

Barbara Burn Dolensek, 1961

Barbara Burn has ridden horses nearly all her life, but it wasn't until she married a veterinarian that she actually bought her first horse, at the age of 39. She learned to ride as a child "by the seat of her pants" rather than through any formal schooling, and it wasn't until she moved to New York after graduating from Smith with a degree in art history that she started to ride again. Her first lesson took place at a public stable in New Jersey when she was 33 years old, and five years later she was inspired to publish "The Horseless Rider" (still in print), a book promoting the advantages of not owning a horse and advising horseless riders on how to evaluate stables, trainers, and horses.

Barbara's first horse was a Quarter Horse, and her second horse was a Morgan, whom she rode in the country and jumped, and drove in a Meadow. In 2001 Barbara upped the ante and bought a classical dressage Iberian horse. Now studying with renowned trainer Bet Drummond, Barbara purchased Maruxa, a Lusitano dressage horse.

