

## Special Interest Articles

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*Straightforward advice from the corral staff on selecting the right horse for you.*

Have something you’d like to share in The Corral Voice?  
**A volunteer story? What would you like to hear about from the Corral Crew? Let us know! We’re open to new ideas...**



**WOW!** What a great response to our first newsletter! Thank you all so much for your support and continued dedication to the wild ones. We hope you enjoy the second issue of The Corral Voice... please spread this publication far and wide!

### **ADOPTION & TRANSFER SUCCESS**

In past years, adoption rates during December, January and February have been low...traveling is tough in the winter, and bringing home a wild one during the cold, wet weather brings a whole new challenge! This season, however, things were different...with the special promotions, free hauling, and YOUR tremendous ability and willingness to spread the word (by email, phone, flyer, in person contact, etc.), **34** animals were adopted this winter. We are so excited about this and hope you share in the celebration as well. Without YOU – adopters, mentors, volunteers, and information sharers extraordinaire – this would not have been possible. **THANK YOU!**

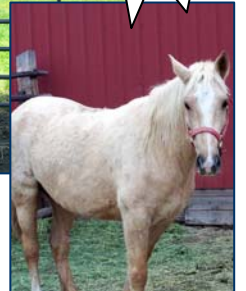
Aside from the adoption success, we have had much interest in our ‘special needs’ and ‘new home seeking’ animals. Just two weeks ago we let you know about 5 animals looking for a fresh permanent residence...in a matter of days, 3 of the 5 were in the paperwork process of being transferred and interest is growing in the other two. The availability of these animals also sparked curiosity in other animals on hand, particularly those with special needs. We’ve been busy sharing photos and information about a handful of sweethearts who require a touch of extra care!



**We still need homes!**



**We all found homes!**



**THANKS** again, **SO MUCH**, for all your dedication to the wild ones. In the last few months, since we started this email group, there has been a **HUGE** positive impact on the program. **YOU** are responsible for that... keep spreading the word and doing what you do... its working!  
**THANK YOU!**

## **BURNS CORRAL FACILITY REMODEL...NO HORSES IN FACILITY BY JUNE 1**

### **At last, the time has come!**

After years of working to upgrade Oregon's Wild Horse Corral Facility, BLM has finally secured adequate funding to afford a major overhaul. Although this news is GREAT for the animals and corral personnel in the long-run, for now it leaves us with an immediate need to have an EMPTY facility by June 1, 2007! More on that mission later...

During construction of the wild horse corrals, in the late 1970's and early 1980's, military jet engine tanks were installed as water troughs. Over time, these troughs have rusted through, leaking, causing a runoff problem and wasted water. Eventually, this wasted water works its way to a nearby intermittent stream. All of the troughs at the facility will be replaced with water and energy efficiency system. With installation of new water troughs the current water system will be upgraded and replaced with a 2 inch water main and lateral lines.

A portion of the current corrals system needs to be redesigned for safety of personnel and Wild Horses. There have been times when personnel have had to climb fences to get out of the way

of horses while being moved from one pen to another. Also, there have been a number of horses that have run into fences resulting in injury to the animals and repair to corrals. Most of the problems have been a result of the gates being in square corners. Problem areas will be solved by redesigning and constructing triangle shaped pens where horses can be safely funneled into the gates. This will greatly reduce the danger to personnel and wild horses.

Wild horse feeding is currently being done by personnel feeding from a wagon pulled by a tractor. Each pen is entered and hay is fed on the ground from the wagon. In the winter, the ground is either muddy or covered with snow. Most of the hay is consumed by the horses but a portion of it is trampled, resulting in wasted hay. Installation of concrete feed troughs along the outside of the pens will: create a safer experience for the feeders, limiting time in the pens with the horses and not having to work from the top of a moving hay wagon; nearly eliminate wasted feed; and decrease yearly corral cleaning costs.

After installing the feed troughs, all of the tractor

traffic will be on the road around the outside of the corrals. The upgrade will give the roads more base rock and gravel to accommodate the increased traffic. These improvements will make it safer for visitor and adopter traffic as well.

Work on this project has been progressing slowly over the last year, and will be completed over the summer of 2007, beginning June 1. Which brings us back to the first point... the corral has to be EMPTY by that time! To accommodate this urgent need, facilities in Utah have agreed to house approximately 150 animals from Burns. These animals will be transferred gradually over the next month, beginning this week. Nearly 100 animals over 6 years of age will be transferred to long-term holding facilities over the next month as well, and the remaining animals will stay in Burns and be available for adoptions scheduled for this year in Salem, Bend and Burns, Oregon and Monroe, Washington. **What does this mean for you? If you want an opportunity to adopt one of the animals currently in the facility, take advantage now! These horses are moving on quickly.... Let us know what you are interested in, and hopefully we can help!**

## HONORING OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

Throughout each issue of 'The Corral Voice,' we plan to highlight at least one of our outstanding volunteers and share with you the GREAT work they've done. Watch for your name in lights next! This time around...read all about **Rob and Marietta Roby** and their support of the wild ones.

So what would you do?? As you wander out in the early morning to toss some hay, you notice that your adopted wild horse has stepped through the bottom of her heavy plastic grain pan with a hind foot. It is now stuck at her fetlock joint and is rubbing with every step she takes. No blood yet, but you can tell a lot of hair has been removed. You call the vet clinics. Some are busy; others "don't work with Mustangs." You don't have any friendly, horsy neighbors. Oh, and did we mention that even though she has a halter on, she has never been touched, or led, or had anyone try to remove a large red plastic dish from her foot??



A quick call to Wild Horse Mentors, Rob and Marietta Roby catches them in the middle of grocery shopping. No problem, they say, "We'll meet you there in an hour." They arrive fully equipped with halters, ropes, free-standing panels, a wealth of horse experience and cheery attitudes. In less than an hour the mare has been placed in a temporary alley made with the panels, the red tub was removed, and her halter, which had been outgrown, removed. She received a good, quiet scratch on the withers and was released.



Rob and Marietta have been Wild Horse Advocates for many years. They have been active members of Pacific Wild Horse Club for over 10 years, holding several official positions during that time. Marietta is currently serving on the board of trustees. They have been instrumental in organizing numerous gentling demonstrations, assisting BLM crews with rescues and adoptions.

The Roby ranch is home now to six Mustangs: His horses are for hunting and trail riding; hers are for show - dressage, trail classes and team penning. Four of their six horses were previously adopted, but for various reasons didn't work out and were reassigned to the Roby's. It must be Wild Horse Heaven! Thank you Rob and Marietta for all that you do for the Wild Ones!



## WRANGLER'S CORNER

*advice straight from the corral crew*

Well, um, shoot...we regret to inform you we can't share any news from the corral crew this issue. Things are crazy busy at the facility, and our hard working wranglers have been in and out, up and down, down and out, you name it - the flu bug has been going around locally and caught up with several from our office... BUT STAY TUNED LOYAL READERS... more from the corral crew next issue. In the meantime...

**We just found out a past adopter has 4 animals that need new homes.... HELP! More information available on these animals soon... call us!!!!!!**

## 2007 Oregon/Washington WILD HORSE EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATES!**

- April 13-15 - Salem, Oregon - ADOPTION
- April 26 - Bend, Oregon - ADOPTION  
(1 saddle trained horse from High Desert Museum)
- May 4,5,6 - Prineville, Oregon - TRAINING CLINIC
- May 7-13 - Burns, Oregon - ADOPTION  
(free hauling offered up to 800 miles round trip)
- June 1,2,3 - Monroe, Washington - ADOPTION
- November 8,9,10 - Burns, Oregon - ADOPTION  
(Kiger mustang event)

## CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB...

[www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/wildhorse/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/wildhorse/index.php)  
[www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php)  
[www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov](http://www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov)