



## ◀ PARELLI NEWS BY VIFARGENT ▶

---

January 2008

### In this newsletter

- **2008 Clinic Calendar**
- **Dressage Naturally with Karen Rohlf**
- **Level 1 assessment – are you ready?**
- **Changes to the handling of Level Awards for non members**
- **Pat and Linda on tour in West Springfield**
- **Equipment purchases – January special**
- **Looking for stories and photos from Quebec for Parelli E-News**
- **Did you know...**

Hi everyone!

How is your winter going? In this area, the snow and bitter cold got here as usual, but I am still managing to play with my horses. I love the bareback pad which keeps my butt warm and allows me to ride with my big snowmobile boots! My main activity this winter: I trail ride with my three mares, all at once! I ride one, pony the second one on line, and Jolie, my retired 20 year old Level 3 horse, leads the herd at liberty. Since she is the oldest and least fit, she gets to pick the pace. When she tires, we stop for a break. Sometimes she leads us at a trot. When she is not sure which way to go, she stops and waits for me to let her know. What a joy! Thanks to Parelli, my horses are calm, thinking instead of panicking, holding their responsibilities and wanting to stay with their human! Don't try this unless you have very connected and advanced horses, and are an expert at handling several ropes at once! If you are not quite ready for this type of ride, just know that with a dream, desire, lots of time, perseverance and work, anyone can eventually do this. *There is nothing you can't do when the horse becomes a part of you.*

## 2008 Clinic Calendar

You would like to start learning Parelli, or you need a boost of savvy to advance with your horse? Clinics are a great way to learn as part of a group of riders that share your passion. Come and join us for 2 or 4 days during which we will speak *Horse!* Groups are limited to 6 riders. Auditors are welcome. Reserve your spot now!

- In St-Lazare, **Level 1 Beginning Clinic 22-23 May** and **Level 1 Advanced 24-25 May**, at Rappenhof farm. The clinic will be taught by **Geneviève Benoit, Licensed Parelli 2-Star Instructor**. Auditors are admitted for a modest fee. Come and meet us at one of the most beautiful Warmblood breeding facility in Quebec, in the heart of Montreal's equestrian community. To register and for more information contact Kari Bowser (514) 808-2050 [kari.bowser@videotron.ca](mailto:kari.bowser@videotron.ca) or Maria Desroches (450) 459-4508 [gmdroches@sympatico.ca](mailto:gmdroches@sympatico.ca)
- In the Chaleur Bay region: **Saddling Savvy Workshop June 6th** – choosing a saddle; fitting; how a saddle can affect the rider's balance, and the horse's attitude, posture and movement; comparative and demos with horses. No limit on the number of participants, no horse required. You can bring your saddle.
- **Beginning Level 1** clinic in New Richmond **June 7-8 2008**. An **Advanced Level 1** is also scheduled for **June 14-15**. Hurry, this one is filling up quickly. The clinic will be taught in French by **Geneviève Benoit, Licensed Parelli 2-Star Instructor**. Auditors are admitted for a small daily fee, and auditor tickets are cheaper if you buy in advance. The Parelliens Gaspésiens welcome you – come learn and have fun with your horse in one of the most beautiful parts of Quebec. Friendly ambiance, great food and fun guaranteed! To register or for more information, contact Marsha Thomas at (418) 392-5305 or email [herve.pardiac.inc@globetrotter.net](mailto:herve.pardiac.inc@globetrotter.net)
- In the Quebec City area: **Beginning Level 1 Clinic** in St-Lambert-de-Lauzon **11 and 12 August 2008**. The clinic will be taught in French by **Geneviève Benoit, Licensed Parelli 2-Star Instructor**. Auditors are admitted for a small daily fee. Royal Amadeus Farm offers a comprehensive facility to host riders and horses, including an indoor arena in case of inclement weather. The location is magnificent and so is the hosting. To register or for more information, contact Chantal Patenaude at (418) 889-9285 or email [chantalp2@videotron.ca](mailto:chantalp2@videotron.ca)
- In the Quebec City area: **Level 2 and Level 3 clinics** in St-Lambert-de-Lauzon **13-17 August 2008**. Groups are limited to 10 riders. The clinic will be taught in English by Don Halladay, Licensed Parelli 3-Star Instructor. Auditors are admitted for a small daily fee. To register or for more information, contact Chantal Patenaude at (418) 889-9285 or email [chantalp2@videotron.ca](mailto:chantalp2@videotron.ca)

Please note that the calendar is modified regularly, be sure to check the VifArgent Web site for the latest updates:

You need more info on the organization or the contents of a clinic? Visit the Services/Training section of the VifArgent web site.

## Dressage Naturally with Karen Rohlf

*Dare to Dream...*



*of Dressage, Naturally*

*With Karen Rohlf*

- Grand Prix Dressage Competitor
- Teaching and Training Dressage for over 20 yrs
- USDF "L" Judge
- Represented the USA 4 times at the NA Young Riders Championships
- Trained to FEI Level
- Level 3 Parelli Natural Horsemanship graduate

[www.dressagenaturally.net](http://www.dressagenaturally.net)

*3 Star Parelli Professional Fawn Anderson proudly presents Karen Rohlf*

**October 3-7, 2008**  
Couple A Cowboys Stables, Kingston/Napanee Area, On

**Limited Auditing Spaces still available!**  
Don't miss this awesome opportunity to learn from the world's only Parelli Associate Dressage Instructor!

**For more information and registration, please contact:**

Kathleen Dupon (705) 639-1813 <a href="mailto:savvyinthekawarthas@persona.ca">savvyinthekawarthas@persona.ca</a>	Kim Pringle (613) 335-3896 <a href="mailto:kimstwh@can.rogers.com">kimstwh@can.rogers.com</a>
--	---

**log on to: [www.fawnanderson.com](http://www.fawnanderson.com)**

If you don't already know **Karen Rohlf**, here is your chance to come and see the first Parelli associate dressage professional. I had the opportunity to take lessons from Karen while at the Ocala Ranch in 2005; she is a wonderful rider and great instructor who really takes heart in the well-being and the relationship with the horse, as much as she cares about the sport of dressage. Her teachings are based on Parelli principles, and she has graduated Level 3. We will be 3 Canadian instructors riding in this clinic. Nothing like the pressure of being watched by your peers and students! The clinic will be take place in October 2008 in the Kingston, ON area. Riders who wish to participate must have graduated Level 2. Limited auditing spaces available, so book your spot immediately if you don't want to miss this opportunity to watch dressage taught naturally.

Karen Rohlf will also be teaching a clinic in the Toronto area in May. The May clinic is being hosted by Don Halladay, 3-Star Parelli Instructor. Don is also bringing Craig Johnson, World Champion Reiner, for a Reining Fundamentals clinic around the same time. I wanted to ride in all of them, but unfortunately the May clinics filled up before I could get my spot! Auditors are welcome. For dates and details, please check Don's website at [www.donhalladay.com](http://www.donhalladay.com)

### Level 1 Assessments – are you ready?

**As a Parelli 2-Star instructor, I teach Levels 1 and 2 and I can assess Level 1.** To know if you are ready to pass Level 1, take a look at the list of Level 1 tasks that is in your *Savvy System Level 1 Partnership Pack*, or on my web site under *Downloads*. This list, with the official Parelli logo header, is the only one that counts towards the assessments.

Many of you are paralyzed at the simple idea of being filmed on video. Don't forget that the assessments are only there to help you know where you are at with your program and your horse

– it really does not matter if you don't pass every task the first time around! This is not a race, it's a journey with your horse. If you send in your video, you can benefit from coaching and advice that will help you advance. You absolutely don't have to be perfect at Level 1. You can also send only one savvy, or whichever set of tasks you feel ready to demonstrate. In addition, you can always edit the parts that don't reflect your usual level of savvy.

For video assessments, I use a *Fixed Fee* formula, no matter how many times you need to resubmit your tasks. If you are ready to send me your video, please contact me for prices and how to proceed. I can take VHS or DVD formats.

I also offer video coaching services, for those who need immediate help or feedback to advance or to get through an issue. Details and submission forms for videos coaching and assessments are available on my web site at [www.vifargent.com](http://www.vifargent.com)

### **Changes to the handling of the Level Awards pack for non members**

Up to now, there was no difference in handling of Level Awards for Savvy Club members and non members. Parelli is always looking for ways to increase the benefits and to enhance the experience for those students who choose to join the Savvy Club. Starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, members that graduate their levels will still get their award certificate and string for free. Non members will have to pay an additional fee of about 60 Canadian dollars to get their awards pack.

### **Purchasing Parelli equipment – January Special!**

Until **January 31st**, anyone who fills out the survey on the [Parelli](http://Parelli.com) web site will be entitled to receive a free *Liberty & Horse Behavior* pack with the purchase of a *Success Series* pack. This represents a \$500 gift for Savvy Club members!

The easiest and quickest way to order your Parelli equipment and materials is through the web. You can check out all the details on the various products directly from your computer, and you can take advantage of the special offers and discounts that are announced by Parelli. You can pay your purchases by credit card and the shipping is really prompt (a few days). If you are a member of the Savvy Club, make sure you login to the shop with your user id in order to benefit from your discounts (25% on all equipment and packs, and monthly specials).

By shopping through an instructor's web page, you pay the same price, but your instructor can earn a small commission on your purchases which really helps us finance our continuing education and our travels to the Parelli ranch.

You can access the Web Shop directly from my home page at [www.vifargent.com](http://www.vifargent.com), or through my page on Parelli at <http://genevievebenoit.instructor.parelli.com>  
Thank you in advance for your support!

### **Looking for stories and photos from Quebec for Parelli E-News**

Parelli E-News, the weekly electronic newsletter, is still looking for short stories and photos from Canadian students to talk about their Parelli experience, whether at home, in lessons or during clinics. They would like to highlight student experiences with their Canadian instructor. If you would like to send them something, you can email it to me or send it directly to [enewscontent@parelli.com](mailto:enewscontent@parelli.com)

## Did you know....

Predators, of which we are, have the following needs: praise, recognition and material things (food included). For example, I have never seen a horse try to get his hooves on a red ribbon; typically, horses are either afraid of them, or totally uninterested. On the other hand, humans are sometimes prepared to do the worst deeds in order to obtain this small symbol of recognition... For the horse, the priority of needs is very different:

1. Safety – am I my predator's next meal?
2. Comfort – am I at ease in my environment, with my human, with my saddle, my blanket, etc.? Is this comfortable and pleasant, or not?
3. Play – required to know who is leading the herd; the leader is the one that will make the decisions that affect my no. 1, safety! Required to know my place in the herd, and to stimulate me mentally and emotionally. I am a gregarious herd animal, and I play all the time.
4. Water and food – if I am scared, I won't eat or drink. If I am uncomfortable, same thing. Food can only be a positive reward for my behavior if needs no. 1, 2 and 3 have been addressed. On the other hand, comfort is very important and can become an excellent way to motivate desirable behavior.

The next time you are wondering about your favorite horse's behavior, try to walk a mile in his hooves and think about HIS priorities!

I remind you that you can always send you news, announcements or stories that you would like to share by writing to [news@vifargent.com](mailto:news@vifargent.com). Your emails will be published in the *News* section [VifArgent](http://VifArgent), the official web site of Geneviève Benoit, your Licensed Parelli Professional in Quebec.

May the horse be with you!

**Geneviève Benoit**  
**Licensed Parelli 2-Star Instructor**

---

**(514) 953-3485**

[www.vifargent.com](http://www.vifargent.com)

[info@vifargent.com](mailto:info@vifargent.com)

[www.parelli.com](http://www.parelli.com)



*I once was that predator pursuing the ribbons... Still, even back then, my big horse did not look too unhappy! But what was he really thinking?*