



Providing High Quality Education & Services To Horse Enthusiasts

LH Hoof Care Training For Mounted Professionals

This certification program is specially designed to train and support members of professional mounted units, mounted police in particular, but it is also appropriate for, park, conservation, search and rescue units and such. It is based on the successful transition of the *Houston Police Mounted Detail* to barefoot horses and the *LH NHC* certification program for professionals.

Senior Houston Police Officers Scott Berry and Danny Pryor spearhead this program through active hands-on instruction, consultation, guidance and support. Officers Berry and Pryor were instrumental in transitioning the *Houston Mounted Police Detail* to barefoot horses and currently trim the ≈40 horses assigned to officers. The Houston Mounted Detail has experienced a number of significant benefits as a result of the transition to barefoot horses, including a marked decrease in farrier and veterinarian costs, hoof pathologies and improved horse attitude and behavior. Read More in Officer Berry's article [Barefoot Police Horses: How the Houston Police Department Became a Barefoot Herd of Hard Working Horses](#).

Please Note: The *Houston Mounted Police Detail* itself does not directly support or endorse this training and certification program. Officers Berry and Pryor's participation in the program as independent contractors for Liberated Horsemanship.

Don't Think Your Police Horses Can Go Barefoot?

Read the excerpt below from the article *Why Your City Can and Should Have Mounted Police* written by Dr. Bruce Nock, MS, PhD and Senior Police Officer Scott D. Berry, BAAS, MSSL:

Barefoot: Healthier and Better For The Budget

Horse shoes are an ancient invention. They have been popular for 1,000 years or so. Through the ages people have gone happily upon their way putting shoes on horses, following the crowd, without a second thought. That's changing.

The thing is, in some countries horses have never been shod. Even today, barefoot horses continue to be used for transportation and work in countries like Mongolia. Then, there were those horse cultures of the past, like the Huns, Mongols and Native Americans, that did amazing things on the

backs of barefoot horses. The Peloponnesian wars between Athens and Sparta were fought on barefoot horses. Obviously, shoes aren't necessary for riding.

Horses don't "need" them either. Wild Horses of the United States Great Basin and the desert of Australia travel long distances every day of their lives over rugged terrain without shoes. Technically, they are feral horses, the descendants of domesticated horses that were turned loose or escaped. There is no evidence to suggest they are genetically different from or genetically superior to today's domesticated horses. They are not a special breed. Yet they do just fine without shoes under very rugged conditions because their hooves wear into a strong compact form. That wear can now be mimicked with the same result through consistent proper trimming in conjunction with good management and use practices.

Shoeing horses became popular/necessary during the middle ages when management and use practices were suboptimal. As a result, hoof quality deteriorated, making shoes obligatory. Improve management and use practices and trim so that the hooves grow in to a strong compact form and shoes are no longer needed. Doubt it? The entire Houston Mounted Police Detail now rides barefoot horses. Their success using barefoot horses is world renown.

If you are operating on a tight budget, the good news is barefoot horses are generally healthier than shod horses. Barefoot horses are less prone to foot problems, injuries and other health issues that require expenditures for veterinarian care. Here's what Dr. Robert Cook, FRCVS, PhD, Professor of Surgery *Emeritus* at Tufts University has to say about it:

"All horses' hooves are healthier without shoes, and barefoot horses are healthier than shod horses. They live longer, happier, less painful lives. Barefoot is a requirement for health and should be accepted as a condition for keeping a horse. Humane management is not just preferable, it is nonnegotiable. The foot evolved to function unshod. Nature has developed the perfect design for grip and slide in all conditions and provided for unsurpassable shock absorption. The foot cannot expand and contract with each step when clamped. Blood supply to the foot is impoverished and horn production becomes deficient. When the foot is prevented from functioning correctly, the pastern, fetlock, cannon, and knee are also placed at risk. This leads to bone, joint, and soft tissue injuries."¹

Here's how Dr. Tomas G. Teskey, DVM puts it:

"Forcing the flexible hoof to function when restricted by a rigid, steel shoe is a powerful prescription for promoting the hoof's deterioration. It results in deformity of the hoof and other nearby tissues, disrupts physiologic processes, and leads to harmful overgrowth of the hoof capsule. When a shoe is finally removed, the overgrown hoof is trimmed in a manner designed to ensure the retention of the next shoe (rather than comply with the

¹ As reported by Marcia King. *Barefoot vs. Shod*. The Horse.com: Your Guide To Equine Health Care. August 01 2008 Article # 12778.

physiology of the hoof); thus, additional harm follows. Such trims do not respect the shape conducive to optimal hoof performance.”²

Dr. Teskey goes on to say:

“In my practice the incidence of limb disease and injury is 70% higher among shod horses. Shod hooves cannot adequately dissipate forces of torque and concussion. Instead, these forces harm the hoof and are also referred up the limb to assault other structures that have not evolved to withstand these stresses and strains. The resultant harm to the horse’s flesh and bone is both predictable and inevitable.”³

Some people even say barefoot horses are mentally healthier and happier than shod horses. Dr. Cook alluded to it when he said barefoot horses “live longer, happier, less painful lives.”⁴ We believe it too. Here’s what Officer Scott Berry wrote in a previous article about the barefoot Houston police horses:

“A horse that used to protest to having shoes nailed on now freely picks up his/her foot to be trimmed. The mental health of a horse is something that can’t easily be measured, but it is pretty obvious to those of us who spend time with our horses that there has been improvements there too. Walk around in some constricting, unyielding shoes for twenty four hours a day and see if it makes you a tad grumpy.”⁵

The benefits don’t end there. Barefoot horses can easily negotiate footing that shod horses cannot. For example, in the same article Officer Berry wrote,

“There are granite and marble sidewalks downtown that were as slick as ice when the horses were shod. It is no longer an issue with barefoot or booted horses. And, there is no longer the damage a Borium tipped steel shoe does to exotic stone walkways.”⁶

Finally, it is far less expensive to trim a barefoot horse’s hooves than it is to shoe them. How much less expensive? Well, before the Houston Mounted Detail changed to barefoot horses, farrier fees ran about \$1,667/horse/year. That comes to about \$200 per shoeing, assuming the horse is shod every six weeks. That’s a reasonable amount for a large horse, which is what mounted police tend to ride. On the other hand, other cities pay much more than that ... for reasons that are not apparent to us. For example, the Seattle Mounted Patrol Unit spends \$30,000 per year to shoe seven horses. That comes

² Dr. Tomas G. Teskey, DVM: *The Unfettered Foot: A Paradigm Change for Equine Podiatry*. Equine Foot Science. 2005(25), page 78.

³ Ibid.

⁴ As reported by Marcia King. *Barefoot vs. Shod*. The Horse.com: Your Guide To Equine Health Care. August 01 2008 Article # 12778.

⁵ Mounted Police Officer Scott Berry. *Barefoot Police Horses: How the Houston Police Department Became a Barefoot Herd of Hard Working Horses*. Liberated Horsemanship Press. 2010.

⁶ Ibid.

to over \$450 per shoeing.⁷ If you own horses, you are probably dumbfounded by that amount.

In any event, a proper barefoot trim done by a qualified, certified hoof care professional generally runs between \$40 and \$80 per horse, or, using the average of \$60, \$520 per year. That's a considerable saving over the cost for shoeing, even if you are paying reasonable farrier fees.

But, a unit can save even more if the officers themselves or a designated officer within the unit learns to do the trimming. That's how the Houston Mounted Police do it. The Houston unit has a number of qualified trimmers: Mounted Officers Scott Berry and Danny Pryor are natural hoof care instructors for *Liberated Horsemanship, LLC* and have attended many Liberated Horsemanship clinics.⁸ Houston Mounted Officer Gregory Sokoloski attended the *Liberated Horsemanship Kick Start Program* in natural hoof care hosted by the *Parsons Mounted Cavalry* at *Texas A&M University*. Officers Sokoloski, Berry and Pryor were instrumental in transitioning the units horses from traditional metal shoes to barefoot. Houston Mounted Officer Robert Hunter also attended the five day *Liberated Horsemanship Gateway To Natural Hoof Care Clinic* in Missouri. It takes an hour or less with experience to trim a horse's hooves and it should be done every four to six weeks.

Some opponents of mounted patrols have suggested that horse care takes officers away from patrol duties for too long, e.g., "Officers in the mounted unit, by necessity, spent a couple of hours of each shift getting their horses ready, traveling with their mounts to their posts and then getting them bedded down."⁹ This is a misleading exaggeration. Getting a horse ready to ride and "bedding" him down should take an officer 45 minutes at most per duty day. And every officer, mounted or not, has to travel to his post. Adding an additional hour every four to six weeks for hoof care wouldn't be a significant detraction from normal law enforcement duties.

Performance boots should be available for extra protection when needed. Here's what Officer Berry wrote in a previous article:

"Boots are available for all of the horses—they hardly ever need them. We do make sure they have them on for large demonstrations and assignments where there is the possibility of broken glass and debris on the ground. The boots protect much more of the hoof than shoes."¹⁰



⁷ Alison Morrow: Seattle Police Department Horses' Shoes A Costly Necessity, KING 5 News, <http://www.king5.com/news/local/Seattle-PD-Horses-Shoes-A-Costly-Necessity-235672581.html>, 2013

⁸ Liberated Horsemanship maintains a no fee for return visits policy. That is, attend a clinic once and return as often as you want for no additional registration fee.

⁹ Michael Cooper: Police Departments Downsize, From 4 Legs to 2. New York Times, February 14, 2011.

¹⁰ Mounted Police Officer Scott Berry: *Barefoot Police Horses: How the Houston Police Department Became a Barefoot Herd of Hard Working Horses*. Liberated Horsemanship Press. 2010.

Program Outline

The Gateway Clinic

The Gateway Clinic is where the journey starts. Participants receive five days of intense practical training and theoretical information that forms a firm foundation for a successful career in Hoof Care. The Gateway Clinic is held once a year in the United States and Europe. Officers will be sufficiently skilled to start trimming the horses in their unit upon completion of the Gateway Clinic. Fee = \$ 1,775 in US, € 1,550 in Europe.



Field Instruction

Field instruction provides practical information about hoof trimming, cooperative horse handling, tool use and maintenance, and healthy body mechanics.

Participants are required to spend two days of field instruction with Officers Scott Berry and Danny Pryor. Scott and Danny will also be available for questions and discussions during all other phases of the training.

Additional field practicums are optional but participants should do as many as needed to prepare for a successful Final Assessment. Fee per day = \$ 175 in US, € 130 in Europe.



Lower Leg Anatomy Clinic

Students learn about the bones and tissues of the equine foot so they can visualize their location in relationship to external structures. They learn how each structure functions and contributes to pathological conditions like navicular syndrome, laminitis and founder and how a proper trim lowers the risk of such problems and facilitates recovery. Fee = \$ 300 in US. Fee for Europe varies with instructor.



The Final Assessment

The Final Assessment is an “on-site” evaluation. Your work with horses under your hoof care is evaluated by ex-police officer Eddie Drabek, CHCP, CBS or another designated instructor. **All Final Assessments are arranged through Ann Corso.** Fee = \$ 575 in US, € 425 in Europe ... *plus instructor transportation and motel costs.*



Certification

Participants who pass the Final Assessment receive a Certificate of Accomplishment stating they have successfully completed the Liberated Horsemanship training program for hoof care professionals. Graduates receive the designation Certified Hoof Care Professional (CHCP) and are listed on the Liberated Horsemanship website as a courtesy of recognition and to help promote their hoof care business, if they chose to start one. There is no associated fee.

The Gateway Clinic

The Foundation For A Successful Hoof Care Career

Providing a well-rounded background in the theory of an anatomically and functionally correct trim, factors that can affect its outcome, and practical, supervised trimming instruction and experience.

We currently have a total of 26 hoof care instructors. For the hands-on, supervised-trimming portion of the Gateway Clinic, the student to instructor ratio is set at about 4–5:1 to give each student sufficient individual attention. The core team of instructors, listed below, has been teaching hoof care professionals since 2004.

Core Instructors

Bruce Nock, MS, PhD: The founder of LH, author of acclaimed books and articles, and a tenured neurobiologist at Washington University School of Medicine, in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. Bruce teaches students how biomechanics, and management and use factors affect hoof health and shape. Read more about Bruce and LH at http://liberatedhorsemanship.com/About_Liberated_Horsemanship.html.

Ann Corse, Master Hoof Care Professional: Ann is the founder of “*Liberated Hoof Care*,” a corporation based outside of Lexington, KY. She is the Director of LH’s Barefoot Initiative. Ann is a world leader in natural hoof care education who is comfortable in the field as well as in the classroom. Ann is the author of *Form Follows Function*, an outstanding, informative article about how a proper hoof form facilitates function ... a fundamental tenet of natural hoof care. During the Gateway Clinic, Ann teaches participants how to do an authentic natural trim that maintains internal and external foot components in proper alignment and allows the foot to grow into a strong compact form that functions optimally. Her extensive knowledge from field and teaching experiences also allows Ann to help participant anticipate and cope with things they may encounter while trimming.

Richard Drewry, Master Hoof Care Professional: Richard is a charter member of Liberated Horsemanship. He is one of the elite pioneers of the modern barefoot movement who co-founded the AANCP ... an organization he is no longer associated with. Richard has provided hoof care professionals and horse owners specialized training in the art and science of hoof care since the beginning of the modern barefoot movement. Many leading natural hoof care professionals throughout the world have trained with him.



Bruce Nock,
MS, PhD



Ann Corso,
MHCP



Richard Drewry,
CBS, MHCP

A Representative Gateway Clinic Schedule

Day 1

9:00 – 9:15 AM: *Welcoming Remarks – Bruce Nock, MS, PhD*

9:15 – 10:15 AM: *The Rise and Fall of Natural Hoof Care – Bruce Nock, MS, PhD*

Bruce explains the theory behind natural hoof care and discusses concepts and practices which have led to confusion in barefoot hoof care.

10:30 – 11:00 AM: *The Desert Brumby*

This visually stunning and compelling film shows how environmental and lifestyle factors naturally shape desert Brumby hooves into the anatomically-correct, strong compact form sought by authentic natural hoof care.

11:00 – Noon: *Characteristics of Optimal Hoof Form – Ann Corso, MHCP, Director of LH Barefoot Initiative*

Ann describes the characteristics of healthy hooves, their importance to biomechanically efficient movement, circulation, and the health of the inner structures of the foot. Understanding the characteristics of the healthy hoof form strengthens a trimmer's ability to apply trimming guidelines to the variety of hoof shapes and sizes that will be encountered.

Noon – 1:30 PM: *Lunch Break*

1:30 – 2:30 PM: *Characteristics of Optimal Hoof Form (continued) – Ann Corso, MHCP*

2:45 – 5:00 PM: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

B r i n g Y o u r T r i m m i n g T o o l s

Demonstration Trimming

The hoof should not not carved into a preconceived shape. Proper hoof care encourages the hoof **to grow** toward an optimal form. During this session, the principles that guide proper trimming are demonstrated using cadaver hooves. These principles apply to hooves of all forms.

Locating Landmarks

The hoof is the protective outer covering for the bones, sensitive tissues, and suspensory structures of the horse's foot. During this session, students learn how to locate inner structures using external landmarks. This skill is crucial for trimming that causes no harm and that properly aligns internal and external foot structures.

Tool Techniques

Tips on what tools to use and how to use them are explained and demonstrated.

Day 2

9:00 – 9:15 AM: *Group Photo*

9:15 – 11:00 PM: *Performance Hoof Boots – Richard Drewry, MHCP*

Performance Hoof Boots are essential to successful natural hoof care. Students are introduced to the wide variety of performance boots available and given information to help them select the right product and size. Boot modifications are also discussed. Richard is the U.S. distributor of the custom fit Swiss Horse Boot and has been teaching equine professionals and horse owners about hoof boots for more than a decade. He is uniquely qualified to give this introduction and overview of performance hoof boots and their role in natural hoof care.

11:15 – Noon: *What Others Do And We Don't ... And Why – Ann Corso, MHCP*

Prominent features and the validity of underlying assumption of a variety of barefoot trim models are discussed. A solid understanding of why we trim as we do and why we don't do certain things others do are safeguards against adopting trimming practices that can cause problems over the long run.

Noon – 1:30 PM: *Lunch Break*

1:30 – 5:00 PM: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

Demonstration Trim, Review and Questions

Lateral Balance/Wall Flares/Mustang Roll

- Checking lateral balance. Maintaining lateral balance of the hoof minimizes stress on connective tissues in the foot and on joints of the foot and leg.
- Safely addressing irregularities in wall thickness. Hooves that have been allowed to grow too long or that are not laterally balanced will develop protrusions or irregularities in wall thickness. Students will learn how to safely remove these without over-thinning hoof wall.
- Mustang Roll. A signature characteristic of the natural trim. Students will learn how to begin the roll from the bottom and finish it from the top.

Day 3

9:00 – 11:00 AM: *Equine Digestion and Forage Evaluation – Richard Drewry, MHCP*

One serious and all-to-common hoof pathology, laminitis, can be triggered or aggravated by feeding choices. It's important for hoof care providers to understand how feeding choices can support or hinder good hoof care.

Richard has a BS degree in Agronomy, the science of soil management and crop production, from the University of Arkansas. Until his retirement in 2012, he provided counseling about soil, crop, and livestock management through his work with US Department of Agriculture. In addition, Richard is an experienced hoof care professional, a horse owner, and a hay producer.

In this presentation Richard provides an overview of the horse's digestive system and explains how different types of feed and forage are digested. He continues with detailed information about hay production practices, and hay testing and what to check for when evaluating hay. Richard also includes a brief discussion about the popular use of nutraceuticals.

11:00 – Noon: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

Demonstration Trim, Review and Questions

Noon – 1:30 PM *Lunch Break*

1:30 – 5:00: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

- Putting it all together - Students put all of the steps of the trim together and practice trimming hooves from start to finish. Instructors are there to help. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

Day 4

9:00 – Noon: *Understanding factors that affect hoof health – Bruce Nock, MS, PhD*

- How Management And Use Practices Impact Hoof Health
A Journey To The Cutting Edge Of Biomedical Science
- Horses In Captivity
Physiology Of Obesity-related Insulin Resistance And Laminitis
Laminitis And Equine Cushing's— Diseases Of Captivity

Noon – 1:30 PM: *Lunch Break*

1:30 – 5:00 PM: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

Demonstration Trim, Review and Questions

Continue practice trimming with instructor help when needed.

Day 5

9:00 – 10:30 AM: *Understanding factors that affect hoof health – Bruce Nock, MS, PhD*

- Protecting Horse's And Their Hooves From The Negative Impact Of Suboptimal Management And Use Practices And The Unnatural Stressors That Are Inherent To Life In Captivity

10:30 – 10:45 AM: *Hoof Care Certification Program: Next Steps – Ann Corso, MHCP*

- The Gateway to Natural Hoof Care Clinic is the first step toward certification for hoof care professionals. During this session the remaining elements of the program are described and questions about the program are answered.

11:00 – Noon: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

Final Demonstration Trim, Review and Questions

Noon – 1:30: *Lunch Break*

1:30 – 4:00 PM: *Trim Workshop – Ann Corso, MHCP and Richard Drewry, MHCP*

- Students continue to practice trimming from start to finish with coaching from instructors.
- Independent trimming: Each student trims three hooves without coaching. These hooves will be evaluated by an instructor. Then the work will be discussed one-on-one. This is not a test. It is intended to provide you with a good idea of whether you're ready to begin trimming live horses, or whether you should consider some additional coaching with one of our field instructors before trimming live horses on your own.

Field Instruction

To arrange a day of instruction: Field instructors are listed below. Contact the one you want to train with and schedule a date. Then, go to our [Faculty page](#) and submit the fee.

Field Instructors

United States

Arkansas

Richard Drewry, MHCP, CBS
Harrison, Arkansas, USA
Home: 870-429-5739
Cell: 870-577-3974
Email: bootngo@ritternet.com

Louetta Plumlee, CHCP, CBS
Berryville, Arkansas, USA
Home: 870-749-2207
Cell: 870-423-9396
Email: barefoothorse4you@yahoo.com

California

Bruce Goode, CHCP
Davis California, USA
Cell: 530-400-2441
Email: bruce@hooftrack.com
Website: www.hooftrack.com

Colorado

John Graves, CHCP
Pueblo, Colorado, USA
Email: thewildhoof@q.com
Terrie Yordy, MHCP, CBS
Alma, Kansas, USA

Kansas

Terrie Yordy, MHCP, CBS
Alma, Kansas, USA
Home: 785-765-3608
Cell: 785-477-3081
Email: tyordy@embarqmail.com
Website: It Behooves the Horse

Kentucky

Ann Corso, MHCP
London, Kentucky, USA
Home: 606-878-0466
Cell: 606-224-0466
Email: anncorso@yahoo.com
Skype: ann.corso

Mississippi

Mark Taylor, MHCP, CBS
Ashland, Mississippi, USA
Home: 662-224-3043
Cell: 662-224-4158
Email: talloakhorsefarm@yahoo.com
Skype: barefoot191

North Carolina

Mike R. Smith, CHCP, CBS
Statesville, North Carolina, USA
Phone: 704-592-5034
Email: msranch@yadtel.net
Website: New Hope Stables & Campgrounds

Ohio

Steve Hebrock, CHCP, CBS
Akron, Ohio, USA
Home: 330-644-1954
Cell: 330-813-5434
Email: steve@enlightenedequine.com
Skype: stevehebrock
Website: Enlightened Equine

Sherry Eucker, CHCP, CBS
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, USA
Serving the Cleveland Region
Phone: 216-218-6954
Email: bratlikeu@yahoo.com

Pennsylvania

Nancy Frishkorn, CHCP
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, USA
Phone: 724-255-6465
Email: nancy@hooflady.org

South Dakota

Cynthia Niemela, CHCP, CBS
Hill City, South Dakota, USA
Home: 605-574-2469
Cell: 612-481-3036
Email: cjniemela@dishmail.net

Tennessee

Dr. Neal Valk, DVM, DACVS
Greenville, Tennessee, USA
Phone: 423-639-9200
Email: Vwaldgraf@aol.com
Website: Natural Equine Podiatry, Stonehill Veterinary Center

Texas

Eddie Drabek, CHCP, CBS
El Campo, Texas, USA
Cell: 979-533-1731
Email: drabektx@hotmail.com
Website: Natural Trimming For A Healthy & Sound Equine

Joey Muzquiz, CHCP
Abilene, Texas, USA
Cell: 210-274-7943
Email: joey@steelbent.com

Scott Berry, CHCP, CBS
Cypress, Texas, USA
(Northwest Houston area)
Cell: 713-857-5344
Email: drafthrsmobile@hal-pc.org

Danny Pryor, CHCP, CBS
Brookshire, Texas, USA
Phone: 713-823-6573
Email: equinehoof@gmail.com

West Virginia

Kathy Beagle, CHCP
New Cumberland, West Virginia, USA
Serving West Virginia, Eastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania
Phone: 304-479-1869
Email: kdrosieb@yahoo.com

Field Instructors

Canada

Bruce Goode, CHCP
Vernon, British Columbia
Cell: 250-545-6948
Email: bruce@hooftrack.com
Website: www.hooftrack.com

Darcy Bulmer, CHCP, CBS
Enderby, British Columbia, Canada
Serving the Salmon Arm, Enderby, Armstrong and Vernon area
Home Phone: 250-838-6938
Cell Phone: 250-515-3150
Email: gobarefootbc@gmail.com

Kevin Glenister, CHCP
Dryden, Ontario, Canada
Home Phone: 807-937-5109
Cell Phone: 807-221-7630
Email: kglenister@dryden.ca

Field Instructors

Russia

Polina Vorobyova, CHCP, CBS
Saint-Petersburg and Moscow.
Phone: +79052297721
Email: Firsthoofcare@gmail.com
Skype: polinka4441

Field Instructors

Spain

Dr. Albert Villasevil Florensa, CHCP, DVM

Spain

Phone: +34 686 54 88 22

Email: podoleg.equi@gmail.com

Skype: alhanduin

Website: Equine Podiatry: art to science (Podología Equina: del arte a la ciencia)

Marc Sánchez Carbó, CHCP

Barberà de la Conca, Spain

Phone: +34 606 58 52 85

Email: marc.ferrador@gmail.com

Website: Podologia Equina Adaptada (Adapted Equine Podiatry)

Field Instructors

United Kingdom

Nick Hill, CHCP

Scotland

Phone: +44 (0) 7966 372641

Email: enquiries@cloverroseequine.co.uk

Skype: nick.hill007

Website: CloverRose Equine

Lindsay Setchell, CHCP

Covering Cornwall and South Devon, UK.

Phone: 07588 249078

Email: linds@hoofingmarvellous.net

Website: Hoofing Marvellous

Examples of What Participants Have Said

About The Program

“In October I attended a natural hoof care clinic conducted by Liberated Horsemanship in the USA. This was a great experience for me. I learnt a great deal about caring for horses and their feet from this team of knowledgeable and very experienced horse people. We traded a great deal of information during the 1 week course. I came home and re-trimmed all of my horses (all 15 of them!) and felt confident that I was doing the best thing for them. I would encourage people to attend this clinic, or one similar, no matter what level of experience or knowledge they have. Several of Liberated Horsemanship’s field instructors attended the seminar to assist with students learning but also to continue their own education. This is an organization that has the welfare of the horse as its main priority. The financial commitment they made to take me to the States is proof of their commitment to scientific advancement and continuing education in equine care.

During the USA visit I gave a six hour presentation of the teams work in St Louis. Liberated Horsemanship fully sponsored my trip to the USA for this purpose and I am greatly appreciative to Bruce Nock and his team for allowing me the opportunity to travel there and speak.” *Dr. Brian Hampson, PhD, founder of the Australian Brumby Research Unit, School of Veterinary Sciences, University of Queensland*

“What a great time I had at the Gateway Clinic. So much good information and such kind, generous, and knowledgeable instructors/lecturers. I don't know where to begin to elaborate on all my thoughts and feelings about my week in Warrenton.

First of all, thank you, Bruce, for allowing your passion for horses and your vision for helping horses and people to flow into the creation of *Liberated Horsemanship*. Never will I look at horses, and HOOF HEALTH, the same way, again. You, Richard, Ann, and Cynthia have opened my eyes and my understanding, and I find I'm having to seriously squelch my enthusiasm, or at least govern it a bit, when asked what I did in Missouri for a week! Don't take that last remark the wrong way. You see, and you may even have noticed, I tend to be quite vocal about things in which I deeply believe; close friends have even told me I'm intense and often must be taken in small doses. Alas, it is the price I pay for wanting to help others to richer understandings. Anyway, I am so excited about what I learned that I have been rereading every article on the *LH* website, as well as the latest that Chris Pollitt has posted on the UQ site. And, of course, I have been immersed in your two books, *Ten Golden Rules of Horse Training*, and *Ride For Tomorrow*, both of which I am thoroughly enjoying. I am like a human sponge! Eegads.

Since I spent the bulk of my time under the tutelage of Ann and Richard, I have to tell you how I admire their expertise and their generosity in sharing all they know with the students! They were generous with time, input, correction, encouragement, tools and aprons, and they were generous with themselves, too. (And even Cynthia—whom I kidnapped for an assessment of a hoof I had just finished—offered me timeless advice that from that point forward made my trimming technique better.) Delightful beings all, whom I hope to learn much more from and get to know better!” *Kim Truitt, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA*

“I found your organization while researching all of the alternatives available for trimming instruction. I had a gut feeling that your program was among the best. What I discovered, is that Liberated Horsemanship is the best. Fantastic instructors, that are thoughtful, empathetic and skillful communicators. I felt at home right away, and look forward to many years of association with your organization. The gateway clinics provide a solid foundation that builds the confidence necessary to continue to practice and learn. I can't wait to get started with field mentorships. It is very apparent that you pick your instructors with great care. I'm looking forward to returning to Warrenton in the spring for the advanced clinics!” *FAA Gold Seal Master Flight Instructor Greg Collins, ATP, CSES, CFI, CFII, MEI, A&P IA*

"In my 48 years I have made several major career changes and participated in the necessary training for each. The Gateway Clinics training was by far the best training I have taken. It was very thorough. The instructors were quite knowledgeable and excellent at imparting the information. I highly recommend this for training for anyone wishing to learn the correct way to care for and trim their barefoot horse! *Elizabeth McNeil, Blessings Farm, Charlton, Massachusetts*

"Liberated Horsemanship's Gateway Hoof Care Clinics far exceeded any expectations of quality education that I have had. The scientific and practical approach to learning, the instructors' knowledge of the subject matter, and their ability to express the information in a way that each individual student could understand it was a truly refreshing paradigm shifting experience." *Chris P. Bieber, Ymir, British Columbia, CANADA.*

"...thank you so much for such a great class! Someone on a Barefoot Group was asking about a trimming clinic in the Midwest, so of course I sent them your web site! :-) I told them that after taking the class, I feel confident that I can perform a balanced trim as long as I follow the guidelines, and I let them know that we all hear the old saying "No hoof, no horse", well, this has been turned around into "No horse, no hoof." *Karen C., Mid-Missouri.*

"I want to personally thank you, Jean, Ann, Richard, and John for the wealth of information provided to us during the Gateway Clinics. My trim is ten times better than prior to the clinic and the horses under my care have the sexiest wild horse feet around! My confidence is solid because I have the knowledge to tackle any hoof I come across. Thank you for the DETAILED information on saddle fitting, growing hay, nutrition, equine digestion, stress reducers, booting, proper riding, trimming, tools...this stuff was exceptionally helpful to me - what a well rounded education you have given me - WOW. Thank You! I'm so happy I came." *Carrie Carlino, Pennsylvania.*

"I recommend *Liberated Horsemanship training* to EVERYONE who has horses, whether you plan on trimming your own horses, trimming for others, are still shoeing your horses and curious about what a natural trim is all about, or don't trim at all and just want what is best for your horses.

I loved everything about the clinic. The instructors were all very knowledgeable and excellent at explaining the topics they were teaching. There was a lot of hands-on trimming time broken up between classroom sessions. Plus, I got to meet students and instructors from all across America and Canada who share the same passion as me.

The clinic was about much more than just how to trim a hoof. From what we feed our horses, to the environment they are kept in, to how we ride them and more, the clinic covered so many factors that affect the soundness of our horses that most people are completely unaware of.

Before I even left the six day clinic to go home, I already couldn't wait to come back for the advanced clinics! Thank you Bruce and the rest of the crew for the beginning of a wonderful learning experience!" *Michelle Miller, Missouri*

"I thought the Gateway Clinics were wonderful. The people in this organization are all friendly and knowledgeable. I also loved the fact that all the people I met truly love horses and they have picked this lifestyle because of their true desire to help horses. I will highly recommend the Gateway clinics, they are very informative and affordable!! I look forward to coming back for more training in the (I hope) near future !!!!!!" *Ida B. Crum, Ohio*

"hello bruce its wild bill again i am just amazed at the clinic man i came away with a whole new outlook on horses AMAZING the knowledge and expertise of the instructors and i felt like i was with family and friends and now proud to be part of liberated horsemanship best decision that i ever made !!!!! look forward to seeing u all again to finish certification good lord willing to also do my master certification love u guys keep up the excellent work." *Bill, AKA Wild Bill, Sharp, Sharp Hoof Care, Texas*

“Thanks again for the wonderful, and I mean wonderful, workshop in June. I am really loving this work and this organization. What a stellar group of brilliant minds, hands, and hearts all gathered in one place. Very impressive. The June workshop was time and money well spent, and then the field instructors, Richard and Louetta, went above and beyond in their instruction, mentoring, and support. Thanks to everyone for all their hard work and dedication. I am looking forward to more learning and growing within the organization.” *Annie Bauer, Texas*

“I would just like to say thank you to everybody at Liberated Horsemanship. I had fun and it was a great learning experience. I have gained so much, and I know it will benefit every horse that I trim. The learning environment was so relaxed, and all the instructors were always more than happy to help and answer any questions. I felt as though I became a part of the Liberated Horsemanship extended family, and I am looking forward to coming back. It is clear that everybody at Liberated Horsemanship is working together to promote natural horse and hoof care practices. I would absolutely recommend the Gateway Clinics and Advanced Topics to anyone who is interested in learning more about natural horse and hoof care.” *Michelle Bevelock, Florida*

“I want to tell you what a joy the clinic was for me. I feel like I walked out of there a totally different person and with a ton of new knowledge to boot. My new horse had front shoes and I was apprehensive about pulling them and starting the transition myself. I was so comfortable after the clinic I pulled his shoes 3 days after I got home and he's transitioning wonderfully! Thank you so much for a wonderful wonderful class. I look forward to coming to many more.” *Benjamyn Smith, Virginia*

“I am so thankful for the education I received at the Gateway clinic. I returned home on Wednesday. Thursday morning was my first customer and immediately applied the information I learned.

All of my customers saw improvements to my trimming, and I showed them how just millimeters make a difference in hoof balance.

I am looking forward to and making plans to continue with advanced classes in April.

I am so thankful for Liberated Horsemanship. It will be a life time affiliation for me.”

Lisa later wrote: “I just cannot say enough positive things about all I learned from Liberated Horsemanship. It truly has improved the way I trim horses, and the results have been astounding. All the hooves I trim have grown healthier and my business is better than ever. I'm looking forward to my final field assessment with Ann this year.” *Lisa Ross*

“Just wanted to thank each of you for a wonderful clinic. I am honored to have been part of the first Liberated Horsemanship Kick Start program. After trimming outside horses for the past 5 years using bits and pieces from various groups and their models I feel I now have a better direction and can focus on one model. I have attended many clinics over the years and have never been part of one that covered so much information and gave such clarity to so many little details that over the years I could see happening but didn't truly understand "why" they were happening. Now I can not only see but I now understand the consequences of each move I make and even better can explain things to my clients based on science and research along with my original instincts. The lectures really took my brain somewhere it's never been and left me pondering all sorts of new ideas. Thanks to each and every one of you and I look forward to earning my certification and being part of such an educated and overly helpful group of equine professionals!” *Paige Pittman*

“All of the instructors were very friendly and personable. You could ask any question and they would do their very best to help you better understand. I plan on returning to future clinics to continue to expand my knowledge.” *Danielle Dove*

“Thank you so much for putting this on. I had such a great time and I learned a lot! The people are phenomenal here. I couldn’t have chosen a better organization. A special thanks to Eddie Drabek for telling me about y’all.” *Dusty McCord*

"I can hardly believe the incredible amount of information and the hours of preparation it took to condense and distill the natural trim into a concise and thoroughly explained curriculum. Also, the hours of trimming with Ann and Cynthia were great. Ann and Cynthia's expertise were manifest and conveyed in a concise and easy to understand way, removing much of the mystery of how perfect balance is achieved and how the slightest deviation can make a difference in the travels of the horse. The dissections of the hoof and foot and inner working of the boney column from the cannon through the third phalanx were incredible. The others who were hoof care pros and farriers were helpful too. It was a great group of men and women who have but one focus, and that is the best way to create a perfect natural trim. And, I'll never forget Cynthia's dismount!" *Ben Ferrin*