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Dr. Mandy Murray Lectures on Silicosis

On June 24th SCEC invited local veterinarians to a special dinner and lecture on Silicate Associated Osteoporosis given by Mandy Murray, DVM, MPVM, JD Wheat Veterinary Orthopedic Research Lab at UC Davis, PhD Candidate in Comparative Pathology. Silicate Associated Osteoporosis is a disease of bone fragility in horses seen in certain regions of California. Dr. Murray’s research centers on the unique bone pathology of this condition. This educational event was organized by Dr. Matthew Durham and sponsored by Victor Medical.

Horseman’s Day

Horseman’s Day has been moved to Saturday, February 20th, 2010 at Hidden Valley Music Center in Carmel Valley. Dr. Mandy Murray (mentioned above) will be coming back to speak to our clients and there will be other special topics. Hope to see you there!
RVT Summer Intern from Hartnell

This summer Erin Jones, an RVT Student from Hartnell, did an internship with us through STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program. She received a grant for her work and presented her project at a symposium with other interns mentored by other institutions such as Fremont Peak Observatory, the Naval Postgraduate School, the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, etc. You may have seen her as she rode along with the doctors. She assisted in research on the prevalence of parasites in local horses, as well as investigating the efficacy of deworming medications in order to help us provide our patients with the best deworming programs. Dr. Nora Grenager was her mentor.

The Roy Forzani Scholarship

Steinbeck Country Equine clinic announced this year’s winner of the Roy Forzani Scholarship. This scholarship was created as a tribute and memorial to the greatly respected horseman, Roy Forzani. The recipient is Erin Jones, the student mentioned above, who is attending the Animal Health Technology program at Hartnell College in Salinas. As winner, Erin will be awarded $1500 to help toward her educational costs.

Applicants must be pursuing a career as a veterinary technician, and provide a personal essay, references, and transcripts along with their application. Applications are accepted January 1st through May 1st with the winner announced by May 31st. This scholarship is in its second year. The initial donations contributed in Roy Forzani’s honor allow for at least five years of scholarship awards and we hope to continue beyond. Your generosity will help future veterinary technicians provide the excellent care needed for our horses. Congratulations to Erin from all of us at SCEC!

Anyone wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund or obtain a scholarship application can contact Maureen Rock by telephone or email (info@steinbeckequine.com, “Attention Maureen”) at SCEC.

*Roy Forzani’s granddaughter, Laurel Whisler, is one of SCEC’s certified veterinary technicians.
Staff Update:

On May 9th 2009, Dr. Wade Tenney gave a Powerpoint presentation on “EGUS Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome” for over one hundred people at the Premier Equine Health Symposium at Jamestown, CA. The symposium was a big hit and included veterinary lectures and demonstrations. Many top equine company and pharmaceutical reps were on hand. The day headlined by other top veterinarians such as Dr. Brad Jackman of Pioneer Equine and Dr. Tom Yarbrough—world-renowned equine surgeon. There was an Equine Acupuncture demo by Dr. Linda Lauper. This special event was sponsored by Merial Animal Health Company.

Special Event at Pebble Beach Horse Show

On Thursday, July 30th, SCEC, Merial (the makers of Gastrogard and Equioxx), and Pebble Beach Equestrian Center hosted a special presentation by Will Simpson, show jumping gold medalist at the 2008 Summer Games. There was a barbecue dinner and Will Simpson shared insights and reflections of his Olympic experience. About 250 to 300 people attended this event.

Horse Transportation Bill by Dr. Nora Grenager

HR 503 (The Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act) is a piece of federal legislation that would prohibit the transport, sale, delivery, or export of horses or horsemeat for human consumption. At first glance, most horse enthusiasts would support this bill. However there are many important aspects to consider about this bill. Horse slaughter, and the issues surrounding it, is obviously a sensitive issue for horse owners and horse lovers alike. The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) has thoughtfully made clear their concerns about the bill. It is estimated that each year in the United States approximately 80,000 horses are deemed “unwanted,” for a variety of reasons. Unfortunately, the legislation that would criminalize the transport of horses for slaughter (to Canada and Mexico, since there are no horse slaughter plants in the US) does not provide for, either financially or logistically, the care of these approximately 80,000 horses per year. It is estimated that the feeding and maintaining of a single horse (not including veterinary and farrier care) is approximately $5 per day; so for 80,000 horses the annual cost of care would be at least $146,000,000. While pharmaceutical companies, veterinarians, and the AAEP are actively working to increase the donated funds to provide “unwanted” horses with care and housing, this dollar amount is well above the available financial support. Furthermore, most equine rescue facilities house only a handful of horses, so numerous new facilities would need to be created each year, which is an unreasonable expectation. The AAEP is strongly pro-horse welfare, not pro-horse slaughter, however it has grave concerns over the welfare of the “unwanted” horses if there are no slaughter possibilities. Already the number of abandoned horses, or horses that are inappropriately killed by
non-veterinary persons, has been on the rise. Additionally, the number of horses transported to Mexico and Canada, where there are active horse slaughter facilities, has increased substantially since the last horse slaughter plant in the United States shut down several years ago. Lastly, if horses are not able to be legally shipped or slaughtered within the US, there is no ability of the US to regulate and make sure these processes are done in a humane manner, and thus no way to make sure that horses do not suffer during the process. The AAEP believes that this legislation is indicative of the larger issue of the welfare of “the unwanted horse.” For more information on this troubling topic, please visit [www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/unwanted_horses_faq.asp](http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/unwanted_horses_faq.asp) or [www.aaeep.org/pdfs/AAEP_Position_HR503.pdf](http://www.aaeep.org/pdfs/AAEP_Position_HR503.pdf)

While the bill Dr. Grenager discussed above has a positive intent, the way it is written could cause more suffering. We need to come up with better solutions. As individuals, we can budget to provide for retirement for our own horses, or humane euthanasia if something happens to us and a loving home cannot be found. We can also help support programs like this one listed below.

**SPCA Horse Adoption Program**

**By Beth Brookhouser**

Did you know that you can adopt horses from The SPCA for Monterey County? Your local, independent SPCA doesn’t just help cats and dogs, they also rescue exotic animals, wildlife, and barn animals, including horses.

Over the past few years, SPCA Humane Officers have seen a major increase in horse rescues, including outright abandonment of elderly and sick horses. Costs for horse care (especially grain and hay prices) have sharply escalated, while at the same time the state of the economy has left many owners without discretionary income. These factors have also caused a corresponding decrease in available homes for horses, making it difficult for The SPCA to find homes for the adoptable horses in their care.

The SPCA often has a wide variety of horses available for adoption, from weanlings to elder statesmen in their 30’s. Currently, The SPCA is caring for twelve horses, seven of which are available for adoption.

**Amy** is a very sweet 27 year old bay Quarter horse mare. Amy was surrendered to The SPCA after her owners lost their home to foreclosure. Amy should make an excellent companion horse. She is gentle and has great ground manners.

**Bella** is an 8 year old 16.2 hand dark bay Thoroughbred mare. Bella is looking for a new, loving home as a companion horse. Bella has ringbone and is pasture sound. She gets along well with most other horses.

**Cabra** is a wonderful 20-25 year old mare looking for a loving home as a companion horse. Cabra was rescued by The SPCA in 2008 from a neglectful owner. She came to The SPCA with her foal, Calvin, who has been adopted. Cabra was severely underweight...
when she was rescued and in poor condition to support a nursing foal. She has been nursed back to health at The SPCA. We do not know if Cabra can be ridden, but she has good ground manners and gets along very well with other horses.

Masquerade is an affectionate and gentle 30 year old Arab gelding who came to The SPCA from an owner who did not know how to care for him. We believe he was a show horse in his younger years because he loves being groomed and he acts like he's shown on the line when haltered. He is a very sweet boy who wants to live out his golden years with you.

Ruby is a 14.2 hand 20 year old Quarter horse mare who was rescued by The SPCA from a neglectful owner. Ruby is a solid, loving mare who has a good mind and gets along well with other horses. She should be great for gentle rides on trails. Ruby is in training with a professional trainer where she has been ridden by riders of all levels.

Thunder is a 17 year old 16.2 hand Thoroughbred who was rescued from a neglectful owner by The SPCA. Thunder was severely underweight when he was rescued, scoring a 1 on the Henneke body scale. He has now been nursed back to health and is ready for a new home. Thunder has been working with a professional trainer. He has good manners and needs a home where he can be around other horses. He is very athletic and shows promise in many disciplines.

Please contact The SPCA at 373-2631 or 422-4721 if you are interested in adopting a rescued horse, volunteering to help care for horses, or if you would like to know other ways you can help horses in need. You can also email The SPCA at info@spcamec.org or learn more at www.SPCAmc.org.

Going out of town?

SCEC now offers short-term boarding in the “Mare Motel” for $45 a day. Geldings also welcome. Fee includes feeding, blanketing, cleaning stall, and turning out/hand walking. * There is an extra charge for administering medications.
In Loving Memory of Jeanie Deter

Our dearest Jeanie passed away on November 8th, 2009. She had faced an arduous illness with dignity, determination and a bright sense of humor. She was a beautiful and magnetic lady who loved cooking and entertaining. She touched everyone’s life in a special way. A bacteriologist by education, she also learned to run anesthesia and to be a veterinary technician. She spent many hours working with Dr. Deter. During her last year, she enjoyed the numerous successes of her racing filly, Croxie.

Dr. Alex Eastman and Carlos won 4th at Shepherd Ranch in June and 2nd at Woodside in August in the training division.

Wedding Congratulations!

Tessa and Richard

Jan and Jim

Laramie and Nick
Welcome Incoming Interns:

Kristin McLaughlin received her ScB. in Neuroscience at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island in 2003. During this time she was on the Varsity Equestrian Team. She had previously volunteered in rainforest preservation, rehabilitation and education in Ecuador and had worked at the Overpeck Riding Center in New Jersey, helping with off-site circuit competition, exercising horses and giving riding lessons. She continued her studies at Columbia University in New York and from 2003 to 2005 was an Equine Technician at B.W. Furlong and Associates in New Jersey. In 2005 she studied abroad at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, focusing on advanced field biology. From 2005 to 2009 she received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York and contributed articles in Australian Zoologist, Developmental & Comparative Immunology, and Biology of Reproduction. She was President of the Student Chapter of the American Association of Equine Practitioners and did research at the Equine Genetics Center while at Cornell. Her professional interests include equine sports medicine, theriogenology, and emergency medicine. In addition to horseback riding, she also loves art and hiking with her dog.

Justin McCormick was on the honor roll at Paradise Valley High School and was twice awarded by the Professional Rodeo Cowboy association. He volunteered with Yellowstone National Park, assisting with packing for back country trail crews. In 2001 he received his Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from the University of Arizona where he received several scholarships and was on the Dean's List with Distinction. In 2003 he received his Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science and Microbiology and in 2005 he received his Master of Science in Pathobiology at the University of Arizona. During the 2008/2009 school year, Justin had opportunities to study surgery and lameness in Switzerland and this spring he studied CT and Ultrasound as an extern in Holland. In 2008, Justin presented a lecture at the American Association of Equine Practitioners meeting entitled “Deep Digital Flexor Tendon Angulation and Tendonopathy in the Equine Foot” He will be presenting “Comparison of Single Versus Boosted Vaccine Protocols for a Modified-Live and Killed Virus Vaccine in Inducing Serologic Response Against Equine Influenza in Performance Horses of Different Ages” at this year’s meeting. He has also done volunteer work to help the Pima College Vet Tech Program, assisting with the holiday pet food drive for the Tucson Humane Society, and currently helps donate horses to Boy Scouts. This year Justin received his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of California, Davis. His interests include Equine Surgery, Lameness and Imaging, ranching, cutting and reining, and fly-fishing.
Equine Hauling Services

Tomrich Farms Horse Transportation
831.917.1120  650.714.7529

Tomrich Farms realizes that the horses they transport are not only our customer's pets, but usually part of their customer's family. Transportation to the vet clinic is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. All Steinbeck Equine customers receive 50% off their return trip when using Tomrich Farms Horse Transportation for a round trip vet haul.

Also Available for Hauling, including Emergencies

Bob Aker Equine Transport  831.596.6083  831.663.6466
Michael Ducharme Equine Transport  707.753.1850  831.659.2125
Light Star Horse Transportation  Terry Konkle  877.254.5112
Arthur Miller Equine Transport  831.277.1389  Late Night:  831-484-7344
Mike Scully Equine Transport  831.236.4305
Wayne Willnauer Transportation  408.761.0054