

Working Cattle Ranch Clinic

A Clinic at a Working Cattle Ranch is different than any clinic you have ever been to. It is a way for a individual, to get to experience ranch life ,learning as you go. This is not like a dude ranch, were you pick and choose what you want to do that day. You are doing exactly what a rancher does everyday. The boss lays out the day, of what needs to get done for that day. A typical day in the Spring, maybe like this. You get up, feed your horse, eat your breakfast, then saddle up. You may ride out on your horse or load up in a stock trailer, to go check on cows ,that are calving. While riding along , some horses can be fresh or don't want to ride off alone. So what a great opportunity, to get help from the clinician on your horsemanship. Then we may gather up cows with their calves and bring them up to the sorting pens. This is were you will learn how to gather the cattle and drive them down the road, to the sorting pens. In the sorting pen, the cows will be separated from the calves. This is were the clinician helps you with cutting out the cow and sorting the cows from the calves. The pens can sometimes be scary for some horses. Here you can work on horsemanship ,of getting them through being scared. Also working on opening and closing gates from horseback. You also learn to work as a team ,with the other rides ,as you take the cows to the shoots. It's time to break for lunch. Now you may feel like a nap but no time, back to the pens to preg. check the cows. Some riders will work the pens from horseback and others will help on foot with the shoots. When the last cow goes through the squeeze shoot, then the calves are run through and turned back out with the cows. It is time to drive the herd back to the pasture they came from or to rotate them to a new pasture. Before it is called a day, you may have to go ride and take another peak at the heifers, to see if any have calved or are in trouble. A days work is done and your knowledge as a horseman and cow person has improved. Time to ride home for a home cooked dinner and a soak in a jetted hot tub under the starry sky .



Clinician and rancher ,David Stackley, has been doing these type of clinics for 6 years. David is the 5th generation ,of his families ranch ,in El dorado, Kansas. The ranch is located at the foot of the beautiful Flint Hills. David has made it a quest to work in quiet harmony with his horses and cattle. Tom Dorrence and Ray Hunt have been a great influence on David's horsemanship along with Bud Williams on his cattle work. Clinics are set up two times a year Spring(April) and Fall (Oct). This year the Spring date is April 20-25,2006. You can ride one day or all week at \$100 per day. There is limited space so if you would like to attend a working cattle ranch clinic contact Roxanne Hill at 816-524-4741 or 816-868-4413 email zuzu@swbell.net.