

The Lakefield Lead Line



News from Lakefield Farm

Barnside



I am writing this after getting in from a great ride on Joe. It had been a while,

as life seemed to be getting in the way. I am certain it never happens to you, but it happens to me more often than I would like. This particular ride, which was on an incredibly dirty horse, even though I spent a lot of time brushing, was one that made me realize how important horses can be in our lives and to our mental state of being. We had an exceptionally challenging week for many reasons. It seemed that things were hitting us from all ends which was part of the

reason I hadn't been riding. There were probably times that I would have been able to find the time, but found it easier to just stay inside, feeling tired from all the situations we were encountering. I am sure this has never happened to you either. So this evening, being more or less forced into going out to the barn to give a riding lesson, was probably the best thing that could have happened to my mental state. Since I already had Joe in for the lesson, I took some time after the lesson to ride. It felt so wonderful and I felt so fortunate to be able to be on the back of a horse, and not just *any* horse, but *my* horse. For the time that I was with him, I didn't seem to have a care in the world. It wasn't even that I was consciously aware that I wasn't think-

ing about all the things in my life. Everything was just wiped from my mind and it was just us, having a wonderful ride. I felt so refreshed. Now I feel I am ready to tackle all that I need to deal with, in a much better state of mind.

So . . . the moral of the story is, get out and spend some time with your horse when you're feeling overwhelmed or life is getting to be too much. You will feel much better for it! I know we all know this, but sometimes we need to be reminded to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity that horses provide for us, even when we think we are too tired to get out to the barn!

Happy Trails,
Rosanne

Book Review: Nature in Horsemanship by Mark Rashid

In my opinion, this was a terrific book and by far the best one that Mark has written. The book is entertaining while it drives home a point. By opening himself up to the reader, Mark helps the reader understand thoughts or actions that may be getting in the way of their own horsemanship. He shares his experience learning Aikido, which is certainly enlightening, as well as having many similar challenges found in horsemanship. I found the book to be encouraging for any skill level without any pretense that there are just a few simple steps that will turn you into a horseperson. He makes it clear that it takes work as well as thought but provides the reader with some great concepts to work on. He talks about creating an opening for the horse, which I thought was especially helpful. If you are looking to improve your horsemanship, I wouldn't hesitate to recommend this book.

Rosanne

Star out of the Box



We are entering that time of year where on some days spring seems to be in the air at the same time it is months away. This year has been fairly mild and my coat is already shedding, but I am not sure. Will it be icy? Will the mud-suction finally remove shoes? What's a girl to do? The groundhog may have already made his prediction by the time you read this, but what did he ever know; he is just a rodent who has never met Tommy. So, help me out here, I am sinking into mid-winters blues in the easiest of winters. Maybe that's it—it's been too easy.

Star

P.S. Exercise? Exercise! I already get enough. Keep any new routines to yourselves.

Cashmere and Dreamer



Yes the weather has been warm but unfortunately the days that were to be spent taking the foals out on the trails, we found the trails to be pretty icy and just not worth taking a chance. We decided to do a little work with them in the arena. Nothing major as at this point, it is the quality of the interaction they are getting, certainly not the quantity. Cashmere is just as soft as her name implies. It is actually pretty incredible how she follows the feel on the line and almost never lets it get any tension whatsoever. She seems to have a quiet curiosity in what Rosanne is doing. She is comfortable with her feet being picked up and her tail twirled. The newest task she was asked to do this month was to lower her head and then back up. At first you could tell this was a little confusing to her and her way of showing that is she stomps her foot. Once she understood, she became quite smooth and was willing to not only lower her head and take one step but offered two to three. It is obvious that this tires her and so Rosanne left it at that and then gave her a good body rub, ending up with a butt scratch which seems to be her favorite.

Dreamer is quite different from Cashmere. He also seems to live up to his name in the respect that I think he is always dreaming of things that he can do with the other horses instead of what someone on the other end of the lead rope has in mind. In the arena, he is quite intrigued by the other horses and riders. He does not seem to mind that there is tension on the rope at times. He seems to follow the feel when it suits him. He quite often has different thoughts on the matter and expresses himself by trying to do the opposite of what is being requested until he understands. He is quite bold when it comes to obstacles and was comfortable going over poles and also having the big ball bouncing around him and even bumping into him. We thought that was pretty impressive since it was his first exposure to the 3 foot ball.

Out in the pasture we see big differences in the two also. At feeding time, Cashmere is usually at the door waiting to be let in while Dreamer is off watching horses in other pastures being let in for their grain. Dreamer continues to spar with all the other horses, not having any clue that he is actually quite a bit smaller than they are. Cashmere stays clear of any sparring but is willing to go running with the rest of the horses when they take a romp around the pasture.

We are having so much fun watching them and seeing their personalities develop. We wonder if these traits will hold true into their maturity.

Equestrian Team

The first meeting of the season will be Wed Feb. 15th at 5:00. This is for parents and kids. If you have any questions or concerns about the team this is a great time to ask. Team members will get to know each other and set personal goals along with team goals for the year.



Kasun Family



Claire with her new Doll Sally made by Patti Heiber who also made the hat, scarf, sweater and mittens to match. Could they be any cuter!

Timing is Everything—Don Korinek



Did you ever watch a running back on a football team elude tackles? Or a basketball player dribble past someone with such effortlessness that the defending player looks awkward and slow. It's not that they're so much superior, but that they understand space and timing better. My first awareness of this was in fourth grade. We would play a game at recess called "Kill the man with the ball". The game was uncomplicated, one ball and as many players as you could find to play. One player has the ball and tries to evade the other players until he is tackled or throws the ball at another player who must pick it up and continue. A single player in our class made this game entertaining. His name was Johnny

Westfal. A lot of players would just run away with the ball until they couldn't any more. Johnny was different. He would get everyone running in one direction and then turn into the crowd darting right or left until he came out the other side, only to turn around and go through again. I would come in from recess and not only marvel at what he did, but wonder how he did it. Johnny was fast, but not that fast. Years later, and after playing different sports, I realized there is timing, such as dribbling a basketball, or jumping a hurdle in track. Then there is reactive timing, like catching a line drive in baseball, or returning a serve in tennis. Horses are experts at timing and reactive timing. They use both to position themselves in the herd. They know when and how far to move when kicked at. They know

just when to move away from an advancing lead horse. Consequently for the herd, timing is everything.

So when we bring our horses into our world they bring their understanding and awareness of timing with them. If we're late or indecisive with a cue or a release they become confused. If we continue being late or indecisive they become dull and protective. That can be seen in a horse that raises its head when he's kicked in the ribs and pulled on the reins as he's asked for a transition. As we become aware and more accurate with our timing, our horse will become more responsive and receptive to our cues. Subsequently our ride as well as our relationship with our horse will improve.

"Back to the Basics" Class

Welcome to the Wonderful World of Horses

"Back to the Basics" Classes:

The last Back to the Basics class, for this season, is this Saturday, February 4.

Habits—Saturday, February 4, 9am-11am

What are some of your habits? Are they good or ????

What are some of your Horse's Habits?

What little habits can we change that will go a long way in improving your relationship with your horse?

You may have habits you are not even aware of, but your horse is!

Register by e-mailing:

Classes@lakefieldfarm.com

\$25.00 for the class, everyone is welcome!

Adult Lesson Semester

There are just a few spots left for adult lessons which will start February 10th. Sign up now!

I will again be offering this class Tuesday evenings in March beginning at 6pm on the 6th. This is the perfect introduction into horses whether you are an adult interested in getting into horses yourself or you have a child that is interested and you would like to learn more about what the horse world has to offer.

This is a very interactive class and covers a broad range of horse topics. We will cover things such as breeds, styles of riding, stables in the area, cost of ownership, care, opportunities in the horse industry, as well as resources to further your knowledge.

Let your friends know that this will be available if you think they may have an interest. More information on the [Lakefield Farm website](#).

Brent Graef at Lakefield Farm

Brent Graef will be at Lakefield Farm July 17th and 18th. He will be doing a lesson format this year instead of a clinic.

Get to their website to secure your spot!

[Follow this link](#)

Check out these Youtube video links! They are really quite impressive and worth watching.

[Lorenzo, New DVD](#)

[Speed Equitation](#)

News from Lakefield Farm

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We're on the web,
www.lakefieldfarm.com

Advancing Horsemanship
through a softer approach

Trainers at Lakefield Farm:

Don Korinek—262-227-6029

Rosanne Korinek 262-227-6039

Leanne Korinek—262-227-6047

Paula Curtis—262-323-1102

Jack Curtis 920-645-1671

Member of American
Quarter Horse
Association

American Paint Horse
Association

United States
Equestrian Federation

Lakefield Farm is more than just a boarding stable. Lakefield Farm is a place where horse enthusiast not only ride, but also take advantage of the beautiful property and river to snow shoe, hike, cross country ski and just enjoy being out in the country. We provide quality, dependable, knowledgeable care for horses while providing a friendly, relaxed atmosphere for horse enthusiast to learn and enjoy their horse. We believe in educating our customers in all aspects of horsemanship, including care, safety, groundwork as well as riding skills. Our five trainers have over 140 years of combined horse experience. We have a passion for what we do and it shows. Our services include boarding, training, lessons, horsemanship weeks and as well as self improvement courses.

Silver Maple Flooring LLC

Wood Floor Installation, Sanding,
Staining, Repairs, Refinishing, New
Construction

Existing Homes

Brad Korinek Owner

"Keeper of the Craft"

Have a horse question? Ask one of our trainers and we will answer in the newsletter.

Calendar

February

4th Back to Basics—Habits, 9am-11am

10th Adult Lesson Semester begins

15th Equestrian Team Meeting, 5pm

March

6th Wonderful World of Horses, 6pm

13th Wonderful World of Horses, 6pm

20th Wonderful World of Horses, 6pm

27th Wonderful World of Horses, 6pm

July

17-18 Brent Graef Clinic

