

Horse Resources

By Jen Reid

If you want more information about horse care and behavior, Best Friends recommends the following resources.

Training and Behavior

Mark Rashid (www.markrashid.com) is an internationally acclaimed horse trainer known for his ability to understand the horse's point of view and solve difficult problems with communication rather than force. Four recommended books written by Mark Rashid:

- *Considering the Horse: Tales of Problems Solved and Lessons Learned*
- *A Good Horse Is Never a Bad Color*
- *Horsemanship Through Life*
- *Life Lessons from a Ranch Horse*



The Parelli training method (www.parelli.com) was created in 1981 by lifelong horseman and teacher Pat Parelli. Pat's method allows horse lovers to achieve "success without force, partnership without dominance, teamwork without fear, willingness without intimidation, and harmony without coercion." Information about courses, DVDs and more can be found on the website.

The magazine called *Horse Journal*, the Consumer Reports for horse stuff, contains lots of unbiased research and recommendations. Find out more on their website: www.horse-journal.com.

The American Association of Equine Practitioners (www.aaep.org/index.php) is a good resource for not only equine veterinarians and veterinary students, but horse people too.

Foot Care

The health of a horse's feet can have a great impact on his overall health and well-being. The website Hope for Soundness (www.hopeforsoundness.com) provides great information about care of your horse's feet. It's the primary source for information about Natural Balance, a method of hoof care that takes into account the entire biomechanics of the horse and treats each foot as a unique case. If you e-mail them, they can refer you to good farriers in your area.

The Equine Lameness Prevention Organization (www.e-hoofcare.com) helps educate horse people about ways to better manage the hoof care and healthcare needs of equines.

The website for Mission Farrier School (www.missionfarrierschool.com) contains additional information about hoof care and Natural Balance.

Feeds and Supplements

The following websites sell feeds and supplements used at Horse Haven:

Advanced Biological Concepts: www.a-b-c-plus.com

Foxden Equine Nutrition and Therapy: www.foxdenequine.com

LMF Horse Feeds: www.lmffeeds.com

Finally, www.safergrass.org is a site that talks about hay and how to feed horses with problems like Cushing's, founder and hyperkalemic periodic paralysis disease (HYPP).

Jen Reid, manager of Horse Haven at Best Friends, is a professional farrier who graduated from Mission Farrier School in Redmond, Washington. She has worked at Horse Haven for more than five years, apprenticing under Ann Hepworth, the resident horse trainer.