

### A Year In Numbers

In 2018 Comstock Equine Hospital:

- Saw 548 Emergency Cases
- Treated 307 Colics
- Performed 28 Colic Surgeries
- Performed 115 General Anesthesia Procedures
- Vaccinated 1786 Horses
- Performed 462 Coggins Tests
- Performed 389 Lameness Examinations
- Performed 678 Routine Dental Procedures
- Drove an average of 30,000 miles per veterinarian.

Thank you for helping us make 2018 a fantastic year!

### **Going Paperless!**

Starting in the Fall of 2019, we will be moving towards a digital copy of our biannual flyers. During these spring clinics, we will be ensuring we have your most current email address. We understand that this may not be an option for everyone. If you would still like to receive a paper flyer, we will mark your chart accordingly.



# Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 10am - 2pm • Bartley Ranch

The Spring Horse Expo is back for its seventh year with a new format. In order to keep this event fresh and exciting, we are adding in an afternoon of informative lectures. We will continue to have a breed and discipline demonstration in the morning as well as feature local equestrian vendors and interest groups. We will also have local food trucks.

For up to date information and the schedule of events, check out our event page on Facebook.

If you are interested in having a booth or participating in the demonstrations, please email: office@comstockequine.com

When taking a diagnostic approach to assessing your horse's health, your veterinarian will perform a physical examination and often recommend blood work. The information gained from the blood work will depend on what specific test is run, but the answers can give a more complete picture of what is going on with your horse. Reasons your veterinarian may want to perform blood work are fever, inappetence, weight loss, long term medication use, and routine monitoring especially in the geriatric horse.

Blood contains red blood cells (RBCs), white blood cells (WBCs), platelets, total protein, fibrinogen, and serum. A veterinarian uses a complete blood cell count (CBC) to assess all the cells including their size, shape, and composition.

Red blood cells (RBCs) carry oxygen throughout the body. Anemia is a decreased number of RBCs. This can be caused by blood loss or chronic disease causing decreased production of RBCs. If RBCs are elevated, dehydration is suspected, and fluid therapy is recommended.

White blood cells (WBCs) are the soldiers of the immune system. Elevated WBCs can indicate inflammation and infection. A differential count can indicate chronicity and the nature of the disease. It is also used in conjunction with Fibrinogen and/or Serum Amyloid A to assess the nature of the infection and if antibiotics may be needed. Fibrinogen is a protein produced by the liver and is released early in inflammation. Elevated fibrinogen can indicate chronic inflammation, and extremely elevated fibrinogen can indicate the presence of an abscess. Serum Amyloid A is an acute phase protein that can increase more quickly in the inflammatory process and therefore may be detected earlier.

Serum contains proteins, enzymes, biochemicals, and electrolytes. A serum chemistry is a panel of tests that

measures these components to assess different organ systems (especially the liver, kidneys, muscles, and intestines) inflammation, and hydration status.

Routine monitoring of blood work in the geriatric horse can help assess potential kidney, liver, or endocrine issues early when intervention can be most helpful. Long term medications such as anti-inflammatories can also have systemic effects on the kidneys, liver, and gastrointestinal system. Monitoring horses on these medications can help ensure they are not causing more harm than good.

#### **Other Routine Blood Tests**

**Coggins** – Coggins is a blood test that detects antibodies for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). Negative Coggins tests are required for interstate travel and certificates of veterinary inspections (CVIs) also known as health certificates. Coggins tests are good for 12 months in most states including Nevada.

**Endogenous ACTH (Cortisol)** – The most commonly used test for diagnosis and monitoring of PPID (Cushings) is a baseline endogenous ACTH. Seasonal reference ranges have been established for endogenous ACTH and therefore can be run anytime in the year. If a horse is suspected to have Cushings based on clinical signs, but the endogenous ACTH is normal, a TRH-response test can be performed between the months of January to August. The TRH-response test is thought to be more sensitive; however the seasonal reference range has not been established.

Whether establishing a baseline in a healthy horse, working up an illness, or establishing a horse's health status for travel, blood work is a very useful tool in our diagnostic arsenal. Used in combination with a thorough history and physical examination, it can help identify the source of a problem as well as monitor recovery.

## Daily Equioxx Use & Kidney Health

We have long known that the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs) such as phenylbutazone and flunixin (Banamine) can cause damage to the kidneys. Because of this, the use of the Cox-2 selective NSAID firocoxib (Equioxx) became more favorable in hopes that it was not as nephrotoxic as its nonspecific counterparts. However there have been no clinical studies demonstrating that it is any safer on the kidneys. Because so many of our arthritic patients depend on Equioxx for their overall comfort and quality of life, we are using it much longer than the recommended treatment duration. To ensure our patients are maintaining healthy kidney function, we are recommending a renal panel be performed every 6 months. This panel can be performed at your horse's biannual wellness examinations.

#### SPRING VACCINE CLINIC SCHEDULE

AREA	DAY	DATE
Washoe Valley 1	Tues	5-March
Washoe Valley 2	Sat	2-Mar
Washoe Valley 3	Wed	20-March
Washoe Valley 4	Tues	9-Apr
Washoe Valley 5	Thurs	11-Apr
Washoe Valley 6	Sat	6-Apr
SW Reno 1	Wed	6-March
SW Reno 2	Sat	9-March
SW Reno 3	Thurs	21-March
SW Reno 4	Tues	26-March
SW Reno 5	Wed	3-April
SW Reno 6	Sat	20-April
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 1	Thurs	7-March
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 2	Tues	19-March
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 3	Saturday	27-April
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 1	Tues	5-March
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 2	Thurs	21-March
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 3	Wed	27-March
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 4	Sunday	24-March
Spanish Springs 1	Thurs	7-March
Spanish Springs 2	Tues	19-March
Spanish Springs 3	Sat	30-March
Spanish Springs 4	Wed	3-April
Spanish Springs 5	Tues	16-April
North Valleys 1	Thurs	14-March
North Valleys 2	Tues	26-March
Golden/Sun Valley 1	Tues	12-March
Golden/Sun Valley 2	Wed	27-March
Carson/Dayton 1	Tues	12-March
Carson/Dayton 2	Thurs	28-March
Carson/Dayton 3	Thurs	25-April
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 1	Thurs	14-March
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 2	Tues	23-March
West Reno/Verdi-Mogul 1	Wed	13-March
West Reno/Verdi-Mogul 2	Thurs	28-March
Palomino Valley 1	Mon	4-March
Palomino Valley 2	Mon	8-April
Carson Valley 1	Mon	11-March
Stagecoach/Silver Springs 1	Fri	22-March

SPRING CLINIC PRICES		
Farm Call	21	
Physical/Wellness Exam	20	
West Nile - EWT	40	
Rhino-Influenza	33	
Strangles I.N.	35	
Rabies	21	
Deworm	17-24	
Deworm (Foal/Mini)	14	
Fecal Exam	23	
Clean Sheath	35	
Sedation - Starts At	45	
Coggins	35	
Health Certificate (First 2 Horses)	45	
Health Certificate Additional Horse	15	

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.\*\*



# **Dentistry Pricing**

We are offering our dentistry prices at \$170 plus sedatives. Sheath cleanings may be added for the discounted price of \$40.

We are continuing the Dental Health Maintenance Plan. Any horse that has dentistry performed annually will receive the discounted price of \$125 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:

**T** Sedation Examination

**Full Mouth Speculum Examination** 

**The Dental Equilibration** (performed with hand & power tools)

#### **COMSTOCK EQUINE HOSPITAL**

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