



ASK MONTY

April 17, 2013

Greetings!

Upon returning from Germany, he will do a special demo at Flag Is Up Farms on May 18. Learn more about this incredible opportunity to participate in an inspirational event with Monty and his family in California: <http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/May18Web.pdf>



CONNECT ❧ AMAZE ❧ REVITALIZE

Join us for a night of fun, food, and great conversation at Flag Is Up Farms

a NIGHT of INSPIRATION at Flag Is Up Farms



Saturday
May 18
5 to 10 p.m.

LIMITED SEATS ❧ GROUPS & INDIVIDUALS WELCOME
RESERVATIONS (805) 688-6288 ❧ \$199 PER PERSON

Your group will be welcomed to beautiful Flag Is Up Farms to watch a Join-Up experience. Witness firsthand the powerful relationship of trust and communication between a horse and a human.

Afterwards, enjoy a barbecue dinner with author Monty Roberts and artist Pat Roberts in their hilltop home. At dinner, great conversations will emerge about the importance of trust, achieving your vision, and living strong at any age. This unforgettable experience will transform your group and allow them to connect to a living legend.



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Winning Prize: Ride With Monty

Here is an exceptional opportunity for those of you in the USA! By becoming a member of ACTHA you have a chance to **win an all-expense paid trip, airfare included, to Monty's farm** and the opportunity to saddle up with Monty. Winners will be whisked away to California and will be treated to an equine experience they will never forget! Register with ACTHA to enter this incredible prize drawing: www.actha.us/register



Download the flyer here:
<http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/saddle-up->

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Question:

Is there significance to defecation when training horses in an enclosed area, ie. Is it nerviness or release?

Monty's Answer [Part 3 of 3]:

As horses evolved, evidence suggests that the faster ones lived to reproduce while the slower ones were generally harvested before reproducing slow horses. While it's true that we have been interrupting Mother Nature for 6000 years, earlier patterns are still in place. It seems that this particular phenomenon was well established for millions of years before we began to genetically manipulate Equus for our own desires. I am pleased to have the

opportunity to complete this exercise. I should have written about this characteristic many years ago.

It is interesting to note that I have paid close attention to the frequency of defecation as I bring horses to the round pen for their first saddle and rider. Regardless of their mental appearance, **if they defecate with unusual frequency I tend to regard them as hyper nervous individuals.** This alters slightly my approach. **I will require less and push less hard on those that repeatedly defecate.** I have found this to be an effective way to deal with these individuals.

Certain individuals extremely sensitive to the perceived rights of animals in general may well take the position that if its stressful we shouldn't be doing any of these things with horses in the first place. That is certainly a separate issue but I feel strongly that that would be a major mistake. **Stress is a part of every biological entity and properly attended to can provide a strength instead of a weakness.** The flight animal inherently is looking for a friend.

The horse is a herd animal. **They do much better physiologically if they can exist in a tranquil environment with trusted individuals as life partners.** Trust is the definitive word and it is with that goal in mind that I discovered and quantified Join-Up in the first place. **In order to bring about a trusting partnership a certain level of stress must be experienced in order to justify an outcome of trust.** We must realize that horses are extremely flighty animals and in order to bring them to a level of trust with the human they must pass through portals on their journey that can be stressful to a degree.

With my concepts in place I state categorically that **there is no need for pain or violence to be any part of that process.** If only I could convince the world to eliminate violence it would answer many of the difficult questions we are facing with what we consider to be remedial horses when in actual fact they are only doing what Mother Nature dictates. To eliminate all stress would abolish man's interaction with horses and that would surely spell the demise of Equus the specie.

[Review the previous parts of this post here: <http://www.montyroberts.com/monty-blog/why-do-some-horses-defecate-at-the-start-of-a-training-session/>]

 Forward to a Friend

[with-Monty.pdf](#)

 Forward to a Friend

Monty's Principles

Respectful Boundaries ...with People!

Dear Monty,
I received your latest e-mail with the question of a 46 year old woman who is worried that she is too old to ride.

I am 70 years old and until 4 years ago was never on horseback or had any relationships with horses. When I retired I started to volunteer at a local horse rescue, just cleaning paddocks and helping feed the horses. Soon **I became completely fascinated with these amazing animals** and leased one of their horses.

He was a very dependable older boy and soon we would ride across fields, just the two of us. This inspired me to get my own horse and **I rescued a 12 year old gelding who came from a kill lot.** We knew nothing about him, but he had kind eyes. When I first saw him, he stood in a corner with his head to the wall and wouldn't even look at me, but when I started to leave his stall, he followed me to the door and looked straight at me. **I would say he chose me.** I read everything I could about horsemanship and nutrition and [joined your online university.](#) We are now a trusting team and Cooper is taking me on any trails I choose.

In the meantime I adopted a buddy for Cooper, he is a 26 year old Paso Fino, but a real spitfire. My husband who also never had any experience with horses is riding him regularly and the two of them keep up with anybody.

Blanco had colic surgery 3 months ago, **he was the oldest horse the vet ever operated on.** Needless to say, he pulled through and is ready to go again as soon as the weather permits (we are in the New York area and had a lot of snow this winter).

I am intending to ride as long as I can get on a horse, it is the most rewarding activity one can do at any age.

Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us who want to learn as much as possible.

THIS WEEK IN MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNI



Be generous with praise and congratulate your foal for his cooperation and focus! You'll enjoy the positive message of the video lesson published this week on [Equus Online University.](#)

Current students log in here: www.montyrobertsuniversity.com

Best Regards,
Dorothe

Not a student yet? Click on: <http://montyrobertsuniversity.com/sessions/new>

Mindful Dressage with Monty Roberts and Steffen Peters, Olympic Medalist, premieres next week on Wednesday, April 24.

Join-Up Now!

Or go to www.montyrobertsuniversity.com/about-the-uni

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS MONTY?



May 3, 2013: [Tour Date in Germany](#), Neustadt/Dosse

May 18, 2013: **A Night of Inspiration with Monty** at Flag Is Up Farms in Solvang California. Open to the public with limited space. More info at http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/night-of-inspiration/. Contact admin@montyroberts.com or +1 805 688 6288 between 9 am and 5 pm Pacific Standard Time. Download the flyer here: [http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-](http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/May18Web.pdf)

[content/uploads/2013/04/May18Web.pdf](http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/May18Web.pdf)

August 5-9, 2013: **Monty's Special Training**. Read clinic description at <http://www.join-up.org/education/>. Contact info@join-up.org or call 805-688-3483.

Coming Soon: New Summer Dates to See Monty!

Inspired Retreats with Monty! Write to askmonty@montyroberts.com

[Click here](#) to read more:

http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/inspired-retreats-professional-development-training/

For information about Monty's worldwide demos and the courses held at Monty's farm in California go to:

http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/see-monty/

MONTY'S CHALLENGE

My name is Alba Payo, I have worked 25 years as a clerk in a construction company. I'm from Rodeiro, belonging to the province of Pontevedra (Galicia) in northern Spain and have always had an interest in horses and their environment.

In these months, I've read most of your books "[The Man Who Listens to Horses](#)", "[The Horses in My Life](#)" and now I'm reading your textbook, "[From My Hands to Yours](#)", to see if I can implement my horse interactions with some of the knowledge gained through your explanations and descriptions. I have also visited many times your website to see videos and lectures.

My horse, Ray J, is a four year old, a neutered male, very noble. In my house there was always a horse and I have always had interest in understanding and give each day the best for this animal, who is so wonderful. I'm an only child, I have no brothers and my **horses were the brothers I never had**, I spent with them many unforgettable moments in equestrian trails.

Yet, sometimes, **I have the feeling of not understanding my horse nor he being able to understand me**, but I strive to give the best, a good bed, good feed, clean hooves, and brushing, I think not all enough to enjoy and be happy with me, because I might need more confidence between them.

I have tried Join-Up, I think it worked in part, but not a hundred percent, in fact, he managed to follow me but did not deliver any signals that you describe in your books. Maybe I should get more time to practice Join-Up until my horse and me we achieve a

BE A LEADER

"Leadership is critically important in the family structure. Each individual has his own purpose and place."

~ Monty Roberts

Please share your thoughts on leadership by emailing us: askmonty@montyroberts.com

Monty on HRTV



Watch Monty on HRTV Tuesdays at 6:00 PM ET.

Special Offer for Monty Roberts' Fans! **First month FREE** of HRTV.com when you subscribe now! Just use the **promo code MR13** when you sign up!

HRTV

Please check local TV directories for your time and channel or the HRTV website where times are in Eastern Standard Time:

<http://www.hrtv.com/MontyRobertsShow/>

Horse & Country in the UK



Watch Monty Roberts on Horse & Country TV (Sky channel 280) in the UK and Ireland. See:

<http://www.horseandcountry.tv/monty>

for more info.

Photo Credits

Christopher Dydyk

perfect union, and see if there is the basis for success.

I wonder how I can solve several problems I have with my horse, for example:

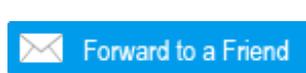
- 1 - How to ask to trot faster and with consistent goodwill
- 2 - How to avoid unexpectedly turning toward "back home" when we are on a trail
- 3 - How to stop or slow down without touching a rein
- 4 - How to get past something scary, like the wash racks which is a safe place where nobody has ever been hurt

Waiting for your news, please accept a warm greeting from Galicia.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Let us know what you are looking for in content from these emails. Send your comments and requests to askmonty@montyroberts.com.

Never miss an e-mail from Monty: To ensure you receive this email in the future, add askmonty@montyroberts.com to your list of approved senders or select the Add/Save to Address Book function in your email browser and follow the appropriate instructions.



Sincerely,

Monty Roberts

