

Her true calling

Helping, healing animals through chiropractic and natural means

By DIANE DeHAMER

Special to the Courier

"Animals are such agreeable friends; they ask no questions, pass no criticisms." – George Eliot

Dr. Deborah Derr of Chino Valley has a somewhat different practice than most chiropractors.

Although she had a successful chiropractic business in California for seven years, she now has focused her ability to help and heal animals with a technique called Veterinarian Orthopedic Manipulation (VOM).

Review/ Diane DeHamer



Deborah Derr demonstrates the VOM technique on her horse "Knight."

This came about while she was still in California, when she was able to save a patient's Greyhound dog with a bad leg when the owner planned to euthanize it.

"After only two treatments, the dog was no longer limping, and lived another two years," Deborah reported.

From then on local veterinarians would send their hard-luck cases to Deborah.

"I was always raised with animals, and from an early age whenever I would put

my hands on them, they would flop down like they were ready to receive my love and attention” she said.

After a near-death experience in 1997, Deborah realized she was alive for that reason and it was time for her to get going on it.

“The Native American spirit in me (she is part Cherokee) guided me to a teacher who is a shaman who made me realize my purpose was to heal,” she said.

Over the years Deborah has treated hundreds of animals not only with VOM, which is a gentle technique using an instrument to clear all neuronal subluxations, which can affect physical, emotional and mental states of being, but she also incorporates her other healing methods with her work as a Reiki master and shaman.

“These teachings help me to communicate to the animal how to help them alleviate the stresses they hold in their bodies,” she explained.

Because of her great love for animals, Deborah has also gotten involved in the “Draft Horse Rescue” program. Her own horse, Knight, is one of those rescues.

“Knight was on his way to be slaughtered. He wouldn’t allow anyone to touch him because he had been so abused. He was a mess,” she said.

“It took many hours of putting my hands on him, and finally starting the VOM and Reiki to start healing him that he began to trust me,” she added. “Now he’s a teddy bear.”

Deborah will soon be appearing on the television show “Beverly Hills Vet,” a segment on the Animal Planet Channel.

She will continue to pursue her dreams of setting aside acres of land for the draft horses to roam and of helping humans connect with animals.

“Animals are such a pure channel of love, it’s an incredible experience to come from that pure channel yourself and share it with them and help heal them.”

People can also get more information on draft horse rescues from a Web site at www.draftrescue.com.

Diane DeHamer works at the Chino Valley Review.

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