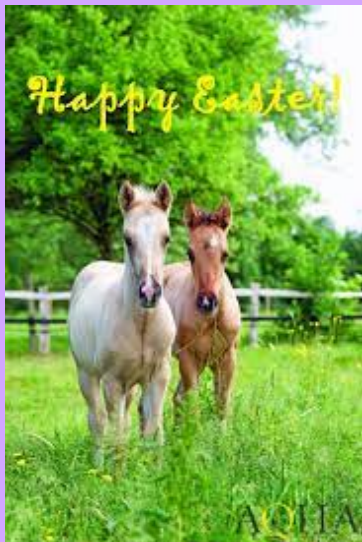


KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.  
NEWS FOR KANSAS AND THE EQUINE INDUSTRY.



## April 2022 EDITION



News, announcements and events from around Kansas, regarding the Kansas equine industry.

Legislation, Insurance, Equipment & Retail discounts are just some of our membership benefits! Visit our website to learn more.

Join our herd!

[Visit our website](#)

## NEW KHC Benefit in 2022 to add to the many other GREATS!

Subscription opportunity to  
The Horse Magazine at 90%  
DISCOUNT off retail-  
Only \$5 for the year to Kansas  
Horse Council Members!

*the* **HORSE**  
YOUR GUIDE TO EQUINE HEALTH CARE

# 2022 Upcoming Events and Calendar

For additional events throughout the year visit:  
[Calendar of Submitted Events](#)

Any questions regarding events, please call us at  
[785-776-0662](tel:785-776-0662)

If interested in more information or to register for an event, please email us at  
[director@kansashorsecouncil.com](mailto:director@kansashorsecouncil.com)

## Horse Care 101

[Link for Sign In Instructions if needed:](#)

Click the link here to watch the free webinar series!

[Visit our website](#)

## HORSE CARE 101

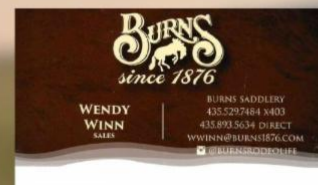
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## "Anatomy for the Ride"

Presenters:

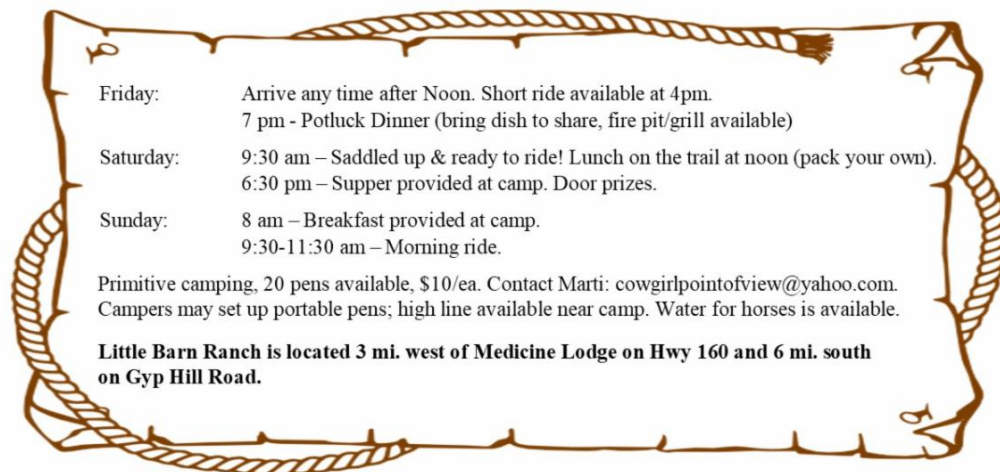
- **Dr. Sue Dyson** - Equine Behaviors While Tacking & Suitability of Rider Size for Optimal Performance
- **Dr. Dylan Lutter** (KSU Vet Med) - Lameness & Use of Chiropractic Applications
- **Dr. Judith Klimek** (KSU Vet Med) - Equine Anatomy & Feeling for Issues
- **Windy Winn** (KSU Rodeo Coach) - Saddle Fitting Procedures and Pointers



[Come join KHC for Fun-Time Trail Ride!](#)



## Join the Kansas Horse Council for a weekend at the Little Barn Ranch in the beautiful Gyp Hills!



**Registration:** \$30 for either BCHKS or KHC members; \$40 non-members.  
Non-riders welcome, \$20/each. Kids under 12, free.

To register, contact KHC Office, 785-776-0662 or [director@kansashorsecouncil.com](mailto:director@kansashorsecouncil.com).

*Rain or Shine - Ride limited to 45 riders.*

## Tux N' Boots Dinner, Auction, and Dancing!

Tux 'n' Boots will be back as a live event this year! We are so excited to have all of our friends join us at the Heartland barn for this incredible night of fun. There will be great food, a lively auction, an open bar, and inspiring stories. We will end the night on the dance floor getting down to the ever-popular sounds of Lost Wax.

This one night provides over 80% of HTR's operating budget so we are over the moon to be able to have everyone back to continue supporting our riders.

Mark your calendars for **APRIL 29th** now and look for your invitation to arrive in the mail in late February.

We can't wait to see you at Tux 'n' Boots 2022!



.....  
SAVE THE DATE  
**TUX 'N' BOOTS**

**AUCTION, DINNER & DANCING**

~ HTR BARN ~

19655 ANTIOCH RD • OVERLAND PARK • KS • 66013

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29th**

.....  
HEARTLAND THERAPEUTIC RIDING  
CHANGING LIVES ONE RIDE AT A TIME

## Dr. Lew Sterrett - Sermon on the "Mount"

DR LEW - PROFESSIONAL HORSE TRAINER

Dr. Lew: From growing up on a farm in Pennsylvania and getting involved in 4-H at age 8, to attending Penn State University and majoring in the animal industry field, Dr. Lew Sterrett had many opportunities to learn from qualified trainers and educators.

During his University years he was confronted with his need for a personal relationship with

Jesus Christ. After his graduation he later went to earn his master's degree in Divinity and his doctorate in Leadership Training.

**THE MINISTRY:** Sermon On The Mount is the ministry arm of Dr. Lew Sterrett's Human / Equine relationship training. The culmination of years of education, experience and training; S.O.T.M seeks to teach about issues related to human relationships, character development and all of the things in between.

**THE EVENT:** When you attend a Sermon On The Mount event, you will have the uplifting opportunity to watch an amazing man named Dr. Lew Sterrett address the heart issues of one or more horses while he reaches into your own heart.

For over 30 years Dr. Lew has combined his expertise as a professional horse trainer, a certified youth and family counselor, a licensed pastor, and a successful business executive to produce one of the most unique events in the Christian realm.

As he trains the horse, you will vividly see yourself, your spouse, your child, your co-worker or employer. The needs of the heart will be clearly illustrated and the steps to meeting those needs will be evidenced as the horse overcomes his resistance to change and finds success and fulfillment in his relationship with the trainer. These events vary in length from thirty minutes to two hours. But no matter what the length, you will be so captivated that you will be astonished the session is over so soon.



# Sermon on the "Mount"®

with Dr. Lew Sterrett



## Discover Lessons for Life & Leadership

**FREE  
EVENT**



**OPEN  
To the Public**

**WATCH**

**LISTEN**

**CONNECT**

Sponsored by



**Lifehouse Church**

**Saturday, April 30th @ 6 pm**

**Wild Bill Hickok Arena  
Dickinson County Fairgrounds, Abilene**

[SermonOnTheMount.org](http://SermonOnTheMount.org)

[Email: sotmoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sotmoffice@gmail.com)

## Hit the Trail Youth Ride

**Tuttle Creek Chapter of the BCH-KS invites ALL to attend!!**

**June 4th starting at 10am**

**This ride is for adults and children of all ages!**

**Kids 18 and under ride free. BCHKS members - \$10, Nonmember adults - \$15**

**Lunch will be provided.**

Schedule:

Ride starts at 10am and goes until lunch. Small break where children can share what style of riding they love the most. After, Maggie Johnson, will have a tie-dye session (additional \$5). Ride will continue after this break.

Location:

The White Trail at Randolph - very easy trail, do not need shoes for your horse.

All proceeds will benefit Randolph Equestrian campgrounds and trails.

To register, please contact Pattie Stalder:

email: [backdoor@bluevalley.net](mailto:backdoor@bluevalley.net)

Phone: 785-456-3278



Kansas Ag Summit - Equine Sector

# SAVE THE DATE!

## *Kansas Ag Summit - Equine Sector*

When: July 20th  
Time: 2pm - 3:30pm

More information still to come!!



**NEW- Joint membership with KHC & BCH-KS for you!**

**BCHA**  
Back Country Horsemen of America  
**Kansas Chapter**

  
**Kansas  
Horse  
Council**  
KansasHorseCouncil.com



NEW FOR 2022

JOINT MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS

Individual: \$80 (\$15 to BCHA/\$15 to BCH-KS/\$15 to BCH-KS Chapter of Choice/\$20 for insurance/\$15 to KHC)

Family: \$100 (\$20 to BCHA/\$10 to BCH-KS/\$15 to BCH-KS Chapter of Choice/\$40 for insurance/\$15 to KHC)

Message Us to Enroll for 2022!

Trails Advocate Level Individual: \$80  
Trails Advocate Level Family: \$100

One enrollment to support two organizations! Simple and makes sense!

Kansas equestrians deserve a big pat on the back for another impressive year of volunteer work on public trails! Our public land



managers and other trail organizations continue to be impressed by the dedication of equestrians to taking care of the trails we love to ride.

BCHKS volunteers reported the following for 2021 - 3,783 hours, with a value of \$259,326 in labor and supplies.

Since BCHKS started keeping track in 2014, equestrian volunteers in Kansas have contributed - 23,000 hours, with a value of \$1,250,943 in labor and supplies!

We do make a difference!

## KHC Stallion Service Benefit Auction 2022

Don't forget about our Stallion Service Benefit Auction going on NOW! You can purchase a breeding to one of these stallions at 15% off the regular stud fee! Go check it out now!!

"BUY IT NOW!!"

Any questions or if you would like more information, contact our office:

Phone: 785-776-0662

Email: [auctions@kansashorsecouncil.com](mailto:auctions@kansashorsecouncil.com)

[Visit our website](#)

Hosted By:



# Kansas Horse Council Stallion Service Benefit Auction



**Buy it NOW at 15% off the regular stud price!**

Take a look at the amazing line-up of stallions!

Scan the QR Code or visit

<https://www.perfecthorseauctions.com/seller/4652/listings.html>



**"Bright White Brother"**

ApHA  
Three Bull Heads Equine  
Dam: Might White Delight  
Sire: Paradise in White



**"Gayfields the Thief"**

Welsh Cob  
Johnson Performance Horses  
Dam: Gayfields Former Miss Magnolia  
Sire: JG Cops And Robbers



**"KR Fantallicka"**

AQHA  
70 Ranch Performance Horses  
Dam: Fancy Zack  
Sire: Metallic Cat



**"Madoc Heir Apparent"**

Welsh Cob  
Johnson Performance Horses  
Dam: Tide Creek Bronwen  
Sire: Kentchurch Chime



**"Ridin A Metallic"**

AQHA  
Gallaher Performance Horses  
Dam: Sweet Shorty Lena  
Sire: Metallic Cat



**"View Me Flying"**

AQHA  
Granada Farms  
Dam: Shes Gotta Secret  
Sire: Tres Seis



**"King Tyrone"**

AQHA  
Riverview Quarter Horses  
Dam: From the Money Red  
Sire: Blazin Jetolena



**"Rooster Dox Frost"**

AQHA  
Santa Fe Ranch  
Dam: PC Kim Dox Frost  
Sire: Gallo Del Cielo



**"Gallo Yaquero"**

AQHA  
Santa Fe Ranch  
Dam: PC Kim Dox Frost  
Sire: Gallo Del Cielo

Phone - 785-776-0662

Email - [auctions@kansashorsecouncil.com](mailto:auctions@kansashorsecouncil.com)



## Legendary Kansas Horsemen Tell Their Stories

### Looking To Future With Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

Involvement with horses has been the lives of four legendary Kansas horsemen speaking at the EquiFest of Kansas in Salina.

Dr. Stan O'Neill moderated the panel featuring personal stories, occurrences and outlooks for the equine industry. Panelists were Alfred Janssen, Scott City; Frank Higgs, Valley Center; Richard Clower, Winfield; and Craig Cole, Downs. While there are similarities of horse involvement among the group each has unique niches working with and handling horses.

Actually a farmer, Janssen, 77, also Quarter Horse leader, is likely best acknowledged as a renowned professional horse photographer. Many of the

world's top horses have been photographed by Janssen with those images some decades old still widely recognized. Additionally, Janssen raised Quarter Horses of which a number collected world show ring titles when he exhibited them personally.

Higgs has been a Quarter Horse breeder more than six decades while serving as a Quarter Horse leader. Likely best recognized for Tinker Red McCue, Higgs raised the stallion from a baby. The outstanding performance horse was trained and exhibited personally by Higgs collecting and siring multiple champions. Higgs, 86, continues breeding, training, and riding working ranch horses.

Clower is widely recognized as a farrier of all horse breeds having shod many horses which have become world champions. A professional farrier since 20-years-old, Clower, 75, first shod gaited horses and then many Quarter horses. Now retired, Clower's hobby was training and driving his Standardbred trotter and pacer race horses. He had a number of track wins.

A lifetime horseman, Cole, 72, likely has the most lifetime diverse experiences highlighted by show ring titles. First major achievement was exhibiting the highpoint youth stallion, Rooster Dawn, in 1967. Initially working for Dudley & Acre Quarter Horses, Cole started his own business in 1974. Son Ryan is his affiliate training horses and riders while also breeding horses.

The horsemen pointed out major transitions that the horses industry has experienced during their careers. "I learned the hard way from experiences in training and showing horses," Higgs said. "I didn't have a hired trainer but still competed successfully in a variety of events at every show." Competing in and managing western Kansas horseshow circuits, Janssen personally trained and showed his home raised horses. "We'd start early in the morning with sometimes as many as 50 horses in the halter classes," he said. "Then saddle up and ride in several events and have the show over by mid-afternoon."

Then Quarter Horse shows became specialized with horses bred for a specific event. Certain horses would only show in halter classes, and others just in rail pleasure classes. Even top performance horses became specialized often entered only in reining or cattle working events. "Sometimes classes would only have a few entries yet with the numerous divisions running into wee hours," the horsemen agreed. "It required lots of money to show registered Quarter Horses successfully generally requiring professional trainers," Higgs pointed out. "Small time breeders and exhibitors who did the work themselves were pretty much pushed out of showing for the enjoyment."

Trends are changing back to earlier times though, Cole emphasized. "We really have two divisions of registered Quarter Horse shows now," he said. "There are still the specialized horses exhibited by professional trainers. But the versatility classes are for all-around horses which owners can enjoy showing their own horses." In clarification, Cole said, "To qualify for versatility recognition, a horse must show in several performance classes including cattle events. Then they are qualified to exhibit in performance halter classes." There are again high numbers of entries today in the versatility divisions, Cole said. "Still the horses cost a lot. It takes a considerable amount of money to have a horse that will win in versatility classes, too," he continued. "The overall horse market is the highest I've ever seen it in my life."

While flying all over the country to photograph horses, Janssen, a college ag journalism major, was self-taught. "I studied photos of horses in magazines and worked to make mine like them, only better," he said. Photographing horses is a team effort. "It's important to have a green grass and blue sky background with the sun over your left shoulder," Janssen said. "The horse and handler must cooperate. A person is needed to set the horse's feet and another one to make sure the horse's ears are forward." With photographs taken on film negatives before digital cameras, Janssen continued snapping photos every 1-1/2-seconds when the horse was positioned. "A flick of an ear or blink of an eye changes a photo completely," he said. Processing his own negatives for action shots and portraits, Janssen often took profile views of horses for clients. "Many photographs in advertising today only show the horse's head. That really doesn't reveal what a horse looks like," he evaluated.

All four horsemen verified their horse knowledge has come from experience. "I learned a lot from leading trainers Dean Smith and Billy Allen," Higgs credited. Cole critiques horses stringently as they are being shown. "There's always more to learn about training horses," he said. Clower learned from other farriers as well as owners of the horses he was shoeing. "Veterinarians provide me with x-rays and I shoe the horse by their recommendation to improve the performance," he said. While quite different from the Western riders, fascination for raising harness horses has always remained close to Clower's heart. "I'm retired now, but studying all kinds of horses is still very enjoyable for me," he said. Both Higgs and Cole have acquired young horses with optimism for their futures with horses. "I plan to keep going working with horses just as long as I'm alive," Higgs said. "I have a new stallion Farra Rey Time with colts coming this spring," Cole said. "Working with horses is all I've ever wanted to do and will continue to do so until I'm gone."



## Horsemanship Rewards Program Shout-Outs!

100Hrs:

Diane Ransom  
Susan Kumer

1500Hrs:

Cheryl Thomas

2000Hrs

Kelley Hamersky



## **New EquiFest Attraction, Breakaway Roping Offers Beginner Learning Experiences Plus Big Payoff For Fastest Overall Ropers**

**By Frank J. Buchman**

Breakaway roping competition is fast becoming one of the most popular highest paying events in the sport of rodeo. Quite longtime, breakaway roping had been an event typically intended for youth and cowgirls. That has changed in recent times as breed associations have included breakaway competitions for all amateur riders. Most recently, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association started including Women's Professional Rodeo Association sanctioned breakaway roping at their rodeos. That has included the annual National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas with winners taking home major paychecks.

In breakaway roping, a calf is roped around the neck with a lariat tied by a lightweight string to the roper's saddle horn. When the calf is roped, it tightens the string which breaks, stopwatch clicks and fastest time wins.

For the first time, breakaway roping was a featured attraction at the recent EquiFest of Kansas in Salina. There was a breakaway roping clinic all day Thursday, and an open-to-the world jackpot breakaway roping featured Sunday afternoon. Through organization of Kansas Horse Council director, Dr. Fred Gardner and trainer Phil Haugen from Weatherford, Oklahoma, a clinic was conducted. A champion professional calf roper and horsemanship clinician, Haugen was assisted by his daughter, Hannah Macy, Stephenville, Texas, breakaway roping champion.

A dozen wannabe-champion breakaway ropers gathered early Thursday morning at Ag Hall Arena with lariats in hand. Estimated average age was 15-years-old, likely younger, with two handfuls of cowgirls, remainder was cowboys. A few of the roping students lugged their own calf roping dummies into the arena with them. Several additional "practice dummies" were supplied by Haugen.

With only brief introduction, Haugen asked names of each cowgirl and cowboy and soon was acknowledging them personally. Giving a short demonstration, Haugen said, "Basic requirements of roping are position, swing and delivery. It's always position, position, position. Let's go to work roping the dummies while Hannah and I help you each individually." Obvious to the most lay observer, there were distinct differences among the students' experiences and abilities. The clinicians went from one student to the next congenially evaluating their roping and offering suggestions for improvement. "Now if you'd drop your hand when throwing, the loop will circle down around the calf's head," Haugen advised one student. "Oh that's nice. You are sure doing a great job," the clinician advised a first time very young roper.

Obvious improvement was shown by every participant after about an hour of roping training on the ground. "Well, let's get your horses saddled up, and we'll practice roping the sled," Haugen directed his class. Again, the young eager learners came out mounted on a wide variety of horses. Some obviously showed roping experience and other horses had never had a rope swung from their backs. Haugen hooked his four-wheeler to the calf sled, seated himself sideways enabling watching the ropers guiding horses following the sled. Again the clinician congenially evaluated each rider's abilities making sure they were encouraged and working to improve. "Now, that's the way to do it," often was spoken individually to the ropers. All riders attempted to catch the sled calf a number of times with most of them eventually successfully roping the dummy.

Following a quick dinner break, students came back into the arena to rope live calves provided by Cindy Brown's JC Cattle Company, Dwight. "Position, position, position," Haugen repeated for the umpteenth time when explaining how for the ropers to get their horses into the roping box. The dozen ropers lined their horses side-by-side extending down the arena from the roping box and took turns following calves. A look-of-fright was apparent on several riders and their horses as well becoming more accustomed as they continued working.

First the cowgirls and cowboys just followed calves out of the box and down the arena. Then they were given the opportunity to attempt to rope the calves. A few ropers caught nearly every calf they ran. Just about all of the learners were able latch on at least one calf bringing giant smiles to their faces. "You have all done a great job today. Now just keep practicing every day. Practice makes perfect and is essential to becoming a breakaway roping winner," Haugen congratulated his students in conclusion.

With assistance from Cindy Brown who furnished calves, the Kansas Horse Council sponsored the EquiFest Jackpot Breakaway Roping Sunday afternoon. There were 20 contestants in the open division each paying \$200 entry fees. Thirteen ropers in the junior competition each paid a \$100 entry fee. Winners received payback tallied from entry fees as well as added money. Fastest times in the first go-round qualified for the short-go-round with winners determined from best times on two calves.

Biggest check winner of the afternoon was Brylee Zook of Garnett who won a total of \$1,650. She got \$1,600 for fastest time, 10.29-seconds, on two head in the open competition. The additional \$50 came after Zook tied with the second fastest time in the junior second go-round.

Second biggest overall dollar winner was Madison Scott of Pomona taking home \$1,584. Her accumulation total included: third in the two-head open, \$800; fastest second-round open time, \$150; first two-head junior division, \$484; fastest junior first run, \$100; and tie for fastest junior second-round time, \$50.

Micah Samples, Abilene, won \$1,200, for the second fastest time roping two calves in the open division. Fourth fastest open two-head time made a \$400 payback for Michelle Wilson, Osage City. Ashley Moeder, Oakley, got \$150 for her fastest time in the open first go-round. Avery Kinkelaar, Assaria, had the second fastest junior two-head time for \$363. Third and fourth in the junior two-head competition respectively went to Montana Heller, Meriden, \$242, and Dawson Wood, Kingman, \$121.



**JOIN TODAY! 785-776-0662**

You may also join or renew online at  
[www.kansashorsecouncil.com](http://www.kansashorsecouncil.com)

## Equine Disease Communication Center

As an equine owner, it is important to know what diseases are going around. If you travel or come into contact with other equine, you need to watch for disease. Make sure to check out the EDCC for all equine disease updates and cases.

[Equine Disease Communication Center](#)



**Kansas Horse Council  
Specialty License Plate**

Kansas Horse Council license plates are available at your local County Treasurer's office. You don't have to be a member to sport one, on your car, truck or trailer! Show your love of horses with this colorful statement plate!

### [KHC License Plate Info](#)



**ENJOY THE RIDE WITH KHC!!**

**GET A KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL TAG**  
PROUDLY SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR KHC AND THE WORK IT DOES.

**KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL PLATES** are available to anyone who owns or leases an automobile, RV, truck or trailer with a gross weight of 20,000 pounds or less.

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TROT over to your County Treasurers Office  
FILL OUT a Kansas Royalty Tag form  
PAY a one time production charge of \$50.00 plus title fees, registration fees, personal property tax and a \$50 donation to the Kansas Horse Council. The \$50 tax deductible donation will appear on your paperwork every year when you renew! If the vehicle is currently tagged, the original plate must be returned and the current owner's registration and proof of insurance will need to be provided.

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

## "No Better Feeling" By: Del Shields

Down through the canyons, and out through the breaks,  
Dodging the cactus and mean rattle snakes.  
The horse neath my saddle, he's young, big, and strong.  
I've no fear of falling, as he carries me along.

Mountains in the distance. The river flows along.  
The cottonwoods are softly, singing their song.  
The creaking of my saddle. The jingle of my spurs.  
Echo through the yon timber, of the Aspen and Furrns.

The clouds look like cotton, against a blue sky.  
The sun on the lake stream, causes stream to rise high.  
Theres no better feeling, than to be in my boots.  
For this life that I'm living, runs deep in my roots.

So give me my freedom. Don't stand in my way.  
Let me ride the high range, to end of my day.  
If you don't understand me, well I'll give you your do.  
But please stay in the city, cause I understand you.



## BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF KANSAS

*What's the best way to stay informed of BCHKansas news and activities?*

***Follow Facebook.***

There are several Facebook pages set up to keep BCHKansas members and all equestrians up-to-date on activities on several of our public trails. Here's a list:

Back Country Horsemen of America Kansas Chapter  
Sunflower Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas  
Saddle Ridge Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas  
Tuttle Creek Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Kansas  
Saddle Ridge Chapter  
Big Hill Lake Riders  
Friends of Randolph State Park  
Friends of Rockhaven Park  
Let's Ride—Perry Lake



**Receive notifications of workdays or see reports on trails-maintenance or campground improvements. Join in on workdays whenever possible!**

Follow the [www.bchkansas.com](http://www.bchkansas.com) website.

Encourage a new member to join BCHKS and be entered into an end-of-year drawing.



## **Kansas Horse Council Rewards Programs**

### **DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:**

- When you shop at Dillons and use your Rewards card, KHC will earn a percentage rebate based on your Dillon's purchases!

To link & register your rewards card click here: [Dillons Rewards Link](#) and log into your existing account. Search for Kansas Horse Council or enter our NPO number, KS920 and click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a \*Rewards Card. \*You must have a registered Dillons Food Stores rewards card account to link the Community Rewards program to Kansas Horse Council. (Cards are available for FREE at any Dillon's customer service desk.) SHOP: Purchases will not count towards rebates for KHC until you register your rewards card and link to Kansas Horse Council here:

DILLONS REWARDS LINK Registered Rewards Cards must be swiped at checkout or use your phone number registered with your Rewards Card when shopping for purchases to count. This program does not affect your Fuel Points balance. Points will still accumulate for your personal use. Rebate program is based on purchases at Dillon's stores payable to Kansas Horse Council as a Non-Profit Organization. Thank you for your continued support to the voice of equine enthusiasts in Kansas!

### **AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM:**

Kansas Horse Council Foundation (Scholarship Fund) is also now enrolled in the Amazon.com Smile Program! When you shop Amazon.com you may select Kansas Horse Council Foundation as your Non-Profit charity upon Checkout! KHCF will receive .05% of your total purchase, of Amazon SMILE program eligible products! To learn more about this program and



## Lonesome Pine Ranch Best Training For Working Cowboys Pursuing Rodeo Titles

By Frank J. Buchman



One of the most renowned ranch rodeo teams in the country professionally live the real cowboy life every day.

Lonesome Pine Ranch, Cedar Point, claimed its most recent ranch rodeo title at the EquiFest of Kansas in Salina. It is one of nearly uncountable such feats of the true working cowboys. "We are a working ranch using horses everyday caring for cattle in the Flint Hills," said Bud Higgs.

It's a family operation going back more than eight decades. "My dad Frank Higgs, now 85, is still a working cowboy at Valley Center where I grew up," Bud reflected. "So, I have been a cowboy all of my life really."

Today, Bud Higgs' children Troy and Makenzie have continued the family tradition. "They work on the ranch horseback and are on our rodeo team along with my dad. Of course, my wife Roseann is our biggest supporter and best coach we could ever have." Very competitive and an achiever in whatever endeavor, Bud inherited the trait. "Dad bred, raised, and trained his own Quarter Horses. He was always out to be the best possible, and I'm the same. All of the family is too." Bud admitted.

Showing Quarter Horses successfully as a youth and a college athlete, Bud came to the Flint Hills to be a "real" working cowboy. "I worked for the Griffin family in their diverse Chase County cattle operations," Bud said. "That also gave me additional opportunities to do horse training and occasional day work." Expanding out on his own through custom grazing cattle, Higgs then acquired his present ranch. "There was a lone pine tree in the front yard, so that's where the Lonesome Pine Ranch named derived," he said. "We built a new home, but that pine tree is still there."

While Higgs has a substantial personal ranching operation, he also works with a number of other cattle and land owners. "We have about 150-stock cows of our own and manage another thousand cows for additional owners." Custom grazing cattle has long been a Flint Hills tradition. Owners locally and from afar put their cattle on leased native Bluestem a few summer months for efficient profitable gains. "We look after 5,000 grazing cattle every summer which keeps all of us busy," Higgs admitted. "I am especially fortunate that everybody in my family has the ability and is interested in doing the work," Higgs credited.

Additionally, Higgs and family are called regularly for day work assisting area ranchers in roundups and cattle care. "We help everybody out when they need us," Higgs said. Of particular interest to Lonesome Pine Ranch is the preservation and care for the Flint Hills. "We've always believed in burning for managing and

improving the oldest largest native grassland in the world," Higgs said. "There's a lot more to taking care of pastures than most people realize." Handwork and chemical applications also help control brush and weed invaders. "Now, sericea lespedeza has become a terrible problem for us," Higgs said. "We are doing our best to slowdown pasture invasion, but it's sure an uphill battle," Higgs said.

Roseann is a longtime teacher and coach at Chase County Schools. "She's had considerable success coaching basketball, volleyball and softball," Higgs said. "Roseann even coached our own children and must be credited for much of their athletic accomplishments." After graduating from Kansas State University, Troy returned to the Flint Hills to become a rancher. "Makenzie is finishing up at Butler County Community College, and is uncertain whether she'll continue her education or pursue ranching fulltime," Higgs said. "She's always a big help on the ranch doing whatever needs to be done."

Higgs has been competing at ranch rodeos for about 30 years. "I rode with several other area ranches before starting our own Lonesome Pine Ranch team," Higgs said. "We compete in 15-20 rodeos throughout the Midwest each year. With our family, Bo Krueger and Travis Duncan have also been on our team for five years." Collecting many ranch rodeo team titles, Lonesome Pine's highlight was the Working Ranch Cowboys Association (WRCA) Finals Championship in 2015. "That's the one we work the hardest for all of the time," Higgs said. "You first must qualify and then compete at Amarillo against the best working cowboys in the world." Personally, winning a number of ranch rodeo top hand and top horse awards, Higgs is proudest of son Troy matching and exceeding those feats. "Troy has received the top hand and top horse awards at the WRCA Finals, which means so much to us all," Higgs said.

Especially important to all of the family, they are riding homebred and trained ranch horses. "Dad started the breeding program with Tinker Red McCue, so the mares all trace to that stallion," Higgs said. "We are using a couple of Doc Alena, Freckles Playboy, Joe Reed stallions with the mare line also intensely Leo influenced." Troy showed a homebred gelding to win heeling at the Wichita Quarter Horse circuit with his dad as header.

There was more than the ranch rodeo championship for Lonesome Pine Ranch at the EquiFest of Kansas. The team won the stray gathering and wild cow milking at different performances. Roseann again served as the rodeo secretary which she has done a number of years. Lonesome Pine provided some of the cattle for the rodeo and Frank Higgs settled cattle after runs during both performances.

No slowdown is in sight for Lonesome Pine Ranch as dad Frank is excited about his new stallion prospect. Troy, with a horsewoman fiancé, is a major asset to the ranch. Makenzie's enthusiasm for ranch life expands as Roseann keeps a watchful eye over all at the renowned Lonesome Pine Ranch.



## USDA Confirms Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Backyard Flock in Kansas

There has been a confirmed pathogenic case of Avian

Influenza confirmed in Franklin County, KS. The USDA is working closely with the Kansas Department of Agriculture to contain the issue and precautionary measures have been taken.

For more information, please click the link below!

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## Equine Flu Season is HERE! How should you prepare?



Equine influenza, or flu, has been going around. Similar to the "flu" in humans, EI is an upper respiratory infection that is very easily transmittable. As an equine owner, it is important to know what steps to take to help prevent the spread. Click the button below to read the article.

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