

**Great Horses of America**  
**'Soft Touch Training Method' ®**  
**"Your horse will know the difference."**  
**20 yrs experience – Professionally Triple CERTIFIED**  
**[www.GreatHorses.org](http://www.GreatHorses.org)**

Teresa Kackert , Personal Coach & CERTIFIED Trainer 619-572-3087

## **Rider & Horse Training - Philosophy & Program Options**

The purpose and goal of horse training at *Great Horses of America* is "Better horse interaction through better horse communication". Through Teresa's trademark '**Soft Touch Training Program**' she seeks to teach you how to communicate more effectively with your horse: remember communication is a two-way street, it must be sent and received for it to actually be "communication". You will learn how to speak and how to listen to your horse at all levels, situations and circumstances – especially challenging ones. We will teach how to translate and understand what your horse is telling you while being completely aware of what you and your body are telling him. We do this by teaching you the natural process of both verbal and physical communication with horses, ie 'body language'. We of course can also work one-on-one with young or 'questionable' horses to help: start, re-start, tune up or modify some unwanted behavior.

Teresa and *Great Horses of America* provide a multitude of equestrian training disciplines. Teresa was raised and trained the "old Horseman way". The true Horseman has always sought to team up with the horse, not dominate and subdue it. The true Horseman seeks to achieve the horse's cooperation willingly without unnecessary force or discomfort. The Horseman always works in "horse time" never demanding horse progress on our human time clock. Teresa's roots are sunk deep in the most basic, fundamental theories and practices of the Natural Horseman, which have been tried and proven consistently successful over the years. Her Soft Touch program has proven again and again that you cannot replace sound logic, principles and practices with whims or fads of the moment.

Teresa has been a student of horses now for almost 25 years and with her body weight at only 120 pounds, she proves 'it ain't all about the size'! Like all trade masters, their beginning is set when they are very young, they commit their lives, every aspect of it, to learning, understanding and mastering their subject. After almost 25 years of dedicated study and hands on experience Teresa is a 'Master'. Not only can this be seen when watching her and her success but also as evidenced by her continued education and **Professional Certifications**: 1) Certified Horsemanship Association – Master Instructor; 2) International Trainer Chris Irwin's Natural Horsemanship – Double GOLD Levels and now, 3) AQHA Horseman Hall of Fame Richard Shrake's 'Resistance Free' – Master level: continuing education and professional certifications are the marks of a true pro.

One of the simplest theories that we subscribe to here at *Great Horses of America* is that you cannot take Step 2 before you take Step 1. This may sound obvious but listen. Oftentimes horses are put in the round pen and expected to be 'finished' horses in thirty minutes or thirty days; others are climbed on and raced to the end of the pasture, trail or arena without sufficient training or understanding of what it is they are supposed to do let alone 'how' to do it properly; others are simply stuffed into a trailer and driven down the road for a weekend away without adequate foundational training or preparation. Bottom line, there are a multitude of steps and skills needed to enjoy your 'horse time' successfully and safely. Helping you acquire this knowledge and these skills is our purpose here at *Great Horses of America*. Helping you become a better Horseman is our goal; helping your horse achieve its potential is our reward!

Remember always: Awareness is paramount, communication is critical. These too are our goals here at *Great Horses of America*: evaluate, understand, communicate, train, educate and improve; once obtained, success is practically guaranteed.

**"Strong horse communication skills are the absolute keys to successful interaction with equines. If you do not know how to talk to a horse, how can you expect him to listen to what you have to say? If you cannot listen to what he has to say, how can he ever speak to you? Without understood communication, the only result can be frustration."**

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Teresa's strength and success as an instructor, trainer and personal coach lies not only in her ability to communicate effectively with her students, but also her ability to communicate with the horse. Having ridden and trained hundreds of horses, Teresa brings an enormous amount of experience into the ring. Young in years or not, Teresa has the skills, ability and experience to communicate with any horse. This is neither magic nor a supernatural, mysterious ability; it is simple, straightforward, natural, instinctual behavior learned and refined over the years: she has it (you might have it! ☺ ) and of course the horse has it. All it takes is a lot of practice, experience and dedication to develop it. The catch is, everyone must start at the beginning and every student needs a teacher.

With all that in mind, it is up to you to choose what it is you would like to learn or progress in. We always recommend a 'Complete Professional Evaluation' of either horse and or rider by Teresa so that a 'point of beginning' can be established. Below is a list of most equestrian disciplines including related areas of study & personal interest activities and the ones offered by Teresa and *Great Horses of America*. Feel free to ask questions and discuss any or all of them so that you will get the most out of your time. All subjects are begun at the beginning, ground level and progress and both your and your horse's pace so that the student's foundation and his or her knowledge is solid so that their resulting abilities will be solid also.

Basic Horsemanship is a must for every equestrian. No matter what your age level or riding experience, you will learn something new and valuable when you cover this material with Teresa. Basic Horsemanship skills are included at every level in every Program but on a limited, periodic basis and reviewed as needed – no time is ever wasted; all are available for all ages & all levels:

- Horsemanship: Basic, Intermediate and Advanced (also offered for those students who may not want or be able to ride)
- Owner Confidence / Horse respect issues, Personalized Coaching (on the ground, arena or trail)
- Horse Confidence Issues: Obstacle negotiation, Fear Resolution (2 acre obstacle course & water)
- Horse & Owner Relationship Bonding Issues
- Team Building Through Horses – Corporation, Family or Couples
- 'Horses Help Heal' Personal Relationship Enhancement Program – loss, separation...
- ALL Around Horse Mgt: Personalized Care, Overall Health, Feed, Nourishment Issues
- Conformation – Pre-Purchase, Suitability for use, Lameness Causation
- Colt / Filly Starting – Imprint, Soft Handed, Age Old Horseman Techniques
- Bareback Riding
- Western Riding
- English Riding, Jumping
- Pre-Show Orientation, Training, and Conditioning
- Horse Show Participation, Coaching
- Gymkhana, Play Day Events & Activities, Morale & Self Esteem Building
- Trail Riding – negotiating ALL obstacles, Riding alone or in groups, Sourness...
- Problem Resolution – trailering, loading, leading, bathing, tying, any undesired behavior
- Pre Purchase Evaluation, Private Consulting
- Post Purchase Resolution: Horse Behavior Evaluation, Site Inspection, Use & Ability

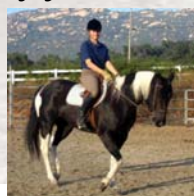
*Good luck and enjoy the wonderful world of horses!*



Teresa Kackert, Trainer



Signal Mount Equestrian, Inc.



dba Great Horses of America



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