

## OUR PRESENTER

~Gene Ovnicek, RMF~  
Farrier/Clinician

Gene Ovnicek is nationally and internationally recognized as a farrier, clinician, and researcher. A pioneer in the study of wild horse hoof form and function, Gene has combined his 40 years of farriery with the information from other scientific research as a basis for treating and preventing equine lameness. Gene is currently involved with on-going research with Dr. Robert Bowker of Michigan State University and Dr. Barbara Page of the Equine Wellness Foundation. The ever evolving Natural Balance® information packed presentations have been featured at some of the most prestigious farrier and veterinarian conferences in the world. In addition to the research projects, teaching and his position as president and chief technician of Equine Digit Support System, Inc., Gene still operates a complete farrier practice ranging from performance horses to lameness management and consultation.

Gene Ovnicek and the Natural Balance® information have been published in the *American Farrier's Journal* (AFJ), *Anvil Magazine*, *TrailBlazer* magazine, *Horse Illustrated*, *Western Horseman*, the *European Farrier's Journal*, *EQUUS* and several associated press articles. He has published chapters and sections in major hoof care text books such as *Adam's Lameness in Horses*, *Diagnosis and Management of Lameness in the Horse*, and *The Veterinary Clinics of North America*. Some of the wild horse research material, as well as the Natural Balance® guidelines are published in the book *New Hope for Soundness* and on the [www.hopeforsoundness.com](http://www.hopeforsoundness.com) website.

As a clinician, Gene has been invited to share this information with a wide range of groups and activities.



### Directions to Northern Maine Community College

#### From South:

Travel North through downtown Presque Isle. At the traffic after WalMart, turn left onto Rt. 163 (there will be a Pizza Hut to your right at the intersection). Continue on Route 163 for one mile until you see a sign (to your right) for Skyway Industrial Park, Northern Maine Regional Airport and Northern Maine Community College. Turn right at that intersection onto Central Avenue. Turn Right onto Edgemont Drive (first right on Central) until you see the sign for Northern Maine Community College.

#### From North:

Travel South on Rt. 1 into Presque Isle. Proceed straight through the first traffic signal (by the entrance to the Aroostook Centre Mall), remaining in the farthest right lane of traffic. Just prior to the next traffic signal the lane will merge right onto Rt. 163 (Connector Street). Continue on Route 163 for one mile until you see a sign (to your right) for Skyway Industrial Park, Northern Maine Regional Airport and Northern Maine Community College. Turn right at that intersection onto Central Avenue. Turn Right onto Edgemont Drive (first right on Central) until you see the sign for Northern Maine Community College.

For local hotel/motel information,  
see the College's web-site at

[www.nmcc.edu](http://www.nmcc.edu).



NMCC Continuing Education Division  
33 Edgemont Drive  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
[www.nmcc.edu](http://www.nmcc.edu)  
(207) 768-2768



3 Day  
Clinic

# Natural Balance Hoof Care

featuring

**Gene Ovnicek**  
Farrier/Clinician

#### Topics Include:

Biomechanics of the Foot  
♦ Importance of Breakover  
♦ Caudal Foot Support  
Lameness Treatment & Prevention  
Improving Overall Performance

April 28, 29 & 30



**NORTHERN  
MAINE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## SATURDAY, APRIL 28

*-Open to the Public-*

Registration/Check In - 9:30 AM in the Edmunds Conference Center at NMCC

Lecture Session (starts about 10:00 AM)

### How Hoof Form Relates to Hoof Function

- Early Detection & Treatment of Navicular Problems
- How Hoof Distortion Relates to Stumbling, Forging, Interfering & Lameness
- Toe-First vs. Heel-First Landing
- Using the Widest Part of the Foot as a Reference Tool
- Improving the Base of Support & Load Sharing
- Understanding the Sole & Its Relationship to P3
- Requirements Necessary for Optimal Hoof & Bone Development
- Evaluating the Needs of the Foot
- A Sensible Approach to Trimming & Shoeing Club Footed Horses
- Understanding the Foot's Natural Response to the Laminitis Disease

Lunch Break (approximately 12:00 PM)

Demonstrations (1:00 PM)

- Natural Balance Barefoot Trimming
- Natural Balance Shoeing

Clinic Ends (4:00 PM)

### Cost for Attending Saturday Only

\$25/person or \$40/couple if you register in advance

\$30/person or \$50/couple at the door

**Includes lunch**



To learn more about Natural Balance certification for Professional Farriers, visit [e-hoofcare.com/education](http://e-hoofcare.com/education).

## SUNDAY, APRIL 29

*-Hands-On for Farriers/Vets-*

Registration/Check In - 8:45 AM at the Horse-Talk Equestrian Center in Caribou

Lecture Review: Question & Answer Discussion - 9:00 AM

### Demonstrations

- Trimming for Natural Balance

Hands-On (for those who wish to participate)

- Natural Balance Barefoot Trimming

Lunch Break

### Demonstration

- Shoeing for Natural Balance

Hands-On (for those wishing to participate)

- Natural Balance Shoeing

Clinic Ends (approximately 4:00 PM)

## MONDAY, APRIL 30

*-Hands-On for Farriers/Vets-*

Registration/Check In - 8:45 AM at the Horse-Talk Equestrian Center in Caribou

Hands-On (for those wishing to participate)

- More Natural Balance Shoeing

### Demonstration

- EDSS Treatment Application

Hands-On (for those wishing to participate)

Lunch Break

Hands-On (for those wishing to participate)

- EDSS & Lameness Treatments

Clinic Ends (approximately 4:00 PM)

Note: Hands-on work is done on a team basis and will only be available for those who wish to participate. You MUST attend the Saturday workshop in order to qualify for hands-on!

### Cost for 3-Day Session

\$250/person if you register in advance

\$300/person at the door

**Includes lunch all three days**

### Questions?

E-mail [lbuck@nmcc.edu](mailto:lbuck@nmcc.edu)

or call 768-2768.

## Hoof Care Clinic Pre-Registration Form

Name - Please Print

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Farrier     Trimmer     Vet     Owner

### Registration Fee:

Saturday Only    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket Attached - Free Admission

All 3 Days    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I want to do hands-on work.

No, I do not want to do hands-on work.

Total Enclosed:    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Pre-Registration Due by April 21, 2007

If you pre-register for **All 3 Days** prior to the due date, you will receive **two (2) tickets for FREE admission** to the Saturday session that you can give to clients or friends.

Make checks payable to Northern Maine Community College and mail to:

NMCC Continuing Education Division  
33 Edgemont Drive  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Or register on-line at: [www.nmcc.edu](http://www.nmcc.edu)