



Wednesday December 6, 2017

Greetings! ,

Question

Hi! My name is Megan Winckler. I teach at Bon Homme Hutterische Colony in South Dakota. One of my seventh grade students is reading about and writing a research paper on Monty Roberts and his accomplishments. He was hoping you could answer a few questions for him:

Is Shy Boy still around?

How many foster children did you have?

How much do you get paid for training a horse?

Have you changed anything on your ranch since the book [The Man Who Listens to Horses](#)?

Do you think more people are choosing to train horses the way you do or still the way your father did?

Answer

Dear Megan,

Thank you for your questions. I would be pleased to answer them.

1. Shy Boy is now 24 years old, he is healthy and being ridden occasionally, and seems to be full of life!
2. We raised 47 foster children and they are now widely scattered over the world. Most have had very positive life careers.
3. Over the years I have had many fee schedules which came to me as a professional

trainer. In recent times about 70% of the work I do is a part of my non-profit foundation which is global.

4. There have been some limited changes in the 52 years of Flag Is Up Farms. One addition since the book has been the creation of an international quarantine station, mostly used for horses that are traveling to Australia and New Zealand. Apart from that, the changes are simply the various horses that come and go.

5. Unfortunately there are still many horses trained in the old traditional way. Almost all of them receive some sort of violence in the training. If I have made a difference it would be around 20-30% of the horses in the world. Statisticians state that once you pass the 20% you have reached critical mass. This means that the work in question will probably continue after it's founded.

Sincerely,



MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



In this online video series, Monty works with Diego, a wild mustang. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free, fun methods.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- USA** December 15 to 17: Horse Sense and Healing clinic for registered Veterans and First Responders
- USA** January 6, 2018: [Master Series Demonstrations](#) including Monty Roberts and Boyd Martin at Galway Downs, Temecula, California
- USA** April 21 to 22, 2018: West Coast Dressage Convention, Los Angeles, California, featuring Edward Gal, Hans Peter Minderhoud, and Monty Roberts. Tickets from: www.shproductions.ca
- USA** May 23 to 24, 2018: Moment of Join-Up Symposium and Festival (details to come)
- USA** July 23 to August 3, 2018: [Gentling Wild Horses course](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California
- USA** August 6 to 10, 2018: [Monty's Special Training](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California



[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER

February 19 to 22, 2018

[Join-Up Course](#)

February 23 to 24, 2018

[Long Lining Course](#)

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE, CHECK OUT OUR 2018 COURSES!](#)



ONLINE PRODUCTS: THE GIFT OF GENTLE HORSEMANSHIP

"My sister and husband have given me [a year subscription to the University](#) and I already, after watching the lessons on [leading](#), well, I was blown away and I am amazed and grateful to have this visual library of knowledge at my finger tips!!!! Monty was my first intro to non-violent horse training and I am happy to return to his guidance after years of bits and pieces of a lot of different and sometimes differing ideas!"

God Love you!

Paula Corso

[VISIT MONTY'S ONLINE STORE](#)



HOLIDAY SHIPPING IMPORTANT DATES

International (outside USA)

USPS 1st Class (varies by destination): Thursday, December 7

USPS Priority Mail: Friday, December 8

Australia

Fedex International Economy: Friday, December 15

Fedex International Priority:

Monday, December 18

Brazil

Fedex International Economy:

Friday, December 14

Fedex International Priority:

Friday, December 15

Germany

Fedex International Economy:

Monday, December 18

Fedex International Priority:

Tuesday, December 19

United Kingdom

Fedex International Economy:

Monday, December 18

Fedex International Priority:

Tuesday, December 19



Domestic (USA)

Standard Shipping:

Friday, December 15

Priority Mail:

Tuesday, December 19

UPS:

Friday, December 15

FedEx 2 Day:

Tuesday, December 19

FedEx Express Saver:

Monday, December 18

FedEx Ground:

Tuesday, December 12

[VISIT MONTY'S ONLINE STORE](#)

**MONTY'S PRINCIPLES
HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE**



Dear Monty,

I would like to let you know how happy I am to be able in a few words to tell Monty how pleased I am to have learned about Join-Up!

As a young boy I had a great love for horses and dreamed for years of being able to communicate with them. Despite being a regular, weekly rider I never made a strong rider, most of my first 30 years or so were spent in falling off, so you know!

In 1997 at 50 years of age I had a horse share with a nursing student. After putting the Cob away, I was walking out to the car, when I heard a shout from behind and turned to see another girls horse, a pure Arab coming straight at me. I stopped and on instinct held both arms outstretched, facing him, he stopped, wheeled around and went back into the farm. Two days later, when I went back again, going past a horse box, and closing the gate behind me, I had no idea that the Arab was loose again. I now walked around past the barn, and leaned over the gate to call the Cob to me. What a shock I got, before I knew what was happening, the Arab came around from behind the barn, behind me, and very gently touched my shoulder with his muzzle! He stayed there.

I got the whole emotion of "Join-Up", I could scarcely stand or breath!

I'm sure you will see, unknown to me at that time, I had driven him away, and two days later, had walked a curving path past him, and then went passive, leaning on the gate. A year later, I bought your book, "The Man who listens to Horses", then I finally understood why the Arab had behaved as he did.

You would never find me among the Nay-sayers!

With great pleasure, I've bought six copies of your first book, and given them to friends. I have also bought several others of your books, the "Join-Up" Video and saw Monty in person do a demo at the RDS in Dublin about three years ago, and yes, I did video the demo.

Over the years since, I have repeatedly used elements from the Join-Up process in handling horses and even steers, bullocks we call em!

The results varied from amazing to just plain hilarious, but that's what you get when your learning a foreign language, and get it wrong!

Thanks again! M. Carter

MONTY'S CHALLENGE

Test yourself each week as I challenge you to answer the question below. I mean this. Sit down and write an answer. Don't wait for my answer next week. If you have been reading my Weekly Questions and Answers for the last six months, you should be in a position to do this. Send your answer to my team at: askmonty@montyroberts.com

Why should you bother? Because it will help you focus. There is probably a comparable question in your life that needs answering... or will be. If you can gain insight into how to go about answering a practical question that is loosely related to your problem, this exercise will help you answer your nagging question. Then read my answer. I want all of my students to learn to be better trainers than me. That's good for you and good for horses!

~ Monty

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION

Dear Monty,

We have been some years ago to your special training, Join-Up and long lining courses, read your books which fundamentally changed our way of seeing horses as the species they are, not like a dog that can attach and feel devoted to a specific owner, but more that it is important as a human to behave consistent and non violent with a language that the horse understands. Like you say, to be a good leader, and earn trust.

We also discussed in your special training if a horse can love a specific human being, and you said no. But a recent experience with one of our ponies that we have owned for ten years has made me maybe wonder. This pony is a 130 cm mare, today 20 years old, tinker type, top showjumping pony her size and high in rang. She has and Always had a crave for integrity both with humans and with other horses. You cant just rush into her box and grab her. She is not afraid of anything but she just doesn't accept humans behaving plumply or like bad leaders. If you hit her she would never forgive you I am sure. The farrier still after all these years sometimes have to take help from one of our young children to lift her back feet so he can shoe her.

She has taken all our seven riding children up the classes all the way to championships and one of them is now top three showjumping in ponies in Europe. We have a lot to thank this mare for, that is now 20 years old but still going strong as ever. One year ago this pony was taken over by our five year old son, and it is just amazing to see how she behaves with him. She is licking her mouth when he comes. Letting him do anything with her. Bending her head down to the ground so he can put the head collar on, following him without lead wherever he goes. And standing still waiting when he climes up on his Little stool, her standing loose outside the stable, no adult at hand, waiting for him to crawl and

kick himself up on her back. If I or our adult rider or me takes her out she would not wait and if we let her loose she would certainly walk away to the grass or even run away from us.

Sometimes if we don't close the box properly she can run almost over us and squeeze us in the door to get out to the hay, but would she do something like that if he stands in the door, never!

When he rides, without leader, now also aged five competing in showjumping up to height 65 cm, she is so careful not to loose him so you can see she almost looks up on him sitting on her back. It looks really special. Now when he is getting better riding, she canters quicker, but always careful to not frighten him. A few months ago when he learned to trot, he would tell her to go quicker with his short legs and with his voice but was she doing that. No, she was just taking a few trot steps, Always slowing down immediately before he lost balance. I should also say that from the very start he was riding without a leader or a rope so it has been entirely up to her to decide how to teach him riding. If one of us adults would sit on he back and asked her to move on, we would have to ride very fast indeed, because this is a very energetic pony, almost hot. Also when you turn towards the stable, she would normally want to trot with an adult and pull, but with him she keeps a steady pace and he can sing and relax, not even needing to hold the reins. He loves her, on that we have no doubt. But it would be tempting to say that she seems to have very special feelings and a strong bond to him also. What do you say Monty, can't there be a Little love from her towards him after all?

Hälsningar

Anna Hammarström, Sweden

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Award-winning documentary filmmaker Stefan Morel gives us the stories behind his movies *Blind Spot* and *Herd*. Erin Crady directs TCA raising money for Thoroughbred retirement, retraining and rehoming, and therapeutic riding programs. Erin introduces Bev

[EPISODE 101 | LISTEN HERE](#)



FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

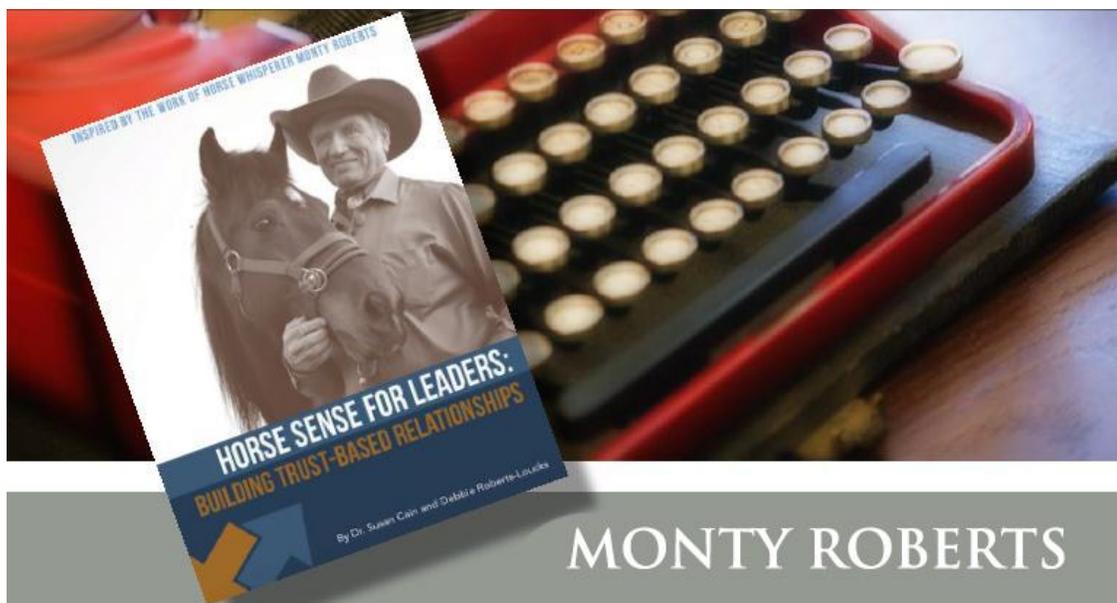


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. Join-Up offers everyone an effective tool to rediscover themselves through the eyes of the horse. This self-awareness exercise deals effectively with emotional trauma, anti-social behavior and withdrawal, anger, stress, combat stress and even Post Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI). [READ MORE](#)



To find out about Monty's upcoming Horse Sense and Healing workshops and for more information, go to: <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>

HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



Buying Monty's book, [Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships](#), is another great way to support Monty in his efforts. We have a [Paperback Version](#) and a [Color Version](#).

Paperback \$9.99 <http://amzn.to/1jqmgBc>

Color Version \$19.99 <http://amzn.to/1h31Psj>

"Are leaders born or made? Follow the life of New York Times Best Selling Author and Horse Whisperer, Monty Roberts in the book Horse Sense for Leaders. Discover how Monty's life events shape his leadership style. Then, take our Trust Based Leadership Assessment to find out your own leadership style, and how to capitalize on your own unique leadership style."

~ Dr. Susan Cain, Corporate Learning Institute



REDUCING VIOLENCE THROUGH WORKSHOPS WITH HORSES GLOBALLY

Lead-Up is a program of Join-Up International based on workshops with horses in which youth at risk are introduced to calm and humane ways of interacting with horses. Participants discover non-violence for themselves and develop a new sense of peaceful leadership. [READ MORE](#)



FIND A MONTY ROBERTS CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

Find [a Monty Roberts Certified Instructor](http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/) near you. All courses offered by certified instructors give students effective tools to communicate using the horse's own natural language, forming a partnership based on trust and communication rather than dominance. Visit the certified instructor web page here:

<http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/>



LEAVE A LEGACY

Planned gifts to Join-Up International's non-profit organization, such as a bequest in your will or trust, help to secure the future of non-violent concepts. To learn more, go to:

<http://www.join-up.org/how-to-help/> or to donate in support to Join-Up International, go to:
<https://montyroberts.com/collections/courses/products/donate-join-up-international>



[Join-Up International](#) | AskMonty@montyroberts.com | MontyRoberts.com

 Forward to a Friend

