



December 2011

HIGH DESERT RIDERS, EDGEWOOD, NEW MEXICO

Volume 7, Issue 12

Training Tips from Clinton Anderson, Down Under Horsemanship

Mouthy horse tip: Make his feet move!

When a horse gets mouthy, put his feet to work. The most effective punishment you can give a horse is making him move his feet. Horses are basically lazy creatures and would rather stand around with their legs cocked daydreaming about their next meal than moving their feet and working up a sweat. They'll always choose the option with the least amount of work involved.

So if you're standing next to your horse and he starts nibbling on your shirt, turn around and put his feet to work and turn a negative into a positive. Practice some Backing Up, Lunging for Respect, Sidepassing or Circle Driving. The horse can't mouth on you and move his feet at the same time, especially if you make him hustle with energy and do lots of changes of direction. If you're consistent, it won't take



long for the horse to connect the two together; when he gets mouthy, you'll make his feet move.

One of the best ways to stop a mouthy horse, and especially horses that bite, is to back them up. Backing Up is a very humbling exercise for a horse to do. When a horse gets mouthy or tries to bite you, it's a very forward action; he's coming forward to get you. When you back him up, it's the complete opposite; he's being submissive to you by moving out of your space.

The next High Desert Riders General Meeting is Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Edgewood Community Center

Invite your friends and neighbors



Find the election results for new HDR V.P., Secretary and Sargent at Arms on Page 3



Learn more from Clinton Anderson at www.downunderhorsemanship.com

www.HighDesertRiders.com



Thanks to our HDR Officers, Directors and Committee Leaders and Members who give their time to make HDR a success for all of us:

- Ta-Willow Romero, President & Director
- Jim Stundon, Vice President & Director
- Susan Hill, Secretary & Director
- Diane Lindsey, Treasurer & Director
- Martha Eden, Director
- Jeff Averhoff, Director
- Ray Seagers, Sergeant at Arms, Director, Government Liaison
- Trail Ride Committee Leader: Sheryl LaRue
- Membership Committee Leader: John Lindsey
- Public Relations, Newsletter and website: Martha Eden, Dana Scott



MEMBERS REPORT

Two Views of the Worlds

This is my 3rd time to go to the World Championship Cowboy Mounted Shooting in Amarillo, TX. It is a very exciting Mounted Shooting Event. There were 340 shooters there this year! There were 9 in my class. I rode Kenadie, my 7 yr. old paint. This was her 8th shoot (as compared to many dozens of shoots by the more experienced horses). Her first five shoots were pretty much a disaster, her 6th and 7th shoot showed marked improvement. I felt it was my 'duty' to go to Worlds since I had a Certificate that was good for 1 Main Entry Fee that I won last year for Class High Point Winner.

As it turned out, Kenadie performed very well. We finished in the bottom half of my class but I had a great time at Worlds. It is like having a huge extended family all in one place. You get to see people that you see at the local matches, as well as special friends from far away that you only see once or twice a

year. The caliber of shooters that go to Worlds is amazing; it is nothing to sit in the grandstand and watch from 8:00 am until it is over, sometimes not until 8:00 pm, except when I am warming up for my turn to shoot. Another great time at Worlds.

~Hallie McFadden

This was my 2nd time competing at the Worlds in Amarillo in October. Nothing like having your heart in your throat before you go out to run a stage. It is really exciting to watch the best in the world. Too bad they don't go first so you can see how they run their patterns. There but for 5 or 10 seconds go I...I wish. Ha!

At least I followed the patterns this year, but I missed three balloons, so Rosie and I came in 4th in my class of 14. Next year I promised myself I will do better! Actually, we had several 4th place winners from High Desert Riders, including Willow Romero (Ladies 3), Ralph Hill (Sr. Men's 3), and Susan Hill (Sr. Ladies 2). New Mexico had 11 riders in

the top 4 of their classes, so we faired pretty well.

The Worlds is really special to me, because it is where you get to dress in your finest taffeta skirt and all your glitter.

~Susan Hill

The Santa Rosa Lake Trail Ride, Oct. 15th

Santa Rosa Lake has a relaxing trail ride for those looking for a nice, easy ride. The open land accompanied by gorgeous rocks near the hillside work together like a harmonious symphony. The rocks made the perfect rest area and the trail a good experience for anyone looking to unwind with their horse. Water troughs and a windmill worked as markers on the trail...and places where the horses would splash each other playfully.

The Santa Rosa Lake trail was easy to follow and a good wind-down for those who have been through quite a few horse experiences. The unique, pretty, and large rocks near the

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HORSEMEN'S BALL

Horsemen's Ball Follow up

In case inquiring minds want to know, here is a brief report on the annual HDR party for 2011. In spite of the snowy weather, we had 60 brave souls in attendance. We enjoyed hors d'oeuvres (thanks to Marsha, Hallie, and Diane), bar-b-q and fixens from Shorties (with salad from Susan and coleslaw from Diane), and wonderful desserts (thanks to Martha and Marilyn). Karen warmed us up with some great coffee, not to mention hauling wood early on to keep the stoves burning bright.

Since we are a non-profit organization, the party committee decided to take advantage of our club's nice treasury balance, and have a fun event which was low cost to the members and their friends. High Desert Riders sponsored all of the added expenses.

We all had fun listening and dancing to Jim Rathbun's crew's lively music. Jim also was our gift auctioneer for fund-raising, to benefit ailing Bob and Mandy New. This year, in lieu of food for Bethel house, the committee decided to make the New family our beneficiaries. (Sadly, Bob was back in the hospital this week of 12/4.) So we are happy to report \$644 was raised to help in a small way with medical expenses.

On a side note, had we retained the auction proceeds, we would have nearly broken even. The goal was to return part of our treasury holdings to the whole club in a way that everyone could enjoy and feel good about. Too bad the weather didn't cooperate so all could have attended.

~Susan Hill

ELECTION RESULTS

Wikipedia says: "A write-in candidate is a candidate in an election whose name does not appear on the ballot, but for whom voters may vote nonetheless by writing in the person's name. . . . In some cases, write-in campaigns have been organized to support a candidate who is not personally involved in running; this may be a form of draft campaign. . . . Write-in candidates rarely win, and votes are often cast for ineligible people or fictional characters. "

Well, we didn't elect any fictional characters this year, but the election was interesting. For those of you that missed the meeting, here are the results:

Vice President for 2012-2013:
Jeff Averhoff

Sargent at Arms for 2012-2013:
Ray Seagers

Secretary for 2012-2013 (or until further notice): Dana Scott

Jeff Averhoff was elected last year as a Director at Large for 2011-2012, but since he will now be serving as Vice President, Clark McDuell was elected to serve the remainder of Jeff's term as Director.

I want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who volunteered to run for election and serve High Desert Riders. And another big thank you to those who continue to serve as officers, directors, committee chairs and those members who volunteer to help put on events and rides. Thanks for making our club the best equestrian club around.

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MEMBERS REPORT

(Continued from page 2)

hillside added new perception to the normal rocks we see when coming to and from Albuquerque. To anyone looking for a trail that's easy to follow and something to do just to spend time with their horse, I would recommend the Santa Rosa Lake trail.

~Heather Averhoff

Raven Road, Nov. 12th

Sheryl LaRue lead us on a trail ride out from the parking area near Raven Road off S-14. I've been looking for information about this area on the Internet and I find that sometimes it is referred to as the "David Canyon" area and the mountain bike websites say it connects to Tunnel Canyon and Otero Canyon. The trails in this area can be found on The Trails of Cedro

Peak & Otero Canyon Map available from the Sandia Ranger Station. It looks like they've done a very good job of marking the trails.

This is a really nice place to ride. There is varied terrain—meadows and forest. Some places are rocky, but I don't think it is rocky enough that trail riders would want to avoid this area. Sheryl says this is her favorite "local" ride; she's seen lots of places so you know this place is nice.

We had 10 riders that Saturday: Sheryl, Ralph & Susan, Sam & Karen, Judy, Cynthia & Archie, Sue Huber (a friend of a member who may join the club soon) and myself. Sam and Karen were both riding Fox Trotters that I hadn't seen them ride before. Sam was on a 3 year old gelding that he and Karen bred and raised at their ranch. The

young black and white paint horse, who looks a lot like Sam's stallion, Ranger, already had a summer of mountain riding under his cinch and was quiet and well-behaved on the trail. Karen has a new young pretty bay gelding that was also a really nice trail horse. Ralph was riding his green broke buckskin filly, Little Lena, who did a super job for Ralph, who was riding drag for us.

Half of the group elected for a shorter ride and took a direct route back to the trailers after about 2 hours, and the other half of the group took the David Canyon trail which made the ride almost an hour longer. The hills and trees cut the wind, so it was quite comfortable despite the wind that was blowing in Edgewood that day.



The Horsemen's Ball Committee from left to right: Hallie, Marsha, Susan, Diane & Martha (not pictured: Marilyn and Karen, who was taking the photos). See more of Karen's photos on the website www.HighDesertRiders.com



HOW TO TIE A "FOUR SQUARE" WILD RAG KNOT

A wild rag is a cowboy or Western scarf. It's usually a point of cowboy or cowgirl pride to secure a wild rag around their neck by a scarf slide they're fond of, or some type of fashionable knot. In the article and photos below we'll show you how to tie one kind of wild rag knot.



1) Fold your wild rag into a triangular shape and put it around your neck. You can have the point of the triangle in the front or the back, it's your choice, but make sure the ends or tails of the wild rag wind up in front, one on each side of your neck.

From this point forward we used two different wild rags, a blue one and a red one, to tie the knot in the photos.

2) So that the ends of the tails are even when the knot is completed, begin with the right (red) side of the wild rag hanging down a little farther than the left (blue) side.



3) To begin tying the knot, temporarily let go of the right (red) side.

Pick up the tail on the left (blue) side of the wild rag with your right hand, and wrap it around the first two fingers of your left hand. Make one complete wrap.

4) Close the fingers of your left hand around the tail of the wild rag tight enough to hold it in place, then let go of the tail with your right hand.



5) With your right hand, pick up the tail of the right (red) side of the wild rag. Take the tail through the part of the wild rag wrapped around your fingers. Be sure to go UNDER the part of the wrap closest to the ends of your fingers, but OVER the part of the wrap closest to your wrist.

6) Pull the (red) tail all the way through to the left.....



7).....then take it back to the right side going UNDER the rest of the wild rag.....

8).....so that you have this.



9) Now take the tail of the right (red) side of the wild rag back through the wraps around your fingers again. This time, go **OVER** the part of the wrap closest to the ends of your fingers, and **UNDER** the part of the wrap closest to your wrist.

10) Remove your left hand from the knot, then gently pull the knot tight and you're done! When tightening your knot keep in mind that many knots have to be pulled tight correctly or the knot is ruined, and this is one of them. Slowly tighten and manipulate the knot until it has an even appearance similar to the one in the photo above.



I'll be expecting to see everyone with four-square knots in their wild rags next time we meet. Don't forget the first HDR general meeting of 2012 will be on Tuesday, January 24th at 7 pm at the Edgewood Community Center. Invite your friends to attend. HDR membership dues are due on January 1st; still just \$25 for Individuals or \$45 will cover all members of your immediate family living in your household. If you have your own business, you can get a sponsor membership for \$100 that includes an ad for your business on each newsletter and on our website. You can mail your dues to High Desert Riders, P.O. Box 2002, Edgewood, NM 87015, or bring your dues to the general meeting in January. Continue to watch your email for news of rides and events throughout winter. We won't try to schedule anything very far in advance because the winter weather is unpredictable. As always, if you have any questions about rides or want to volunteer to lead a ride, call our Trail Committee Leader Sheryl LaRue at 505.730.9899.



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