

R.J. Smith, Clio, Michigan



Michigan's popular "cowboy", R.J. Smith, will entertain and educate you on some of the basics of horse handling and training. With his easy-going manner and unique storytelling ability, R.J. will entertain you while instructing you in many of the fundamentals of handling horses safely and being able to enjoy them to the utmost!

R.J. brings a life-time of experience with horses to his programs. His Dad owned a rodeo company, producing many rodeos in Michigan. R.J. began training horses as he learned from the cowboys, but quickly decided that there were better ways to "get the job done"! Finding that he was spending more time getting the horse over the fear of being "spanked", than he was actually training the horse, R.J. began developing his own method of training, instilling confidence in the horse and establishing a relationship between the horse and rider. Soon horses trained by R.J. were in demand for roping and performance.....by those same cowboys whose methods he no longer used!

RJ's sessions this weekend will be a *Horse and Rider Communication*, at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 13; and *Horse Control*, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 14. Both sessions will take place in the Round Pen/Auditorium.

In addition to RJ's seminar sessions, RJ will also act as MC for the Cross Winds Trainers Competition throughout the Expo weekend. RJ's unique brand of humor, as well as his stories, will be a great addition to the action during this innovative program.