

The HOOFS Fund, Inc.

PO Box 23612
Washington, DC 20026
hoofsfund@gmail.com

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Dear Friend,

The HOOFS Fund has had another exciting and productive year. We are pleased to bring you up to date on what we have accomplished recently on behalf of our police horse friends.

This year we concentrated on several projects that had a direct impact on the health and well-being of police horses, including:

- A project at the U.S. Park Police (USPP) stables near the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., where scores of birds had taken up residence in the stalls, roosting in the joists above the horses. Their droppings littered the stalls, feed, water, and even the horses. We investigated many options, looking for an environmentally friendly and economical solution. With the help of Sgt. Mark Schuette, we installed netting that prevents the birds from congregating and nesting in the rafters. The situation has improved dramatically, and Sgt. Schuette reports that there are far fewer birds (and fewer droppings!) to bother the horses.



Bird droppings litter the stall and back of a police horse.



Sgt. Mark Schuette mounts a fan in a stall window.

- Summers on the National Mall are hot and steamy, so we donated several fans to the USPP stables on the Mall. Secured in stall windows, behind a protective screen, the fans improved the circulation of fresh air and helped keep the horses cooler throughout the long summer.

- During Presidential Inauguration festivities in January, we conducted an outreach effort to mounted law enforcement units that traveled to Washington to march in the parade—including the U.S. Border Patrol unit and the American Mustangs that patrol the U.S.-Canadian border.

The Border Patrol had tried many breeds of domestic horses before concluding that the American Mustang was the ideal horse for their law enforcement work. HOOFS Fund President Colleen Marzec's subsequent article on the role of American Mustangs in law enforcement was published in the Spring issue of *The Journal of the American Mustang and Burro Association*.

● Inspector Alan Hiscox of the Mounted Branch of the London (England) Metropolitan Police provided HOOFS Fund Vice President Diane Sullenberger with a behind-the-scenes view of the world-famous unit's stable management and training practices. You can read Diane's report and view her photos on our website at www.hoofsfund.org.

● In April we presented USPP Lt. Stacey Collins with a generous assortment of grooming supplies and tools for the horses, officers, and volunteers at the Edgewater Stables. (The supplies were provided by a donor who requested anonymity.)

● Many of our supporters joined us in May at Firehook restaurant in Washington, D.C., for an event to benefit the police horses. We also bid farewell to Sarah Streicker, our director of development and board member, who has relocated to Charlottesville, Va. Earlier we bade farewell to Board Secretary Pamela White. And, we welcomed Amy Troppmann to our board. All three have served tirelessly on behalf of police horses, not only as HOOFS Fund board members, but also as volunteers who have dedicated countless hours to mucking out stalls and grooming and exercising USPP horses.



Lt .Stacey Collins and Atlantic accept a donation from the HOOFS Fund's Colleen Marzec.

The holiday spirit is with us at the HOOFS Fund, as we prepare stockings filled with homemade treats for the police horses of the Washington area and cookies for the officers. Looking ahead to the New Year, one of our major goals is to develop an application process for horse-mounted units to apply for financial assistance from the HOOFS Fund. As word spreads of the HOOFS Fund's great work and available funds, we need to develop a formal method for considering and evaluating projects that directly support or improve the lives of police horses.

The work we do in support of police horses is tremendously rewarding, and we would not be able to achieve so much without your help. We hope you will consider making a gift of any size to the HOOFS Fund by December 31 by mail or online at www.hoofsfund.org. Your gift will help us carry out our mission of supporting the health, safety, and well-being of the police horses who give so much to our communities and nation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The HOOFS Fund Board of Directors

Colleen Marzec
President

Diane Sullenberger
Vice President

Melissa Junior
Treasurer

Amy Troppmann
Secretary

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The HOOFS Fund: The Year in Pictures

Top row, from left: USPP horse Jaguar enjoys the breeze from his new fan; U.S. Border Patrol agents and their American Mustangs gather for Inaugural parade practice. Second row, from left: Sgt. Paul Agnew with a London police horse; Rosie and Ofc. Andrew Chandler of the Metropolitan Police Department work their beat in Washington, D.C.; the HOOFS Fund's Amy Troppmann installs netting at the USPP stables; third row, from left is USPP Ofc. Barbara Blendy, HOOFS Fund board members Pamela White, Diane Sullenberger, and Sarah Streicker posing with an award for volunteer service presented by USSP chief Sal Lauro; observing a demonstration on equine dentistry at the Marion DuPont Scott Equine Medical Center open house in Leesburg, Va.



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