

**Information about
Donna Hawkins Clinic May 7 & 8, 2011**
including a evening meeting May 6th



**Overall Clinic Focus is the Improvement of Horse
Self Carriage**

Donna's philosophy encourages participants to ask questions, speak out, and to laugh. The clinic will place the well-being of the horse foremost. We each want a more balanced and happy horse. Donna will strive to give you tools to bring out the best in your horse and in yourself. You are responsible for what you take from the clinic and you will have a say in solving your own problems.

Please come to the clinic with an idea of what you would like help with. Come with questions; this will make it easier to assess what you are doing and where you need to go. Donna understands the importance of addressing different learning styles and will apply whatever she can to ensure you come away with an understanding of the concepts. Individual participants in a session need not be working on the same thing; they can be doing something totally different (reining patterns or half pass for example) and both will get equal time, always having something to work on.

Clinic cost is \$160.00. This includes Friday evening meeting with participants and Donna for video and instruction (not mounted), Saturday morning one hour session on ground warm-up exercises and one semi-private (2 at a time) riding session (1 hour and 15 minutes) on Saturday and one riding session (1 hour and 15 minutes) on Sunday.

Please note:

- Helmets or hard hats are recommended
- Each participant needs to be a current member of the Horse Council of BC
- Donna and the SRGEDC both have release forms that they require be signed before the clinic begins (Friday May 6th evening)
- Shirlene Peters (registrations) needs your name, address, email address, phone number, the name of your horse, your HCBC#, and fee payment.
- Cheques should be made out to SRGEDC (Summerland Rodeo Grounds Equine Development Committee)

Contact persons:

Registrations: Shirlene Peters, shirlenepeters@hotmail.com or 250-404-0522

Clinic content: Linda Bishop, goneriding@shaw.ca or 778-931-0220

Setup: Gwen Shaw, redbardranchbb@shaw.ca or 250-494-8198

Topics included in the clinic will likely include:

Breathing exercises, using your core, adding core with breathing to aid relaxation of rider, and, hence, the horse.

Specific exercises for relaxation of the horse, both mounted and un-mounted

Collection and Self Carriage – taking in aspects of conformation and straightness

Your own personal focus (note that this is interdisciplinary)

Schedule:

Once the entry fee is paid, each rider will choose a session of time from the available time slots when he/she will ride in a semi-private (2) session with Donna for 1 hour and 15 minutes on both Saturday and Sunday.

We will all meet on Friday night (May 6th from 6 to 8 pm) at Shirlene Peters' to view video, learn some exercises and get to know one another (no horses at this session!). All registrants will also meet from 8:00 to 9:00 am on Saturday May 7th at the rodeo grounds to learn some groundwork techniques to use with our horses. We only need about 6 horses with which to work at this time. Then, throughout Saturday and Sunday the semi-private sessions will take place.

There will be 5 minute breaks between the sessions throughout the clinic are to answer questions from auditors. Donna would like to invite both auditors and participants to ask questions and to have discussions during the 45 minute lunch breaks. Auditors' questions will not be answered during the teaching sessions – this time is for the riding participants. Questions can also be answered for a period of time at the end of the day.

Important information for participants:

The organizers of this clinic have kept the fee as low as possible. This means that we must have all 12 spots filled in order to cover costs. We have therefore set the following expectations of registrants:

- *Once half (\$80.00) or more of your \$160.00 fee is paid, your spot is reserved for you in the clinic.*
- *Full fee is expected to be paid as soon as possible thereafter. The whole fee must be paid by March 15th or as soon as you register thereafter.*
- *Upon full fee payment registrants can select their preferred group and session times from those spots remaining to be filled in the timetable at that time.*
- *Up until April 1st - if you must withdraw from the clinic then \$60.00 will not be refunded, the rest will. If you find a person to take your spot then the entire amount will be refunded to you.*
- *After April 1st – no refund. However, you are encouraged to find another person to take your spot (your reserved session) in the clinic, in which case you will have that person pay you.*

Once our clinic is full, we will keep a list of persons wishing to attend in case we get an opening. Auditors are welcome for a fee of \$15.00 for one day, \$25.00 for the two. Auditors will not participate in the Friday evening session and questions from auditors will only be taken during the breaks, lunchtime and at the end of the day.

If you have any questions regarding the registrations please contact Shirlene Peters, 250-404-0522. Questions about clinic topics should be directed to Linda Bishop at 778-931-0220 (not long distance).