

DEVELOPING HORSES.  
SUPPORTING HORSEMEN.

EC  
News  
Issue 2

# BRAD LUND

CLINIC AT EC EQUINE CENTER

THIS ISSUE:

"THE HORSE'S PERSPECTIVE" WITH BETH OLSON  
"FROM OUR FARRIER" WITH JOSHUA RUSHING  
EC AT EQUIFEST OF KANSAS  
UPCOMING EVENTS, CLINICS AND MORE!

MONDAY NIGHTS

## LINE SORTING

MONDAYS: FEB 5TH, 12TH, 19TH AND 26TH

5 PM CLASS WITH JOSHUA RUSHING

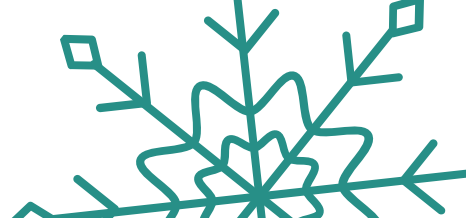
7 PM PRACTICE

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[WWW.ECEQUINECENTER.COM](http://WWW.ECEQUINECENTER.COM)



# EC Equine Center February 2018



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 10:30 am Advanced Horsemanship	2	3 9:00 am Bal Hoof Class 11:00 am Obstacle Class 4:00 pm YHD Class
4	5 5:00 pm Sorting Class 7:00 pm Sorting Practice	6	7 6:30 pm Colt Starting Class	8 10:30 am Advanced Horsemanship	9	10
11	12 5:00 pm Sorting Class 7:00 pm Sorting Practice	13	14	15 10:30 am Advanced Horsemanship	16	17 1:00 pm Obstacle Class 4:00 pm YHD Class
18	19 5:00 pm Sorting Class 7:00 pm Sorting Practice	20	21 6:30 pm Colt Starting Class	22	23 EC at Equifest of Kansas	24 Bull Riding School 9 am to 5 pm
25 EC at Equifest of KS Bull Riding School 9 am to 5 pm	26 5:00 pm Sorting Class 7:00 pm Sorting Practice	27 5:00 pm Better Horses Open House	28	<p><b>Activities in red are closed to haul-ins unless of course you plan to participate!</b></p> <p>YHD is our Young Horse Development Class.</p>		



# From our Trainer

Hello friends! We hope you have been surviving the cold weather and making some time to enjoy your horses. Don't forget about our haul-in packages - no need to be working your horses on bad footing. Speaking of footing... we have some exciting news! The owners Bob and Susan have upgraded the footing in our indoor arena! They followed the recommendation of Brad Lund and added some "Pond Fill" which is a very interesting sand mixture. Our Barn Manager Dusty LaBeth spread it for us with the skid steer and we now have world class footing to go with the world class facility! This footing is versatile and great for many different disciplines. It will hold moisture better and it will not pack and harden like our old footing did. This means less maintenance for us and a better riding surface for you!

Another great improvement is the addition of more bleacher seating continuing down the east arena wall. That wall is straight now which will allow us to host cowhorse events in the future. This brings me to my next announcement: Brad Lund will be putting on a clinic here at EC March 17th. It is a one day intensive with ten hours of ride time. Limited to a group of ten riders. Each rider will receive individual instruction and time working our cowtrack flag and cattle. He will also work on fundamental to advanced reined work.

We also have a clinic lined up for the end of March it will be the 31st and April 1st. This clinic will feature Joshua Rushing and myself, Ashley Purdin. We will be working through obstacles and the body control needed to start your cowboy racing season off strong. Only ten spots available for that as well so please don't wait to sign up!

Also coming up don't forget about the AI Dunning Clinic in April. That will be a great opportunity to ride with a world-class trainer and gain more knowledge.

Lastly, make sure you come see us at Equifest! February 23rd, 24th and 25th. Joshua Rushing and I will be competing in Top Horse which will take place during all three days. Our barn, Equus Curito Equine Center will also have a booth next to Better Horses. Be sure to come see us. We will have some drawings for free stuff and are looking forward to seeing and visiting with all of you!

See you all very soon!

*Ashley & Team*

# NEW PRICING

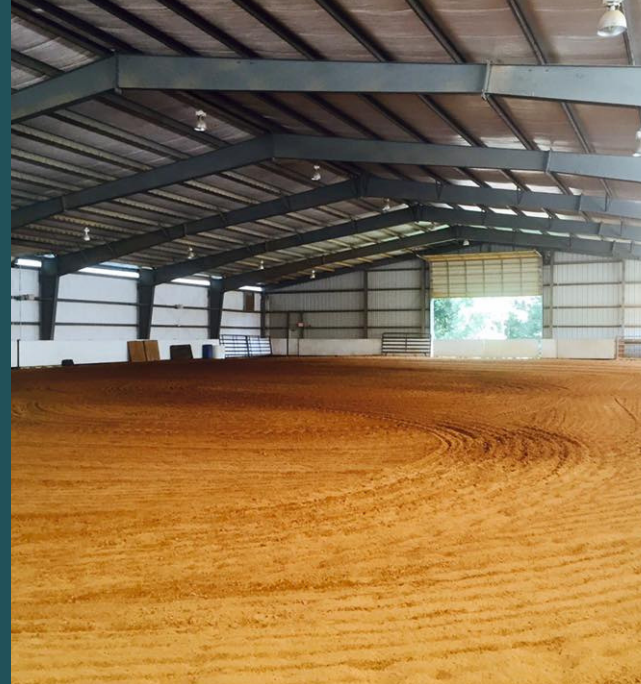
## EC Equine Center Memberships

	Individual	Family
Daily	\$25	\$35
Monthly	\$99	\$125
Annual	\$399	\$499

Enjoy the experience of being an EC member with access to a world-class facility at an affordable price!

[www.ecequinecenter.com](http://www.ecequinecenter.com)

Don't let the weather slow down your progress. Our affordable haul-in packages will allow you to continue to enjoy your equine through the cold and rainy seasons!





# EC At Equifest

Feb 23rd 24th and 25th, 2018

Equifest of Kansas is a huge horse convention and trade show held at the end of February each year. Vendors and clinicians come from all over the country to sell equine products, educate and entertain the public. Each of the three days is packed full of educational demos, clinics and performances. Equus Curito will have a booth at Equifest this year! We will be located next to the

Better Horses Booth in the Clinician Hall. Make sure you drop by and see us!

Even more exciting than a booth, two of our trainers, Joshua Rushing and Ashley Purdin will be competing in the Top Horse Competition this year. Make sure to check the Equifest Program for R Bar B's Top Horse event so you don't miss any of it! This is an invitation only event and will feature 10 Top Riders from around the country.

They will be competing in five separate events: Jumping, Cowboy Race, Mounted Shooting, Cowhorse and Freestyle. Each event will be judged and some will be timed as well making this a thrilling spectator event! Last year Ashley wowed the crowd with her winning bridle-less freestyle performance and Josh consistently rocked all of the divisions resulting in overall champion of the event with Ashley coming in runner up.

We are so excited to watch these two represent us all at Equus Curito with their riding style, showmanship and of course, most important their ability to compete under pressure and put their horses first!

Ashley and Josh have been actively preparing their horses for this challenging event and are looking forward to putting their skills to the test in a couple weeks to find out who has the Top Horse.

We will see you at Equifest!



**EQUUS CURITO**  
EQUINE CENTER

# Joshua Rushing & Ashley Purdin

## EC EQUINE CENTER

30504 METCALF RD LOUISBURG, KS



### SATURDAY: BODY CONTROL

Sidepassing, Spins,  
Lead Departures,  
Lead Changes (simple and flying),  
Rollbacks, Collection etc!

### SUNDAY: OBSTACLES

Introducing new obstacles,  
Planning Approach  
and Departure, Preparing for  
Competition Pressure,  
Rope Handling  
and more!



# BODY CONTROL & OBSTACLE CLINIC

March 31 - April 1

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or \$200/day

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## From our Farrier: Hoof Balance

*By: Joshua Rushing*

As a farrier balance is one of the most important parts of my job. A properly balanced hoof will insure proper hoof growth as well as joint alignment. A lack of proper balance in young horse can cause improper growth patterns in the hoof as well as the legs. Bad joint alignment can cause premature arthritis and even tendon, ligament, and muscle injuries. Good hoof Balance is paramount to a healthy and sound horse.

So it is my job and responsibility to determine the best way to properly trim a hoof to achieve balance. There are several different things to consider in this process. Generally we look at a hoof from the front. The foot is stationary preferably on a flat and clean surface. We are looking at the hairline or coronet band as well as the length of hoof. This will help determine lateral or side to side balance.



This the front view of a hoof that was let go a little long. Notice the length of the hoof on the left side compared to the right. Also notice the imperfect or wavy hairline.



After a properly balanced trim.



We then look at the foot from the side. This will give us an idea of hoof angle and balance front to back. Hoof angle is the angle of the very front of the hoof in relation to the ground. Generally a front foot will be around 55 degrees and a hind will be slightly steeper at 57 degrees. Of course each horse is different and may vary slightly. The goal here is to properly align the hoof with the lower limb insuring proper joint alignment.

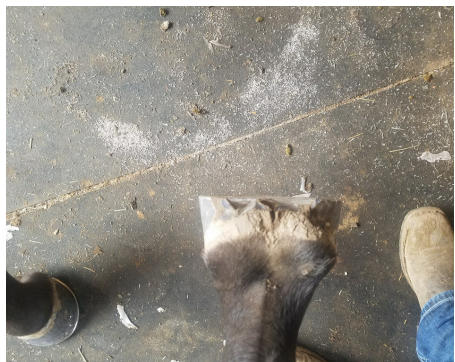


Notice the excessive length. The hoof has migrated forward causing an improper alignment and a lack of support for the limb.

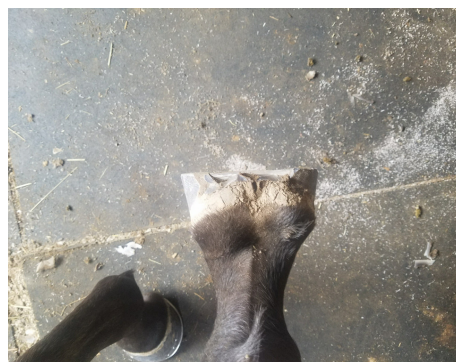


After

At some point I like to see a horse move to determine dynamic balance. Most generally we want to make sure a hoof is tracking properly and landing flat. So now we pick the foot up and after cleaning up any excess sole and trimming the frog we allow the foot to hang and check the ground service of the hoof. It's important to leave the leg in under the horse where it travels and not pull it out and away from the horse.



These two photos are of the same hoof. This one is pulled away from the horse making it appear more balanced than it is.



This one is positioned more naturally under horse showing an obviously high outside (lateral) heel.

Taking all this visual information into consideration will usually give us an idea how much foot to trim and where. As we begin to trim we like to determine the center of the hoof which is generally a thumb's width behind the point of a normal frog. The goal is symmetry front to back and side to side.



The goal is symmetry front to back  
and side to side

As you can see there is much to consider when trying to achieve proper balance. All horses grow different at different rates and different areas. It is super important to keep your horses feet on a regular maintenance schedule to help make sure they stay balanced and healthy now and for years to come.



Josh Rushing is an Associate Trainer for Equus Curito Equine Center and also the barn farrier. Josh trims and shoes horses for numerous barns and private farms in the Kansas City area and he also teaches classes on farrier care. He, his wife, and his two children reside in Hume, Missouri.

Josh has an upcoming trimming class at EC Equine center Feb 3rd.

# UPCOMING CLASSES:

## HOOF TRIMMING WORKSHOP WITH JOSHUA RUSHING



SATURDAY FEB 3RD

10 AM - 12 PM

\$60



## OBSTACLE CLASS

WITH BETH OLSON & ASHLEY PURDIN

SAT FEB 3RD

1PM

This class will be directed towards novice riders competing in UHCA this year.



MONDAY NIGHTS

# LINE SORTING

MONDAYS: FEB 5TH, 12TH, 19TH AND 26TH

**5 PM CLASS WITH JOSHUA RUSHING**

**7 PM PRACTICE**

CALL DUSTY LABETH WITH QUESTIONS: (913) 558-7567

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## February Line Sorting Dates:

Feb 5th Class (\$70) and Practice (\$25)

Feb 12th Class (\$70) and Practice (\$25)

Feb 19th Class (\$70) and Practice (\$25)

Feb 26th Class (\$70) and Practice (\$25)

The atmosphere on sorting night is supportive. If you are new to the sport, come give it a try! Ashley and her team will be riding and can assist you with general questions or help you form a sorting team if needed!

**For questions or to sign up for Jan 8th's instructional sorting class, please call Dusty LaBeth at (913) 558-7567**

**Negative coggins required**



# The Horse's Perspective

## Verbal Communication Pitfalls

*By Beth Olson*

Communication is a common problem between horse and rider. It isn't something that is frequently talked about so it can be often overlooked. It is something that I was never taught or even heard discussed in my riding career. It wasn't until I started helping other's with their horse troubles that it dawned on me. Horses don't speak English! It's a regular occurrence I see, someone having a hard time getting their horse to do something, even if they've done it before or have been working on it for a great deal of time. Horses hear sounds from us, not words.

So if you're saying "back" as quickly as you can, your horse is going to have trouble differentiating that from you saying "whoa" as quickly as you can. If you elongate your words and enunciate them more, you will be setting your horse up for success in understanding you. The other communication barrier I frequently see is people having the same cue with more than one meaning. You wouldn't ask someone to give you a fork and then continue to ask the same question until they brought you a spoon, right? They're both eating utensils but we have different words for them because they serve a different purpose. So why cluck/kick for a trot then repeat until the horse breaks into a lope/canter? All you're doing there is asking for more and more speed until the horse breaks from the trot into the lope. What should be done is cluck for a trot and kissing for a lope, and only a lope. Having one cue per action (trotting, loping, backing, whoa, stepping over, picking up a foot etc.) is vital for you and your horse to have proper communication and to work smoothly together as a team!

Beth heads up the colt starting program here at Equus Curito. With over 200 colts under her belt she has developed her own unique approach that puts the horse first, while reaching goals in a structured and timely manner. You will be seeing more articles and tips from her in the future on developing these young horses.

If you are interested in taking a lesson or a class from her she can be reached at (719) 482 - 5214

# — COLT — — STARTING — COURSE

*With Beth Olson*

Wed Nights 6:30 pm

Jan 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Feb 7th and 21st

WILL BE HELD AT EC EQUINE CENTER IN LOUISBURG, KS

Auditors welcome!!



Luke Snyder & Dusty LaBeth

# BULL RIDING SCHOOL

February 24th and 25th 2018

EC EQUINE CENTER: LOUISBURG, KS

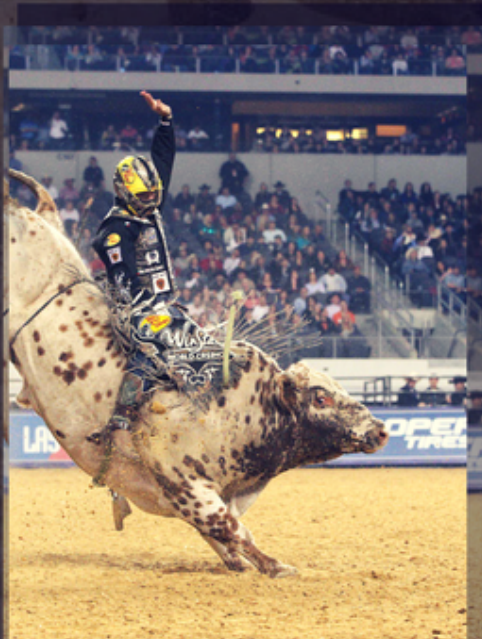
C  
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\$350

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STEER RIDING  
CALF RIDING

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LOUISBURG, KS

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STOCK  
PROVIDED BY:



Brad Lund  
**WORKING COWHORSE**

March 17th

**CLINIC**

**EC EQUINE CENTER**

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REINING, FLAG WORK, BOXING AND  
MORE!

PM SESSION 2 PM TO 7 PM  
ADVANCED REINING, FLAG WORK,  
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Al Dunning  
AlDunning.com

# ATEC EQUINE CENTER

Louisburg, KS

Contact Ernie at 1(785) 418-6047

April 13th, 14th and 15th

## Friday

- Ranch Riding
- Ranch Trail

## Saturday

- Increasing Performance
- Cowtrack
- Making the Cattle Connection (Live Cattle)

## Sunday

- Cutting
- Working Cow Horse



Purina Presentation Friday Evening 6:30 pm



\$300/Day or \$825/Weekend

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