

DEVELOPING HORSES.
SUPPORTING HORSEMEN.

RIDE IN

HAUL IN PACKAGES

THIS ISSUE:

"THE HORSE'S PERSPECTIVE" WITH BETH OLSON
INTRODUCING A NEW LESSON INSTRUCTOR
ANNOUNCEMENTS
UPCOMING EVENTS, CLINICS & MORE!

Youth and Adult

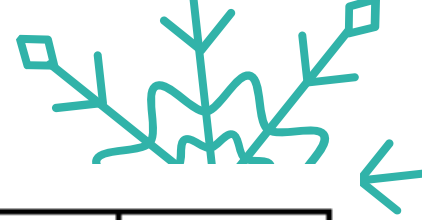
Horseback

Riding Lessons

Schedule yours today!



January 2018



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	5 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	6
7	8 5:00 PM Sorting Class Sorting 7:00 PM	9	10 6:30 PM Colt Starting	11 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	12 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	13 9 am - 4 pm Roping Clinic 4:00 PM YHD Class
14 9 am - 4 pm Roping Clinic	15 1/2 Price Lessons With Ashley and Caitlin Sorting 7:00 PM	16	17 6:30 PM Colt Starting	18 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	19 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	20 9 am - 4 pm Roping Clinic 4:00 PM YHD Class
21 9 am - 4 pm Roping Clinic	22 Sorting 7:00 PM	23	24 6:30 PM Colt Starting	25 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	26 10:30 AM Advanced Horsemanship	27 4:00 PM YHD Class
28	29 Sorting 7:00 PM	30	31 6:30 PM Colt Starting	<p>Activities in red are closed to haul-ins unless of course you plan to participate!</p> <p>YHD is our Young Horse Development Class.</p>		



From our Trainer

Hello friends! I hope you all had a fun and safe New Year celebration and have had some time to get perspective and think about your riding goals for 2018! I made a few new year resolutions and one thing I would really like to work on this year is making time to ride my own horse, Jesse. I started on this goal in December and have been loving it. We are chipping away at the maneuvers needed to reach our competition goals for 2018. Our first competition will be Top Horse at Equifest of Kansas in February. Be sure to also come visit our booth at Equifest which will be in the clinician hall right next to Better Horses. It will be a great time and we are excited to see some new and old faces!

In other news we have had a smooth transition of management at EC. We have gone over every procedure related to equine care and management with a fine tooth comb and are confident we are providing the best product possible to all of our clients equine and human! If you are not up to speed on the changeover let me catch you up.

After a very busy year and a half I had managed to get the business humming along so well that extra hands were absolutely needed. I was handling all of the management as well as my primary role of Head Trainer. The addition of Beth Olson earlier this year as Assistant Trainer was a massive help but it still wasn't enough to stem the overflow of responsibilities that piled on my desk. This is where Bob and Susan came in and graciously offered their help when I asked. In addition, a barn manager would be hired. Around that time, they hired Dusty LaBeth to manage the barn and schedule events. What a relief that has been! We have had so many compliments on how easy Dusty is to work with, how well cared for the horses are and how much more organized the barn is because of his efforts. He has done a great job tackling all that had piled up on the back burner while I was running everything! Thanks to Bob and Susan, I have been able to take a breath and focus on what is most important to my career and to my clients! If you get a chance to talk with them make sure you tell them how much you appreciate them being willing to step up and take on so much responsibility.

One announcement that hasn't been officially released is the addition of multiple World Champion Joshua Rushing as Associate Trainer to EC! You will be hearing more from us about that very soon!

Some notable changes that are coming up: we decided to make board all-inclusive. Previously it had excluded grain. Stall Board will now be \$550/month for the king stall with the run and pasture turnout. Pasture Board will stay the same at \$275/month. We have some super exciting new pricing on haul-in packages, there is a page on that in this issue so check that out. Also, be sure to check out all of our awesome events coming up. I included a calendar on the last page of the newsletter to help you keep track of everything going on at EC! We also have new liability release forms so be sure to fill those out on your next visit! See you soon!

Ashley & Team

NEW PRICING

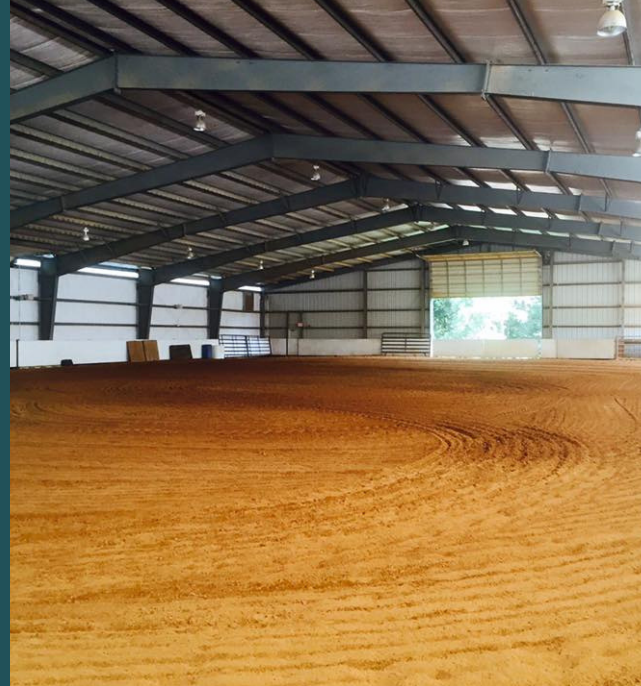
EC Equine Center Memberships

	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

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!





What's in a Name?

About the Owners and a short history of EC

When Bob and Susan Brennan began their horse adventures they were living in Naperville Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago. Bob was finishing out a successful career at Leo Burnett and the couple were looking for a hobby they could enjoy together. After looking at local horse barns on a whim, they dove into the lesson horse program at a hunter jumper barn. With absolutely no ambition of jumping, the two were in search of how to ride and interact with horses safely while riding in the arena and out. Some time after they began their lessons they found themselves questioning everything about the program. How the horses were treated and communicated with became a big concern. There was an issue with the lack of emotional connection trainers had with the horses and the harsh tactics used to make progress. With no knowledge of her own to fall back on, Susan began reading everything she could get her hands on about horse behavior. This led her through the natural horsemanship movement. She discovered groundwork and the importance of getting through to your horse's thought process. All of this was dismissed as unnecessary and ineffective by her trainer. But at this point Bob and Susan's eyes had been opened as to what was possible. They purchased their first horses in Illinois. Shanti, a failed western pleasure prospect and Tula, an ex polo pony. Unfortunately, unbeknownst to Bob and Susan, both new horses lacked a strong basic foundation in their training.

In 2009 Bob and Susan moved their family to Louisburg, Kansas. It was after moving to Kansas they were able to work with some like-minded trainers and get on the right path. Their goal of trail riding came front and center as Bob built trails around their new property. This is when they came across Ashley. Ashley's program is built from the horse's perspective using a combination of old tried and true methods with new ones she has developed herself. Her no nonsense approach balances the behavioral needs of the horse with the goals of the human resulting in a mentally balanced horse that is respectful, willing and confident. Working with Ashley, they were able to achieve their trail riding dreams. And their journey of understanding their horses and being effective horsemen began to move forward.



In 2016 Ashley's rapidly growing training business was needing a larger barn home. After extensive meetings between Bob, Susan and Ashley a business plan was formed and a property was purchased. Now came time to name it. After considering many options, the name Equus Curito Equine Center was chosen. Translated from Latin; Equus Curito means "cherished horse" to remind all who use and participate in activities at EC why we all got into horses at the beginning. A little hard to pronounce, we think of it as Equus (ek quis) Burrito with a "C." We think of it as the guide posts for everything we do with horses from boarding, feed, fencing, water access to our training methods.

Riding is a mentally, emotionally and physically demanding hobby that brings out both the best and the worst in people. Equus Curito reminds us why we began this journey and why we should continue to chase our dreams while putting our equine friends first. Success on a horse can be measured by the feeling you get when you and your horse operate as one mind. Once this is achieved anything is possible.

We hope you enjoy the kind, supportive atmosphere and world class facility you experience at Equus Curito Equine Center. It is up to each one of us to continue to promote this positive environment and be the difference our horses need to shine.





Caitlin Allen Joins EC Equine Center

By: Ashley Purdin

With a family well grounded in the horse world, it was only a matter of time before Caitlin began riding. Her family owned a cattle and horse ranch in Blanco Oklahoma which is about an hour south of McAlester. She has many early childhood memories of being horseback but her first formal lesson did not take place until the age of nine, at a hunter jumper barn and she was hooked. From that point on, her life revolved around her riding and time at the barn. Her thirst for knowledge and never ending self-improvement was obvious to those around her. In an effort to keep horses at the center of her life, she chose to pursue a degree from K-State that would strengthen her chances of developing an equine-related career. During college, she spent two summers working on a ranch in New Mexico, which brought her back to her roots and her love for ranch horses and western riding. After a successful four-years she graduated with her degree in Animal Science with an Equine Certificate. Shortly after completing her degree she landed a job as an Equine Services Manager and Lesson Instructor. This job gave her the opportunity work with all ages of riders while exploring and refining her teaching skills. Through this process, she built a program around safety, competency with equipment and understanding of the horse. Caitlin routinely taught as many as thirty-five lessons per week on basic horsemanship, all the way through patching holes in her students' knowledge and helping the advance their skills in the arena as well as on the trail. Caitlin has proved, with her program, that many horse/rider issues can be resolved by combing back through the basics and fine-tuning a rider's communication with their horse. She has determined horse's respond well to subtle cueing and that a strong seat and leg and steady hands form the basis of all riding disciplines. One thing that will strike you right away about Caitlin's approach is her patient manner towards her students and the horses. She fosters a supportive environment that helps students engage and learn while growing their confidence in themselves as well as with the horse.

We are excited to add Caitlin onto our qualified team here at Equus Curito Equine Center. She will have full access to our lesson horses and will also offer lessons to haul-in riders. Her philosophy and knowledge will make her a wonderful resource for those who wish to begin their journey with horses or take their riding to the next level.

To schedule a lesson or a meeting with Caitlin, please call or text her at (913) 406-7420



January 8th

LINE SORTING Practice!

Monday Night

Sorting Class: 5 pm with Joshua Rushing (\$70/rider)

Sorting Practice: 7 pm (\$25/rider)

Come Join the FUN!

January Line Sorting Dates:

Jan 8th Class (\$70) and Practice (\$25)

Jan 15th Practice (\$25)

Jan 22nd Practice (\$25)

Jan 29th 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

The Value of Foundation

By Beth Olson

Starting out with a quality foundation in your horse's training will pay for itself many times over throughout its life. Foundation training is establishing a relationship with your horse. It is every interaction you and your horse have from the beginning through the basic lessons your horse learns under saddle. Cutting corners during this important developmental time will not lead to success over the long-haul. Unfortunately, we have become hard-wired for instant gratification. Our modern lives are filled with quick tips and tricks to get what we want, more quickly and easily. Horse training is no exception. The horse world is filled with tack and gadgets to get a horse to change a behavior with less effort from the rider. Most of these tools do have a time and place, but many times they are used with poor timing or in the wrong situation.

Hard mouthed horse? We have all heard the quick-fix answer to this: "Put a stronger bit in their mouth." Head-tossing? "Use a tie-down." Not enough forward motion? "Buy bigger spurs." You may get a reaction quickly when you go down that road, but is the horse really learning anything besides pain avoidance? Can you ask your horse to put his head down without tie-down or soften your horses mouth enough to ride in a smooth snaffle? If you are having trouble, before trying out that new piece of equipment, ask yourself if there is something that can be done differently to help bridge that communication gap between you and your horse. Horses only know what we teach them. They do not understand our version of right and wrong. They only understand what they are and are not allowed to do. Spend some time thinking about what you have and have not expected from your horse. If you are still not sure have someone video your session with your horse and review it later. Try to understand your horse's point of view. Most problem behaviors can be resolved by plugging the foundational holes. It will take some elbow grease and effort but it will pay off with increased enjoyment of your horse.

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

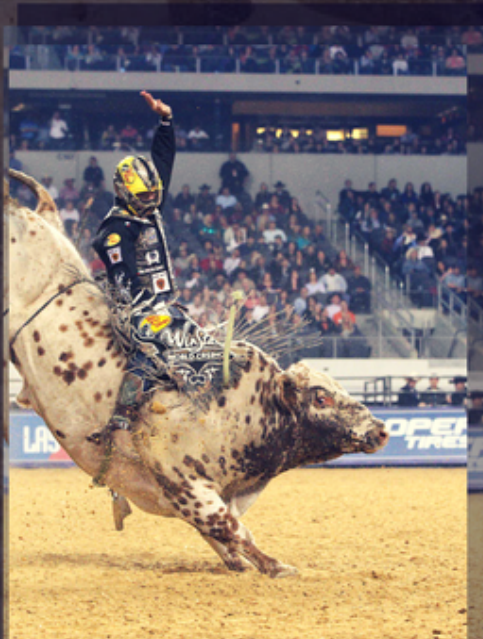
**C
O
S
T**

\$350

BULL RIDING
STEER RIDING
CALF RIDING

30504 METCALF RD
LOUISBURG, KS

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT DUSTY:
(913) 558-7567 | ECEQUINECENTER@GMAIL.COM



STOCK
PROVIDED BY:





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