

Alberta Donkey and Mule Club News, June, 2012

We just finished our series of clinics with teacher/trainer Jerry Tindell of California. Twenty- plus satisfied horse, mule and donkey owners benefited under Jerry's many areas of expertise including proper hoof trimming, dental problems, worming techniques, safe trailer loading and above all addressing training problems. Auditors' comments and questions were also addressed by Jerry. One morning we hosted the Killam 4-H horse club and Jerry gave them several hours of his time while still keeping the clinic participants busy.



Tom Barker from Falkland, B.C. one of several participants from out of Alberta that annually attend the Tindell clinics offered by the Alberta Donkey and Mule Club.

Under Jerry's tutelage we learned that any problems we have with our stock most always go back to holes we missed in their basic ground work. In order to "make a change" we have to ask for movement in order to get to their mind. Jerry's groundwork includes, flexing the neck, getting the head down, moving the shoulders over, moving the hindquarter or disengaging them, circling and changing direction, backup, stop and stand quietly. All this is taught in the round pen with the stock loose, and then on a halter and lead. This then gives you the tools necessary in your ride and the ability to fix any problems you might be having.



18 yr old Robyn Wadey from Edson, AB. on her small but mighty mule, taking part in the Tindell Clinics. Robyn and her mom Carol both endurance race.

When we address the roots of our training programs and go back and recover them, negative behaviors go away. Of course it sounds easy in theory and easy when you watch Jerry do it, but it takes a lot of work, patience, dedication, good timing and skill. But the good news is we can all learn to do it if we desire to. With talented teachers like Jerry, stock that appears to be beyond help, can be recovered. We have seen it over and over again at his clinics!!



Sisters, Lindsay Oudshoorn from Breton, AB and Julia Oudshoorn from Champion, AB. on thier mounts at the recent Tindell Clinics.

This month we are busy preparing for our very first EQUINE SHOW in Nanton, AB. This show is an OPEN SHOW to all equines, not just our mules and donkeys. We have had a ton of good feedback on it so hope those of you that can come will make the effort to do so. The show is June 16 -17 and you can find out more about it by checking out our website www.albertadonkeyandmule.com or calling our show organizer, Alice Todd at 403 646-2624. Let's celebrate all Equines!

