#### Winter 2020

#### The Corolla Wild Horse Fund A Registered 501 (c) (3) Not-for-Profit Charity

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# WILD AND FREE

COROLLA WILD HORSE FUND

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

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# **RAYMOND GETS A FRIEND**

We'd like to introduce everyone to a very special new addition to the farm -Sonny the goat! He is Raymond's new roommate.

Sonny came from a wonderful family who took him in when he showed up as a stray in their yard. Sonny has a very, shall we say, strong personality and was a bit of a bully to their horses. We had a feeling he and Raymond might be good for each other, so during the week of Thanksgiving , we brought him home and began introductions. Sonny isn't scared of a thing, and didn't let Raymond's initial



not-so-friendly "hello" bother him in the slightest. Raymond may have actually met his match! They've now figured each other out and have been getting along quite well. We're thrilled Raymond has a friend and thankful to Sonny's previous family for trusting us with his care.

## MEET A MUSTANG: VIRGINIA DARE

Virginia Dare was the lead mare in the now-famous Renegade Six, made up of stallion Lucky Duck,

mares Virginia Dare, Ocean Pearl, Bonita, and Kitty Hawk and one yearling colt, Mateo. The group successfully circumvented the barrier fence separating their Carolina habitat from False Cape State Park at the Virginia line multiple times in the fall of 2017 through the spring of 2018.

Now living at the farm, it is no surprise that Virginia Dare takes the lead in our mare field. She is a beautiful teenage mare who brings her wisdom and experience from the wild to the other mares on the farm. Virginia is respected for her abilities and will act as peacemaker when scuffles break out or exhibit her dominance when needed.

Virginia has had probably 4 or 5 babies and all except Mateo are still in the wild. At the farm, she has displayed her mothering instincts and is a kind, yet opinionated mare. Ms. Dare is not a horse you can just walk up to



without regard. She is reserved and has only a few humans that she will engage with. Most likely not a candidate for adoption, Virginia is enjoying a beautiful life of retirement. remains well respected, and keeps us all in line.

If you'd like to contribute towards Virginia Dare's care, you can sponsor her by visiting our website: <u>https://www.corollawildhorses.com/horse-sponsorships/</u> (NOTE: Please select any current horse listed and in your comments note that you want to sponsor Virginia and we'll get it done!) Horse sponsorship makes a great gift, too!

Keep an eye on our events calendar for your next chance to visit the farm during an open house and meet Virginia Dare in person!

## Wild and Free News Bulletin



We'd like to thank Fleet of Angels for awarding us a grant that allowed us to purchase a large order of the hay Raymond eats.

Because of various health issues, Raymond requires a different kind of hay than the other mustangs, one that is softer and has more nutrients and calories. Due to a nationwide hay shortage, it's been somewhat hard to come by recently but because of the generosity of Fleet of Angels we were able to purchase enough all at once to get Raymond through the rest of the winter without having to worry about availability. Thank you!

We're looking forward to partnering with Fleet of Angels to pay it forward and help serve equines in need in our area. Please give their organization a follow on Facebook! They do amazing work.

Fleet of Angels is the proud recipient of the first ASPCA Equine Welfare Award.

Find out more about them at: www.fleetofangels.org

# By the Numbers: Winter 2020



1: Within a harem, there is usually only one lead stallion known as the alpha stallion. The reproductive success of the lead stallion is determined in part by his ability to prevent other males from mating with the mares of his harem.



**20:** Horses are herbivores; this means that they eat plants. Corolla's wild mustangs eat grass, milfoil (aquatic grass), brush/forage, acorns, persimmons and sea oats. They can stay a healthy weight on very little food. Adult mustangs spend their time grazing up to 20 hours a day.



**5000:** According to a 1926 National Geographic article by Melville Charter, the herd of wild horses numbered between 5,000-6,000 throughout the Outer Banks.

THESE STATS ARE A SMALL SAMPLING FROM OUR ENHANCED WILD HORSE MUSEUM CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION. ITS DEBUT IS ANCITPATED IN JUNE 2020

### CHRISTMAS WITH THE COROLLAS WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

CWHF hosted a holiday open house at the rescue farm on the mainland on

Saturday, December 21st. We offered carriage rides, hot cider, pictures with Mr. & Mrs. Claus and Amadeo. All the mustangs on the farm were thrilled to meet so many humans. Everyone had such a grand time and we are looking forward to hosting this event again in 2020.

