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Newsletter



Inside this issue:

- Horsemanship Week
- Mentorship Programs
- Falling Star Ranch Goes High-Tech
- Ground Manners Clinic
- Equine Behaviour Workshop
- Round Penning Workshop
- Upcoming Events

Falling Star Ranch

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Chris Irwin Gold Certified Trainer and Coach

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FACEBOOK**

Horsemanship Week - For Women by Women

Birgit and fellow Chris Irwin gold certified trainer and coach Kathryn Kincannon-Irwin taught a horsemanship clinic at Riversong Ranch south of Whitecourt, Alberta at the beginning of April. It was a very successful workshop (read the blog at <http://fallingstarranch.wordpress.com>) and we have been asked by participants and spectators to offer a longer clinic.

Therefore, our next clinic will be a **six-day Comprehensive A-to-Z Clinic from May 31 to June 5**, again at Riversong Ranch.

A unique approach to handling and riding, you will learn how your horse would like to:

- * Be caught
- * Be haltered
- * Be led
- * Be groomed
- * Be bridled
- * Be saddled
- * Be fed
- * Be lunged
- * Be long-lined
- * Be mounted
- * Be ridden
- * Be trailer loaded

All in a way that de-stresses both you and your horse, building confidence, mutual understanding, and a solid foundation for long-lasting results.

This is a once-a-year, one-of-a-kind clinic you don't want to miss!

Kathryn Kincannon Irwin has developed fluency in equine body language and can help you get to the root of any problem or issue your horse may have. She

specializes in round pen and groundwork and will work with you and your horse to give you new insights into improving the strength of your relationship.

Birgit has been riding and training horses as well as coaching riders for more than a quarter century. Whether you ride Western or English, Birgit can show you how to ride in a way that your horse truly enjoys being ridden.

You are welcome to bring your own horse or spend the week getting to know one of the Riversong Ranch horses.

Maximum of 8 participants and horses.

This clinic is already half full, so sign up soon to avoid disappointment.

Participant fee: \$1,000 (includes lunch)

Stabling Fees:

Indoor Stall: \$25/day

Outdoor Paddock: \$25/day

Lease Riversong Horse: \$25/day

Spectators welcome:

Adults – \$25 per person per day

Junior (12-18 yrs) – \$15 per person per day

For more information or to register contact Anne tollfree at (877) 394 6773 or email info@chrisirwin.com.

http://www.chrisirwin.com/events/?event_id=57

www.chrisirwin.com - www.equiana.com

We will offer another two-day horsemanship clinic September 17/18.

FALLING STAR RANCH GOES HIGH TECH

READ THE FALLING STAR RANCH BLOG:

<http://fallingstarranch.wordpress.com/>

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dunster-BC/Falling-Star-Ranch/176137116425>

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

<https://twitter.com/#!/fsranch>

YOU CAN ALSO FIND US ON LINKEDIN

<http://www.linkedin.com>

Falling Star Ranch now offers Mentorship Programs

Falling Star Ranch now offers mentorship programs for those who would like to completely immerse themselves into horsemanship and intensively study the methodology of world-renowned horse trainer, coach and clinician Chris Irwin.

These programs are of various length, from one day to seven months (beginning of April to end of October), and can be tailored to suit your needs. These programs are different from our working student program in that the mentee isn't involved in the day-to-day running of the ranch (e.g. no chores to do). Mentorship programs involve two lessons (groundwork and/or riding) per day and auditing any training sessions and riding lessons for the rest of the day.

Mentees are also welcome to use the Falling Star Ranch video/DVD library for studying purposes. Mentees will be working with both Falling Star Ranch

horses and outside training horses to improve their horsemanship skills both on the ground and in the saddle.

This is a unique program for students not only wanting to improve their horsemanship skills on the ground and in the saddle, but also for those looking to achieve certification in the Chris Irwin methodology. As of January 2011, Chris Irwin only accepts uncertified trainers into his Train-the-Trainer program if they have attended a minimum of two private or semi-private lessons with Chris Irwin, OR have attended two clinic days with Chris Irwin, OR have trained with a Chris Irwin certified double silver or gold trainer AND received a letter recommending the student is ready for evaluation in the Train the Trainer program.

For more information visit
<http://www.fallingstarranch.ca/MentorshipPage.htm>.

Still some spots left in Groundmanners Clinic (April 30/May 1)

This two-day clinic is geared towards horse owners with young horses and those horse owners who would like to learn how to improve their horses' ground manners and build a positive relationship based on mutual trust and respect.

Participants will learn the differences between predator and prey behaviour, learn to understand how horses think and why they react the way they do, get insight into horse psychology and equine body language, and learn how to speak the language of the horse themselves.

Participants will also learn about the different types of horses (passive, passive-aggressive, aggressive) and how to communicate with each type.

You will learn about various groundwork exercises such as in-hand leading, round penning, lungeing, and long-lining.

Depending on the horses and participants, we will also be working with trail obstacles, handling behaviour problems such as biting, spookiness, aggression at feeding times, difficult to catch, difficult to trailer load,

difficult to handle feet, not standing for mounting, not standing for fly spraying, head shyness, difficult to bridle, etc.

- * *Develop a positive relationship with your horse based on mutual trust and respect by understanding how your horse perceives the world.*
- * *Learn how to set boundaries and how to be assertive without being aggressive.*
- * *Learn how to help timid horses become more confident and how to get pushy horses to respect your space.*

This clinic doesn't involve any riding. Participants are encouraged to bring their own horses, however, Falling Star Ranch horses will also be available. Please call or email Birgit for health requirements if you would like to bring your own horse.

Maximum six participants.

\$150 per person per 2-day clinic.

Auditors welcome at \$25 per person per day.

Still some spots available in this clinic!

Introduction to Equine Behaviour Workshop (May 14, 1-4 p.m.)

This half-day workshop focuses on horse psychology and equine body language.

- ❖ **Observe horses in a herd environment**
- ❖ **Discover the wisdom inherent in herd dynamics**
- ❖ **Learn about the differences between predator and prey behaviour**
- ❖ **Learn about herd behaviour and how horses interact**
- ❖ **Learn about equine behaviour and why horses do what they do**
- ❖ **Learn how to speak the language of the horse**

We will start out by observing horses in a herd environment in the field. Participants will learn about herd dynamics and herd behaviour, the differences between predator and prey behaviour, and horse

psychology and equine body language.

We will then spend time in the round pen with a variety of horses and apply and reinforce what we learned in the field.

You will learn how to set boundaries and how to be assertive without being aggressive. You will learn how to help timid horses become more confident and how to get pushy horses to respect your space.

Even if you're already a rider, this workshop will provide you with life-changing horsemanship skills.

This workshop doesn't include any riding. Falling Star Ranch horses will be provided. \$50 per person per half-day workshop (3 hours). No auditors at this workshop.

There are still spots available in this workshop!

Intensive, one-day Round penning Workshop (May 21)

In this intensive, one-day workshop, Birgit will demonstrate how to round pen a horse effectively and safely.

Round pen training leads to incredible breakthroughs with horses and lays the foundation for better communication, trust, respect, confidence and focus. Round penning is also a great tool to overcome various problems and to prepare the horse for work under saddle.

Participants will learn the differences between predator and prey behaviour, learn to understand how horses think and why they react the way they do, get insight into horse psychology and equine body language, and learn how to speak the language of the horse themselves.

Participants will also learn about the different types of horses (passive, passive-aggressive, aggressive) and

how to communicate with each type.

Other complimentary groundwork techniques such as in-hand leading and lungeing may be taught as well.

Become a benevolent leader to your horse, learn to assess the unique qualities of your horse's personality and to address a variety of challenges through proper round penning techniques.

This is an exciting opportunity for those of you who want to have a better relationship with their equine partners.

This workshop doesn't include any riding.

Falling Star Ranch horses will be available for this workshop at no extra cost, but you are welcome and encouraged to bring your

own horse as well. Please call or email Birgit for health requirements if you would like to bring your own horse.

Maximum six participants. \$80 per person per 1-day workshop.

Auditors welcome at \$25 per person per day.

Horsewomanship Week
- for Women by Women
A 6-day Comprehensive A-to-Z Clinic
with gold certified trainers,
Kathryn Kincannon-Irwin and Birgit Stutz
May 31 to June 5
Ravensburg Ranch Equestrian Centre, Peers, AB

A unique approach to handling and riding,
you will learn how your horse would like to:

Be caught	Be groomed	Be fed	Be mounted
Be handled	Be loaded	Be lunged	Be ridden
Be led	Be saddled	Be long-lined	Be trailer loaded

All in a way that addresses both you and your horse, building confidence, mutual understanding, and a solid foundation for long-lasting results.

A once-a-year, one-of-a-kind clinic
you won't want to miss!

Prize money: \$1,000 (including both
owner of horse and rider)
Sponsors welcome - \$25 per person per day

REGISTERED LEADER
BIRGIT STUTZ
EQUINE BEHAVIOUR
CONSULTANT

For more info: (877) 394 6773 or info@birgitstutz.com
www.birgitstutz.com • www.equiansa.com • www.equianews.com

See page 1 for more info on this one-of-a-kind Horsewomanship Week

"The Rescue of Belle and Sundance"



"The Rescue of Belle and Sundance is an inspiring true story of courage and perseverance detailing how the members of a small Canadian town rallied together to save two packhorses deliberately abandoned on a cold, stark mountain in the dead of winter. You'll be inspired to make a difference in the world after reading this book." – *Girl Guides of Canada*

"The Rescue of Belle and Sundance - A Miracle on Mount Renshaw"

(written by Birgit Stutz together with Lawrence Scanlan and published by HarperCollins) is available in McBride at the McBride Trading Co., the Farm Store, the McBride Visitor Info Centre, and Odds 'N' Ends, in Dunster at the Dunster Store, in Valemount at The Gathering Tree and Infinity Office and Health, as well as in Jasper at Bearfoot-in-the-Park. People living outside the Robson Valley can order the book through Chapters or Amazon or inquire at their local bookstore. If you would like a signed copy, please contact Birgit directly.

Upcoming Events with Birgit Stutz

We have a variety of clinics, workshops and camps planned for this year to suit all level and ages of riders as well as newcomers to horses and those returning to the fascinating world of horses.

Events at Falling Star Ranch, Dunster, British Columbia:

April 30/May 1: Ground Manners Clinic

May 14 (1-4 p.m.): Equine Behaviour Workshop

May 21: Round Penning Workshop

July 22-24: Kids Day Camp

July 29 (1-4 p.m.): Vaulting Clinic

August 5-7: Kids Day Camp

August 27-28: Horsemanship Clinic for Kids

August 29 to Sept. 9: Horsemanship Camp for Adults

For more information on any of the above events or if you would like to host a clinic or workshop with Birgit (incentives for host!) please call Birgit at 250-968-6801 or send an email. Visit our website at www.fallingstarranch.ca.

Events with Birgit at Riversong Ranch, Whitecourt, Alberta:

May 31 to June 5: Horsemanship Week - For Women By Women with 2 certified Chris Irwin trainers, Birgit Stutz and Kathryn Kincannon-Irwin. Contact Anne at (877) 394 6773 for more information or to register. http://www.chris-irwin.com/events/?event_id=57

September 17/18: Women's Workshops: Horsemanship For Women By Women with 2 certified Chris Irwin trainers, Birgit Stutz and Kathryn Kincannon-Irwin. Contact Anne at (877) 6773 for more information or to register. http://www.chris-irwin.com/events/?event_id=58

Horsemanship Clinics for Jasper, Alberta, are currently in the works. The first one is tentatively scheduled for June 25/26. Stay tuned for more info!

Falling Star Ranch also offers Horse/Owner Training Days/Half Days, individual and group lessons, as well as workshops, short courses and demos on a variety of topics.

* Spots for training horses are available starting in June.

* Now accepting new students for riding lessons.

For more information please call Birgit at 250-968-6801 or send an email. Visit our website at www.fallingstarranch.ca.

You can now read **PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF FALLING STAR RANCH NEWSLETTERS** on our website at

<http://www.fallingstarranch.ca/NewsletterPage.htm>.

READ THE FALLING STAR RANCH BLOG AT <http://fallingstarranch.wordpress.com/>

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