the end of July and after that, the world is their oyster! With more training and desensitization they will be ready for anything that comes their way—saddle training, outreach, or adoption. These girls are so easy going and great to work with, we know they have bright futures ahead of them.



Good things are happening at the Betsy Dowdy Equestrian Center!



**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  
*Chief Operating Officer*

Meg Puckett  
*Herd Manager*

Tommy French  
*Finance Manager*

Dan Lane  
*Operations Coordinator*

Nora Tarpley  
*Trainer*

## Fantastic Fillies!

Since Castano was born on Mother's Day, the herd has welcomed the arrival of two more foals—both girls!

Valor is a stunning silver filly that has one of the biggest personalities we've ever seen. She is outgoing, very vocal, and brave. Valor's mom is also the mother of Liberty, who is three years old now. The harem lives on the northern part of the refuge, and has been spotted grazing along the dunes at the state line. A sorrel stallion named Surfer is who we think Valor's sire is.

The third foal's parents have been keeping her (we think it's a "her!") hidden deep in the marsh, and have only been spotted around the edges of the meadow. We have not named this foal yet because we aren't 100% sure of the gender. The stallion may be more apt to bring the family closer once the foal is a little older. For now, we are happy they are staying safe and laying low!



## By the Numbers: Summer 2018



**1100:** The average number of vehicles that travel the 4x4 beaches during the busy month of July. Yes, the horses are used to the traffic but it's still important to go slow and remain alert!

**10:** The average horse will drink up to 10 gallons of water per day. During the hot summer months, the horses at the rescue farm get fresh, cool water two times a day. In the wild, horses drink from the canals, puddles, and the Currituck Sound.



**2:** Remember the Valentine's Harem? Stallion Arrow has added two mares to his family! They join Val, Sweetie, and Cupid to bring the number of this special group up to six.

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