

June 2011

# SHERYL LYNDE & RICK HOFFMAN FOUNDATION TO FINISH TRAINING

## Hello Everyone

### JUNE 2011 NEWS

Dana bought her mustang Sillee at one year old. 2 years passed and she couldn't catch or halter her so she hired a local trainer who came by once a week to work with her for 3 hours. Sillee was 3. Soon she was halter and saddle trained. Dana was the first one to get on her. At age 4 she and Dana attended a Buck Brannaman Clinic. This was when the fear seemed to surface - Sillee bolted under the pressure of being around other horses in this type of setting. It was too much stimuli. About 5 months later Dana sold her to an Endurance Rider. Sillee was sent to the new owners trainer, but was having problems adjusting - she began bucking. The trainer (*diagnosed*) her as having a "hormone imbalance" and began giving her "daily" hormone injections. Now Sillee, already fearful and having problems adjusting to a new environment had to endure "daily, painful" hormone injections. After 6 months in training she went home to the new owner and on the 4th ride the owner was promptly bucked off and suffered some injuries - sooo - Now Sillee is almost 5, and back home with Dana. Sillee was not the same - Dana decided to get some help from another trainer for about 30 days to get her rideable again. Everything seemed to be going along just fine until the 28th day. Dana recognized an extreme amount of fear in Sillee's eyes when the trainer mounted - he slapped his thigh to get her going and off into a buck she went and sent the trainer sailing. Now Dana was really concerned about being able to ride her. Dana took her home - About 8 months went by and Dana decided to bring Sillee to me for 2 weeks. Here is Dana's observation from Sillee's training at my place:

*Everyday I witnessed a change in Sillee. She seemed to be really comfortable with her housing and her new trainer. After 2 weeks the fear she seemed to have was somehow not there anymore. She was brought home and I would work with her. A good change in her was apparent. Four weeks went by and the decision was made on May 25th, "I was*



**Me working Sillee  
from the back of Lil Joe**



**Me, Lil Joe and Sillee**



**Me & Sillee  
Ground Work**

## **JUNE NEWS CONTINUED.....**

*going to ride Sillee," and I did. She was amazing. It took me over a year to finally see she was ready. More than me. Sheryl was my last hope.*

When Sillee came to me she was extremely fearful. I began by putting her through all my routines to see where the holes were and there were a few - I sacked her out to my touch, to tarps, to dragging ropes to ground driving and getting on and off several times a day from both sides. Each day she began to calm down. Dana came to each session and watched - and at the end of the session when Dana would approach Sillee I could see the trust in this mares eyes that she had for Dana. It was so apparent - so all I did was fill in the holes, build a strong foundation and get her confidence back - this mare made a change everyday and at the end of 2 weeks - she was ready for Dana again to ride her. I always talk about going slow - but with mustangs - you have to go even slower. They develop a bond and a trust with their owner - and the owner has to earn it but when they do - but is there a gift of partnership. Remember - look for the smallest of successes - if you just get 1% improvement a day - in 100 days you will have 100% improvement. Going slow and working through all the issues builds a better foundation and a safer horse down the road.



**Dana & Sillee**



**Sillee**

## **Upcoming Events**

### **DATE CHANGE!!**

**Triple Crown Novice Only  
Buckle Series Clinic  
and EXCA Race #3  
Anza, CA**

**July 16th (Clinic)  
July 17th (Race)**

**We have been busy with horses in training - we are incorporating cows in to our program. Our cow clinic was a great success and a lot of fun - look for another clinic soon!**

## **JUNE TOPIC BUCKING**

Bucking is a symptom - just like rearing, striking, biting, bolting, etc. The cause needs to be identified - is it fear, lack of respect, aggression, or a combination of those. Once you identify the cause, then you can set your training goals to address the behavior and the symptom will go away - don't focus on the symptom - Focus on the cause.

**Check Website**

**[www.sheryllyndeclinics.com](http://www.sheryllyndeclinics.com) for  
additional information on each  
event or call 760-285-0160**