



In the News

<http://www.silvercreekarena.com>

The January 14th, 2006 Clinic with **Tom McBeath** was a complete success, undeniably accomplishing our goal to present to Mr. McBeath **our Silver Creek program of educational clinics, instruction in what I have coined as 'Universal Horse Handling' and, of course, the 'proof'...a large turnout of students, that 'rode' up to the level of his expectations. He was impressed, and I was 'oh so' proud!**

Why did I feel it was important to 'showcase' our program to Tom McBeath? Mr. **Tom is unquestionably Mississippi's and even the southeast regions' most accomplished and recognized youth/amateur coach and mentor.** Having been a great showman and horse trainer in his earlier years, with world championships too many to list...and being involved in teaching and coaching youth/amateurs thru out his career, **Tom is currently the most trusted 'voice' of many state equine organizations,** the MS AQHA, the MS State Extension 4-H program (and again too many to list)...all focusing on the educational process...the proper educational process...and he knows what is proper! **To have Tom McBeath's 'seal of approval' is a tremendous honor and paramount for our success as a 'teaching' facility.**

The educational process is always a two way street...a teacher has to teach and a student has to learn. Our Silver Creek students' performances in the clinic were the greatest of compliments to both. Our program has produced riders with the good basic skills needed and so appreciated by other professionals 'looking' at us. Mr. McBeath acknowledged our efforts, smiled at our success and will be working with us in the future to help us maintain, and, work toward the next levels. What a great feeling to have that kind of recognition from one of the 'masters'.

What was **the most profound statement I want everyone to remember?** Direct from Tom McBeath, **"Slow down, to speed up, slow down"**...what does that mean? Simply this, take the time to continue to perfect the basic maneuvers, one step at a time, don't over do, give your horse and yourself time to learn and get into the correct position...settle and guide your horse...don't rush, push or pull...your horse will do anything you ask him, if he clearly understands your signals and you don't overwhelm him by asking for too much speed that gets you and your horse out of position...

And for me, I was already 'pleased as punch' and swelled with pride watching our students perform for someone else, doing it right, the ultimate compliment came from a young student that said simply..."*he worked us on the same stuff you do*"...:>)

Pictures are forthcoming...lots of them from several cameras...again we need more hours in the day...I will send an email out to alert everyone when they are posted. **Meanwhile watch your email for additional dates on clinics and events at Silver Creek. Visit the website frequently for 'In the News' updates.**

Two more January Clinics to note...Sat. Jan 21st, **Dressage for Everyone,** and Sat. Jan 28th, **Family Day, for Parents and Families of Riders**...watch for the fliers...please register in advance as if the classes are too large, we will need to split into 2 sessions.

Missy Theobald
Director of Education