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EXPERIENCE HORSEMANSHIP FROM THE HEART!

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Santa Cruz, CA  
Horsemanship Demo Day

## ADVANCING HORSEMANSHIP



Julie and participants in the February Three-Day Clinic stay warm next to the fire while they watch and encourage Marcia in the round pen (see p.2 photo).

this kind of riding relationship with our own horses. But most of us are still somewhere along the sliding scale of that progression. That is why we seek to learn from those who have mastered the art of Horsemanship more than we have.

"Horsemanship is a never ending process," says Miracle Mountain Ranch Instructor / Owner, Julie Carpenter. "I may be further up the scale than my clients, but I still have much to learn. However, I reap huge personal rewards through helping my students gain the skills and understanding that I have been fortunate enough to have developed over the years."

Julie has started thousands of horses and even more riders along the path to "*Horsemanship From the Heart*" during her 23 years in the industry. "Over the years, I have watched quite a few students evolve to a much higher level in their horsemanship," she says. "It is so fun to ride with people and realize that just a few years ago they were struggling with various riding fears or just learning to get their horse to pay attention to them."

### "Clear intention leads to clear communication."

First, they improve their ability to read their horses and their skills in making requests. Then as confidence grows, they improve their seat and their ability to feel what the horse is doing underneath them. Now they are asking more of both themselves and their horses, and working on advancing the subtle communication skills that enable reaching a higher partnership state.

For most people reading this article, Horsemanship is a journey – a progression of our skills and our understanding. Our goal is to advance to the point where we are so connected with our horse that we read each other's minds, and riding becomes an effortless, exhilarating shared activity.

This freedom and partnership is euphoric. We are captivated by it when the grand presentations of *Cavalía* or the *Lipizzaner Stallions* come to town.

Every now and then we experience a glimpse of

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## JULIE SHARES "HORSEMANSHIP FROM THE HEART" THROUGHOUT CA & THE NORTHWEST

Julie Carpenter has been helping clients develop their skills in "Horsemanship From the Heart" for 23 years. In the past year, Julie has begun to travel further away from her Jackson, CA, Ranch and Volcano, CA, home. Students have been requesting she come to them to share her gift of being able to teach both horse and rider how to improve their partnerships in a compassionate, encouraging way.

The Miracle Mountain Ranch newsletter is produced and distributed quarterly. Its mission is to share MMR news & happenings and to supply continuing knowledge to help everyone improve their equine partnership skills using Horsemanship From the Heart.

Please let us know what you think of our content and what else you would like to see. Contact Newsletter Editor Susan Hartje at [ACTSusan@earthlink.net](mailto:ACTSusan@earthlink.net) or 209-245-3789 or contact the ranch at [MMRI@MiracleMountain.com](mailto:MMRI@MiracleMountain.com) or 209-223-4421.

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## ADVANCING HORSEMANSHIP (CONTINUED)

Marcia smiles as she gets some coaching from Julie. She is working on requesting that Bart turn his head and get ready to step away onto the circle. She wants him to respond to her intent and a slight suggestion from her hand.



Sometimes it is good to remind people to take a step back and survey how far they have come over a period of years. Part of *"Horsemanship From the Heart"* is being able to stay focused and in the moment with your horse, but now and then it is helpful to view today in context of the big picture. Every now and then we should look back and celebrate our successes!

"If reaching a higher state of partnership with our equine teachers is our overarching goal, our intention can be clear. Clear intention leads to clear communication," says Julie. From there, all we need to do is focus on forward."

### FOUR COMMON TRAPS THAT DERAILED RIDERS FROM ADVANCING THEIR HORSEMANSHIP:

#### TRAP 1: GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

You can learn the skills without understanding why. If there is no meaning to what you are asking, your requests won't be coming from your heart, and the horse won't feel good about doing what you are asking.

#### TRAP 2: THINKING YOU CAN ASK FOR THE SAME THING IN THE SAME WAY FROM ALL HORSES.

Each horse is different. You need to be able to adjust to meet their mental & physical needs at the time.

#### TRAP 3: FORGETTING TO PROGRESS.

A skill that was performed OK the first time it is requested, needs to progress over time. You need to learn when your horse is ready to be asked for more. The goal should be to get the horse thinking, searching for the right answer. To do this we have to be more and more precise, and evolve our own understanding, skills and timing.

#### TRAP 4: THINKING IT SHOULD BE EASY.

Although we might wish it were easier at times, having an authentic goal of reaching perfect communication with your horse makes all the work worthwhile. If it were easy it would not be so rewarding.



Julie helps Franca teach her young Thoroughbred mare, Seven, to maintain her own self carriage while changing speeds. Helping Seven to move with a soft topline, an engaged bottomline and natural collection, will ensure she stays healthy and athletic for many years of riding.



Julie shows Cheryl how to fit a bridle. She points out that the bit should hang just at the corner of the mouth with only one little or no wrinkles in the horse's cheek.

# MMR 2007 CALENDAR



<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Notes*</u>
June 3-4	Two-Day Clinic	\$250	<b>Oroville, CA: Contact Tracy Johnson 530-534-5815.</b> Advanced. <b>FULL</b>
June 8 & 11-15	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
June 9-10	Two-Day Clinic	\$300	<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat & riding skills. Includes board.
June 23-29	<b>Volunteer Work Week!</b>		<b>Susanville, CA: Dreamcatcher Horse Sanctuary</b>
July 13-15	Three-Day Clinic	\$375	<b>At MMR:</b> Concentrated, advanced learning & skills practice.
July 16-20	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
July 23-27	Youth Day Camp	\$750	<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> 8 kids & lots of horsey fun! Includes Snacks. Arrive by 6 pm on July 22nd.
July 29	Demo Day		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
Aug. 14, 15 & 20-24	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Come learn about "Horsemanship From the Heart"
Aug. 16-19	Four-Day Clinic	\$600	<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat & riding skills. Includes board.
Aug. 27-30	Four-Day Clinic	\$600	<b>Plymouth, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat & riding skills.
Sept. 1-7	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
Sept. 8-9	Two-Day Clinic	\$300	<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat & riding skills. Includes board.
Sept. 14-16	Three-Day Clinic	\$425	<b>Seattle, WA: Contact Sue Shecket 206-860-5068.</b>
Sept. 19-21	Three-Day Clinic	\$425	<b>Seattle, WA: Contact Sue Shecket 206-860-5068.</b>
Sept. 23 (Sunday)	Day at the Ranch		<b>TACK SWAP, CRAFT FAIR, BBQ Hearts for Horses Fundraiser!</b>
Sept. 27-29	Women's Retreat	\$450	<b>at MMR:</b> Includes Breakfast & Lunch.
Oct. 5-6	Two-Day Clinic	\$300	<b>Burns, OR:</b> Contact Toni Ford, 541-573-1174. Groundwork, seat & riding skills.
Oct. 9-17	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
Nov. 9 & 14-17	Individual Sessions		<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Groundwork, seat and riding skills.
Nov. 10-13	Four-Day Clinic	\$600	<b>Santa Cruz, CA:</b> Contact Julie. Includes board.
Nov. 17-19	Three-Day Clinic	\$TBA	<b>Los Altos, CA: Contact Lisa Powell: 650-941-6611.</b>
Nov. 23-25	Three-Day Clinic	\$375	<b>At MMR:</b> Groundwork, seat and riding skills.

\*All Clinics cost \$125/day plus \$15/day horse board unless otherwise noted. \*All Clinics run from 9 am - 5 pm unless otherwise noted. \*Deposits are required to hold your space in all clinics & camps. If you need to cancel, and we can refill your space, we will refund your deposit. If we cannot fill your space, your deposit is non-refundable. \*We maintain a waiting list on all camps & clinics. \*Camps include horse board, a bed in the bunkhouse and food unless otherwise noted.



**Left:** During the first Seattle, WA, clinic of the year, Julie takes the first ride on Tazo, Sue Sheckett's young gelding. Since he has had lots of preparation, Tazo did great!

**Right:** Christy Clayton, Julie's newest assistant rides Galileo to check out the success of flocking adjustments on his english saddle.



## JULIE STEPS OUT IN '07 (CONTINUED)

"There is so much need out here for the supportive instruction in humane horsemanship that Julie provides," says Lisa Powell, who has trailered to Julie's ranch in Jackson for clinics and camps for several years. "It is such a successful way of working with horses, that I am always telling people about her. They finally said, we need to bring her here."

Julie's first clinic in **Los Altos** was in May. Since then, they added a November date too. A beginning to intermediate level event starts with a review of each participants goals. Then students start off by learning new or improved groundwork skills. Then riders mount up and see how their new skills help their riding experience.

**"If you don't have your horse's attention on the ground, it may not be listening any better to your requests under saddle."**

"How you communicate what you want while you are on the ground translates directly to what happens in the saddle," Julie explains. "Too many times people skip this step. That creates holes in a horse's understanding and leads to unexpected problems for many riders."

**Remote Clinic Locations include** Santa Cruz, Oroville, Los Altos & Plymouth, CA, and Burns, OR, and Bellevue, WA. Other training options with Julie include: **Multi-Day Clinics & Camps, Partnership Program, Two-Week Apprenticeship, Youth Camp & Women's**

## HORSEMANSHIP DEMO DAY JULY 29 IN SANTA CRUZ

**Come learn more about  
"Horsemanship From the Heart"  
with Julie Carpenter!**

**Where:** Jade's Ranch, Santa Cruz, CA

**When:** July 29, 9 am - 4 pm

**Why:** To find out more about how you can improve your communication and your partnership with your horse.

**Cost:** \$50/auditor, includes lunch

Julie will work 3 horses that day. If you want yours to be one, let her know. Cost will be \$150/horse, includes owner's attendance & lunch.

Julie will demonstrate how everyone can create a safer, healthier and happier partnership with their horse. She will start on the ground explaining how anyone can learn to speak horse to eliminate fear and build confidence in both horse and rider. From the saddle she will show how a horse can go from unhappy and foot dragging to soft, light and willing. Bring your questions & chair and spend the day!

**Retreat.** Julie frequently adjusts her schedule to accommodate client needs. So if you don't see something you want, just ask. *(See the full MMR Schedule on page 3.)*



Experience Horsemanship From the Heart!

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