

In Appreciation

A HEARTY AND HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO THESE SPECIAL PEOPLE AND THE SPECIAL COMPANIONS THEY HAVE ADOPTED OR FOSTERED!

Amy P. with "Gentleman" and "Angel". HURRAH FOR AMY, HURRAH FOR ANGEL AND GENTLEMAN!!!

Judy D. with "Tracer". HURRAH FOR JUDY, HURRAH FOR TRACER!!

Judy L. with "Dottie". HURRAH FOR JUDY, HURRAH FOR DOTTIE!!

Linda A. with "Spirit". HURRAH FOR LINDA, HURRAH FOR SPIRIT!!!



*Linda A's
friend Spirit*



*Judy L.
and Dottie*

Unwanted Horse Coalition Unveils Website

Perfect Horse, June, 2007, page 16

The Unwanted Horse Coalition (UHC) has launched its website highlighting the responsibility of owners to their animals.

Both the website and a related brochure explain the UHC and its mission, which is to reduce the number of unwanted horses and to improve their welfare. The coalition was created following the Unwanted Horse Summit that was organized by the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) and held in conjunction with the American Horse Council's annual meeting in April of 2005. In June 2006, the group folded into the American Horse Council and now operates under its auspices.

In addition to information about the UHC, the website provides resources and links for retiring and rescuing horses, methods for handling the loss of a horse, and suggestions to help people "Own Responsibility", which is the motto of the UHC. To learn more about the UHC, visit the website at www.unwantedhorsecoalition.org.



*Amy P. with
Gentleman
and Angel*



*Judy D.
and Tracer*

The Horse's Mouth

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A Great Gift Any Time!

Help Equine Allies help horses
in need by buying a "Help A
Horse" bracelet.

These burgandy bracelets with
the wording "Help A Horse"
stamped on them are
available by calling
218-879-6420, or by e-mailing
us at equineallies.com

Delivery available for orders
of 10 bracelets and up.



Costs To Consider Before Owning A Horse

Potential horse owners should be aware of the associated costs that accompany ownership before purchasing or otherwise acquiring a horse. These types of costs will vary due to the diversity of the use of the horse and the way that it is managed.

Some expected costs to consider include (but are not limited to):

- ^Grain/Feed
- ^Hay/Forage
- ^Pasture/Turnout
- ^Salts/minerals and/or other supplements
- ^Farrier service (required every six to eight weeks)
- ^Veterinary Care
- ^Utilities
- ^Tack and supplies
- ^Bedding
- ^Insurance
- ^Riding Lessons
- ^Truck/trailer purchase or availability

Depending on whether you house the horse on your own property (a time issue), boarding costs also may be factored into the added expense of horse ownership. Also if you plan to travel with the horse to various horse shows, trail rides, etc., these fees should also be considered along with any breeding costs if you plan to use the horse as a breeding animal at some point during your ownership.

Taken in part from AAEP, What to Expect When Owning a Horse, full copy available from your vet, AAEP or Equine Allies, Inc., compliments of Delores Gockowski, DVM.



Wish List

halters, all sizes
lead lines
wormer; ivermectin, panacur powerpacks are invaluable
brushes/combs, both stiff and soft
hoof picks
net hay bags (used to soak hay for ems horses)
syringes (all sizes, used for dosing oral meds)
unopened probiotics, both powder and tube
unopened bags of senior pelleted food
alfalfa cubes or pellets
feed pans/buckets
anti-fungal shampoos
fly spray
unopened supplements, particularly anything with glucosamine
(can be topical for joints, hoofs, electrolytes or weight gain aids
-rice bran oil, unopened, is great!)- latex disposable gloves
- sterile bandaging items
- vet wrap
- unopened derma gel, betadine solution; any wound care
products including poultices
- horse treats
- fly masks
- fly sheets
- winter blankets, smaller sizes in particular
- splint boots/support boots

*Anything that is
a horse aid
to you
will be used
at some point
by us!
We and the horses
thank you!*

Hurrah! Taste Tests Reveal...

The following was found in the June issue of Horse Illustrated, written by Toni McAllister, p. 28. Refer to the magazine for the complete article. Good news for the finicky eater that needs meds.

"Do you have a finicky equine that won't eat bute? Disguising the medication in mounds of sweet feed or sneaking the bitter pill or powder into a handful of cut up apple wedges is met with a turned up muzzle. Sound familiar? Oh, sure, you've tried the apple-flavored bute powder, but your persnickety horse still finds it unpalatable.

If your equine has discriminating taste, did you know that several bute flavors now exist? In addition to apple flavored bute, many compounding pharmacies now offer the drug in a variety of flavors including alfalfa, vanilla, molasses and peppermint.

Better yet may be non-compounded citrus-flavored bute, which goes by the names of Equizone 100 and Phenylbute. According to a Freedom of Information Summary from the FDA, palatability studies conducted on Equizone 100 revealed that 80 percent of the time 58 horses finished their rations treated with Equizone 100.

Good news to help the medicine go down....."

Contact your vet for information on the appropriate use of bute and obtaining the newest flavored varieties!

Have That First Aid Kit Ready

The easiest way to be ready for an emergency is to have a well-stocked first-aid kit available at all times. Here are recommended items to have in the kit:

- *Clippers or a guarded razor
- *60 mL syringe and 19-gauge needle or spray bottle to wash out wounds
- *Telfa dressings or antimicrobial dressing such as Kerliz AMD
- *Antiseptic soap to clean around a wound
- *Wound cleaner, like diluted povidone iodine
- *Gauze
- *Elastic gauze, like Vetrap
- *Padded cotton
- *Betadine or triple antibiotic ointment
- *Tongue depressors to apply ointment
- *Scissors

From P. 49, America's Horse, May, 2007



AQHA Testifies on Animal Welfare

On May 8, 2007, the American Quarter Horse Association testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Agricultural Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry concerning the welfare of horses. A witness list and partial testimonies can be found at <http://agriculture.house.gov/hearings/index.html>. Members of AQHA can find the same in the online version of the Weekly Newsletter.

Spring is Vaccination Time!

Spring is vaccination time...with some Caution!!!!

Time to contact your vet concerning the appropriate vaccination of your horse. Be aware that not all horses should receive the same vaccinations. Titer tests are available to help ensure that YOUR companion is not over-vaccinated and put in danger. These are readily available and can be had with a blood test. Particularly older animals and those that have been repeatedly vaccinated or exposed can be at risk. Your veterinarian is best equipped to help determine what should be given to which animal. Your horse will thank you (could be one less "poke"!).

Watch Some Great TV

"AMERICA'S HORSE", AQHA's award winning weekly television show, is now offered at a new time on Sunday's, on the TVG Network. TVG can be found on Channel 405 (Dish) or on Channel 602, (DirecTV). Enjoy!!!!

Foaling Out the New Addition?

FOALING OUT THE NEW ADDITION??

Be sure to ask your veterinarian about deworming your mare (within the first twenty-four hours is recommended)...and then, at a later time, your new foal. Although most dewormers are safe for foals and lactating mares, **SOME ARE NOT YET APPROVED**. A bit of homework is important here, both to ensure parasites are under control and to safely dose your new addition.



Summer and the Dangers of Founder

"Some equines, particularly ponies, are unable to utilize energy in feeds very efficiently. Excessive energy intake (FOOD!) is one of the causes of a common and crippling disease, laminitis. Laminitis affects the feet of horses and results from the disruption of blood flow to the sensitive and insensitive laminae, which secure the coffin bone to the hoof wall. Founder is a commonly used name for this condition. It is important to note, however, that other causal agents of laminitis include stress, a sudden increase in work, excessive concussion and abnormally high body temperature.

Horses should not be permitted to become overly fat. Horses and ponies known to be susceptible to laminitis should have restricted access to grains and spring and autumn pasture! Low energy forages should be fed. CONTROL OF OVERWEIGHT HORSES USING STARVATION DIETS IS UNACCEPTABLE. The horses should be supplied with a balanced reduction diet of food....."(AAEP, Care Guidelines, p.10). What can this mean for you, the owner with the round bellied companion?? During the spring and fall, the sugars in the newly growing and fading grasses are abundant. Often access to these fields for any horse (one never knows when sugar laden grasses will suddenly become too much for an animal), but most importantly horses with a history of founder, can mean a devastating episode or return of the dreaded laminitis. Observe your animals carefully. Shortened time access to pasture, if possible, can be considered. "Dry-lotting" vulnerable companions, though difficult for some owners (both to see and create), can mean life for founder victims. Spring lameness, even slight, can be a sign that the vet needs to be called immediately. Help, when administered early, can make the difference between a horse returned to health and one that cannot be. Be aware. Help your horse. They will thank you!

Fitting Up Your Horse

If your horse has been laying back all winter and now, with the smell of sweet summer, you decide it's time to get back to work, please consider the following, from PERFECT HORSE, June, 2007, page 33.

*You'll need the same number of weeks to rebuild condition as your horse was off work, up to 12 weeks.

*Be consistent. Ride or exercise your horse at least five days a week for 40-45 minutes.

*The walk is an important part of reconditioning, interspersed with short periods of trotting and loping.

*Remember to give your horse a proper warm-up and cool down.

*Be kind. Go slow and appreciate that your horse may be stiff, sore and cranky at first.

Also: Be aware that since his muscles are still weak, he may be clumsier or he may just take a wrong step. Either way, he is more prone to injury now. Take care of his legs by using protection, such as wraps or support boots, on him when you are working.



Considering horse adoption?



Check us out on the web.

www.equineallies.com

THANK YOU to the following groups and individuals who have donated time, items or advertising space to Equine Allies:

Cassie Wakefield at Cass' Corral
Grand Rapids, MN

Itasca Sunset Saddle Club

Birch & Bridle Pony Club

The Crist's at Diamond Royal Tack
Superior, WI

Kathryn Sutton and AC
Dressage/North Woods Dressage
Association

Welfare Issues- Should You Intervene?

Horses in poor body condition can be sick or they may be recovering from a chronic illness. But not always.

Witnessing a horse that isn't receiving food, water, shelter and proper health care is always emotional. These events seem to occur more frequently in the fall and spring months when grazing is not possible. It is important to be watchful when a horse's condition does not improve.

While most welfare cases involve some level of ignorance, a horse owner may be at a loss to know what to do when something goes wrong. Because of legalities and your safety, if you feel a horse (or another animal) is not being properly cared for, the proper contact is your county Sheriff Department. Provide as much detail as you can about the location and what you have witnessed. An officer is assigned to these situations and will contact a veterinarian to assess the horse's health.

County Sheriff Departments

Aitkin: 218-927-2138

Carlton: 218-384-3843

Lake: 218-834-8385

Pine: 320-629-3930

St. Louis: 218-726-2008

Thank you to North Ridge Veterinary, Sturgeon Lake, MN for permission to reprint the above

Foal Deworming

From the AAEP's Healthy Horse Newsletter Online, May 14, 2007

How often do you deworm foals? I have been deworming every eight weeks and was told you should deworm foals every week.

Response: On farms with an average or below average risk of parasites, I recommend deworming foals with a full strength (for their body weight) dewormer at one month, two months, four months and six months. After that time, they can begin the same schedule as the adult horses. On farms with known parasite problems, or for foals that appear heavily infested, we will often treat them at two to three weeks with a half-dose of pyrantel or oxibendazole, and then follow up with a full dose of the same dewormer at one month or age. These foals should be dewormed monthly for the first six months, at which time they can begin the same schedule as the adult horses. Young foals are most susceptible to round worm infections, so I usually recommend the first two dewormings be done with pyrantel pamoate or oxibendazole. Subsequent deworming can be done with any of the dewormers other than moxidectin (NOT recommended for foals less than six months of age). Unless a farm has a severe roundworm problem, deworming every week would be excessive, though probably not harmful. Laura Chamberlain, DVM, Crystal Lake, IL.

HORSES AVAILABLE FOR FOSTER HOME OR ADOPTION

♥
Tango

"Tango" is a bay five year old miniature cross gelding approximately 8 hands high who loves treats and attention. He is easy to catch, comes when called and is "started" at pulling a cart. Tango also loves to "talk"—he greets his current owners when they join him. Current on shots and loved by his owners, Tango is available for immediate foster care or adoption. Please call 218-722-4200 and Tango's next dance may be with you!!



♥
Trace

"Trace" is a beautiful ten year old dark bay breeding stock paint gelding, approximately 15.3 hands high. Lame in the right front, he could be an excellent pasture pal for your riding horse. Very people friendly, Trace also gets along well with other horses. He is the first to come when called and loves treats. In excellent body condition, Trace is an easy keeper. A delight to look at and current on vaccinations, Trace is available for immediate foster care or adoption. Please call 218-722-4200 and this great looking gelding could be in YOUR field.



You can help!

Please become a member today.

Yes, I'd like to help. Please:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

All proceeds will directly benefit Equine Allies, Inc., which is a Northern Minnesota not-for-profit 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation devoted to furthering the education of horse owners and advocating for the humane care, treatment and overall welfare of horses. Our program depends solely on donations, volunteers and fundraising for its operation. We have no paid staff, and 100% of our proceeds go toward advocating equine welfare and public education.

- ENROLL ME AS A NEW MEMBER
- ACCEPT MY DONATION
- I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS
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- I GIVE PERMISSION FOR MY NAME TO BE PUBLISHED AS A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF EQUINE ALLIES, INC.
- I CAN FURTHER HELP IN THE FOLLOWING WAY(S):



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