

Equine Journal, December 2001
TOURBILLON TRAILER SALES OPEN HOUSE
(with Guest clinician Sheila Ryan)
Gloucester, Rhode Island, October 7, 2001
By Catherine Girare, Journal Correspondent

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Jay and Jeanne Forge, owners of Tourbillon Trailer Sales, and their staff hosted their second annual open house on Sunday, October 7th at their Gloucester, Rhode Island location. The day's diverse schedule of clinics drew attendees from the tri-state area and New Jersey. Good food and company fittingly rounded out the day.

Guest clinician Sheila Ryan is an animal communicator. A hands-on holistic and spiritual healer, she spent many years working with people before shifting her career towards animal therapy. Workshops with Monty Roberts, John Lyons, GaWaNi Pony Boy, Linda Tellington-Jones, and Pat Parelli, along with additional courses in equine anatomy, nutrition, and behavior supplemented her education in Chinese therapies, herbology, and Bach flower essences. The purchase of her Arabian horse, Mijoy, gave her the space to work on some of these therapies, and within a few years, she incorporated an equine specialization into her practice.

One of her two clinics featured a 15-year-old Mustang mare, Sally, owned by Stephanie Jones of Pascoag, Rhode Island. Sally seemed to have few if any problems. An acupuncture exam, which checks the Page 106, Equine Journal, December 20 meridians and the major organs connected to them, revealed some soreness in the saddle area and along her right side as well as an imbalance along the hip line.

Chakra readings revealed that the energy pathways were well opened, and the aura reading confirmed the results of the acupuncture exam. Since the problems were minor, no Bach flower essences were prescribed. The question and answer session turned out to be a lot of fun and allowed Stephanie to get to know her mare better. After appealing to a higher spiritual being, Sheila listened to Stephanie's questions for Sally and then posed them to the mare. Questions ran from general management issues to more emotionally sensitive issues dealing with the

horse/owner relationship. The surprises Stephanie received were minor compared to the shock everyone else got when it was revealed that she had owned Sally for just one month. With the strong bond that was easily observed between them, one would have thought they had been together for years.

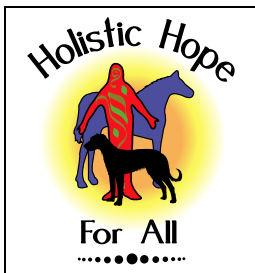
Ms. Ryan has a broad-based clientele, with applications for her work ranging from fulfilling owner curiosity to troubleshooting for veterinary work, as well as performing pre-purchase exams to determine the fit between the horse and the buyer.

Tourbillon's business is trailers and their first concern is for safety. To increase awareness of what's involved, Joe Quintorno and mechanic Frank Welch led two classes through the nuts and bolts issues of keeping a trailer safe, both on their end and on ours.

"One thing you can do for yourself is to have a good emergency kit on board. This can be put together for about \$100," says Frank, who is actively involved in search and rescue, "and includes a flasher, a 4-5 pound fire extinguisher that's kept checked for charge, a rubber chalk block, your trailer aid or jack, three triangles to put out at distances of 500, 300 and 100 feet from the breakdown, and water." (And, the author would add, a cell phone.)

"If you break down," adds Joe, "get off the highway any way you can. Don't do work in the emergency lane."

Using Joe's bumper-pull Hawk trailer, they went through the correct procedures for changing a tire and for completely hitching and unhitching the trailer to the towing vehicle. Techniques for this were also covered for a gooseneck trailer.



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An extensive review of what takes place when you send your trailer in for its annual or bi-annual servicing was discussed in the workshop, using a large gooseneck as a model. With its tires removed, worn parts were compared to new replacements and, and the electric brake system received a thorough review, along with the brake boxes that govern it. The advantages of the digital control box were emphasized, particularly regarding its ability to troubleshoot the electrical system and manually control the trailer in bad conditions. A caution was issued that consistent settings over or below the #2-3 zone could be indicative of problems in the system, signaling that it's time to get in for a checkup. To facilitate this, Tourbillon's mechanics have developed their own custom electrical diagnostic center, giving them the ability to accurately test both the trailer and the vehicle's electrical systems to pinpoint and solve any discrepancies.

For more information on HorseSense Communication, call Sheila Ryan at 401-225-1955 or e-mail sheila@horsecommunications.com.

For more information on trailers, contact Tourbillon Trailer Sales at 401-934-2221 or visit their website at www.tourbillontrailers.com.