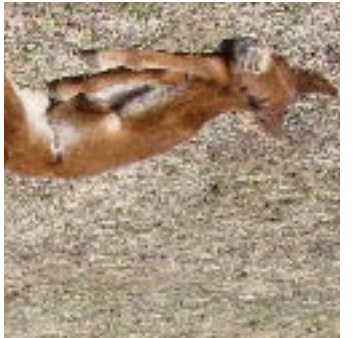
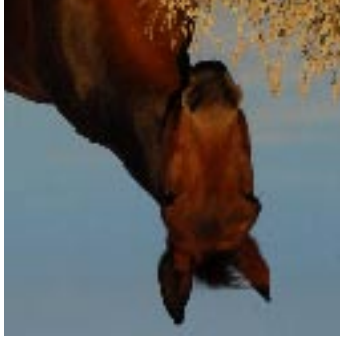


WESTERN VIEWS' HORSE AS HORSE IN OKANOGAN COUNTY



Retail price: \$14.95

Erika Gierok and Tara Felder

May your horse stay sound and your journey be enlightening!

Please visit our website to learn about upcoming shows or events and to enjoy (and order) our new images.

meant to enjoy; horse as horse.

Western Views was born of a desire to enrich people's lives with images inspired by our horses. The images and written accounts in this 2008 calendar center around Tara's herd of horses, mules, and pony. By capturing them at large in the splendid wild lands of Okanogan County, Washington the images convey the sense of freedom and liberty horses are

forgoing the traditional coating on the cover to be as Earth-friendly as possible.

renewable resource. As such, this calendar is printed on 50% recycled paper using the most efficient digital method and images are also printed on acid and lignin free cotton — chosen for both its archival quality and because cotton is a made by manufacturers whose concern for the Earth is reflected in their manufacturing processes. Our hand-printed so our photographs should last a life-time. Images available at our shows have cotton rag matting and backing. They are We are dedicated to using Earth-friendly materials whenever possible, and we print on archival paper with archival inks,

ABOUT WESTERN VIEWS

www.WesternViews.biz

509.996.9826

P.O. Box 1175 • Twisp, WA 98856

Published by Western Views: Photographs and Narratives

All photographs ©Tara Felder or Erika Gierok
Contact to order calendars, prints or notecards



Produced by
www.tbcalendarfactory.com






After a Winter Storm

JANUARY

The Moon Phases:  New Moon  Full Moon
 First Quarter  Last Quarter

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 	23	24	25	26
	28 MLK Jr Day	29	30 	31		



On Christmas Day, 2006, I found Bert hog-tied and hung up in his lead rope. It's a long story as to how he came to be in that predicament and a longer one to explain the 18-hour aftermath, but after heroic rescue and resuscitation efforts Dave and I managed to pull the little guy, then 10-months old, through the ordeal.

A mere 10 days later, when he'd nearly recovered from that wreck, he decided to launch an overland expedition through four feet of heavy snow. 100 feet into this journey, I intercepted him and we had a miniature replay of the Christmas day rescue.


This is what we've learned from Bert (so far): Never underestimate the determination of a mule, especially one that thinks big and plays hard!



With an Eye on the Young'un

FEBRUARY

All photographs and anecdotes
©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7 ☉	8	9	<p>When we lived in Bellingham, Northeasters drove rain through the horses' thick winter coats soaking them to the skin. I would find them, ears flattened against their polls, heads dropped below the withers, tails tucked tightly against the elements, their backs turned against the driving pellets. Only a drenched cat in a bathtub is a more pitiful sight.</p> <p>On these days I would blanket them.</p>
10	11	12	13	14 ☾	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21 ●	22	23	<p>Our move to the Methow exposed the horses to winter temperatures that sometimes drop below zero. In heavy snowfalls, accumulated snow is soon melted by their body heat, but somehow freezes to be worn as crustacean-shell armor. Yet encrusted in ice, they make no complaint.</p> <p>On such days, I chip the ice from their backs and strip icicles from their manes.</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29 ☾		

Washington's Birthday


Valentine's Day



Bert at the Rose Miller Pond

MARCH

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
 www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						I	
2	3	4	5	6	7 ☉	8	We first met Bert by way of photographic introduction. Born sometime during the night on March 26, 2006 his owner, Marie Lanier, sent us several images attached to an e-mail entitled, "It's a boy!"
Change Your Clocks							
9	10	11	12	13	14 ☾	15	Oh boy! What a boy!
16	17	18	19	20	21 ●	22	Bert's expression reminded me of an intelligent, hyperactive Denis-the-Menace kind of kid. From these pictures I imagined Bert tugging at his mom's sleeve: "MOM! Look at THAT!" "Yes Dear," Stormy would say absently, "that's a crow." "WOW MOM! I saw it FLY! Can I fly Mom?" "No Dear. Mules can't fly, but they can run very fast." "LOOK, MOM! What's THAT?" "Just the wind, Dear, blowing the grass," Stormy answered at the end of a tired sigh. "WHOA! That's WAY COOL!"
23 ^{Easter}	24	25	26	27	28	29 ☾	
30	31						He has not lost his enthusiasm. (Sigh).



Ever Watchful

APRIL

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6 ☉	7	8	9	10	11	12 ☾	<p>The night Bert's sister, Ernestine, was born was a clear, brisk night in April when snow still lingered in hollows and north sloped hillsides. We'd been checking on Stormy several times a night and on that night, April 13, 2007 at 9:30 p.m., we were greeted by Gandalf, Sierra, Pippen, Quincy and Bert who all wore expressions of moon-eyed amazement.</p> <p>"You're not going to believe this!" they all whispered in awestruck tones.</p> <p>"Ah, she's had the baby then," I responded.</p> <p>Stormy had spent months providing them daily demonstrations of her impersonation of Mother Bear, and they now gave her an extra wide berth. They stood like stunned Paparazzi while Dave, our friend, Devon, and I made our first introductions to little Ernie who was still damp.</p>
13	14	15 Taxes Due	16	17	18	19 Passover begins (sunset)	
20 ●	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25 Arbor Day	26	
27	28 ☾	29	30				



Greener Pastures

MAY

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
 www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
				1	2	3	
4	5 ○	6	7	8	9	10	<p>Bert and Ernie (thankfully) are as different from one another as siblings can be. Bert was—and remains—the adventurer. He’s the one who can be counted on to come up with hair-brained schemes and half-baked plans. While Bert pursues a myriad of Commando-style sports, Ernie is the kind of kid who dresses in pink leotards (with no runs) and takes gymnastics courses (in which she excels).</p> <p>Like most sisters with smart and daring older brothers, Ernie enjoys Bert, and he basks in her attention. For a while Ernie “rode” Bert around in the corral. She’d throw her front legs over his back and they’d walk all around with her draped over him. Now she’s in the monkey-see, monkey-do stage.</p> <p>We’ll see where this goes!</p>
11	12 ☾	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20 ●	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28 ☾	29	30	31	
	Memorial Day						



Sierra and Quincy at the Gunn Ranch

JUNE

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
 www.WesternViews.biz


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	3 ○	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10 ☾	11	12	13	14	Sierra is rarely photographed at liberty because she is performing an invisible yet essential function: she is The Photographer's Horse. She has become so proficient in this role that I'd forgotten how much skill it requires.
15 Father's Day	16	17	18 ●	19	20 Summer Solstice	21	In June my friend, Sonja, visited me in Winthrop with two of her horses. She rode her horse, Sundance, and ponied Moonshadow. When we arrived at a large, open field, we set the horses free: Quincy and Sierra ... and Moonshadow.
22	23	24	25	26 ☾	27	28	Gandalf suffered multiple coronary attacks as he was unable to officiate loose horses while simultaneously performing the menial duties I prescribed such as running ahead of the herd, stopping (and standing still while I focused, shot, and recorded images), then running <i>on cue</i> to the next photo-point.
29	30						T'was a rough day.



Moonshadow in the Methow

JULY

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1 Canada Day	2	3 ○	4 Independence Day	5	
6	7	8	9	10 ☾	11	12	<p>When Sonja and her horses came to ride with me in June, I was delighted that she brought Moonshadow. Black as polished coal, this Quarter Horse mare is positively the most gifted, intelligent yet oppugnant Quarter Horse I've ever met!</p> <p>It is no easy task to photograph horses at large, especially when they are not of the same band. My mount that first day, Gandalf, was intensely focused on creating distance between his herd and Sonja's, and Moonshadow was equally committed to preventing interactions between her mare-friend, Sundance, and any of our horses.</p> <p>Day two went smoothly; I rode Sierra who resumed the duties of The Photographer's Horse with an exemplary level of professionalism, and I simply left the rest of the clan at home!</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18 ●	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25 ☾	26	
27	28	29	30	31			



Seemingly Reticent

AUGUST

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1 ○	2	 <p>Ellie joined Sierra, Gandalf and me in 1997 when I bought her to be a pack mule. After a season of profound frustration I decided that she just might make a more agreeable saddle mule. For a year or so we worked on developing a rudimentary understanding of some rather basic rules of etiquette; specifically, turning, stopping and backing are generally assumed to be shots called by the rider, not the mount. She eventually came around on these points (most of the time).</p> <p>About five or six years ago she set off to live with a family on Guemas Island, but returned this August in time to experience Liberty Rides in Okanogan County. She has also had the opportunity to perform the functions of The Photographer's Horse, which she managed admirably well.</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8 ☾	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 ●	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 ☾	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 ○	
31							



Merry Go Round Dancer

SEPTEMBER

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6	
7 ☾	8	9	10	11	12	13	<p>Phippen is coordinated, graceful...and creative.</p> <p>When we were living in Bellingham, I took him to Squalicum Beach one day to teach him to walk the lengths of the giant logs that roll in from the sea. Like Sierra and Ellie, he quickly learned to walk along the logs like a gymnast on a balance beam.</p> <p>The next day I found him in the corral with the upper hand; he had climbed up on top of a stack of lumber that was a mere 12 inches wide. From his perch four feet above the heads of the others, he could reach deep into the branches of the apple tree and pick fruit before it fell on the ground where horses of greater stature would have pushed him aside and gobbled them up.</p>
14	15 ●	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22 ☾	23	24	25	26	27	
	28 Autumnal Equinox	29	30				
28	29 ○	30					






Rosh Hashanah
(sundown)



Quincy: Horse as Horse at Last

OCTOBER

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7 	8 Yom Kippur (sundown)	9	10	11	<p>Quincy's concept of what it means to be a horse was distorted by his childhood years. Born in a beautiful barn and weaned early, he was then subjected to five years in a life of solitary confinement typical of stabled horses; he had a stall-suite complete with immaculate paddock. He did not know how to interact with horses. He did not know that not all trails are wide, flat and .78 miles long, or that horses don't die when they get tired on long trail rides. He did not know how to gallop.</p> <p>On Freedom Rides, Quincy will come to walk beside me as I ride Sierra. With his head at my knee, he dips his head low; I pet his poll and sense, deep in my heart, his joy at experiencing the richness of being Horse.</p>
12	13 Columbus Day	14 	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21 	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28 	29	30	31		
					Halloween		



In the Crisp Days of Autumn

NOVEMBER

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						I	
2 Change Your Clocks	3	4 Election Day	5	6 ☾	7	8	<p>As was true of the gray wizard in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy, Gandalf's coat has faded to white and he, like the wizard, has come to realize his power and responsibilities. He is steady, sensible and protective of his clan.</p> <p>One day I had all eight out. Stormy and Quincy were on leads; Ellie was under saddle. We were en route to Betsy's for breakfast when Bert, Sierra, Phippen and Ernie veered off to follow the road to the old Rose Miller pond where they planned to impersonate moose. Gandalf escorted my group to Betsy's corral, but once my three were contained, he turned and galloped away. Within two minutes he returned with Bert and Ernie. The moment I had a halter on these two, he set off again to fetch the last two renegades.</p>
9	10	11 Veterans' Day	12	13 ●	14	15	
16	17	18	19 ☾	20	21	22	
23 /	24	25	26	27 ○	28	29	
30				Thanksgiving			



All in Line

DECEMBER

All photographs and anecdotes
 ©2007 Tara Felder
www.WesternViews.biz

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	<p>When Stormy first arrived, she was Mother Bear; however as she and the foals integrated, the others have assumed a myriad of new roles.</p> <p>When Bert was little, Quincy could be found hovering above him, sucking his mane. Bert loved the attention, and that his neck was soggy all the time didn't seem to faze him.</p>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	<p>Sierra attempted to instill some discipline, but found herself rolling her eyes as Bert chanted "I'm a baby! I'm a baby!" after doing something naughty.</p>
21 Hanukkah Begins (sunset) Winter Solstice	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	<p>Pippen is Bert's sparing partner and the two stage mock battles regularly.</p> <p>And then there is our wizard, ever watchful. When Ernie was a week old, Gandalf heard her woeful bray. He covered the hundred yards between them within mere seconds. There he stopped and assumed a defensive stance.</p>
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve				



Tara and Sierra, On Location in the Methow

©2006 Erika Gierok

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in the Marshall Islands then raised in Rhode Island, I found my way to the West in 1978. It is my physical and spiritual home; I have lived here ever since. In 1994 I embarked upon a 60-day high country pack trip with three companions: a Paint named Peaches, an Appy named Malley, and a German-bred German Shepherd named Echo. I documented our pack trips shooting 35 mm slides with an old Olympus ~ Hells Canyon, Eagle Cap, Jefferson, Sawtooth, and Pasayten Wilderness areas ~ and in so doing, opened up a door to yet another passion: photography.

In 2006 my Horseback Search and Rescue partner, Erika Gierok and I created Western Views: Photographs and Narratives through which we publish our images and writing. We explore our favorite and most photogenic landscapes riding our horses while our collective herds follow (or lead) at liberty. The magic of those rides is as indelibly printed upon our spirits as the images we share with you.



©2007 Tara Felder

The Photographer's Horse