

## WinkWorld April 2005

### **The Silence is Broken**

One of the treasures of spring on the prairies happens when the birds return, and the silence of winter is broken. It is pure joy to be on the prairies and hear the first songs of spring. The meadow lark is my favorite. My friend, Mary Kay, wrote today and describe the gorgeous song of the meadowlark, as they enjoyed a wet, spring snowstorm. Dean sent the picture from the kitchen window. [snowy.jpg](#)

Enjoy.

### **Dean reflects on his horse accident in December 2004**

Light snow this morning has all the neighbor's hopes up that maybe moisture is in our future. The bulk of the snow went north of us through North Dakota and into Minnesota. Those Scandinavians have all the luck!

Great News! I've recently learned what I did wrong with Bucky, aka Lucky in my recent incident in the corral that landed me(no pun intended) in the hospital. Going with the adage that you're never too old to learn, (after all, I've only been riding for 50 years-certainly there's something yet to learn), I ordered some CD's on horse training. Clinton Anderson is an Australian trainer that puts on clinics all over the country. He also has a series of CD's and tapes to help people that cannot attend his clinics.

After viewing the 8 part series, I discovered that I had coincidentally omitted parts 1-4. They are the ones titled "Gaining Respect and Control On The Ground." It seems there are telltale signs that a horse gives you that indicates that he is relaxed, confident, respectful and ready to be ridden. Signals such as lowering of the head and licking of the lips convey cooperation and respect. Evidently, I did not have Bucky's respect and confidence. His snort as I put my foot in the stirrup should have been my 1st clue that he was not yet ready to be ridden. Once I stepped up in the saddle, it was a little late to check and see if he was licking his lips. A week in the hospital and a bunch of doctor bills later I now know!! Ah, but next time---

### **[A Memory of the Arizona Ranch by Dawn](#)**

and a reflection

### **[My Mother's Hands by Dawn](#)**

### **Grammie and Austin**

<http://www.JoanWink.com/gifs/dawgrammie.jpg>