



To Our Clients and Friends,

It is great to feel the first warmth of spring after a real winter! Despite tough times, Thal Equine has made progress in our quest to build a regional center for horse health for New Mexico and southern Colorado. Our ongoing success is thanks to your continued support.

Our current economy and horse market require that we be even more resourceful in finding practical ways for our clients to treat tough equine health problems. As is true in human medicine, there are a baffling number of sophisticated and expensive ways to treat a variety of equine health problems. Thal Equine is not about selling the fanciest or most expensive treatment. We do want you to know that these treatments exist. We can explain to you how they work, and their costs and benefits. More importantly, our job is to educate you as to what your options are, and then to help you to make a practical decision that fits you and your horse.

We continue to be the practice that you can call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. When you call us, you will get a quick response. We bring together advanced training and experience, state of the art equipment and facilities, and excellent customer service to help you solve your problem quickly and affordably. If it has been a while since we have seen you, give us another try. We are confident you will be pleased.

The Thal Equine Staff joins me in wishing you the best for 2010. Have a wonderful spring!

Doug Thal DVM DABVP

**Thal Equine is committed to providing veterinary services to our clients and their horses even in a tough economy. To this end, we have reduced selected fees significantly.**

## Dr. Thal is now Board Certified by the ABVP in Equine Practice

Dr. Thal recently became a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, specializing in Equine Practice. He mastered a rigorous and demanding application process and certification examination in order to obtain this Diplomate status.



Dr. Thal is the only ABVP certified equine veterinarian currently practicing in New Mexico.

What does this certification mean to you, the horse owner? It should provide you even more peace of mind that Dr. Thal and Thal Equine are committed to the highest standard of equine veterinary medicine and ongoing professional development. See the ABVP website [www.abvp.org](http://www.abvp.org) for more details.



*A. Berkley Chesen DVM DACVS, joined our staff in August. Berkley not only is a board certified equine surgeon, she is also certified in veterinary acupuncture. She combines the best of Eastern and Western training for the good of the horse.*

## Time for Spring Vaccinations

If you haven't vaccinated your horses yet, consider our spring special which includes a brief exam and dental exam, basic vaccines and deworming as needed. We spend enough time with you to answer your questions about your horse.

For 2010, we recommend EWT-WNV (encephalitis, tetanus and West Nile) and flu/rhino as our basic vaccines. Rabies is now a recom-

mended vaccine also.

Prefer to give the vaccines yourself? You can also buy the recommended vaccines at competitive prices from us at [www.thalequine.com](http://www.thalequine.com), Preferred Veterinary Products page.

I recommend you talk to us about your needs first so we can help you design a program that works for you.

## Thal Equine Now Offers Shock Wave Therapy

We now are offering shockwave, a modality that can help horses with lameness and other problems that can be difficult to treat otherwise. I have been watching the progress of this technology in equine practice for about 10 years. Based on recent research, we finally decided to purchase the unit.

In addition to shockwave, we can treat specific conditions with several types of stem cell, IRAP and other progressive therapies. It is important to remember that effective treatment always starts with a proper diagnosis!

Following is a summary of an article by Dr Sarah Feathers, our 2009-2010 resident veterinarian:

Thal Equine Hospital is excited to offer extracorporeal shock wave therapy. Shock wave is a versatile therapy and is used to treat conditions such as suspensory ligament tears, carpal (knee) and hock arthritis, navicular syndrome



*Shockwave being performed on a horse's fetlock.*

(chronic heel pain), back problems and much more.

It is not entirely understood how shock wave helps these and promotes healing. Shock waves may increase blood supply to the treated area, induce the production of

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# Northern New Mexico's Only Fully Equipped Equine Hospital

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - noon, 1 - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday • Saturday 8 a.m. - noon  
24-Hour Emergency Service for clinic calls and mobile service to the Santa Fe area

**THAL EQUINE IS YOUR 24-HOUR EQUINE EMERGENCY RESOURCE!**

Please see our website [www.thalequine.com](http://www.thalequine.com) for a complete list of services.

*el veterinario habla español*

Clinic/Emergency number: **505-438-6590** Email: [drthal@thalequine.com](mailto:drthal@thalequine.com)

## New Thoughts on Parasite Control

Dr. Thal spoke to the Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association on February 24, 2010. The topic was "Parasite Control for Horses - A New Paradigm." Sustainable and smart Equine Parasite control is vital to the current and future health of our horses. Key points:

- Parasites are constantly evolving, and parasite resistance to even our newer de-worming agents is becoming a significant problem.
- Horse owners rotating paste wormers without knowledge of effectiveness is a major factor contributing to parasite resistance
- With the widespread availability of cheap over-the-counter dewormers, veterinarians have stopped guiding horse owners in their parasite control.
- Veterinarians need to regain the lead in parasite control and thus helping to manage the problem of parasite resistance.
- This approach will involve monitoring of fecal egg counts in horses, and from that determining the approach that balances health of horses with reduced use of de-worming compounds. Less dewormer means less selection pressure for resistant worms.
- This approach is cost effective for horse owners. The cost of testing for parasites ends up being offset by far less dewormer being used.

Start by bringing in a fecal example to the practice, at least 8 to 12 weeks after your last deworming. For details on how to get started, call the office, or see our new parasite control handout at [www.thalequine.com/articles/parasite control handout](http://www.thalequine.com/articles/parasite%20control%20handout).

## Boarding High Maintenance Horses

Thal Equine boards high-maintenance horses with daily veterinary needs. Our practice is uniquely suited to providing these services. We have multiple trained veterinary staff on site 24 hours per day. Talk to us about how we can help you with your convalescing, special needs, older or laid up horse.

## Shock Wave Therapy, continued from Page 1

cells that create bone and cartilage, and stimulate immune response. Shock wave is also thought to create a more organized, parallel fiber pattern in healing tissues such as suspensory ligaments or flexor tendons.

Shock waves are high-energy sound waves. The technology was developed after observations of the effects of depth charges on soldiers in submarines during World War II. Shock wave was originally utilized in human medicine as a method to break up and remove kidney stones. It is commonly used in human medicine today to treat musculoskeletal problems such as plantar fasciitis, heel spurs, and tennis elbow.

Research supports the use of shockwave in horses. In recent studies, shockwave was found to help horses with navicular syndrome, chronic suspensory ligament disease, arthritis and even non-healing wounds.

Shock wave is non-invasive. It is performed on standing, sedated horses and provides results with minimal recovery time.

## Colic and Emergency Surgery at Thal Equine

Thal Equine is the 24-hour emergency equine hospital for Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico. We are staffed 24 hour and have a board certified surgeon on staff. Dr. Thal and trained nursing staff live on site. We have been performing colic surgery since 2001 and were the first practice in the region to do it. We have performed a large number of successful cases since.

## Thal Equine Foaling Services

As we have in the past, we are offering attended foaling services to take some of the risk out of foaling your valuable mares at home. We use the Foalert® and video monitors. We can offer this service because Dr. Thal and staff live on site and can attend to an onsite emergency within minutes.

## Planning on Breeding Your Mare this Season?

We offer AI with cooled and frozen semen, stallion services, and are experienced at dealing with hard to breed mares.

Thal Equine, LLC  
69 Bonanza Creek Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

