

Equine Scene ~ Horse Communicator Opens Window Into Animal's

Page 1 of 2

Pet Perspective BY STEVE ANDERSON

Every pet owner has gone through it at one time or another. There is something wrong you're their beloved companion. The cat won't eat. The dog is just moping around. If they only could talk and just tell us what's bothering them. Well, they can talk to us according to Sheila Ryan of Bamngton, RI. You just have to know how to ask the right questions and know how to interpret the answers.

Ryan is the owner and president of Horse Sense and provides the unique and fascinating service of horse/animal communication. The purpose of Horse Sense is to provide communication between a horse and its owner in an effort to help identify both emotional and physical problems. Using a variety of hands-on techniques, Ryan reads the horse's energies, thus enabling her to sense both the animal's physical and emotional condition. Once the information is gathered, steps can then be taken to improve the quality of the horse's health and strengthen the bond between the horse and its owner. (It should be stressed that Ryan's work is not a replacement for the veterinarian, acupuncturist or chiropractor, but rather it is another tool that complements the more traditional forms of animal care.)

Ryan began practicing holistic healing work nine years ago. She has studied numerous techniques across the country and has worked with Twylah Nitsch, a healer and elder of the Seneca Indian tribe. In addition, Ryan has studied Barbara Brennon's Techniques of Hands-on Healing, has trained in herbology with The Herb Wife of Wickford, RI and has taken workshops with the famed "Horse Whisperer" Monty Roberts.

Ryan's impressive credentials also include being a member of a holistic healing group in Boston, MA, whose participants included medical doctors, a shaman, Quaker ministers, and a Reiki healer. Her work is influenced by numerous spiritual healing philosophies. "I take aspects of healing from many different cultures and combine them into my own

stew," Ryan said. This energetic practitioner began working with horses two years ago. She was having some difficulties with her horse Mijoy, a beautiful 6-year-old Arabian.

"We were having trouble bonding, and she just wasn't very affectionate," Ryan said.

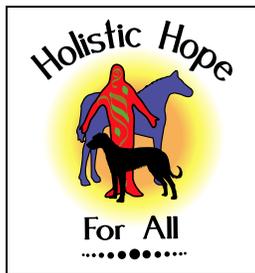
Mijoy's back legs were also very sensitive. Ryan plied her skills and suddenly the horse was able to convey issues from her past as well as some present concerns. It was soon revealed that Mijoy had undergone a very difficult time as a young horse back in Texas. She was treated very harshly while she was being trained, often times having her legs put in hobbles. She was also often neglected and was left alone for long periods of time.

After discovering this information, Ryan developed an even greater respect for Mijoy and was more sensitive to her horse's emotional needs, which led to the development of an unbreakable bond forged by unconditional love.

Soon after, other boarders at Ryan's barn saw the dramatic results and were interested in having work done on their own horses. Ryan quickly achieved successful results with these new animals and through word of mouth, began doing readings more frequently.

These developments led the new entrepreneur to establish her business in February of this year.

"I was pretty skeptical at first," said Dr Jennifer Judkins, who has had several readings done on her horse Manny. But after getting accurate answers to a series of test questions, Judkins accepted the truth that there might be some validity to Ryan's work. In fact, veterinarians have later confirmed many health concerns that initially surfaced through Ryan's work. Horse communication allows one to explore the animal's health on both a physical and



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Page 2 of 2

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an emotional level. You can find out things about your horse that you might have never considered.

"I was in tears when she first worked on Manny," Judkins said. " It's like opening a window into your horse's soul."

Ryan usually begins each session with an energy survey, where she looks for high concentrations of energy. Using a crystal dangling on a string, Ryan hovers over the energy centers or Chakras of the horse. Depending on the energy emanating from the horse, the crystal will be still, swing back and forth or move in a circular motion.

Another tool that Ryan uses is a pair of L-shaped metal dousing rods. Ryan holds the rods one in each hand and passes them over the horse, searching for high concentrations of energy. If she gets a reaction, the rods will either oppose or draw near each other. These work in much the same way as divining rods used to search for the perfect spot to drill a well. Ryan also uses her hands to channel the energy flow that is emanating from the horse. Holding her hands about eight to twelve inches apart, Ryan gently moves her hands over the horse. She states that she can feel the energy flowing from one hand to the other. If there is a disturbance in the energy, her hands may get very hot or she may feel a tingling sensation. This signifies that there is something negative going on inside the horse's body

Clients also have an opportunity to ask their horse questions. The reactions of the dousing rods signify "yes" or "no" replies to questions. Ryan uses this information to provide owners with insightful details about the horse's past. As she witnessed with her own horse, Ryan is able to see if some event or trauma in the horse's past is contributing to a present problem." I often can see an image of a past event in my mind's eye," Ryan said. Sometimes it's just a sensation or an inner voice."

After completing the energy reading of the animal and identifying the problem, Ryan suggests several remedies to alleviate the concern. She may suggest something as simple as a change in diet. Often, she will recommend the use of floral essences. Ryan has a virtual pharmacy of flower essences and a book of recipes. She asks the horse what it needs and mixes up an elixir of water and various floral essences. The potion is then mixed into the equine's food or water or can be sprayed externally in the form of a mist. Ryan suggests the horse's owner also take the elixir to strengthen the bond between horse and owner.

Ryan's passion and commitment is not only limited to horses. She has also worked on cats, dogs, goldfish and even a pot-bellied pig.

"That pig really had an attitude problem," she quipped. As Ryan eloquently expresses on the Horse Sense website, "Animals perform the great service -of being our friends and partners, and deserve to be treated with the utmost respect and care."

For more information about Sheila Ryan and Horse Sense, you can visit her website at www.horsecommunications.com or call (401) 225-1955.