



# The Journey...

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## Official Newsletter of Fawn Anderson



## Field Instructor goes on Faculty!

When I was invited to come on faculty for a semester this fall I was pretty excited.

It was an intense 7 weeks, full of training sessions with Linda, Dressage lessons with Walter Zettl, weekends full of Expos and our first ever Florida Open House (which was a smash hit!).

The whole experience made me feel like a sponge, just soaking up the savvy. The biggest things I'm looking forward to bringing back to the field are the advancements that have been made in the teaching of Collection, Engagement and Lead Changes—it's so clear and simple now, you'll love it!

For students studying Level 3, my participation in dozens of

assessments has equipped me with the most up-to-date changes and information to assist you, especially if you have Professional goals!

My highlight from the experience would have to be the training sessions the Faculty spent with Linda. They were intense! Linda continues to amaze me with her wealth of knowledge on the subject of learning and her ability to mentor us as teachers.

Watching Linda in her daily lessons with Walter was a treat! Classical & Natural combined produces truly amazing results. And it was



Linda, Walter, Fawn & Pat, Dec '07

somehow encouraging to see my mentor being pushed outside her comfort zone by a true Master!

I didn't want to leave when the courses were over, especially when they offered me a full-time faculty position! But I'm having too much fun teaching in the field, and I have a few months of intensive 'Dressage Naturally' studies with Karen to look forward to starting January 10<sup>th</sup>!

## Karen Rohlf 2008 Dates Confirmed!

Dressage Naturally will be returning Oct 3-7 close to the Kingston/Belleville area. At this time it looks as though we will have three Instructors, including myself, riding

in the clinic! Oct 3-5 will be an Introductory Class open to Level 2 graduates, limited to 12 participants. Oct 6-7 will be an Advanced Class with

only 8 riders.

Forms will be available at [www.fawnanderson.com](http://www.fawnanderson.com) soon - stay tuned...



## Tips for Assessments—Dealing with Test Anxiety

For many students, assessments can be a nerve-wracking subject, especially when something as personal as the relationship with their horse is being evaluated. It's important to remember that it's not about perfection—it's about progression. Assessments are simply meant to be a tool with which you can gauge where your skills are at and which areas need more attention—it's not about passing or failing! Videoing is great because you can just let the camera roll and later you can edit out anything that wasn't reflective of where you are at. In addition, there is usually no charge for re-submits - it's like free video coaching!

If you allow fear of not passing to stop you, you're missing out on an opportunity for growth and are ultimately holding yourself back. If you are assessing for Level 3 and have Professional goals then we expect to see quality before you submit tasks, but if you are still working on Levels 1 & 2, cut yourself some slack. As my mentor, Ronnie Willis, once said, "You've got the rest of your life to get it perfect!"

## New Lesson Series - for serious students!

One

of the joys of my profession is when I have the opportunity to help dedicated students over a period of time achieve accelerated results with their horses.

Lesson Series are designed to do what clinics can't - give consistent instruction in bite-size pieces over a broader timeframe. These ½ day programs are spread over 3 sessions and include a maximum of only 6 participants per group. Each program consists of customized lessons and "follow up" lesson plans with the added benefit of small groups for focused learning. The programs will guide you and your horse, step by step through the Parelli Natural Horsemanship levels. Whether you have recreational or competitive horsemanship goals, we can help you achieve them - "*Naturally*".

If you are interested in coordinating a lesson series in your area mid-week or in the fall, email me at [pnhclinics@yahoo.com](mailto:pnhclinics@yahoo.com).



### 2008 Calendar of Events

- ◆ May 10/11 - Hastings, ON:  
Level 1, 2 & 3 Lesson Series I.
- ◆ May 31/1 - Hastings, ON:  
Level 1, 2 & 3 Lesson Series II.
- ◆ June 7/8 - Dutton, ON:  
Level 2 Clinic.
- ◆ June 14/15 - Hastings, ON:  
Level 1, 2 & 3 Lesson Series III.
- ◆ June 21/22 - Dryden, ON:  
Level 1 & 2 Clinic.
- ◆ Oct 3-7, Kingston, ON:  
Dressage Naturally.

*\*Some of these dates are tentative and may change slightly—check website for updates.*



## Changes to Award Packs

Up until now there has been no difference in how Parelli handled Levels Awards for Members versus non-Members. However, they are always looking for ways to add value to the experience of Savvy Club Members, and one of the ways they can do this is to ensure that Levels Graduate Awards Packs remain free for Savvy Club Members.

From March 2008, Award Packs will continue to be awarded free to Levels Graduates who are Savvy Club Members; for non-Members there will be a charge of US\$50 for the Award Pack.



Fawn & her dad - Jan '08

### Q&A with Fawn

*Q: I just started Parelli with my 8yo LBE QH mare and I'm running into some problems. When I ask her to yo-yo or send out on the circle, she comes right on top of me. I don't know what to do - help!*

*A: First of all, don't feel bad! This is a common problem that people with LBE (aka: playful/dominant) horses face. The good news is that I can give you some safe strategies to help you.*

It's important to understand that your horse is playing dominance games with you—if she can crowd you and get you to move your feet

or stop what you are doing, she is the leader.

The easiest way to safely fix this is by playing your games from the other side of a low fence or obstacle (one she won't jump!) so that she can't crowd you. This way you can passively persist in the proper position without moving your feet until she does what you ask. And you don't have to worry about getting run over!

Fawn Anderson



Photo by Peggy Finnerty

### Web Special!

*Students who make purchases via my web site during the month of January will automatically be entered into a drawing to win one of Karen Rohlf's new books on 'Dressage Naturally' (soon to be released!).*

Go to [www.fawnanderson.com](http://www.fawnanderson.com) and click on 'Shop' to qualify - Good luck!



### Congratulations to the Newest Levels Grads!

#### Level 1:

- Sue Solf & 'Blossom', Cormac, ON
- Jessica Gillespie & 'Nekoda', Elmvale, ON
- Trina Smith & 'Celine', Woodstock, ON
- Kelsey Taylor & 'Ole Miss Laredo', Thorndale, ON
- Mae Doran & 'Sierra', Petawawa ON
- Coty Webster & 'Titan', London, ON
- Felicity Gilbert & 'Stormy', Exeter, UK
- Nancy Schroeder & 'Jay', Hemlock, MI

#### Level 2:

- Heather MacEwen & 'JR', Woodington, ON

To send in Videos for Coaching or Assessment, email [pnhclinics@yahoo.com](mailto:pnhclinics@yahoo.com) and visit website for details and forms:

[www.fawnanderson.com](http://www.fawnanderson.com)

# 2007—Fun in Photos!

