

Funny Days

Winter

Wanted ---- *New Partner who wants to go to Florida (or Maybe Mexico!!!) My Beautiful red hide is cold up here in Alaska. _ Sign Monet.*

Yes, Monet is not too happy this winter so far. For 3 days, she has been caught shivering!!!! I don't know why she does not have a thicker coat but she wishes she did now. I finally put a light blanket on Monet as it seems in the AM; she's colder than the rest of the day. On Friday I jumped on her bareback of course, for a little ride and Monet was shivering hard!!! Never have I set on a horse while their body tried to warm them up. When we were walking, she was fine but standing, she is just like me and doesn't like the cold!!! They say a person and their dog will be a lot a like, does the same think work for horses? Sure seems like it.

We were trying a new Blanket on one of my boarding horses. I was standing beside Jack who was watching the whole process. I was dressed in my coveralls for it was really chilly this evening. Jack looked at the new horse blanket then me the reached down and jerked on my coverall pants legs, almost pulling me off my feet. When I yelled at him to quit, he just looked at me then the new blanket and back at me again. I think he was saying he wanted a blanket. He didn't get one but he does like them!!!

A Horse Amusement Park.

Yesterday was an especially funny day here at the farm. First I let the horses out of their normal lot into a larger lot, one with trees and hills and bushes. I don't normally let the horses into that area for fear they might be hurt. After all it's not cleared so there are dead trees and roots and who know what a horse will fine to do. But all the horses were board and wanted something different so I open the gate. It was like sending kids to an amusement park. The horses all played follow the leader up and around and all over the place. They were careful but into everything. I had to just stand there and laugh. Next Dreaming discovered currents. I never knew some horses liked currents but she stood in the mist of a bunch of currents and carefully plucked each current off the branch.

After about and hour when the horses seemed to be all played out, I decided to put them away. They decided not to go back into the pasture and instead ran everywhere, knowing I couldn't keep up in my winter gear. Running in full winter gear is like running on the moon, not an easy task except up there you don't have gravity. I believe in the winter gravity pickup up making it even harder to move fast.

I finally got half the horses put away and started after the other. Jack was one of the horses who did not go back into the pasture. He looked at me then took off behind the horse trailer. He was telling me there were horses hiding down in that corner of the pasture. Sure enough there was Hammer and Riko, hiding out of site but thanks to Jack, I got them.

Finally I was down to 3 horses still out, Monet, Zora and Cinch. They took off back to the wooded lot with me slowing following. By this time I was getting hot with all my gear on but they didn't seem to mind. They were playing tag and I was it. Around and around we went with Cinch being the leader. Finally Monet stops and let me tag her. I put a rope around her next and let her out. Cinch continues to run. When he realizes I wasn't c coming back, he can running to the barn and said "Don't forget me!!! Finally, they are all put away.

Got a Minute, Lets go riding.

Now I had to determine what to do for the next 45 minutes until feeding time. Hmm, Got all the poop picked up, horses put a way, there always housework but I decided I'd rather go riding. It might be cool (OK Maybe COLD) but its not slippery so might as will ride!!! I wonder into the barn, grab my rope halter and here come Monet. She practically puts the halter on her self. We then walk down to the mounting block where she lines her self up so I can jump on with my coveralls and stands practically for a treat. I give her one then say "OK, Let's go" We are off like a flash. Out the Gate, hang a right and we gaited about 15 mph down the road. I was just hanging on, this was Monet's ride and I was just a passenger. Down the road we went, never slowing down, then up the gravel road by the harvested potato fields. Here she went over into the grass and galloped a while. We shied from the squires and watch for anything strange. After doing a big circle here, back down the gravel road we when. At a small pass through the trees, we had to climb this rather large hill. Not normally an issue. Monet walks up hills nicely and she did this one but I slid back on her back and thought I was going to come off her tail. Monet does not have a very thick or long mane so there not much to hang on to. When she was about ½ way up, I as all the way back to her flanks. I was beginning to wonder if I was going to stay on or not when Monet stopped, turned around a 180 so she was facing back down the hill, and then lower her head helping me to slide back to the correct riding position. When I was back in position, she looked at me, I gave her a treat and we were off again. I mention it was feeding time and at the next intersection, she turned towards home.

Help around the barn (or not)

That night at feeding time I'm dragging my sled up to the house to get the hot mash for the horses. I knew Sidney was out front but I didn't realize she was following me until I felt a tug on my sled string. I turned around and Sydney has her front feet in the sled!!! I shoo her out and start dragging it again and again she jumps in. She had found a new fun game. Three times she jumped in the sled and let me pull her around. I tried to explain that she should be pulling me but I don't think I got that point across.

Jack did grab the string the other day and pulled my sled around the pasture for a few minutes and Monet tried to help me empty it out (Of course not back by the manure pile) but horses aren't real help around the Barn. I do believe they cause more work. Dogs are supposed to be bad about getting into the trash but I believe horses can be just as bad or worse. They love to drag stuff out into their pen. Then watch me pick it all back up again.

Well its 10 degrees out now, the Sun Shinning and I don't go to work for a few more hours so guest I should go clean the barn, lots and stall, and THEN GO RIDING.

Deb