



NATURAL REMUDA EQUINE LEARNING CENTER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER

2008

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FROM CATHY'S DESK

We have really had a busy month and a half. We were gone almost every weekend, and when we weren't gone, we were getting ready to get gone! But we are very thankful and glad to be busy. We hope you are getting in some riding time with your horses, now that this weather has turned cooler.

NEW NEWS

Classes

Jere will be teaching some new classes at the Center this winter. He will be teaching these new classes, from 9a.m. to around 3p.m. on Tuesday thru Thursday. Anyone can join in at any time, just make sure you call, as sometimes we have to cancel for a day. Following are some of the classes. For fees, and the schedule, please e-mail me.

Colt Class - Our Colt class is still going to be 3 months long, but we are going to let people join in as they can.

The emphasis in this class is reading horse personalities. We will do the ground work, and maybe saddle if the colt is ready.

Ground Work - The Ground class is just that. Teaching the ground work will be the emphasis. It will last 2 weeks at a session. This includes the desensitizing moves, moving from pressure, circling, driving, sideways, and the claustrophobic moves. Also we will teach how to catch, halter, and deal with vices, such as kicking, biting, walking on you and spooking.

Wild Horse - This winter we will have a wild horse class. This will be how to handle a horse that has not been handled at all and is very fearful of people. We will read their personality, and show you how to deal with them. This will be the gentle, natural way.

Finishing your Horse - This class will go on in the afternoons most days. Jere will show you how to finish your horse, no matter where you are on him, from starting to performance ready.

UPCOMING CLINICS

November 15, 2008, Lone Star Equestrian at the Diamond I Ranch, McDade, TX

This clinic is going to be a Ground Clinic. We will cover all the moves you can do to learn how to talk to



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your horse. This clinic will teach you how to stop the vices and problems you have with your horse. If you can do these movements on the ground, you can do them on the horse, which leads to lead changes, side passing, two tracking and other finesse movements. If you can't do these movements on the ground your horse never gets a chance to "get it right" with you. We are having it at Carol and Walt Isenhour's Diamond I Ranch at McDade, TX. Call Carol for information about the clinic. Carol Isenhour, Lone Star Equestrian at Diamond I Ranch, McDade, Texas. Her home number is 512-273-2520. Her e-mail is cisenhour@hotmail.com

While we are on the subject of the Diamond I Ranch, Carol and her husband, Walt are starting a new facility called Lone Star Equestrian at the Diamond I. They are going to be having more clinics and horse activities. They have new trainers, Reed and Cam Branson, from CA and we were very impressed with what they are going to be doing. And they are all really nice friendly people. They will soon have a web site up and we will put the address in our Newsletter. They are going to have a very nice set up over there, and we are looking forward to going to some of their clinics and activities.

Trail Clinic, Fredericksburg, TX area, date to be announced.

We are going to be having a Trail Riding Clinic in the Fredericksburg, TX area sometime before the end of the year. We will announce it with e-mail to you. We will teach etiquette, safety, how to slow your horse, speed him up, how to handle water crossings and trail obstacles, and various other things you can do to have a safe and fun ride. Watch for this fun clinic!!

SHASTA'S JOURNEY



INTERVIEW WITH DONNA SUGG, SHASTA'S NEW OWNER

Donna and Charlie Sugg of Marble Falls are the adopters of Shasta, one of the colts we worked with for the Mustang Makeover. Following are Donna's words about adopting this colt.



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Cathy: Where did you first see Shasta and did you have any idea that you would like her enough to adopt her?

Donna: We first saw Shasta at the pre-show in Burnet. She was so calm and never seemed to be bothered by anything going on around her. When we left that afternoon, my husband suggested that we adopt her.

Cathy: Why did you adopt her?

Donna: We wanted to make sure that Shasta was in a good home and environment.

Cathy: What do you hope to accomplish with her?

Donna: By adopting Shasta as a yearling, we have a chance to train her in the natural horsemanship way from the very beginning. We don't have to worry about undoing anything that someone did to scare her and we have a chance to have a horse that is trusting of humans from the very start.

Cathy: What is your next goal with her?

Donna: We will do ground work with Shasta until she is old enough to train under the saddle.

Cathy: Do you eventually want to

ride her?

Donna: Yes, we want to ride Shasta. We think she will be an excellent trail and pleasure horse.

Cathy: What do family members and your horse friends think of adopting a Mustang?

Donna: My family thinks this adventure is great. Everyone was excited for us. Most of my friends feel the same way although a few seemed surprised.

Cathy: Would you recommend adopting a Mustang to someone else?

Donna: Yes, I would recommend the Mustang adoption to anyone looking for a good horse. In my opinion, adopting Mustangs would be the way to go for someone that needed or wanted some horses for their ranch. The Mustangs are fairly inexpensive and make excellent horses.

Cathy: Did you enjoy the Extreme Mustang Makeover and Weanling Show in Ft. Worth?

Donna: Yes, I enjoyed the Extreme Mustang Makeover and Weanling Show in Ft. Worth. If I go again, I want to watch more of the riding show. It is so wonderful to just walk around and look at all of the Mustangs. They are all so majestic.



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Cathy: If you had the time and resources, would you adopt another mustang? Do you feel it is a worthwhile cause to save the Wild Mustangs?

Donna: Definitely. If we ever decide that we can take another horse, I would adopt another Mustang in a heartbeat. I'm a horse person and if I could, I would save all of the Wild Mustangs. It feels good to know that we did help out by giving one a good home.

Cathy: Anything else that you want to say about the Mustangs?

Donna: Shasta is such a trusting, loving and calm horse. She has been so good from the very first day that we brought her home. My husband has just fallen for her and she is going to be his horse. He has never been a horseman before now. I will still have to help him with Shasta, but this is exactly what he needed to get him into horses. Yea Mustangs!

We are so thankful to the Sugg family for giving Shasta a good home. If you are interested in adopting a Mustang, they will be available in May of 2009 for the Mustang Makeover Contest. Go to <http://www.mustangheritagefoundation.org/>

They will soon have a page up telling

you about the 2009 adoptions. Also you can adopt Mustangs any time of the year from the BLM. To see details on this, go to <https://www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/>

For those of you who may be looking for the Blocker Rings to tie with, here is a pretty good deal from Donna, who ordered hers here. They are \$24.95 each. If you order 5, then they send you a free carrot stick in your choice of 4 different colors. Shipping was free.
www.blockerranch.com

FUN TIMES WE HAVE HAD! McDade Clinic in Sept.

Our clinic at the Diamond I Ranch in McDade was a real success! We had 7 riders and 15 or so auditors. Most of the riders were beginning intermediate, but some were on young horses. We didn't do much with the ground work, but rode a lot. We had a lot of sore people, but everyone really made progress with their horses. We had our first buck off, but the lady got up and came back swinging to get her horse going again. Tough lady, that Vicki!!



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Mustang Makeover, Yearling 007



We really had a good time at the Mustang Makeover!! And Jere won second in the Elimination Trials and fifth in the Finals!!! In the picture above he is the one on the far right with the purple shirt (talking to Shasta!).

Everyone there made us feel welcome and there were lots of people doing some variation on Natural Horsemanship. We met many trainers and networked a lot. We felt the show was well run and the staff very nice. A huge thank you to all the friends, and family who came to support us. We really had a good time visiting with you and we thank you for your support!!! We are planning on applying again next year for another Mustang. Would anyone else want to do it with us? We were thinking of making a Team Johnson showing! E-mail me if you are interested in this.

Parelli Tour Stop

We loved our trip to Ft Worth to see the Parelli team at the Tour Stop. As usual, they knocked the sox off of everyone with their demonstrations. We met lots of new people and several of our clients and friends came with us, so we had a great time.

Next year, the Parelli's aren't going to do tour stops. They are only going to travel to 7 cities in the US, AUS, and UK. Luckily, Ft. Worth is one of the cities they are going to have their Celebration in. As I understand it, they will have the Games the first day and demonstrations, a savvy team and some assessments the other days. This will be interesting.

Yvonne & Friends



We had a very nice time at the Center this last Saturday with the Yvonne and Friends Clinic. These ladies have taken several clinics and are really getting good! And they are starting to see what you can accomplish with Natural



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Horsemanship with horses, and yes, even Mules! Our new Apprentice, Kathie came too, and it is amazing the progress she is making.

it takes. As I write, I can see her out the front window being taught the Natural Horsemanship moves this morning. She is doing very well.

APPRENTICE PROGRAM



Our Apprentice Program is going great guns. The first week we hauled 2 of our three year olds and Penny, our daughter's Mustang, to the Center. We worked them all the first week. It has really helped our class to have an intensive session of 18 hours in a week.

Then this week, Jere and I spent all Monday evening trying to get the last Paint three year old to load. The only time she has been loaded was when we hauled her to the pasture. We ran out of light on Monday, and so Tuesday morning we went to play with her. It only took about an hour to load her. Which shows that we don't need to be in any kind of a rush to work with horses. They will still do whatever you want for them to do, if you will just take the time

JERE'S CORNER "WAIT"



"Set up for success and wait", "Set it up, and wait", "Wait till your horse is ready", "Wait for his feet", and "take the time it takes, so it doesn't take so much time". These are all sayings that we hear time after time in the Natural Horse world. They have to do with waiting till the horse is ready and sometimes waiting till you are ready.

These sayings say exactly what they mean. Set it up so the horse can do what you want, and then wait for him to do what you want. And when he does what you want, release. Remember, it is the release that teaches.

Patience is not one of the human's virtues. Many times we get frustrated and tired and mad, and then the inclination is to "make" the horse do what you want. That isn't Natural



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Horsemanship at all. You have to be very patient. Way more patient than it is human nature to be.

It is important that you don't make the horse wrong, by your impatience or even by your ignorance. Sometimes, people really don't know what to do and they get impatient and go back to being Predators. People need to stop and think about the way they would like to learn.

How much undemanding time do you spend with your horse? Giving him time is one of the best things you can do for him. Keep a log of the undemanding time you spend just sitting in his pen, without doing anything with him. Remember, it is a lot more enjoyable to build a relationship with your horse, than it is to fight him at every turn.