

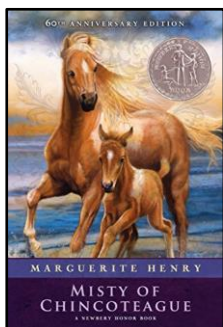
SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

COMING UP AT CORE SOUND

- Parlor Talks: July 7, July 14
- Core Sound Shrimp Fry, July 9
- Core Sound Experience Camp, July 12-14

Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child



Misty of Chincoteague By Marguerite Henry

On the island of Chincoteague, off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland, lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. Among them is the most mysterious of all, Phantom, a rarely-seen mare that eludes all efforts to capture her—that is, until a young boy and girl learn of her and decide they can't live without her.

Grade Level: 3-7
Pages: 177

Shrimp and Gratitude



Our annual All-American Shrimp Fry begins at 4 pm on Saturday, July 9. Since the start of this event, we have thanked active military and veterans for all they do for our great country, and now that we are entering our third year of the pandemic, we will extend the community's appreciation to community leaders who have been on the frontlines fighting COVID-19.

“First responders, health care workers and local school employees continue to face this historic health care emergency with strength and resolve, and we recognize their courage and fortitude in this continuing struggle,” Ike Southerland, museum’s sponsorship coordinator explained.

We are happy to announce that this year we are also celebrating an additional group that we depend on throughout the year and especially during the summer and fall months of hurricane season, our electric system linemen.

“We appreciate the leadership and commitment of all the men and women who serve our community every day, in all kinds of ways, risking their own health and safety. Free shrimp plates, door prizes, special recognitions and entertainment will give these community leaders, along with our active military and veterans, an event that will bring the communities together to say thank you again for their willingness to serve others in such a difficult time,” expressed Karen Amspacher, Museum Director.

If you would like to help, please email the Museum at museum@coresound.com or give us a call at 252.728.1500. We also invite you to become a host or plate sponsor. Simply go to www.CoreSound.com/shrimpfry to reserve plates for honorees or to purchase plates for others.

Remembering 4th of July Pony Pennings

The Outer Banks horses are a huge part of Down East and are viewed as treasured cultural ties. The horses' arrival to the Outer Banks is not certain, but it is strongly believed that they are of Spanish descent. Legends about horses swimming ashore from shipwrecks cannot be proven, but written accounts do verify that early explorers and settlers travelled with horses.

In the mid-1800's, an area agricultural authority, Edmund Ruffin, wrote of "horse-penning" on Core Banks. Ruffin wrote, "[Horses fed] entirely on the coarse salt grass of the marshes. .. There are some hundreds of horses of the dwarfish native breed, on this part of the reef between Portsmouth and Beaufort ..."

In 1957, 5 Harkers Island residents, all owners of ponies on Shackleford Banks, appeared before the Conservation and Development Committee in Raleigh. The purpose of the visit was to keep the horses on the Banks. Dan Yeomans, age 79, was the spokesman and shared, "You know, we have penning every summer and sell lemonade, and our friends from upstate come to see us. We have a good time..."

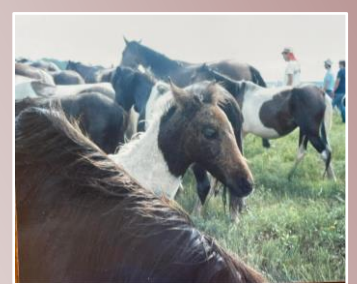
In May of 1980 *WILDLIFE IN NORTH CAROLINA* magazine covered a pony penning on Shackleford Banks. It stated: "Because of public interest in the ponies from both a cultural and scientific viewpoint, removal of the ponies is locally a sensitive issue... The ritual of pony-pennin'... is deeply rooted in tradition, and the practice continues without economic interests. To be successful, pony-pennin' requires the community participation and cooperation. The event is a communal function uniting people for a time in both work and pleasure. Skills for roping and branding are handed down to younger horsemen, and the tradition is passed on. ... The cultural significance of the ponies is difficult to measure and quantify. To the local people, they are no longer a source of income. To them, they are more than that--they are a reminder of a way of life which is rapidly vanishing."

My father remembers the 4th of July Pony Pennings with fondness. Entire families travelled to the shores of Core Banks and Shackleford to be part of this annual roundup. The day of the penning was a day of celebration and excitement for the whole community. Picnics complete with lemonade and Pepsis awaited hungry children who watched their band of fathers, grandfathers, and neighbors stretching from east to west along the sandy woodlands of the Banks. These men walked the horses into their pens to match colts with mothers for appropriate branding. Dad became the lucky owner of 2 colts when he was between the ages of 12 and 14 thanks to his father, Henry, who negotiated sales with the colts' owners. On both special occasions, Beatlebum and Raw Bones (his prized ponies) were transported home in his skiff that was especially towed along both years for that specific purpose.



CLICK THE PHOTO TO VIEW THE VIDEO.

"This is a home movie done by the late Vernon Guthrie in the late 1950's that shows the boats gathered in the Bay --- so many you could use them as a bridge to the shore --- and then the horses penned together close to the south shoreline of where had been Diamond City." --Joel Hancock, Sr.



Photos taken by Jennifer Martin at the 1985 Chincoteague Pony Penning in Chincoteague, VA, where this tradition continues every July.



Photo of the 1946 Pony Penning at Cape Lookout (photo from howwedidthat.com)