

I started riding lessons with Shayan. I told him my goals, "I am 59 years old, I have osteoporosis, I have had two horse accidents and now have fear issues. I will only be able to ride for so long due to age/bones. I want to be a safe rider and a better rider". Shayan agreed to take me as a student. I started on his schoolmaster horse. After several lessons, I trusted Shayan to help my Friesian. Shayan came to my house to evaluate my two horses, Fandango and Maxx. I explained to him even if he didn't like my horses, I was not selling them. Due to my fear issues and bad habits, Fandango lacked confidence, forwardness, impulsion, balance, etc. Within a month's training I could see a physical difference in Fandango. Since my wrecks (2005, 2006), Fandango had been to other trainers, but I never saw a change in Fandango physically or mentally. Also, with the other trainers, they could ride beautifully, but it never transferred back to me. We would then go back to square one. Shayan correctly built up Fandango's endurance and topline. Shayan helped Fandango's confidence with frequent trail rides (including riding up to a hot air balloon). After a month, I started lessons on Fandango. What I saw Shayan do with Fandango, I was able to transfer what I learned with Fandango (to my best ability). When I didn't like watching Shayan mount up with Fandango moving, I told Shayan and he listened. He made sure Fandango always stood still while mounting/dismounting. I asked Shayan to bring Fandango back home when I had a vacation and he could take Maxx. Maxx had some issues, but I didn't think he needed training. After one week with Shayan I could see a difference in Maxx so I kept him in training for a few months. Shayan had Maxx doing beautiful lateral work, he did not break gait at the walk, and he cantered on a loose rein. When I recently had issues with Maxx jiggling, backing up and being buddy sour, Shayan listened to my fears. Shayan walked two hours as I rode Maxx on the trail (he was jiggling) and Shayan talked me through the session to build my confidence and riding skill. In the next week, Shayan worked with Maxx and his jiggling was 90% controllable. Shayan has kept my horses healthy - he bathed them after each session, he makes sure they get the correct nutrition, hoof care, vet care. He goes above and beyond as a trainer by listening to what his students' needs. He does not look at his watch and say, "times up". If you are thin skinned and want to be applauded for being mediocre, he's not the trainer for you. He will be honest and guide you to improve as a horse person and that is what I asked for.

Thank you,

Charyl Silva