



Established 2003

By

By Bruce Nock, MS, PhD

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Providing High Quality Education & Services To Horse Enthusiasts

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## LH Hoof Care Training For Non-Professional

If you want to learn to take care of and trim your horse's hooves, then please *learn to do it right*. Don't make your horse pay for your lack of skill and understanding. Both you and your horse deserve the benefits of a first-class education. It is silly to compromise a horse's long-term soundness and your happiness by settling for anything less. *Please* come to our five day Gateway Clinic.

The Gateway Clinic is the foundation for all of our hoof care training programs, including one designed for mounted police and another designed for those seeking certification and a professional career in hoof care. But it's perfect for horse owners too. You can read examples of what people have said about this highly acclaimed clinic below on pages 12 – 15.

Participants in the Gateway Clinic receive a well-rounded background in the theory of an anatomically and functionally correct trim along with detailed practical instruction and supervised trimming experience. They head home confident in their ability to trim and care for their horses' hooves.

But that's not all. Trimming is part of hoof care. Hoof care is part of horse care. The hooves are a window into management and use practices. Good management and use practices result in healthy hooves. Suboptimal practices compromise hoof health and the efforts of even the most skilled trimmer. Participant in the Gateway Clinic learn about such factors and how they affect horse and hoof health.

For example, Gateway Clinic participants learn about equine digestion, energy consumption and needs, and diet supplementation. They learn all about hay ... how much to feed, how to evaluate it's quality and so on from an agronomist who, until his retirement in 2012, provided counseling to farmers about soil, crop, and livestock management through his work with US Department of Agriculture.

Participants also learn about how stress caused by suboptimal management and use practices impacts horse and hoof health through effects on bone density, muscle mass, metabolism, immunity and other physiological mechanisms that weren't even conceivable a few years ago. They learn about insulin resistance and Cushing's Disease ... what causes them and how they increase a horse's risk for all sorts of disorders, including laminitis and founder. Participants also learn how to protect their horses from the damaging stressors that are inherent to life in captivity. They learn about bone health and growth and why and how it is important to riding. They learn about the biomechanics of riding and how it affects soundness and hoof health and shape. They learn about training and communication and how physical limitations are often misinterpreted as resistance or an unwilling attitude. All from a tenured medical professor and professional horseman who has published acclaimed books and articles on riding and training horses.

**So, come join us and a community of friendly people who want to do what's right for their horses.**

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Why should I learn to trim my horses' hooves?**

- You can be confident that it will always be done correctly.
- You will no longer have to pay someone else to do it.
- No more worries about scheduling a farrier.
- You can be sure your horses will be treated kindly.
- Hoof health reflects horse health and happiness. Trimming provides an opportunity to catch negative trends early.
- If, in the long-run, you decide to have someone else trim your horses' hooves, you will have a knowledge base for selecting the person and evaluating his/her work.

## **Do I have to submit an application to enter the training program?**

No. Just pay the registration fee for and attend a Gateway Clinic. There are three ways to register:

1. Use the link on the LH Home page, LiberatedHorsemanship.com, to pay by credit card.
2. Mail a check to Liberated Horsemanship, PO Box 546, Warrenton, MO 63383. The check must be drawn on a United States bank for the amount of the registration fee.
3. Call Liberated Horsemanship, 314.740.5847, or Skype with your credit card information.

## **A local natural hoof care practitioner teaches horse owners to trim. Why should I learn through Liberated Horsemanship?**

- Trimming experience and certification are qualification an individual must have to teach but those factors alone are not enough. Teaching requires additional special skills. In the Gateway Clinic you will learn from world class experts in hoof care who have been commended for their teaching ability and dedication by people from around the world.
- You will not only learn how to trim but how to trim in a way that encourages the proper alignment of internal and external structures. This is important to long-term soundness.
- In addition to how to trim, you will learn about management and use factors that are important to developing strong healthy feet.
- You will learn about performance boots and their role in natural hoof care.
- You will get extensive hands-on experience trimming cadaver hooves under the supervision of some of the top hoof care professionals in the world. Cadaver hooves provide an opportunity to learn and mistakes without causing harm. It will prepare you to confidently go home and trim your horses knowing you can do it right and without causing harm.

## **Will I have to invest in a lot of tools?**

You can expect to spend US\$ 300 – US\$ 500 for a good set of tools, an apron, and hoof stand. You will receive training in the Gateway Clinic that will help you maintain the tools so you get the maximum use out of them. They should last for a long time.

## **I've never trimmed a hoof. Can I learn to do it well just from this course?**

Yes. You should be able to trim normal hooves. Abnormal or pathological hooves should be trimmed by professionals.

## **Is there any chance I will make a mistake and hurt my horse?**

No, not if you follow the trimming principles we teach. The method you will learn is safe and non-invasive.

## **What if I change my mind and decide to become a natural hoof care professional?**

The Gateway Clinic is taught by the same instructors and you get the same information and experience whether you are on the track for horse owners or professionals. So, if you decide to pursue a part-time or full-time career in natural hoof care after attending the Gateway Clinic, you just continue along the professional track toward certification.

## **Can I get help with my horses if I need it?**

Yes. You can get on-site help from one of our field instructors. Often the first natural trim on a horse, the so-called setup trim, is the most challenging. You might be more confident if a field instructor helps you get started on the right foot so to speak. The fee for this service is \$300 plus travel expenses for the field instructor.

# *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](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 assistance from one of the Field instructors listed below contact Ann Corso at [AnnCorso@me.com](mailto:AnnCorso@me.com).

## Field Instructors

### United States

#### Arkansas

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

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

#### California

Bruce Goode, CHCP  
Davis California, USA  
Cell: 530-400-2441  
Email: [bruce@hooftrack.com](mailto:bruce@hooftrack.com)  
Website: [www.hooftrack.com](http://www.hooftrack.com)

#### Colorado

John Graves, CHCP  
Pueblo, Colorado, USA  
Email: [thewildhoof@q.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:talloakhorsefarm@yahoo.com)  
Skype: barefoot191

## **North Carolina**

Mike R. Smith, CHCP, CBS  
Statesville, North Carolina, USA  
Phone: 704-592-5034  
Email: [msranch@yadtel.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bratlikeu@yahoo.com)

## **Pennsylvania**

Nancy Frishkorn, CHCP  
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, USA  
Phone: 724-255-6465  
Email: [nancy@hooflady.org](mailto: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](mailto:cjniemela@dishmail.net)

## **Tennessee**

Dr. Neal Valk, DVM, DACVS  
Greenville, Tennessee, USA  
Phone: 423-639-9200  
Email: [Vwaldgraf@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:joey@steelbent.com)

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

Danny Pryor, CHCP, CBS  
Brookshire, Texas, USA  
Phone: 713-823-6573  
Email: [equinehoof@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:kdrosieb@yahoo.com)

# Field Instructors

## Canada

Bruce Goode, CHCP  
Vernon, British Columbia  
Cell: 250-545-6948  
Email: [bruce@hooftrack.com](mailto:bruce@hooftrack.com)  
Website: [www.hooftrack.com](http://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](mailto:gobarefootbc@gmail.com)

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

# Field Instructors

## Russia

Polina Vorobyova, CHCP, CBS  
Saint-Petersburg and Moscow.  
Phone: +79052297721  
Email: [Firsthoofcare@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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*