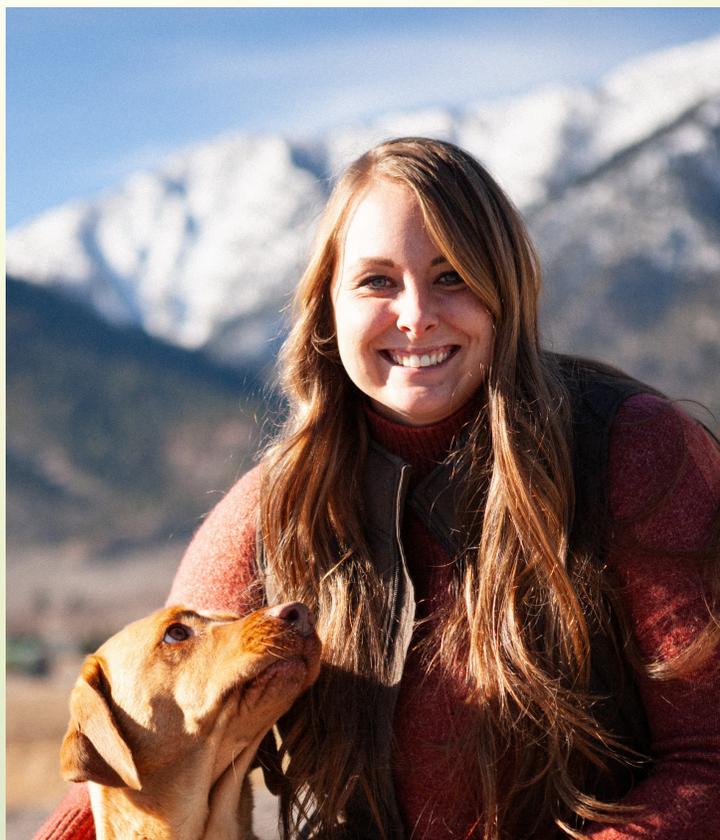


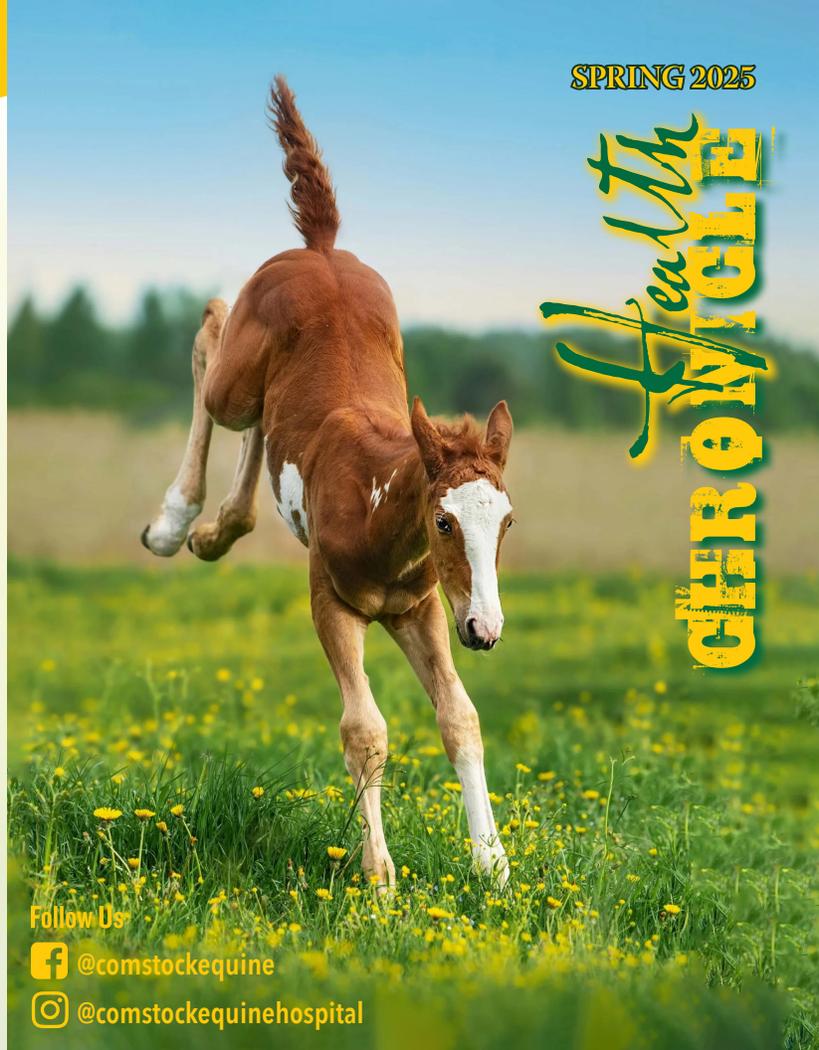
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EQUINE HOSPITAL



## *Welcome Dr. Kalene Johnson!*

**We are so excited to welcome Dr. Kalene Johnson to our team!** Dr. Johnson is a graduate of the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She is a native of Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Her professional interests include reproduction, lameness, wound management, and emergency care. In her free time, Dr. Johnson enjoys hiking, strength training, spending any time she can on her horses, The Black Horse, Royal, Kitty, and Doc, and bookworming in a coffee shop. She also has two labs named Goose and Bo and two border collies named Patsy and Frannie. Dr. Johnson is based out of the Great Basine Equine office and will also be offering reproductive services this spring! 🐾



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CHRONICLES

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## **Artificial Insemination: Breaking Down The Options Available To Your Mare**

*Kalene A. Johnson DVM*

**In today's day and age, the options of how to get your mare in foal seem to be endless. Are you feeling information overload?** Let us help you break down each option of artificial insemination with the facts to help you choose what is right for you and your mare.

### **Artificial Insemination with Fresh Semen**

- AI with fresh semen includes a scenario in which the stallion is collected, and semen is processed to breed a mare the same day of collection. Fresh semen stays viable in a mare's uterus for 48 hours or more post breeding. Benefits of AI with fresh semen may include less frequent insemination than fresh-cooled or frozen semen. Disadvantages would require that the mare live in close proximity of the stallion. Pregnancy rates for fresh semen can be as high as 80% but of course can vary depending on many factors including fertility of the stallion.

### **Artificial Insemination with Fresh-Cooled Semen**

- Breeding with fresh-cooled semen can add value to a breeding program because it opens the possibility to breed

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to a stallion that is not geographically close to your mare. The cooling process does decrease the quality of the semen as compared with fresh semen. Semen is normally shipped overnight or counter-to-counter through an airline. Fresh-cooled semen statistically stays viable in the reproductive tract of the mare 24-48 hours post breeding. This can vary between different stallions and mares. As most popular stallions will only be collected on certain days of the week, care must be taken to carefully plan semen shipments and the timing of the breeding of your mare. Additionally, holidays and the weekend can play a large role dictating when your semen will arrive. Fresh-cooled semen has a pregnancy rate up to 60% which is lower than fresh semen but higher than frozen semen

### **Artificial Insemination with Frozen Semen**

- Frozen semen involves a careful process of freezing semen samples from a given stallion so that the semen can be viable \*forever\* (depending on how it is handled). Frozen semen can be very valuable in the instance that the mare owner prefers to breed to a stallion that is no longer living or able to be collected or in rural settings where it is best to not take your chance on relying on overnight shipping. Frozen semen does have decreased quality compared to fresh and fresh-cooled samples. As a general rule of thumb, thawed frozen semen will stay viable in a mare for up to 12 hours. This requires a more timed approach to breeding the mare. AI with frozen semen has a lower pregnancy rate than fresh-cooled and fresh, generally from 30-45%.

In summary, the more a sample of semen is processed or handled, the less viability it will have in your mare's reproductive tract over a length of time. Also the more the sample is processed, the more precise the timing of breeding will need to be. Artificial insemination can be a wonderful tool to utilize the genetics that you specifically want for your program. Let us help you choose the best route for you and your mare!

*Dr. Johnson will be providing breeding services at Great Basin Equine this spring. Please contact the office for more information and scheduling. 🐾*

## **Fecal Water Syndrome**

*Elisabeth M. Lau DVM*

**Fecal Water Syndrome (FWS) is a frustrating condition that causes a horse to pass excess fluid around solid manure during defecation.** While horses appear to not have any discomfort or distress, it can be extremely messy. They often have staining down their hind limbs and collect loose manure in their tails. Winter months can make it especially challenging to keep these horses clean. Horses with FWS often appear healthy and have normal body condition scores thus adding to horse owner's frustrations in knowing what to do next.

Currently there is no exact known cause, but there are certain predisposing factors that can lead to FWS. These include poor dentition preventing a horse from properly chewing feed, poorly digested fiber in the hay, stress, and an imbalance of the microbiome in the gastrointestinal tract. It is important to note that FWS is not the same as diarrhea. While similar in appearance, diarrhea typically does not consist of formed fecal balls. Diarrhea can be caused by inflammation in the hindgut either from an infectious disease or a mechanical irritation such as sand.

Without an exact cause, we often use multiple approaches to manage horses with FWS. Routine dentistry can help horses chew their feed more efficiently. Feeding an easy-to-digest forage can be extremely beneficial. The best way to achieve this is to replace a large percentage of a horse's diet with hay pellets or hay cubes. This often requires horses with FWS to be fed separately from herd mates. Hay pellets and hay cubes can also be more expensive than feeding hay. While replacing hay completely has been shown to be the most beneficial, we have seen positive results by replacing even as little as 50% of the hay ration with pellets and cubes. We strongly recommend feeding a quality pre-biotic and probiotic such as Platinum Performance Platinum Balance, SmartPak Smart Digest and Smart GI, Provable EQ, and Purina Systemiq. Results can vary from horse to horse, and owners should prepare themselves to be patient and willing to try different options.

Recently Purina developed the Purina Microbiome Quotient (MQ) Equine Microbiome Testing Kit, a non-invasive test that analyzes the bacteria in your horse's hindgut, maps your horse's individual microbiome, and develops a nutrition plan that is specifically tailored to your horse. Thousands of horses from all over the country were evaluated to establish one of the largest microbiome projects of any species. Using the testing kit and an extensive health history of your horse, nutritionists provide a current evaluation of your horse's microbiome population and gut health, potential concerns, and a plan specific for your horse and region. Visit <https://mq.purinamills.com> for more information and to order.

We understand how frustrating these cases can be, and we are ready to work with you and your horse to find the best management strategy. 🐾



## SPRING VACCINE CLINIC SCHEDULE

Area	Day	Date
Washoe Valley 1	Mon	3-Mar
Washoe Valley 2	Thurs	13-Mar
Washoe Valley 3	Wed	9-Apr
Washoe Valley 4	Tues	6-May
SW Reno 1	Tues	4-Mar
SW Reno 2	Wed	12-Mar
SW Reno 3	Mon	14-Apr
SW Reno 4	Mon	21-Apr
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 1	Mon	10-Mar
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 2	Wed	16-Apr
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 1	Wed	5-Mar
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 2	Tues	18-Mar
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 3	Mon	14-Apr
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 4	Fri	9-May
Spanish Springs 1	Mon	3-Mar
Spanish Springs 2	Wed	12-Mar
Spanish Springs 3	Fri	25-Apr
Spanish Springs 4	Wed	30-Apr
North Valleys 1	Fri	14-Mar
North Valleys 2	Tues	29-Apr
Golden/Sun Valley 1	Fri	7-Mar
Golden/Sun Valley 2	Tues	6-May
Carson/Dayton 1	Thurs	6-Mar
Carson/Dayton 2	Tues	25-Mar
Carson/Dayton 3	Fri	11-Apr
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 1	Tues	11-Mar
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 2	Wed	2-Apr
West Reno/Verdi-Mogul	Fri	21-Mar
Palomino Valley 1	Thurs	6-Mar
Palomino Valley 2	Thurs	27-Mar
Palomino Valley 3	Mon	21-Apr
Stagecoach/Silver Springs 1	Fri	28-Mar

## SPRING CLINIC PRICING

Farm Call	40
Physical/Wellness Exam	40
Core Innovator with Rabies	63
EWT WN Innovator	59
Vetera Gold (EWT, West Nile, F/R)	95
Flu/Rhino	48
Rabies	30
Deworm	33
Deworm (Foal/Mini)	21
Fecal Exam	30
Clean Sheath	65
Sedation - Starts At	70
Coggins	52
Health Certificate	45
Health Certificate Additional Horse	30
EECVI (6 Month Health Certificate)	110

Prices of dewormers vary depending on what deworming strategy your horse requires. A 10% discount will be applied to owners with 5 or more horses, and the farm call fee will be waived. Not applicable with any other discount. \*\*Manufacturer's Immunization Support Guarantee: The vaccine company will pay for diagnostic & treatment costs up to \$5000 for your horse if he or she has been vaccinated by one of our doctors and becomes infected by West Nile, Influenza, Tetanus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and/or Western Equine Encephalitis within 1 year of vaccination. This guarantee excludes Strangles & Rhino virus.\*\*



**YOUR HORSE  
NEEDS A  
DENTAL EXAM  
EVERY YEAR!**

### Dentistry Pricing

We are offering our dentistry prices at \$235 plus sedatives. Sheath cleanings may be added for the discounted price of \$65.

We are continuing the Dental Health Maintenance Plan. Any horse that has dentistry performed annually will receive the discounted price of \$185 plus sedatives. This plan is ideal for horses that require more frequent dentistry.

To best service our clients, all of our doctors have received extensive training and continuing education opportunities in the field of equine dentistry.

### The discounted price includes:

- Sedation Examination
- Full Mouth Speculum Examination
- Dental Equilibration (performed with hand & power tools)



**COMSTOCK EQUINE HOSPITAL**

90 W. Laramie Drive Reno, Nevada 89521

P: 775.849.0120 F: 775.849.3129

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*Comstock Staff*

Joseph M. Coli *DVM*

Stephen C. Damonte *DVM*

Shane M. Miller *DVM Dipl. ACVS*

Elisabeth M. Lau *DVM*

Elizabeth L. Hanrahan *DVM*

Samantha E. Terenzi *DVM CVC*

Anne M.C. Brien *DVM*

Laura A. Saggese *DVM*

Jamie Frayne *LVT*

Morgan Passow *LVT*

Valerie Foley *LVT*

Wendy Wyatt *LVT*

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