



# **Performance Equine Chiropractic**

Dear Horse Owner,

Growing up with horses and owning horses all of my life, I came across an article in Horse Illustrated in 1991 about a woman named, Sharon Willoughby. Sharon was a veterinarian who went through Chiropractic College, never treated humans, but moved to Illinois to perform chiropractic on horses. She talked about subluxation, which is the term used by chiropractors when two bones in the horses spine misalign pinching off the spinal nerve. This causes limited nerve flow to the affected muscle, organ, or tissue.

Being a human chiropractor, this made sense to me and I knew I had to get into this new field. I called her and went back to Illinois to study with her. I was the thirty-third graduate of the newly formed American Veterinary Chiropractic Association. The AVCA has over 14,000 dedicated chiropractors and veterinarians' world wide. It took me 2 years to complete the extensive course, with over 300 hours of post graduate study.

As for me, I have owned and operated Oakley Chiropractic since 1983 and I have worked on horses, dogs, and cats since 1993. My philosophy of treating horses is that they are athletes and should be treated as such, with proper nutrition, exercise, and TLC. My goal is to evaluate the bio-mechanical structure of the horse's spine and supportive connective tissue (muscles, ligaments, tendons) and adjust and balance them.

Your veterinarian is the ultimate authority in your animals care. I believe in a team effort with your vet, farrier, trainer, and chiropractor on board to help your horse reach their full potential. I look forward to meeting you and working with your vet to keep your horse functioning and performing at his or her full potential.

Sincerely,  
Michael Painter DC  
AVCA Certified