

Terry Church Clinic August 2008 in Woodinville, WA

Saturday

- *When the horse yields to pressure, you want them to release somewhere, not just a mechanical yield
- *Back up with nose down, pressure with flat of hand on horse's forehead
 - connect: pressure on nose → back up = horse has to connect yield through body
- *nervousness needs **time** to know how to become comfortable wherever they are
- *coming in and out of nervousness → itchy
- *contact: 3 choices
 1. back off
 2. rush through it
 3. yield to the pressure
- *emphasize your trot seat (post, etc.) to have a clearer intention (ie. not canter)
- *read your intention, not the cue
- *leading out in front: distracted, nervous
 - stop when you stop, read intention to back up if not
 - no micromanagement
 - more room for mistakes
 - they make the decision to respond, and it 'sticks' better
- * yield to pressure in different parts of body (shoulder away, hq away...)
 - shoulder away can... get them out of your space, supple them/stretch ribcage, relaxing through yield, bend, weight shift
- *GET to the release

Sunday

- *contact= relationship between FWD power and softening in front
- *FWD energy- not backed off
- *mouth: licking, etc. good. Gaping bad.
- *suspension created with + collection = MORE energy so it goes UP more
- *When you up your standard, there's a whole process the goes on with you
- *Head up= drive forward to soften into the contact
- *contact offered, horse can: go fwd into it and yield, back off, or run through it
- *back → front ENERGY!!
- *fwd can make it easier or more difficult initially for them to learn how to yield
- *Keep the FWD, back up your leg and get it over with, don't nag
- *rock hindfeet right up into the mouth
- *Soften off both reins: FWD works

My Ride:

- *Suppler: circles, serpentines, figure 8s, turn on the forehand
- *stretching (topline)
- *bending (side muscles)
- *soften off both reins, give, then WAIT before taking it back
- *let her run into it to find parameters
- *KEEP THE FWD!!

- *leg yield= open outside rein, close it if she falls out, release inside as she moves away
- *release with head down, don't worry about musculature yet
- *pressure on reins comes from abdominal muscles
- *Steady "fencepost" as she is searching, not steady *relative* to her searching
- *Difference between this and last time= TIMING, she can stay there longer now, there's less nose up right after the release.
- Ground-
- *don't just circle and circle and circle
- *lead, then run, then run sideways, face her to help with feel so I can see her ears
- *Get BIG for a response, then work on shoulder away

Freelunge- get her to where she can walk calmly 3-4 times around the arena

Monday

My Ride:

- *Straight through BOTH reins, ask her to soften off of the outside too
- Ground-
- *no mindless circles
- *on flexions, use MICRO movements. If she move back or swings her butt, use it for feedback... was it too big?
- *Let her go back to happy place on flexion, when she hits a 'wall'/'barrier', work TO the barrier
- *Hind-leg stretches- pressure with lead-rope, stretch 1. straight forward 2. cross under until it's stretching towards right in front of the other hind leg

Leading Exercise...

- *do it with 5 different horses someday
- *neutral when ear come forward
- *Mix it up and surprise her (sideways, circle, stop and back her up to have her stop out on end of line)
- *even act like I'm *about* to run