

Marie Hoffman

My love of horses started at a very young age. As a 2 year old, I would sneak out of the house and sleep with my 6 month old new pony, much to my mother's terror! My pony had to be moved away so I would stay in my bed.

I started training horses with my parents help at a young age. With my mother in control of the horse, I was the first to ride our young horses. My family had many different breeds of horses and ponies. We rode and drove them, showed, trail rode, and rode in many parades. Spending every moment in any way I could with horses was, and still is, the JOY of my life!

About 25 yrs ago after I experienced several bad situations and accidents, I knew the horse was telling me that he was not OK with the training progression I was doing. I came to realize I could not read his thought process through his body language clearly enough. I NEEDED to learn more.

That started my goal to learn as much about their body language and thought process as I could. I learned (I always am learning) from as many different experts as I could. I started to develop my method through countless hours of observation and experimentation with LOTS of different horses. Patterns started to emerge.

These patterns and this discovery changed how I trained horses forever.

Anticipating and explaining what a horse was going to do, teaching the owners their horse's body language and why their horse was acting that way, created understanding that in turn created patience for the owner. In addition, this allowed us to create a plan to train the horse at the RATE of the HORSE'S understanding, not at the owner's or trainer's expectations.

I am TRULY blessed to be able to work with horses and help them and their owners be friends and great partners!

I consider my most important accomplishment the retraining I did of many horses where I was their last hope (as they were labeled "hopeless"). These horses are now great mounts for their amateur owners.

My background and professional experience working with horses has included a wide variety of things including:

- Professional horse trainer and riding instructor of over 40 yrs
- Co-Owner and manager with husband Gary of On Eagles Wings Equine Center LLC for over 25 yrs
- Instructor of beginner and advanced riding courses for Northern IL University, Dekalb IL for over 15 yrs
- Contracted to teach equine short courses for Highland Community College
- Developed Equine emphasis program and instructed Equine courses for Kishwaukee College Malta IL. Classes included but not limited to form to function conformation, breeding and foal management, Farm Management, Training methods plus others
- Contracted as Equine expert consultant, redevelop their horse program and retrain school horses for Danada Equestrian Center in Dupage County IL.
- Up to date and Trained to Practitioner Level 2 in Linda Tellington Jones Equine Awareness Method (TTEAM) and teach clinics. Qualified to assist senior practitioners at their clinics.
- American horse publications Second in Nation with instructional article that was published in AQHA Journal March 2011

- Horse Humane society officer for over 20 yrs
- Successfully showing horses in many disciplines

## National Honors

- 7<sup>th</sup> place in USEF at 1<sup>st</sup> Level Dressage against all breeds with Stallion Indian Artbeat
- 1<sup>st</sup> place training level dressage National Standings AQHA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 1<sup>st</sup> level Dressage National standings AQHA
- Earning AQHA “Superior” in Dressage with Indian Artbeat
- 1<sup>st</sup> place Pre Novice Horse Trial
- Grand Champion Halter Pinto Nationals
- Circuit Champion Green Working Hunter
- USDF Rider Performance Award 2011 Training Level
- USDF Rider Performance Award 2011 First Level
- USDF Certificate of Rider Achievement riding Indian Artbeat in ( open) Training Level
- Plus many wins and successful shows with Class A Arabians, Pinto, Paint, Morgans, and Quarter Horses

Saddleseat, Halter horses, Western Pleasure, Reining, Barrel Racing and other Gymkhana racing, Hunter Under Saddle, English Pleasure, Showmanship, Hunters over fences, Jumping ,Eventing, Pleasure Driving, Harness race training , and Driving Standardbred race ( training only).

- Successfully coaching IEA (Interscholastic Equestrian Association) Riding teams. (grades 6 to 12<sup>th</sup>) Qualifying half of 16 team riders, in only the second year of the team, to go to the regional competition. Most of the team had little to no show experience.
- Horse trimmer/shoer
- Past Horse Show Judge (open show card)