

## **Clinic May 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>**

### **Making your horse sensitive and responsive**

Do you dream of a horse that responds immediately to your every command? A horse that responds to leg pressure rather than one that requires you to pull on the bit? A calm horse that is in control at any speed? A trail horse that goes where you say and can leave other horses? One that can be ridden on a loose rein, or better yet...no reins? This doesn't have to be a dream anymore, it can be achieved! My objective with this clinic is to show you how to make your horse sensitive to you and to your commands. There are many different exercises that can improve your horse's sensitivity. The key is to make every cue you give your horse purposeful and expect the horse to obey, to know when to push your horse through the problems. After applying what you learn at this clinic, there will be no more kicking and pulling constantly at the bit, you will feel more in-control. You will learn how to fix the problems and enjoy the ride whether in the arena or on the trail.

### **May 12<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 Ground Work

11:00 Riding Exercises

12:30 Lunch

1:00 Demo and Riding Exercises

1:30 Games to Improve Riding Confidence and Skills

3:00 Head Home

### **May 13<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 Riding Exercises

11:00 Obstacle Course

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Games

1:30 Trail Ride

3:00 Head Home

## **Groundwork:**

When you work with your horse everything depends on the groundwork you have instilled into your horse. When you are having problems with control, confidence, and respect from your horse then it is key to go back to the groundwork to reestablish the boundaries. Remember, training doesn't begin on the horse's back. From the time you step into your horse's stall to the time you put him or her back and step out of the stall you are training. Training is a constant state when you are with your horse. We will work on techniques to help you read your horse so that you can tell when your horse is being respectful and listening.

## **Riding Exercises:**

Your body is the most important tool. To become a proficient horseman, and effectively communicate with the horse, you must learn how to use your legs. There are many different exercises to help you gain confidence, control and balance. These exercises will help you and your horse become more sensitive to each other and will feel more comfortable at any speed. It is important to be consistent so both you and your horse do not grow confused. We will learn speed control, Straight lines, collection, stops and how to push your horse through arguments and being herd sour.

## **Games:**

Over the years I have noticed that when horse and rider are having fun they look their best. I have put together a series of games that helps you gain control and responsiveness from your horse while enjoying the ride! When you stop focusing so much on every little issue you relax and your riding will develop tremendously. We play, laugh and improve without even knowing it!

## **Trail Ride:**

Most of us just want to spend time out on our horse, but a lot can go wrong on the trail. At the end of the clinic we will go on a trail ride. Some of the major issues I have seen is a horse turning herd sour, refusing and spooking. It is important to first work on the issues in the arena, so that once we go on the trail we know what we can do to work through the issues safely and effectively. That way we can have an amazing time enjoying our horses out on the trail where we belong!

