

# Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital

## Newsletter

Equine Edition

May 2009

### Ready to Ride!

Spring is finally here and it's time to take our horses out of deep freeze and into action, on the trails or in the ring. Find out what weaknesses your horse may have and what future problems you can prevent by scheduling a performance evaluation now! We will thoroughly examine your horse at rest, evaluating tendons and bone; as well as conformation issues, saddle fit and suitability for his job. We will then watch your horse in action check his neurologic state, and finally perform flexion tests. From this exam we can make recommendations to you regarding potential work routines, possible supplements, protective leg gear, saddle types, or more specific treatments. There are several newer products and treatment options available to help with joint or tendon soreness. Surpass is one such medication that comes in a convenient ointment form and is applied directly to affected area. Eqiox is a newer antiinflammatory (similar to Bute) that comes in a paste form and is less irritating to the stomach making it safe even for horses prone to ulcers. Numerous new joint supplements are also available. The newest ingredient you will find in many is avocado. Avocado/soybean extract when fed to horses in a 2006 study was shown to significantly decrease arthritic changes in horses, more so than either hyaluron or chondroitin sulfates. It is currently available in the form of Cosequin ASU or Platinum Performance CJ (for joint health).

Call to schedule an appointment today, AND mention this newsletter and receive 25% off your horse's performance evaluation (normally priced at \$95.00).

Kathy Ott, DVM

#### PLEASE REMEMBER

We are now asking for 24 hour notice when calling in an equine prescription refill. We need this time to locate the prescribing veterinarian for authorization.

Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital  
18577 Natchez Ave  
Prior Lake, MN 55372  
952-435-8387  
[www.clearylakevets.com](http://www.clearylakevets.com)  
vets@clvets.com

Most of the time, wherever a horse's ear points is where the horse is looking. If the ears are pointing 2 different directions the horse is looking at two different things at the same time. There are exceptions to this. For example, if a horse has it's ears pinned back against it's neck in anger, it does not mean it's looking backwards with both eyes. A horse can see better at night than a human. However, it takes a horse's eyes longer to adjust than human eyes.

Make your life easier! Sign up for automatic payment of your equine account and receive a 3% discount for paying at the time of service! Check out our website or call for more info.

#### Be Prepared for Travel

If you are transporting horses across state lines you need a health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian. This is a state requirement. Please call us with questions or to set up an appointment.

The Veterinarian will need to take a picture of your horse when they draw blood for coggins testing. The horse should be clean enough to clearly see markings. Please hose or brush mud off of your horse ahead of time.