

Having fun and Working too



On Valentine day the weather was pretty nice but I was fighting a chest cold was didn't go riding until 2pm with other students. Monday was a raining/snowing day so I gave all the horses the day off. I knew on Tuesday, I would be riding Johnny and expected him to be a little full of it.

I had used the borrowed bit on Johnny on Sunday and he had done excellent. We were even riding with six other horses and riders. I had John travel to the back of the group pretty much the whole ride for he kept out walking the other horses but he wasn't nervous or fidgeting, just walking faster so I used it to my advantage and we did circles around everybody. Towards the end of the ride a few of the other horses were acting a bit barn sour so everybody got to join in on the turns and before long, all the horses were relaxed and doing that they were supposed to be doing, giving us an enjoyable ride. The bit was interesting on Johnny. He seemed too really like it, I could and did put a little more pressure on the bit but Jonny never got behind the bit or acted like he was going to rear, until the end when we got back to the Place. At that time, Roy, my husband, was hauling wood up the yard, he was wearing a brown coverall and pulling a sled, plus there was a strange dog on the hill bouncing around a bit. It kind of scares all the horses. Johnny wanted to bolt but on the new bit I was able to instantly bend his neck and he stopped and stood. I finally got Roy's attention and asked him to say something. As soon as he did that, the horses were fine with it and we completed our ride without problems.

Well 2 O Clock rolled around on Tuesday and I bridled up Johnny with a borrow bit and we set off for our little 3 mile ride. The day was a calm and relaxed day, horses were just moving along as asked and even the moose beside the rode didn't really set anybody off. Johnny and the other stopped, watched and the moved out when asked, energy came up a bit but not much. We went through he woods, I lead and had to knock all the snow off the trees. Several times, I leaned way forward and hugged Johnny's neck to miss a little bit of snow. He did fine. We continued along the road for about another mile when I asked Kris to take a picture of Johnny for he was so calm. She did and about that time, I realized something was wrong; I didn't have my reins attached to the bit, Wait! I didn't have my bit in the horse's mouth. I was laughing but just slid off Johnny who stopped



and let me fix my borrowed bit. I think he liked not having a bit. But I kind of like having a little bit of control.



Next, I lead Johnny over to the snow drift and jumped on without issues. We proceeded to go home and again, Johnny stayed calm and we completed the ride. He never really chewed or fretted with the bit, it was great. I was really impressed for he did not try that barn sourness stuff at all on Tuesday; maybe he is getting over it.