



OVER HERD

Our Hearts are Broken

There are people in our lives that are so important. The loss of Dr. Bob Gochnauer is one such person. The evening of May 10th Dr. Bob passed while at home. Anyone who has had the privilege of getting to know Dr. Bob will feel the emptiness of him missing from their life... his unending compassion for the animals...his extensive knowledge base...the sympathy when one can't be saved...his caring for folks and his infamous bear hugs.

The Gochnauers are a wonderful family! Dr. Karen was married to Bob for 43 years and specialized in small animal care for many years. Dr. Mary followed in her dad's footsteps to specialize in large animal care with the same wonderful compassion for each animal. The care provided for the rescued horses has always been to relieve sufferings and cure the horses.

Early in the morning or in the middle of the night, we could count on Dr. Bob arriving with a smile and the comment, "What do we have going on?" Dr. Bob was a veterinarian that listened to everything you had to say about the horse's condition. He always asked appropriate questions. He had a great sense of humor and could defuse a tense situation by saying something funny, and you had to laugh.

Our love to Dr. Karen and Dr. Mary Gochnauer, and our heartfelt gratitude for sharing Dr. Bob with us. Our sympathy to the entire family! No one's feeling of loss could ever come close to that of this loving close knit family.



Off to a New Home



We are so happy for Chippewa and his delightful young Ashlan, who adores him. Ashlan has spent hours and hours with him helping him to build trust and bond with her. He is doing great under saddle and is a young horse with the potential to accomplish anything. Ashlan did a great job loading her young friend to go to his new home.

Chippewa has a wonderful new barn to call home and a new horse for a friend. They are close in age and should be great friends.
(Cont. on Page 2)

Off to a New Home (Cont. from Page 1) Chippewa has been with HPS for almost four years. He came in with Cayenne and we felt Chippewa was her colt. They had been in with a paint stallion. We were told that he was 10 to 12 years old by animal control.

That was incorrect and he was just 2 to 3 years old. He was way too young and small yet someone had started him under saddle. We gave him years to develop before starting to think about starting him under saddle.

With the way we work with the horses, they have no reason to buck or act out. Chippewa gained some height and filled out great.

We wish the best for Ashlan and Chippewa!

News from the Herd

Horses that tested positive for EPM: All the horses have completed their treatments for EPM. We take great care in making sure each horse ate all of the medication. Each horse was given a handful of soaked alfalfa and his medication was added to it in their feed tub. All of the other feed was withheld until the alfalfa had been consumed and the feed bowl licked clean.

Now we just have to wait 12 to 18 weeks and then retest all of the horses. Just pray that we do not have to retreat any of the horses.

Big Black – finally picked a name – **Prairie**. This is the only name he showed any positive reaction to after coming up with about 25 different names.

Our veterinarians are so pleased with how well his huge pus pocket is healing up. The pocket started so large a whole hand would fit inside. At first the pocket was packed with a full roll of 6” wide brown gauze socked and the pocket has now closed by half. He is so very good to be doctored, the area cleaned each day and about a foot of the gauze removed to help encourage the pocket to close down. Every four or five days we have Dr. Elise come and flush the pocket and repack it. His chance of a full recovery increases each day.

“A horse is the projection of peoples’ dreams about themselves – strong, powerful, beautiful – and it has the capability of giving us escape from our mundane existence.” By Pam Brown b. 1928

Honors and Memorials

In memory of Dr. Bob Gochbauer. He was loved and will be missed. By Tracey Hubert

Happy Birthday, Hayleigh! By Tina & Rick Cromwell

In memory of Milly and Gypsy, always. By Pam & Steve Carlton



News from the Herd

The Herd has been enjoying the rotation of the small pastures. When the grass grows in the side field, the back field or arena field, we will open one at a time to give them a chance to enjoy the fresh grass. Once they have eaten down the grass, we will change fields and open a different one. The large pond field is never closed off to the horses and by opening the other fields one at a time it has taken a good deal of pressure off the grazing in the pond field. Of course, the herd always has access to as much hay as they want to eat.

It is wonderful to see the horses healthy and happy.

Topaz had a much needed Chiropractic adjustment. Normally we like to wait until a horse has gained more weight. In this case it has helped her to do it earlier than normal. The gentle therapy we have been doing has helped her back leg and most of the time she is walking more normally. When Topaz is at rest the pastern goes back to the abnormal position.

A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful Contributors

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Fun for the Herd

It is true, horses love green grass! Too much fresh grass can cause issues for some horses because of the high amount of sugar in the spring grass.

We have a small area where we used to put round bales before we built the second covered hay feeder. Last year the horses wiped out the new grass in this area in just a couple of days. Not a blade of grass was seen there all summer. This year we fenced the area off to keep the horses off the new grass. The picture shows the second time the horses have been turned out on this nice patch of grass with thick grass up to the horses' knees. Each time the horses can have two days of munching the nice grass in even this small area.

Last year the summer was so hot and dry that if we had not reseeded the fields there wouldn't have been any grass in the fields at all. All of the sowed grass seed is growing nicely and allows us to open different areas that give the horses grazing areas. Then we can close the area off and let the grass recover.

The rain has also helped to keep the water in the pond cleaner. When the horses are enjoying the pond field there will always be horses in the pond rolling and taking a bath. (Except they always come out dirtier than they went in, and covered with a gray sandy soil.) The next step for the horses is an energetic roll on the grass.

Early afternoon the herd comes in to have some hay before snooze time in the barn. The barns normally have a breeze blowing through the open clear shutters around the outside of the barns and the large open barn doors. The horses have free roaming to come and go as they want. This makes for happy horses.

The barns are clear of the annoying flies by the swooping barn swallows. These delightful birds have returned! Last summer was the first time we had one family of swallows nest in barn two. It is difficult to determine how many swallow families are nesting in the two large barns this year. The birds zoom through the barns wiping out the fly population. I hope they stay all summer!

