

About Tellington Training® for Horses at Bitterroot Ranch, 2015

In this hands-on training; participants will learn how to Educate and Re-educate Horses with positive, low-stress tools that can be applied to solve problems on the ground and under saddle. This approach to training emphasizes the development of trust and partnership between horse and rider. For over 25 years this annual event has attracted horse people of all levels, from experienced competitors to new-comers to the horse world. Each participant will work with horses appropriate, interesting, and safe for their individual level of experience.

During this week, more experienced participants may have the opportunity to school young horses who are quiet, but have had very little handling. Less experienced participants will learn the techniques on older horses that have their own issues and tendencies that need to be addressed.

You will learn the techniques of the Tellington TTouch Method to teach horses how to quietly navigate the Playground for Higher Learning with plastic, labyrinth, pick-up-sticks, and trotting poles. You will teach them to pick up their feet and stand quietly for grooming and saddling. You will introduce ground driving and lunging. The horses, in turn, learn to accept a rider without bucking or fear. These fundamental skills can be applied to horses of all ages.

This training is not necessarily geared to the professional horse person, but rather to the many horse owners and horse lovers who want to increase their communication skills with these animals. It is an effective, non-confrontational technique, particularly useful when starting a young horse or re-educating a horse. This year's clinic will be taught by Linda Tellington-Jones, Robyn Hood and Mandy Pretty.

Itinerary

SUNDAY: Arrive at the Bitterroot Ranch in the afternoon. Meet your fellow participants and teachers and enjoy a wonderful meal together.

MONDAY: The group will begin in the cozy lodge for a short introduction of the philosophy and theory behind the Tellington TTouch Method. From there you will meet the horses that you will be working with over the week. A lesson in observation will enable you to see horses with new eyes as you become a detective in uncovering postural tendencies and habits that influence behavior and performance on the ground and under saddle. Begin to learn some of the simple yet powerful Tellington TTouch bodywork techniques that will begin to change these habits by releasing tension, increasing cooperation, and improving trust at the cellular level.

TUESDAY: Add to your repertoire of Bodywork skills and then practice your Groundwork in the Playground for Higher Learning the Tellington TTouch obstacle course that improves, balance, communication, concentration and self-control through simple yet powerful understood exercises.

WEDNESDAY: Learn about the power of the Tellington TTouch Body wraps for horses and riders first hand. Experiment with different configurations on your horses as well as yourself to experience the power of enhanced proprioception in reducing pain, increasing mobility, and improving body awareness. Continue working with horses on the ground and adding to your Problem Solving tool box.

THURSDAY: Learn about ground driving, first from the chest and then with a second line attached to the halter as an invaluable tool for starting youngsters and re-educating older horses or as the beginning of teaching a horse to drive. Youngsters will be introduced to the saddle and pad.

Spend the afternoon on a spectacular trail ride or enjoy a lesson in the Joy of Riding using some of the Tellington TTouch riding equipment in the arena.

FRIDAY: Expand on the Playground for Higher Learning with the addition of plastic while learning how to familiarize vs. desensitize in low-stress, successful steps that can be applied in many problem solving situations.

SATURDAY: Take the opportunity to check in with any skills you want clarified from the week's various lessons. Young horses will be backed, if suitable for the individual horse, and participants will have the opportunity to request extra demonstrations or explanations.

SUNDAY: Departure after breakfast.