



days at
Dunrovin

April, 2019



**Ranch
Talk**



The Equine Parents of Dunrovin



Annie and Lady Lonza were the first parent and child equine pair at Dunrovin. They ruled the pastures together nearly sixteen years between Lady Lonza's birth in 2002 Annie death in 2018. Annie was a fiercely protective mother., and Lonza was an equally protective daughter as Annie became old and fragile. Annie enjoyed nearly a full year of being grandmother to Lonza's foal, Oggy.



Lady Lonza has had three foals: Stormy was born in 2008 and was shot to death in our pastures in 2009. We have never found the killer. Serena was born in 2011 and lives in Helena with our previous ranch manager Daniel and his wife. She has since had a colt of her own. Oggy was born in May of 2017 and remains at Dunrovin.

Our Shetland ponies, Bonnies and Clyde came as a mother son pair to Dunrovin. They are incredibly bonded. Bonnie has been blind for number of years and has become very dependent on Clyde to know for finding her way around the ranch and for emotional support. But the emotions go both ways. Clyde is always looking for his mom and becomes very anxious when she is not right by him. Bonds between equine family members are strong and enduring.



Harriet Osprey — a Mother Extraordinaire!



With ice forming on her beak and covering her eyes, Harriet shelters her eggs during an April snow storm. Later the same summer, she stands for hours with her wings spread to shade her growing three chicks with from the unrelenting July sun when temperatures break 100 degrees.

Harriet's commitment to raising her chicks practically defines what it means to be a mother. She is unrelenting. She is full of fury when predators threaten. She is a home builder who continually fluffs her nest and adds to it weight each year..

Since installing the webcam in 2010, Harriet has been the every present matriarch, coping with whatever comes her way with determination, skill, and courage. When Ozzie was killed by an eagle in late 2014, she stepped up and did all the fishing and teaching how to catch their own. Both chicks successfully fledged. Harriet returned in 2015 to find a new mate, and help him learn to become a first rate father.



Ozzie and Hal Ospreys— Two GREAT Dads!

Ozzie used his famous “wing lift” to get Harriet off of their egg so he could take a turn. It didn't always work. But that did not deter him from repeated efforts. He loved to sit on his eggs. While Hal also likes to sit their eggs, His claim to fame comes from the many odd things he contributes to building the nest, including potted plants and horse apples. Home decorating seem to be his thing.

Both Ozzie was an excellent provider and protector, and while Hal had a great deal to learn in the early years, he has recently come into his own. Both have faced many challenges. When the Bitterroot River floods with fast moving and cloudy water, it take enormous effort to meet the food demands of the chicks that seem to grow in front of everyone's eyes. Marauding eagles looking to steal fish, great blue herons looking to steal chicks,, and other ospreys looking to steal the nest, put osprey dads to the test. Harriet has been luck in her selection of mates. These two have proven their worth many times over.



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Location: _____