

# Comstock

LARGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

## Health CHRONICLE

F A L L / W I N T E R 2 0 0 7



### A New Look!

Please enjoy the new look of our newsletter. This new format will allow us to get more information to you complete with digital photos.

#### COMSTOCK LARGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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### New News



We would like to welcome the newest member to our veterinary team, Elisabeth M. Lau, D.V.M. Dr. "Betsy" Lau has just graduated from Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine and is conducting a one year internship with us. Dr. Lau was born and raised in North Little Rock, Arkansas. She graduated cum laude from the University of Arkansas with a degree in Animal Science. During that time she was active in the equine breeding program and a member of the Razorback Marching Band. Dr. Lau received her doctorate of veterinary medicine from Louisiana State University in 2007. Her professional interests include reproduction, sports medicine, and surgery. Her hobbies include cooking, hiking, camping, and watching the Razorbacks, GO HOGS! ▶

### Other News:

Dr. Hicks was looking for a change and left the practice in July this year to take a job at a small animal practice here in Reno. We wish Jody the best.

Dr. Turner also left the practice in July to move closer to home in Colorado. We wish Alex, his wife, Jaci, and their daughter, Keelie the very best.

We are currently in the search for new associates to fill these positions, as well as finding a board certified surgeon. In the meantime, we appreciate your understanding as we try to handle all the extra workload. Our surgery remodel is now finished and we will be performing selective surgeries ourselves and with board certified surgeons from outside the area. Emergency surgeries (including colic surgeries) will for the time being be referred to other hospitals. ▶

## Our Mission:

Some of our clients may be familiar with our mission statement and some may not. Regardless of the case, we thought it necessary to re-state our mission and take stock of how we are living up to our end of the deal.

At Comstock Large Animal Hospital, our mission is to provide our patients with exceptional medical care and comfort and by doing this create experiences for our clients that are both rewarding and enlightening. We will accomplish this by doctors, technicians and staff working as a team that is available for the needs of our clients and patients, staying current on emerging techniques, utilizing up to date technology, maintaining a knowledgeable and friendly staff and being a reliable source of answers for our clients and future clients.

We hope that all in the veterinary field have their patients' care and comfort at heart, as well as their clients' best interest. At Comstock Large Animal Hospital we strive to do the best job we possibly can for all of our four-legged friends as well as their two-legged counterparts. The remaining portion of our mission gets to the real heart of the matter, but again, how do we live up to it? Well here are a few of the ways:

In order for us to stay current on emerging techniques, the doctors and technicians attend various continuing education (CE) opportunities throughout the year. By doing this we are exposed to new techniques, new pharmaceuticals, new technology, etc. that is necessary to stay up to date in the ever changing field of large animal veterinary medicine. Also through attending these CE events we facilitate the fulfillment of the final portion of our mission. We can bring information back with us to be shared with you, the client, and staff members at face value or this information may spur a new idea that we can then utilize.

Additionally, we provide our patients with the best care possible through the use of updated technology such as digital radiography which allows us to immediately view our radiographs, decreases the need for costly re-takes, and x-ray guided injections of various bursa and/or joints. We also have full endoscopic capabilities, current in-house laboratory equipment, in-house blood gas analysis, digital ultrasound, cryotherapy, CO<sub>2</sub> Laser, arthroscopy and gastrointestinal stapling for colic surgeries just to list a few.

As you may have already noticed, we have been in our new hospital for over a year now (how time flies). Our old barn has been turned into a dedicated surgical facility complete with new stalls, a treatment room makeover and a nice exterior face lift. Construction on our isolation ward is nearly complete. You may also notice some changes in staff – we have welcomed back some familiar faces and added some fresh new ones as well. We are fully aware of the many staffing changes you, as clients, have endured and we cannot fully express how much we appreciate your support during our period of growth. These changes allow us to fulfill a large portion of our "deal" with you.

Lastly, we would love your input. Please visit our newly updated website at [www.comstockequine.com](http://www.comstockequine.com) for our contact information. We appreciate your continued support as we strive to make ourselves a destination facility for you and your animal(s). ▶

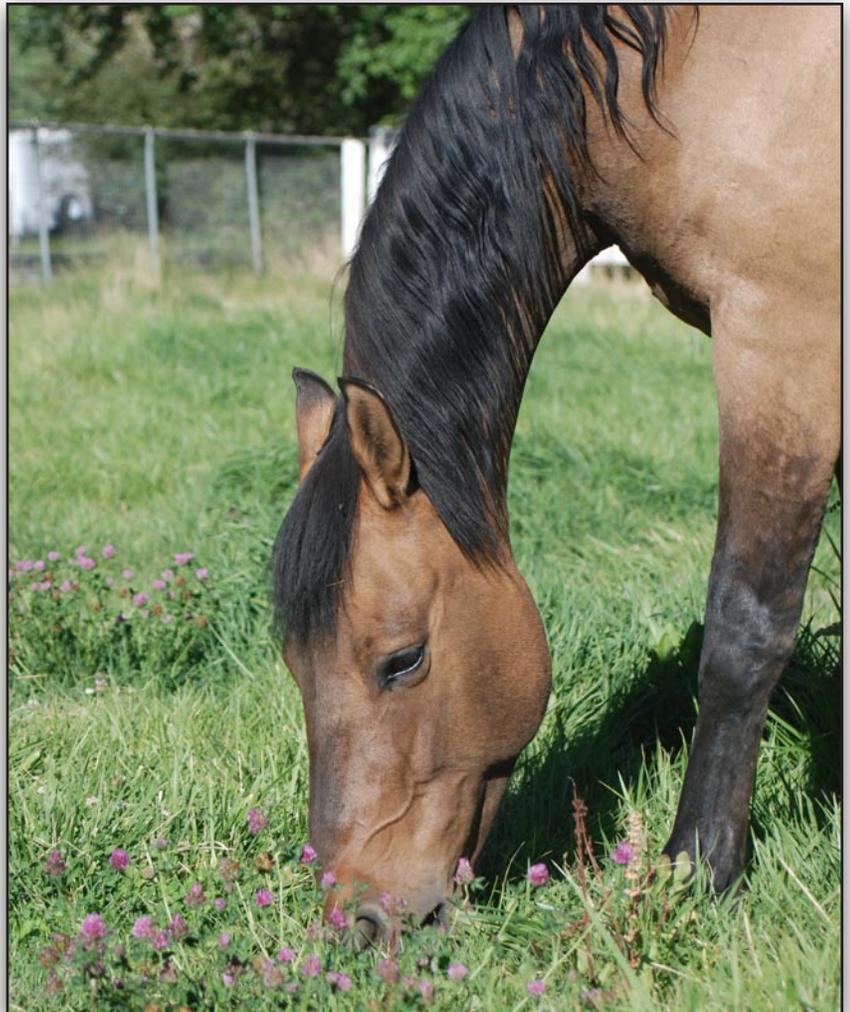
## "DAKOTA,"

### Comstock Large Animal Hospital's Mustang Mascot:

You may have noticed our resident mustang on a visit to our clinic, but if you have not – please allow us to take this opportunity to introduce "Dakota." "Dakota" is our 10-year old buckskin gelding that Dr. Joseph M. Coli adopted three years ago. "Dakota" spends his days consuming hay and looking at his guests that may be visiting his mare motel, however, "Dakota" does have a job here with us.

Many times "Dakota" is called upon to keep patients company in the hospital on their overnight stays, which we know he all too well enjoys (especially during the winter because we all spoil him with even more cookies and hay). Oh, and yes, we realize he is grossly overweight and would like you to consider him as an example of how your horse should not look! "Dakota" also serves as our resident blood donor, which, due to the fact that equine blood cannot be banked for long periods of time, is a nice service we can offer our patients and clients. If needed in an emergency situation, his blood would be cross-matched with the patient's to ensure compatibility, and once this is confirmed the donation would begin.

Now that you are at least somewhat familiar with our boy and his purpose here at Comstock, we will be keeping you posted on the goings on in his oh-so-busy life... ▶



# Fall Vaccine Clinics:

Fall is just around the corner (even though that is a bit hard to imagine here lately with the intense heat we have been dealing with) and that means fall vaccine clinics are nearing. The clinics are days we provide routine healthcare for your horses, and the farm call is greatly reduced. Vaccines, de-worming, sheath cleaning and dental exams will be offered following a mandatory physical exam. Separate dates will be scheduled as necessary for dentistry. We ask that you call our office to reserve an appointment for the day(s) listed when we are in your area. We will call you back a few days before your reserved appointment to give you an estimated time when we will be at your address. Please keep in mind that occasionally emergencies occur making it necessary to reschedule your appointment. We do appreciate your patience when this happens. In order to help us stay on our schedule, we ask that you have your horses caught, haltered and ready for our visit. Please remember that we have many horses to treat in a day and are often unable to satisfy requests for specific appointment times or diagnosis/treat other issues in depth. ▶

Area/Location	Date	Day	Float/Booster date
Washoe Valley	Sept 11th	Tues.	Oct. 10th (wed)
Washoe Valley	Sept 10th	Mon.	Oct. 15th (mon)
Washoe Valley	Sept 22nd	Sat.	Oct. 24th (wed)
Washoe Valley	Sept 25th	Tues.	Oct. 30th (tues)
Washoe Valley	Oct 4th	Thurs.	Nov. 8th(thurs)
Southwest Reno	Oct 4th	Thurs.	Nov. 12th (mon)
Southwest Reno	Sept 15th	Sat.	Oct. 18th (thurs)
Southwest Reno	Sept 17th	Mon.	Oct. 22nd (mon)
Southwest Reno	Sept 27th	Thurs.	Nov. 1st (thurs)
Southwest Reno	Oct 2nd	Tues.	Nov. 6th (tues)
Spanish Springs	Oct 10th	Wed.	Nov. 6th (tues)
Spanish Springs	Sept 11th	Tues.	Oct. 16th (tues)
Spanish Springs	Sept 19th	Wed.	Oct. 24th (wed)
Spanish Springs	Oct 6th	Sat.	Nov. 5th (mon)
Lemmon Valley	Sept 12th	Wed.	Oct. 17th (wed)
Lemmon Valley	Sept 29th	Sat.	Nov. 13th (tues)
Lemmon Valley	Oct 9th	Tues.	Nov. 7th (wed)
Palomino Valley	Sept 13th	Thurs.	Oct. 18th (thurs)
Palomino Valley	Sept 26th	Wed.	Nov. 7th (wed)
Golden Valley	Sept 13th	Thurs.	Oct. 16th (tues)
Golden Valley	Oct 3rd	Wed.	Nov. 8th(thurs)
North Valleys*	Sept 18th	Tues.	Oct. 23rd (tues)
North Valleys*	Sept 27th	Thurs.	Nov. 1st (thurs)
West Reno	Sept 20th	Thurs.	Oct. 25th (thurs)
Verdi/Mogul	Sept 26th	Wed.	Oct. 25th (thurs)
Verdi/Mogul	Oct 9th	Tues.	Nov. 13th (tues)
Pleasant Valley/Mt Rose	Sept 12th	Wed.	Oct. 17th (wed)
Pleasant Valley/Mt Rose	Sept 25th	Tues.	Oct. 30th (tues)
Carson/Dayton	Sept 18th	Tues.	Oct. 23rd (tues)
Carson/Dayton	Oct 8th	Mon.	Nov. 14th(wed)
Toll Rd/Virginia Fthills	Sept 24th	Mon.	Oct. 29th (mon)
Toll Rd/Virginia Fthills	Oct 2nd	Tues.	Nov. 14th(wed)

\*North Valleys include Cold Springs, Silver Knolls, Red Rock, Antelope Valley and Rancho Haven

Price List	
Farm Call	\$10.00
Wellness examination	\$18.00
Wellness exam (Preventacare)	29.00
Preventicare enrollment	39.00
West Nile Innovator	26.00
West Nile EWT	32.00
Rhino-Influenza	25.00
Strangles I.N.	29.00
De-worm (ivermectin/Equell)	17.00
De-worm (foal/mini)	14.00
Coggins test	25.00
Sheath Cleaning	39.00
Sedation... starting at	42.25

# New Innovations in Equine Lameness:

## VET-STEM



Vet-Stem, Inc. is a company with 20 years of experience in regenerative medicine for the veterinary profession. Their modality is used to treat injured tendons, ligaments and joints. The process involves harvesting adipose (fat) tissue from your horse, shipping the sample to

Vet-Stem for isolation of your horse's own stem cells and regenerative cells which are in turn sent back to us to be injected in to the lesion or joint. This technology allows the injured cells to be replaced by normal functioning cells rather than scar tissue. For more information please visit their website at [www.vet-stem.com](http://www.vet-stem.com).

## I.R.A.P. (Orthokine)

IRAP is another new and exciting treatment for osteoarthritis in the horse. IRAP is an acronym for interleukin 1 receptor antagonist protein and is also known as Orthokine. This molecule is a naturally occurring substance that down regulates (inhibits) the production of inflammatory chemicals responsible for cartilage damage in the joint. It involves a sample of blood drawn from your horse in a special syringe which is sent off to a laboratory for centrifugation and culture. This then concentrated product is sent back to us to inject into the joint. The product can also be frozen for future use. The typical protocol is a weekly injection for 3 treatments.

If you are interested in these therapies for your horse, please contact our doctors for more information. ▶



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