

NATURAL REMUDA EQUINE LEARNING CENTER JUNE, 2008



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FROM CATHY'S DESK Or as we know it, "The Pile"

Hello Everyone,
We want to say Thank You to all the people who have audited and taken our clinics. We have certainly enjoyed meeting you new folks, and hope you have enjoyed our clinics and lessons.

If you are like us, you need rain!!! We have been hot and dry at the Center. Because of the heat, we have moved our clinic starting time up to 9 a.m. With lots of water and snack breaks we have been able to teach up to about 3 p.m. If we have a covered facility, the starting time is still 10 a.m.

When you come to a clinic, be sure to bring water, a hat, sunglasses, and your sunscreen. And auditors will need to bring a chair. Don't forget a water bucket for your horse. Remember to tie him in the shade and take care of him. Make sure all the windows and vents on your trailer are open when you haul him home.

Remember our web site has all of

our clinics and the Newsletter on it.
www.naturalremudaequinelearningcenter.com

UPCOMING CLINICS

We have several clinics in the works for the upcoming months. Please e-mail or call for information on any of the following clinics. If you would like to schedule a clinic, call or e-mail me at 830-966-6119 or Jdmcjohnson@swtexas.net

June 21, 2008 - Natural Remuda Equine Learning Center, Utopia, TX Beginning Your Ride

9 a.m. to about 3 p.m. This clinic has a special price. E-mail me for details. We will be working on groundwork and a small amount of riding. The emphasis is on safety and being able to get a safe and fun ride with your horse. Other people besides Utopia folks are welcome.

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June 28, Fredericksburg, TX. Riding Clinic

This clinic is for people working on their riding. It will have about 2 hours of groundwork and the rest riding. We will work on safe mounting, rhythm and cadence and footfalls, flexing, & body position.

July 26, Fredericksburg Expo Center, Fredericksburg, TX. Intermediate Clinic

To benefit the Hill Country Riding Club. This group in Fredericksburg has developed into quite a clinic group. We know you will have fun with them. Clinic will include some ground work, and some riding, depending on the horses.

September 13, McDade, TX, Diamond I Ranch. The Intermediate Ride

For your reservation, E-mail me at jdmcjohnson@swtexas.net or 830-966-6119 or Carol at cisenhour@hotmail.com or 512-278-2520. Carol has planned for good meals and a lot of fun with this clinic. Don't miss it!!

THE MUSTANGS

Jere is really making progress with our 2 yearling mustangs. As most of you know, Jere was chosen as one of the yearling trainers in the Mustang Makeover on September 18 to 21 in Ft. Worth, TX.

So far, he has gotten them to eat out of the bucket, stand for someone in the pen and stand when we spray them with water. (I am sure we got them to do this so soon, because we are so hot out here.)



The first week



"I can almost look at you, Jere."

We now have both of our pens built

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and have separated the fillies so Jere can work on them better.

"I follow for feed!"



Shasta, the bay, is a sweetie. She is very tame and has big soft brown eyes. She whickers now when Jere comes to feed her. She is the easiest to work with, because she trusts more.

Penny has the nickname of "Henny Penney" because the sky is always falling. She is sure of it! She was hiding behind Shasta every time Jere came into the pen until we separated them. We have until September 18 to show both these horses in Ft. Worth at the Mustang Makeover. They are judged on an obstacle course, and body condition. Watch for more developments.

ODDS AND ENDS

If you are in Ft. Worth on June 28, at 2:30 p.m., Stacy Westfall will be giving a free seminar at the APHA World Show. She is the woman who you see in the You Tube video, riding a reining pattern with no saddle or bridle. We feel she is well worth watching.

<http://www.aphaworldshow.com/activities/StacyWestfall.html>

BOOKS & VIDEOS

Lately, Jere and I have been asked a lot about what we read and what we watch to be better horseman. So, we will try to profile a book or CD every month or so.

"The Revolution in Horsemanship and What It Means to Mankind", by Robert M. Miller D.V.M. and Rick Lamb. This is an excellent book to get the overview of where Natural Horsemanship comes from and where it is today. Dr. Miller also has a really interesting theory about Natural Horsemanship being the sort change that mankind needs to go to a more humane level, not only with animals, but with our fellow man. Another interesting thing he talks about is that we have had a

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relationship with horses for thousands of years and have not really learned how a horse's mind works until just the last 20 or 30 years. This is an excellent book to get an idea of how Natural Horsemanship fits into the human scheme.

RESCUE HORSES



Katherine & Holly

We also had a small clinic here at the Learning Center with some folks from Magnolia, TX who have rescued two horses. These horses had no manners and were hard to handle. Katherine and Edwin, their owners, worked Friday, Saturday and Sunday with them and soon were putting them through their paces with no trouble at all. Katherine has had some experience with Natural Horsemanship, but Edwin had never even been around

horses till these. He was looking like a professional by the end of the weekend.



Edwin & Sundance

UTOPIA SEMINAR

We did a seminar for a group here in Utopia that likes to trail ride and we had a lot of fun. Mostly they are ladies that ride in the Hill Country Natural Area and various ranches. Most of them have had quite a lot of experience riding, so it is interesting to see how they take to Natural Horsemanship.

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JERE'S CORNER Get Rid of Your Ego



When you go to a clinic, do you compare yourself to someone else? Maybe that person is your best friend and they can do the task better than you. Or maybe another person has a horse that is a lot better at the tasks than your horse is. Do you compare and come out on the short end?

In traveling around to clinics, I see so many people being hard on themselves, either because they can't do what others do, or because they can't right away do what the clinician is showing .

The reason you paid good money to go to a clinic is because you were having a

problem with your horse, or you wanted to improve your horsemanship. So, we need to get into learning mode and not worry about whether we are better or worse than other people in the clinic. The two main things we need to do are improve ourselves and improve our horse.

Most of the problems we see like this are due to our ego. All of us have a little ego. Ego is not only what makes us feel that we are better than someone else. It is also what makes us feel that we are worse than someone else. We have all had the experience of going to some kind of a learning thing with our best friend. When we are better than they are, there is a little voice inside us that says, "Whoopee, I am better than they are." Or, if our best friend is better than us, the little voice says, "This is bad, they are better than me!" We need to lose the Ego at the arena gate and get into Learning Mode.

Most of the things that you learn in a Natural Horsemanship Clinic do not come easy. Some people have more experience than others. Some people learn in a different way than others. And for some people, it is just harder to learn. So don't worry about where you are.

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Focus on what the clinician is teaching.
Learn only that and don't worry about
what everyone else is doing.

And something that will help you more
than anything else is to **PRACTICE!!**
We see people in clinic after clinic that
have only worked their horse at the
clinic. They have not practiced at home
at all. I know everyone has all sorts of
responsibilities with our homes, jobs,
kids, and so on. But if you have a horse,
he is not like a motorcycle, that you can
turn the key and it shuts off. A horse
needs lots of care. Even if you only
have 15 minutes per day or every other
day, do something with him. Work him
with a plan and even this small amount
of time will develop more feel and
timing.

The Horse is First
Jere Johnson