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May 2005,
6th edition

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239-403-3784
239-353-5681 Fax
everythingequine@swfla.rr.com

Melody Halperin
Collier County
239-370-5945cell

Sherri May
Lee, Hendry and Charlotte Counties,
239-731-2993

Comments and/or suggestions
are welcome!

Subscriptions are available,
please contact us directly.

Every attempt has been made to ensure that the content is free from errors. If you feel an error has been made, please bring it to our attention. We do not endorse and are not responsible for the validity or quality of products and services advertised or items placed for sale.

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This month, we are beginning a new section in *Everything Equine, Horse Tales*. In this section, we will be featuring original, unpublished works by local writers and artists. If you have a short story, poem, work of art or anything that you've created and are interested in seeing in print, contact James May for submission guidelines, or if you would like to sponsor this feature, please call 239-731-2993, or email jmay0731@aol.com. This feature is **sponsored in full by local businesses** within our community. We are introducing an opportunity for children and adults alike to show their creative abilities and talents to the entire community. Please limit your submissions to horse related tales that coincide with an equestrian - oriented way of life. Please see pages 16 and 17 for this month's featured writer.



DON'T MISS THIS!

Mark Walker, athletic trainer and injury rehab therapist is offering a seminar to include:

- Injury Prevention • Injury Assessment
- Physical Balance for Horses and Riders
- Free Assessment of Horses at the Seminar

June 11 10 am - 2 pm

Mark has worked in the equine rehabilitation industry for over 14 years and has recently relocated to Naples from the Wellington area. He has extensive experience with polo and dressage horses, and critical care for people.

The seminar is approximately 3 hours at a cost of \$50 per person. There will also be demonstrations on natural horsemanship and bareback and bridle-less riding demonstrations by Cloud9Ranch. You must register in advance in order to attend. There will be concessions available for drinks and lunch.

Please visit www.cloud9ranch.info or call 564-4250 for more information.



Need a photo session?

Would you like to place a photo ad, but do not have a photo?

We can come to you! For \$15 we will come to you and spend up to one hour getting the best photo possible. We can stay longer if necessary for \$10 for each additional ½ hour.

If you need photos to promote your business call us to schedule an appointment. The same rates apply.

Lee, Hendry and Charlotte County residents call Sherri at 239-731-2993.

Collier residents, call Melody at 239-403-3784.

SWHC

Jackpot Barrel Race

May 7th

Sign up & Exhibition at 3pm,

Race at 5pm.

\$25 Entry Fee

50/50 payback

\$3 Exhibition

Lee County Posse Arena

for more info call 239-438-5308



WHAT IS CHIROPRACTIC FOR HORSES?

Submitted by: Dr. Nikki Bechtol, DC native of Naples, FL

Chiropractic care is a holistic approach to many health and performance problems of the horse. Chiropractic does not replace traditional veterinary medicine and surgery, but provides an alternative method of care. Chiropractic adjustments have proven to be invaluable in detecting and treating gait abnormalities and other performance-robbing problems in the athletic horse.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY HORSE NEEDS CHIROPRACTIC CARE?

- Ø Loss or decrease in level of performance.
- Ø Problems or difficulty executing desired movements.
- Ø Behavioral changes (i.e. refusals, cinchy, bucking).
- Ø Short striding
- Ø Diagnosed conditions, such as degenerative arthritis.
- Ø Muscle imbalance, spasms, or atrophy.
- Ø Gait problems, such as cross canter, loss of collection, refusal to pick up lead.
- Ø An injury resulting from falls, training or other activities.
- Ø Stressful situations, such as conformation of the horse, various riding and training equipment, performance level and ability of the rider, shoeing.

Symptoms such as lameness, stiffness, lack of impulsion or power, difficulty in obtaining or maintaining collection, poor attitude, gait abnormalities, being cold-backed or cinchy, or the presence of muscle atrophy are commonly associated with spinal misalignments.

HOW DOES A CHIROPRACTOR ADJUST AN ANIMAL AS LARGE AS A HORSE?

To answer this, it is important to remember that the

chiropractor is not adjusting the entire horse, but rather a specific joint in the spine.

Initially, a complete chiropractic examination is performed. This typically includes a case history; including any veterinary work performed, posture analysis, gait analysis, static and motion palpation of the spine and its joints, muscle palpation and checking for any changes in temperature over the spine.

Once the initial exam has been completed, the chiropractor will perform an adjustment on the area of the spine affected. This helps to return the joints to normal motion, and to alleviate muscle spasms and pain. A chiropractic adjustment is very specific, high velocity, low force controlled thrust by hand, which is directed in a specific direction on a specific joint.

THE VETERINARIAN/CHIROPRACTOR TEAM

The goal here is to find the primary source of pain, rather than treating what might be a secondary source. In equine practice, back problems and leg injuries are often inter-related. Chiropractic provides expertise in the evaluation of back and joint problems that can provide veterinarians with additional means of diagnosis and early treatment options in certain lameness problems; especially conservative treatment of biomechanical-related musculoskeletal disorders.

It should be stressed that chiropractic, in no way, should be thought of as a replacement for conventional veterinary medicine, but rather as a valid, concurrent, complimentary treatment procedure for many back and lameness problems. As with any health related problem or condition that your horse may experience, it is important that your veterinarian be contacted, initially, so the he/she can assess your horse for any underlying medical conditions that could be causing similar symptoms.





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The Art Of Tuning In

Saturday, May 7, 2005

This is an introductory class in a series of lectures that will teach you to

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- **developing your own inner connection with the world**
- **opening a higher connection with your horse**
- **recognizing issues from your horse's point of view**

This class will instruct you in the importance of a healthy mind, body and spirit when working with your horse.

The Art of Tuning In will guide you to **develop your own inner harmony**, as well as a **true harmony with your horse**.



Class will be held at the SW Florida Equine Rescue Center, 10 AM to Noon.

Bring your lunch and stay for a question & answer session.

Cost of the class is \$75.00 per person. Portion of the proceeds will go the SW Florida Equine Rescue Center.











Contact Maureen Sanders at 239-253-9008 for registration.

Email her at TheHorseShaman@aol.com.

Visit her website at www.TheHorseShaman.com.

Submit your club or organization's events and we will post them free on a space permitting 1st come 1st serve basis.

May 2005

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 	2 	3 Every Tues Roping 6- 9pm \$15 Alva, FL 863-673- 6751	4 Every Wed Youth Steer Riding \$5/ ride Alva, FL 863-673- 6751	5	6 Lee County Posse Jackpot. Show (239) 543- 8081	7 The Art of Tuning In - 239-253-9008 see pg 7 Jackpot Barrel Race - Lee County Posse Arena - 239-438-5308 see pg 3
8 Mare's Day	9 	10 	11	12	13	14 Labelle Family Livestock Club 863-675-3352 Lee County Horseman- Speed 239-283-9122
15 Lee County Horseman- Performance Htr/Jpr 239-283-9122	16	17 	18 	19	20 7:30 PM, LaBelle Family Livestock Club, LFLC3@ aol.com	21 Seminole Wind Horse Club Performance 8am Speed 3pm - Posse Arena 239-353-5167
22 Jr Posse Speed Lee County Posse Arena 1pm	23	24	25 	26 	27	28 Turkey Shoot Lee County Posse Arena 239-543-5748 See page 20
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

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Equestrian Definitions

A - D

If you're fairly new to the horse scene, you've probably heard more experienced equestrians throwing around words you don't understand. For your education and amusement, here are some definitions of common equestrian terms.

Auction A popular, social gathering where you can change a horse from a financial liability into a liquid asset.

Azoturia (Monday Morning Disease) a condition brought on by showing horses all weekend. Symptoms include the feeling of dread at having to get out of bed on Mondays and go to work.

Barn Sour An affliction common to horse people in northern climates during the winter months. Trudging through deep snow, pushing wheelbarrows through snow and beating out frozen water buckets tend to bring on this condition rapidly.

Big Name Trainer Cult Leader: Horse owners follow them blindly, will gladly sell their homes, spend their children's college funds and their IRA's to support them- as they have a direct link to "The Most High Ones" (Judges).

Bog Spavin The feeling of panic when riding through marshy area. Also used to refer to horses who throw a fit at having to go through water puddles.

Bolt to gulp feed usually occurs with sandwiches at half-hour holds.

Bran A wheat by-product occasionally fed moistened to horses, most usually applied as spackle or stucco on owner.

Colic The gastrointestinal result of eating at the food stands at horse shows.

Colt What your mare always gives you when you want a filly.

Contracted foot The involuntary/instant reflex of curling one's toes up - right before a horse steps on your foot.

Corn small callus growths formed from the continual wearing of cowboy boots.

Cribbing The vice of chewing your pencils while worrying as you figuring cost of next year's hay.

Drench Term used to describe the condition an owner is in after he administers mineral oil to his horse.

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Picayune Strand State Forest

Picayune Strand State Forest is in the heart of an ecosystem called the Big Cypress Basin. The majority of this forest is under water during periods of considerable rainfall. The forest is comprised of cypress strands, wet prairie, and pine flatwoods in the lowlands and subtropical hardwood hammocks in the uplands. The northern section of the Belle Meade Tract contains many second growth South Florida slash pine, with some remnant trees being over 100 years old. The forest provides habitat for many species of wildlife making wildlife viewing a popular activity. The following species have been sighted in the forest: black bear, bald eagle, wood stork, Big Cypress fox squirrel and swallow-tailed kites. Although Florida panthers are rarely visible, they do leave tracks for the observant visitor. Female panthers have borne cubs in the state forest in recent years.

Picayune Strand State Forest offers many recreational opportunities. A 22 mile horse trail winds across the Belle Meade Tract from Miller Boulevard to Benfield Rd. All horses in the forest must have current negative Coggins Test results, proof of which is to be carried by each rider. Horses may be rented at M and H stables which is located 2 miles south of Exit 15 off Interstate 75 at 2750 Newman Drive. Also on Newman Drive is Everglades Ranch, a boarding facility. They offer daily or overnight boarding if you wish to vacation at the Picayune Strand State Forest with your own horse. An oak shaded primitive camping area can be found near the middle of the trail.



2nd Annual Brooke Miller Memorial Barrel Race

June 18th, 2005

Lee County Posse Arena

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See next month's issue of
Everything Equine for details!

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Alafia Ridge has one of the most unique topographical contours in Florida. With rolling hills, ponds and acres of lush trees, each estate has it's own unique setting. The vastness is truly breathtaking.

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Hours of Operation

Florida state parks are open from 8 a.m. until sun-down 365 days a year.

Driving Directions

Coming from the North (Tampa) Take I-75 south to State Road 60, head east approximately 12 miles to County Road 39. Go south on County Road 39 approximately 13 miles until you reach the entrance to the park located on the left side of roadway.

Coming from the South (Sarasota). Take I-75 north to U.S. 301. Go north on U.S. 301 to County Road 674. Go east on County Road 674 to County Road 39. Go north on County Road 39 5 miles until you reach the entrance of the park on the right side of roadway.

Park Fees

Admission Fees - \$4.00 per group for up to 8 people.

Alafia River State Park
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Park Manager: Craig Liney



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Horse Tales

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This month, we are beginning a new section in *Everything Equine*. In this section, we will be featuring original, unpublished works by local writers and artists. If you have a short story, poem, work of art or anything that you've created and are interested in seeing in print, contact James May for submission guidelines, or if you would like to sponsor this feature, please call 239-731-2993, or email jmay0731@aol.com. This feature is *sponsored in full by local businesses* within our community. We are introducing an opportunity for children and adults alike to show their creative abilities and talents to the entire community. Please limit your submissions to horse related tales that coincide with an equestrian -oriented way of life.

Destiny

By

J. Robert May, II

The morning mist blew damp and cold as she stood on the porch gazing across the green pasture that was her front yard. She had a grimace on her face. She hated living here. She had no use for this country life that her parents had forced upon her. She disliked all that it entailed. Most of all she missed her fast paced life and friends back in Miami. She often wondered, how could they have done this to me, their only daughter, twelve years old and they up and move me out in the middle of this desolate no man's land. The wind began to pick back up and she returned into the confines of the house.

A terrible storm had blown in from the Gulf the night before. It was an unexpected, late season tropical storm bringing strong winds, blowing rain and brilliant lightning that filled the air with electricity. Shortly after the storm had come ashore the town lost all of its electrical power. Her father was called in; he worked as a lineman for the local power company. The storm had been devastating up-rooting trees and making a tangled mess of the electrical lines. The power had still not returned as she entered her room. She could hear sirens in the distance.

She heard a truck pull into the drive and the door open and close. Dad's home, she thought, maybe now I can talk him into moving back home to

Miami. She looked out of her window and could see Mr. Roberts approaching the front door. He was her father's supervisor. She pulled her drapes closed as he climbed the stairs of the porch. A queasy feeling came over her as she lay down on her bed. She heard the knock at the door, and her mother invite Mr. Roberts into the house.

She could hear them talking, and then her mother began crying. She rushed from the room to her mother's side. Tears were running from her mothers swollen eyes down her cheeks.

"What's wrong momma?"

Her mother looked down at her and attempted to gain her composure.

"There's been an accident. Your father, he's, he's not coming home, honey."

She melted into her mother's arms. She didn't know how to react, what to feel, her father, her daddy, gone!

"No, no momma." Was all that she could get out? She turned away from her mother and ran out into the yard. Her mother called out to her, but she continued to run, across the fence and into the pasture behind the house.

After seeing Mr. Roberts off, her mother walked to the rear of the house calling out to her. She looked into the barn, and all around the house. There was no sign of her. She began calling out to her. There was no reply. Her mother began to panic and went into the house and called the sheriff.

Shelbi walked in a tear filled daze. She couldn't believe what she had just heard from her mother's lips. No, she thought, he can't be gone. She looked up and realized that she had never been in this pasture before. She could see a large oak in the distance. It sat beside a small creek. She headed for the tree. As she came closer, she could see an old swing hanging from one of the branches. She sat in the swing and began to rock back and forth. Just then, she saw something. Something was moving in the tall grass just steps away from where she had just passed. She climbed out of the swing and walked toward where the grass was moving.

As she grew closer, she could see that it was a horse, a big beautiful paint horse lying on its side. The horse was lathered and emitting a sound almost like a whimper you would hear from a child. When she was within touching distance, she noticed that there were two small hooves sticking out of the rear of the horse. Oh no, she thought, what do I do? Just then, from nowhere, appeared this rather large, barefoot old black man.

"Whatcha' got there Ms. Shelbi?"

"Mister, I think this horse is having a baby, and I think something's

not right.”

“Yea, looks like we got us a little problem here.”

“What are we going to do?”

“Look a here, ya’ go back there and pull on them there hooves, pull gentle but hard, ya’ got it?”

“Yes sir but I don’t know...”

“Hush now! We’ve got work to do!”

She followed the old man’s orders. The foal came out. It was like nothing she’d ever dreamt of. The foal was a beautiful, tri-color paint. On his chocolate rump was a small streak of white.

“Mister, now what are we gonna do? The momma horse doesn’t look so good.”

“Name’s Knox, call me Knox. The old mare ain’t gonna make it, baby.”

“No, we have to help her.”

Just as the words came from Shelbi’s mouth the mare quit breathing.

“Mister, I mean, Knox, what are you going to do with this baby?”

“Ms. Shelbi, ya’ saved that there little foal, that there’s yours.”

“Mr. Knox, I don’t know anything about horses.”

“You will my child, you will.”

Knox walked Shelbi and the foal back to her barn. As they walked, Knox told her everything she would ever need to know about rearing horses.

“Mr. Knox, I’ll never be able to remember all of this stuff.”

“Ms. Shelbi, I’m sure ya’ gonna never forget a thing I told ya’.”

Knox was cleaning the stall. He noticed that Shelbi had grown tired from her adventure. He made her a pallet in the hay and told her to rest for a while.

“I’ve got to show momma.”

“Child she’ll see in time, now ya’ need some rest.”

She lay in the hay and drifted off to sleep.

Shelbi was startled when she awoke to her mother shaking her arm. She looked up and half of the town’s people were standing over her. Her mother was asking her something, but in her state she couldn’t comprehend. As she was waking, she was remembering the dream that she had just had.

“Momma what are all these people doing here?”

“Honey we’ve been looking for you all day, where have you been? And where did this come from?”

Her mother turned and pointed at the paint foal standing behind her.

It wasn’t a dream, she thought to herself. She stood and walked to the foal. He laid his head against her. Then, she began to tell the story of what she had thought was a dream.

Her mother looked at the sheriff. He looked as if he’d seen a miracle. She noticed that all of the people standing around had the same look of awe on their faces.

“Sheriff who is this Mr. Knox?”

The sheriff shook his head.

“Ma’am you’d better sit down.”

Then he told her the story of the Rising Sun Ranch.

“About forty years ago there was a horse breeding stable out there behind your house. It’s on the backside of that pasture, pointing to the rear of her house. The stables, barn and house are all still there. Thing is, nobody has lived there in over twenty years. The owners, Mr. and Mrs. Nance passed on. They had no heirs, and they left the entire estate to Knox, their only hand. He was a big old black man, and just as your daughter described, wore no shoes. The night that Knox passed, he was in the bunkhouse. He never did move into the main house even though the whole place was his. Anyway, on the nightstand, beside his bed, was a note.”

Just then, there was an interruption, two of the girls were giggling. Everyone turned to look. They were there playing with Shelbi and the foal.

“Shelbi, said one of the girls, what’s his name?”

Shelbi looked at the two girls as she was stroking the foal and said.

“Me and Mr. Knox named him Lightning”

The sheriff shook his head again. He looked at Shelbi and then turned to her mother to finish his story.

“As I was saying, the night that Knox passed, he had left a note on the night stand. I was about to tell you how odd the note was. Everyone thought that he might have had lost his mind in his last years. Now though, it all makes sense. Ma’am, in the note, Knox stated that he had no heirs, but that one day someone very special would come along; someone good and with burning need. This someone would be heir to all he has, and that this someone would be the only person in town able to hold lightning.”

Today in the small panhandle town of Destiny, there is one of the finest breeding stables anywhere. The Rising Sun Stables, which is run by Shelbi Wells and her husband, Sam. Rumor has it, that if you’re around the big oak tree, down by the creek when Shelbi’s son, Knox, is riding Lightning that you can see a big old barefoot black man rocking in the swing with a smile as big as life itself.

This story is dedicated to my wife, Sherri and our children, for without them there would be no tales to tell.

James is a native Floridian whose passion is writing. He and his family are members of the Seminole Wind Horse Club. Just recently, a piece of his work won an award and a reading performed by the Gulfshore Playhouse, in Naples.



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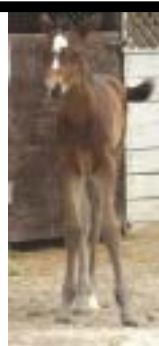
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Raffle is for a 12 gauge Charley Daley shotgun. It is completely Camo (Real Tree Hardwoods HD) it also has a NWTF (National Wildlife Turkey Federation) medallion in the stock. This gun retails for \$359.99. **RAFFLE TICKETS ARE ONLY 2/\$5 or 5/\$10.** (Drawing to be held June 15th due to tickets being also sold in PA, AL, OH and Georgia.)

At the shoot we will have a bounce house for the kids and several silent auctions - Including restaurant gift certificates, a guided Hog hunt from L&R Outfitters out of Miami, FL., wildlife rugs, salon baskets, \$200 gift certificate from 4X4's and more, night snapper fishing trip, Will Primo's signed box call, 1/2 day fishing trip from the Getaway Marina, photography shoot, Rolling Stones Signed Album, Elton John Signed Album, Neil Diamond Signed Album, Signed Mark McGuire Picture, Signed Muhammad Ali Picture, All signed items are framed and ready to hang on the wall. Downtown carriage ride.

Monetary donations also accepted and very much appreciated.

If you would like to help us raise money or purchase raffle tickets please call 239-543-5748 or 239-994-2016



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VanRoekel & Associates, DVM, PA

18321 N Olga Dr. Alva, FL 33920

239-694-7177

The rate of decline of maternal antibodies varies for both individual foals and different disease agents. For many



important diseases, the concentration of maternal antibodies in foals falls to non-protective levels by 2 to 3 months of age.

However, the remaining antibodies can still render the foal unresponsive to vaccination for weeks to come. For this

reason, the American Association of Equine Practitioners currently recommends beginning foal vaccinations at 3 to 4 months for life threatening diseases such as Tetanus and Encephalomyelitis and delaying Influenza vaccinations until the foal is at least 7 months old.

3 months of age: VEWT #1 & Strep in #1

Booster in 3 weeks: VEWT #2 & Strep in #2

10 months of age: Flu IN #1, PHF/Rabies

Booster in 3 weeks: VEWT, Flu in #2, PHF #2

VanRoekel & Associates recommends deworming foals monthly. Foals that are eating well or are weaned may be started on the Strongid C program to prevent roundworm migration through the lungs. Foals that are eating well may be weaned two weeks after the second vaccinations.

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