



Newman Equine Newsletter

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September 2009

Keeping you in touch with your horse

Newman Equine is excited to welcome

Jenny Kelly, DVM as a member of our veterinary team. Dr. Kelly is originally from the North shore of O'ahu. After receiving a BA in Zoology in 1995 from the University of Hawaii, she taught high school science and math for 2 years. She then moved to Indiana to attend veterinary school and received her DVM from Purdue University in 2002.

After veterinary school, she completed an internship at Surgi-Care in Brandon, Florida, and worked there an additional year in an ambulatory emergency position. In 2004, she headed north for a surgical residency program at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. She completed a large animal surgery residency and Master's program and returned to Surgi-Care as a surgeon.

Her main interests include; working with farmers on problematic foot cases such as laminitis, treating septic joints, wounds, colic, arthroscopy, and upper airway disorders.

Did you know?

There was only one survivor at Custer's last stand?
When ordered to move a band of Indians toward a large American cavalry force, the ambitious and often arrogant Custer became over-zealous, and as they reached the Sioux encampment, he divided his regiment and decided to fight. Custer's force was entirely annihilated within a short time. The other regiment force was rescued by supporting cavalry four days later, and the search for survivors of Custer's troops began.
Not one man was found alive.....
just one horse survived.

HEALTH CARE PLAN

Another great idea to cut the cost of ownership is to invest in our very popular *Health Care Plan*. The *Health Care Plan* includes a complete annual care package for your horse.

- 4-Influenza/Rhinopneumonitis Vaccines
- 2-Eastern & Western Encephalitis Vaccines
- 1-West Nile Vaccine
- 1-Rabies Vaccine
- 1-Potomac Horse Fever Vaccine
- 4-De-worming Treatments
- 1-Annual Coggins Test

This package is only \$335.00 for the year

A dental float can be added at any plan visit for only \$130.00

Need more reasons to purchase the Health Care Plan?

- No *emergency fees* for horses on the plan
- Consult with your vet for *free* on each of the 4 visits
- We contact you when your horse is due for a visit from one of our Vets.

CALL THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFO

(321) 639 4242

The average lifespan of a horse is 30 years old; however "Old Billy" foaled in Lancashire, UK in 1760, lived to **62 years of age**.

Are You (and Your Mare) Ready for Breeding Season?

Kim Moherman, DVM

It may feel like foaling and breeding season are a long time off, but those months will fly by and it'll be here before we know it. Now's the time to start preparing your mare for her upcoming foaling, or, if she's not pregnant, next year's breeding season.

For mares that are currently in foal:

1. Recheck her pregnancy: Most pregnancies are lost within the first 60 days of pregnancy; however, many owners haven't had the pregnancy checked since the 17- or 35-day post-breeding ultrasound. Not all mares will show obvious signs of heat to indicate that they are no longer pregnant. The same ultrasound technique that was used to check early pregnancy can also be used to confirm that your mare is still pregnant and that the uterus and fetus are healthy.
2. Pneumobort K: Your mare should receive the Pneumobort K vaccine at 5, 7, and 9 months of gestation (the average gestation of a foal is 11 months). This vaccine protects the mare and foal against strains of the Rhinopneumonitis virus (Herpes virus) that can adversely affect the pregnancy.
3. Booster all vaccines: Your mare should receive boosters of all of her vaccines by 10 months of gestation. Boosters are necessary in order to help the mare form antibodies that will be passed on to the foal via her colostrum.

For mares that aren't pregnant:

1. Uterine culture: Now is the time to have your mare's uterus cultured to check for infections. By culturing early, this gives you plenty of time to clear up any possible infections and not lose valuable time during breeding season.
2. Uterine biopsy: Did your mare not get pregnant last season? If so, a uterine biopsy may be in order. A uterine biopsy will let you know what condition the tissue of the uterus is in and what the likelihood of her becoming pregnant is.

3. Blood work: Many metabolic conditions will keep your mare from becoming pregnant. Common conditions include hypothyroidism and Cushing's disease. Both of these disorders can be tested for by one of our veterinarians.

If you have any questions about your mare and the upcoming breeding season, or, if you would like to schedule any of these vaccines or procedures, please call the clinic at 321-639-4242.

**I bet on a great horse yesterday.....
It took seven horses to beat him.**

Did you know....

Draught horses are the world's strongest animals apart from elephants, but proportional to their weight, men are stronger than horses.

It's been said that horses, like humans, have one leg (or in the case of horses, two legs on the same side) shorter than the other. The mane falls towards the shortest side.

Don't be saddled with worry over veterinary bills...

In light of the current economic situation we have acquired the services of "Carecredit". This service is for our clients who would like to have another payment option available to them when it comes to looking after their horse(s).

Carecredit has enough flexible payment plans to cater to all of your financial situations. Payment plans range from 3 months to 60 month terms, with no interest for up to 12 months, interest rates are as low 13.9% up to 60 months.

For more info contact

Office 321-639-4242.

Carecredit at 1-800-365-8295

or go online to apply, it only takes 5 minutes at...

www.carecredit.com

Did you know...

- The American Quarter Horse is probably the fastest horse in the world? They have been seen to race at nearly 50 miles per hour.
- Horses have larger eyes than any other land animal?
- Horses belong to the Equus family. "Equus" originates from the ancient greek word meaning 'quickness'.

POWER DENTISTRY OR HAND FLOATING

By *Sheryl Colman EqDT*

Equine dentistry has been in practice since at least 600 B.C.

It was not until the mid-17th century that Markham described a technique to remove the sharp lateral edges of the upper arcade to prevent soft tissue ulcerations. This practice remains the most common dental procedure performed in the horse.

The knowledge of equine dental embryology, anatomy, and physiology has undergone a revolution in the last 30 years, allowing evidence-based decision making to affect clinical procedures. Floating teeth no longer needs to be laborious, hot, frustrating work. Power density combined with sedative drugs, has changed the way we view the treatment of dental problems.

A complete oral examination of the horse requires sedation. Horses can respond unpredictably to oral examination and mouth gags can be dangerous. An initial examination of the mouth and TMJ (temporo mandibular joint) can be performed without sedation.

An oral examination is not complete unless all teeth, including the occlusal surfaces of the premolars and molars, are visually examined and palpated. This requires sedation, a full mouth speculum, and the horse's head should be held. A full mouth speculum is heavy and at the end of a horse's nose, this can be a formidable weapon without sedation. The speculum is then opened and the tongue is often grasped to assist in the inspection of the premolars and molars.

Grasping the tongue leads to a reflex withdrawal reaction and contraction of the glossal musculature. The result is thickening of the tongue, and the horse moving it from side to side, reducing visibility. The use of power equipment reduces the risk of tooth fracture, there is less labor involved for the dentist, procedures can be performed quicker, and there are superior end results. The bottom line is that the degree of precision and speed with which corrections can be made are huge positives for the judicious use of power equipment. The time required to make significant occlusal corrections by hand is just not in the best interest of the horse. (mouth open too long, additional sedation, etc.) Keep in mind that there is nothing wrong with the use of power tools. Any tool is only as useful or as safe as the hand of the person holding it. Experience counts.

In conclusion, the use of power dental equipment has revolutionized the performance of equine dentistry; however, the skills of the basic oral examination and the challenge of keeping current with new literature and techniques are paramount to prevent excessive and incorrect use of this powerful tool.



**Your Horse Needs A
Dental Exam Every Year**

**Can't find the right gift for that special
horse lover????**

**How about a Gift Certificate from Newman
Equine?**

Available in amounts from \$10 to

"whatever you want"

**Call the office and we will put it in the mail for
you.**

321 639 4242

QUIZ

1. What is the difference between a pony and a horse?
2. Are Shetlands the smallest breed of horse?
3. Can horses swim?
4. What is a roached mane?
5. Is a 'sire' male or female?

Quiz Answers

1. A pony measures 14.2 hands and under, while a horse is over 14.2 hands high.
2. Falabella's from Argentina are the smallest breed of horse.
3. Yes, horses can swim. Many really enjoy the water.
4. A roached (or hogged) mane is one which has been shaved off.
5. A sire is always a male horse. He is the father.

If you have any horse related material you would like to contribute, please send it to the office.
We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Newman Equine.....

The only exclusively Equine vetinary clinic in Brevard County.

**Check us out on the web at
www.newmanequine.com**