

September 4, 2010

TO: Karen McCalpin

RE: Our Trip of a Lifetime!



Dear Karen,

A few weeks ago, my family and I made the long trek down to the Outer Banks, as we have for the past five years. It takes my husband, Jeff, our kids Alexa 13, Casey 10, and our dog Maggie, about 10 long hours...and this year, in particular, the main topic of conversation was the personal tour we had scheduled with Wesley Stallings, the herd manager.

"When are we going? What are we going to see? Are you SURE we will see the horses?" These were just a few of the questions that Alexa and Casey were asking...repetitively!

I'll be honest, we did go on one of the commercial wild horse tours five years ago and, while we did see the horses, the experience was expensive, hot, and not what we were hoping for.

This year was the complete opposite of that experience. We met Wes at the Corolla Wild Horse Museum and, from the start, he was pouring out information and teaching all of us not only about the horses, but also about the environment and how we can all make a difference. He was patient and answered all of our questions and, believe me, we all asked a lot of questions!

I always tell my children that they need to find their passion in life and make a job out of it. You have to love what you do or life will not be half as fun. Wes was an amazing example of that advice. Within 5 minutes of meeting him, we could all see the passion, care and responsibility he brings to his job and to the horses, every single day. I have a funny feeling that he does not think of his daily routine as solely a job. The horses and North Carolina are very lucky to have him as their representative. He has a vision for the Corolla wild horses and I believe that, with Wes and all of the Corolla Wild Horse Fund staff and volunteers, their future will be bright.

This truly was the trip of a lifetime and we would whole heartedly recommend the tour with Wesley for anyone who cares about animals, conservation, and the environment. The donation will benefit the horses, but I really feel that my family and I were the lucky ones!

Sincerely,
Tracy, Jeff, Alexa and Casey Rojek

PS. We will definitely be back next year...and we can't wait!!!