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Experience Horsemanship From the Heart!

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The MMR Newsletter

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In This Issue:

P. 1 MMR Learning Opportunities Abound

Partnership Program Debuts!

P. 4 Hoof Health Seminar April 17

Other MMR Services

P. 5 MMR 2003-2004 Calendar

P. 6 Julie Tells All!

Plus:

A Hearts For Horses non-profit Update



Prinz

Great Horses Await
New Partners

Equine Inspiration

Miracle Mountain Ranch: An Abundance of Opportunity

Whether you are new to Miracle Mountain Ranch (MMR) or have worked with Owner/Instructor Julie Carpenter for years, it is easy to be overwhelmed with all the services offered. In one beautiful location, clients can get everything from boarding to training clinics, and even retirement for their horses in pasture.

Since relocating the business to 160 acres in Jackson, CA, nearly four years ago, Julie and Ranch Manager-husband, Rich Carpenter, have steadily grown and improved their services.

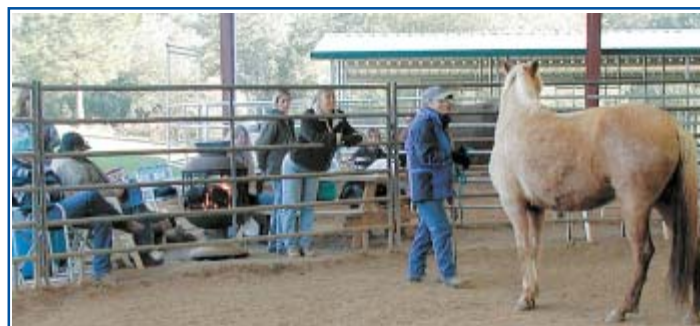
Following is an overview of the varied equine services and learning opportunities available at MMR.

TRAINING & LEARNING:

One, Two, Three & Five-day Clinics:

MMR offers a variety of clinics designed to help you develop a safe and effective partnership with your horse. In each, Julie works with a small group of six riders from 9 am to 5 pm. The number of riders is limited to ensure that each rider receives personal attention. Participants are slotted for clinics based on the skill level of the horse.

Continued on Page 2



Cathy works to keep her young Peruvian, Gracie's, attention, while Julie coaches from outside the round pen. Other participants watch and learn from Cathy's experiences.

New Program Offers Partnership Option

While the Three-Week Apprenticeship has been extremely popular at MMR, not all students can take three full weeks off to participate. So when Owner/Instructor Julie Carpenter began getting requests for shorter, more private opportunities to get the same intensive horse training time, she couldn't say no.

"By the time the third or fourth person asked me for the same type of training option, I figured I probably ought to listen to what they might be needing," says Julie. "What I heard is that some students would like shorter and more concentrated one-on-one time both watching me work with horses and having me coach them."

The resulting new **Partnership Program** will be more flexible and intense than regular clinics or the Apprenticeship. Participants can sign up for one week at a time. Two students at a time will partner with Julie for the full five days. Half of each day will be spent watching and learning from Julie as she works with a variety of horses. The rest of the day is for Julie

to coach the students with their own horses as they begin to apply what they have learned.

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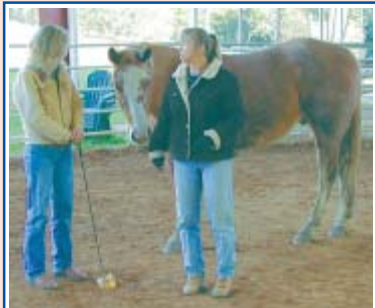
The Miracle Mountain Ranch newsletter is produced and distributed quarterly. Its mission is to share MMR news & happenings and to supply continuing knowledge to help everyone improve their equine partnership skills using *Horsemanship From the Heart*.

Please let us know what you think of our content and what else you would like to see. You can contact MMR Newsletter Editor Susan Hartje at ACTSusan@earthlink.net or 209-245-3789 or contact the ranch at MMRI@MiracleMountain.com or 209-223-4421.



Partnership Program

Continued from Page 1



Michelle and Skeeter pay close attention as Julie explains how the feet will move with the horse's shoulder on the circle. If you point your feet in front of him, it will cut him off; behind his shoulders will invite him to come in.

"I am excited about the new **Partnership Program**," Julie says. "This will give people a lot of visual reference points in a relaxed semi-private environment so they have time to ask lots of questions and put things together."

In fact the new program is already a hit. Two, week-long **Partnership Programs** are already filled. Additional sessions will be scheduled with students as they apply.

The five-day, semi-private **Partnership Program**, includes board for one horse. **Cost:** \$1250

All camps cover riding and handling techniques from the ground up. Exercises include ground school, activities in the arena, round pen work, saddle fit, balanced riding and applying principle to purpose on the trail.

Programs allow time to build trust, confidence, understanding and communication with your horse. This is especially helpful when working with younger horses.

A variety of trails around the ranch and neighboring Lake Tabeau will keep participants busy applying newly learned skills. Plus, there is time to relax at the bunkhouse, read, take walks, or just do nothing if you want.

MMR Offers Varied Clinics

Continued from Page 1

Every clinic starts with ground school, line work and round pen exercises. Clinics focus on various levels of connecting the rein to the hooves, liberty work, focused riding and advancing skills according to the designated emphasis. Each participant shares their history and goals. Julie customizes the activities to meet those needs.

All riding disciplines are welcome. Whether you are having a problem with your horse or you just want to learn new and effective techniques for communicating, it is well worth it to spend time with your horse in the beautiful Sierra Foothills.

Auditors are welcome. Bring a chair, lunch and a notepad! This is the perfect opportunity to watch Julie training & find out more about her unique methods.

Cost: \$100/one-day clinic; \$125/day for multi-day clinics, including board for one horse.

Auditors: \$25/day.

Women's & Youth Camps

Camp is a more intensive way to enjoy time totally dedicated to you and your horse. All meals are prepared for you, and you stay in the bunkhouse.

Camp is 7 days of horses, friends and fun at MMR's beautiful and relaxing facilities in Jackson. Julie offers both Youth and Women's options throughout the year.

Youth Camp brings a group of ten together to learn and play with horses in a structured yet fun atmosphere. Extra teaching helpers are always on hand. A few lesson horses are available if you don't have your own horse. A fun Horse Show tops off the week and shows parents what you learned.

Women's Camp is whatever you make of it. Many of these slots are filled year after year by the same folks who like to reserve it for their private equine vacation.

Camp is a great time to brush up on horsemanship skills and learn new exercises to improve your performance with your horse. Challenge yourselves and learn new skills to keep you both energized when you get home.



Patricia took the Three-Week Apprenticeship last year. She and Cody are benefiting greatly from the experience.

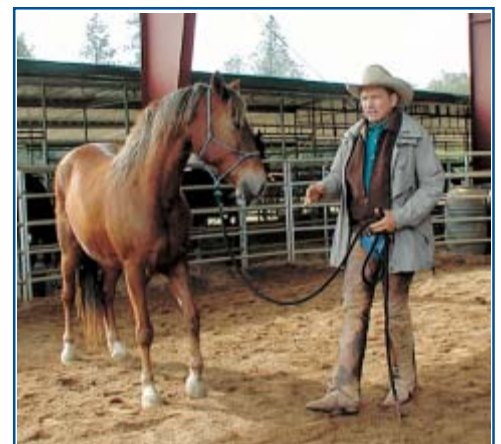
Cost: \$775, includes meals, accommodations, instruction, and board for one horse.

Instruction: In addition to Clinics and Camps, Julie offers private instruction, as well as private clinics to suit your needs.

Cost: \$170/two-hour session; \$350/half day; \$700/day

Harry Whitney Clinics

Each Spring, MMR hosts exceptional horse trainer Harry Whitney for two weeks of learning and adventure. Harry has been teaching riders to think 'From the horse's point of view'



During the 2003 Harry Whitney Clinic, Harry explains that he helps this normally nervous Peruvian gelding to be calm by asking him to focus on his requests instead of all the other horses and people.

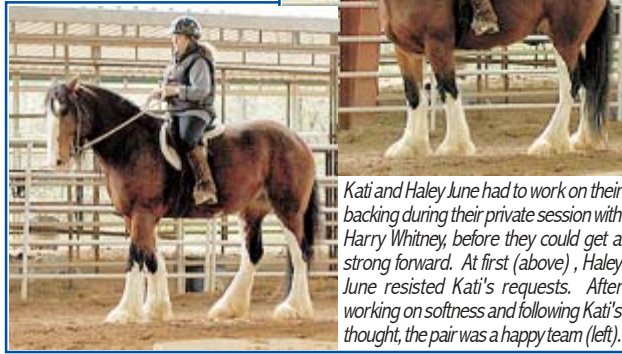
Whitney Clinics, Continued from Page 2

for many years. His background includes everything from being a working cowboy and stunt horse trainer, to learning at the side of Tom Dorrance.

Whether you are experiencing a problem on the trail or in the show ring, Harry will show you how to improve your performance and work through trouble spots. He is truly a rare breed of horseman who can read a horse - and a person - better than they know themselves.

There are four one-hour individual sessions each morning and two 2-hour afternoon group sessions daily. Each group is

Lunches will be available to purchase on-site during Harry Whitney Clinics. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Hearts for Horses non-profit.



Kati and Haley June had to work on their backing during their private session with Harry Whitney, before they could get a strong forward. At first (above), Haley June resisted Kati's requests. After working on softness and following Kati's thought, the pair was a happy team (left).

limited to five participants who work with Harry to improve their communication and relationships with their horses. Harry helps you understand things as the horse sees them, so you can eliminate communication barriers with your horse.

The needs of the participants dictate what is covered. Over several days, riders are amazed at the progress they make on is-

suces and skills they didn't even know they needed to work on.

Once you are able to communicate more clearly with your horse and understand their point of view better, you will build trust and confidence in each other.

Whether you ride with Harry or not, bring your chair for a front row seat at the arena, where you will see Harry help riders solve numerous problems, including many you might have yourself!

Cost: \$600/four-day slot
\$450/three-day slot
Auditors: \$30/day or
\$100/four-day clinic



Deb works with her young filly in the round pen during the Three-Week Apprenticeship. She is using positive releases to show her yearling that she can trust her owner and not fear new things.

Three-Week Apprenticeship

Whether you want to train your horses yourself, raise them, or teach others, you can



Bella waits with Dana (right) & Jeanne.

advance those skills in the Three-Week Apprenticeship. The program is designed for individuals who are serious about learning about the whole horse.

Spend three weeks dedicated to improving your understanding of horses and your ability to meet their needs. Gain the skills to reach true unity with your horse by building confidence, quietness and trust. You will hone your ground work and riding skills and develop better timing. In the process, you and your horse will reach new levels of communication and partnership.

Julie's supportive learning environment allows participants to concentrate on developing their horsemanship skills in a safe and fun atmosphere. The Monday through Friday sessions are designed as a foundation for people who want to be horse trainers or instructors, or for those who just want to improve their communication skills with horses.

Certification: Graduates who successfully complete three, Three-Week Apprenticeship programs will be certified and endorsed by Julie.

Cost: \$2100

Three-Week Apprenticeship Topics:

- Maintaining the horse's thought
- Reading body language
- Understanding what your legs & reins mean
- Focused riding
- Saddle fitting
- Bits and headgear
- Shoeing & trimming
- Chiropractic & Dental issues
- Overcoming obstacles
- Spooking in place
- Advancing skills (side passes, roll backs, leads)
- Teaching skills

Continued on Page 4

MMR Clinics & Services

Continued from Page 3

SERVICES:

Old Hooves Home Retirement

Whether your horse needs to retire due to old age, lameness or special medical needs, it is important to find the right facility. MMR's Old Hooves Home is here to provide an affordable, safe and happy retirement option with all the comforts a retired horse needs.

Residents are matched with a few other horsey pals in their own large pastures. Services include twice daily feedings, grooming, pulling for farrier and health checks, regular worming, annual shots, hoof trims, and lots of love. Special extra services are available as needed. Just tell us what you want.

Prospective residents (and owners) are invited to come visit Bob, Buffy, Ritzy and Digger to see how much they love it at MMR's Old Hooves Home.

Cost: \$350/month, all inclusive.

Instruction & Training

In addition to Clinics and Camps, Julie offers private instruction, as well as private clinics to suit your needs.

Cost: \$170/two-hour session; \$350/half day; \$700/full day

Julie also offers full and part time training for your horse at MMR. She emphasizes communicative and stress-free methods of working naturally with horses.

Whether you have a young horse that needs to be started, a horse showing behavioral problems or one that just needs a tune-up, Julie can help you and your horse through the learning process in a safe and understanding way.

Full-Time Horse Training: includes four 1+ hour training sessions with your horse per week. **Part Time Horse Training:** includes two 1+ hour training sessions with your horse per week.

Many owners have Julie work with their horses to help them get to a certain point in their training. But eventually owners need to understand



Big Bob (center) is the Old Hooves Home resident mascot. He has been here since MMR began offering retirement services. Bob had recurring hoof abscesses when he came to MMR. Happily, those have resolved for the most part. He even enjoys a short ride every once in a while. Bob shares his pasture across from the bunkhouse with Boomer (left) and two other equine pals.

and be able to carry on this communication. This is why Julie highly encourages each owner to come and watch her work with their horses; and why she only trains horses for clients interested in practicing a natural type of horsemanship.

Boarding

Boarders have several options at MMR. Owners can choose from 5-6 acre pastures for multiple horses, two-horse paddocks with shelters close to the arena, or 16' x 16' covered stalls next to the arena.

Cost: \$250/month, including twice daily feeding and daily stall cleaning.

MMR Hoof Health Day to Educate Owners April 17

Every horse owner knows that healthy hooves make a happy horse. That's why a good farrier is as important as a knowledgeable vet. If you haven't spent time with Ranch farrier Rick Delapp asking questions as he works, then you may not know how to evaluate a farrier, or what to look for as they work.

April 17, 2004, is your chance to learn what everyone should know about your horse's feet. Guest ferrier Marv Amlin will share a decade of experience doing balanced shoeing and training horses in Alberta, Canada.

Seminar Participants will learn:

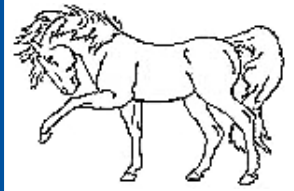
- How your horse's legs and hooves work together
- What a healthy balanced hoof looks and feels like
- Things a farrier should *never* do ... and *always* do
- Questions to ask a prospective farrier
- What your horses can tell you about a farrier



Visiting Certified Farrier, Marv Amlin, will share his vast equine knowledge - as well as his great love for this fairer species - at the hands-on Hoof Health Seminar, April 17th.

The full-day Hoof Health Seminar will give you plenty of time to ask questions and get a close-up, hands-on look at horses being trimmed and shod by Marv & Rick. Cost for the seminar is \$40. Bring a lunch. Call to reserve your space.

MMR 2004 Calendar



Date	Event**	Cost	Clinic Emphasis
March 1-19	Three-week Apprenticeship	\$2,100	FULL!
March 24	One-day Clinic	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
April 1-5	Five-day Clinic	\$625	Ground, liberty, seat & riding skills: FULL!
April 9-11	Three-day Clinic	\$375	Seat, collection & advancing riding skills
April 14	One-day Clinic	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
April 17	Hoof Health Seminar	\$40	9 am - 4 pm (Bring lunch)
April 24-27	Harry Whitney Four-day Clinic	\$600	Both Clinics: Individual Slots Full
May 1-3	Harry Whitney Three-day Clinic	\$450	Groups, Audit & Waiting List open **
May 8	One-day Trail Trials Clinic	\$125	Fun Prep. for Trail Trials! 1/2 of fee benefits Hearts For Horses
May 9	Trail Trials Judge's Training		Free for all Volunteer Judges
May 12	One-day Clinic	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
May 14-19	On The Way Ranch Clinic	\$650	FULL!
May 24-30	Women's Horse Camp*	\$775	FULL!
June 5	Trail Trials Benefit	\$50	(\$65 entry fee after May 15th) Includes Lunch; All proceeds benefit Hearts For Horses
June 9, 23	One-day Clinics	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
June 11-13	Three-day Clinic	\$375	Ground, collection & riding skills
June 26-27	Two-day Clinic	\$250	Ground, problem solving & riding skills
July 3	One-day Trail Trials Clinic	\$125	Fun Prep. for Trail Trials! 1/2 of fee benefits Hearts For Horses
July 5-7	Three-day Clinic	\$375	Ground, problem solving & riding skills
July 11-17	Youth Horse Camp*	\$775	Filling Fast
July 21	One-day Clinic	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
July 23-27	Five-day Clinic	\$625	Seat, collection, riding & refinement skills
August 2-20	Three-week Apprenticeship	\$2,100	FULL!
August 25	One-day Clinic	\$100	Ground & riding skills: ***
August 28	Trail Trials	\$50	(\$65 entry fee after Aug. 10th) Includes Lunch; All proceeds benefit Hearts For Horses
Sept. 3-8	On The Way Ranch Clinic	\$650	Filling fast
Sept. 15, 29	One-day Clinics	\$100	***
Sept. 19-25	Women's Horse Camp*	\$775	Filling Fast
Oct. 11-29	Three-week Apprenticeship	\$2,100	Two spaces left!

Kim Bolewine, OnTheWayRanch@caltel.com or 209-785-5075

*Camps include horse board, a bed in the bunkhouse and all food.

* Camps begin at 1 pm on the first day and end at 2 pm on the final day.

All multi-day Clinics cost \$125/day including horse board. All single-day Clinics are \$100.

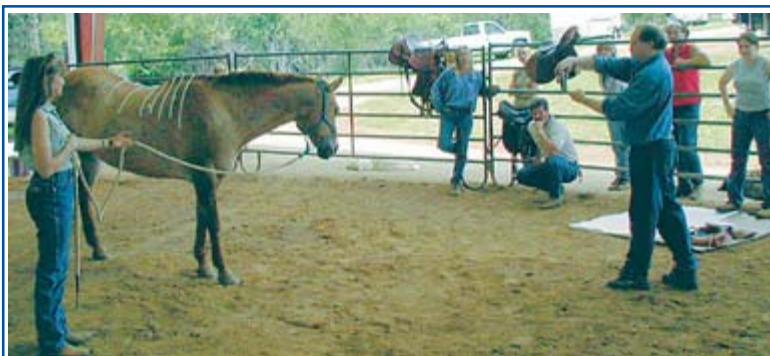
***Due to the time constraints of a One-day Clinic, all horses should be under saddle to participate.

All clinics run from 9am - 5pm unless otherwise noted.

All clinics include foundation ground work, and progress according to content emphasis.

Deposits are required to hold your space in all clinics & camps except one-day clinics. If you cancel without time to replace you, we ask that you cover your commitment.

****MMR maintains a waiting list on all camps and clinics because we understand things happen.** If we can refill your space, you may transfer your deposit to any other MMR service, or get a refund. If we cannot fill your space, your deposit is non-refundable.



Saddlemaker Dave Genadek snaps a photograph of a horse's back during a Saddle Fit educational clinic. Dave showed the group how to do a back tracing to fit this horse for a new saddle.

Educational Seminars: MMR incorporates educational sessions into its longer clinics. Additionally, Julie schedules free or low-cost learning days when all clients and boarders can come and learn about important equine issues. Such clinic topics include: dental health, chiropractic care, saddle fit, farrier care and alternative equine therapies. Check the schedule or call for details.

Julie Tells Her Story

Those of us who know Julie Carpenter love working with her because of her ability to communicate with her students as well as she does with the horses she works with. Julie has a teacher's heart, and her compassionate teaching style is just one of her many unique gifts.

Over the years, Julie has touched many people and horses in some very wonderful and positive ways. But many of Julie's students have no idea of the personal journey that has shaped Julie's life. Soon we will all have that chance.

Through many days together with Jodi Denning from Texas, Julie is telling her story and Jodi is capturing it on paper. Several other close friends are also helping with the process of creating this exciting new book, which Julie hopes to have to the publisher by late summer.

Following is a selection from the book's introduction:



Julie shares a moment with her QH mare, Mookie

"I want to try and share with you what happens inside of me when I work with horses. I have developed a deep understanding and compassion for horses and people. I can relate to them on so many levels because of the things I have faced in my own life. I have come to understand that I see a horse through the condition of my own heart.

I strongly believe what has been given to me so freely is for me to give away. Sharing my personal story with you, and relating it to how I work with horses, takes me full circle. Some of the things I have had the opportunity to learn may help you on your journey with your horsemanship. Maybe even your journey in life - because as I see it, the two are identical. There is no way to separate them.

I want to encourage you and tell you that it is possible to connect with horses in a relationship that is filled with understanding and trust. It requires a deep passion, a willingness to expose and explore our heart, and endless soul searching. It is a lifelong process that begins when we become aware that it is possible. My life now is something I never dreamed it could be, but it wasn't always this way."

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We will keep you updated on this exciting project!



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