

AUGUST 2025 VOLUME 51 No. 8 OKLAHOMA EQUESTRIAN TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION

OETRA Fall Color Ride 31-Nov 2, 2025 Cedar Lake, Hodg



Halloween Fun: Wear a costume. Bring your best Chili for a Chili Cook Off. Trophies given to the top 3. If you don't bring chili, please bring dessert or cornbread.

Sat. Ride out to solve the Murder Mystery. Answers given at dinner. Join in the Chuck Wagon dinner for \$5 followed by entertainment.

Sermon on the Mount Sunday morning at 9, location TBA

oetra.com

Murder at Cedar Lake: a Halloween Trail Ride Mystery

Setting: Cedar Lake Equestrian Campground, nestled in the rugged Wichita Mountains of Southeast Oklahoma, is a haven for horse enthusiasts. It's October 31, 2025, and the Oklahoma Equestrian Trail Riders (OETRA) club has gathered 80 members for their annual Halloween ride. The crisp autumn air carries the scent of pine and campfire smoke, and the campground buzzes with excitement—costumed riders, decorated horses, and spooky trail games under a full moon. Cedar Lake, surrounded by granite peaks and dense woods, feels festive yet isolated, with spotty cell service and no immediate neighbors. The stage is set for a chilling mystery. The REST of the story will be told at Fall Color Ride. Come find out who is involved in this mystery... It might just be YOU!

Page 2 The Trail Rider

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President's Message

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Membership:

Larry Zeller

Rules and Parliamentarian:

Larry Zeller

Webmaster:

Larry Zeller

Trail Ambassadors:

Sherry Robinson

Nominating Committee:

TBD

It's STILL HOT!!!

We were able to spend two weeks in the cool Colorado mountains during July and had to wear jackets at night. We had a group of seven that drove the nine hours to Westcliffe to ride in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains along the Rainbow Trail. We rode from 7 to 17 miles everyday. One day we went to the top to have lunch and I fed a hairy marmot a cookie during lunch. He was very good at begging and had seen lots of hikers ready to give him a hand out. Part of our group even camped out at the top one night. I hope you were able to find a cool and dry place to ride.

Check the calendar for a moonlight ride at Hickory Creek Aug 9th, and a scavenger hunt at Serenity Hollow on August 29th. Our Statewide ride is September 27 and there are no rules just ride! Please post pictures of any of the OETRA trails you ride on and how many came to ride so we can get a statewide count.

Then October 4-5 there is a fun ride at Prague for a Scavenger hunt and benefit ride that sounds really fun.

This year our Fall Color Ride is early. It's October 31- November 2 at Cedar Lake. Log onto recreation.gov to reserve a spot. If its full there are a lot of first come spots if you plan to come early on Tuesday or Wednesday before. Wear a costume Friday night to the Chili cook off and bring your prize winning chili or cornbread and dessert. Saturday is a new experience. We're doing a murder mystery ride and also Saturday evening we will all get to relax and not cook with the Chuck Wagon doing all the cooking.



For just \$5 you'll get dinner, drink and dessert. He will also provide the entertainment. Sunday we'll ride to the Sermon on the Mount location and then ride on after as long as you want.

Keep logging your miles for prizes in December.

President

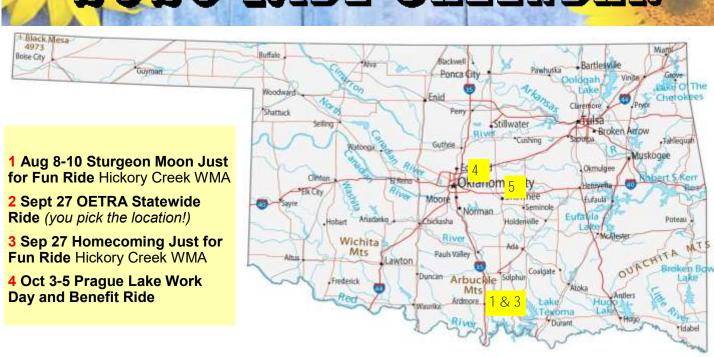
Jeanette Zeller

Please keep in your prayers the families of the kids at the Mystic campground in Texas. As someone who spent every summer at camp I can't image the sorrow the parents must feel.

(President and friends at Westcliffe, CO)







1 Aug 8-10 Sturgeon Moon Just for Fun Ride Hickory Creek WMA Marietta, OK Carolyn Grayson, 580.465.9330, cjgrayson@sbcglobal.net or Jimmy Walker, 580.341.8201

Aug 29-Sep 1Scavenger Hunt at Serenity Hollow Camp For more information contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com.

Sep 13 Woolaroc Fall Trail Ride - visit www.woolaroc.org for information

Sep 26-28 Roman Nose Hills Trail Ride All meals provided! Ride the beautiful hills surrounding Roman Nose Hills State Park, as well as the unique park trails. Guided rides in groups <30, including a gaited group. Hot lunch and rest stop on the trail! Primitive camping on Wolfe Ranch, just before entrance to Roman Nose State Park on Hwy 8A, near Watonga, OK. \$75 per rider, \$50 children 12 and under. Donation of items for live auction appreciated! Negative Coggins, no stallions. For more info, call 580-541-0155 and see www.romannosehillstrailride.com

Sep 19-21 Play Day at Serenity Hollow Camp For more information contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com.

- **2 Sept 27 OETRA Statewide Ride**—We encourage everyone to get out and ride an OETRA supported trail somewhere in Oklahoma. Click Trails on <u>OETRA.com</u> for a list of all the trails across Oklahoma that OETRA supports Post your pictures on the OETRA Facebook page and show where you rode and how many attended.
- **3 Sep 27 Homecoming Just for Fun Ride** Hickory Creek WMA Marietta, OK Carolyn Grayson, 580.465.9330, cjgrayson@sbcglobal.net or Jimmy Walker, 580.341.8201
- 4 Sep 28-29 Arcadia Lake Mystery Trail Ride— Contact Terri Folks 405.760.8229, trfolks@gmail.com for info.
- **5 Oct 3-5 Prague Lake Work Day and Benefit Ride** Saturday will be a work day. Sunday is the fundraiser scavenger hunt benefitting Lincoln County Spay Neuter. Reservations will open up near the date of ride. Contact Janis Baldwin for site at 405-204-0866.

Oct 17-19 Serenity Hollow Halloween Costume Contest and optional Trunk or Treat. For more information contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com. (Continued on Page 4)

RIDE CALENDAR CONT. FROM PAGE 3

Oct 31-Nov 2 Fall Color Ride Cedar Lake Come join us for a spooky but fun weekend! Friday at 6pm come dressed in your Halloween costume and come for food. Dinner will be provided by OETRA. Saturday join in a murder mystery ride during the day. Bring your prize-winning chili for the chili cook-off at 6pm. Prizes will be awarded. Cornbread and desserts welcome. Sermon-on-the-Mount Sunday at 10am. Make your reservations at https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/232303 beginning 4/30/25 (must be 6 months out) Contact Teri Wyatt 405.250.5558, <a href="mailto:theathcolor: theathcolor: theathcol

Oct 31-Nov 2 Fall Color Ride Accommodations at Serenity Hollow Camp. We have openings for cabins, electric, and primitive for fall color ride with scheduled horse and people transport to and from Cedar Lake. Contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com for more information.

Nov 14-16 Arrowhead Just for Fun Ride Canadian, OK. Reservations @ <u>TravelOK.com</u>, shoe/boots required. Pens are first come first served. Dinner in Krebs Friday. Ride and movie 15th, Chili dinner provided. Desserts welcome. Contact Sherry Robinson 918.231.9868

Nov 14-16 Foodie Weekend at Serenity Hollow. For more information contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com.

Dec 6 OETRA Christmas and Awards Party Chandler OK - More details coming...

Dec 12-14 Christmas Craft at Serenity Hollow—Horse hair charms. For more information contact Tamie Lucas, 918-721-6400 or thorselvr@gmail.com.

Jan 1 2026 Bell Cow New Years Day Black Eyed Pea Ride—More details to come.

Note: Rides not in bold font are listed on behalf of other groups/camps. Please direct questions to the contacts for those events.

Liberty Lake Fundraiser Sale

Every couple of years we have a sale at our barn to support a charity and this year the Liberty Lake Trails were our focus. The goal at the lake is to keep the trails clear and wide enough to help minimize the exposure to ticks and other crawly things, and to have the ability to get emergency services if needed. This year has been much more challenging with the significant rain.

My husband brush hogs the larger open areas, and other volunteers push walk -behind string trimmers, use loppers and chainsaws. While the string trimmers do a fair job they are tough to push in some of the terrain, and not heavy duty enough for the type or amount of work we ask of them. After blowing the engine casing apart while working one day we decided we needed an equipment upgrade.





We had an opportunity to borrow a walk behind brush cutter from a friend. It had an electric start and was self-propelled, which made the work a lot easier. We set our goal to fundraise and buy a DR Power Brush Cutter for Liberty Lake!

Many, many items were delivered by some very generous donors. Volunteers worked hard to get the barn set up, and people streamed down our driveway for the sale we held on June 21st. I can't thank everyone enough for their service and generosity. Many people were quite generous and overpaid for their items. We were overwhelmed at the end of the day when we counted the proceeds and found that we had exactly enough to buy the brush cutter! -Julie Cameron





Bell Cow Lake by Janis Baldwin

I have some most exciting news! I have been officially notified that the city of Chandler has implemented the Firefly reservation system at Bell Cow's Area A!!!! This is the same reservation system implemented at Prague Lake. From Chandler's announcement:

As of now, only Area A has switched completely and Areas B and C will switch soon. A sign is posted at the Area A entrance where a reservation can also be made onsite by scanning a



QR code. Full payment is required at the time of booking to confirm a reservation. The honor box will no longer be used to collect camping fees. It will still be used to collect boating, fishing, and trails fees until a new system is implemented. An announcement for that will be made when appropriate. Please visit our website link below to make a reservation and call City Hall for any questions.

https://www.chandlerok.gov/parks-and-recreation/pages/reserve-campsites-pavilions? fbclid=lwY2xjawL1G1FleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHnUSuRAIEMveB_W-4tn7MCcbmW2ooetQl9wt2AnkimihllgJ8WyWLEmLnYoJ_aem_z8K6zloVFUt1mxURRizS-g

Hickory Creek News - by Carolyn Grayson

We had a couple of "Groom the Trail" rides in July. August 8th,9th & 10th will be Sturgeon Moonlight ride at Hickory Creek WMA with free primitive camping at Four Corners. Water truck and pens available on request. Ride out Early Saturday morning ride at 8 am, and a late night "Glow in the Dark" theme ride at moonrise, 9pm.

LLLINOIS BEND SCHOOL

LOCATED IN THE SEND OF THE SED SIVER IN NORTHEAST MONORAGES COUNTY, SURVINE SEND SECRIFICA AN OFFICIAL TILL IN 1877. SET THE 1870L MINIORS SEND SECRIFICA AN OFFICIAL TILL IN 1877. SET THE 1870L MINIORS SEND SEX A THENNES COMMUNITY WHERE COTTON FARMING SWILLOT HE OPPLICATION. ARAN CONJUCICIES AND SCHOOLS WERE CONNECTED IN PRIVATE HOMES FIRST TO 1845 WHEN THE MASONC GRAND EDUCE OF TEXAS SET ASIDE FROVESONS TO A INC. 1000 SET IN SECRIFICATION OF THE SENDENCE OF THE SECRIFICATION OF THE SECRIFICATION OF THE SECRIFICATION OF THE SENDENCE OF THE SENDEN

The 72nd Annual Homecoming ride is on September 27th this year. Meet at 14285 Amethyst St, Burneyville OK at the historical old Leon school parking lot at 2pm on Saturday.

Drive down to a local ranch. Ride across the Red River. Eat supper at a large catered BBQ buffet at the historical old Illinois Bend schoolhouse at 6pm (101 spur 677th St Jo Texas). (Continued on page 6)



HICKORY CREEK FROM PAGE 5

To complete this entire LEGACY Ride, you ride back at night at 8pm along the high road of the river, or you can ride one-way and get with me or a buddy to move rigs forward to Texas side before or after the ride.

This is a public ride and it has a 72 consecutive years history. If river is flooded, we move rigs to the bridge at OK Hwy 89 and ride across/back to there. No charge but donation jar is at picnic for next year's food.

Also selling raffle tickets for a handmade quilt with the winner drawn the day of this ride. Homecoming welcomes us redneck Okies. Can primitive camp leave out Sunday. Call Carolyn 580.465.9330 or Jimmy 580.341.8201 for info.







Serenity Hollow Get Away

By Terri Folks

A last-minute ride at the new equestrian resort in Heavener proved to be the perfect place to get out of the heat! New OETRA members Tamie Lucas and her



daughter, Marissa, have put in the loveliest getaway. Their dream was to own an equestrian resort. They looked at several places around the US and decided Heavener, Oklaho-



ma, was the perfect fit. They jumped in with a leap of faith and are doing a great job. Not only is it close to the trails at Cedar Lake, it is in the most beautiful hollow. You can see Cedar Lake's Blue Mountain from their property and trails. Right now there are about 30 miles of trails, just from their property, but they are continually discovering and adding new trails!

I put together a "Summer Camp" ride for the OK Trail Riding Gals July 26-29. Only four of us could make it work out but I will say it has been one of my new

most favorite places to ride.



OETRA members Sara Burk, Leslie Doyle, and Kim Carlton joined me there. Kim and Sara stayed in cabins (all brand new with AC and from what I heard, WONDERFUL beds!) Remember everything is new! The cabins are dry – meaning no water/bathroom. But each spot has a water tank with an outlet for horse water and a (Continued on page 7)



Serenity Hollow Get Away

Cont. from page 6

large equine pen. Leslie stayed in the 1 bedroom "cabin" attached to the barn. It also had a sleeper sofa. It had formerly been used as a craft room with a long countertop with a tall table and bar stools. It was the perfect party room. We ate our nighttime meals there, played

games and did crafts.



I was in the electric site (more electric sites are coming August 10th) and was next to the hitching rail, mounting block (extra tall!), outdoor kitchen and bathhouse. My horse was across from me in an extra-large corral. He loved it!!! Leslie and I had access to the water at the barn (extra long hose!) for our horses and a wash bay set up to rinse the horses off.

Our first craft was soap carving. Tamie had suggested it as an inexpensive craft. She failed to tell us she was so artistic. Hers looked like a real sculpture and the rest of us...LOL Then Saturday night we made tie dyed t-shirts

that Leslie provided the tie dye kit. That was a blast too. I made everyone a decal to put on their t-shirts when they got home.



The best though was the riding (and the friendship, of course!) Even though it was really hot, as soon as we rode down the approximately one-half mile gravel road and got on the trails, it was 20 degrees cooler with a wonderful breeze. Tamie and Marissa have discovered old forestry roads (part of the National Forestry land) and found trails all over. It was the beauty of Cedar Lake without the rocks. There was no water on the trails because you are riding up on the hillside. We rode 6-10 miles each day. They also have a round pen you can use. The flies weren't even bad.



As an extra bonus – Tamie and Marissa are also horse trainers! Tamie was great to work with Cisco (my new gelding) and I on our gaiting.

They have several events coming up – August 29-31 Scavenger Hunt; Sept. 19-21 Playday; October 17-19 Halloween Ride; October 30-Nov. 2 Fall Color Ride accommo-



dations for the OETRA Fall Color Ride and transportation to Cedar Lake for an additional fee); Nov. 14-16 Foodie Weekend and Dec. 12-14 Christmas Crafts.

Check them out at Serenity Hollow Campground on Facebook as they add more activities (even some clinics are being planned). Reservations: 918.721.6400 or SerenityHollow25@outlook.com



Colon Displacement







Non-Surgical Correction of Left Dorsal Displacement with Nephrosplenic Entrapment – a/k/a The "Rolling" Procedure

HoneSide/VelGutMccom

St. Own Streamshare

enough to just dose with Banamine, walk him around, and watch for poop. Yeah, that's the first steps. And while doing that first aid... we should be thinking deeper about why, or what if there's something else there to come.

Sunday Cruz Update: We just got an update from the vet. Cruz's colon is still displaced, so they have now started a medication to shrink the spleen, which may help the colon move back into place. However, this treatment comes with a possible bleeding risk, so they are monitoring him closely. If this does not work, the next step will be to put him under general anesthesia and perform a rolling procedure tomorrow to try to reposition the colon manually. The good news is that he had a stable night and is holding on strong. Still praying for horse poop.

And a HUGH THANK YOU to everyone for keeping Cruz in thought and hopes. Cruz's Support Team and friends appreciate it greatly.

Copied from a Facebook post from Humanity for Horses Sanctuary/Foundation.

So, today I learned about Colon Displacement. Left Dorsal and Right Dorsal.

I learned because a horse (CRUZ) I'm fond of developed it and we battled his colic only to find out its far more serious. The good news, is he's being attended to in a Vet Hospital... but what I find interesting is how it happens and what is done to fix it in treatment.

Drugs and anti-blockers, exercise to help flip it back, rolling over, and failing that... surgical procedure. But what really made me stop and think was the "rolling". They roll the horse over and

hope gravity does its job. Makes sense. Yup. I'm good with that. What I'm unsure of now... is when I watch my own horse happily rolling in his pasture or arena I wouldn't stop him from rolling, but I may feel a need to control it or at least pay more attention.

The other thing I'd think is problematic is that we tend to stop thinking once we believe it's colic. Well, to me colic is a symptom of a problem that can come from many gastrointestinal problems. So it's not

TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 1 – 30, 2025

Balance 5/31/2025	\$ 25,265.33
Income	
Dues	\$ 230.96
Donation	\$ 25.00
	\$ 255.96
Expenses	
Newsletter mailing	\$ 44.45
Club Insurance	\$ 1,548.03
National Trails	\$ 712.80
Website (MailChimp)	\$ 19.50
Editor Fee	\$ 200.00
	\$ 2,524.78
	\$
Net Income	(2,268.82)
Bank Balance as of	¢ 22 06 E4
6/30/2025	\$ 22,96.51

(Continued on back cover)



Membership Application

Please apply and pay online at www.oetra.com if possible.

If you must pay by check, mail this completed form and check to OETRA, 6608 N Western Ave, PMB 220, Oklahoma City, OK 73116.

* Required information		
Select Membership Type*: Individual \$25 _	Family \$3	35
Select Newsletter Type*: Online \$0 N	Mailed \$35	_ Total annual dues enclosed*: \$
First Name(s)*:		
Last Name(s)*:		
(Phone description examples: Home, His cell, He		
Phone 1 description*:		Phone 1*:
Phone 2 description:		Phone 2:
Phone 3 description:		Phone 3:
Address*:		Address 2:
City*:	State*:	_ Zip*:
Emergency Contact:	Relation:	: Phone:
Referred by:		
Your email address*:		
Publish contact info in Members Only onlin	e directory? (Ye	es if unchecked): Yes: No:
I do hereby release and hold harmless the Oklahoma Eque death, illness, or injury to myself, my guest(s) or horse(s). I services in case of emergency without incurring financial I	Additionally, I author	
Signature:		Date:

WIN THIS FALLIS BALANCED SADDLE SET







Support Liberty Lake Trails, Guthrie, OK

15" Seat, swell fork, dally horn, 4" cantle,
Semi QH bars (approx. 6 3/4")
Set valued at approx. \$4,000, includes matching breast collar,
saddle bags and rear cinch.
All ticket sales go to support the Liberty Lake trails.

Drawing will be held Dec. 6 at the OETRA Christmas & Awards Party, Chandler OK You do not need to be present to win. Shipping is at buyer's expense.



Scan to pay Julia Cameron

Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$25
Please add your phone number
and Saddle Raffle in the note



venmo

Contact: Julie Cameron 405-513-1120 or lazyjfarm2@gmail.com

CampName	Trail Ambassador(s)
-	Terri Folks, 405.760.8229, trfolks@gmail.com; Kim Carlton, 405.226.3828
	kimcarlton2@gmail.com
Arrowhead State Park	Sherry Robinson, 918.231.9868, sherrybr2023@gmail.com
Bell Cow Lake	Volunteer Needed!
Billy Creek	Susan Bates, 936.825.1441, stmb216@hotmail.com
Cedar Lake Equestrian Park	Teri Wyatt, 405.250.5558, tnwalkinghorsegirl@yahoo.com
Cherokee National Park	LeeAnn Dreadfulwater, 918.316.1100, tenkiller7@gmail.com
Cherokee Wildlife Mgt Area	LeeAnn Dreadfulwater, 918.316.1100, tenkiller7@gmail.com
Choctaw Municipal Park Equestrian Trails	Brian Brawley, 405.694.0155; Cathryn Brawley, 405.413.6836, katiegate000@aol.com; Vicki Fraser, 940.435.3159, vjfraser1@gmail.com
Copan Lake	Nikki Wommer, 505.486.0420, ladybugranchnm@gmail.com
Draper Lake (Lake Stanley Draper)	Vicki Fraser, 940.435.3159, vjfraser1@gmail.com
Duncan Lake Equestrian Park	Camellia Foster, 580.251.5824, 5802515824a@gmail.com; Mitzie Smith, 580.467.3066, catpawfarm5331@gmail.com
Foss Lake	Volunteer Needed!
	Perri Burnett, 918.521.7755, perri.burnett@gmail.com; Vanessa Conn, 918.724.4549, vanessaconn@gmail.com
Hickory Creek Wildlife Man- agement Area	Carolyn Grayson, cjgrayson@sbcglobal.net; Jimmy Walker, 580.341.8201
Horse Pen Creek	Susan Bates, 936.825.1441, stmb216@hotmail.com
Hugo Lake, Kiamichi Park	Kendra Staggs, 580.326.4125, staggsranch@yahoo.com; Susan Bates, 936.825.1441, stmb216@hotmail.com
Kaw Lake	Volunteer Needed!
	Tiffany Buckley, 580.761.5034, BUCKLEY.TIFFANY@GMAIL.COM; Melissa Snyder, 918.807.1306; Hollye Moore, 918.706.6073, crazycowgirlcorral@yahoo.com
Meadow	Kim Reinhardt, kimreinhardt45@gmail.com
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Lake Texoma State Park	Darcy Schulke, 580.795.6405, schulkdar@aol.com
Lake Texoma, Platter Flats	Ron Craig, 580.513.5407, rcraig@choctawnation.com
Liberty Lake	Julia Cameron, 405.513.1120, lazyjfarm@sbcglobal.net
	Forrest Billingsley 405.517.9150
McGee Creek State Park	Pat Faulkenberry, 580.239.0087, hendersonspottedsaddlehorses@yahoo.com
Mohawk Park	Perri Burnett, 918.521.7755, perri.burnett@gmail.com; Vanessa Conn, 918.724.4549, vanessaconn@gmail.com
Oologah Lake	Cheryl Marx, 918.640.7114, cherylmarx@aol.com; Jaimie Overton, 918.892.1042, hojo1221@gmail.com
Pashubbe Trail Head	Susan Bates, 936.825.1441, stmb216@hotmail.com
Prague Lake	Janis Baldwin, 405.204.0866, Janis.Baldwin48@gmail.com
Robbers Cave State Park	Sherry Robinson, 918.231.9868, sherrybr2023@gmail.com; Lesa O'Hair, 918.465.7447, lesaohair@gmail.com
Roman Nose State Park	Ben Neufeld, 405.999.2662, bpneube@yahoo.com; Shirla Geis, 405.368.5212, bsneufeld@hotmail.com
Salt Plains State Park	Susan Koontz, 580.596.6997, skoontz54@gmail.com
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Thunderbird Lake	Cindy Kerr, 405.412.3630, cindy@kerrteam.com

Colon Displacement

(Continued from page 8)

MONDAY UPDATE - I am very happy today to say that "CRUZ the Colic" has RESPONDED SUCCESSFULLY to his spleen reduction medications and his colon has returned to its normal position and he is recovering like the absolute CHAMPION that he is.

Cruz was hospitalized after a 3 days colic battle diagnosed with a Left Dorsal Displacement. Today, we will clean him out, get some good nutrition back into him, and make sure everything is flowing properly, and hopefully he will be coming back to the sanctuary in the next day or so.

Again, this has been a great learning adventure for all of us, and Cruz thanks everyone who offered words of support, generous donations to cover medical, care and hopes. His care team can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

FINAL UPDATE CRUZ – he's coming home !!!! A few more nutrition boosts, and the big fella will be coming back to the sanctuary on Thursday we hope. He's in a better mood, and giving them that Cruz attitude he's famous for now that he's feeling better.

Hospital bill paid, a healthy horse... today just got a whole lot better.





