

Gaited Horsemanship Clinic with Clinician Larry Whitesell

Sponsored by the Minnesota Rocky Mountain Horse Club

3 Day Horsemanship Clinic May 21-23 at HI Vee Ranch

Located at Highway 47 & County Road 8 (Mau's Corner) in Isanti, Minnesota.

- **WHAT YOU WILL LEARN**

- How to improve gait without devices
- Lightness
- How to develop the horse gymnastically to facilitate relaxation, create flexibility and balance
- How to school the horse in hand and under saddle
- How to build engagement to improve gait without building resistance
- How you ride affects your horse's balance and gait
- Balanced, light stops
- Collection

About Clinician Larry Whitesell

His Philosophy: Riding is a team sport. Getting better, takes commitment, but it should be fun for you and your horse. Horses need to be brought into a more classical frame to gait. It's common practice to use large bits and equipment to try to obtain gait. The problem is many horses trained by these methods become pacey or reactive or both. The use of force creates stiffness. The gaited horse, like all other breeds, must have rhythm in his movement and footfall. When there is stiffness or braces, the horse loses rhythm. We must train our horse not only physically, but mentally and emotionally. Instead of getting relaxation, so we can "teach" a correct response.

History: Larry Whitesell has been training gaited horses since 1980. He's been successful in the show ring winning many regional, national and grand national championships. He's held judges cards in several gaited breeds. In 2002, he was Trainer of the Year. In the early 1990's, Larry was not satisfied training horses to just win ribbons. He wanted to train "using" or pleasure horses to a very high level, to make a safer, more dependable horse for his clients. Horses trained like this do well in the show ring or anywhere else.

Larry began learning classical dressage. He wanted correctness and liked the lightness and softness these horses showed. After spending time with several "natural horsemen", he felt they were teaching him the same things as his classical teachers. They taught the same movements, philosophy, and techniques, but called the movements by different names and dressed differently. So he continues to learn from both schools. Now, Larry travels the U.S. and Canada doing clinics and horse fairs. He primarily spends time training the ultimate pleasure horses for people around the country.

Clinic cost:

Rider and Horse for all 3 days - Non-MRMHC member \$450 / MRMHC member \$400 (all horses must be well started under saddle).

**Auditor - Non-MRMHC member \$25 per day/MRMHC member \$20 per day if Pre-register
\$30 per day at the door**

For those who register to bring a horse, stalls will be provided by Eagle's Bend Ranch at no additional cost. You must supply your own hay, feed and stall shavings. You will be required to care for your horse during the event and clean out the stall upon departure.

To register contact Julie Swanson at 763-444-6264 or 763-689-3041, email ajsdirect@wildblue.net or Melody Ryan at 651-380-9072, email melryan@sleepyeyetel.net. Additional information can be found at our club website: www.rockymountainhorseclub.com

All participants: Equine related activities can be dangerous. We require all participants and auditors to sign a hold harmless agreement. The Minnesota Rocky Mountain Horse Club will not be responsible for any injuries incurred while riding in or auditing this event. Participants ride at your own risk!

