

CSU Equine Connection

Equine Science Students Connecting with Equine Enthusiasts

Volume 3, Issue 1

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Goal: To strengthen relationships between faculty, staff, and industry professionals by providing CSU Equine Sciences students with a collection of information pertaining to the industry and undergraduate program.

Ag Ambassadors

By Emily Wolf

What is Ag Ambassadors?

Ag Ambassadors is a Colorado State University College of Agricultural Sciences organization that focuses on being leaders in the university, representing the college, and promoting the industry of agriculture. It is a selective group of outstanding students in the College of Ag who are trained in recruitment, public speaking, professionalism, diversity, and many other skills. We strive to promote the highest ideals and standards of personal conduct, education, and acceptance through the college and the community.

What type of activities is your group involved in?

We are involved in many activities as Ag Ambassadors. This year alone we have put on Ram Camp, volunteered at Ag Day, collected over 1,000 pounds of food for Cans Around the Oval, hosted the College of Ag Sciences Scholarship Breakfast, attended Academic Integrity training, Fall Clean-Up, and given many tours to recruit new students and keep the Aggie population strong. We focus on giving back to CSU, our college, and the surrounding community.

Can Equine Science students be involved in Ag Ambassadors?

Equine students can absolutely be involved because they are in the College of Agricultural Sciences. In fact, many of our Ag Ambassadors are Equine Sciences students. In order to join, they must apply. We have an application posted online followed by a rigorous interview process and then, if selected, they can become Ag Ambassadors. We make selections every Fall.

Could there be any future collaboration between Ag Ambassadors, Stewards of Animal Science and Equine Science Stewards?

The Ag Ambassadors, Equine Science Stewards, and Stewards of Animal Science run into each other at many functions, so it makes sense that we should collaborate with them. After all, we all have very similar purposes and intents. However, our duties as organizations vary and our meeting times tend to conflict, thus making collaboration a challenge. Regardless, I believe we all make efforts to help one another out when it is possible and the Ag Ambassadors always strive to be welcoming and cooperative when other organizations need us.

Savannah Martinez is the Ag Ambassadors Program Chair and can be contacted at savannahcm@gmail.com

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Summer Breeds Trip

“An Adventure in Horse Country”

By Brittany Johnson and Taylor Randall

The Breeds across the U.S. Trip is held every other year to allow Equine Science students the opportunity to tour farms and equine facilities throughout Tennessee and Kentucky. The students enjoyed an afternoon in Nashville, Tennessee before beginning their journey at the National Celebration Grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee the location where the Tennessee Walking Horse World Grand Champion is awarded each year in August. We then had the pleasure of seeing Tennessee Walking Horses in motion at ThorSport Farm an incredibly beautiful farm located in Murfreesboro, TN.

As the students continued their trip they reached Lexington, Kentucky “Horse Capital of the World”. While in Kentucky students were encouraged to seek more information on internships, jobs and networking that is invaluable to students for their future in the equine industry. We began at the Kentucky Horse Park and learned more about opportunities available through the Kentucky Equine Management Internship program (KEMI), an internship program that places students on Thoroughbred farms throughout Central Kentucky allowing them to learn the daily functions of farm management. While at the Kentucky Horse Park we were able to view the entire facility plus the Hall of Champions—home to great horses such as Funny Cide and Cigar.

Students then had the privilege to visit many well known farms in the Lexington area where they toured the Stallion Divisions and had the opportunity to ask questions and make connections on each farm. The farm tours began at Winstar Farm, which stands many legends such as Tiznow, Distorted Humor

(Sire of Funny Cide), Bodemeister, and Gemologist. Three Chimneys was next and perhaps best known for standing Seattle Slew (1977 Triple Crown winner), and they currently stand Big Brown the 2008 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner. Students also visited Claiborne Farm; a farm rich in history where 6 of the 11 Triple Crown winners were sired. Claiborne has stood many great stallions including Secretariat and Bold Ruler; many of these great stallions are buried in the cemetery at Claiborne. They have kept their winning tradition alive by continuing standing sires such as Blame, best known for upsetting Zenyatta’s winning streak in the 2010 Breeder’s Cup Classic.

The trip carried on with a visit to Hagyard Equine Medical Institute where students had the opportunity to speak with current interns, tour the facility, and learn more about internship opportunities. Kentucky Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center invited the students to tour

their amazing facility, complete with a swimming pool, aquatred, vibrating platform and hyperbaric chamber. The trip also included a visit to Old Friend’s, a retirement home for race horses. Next was, Taylor Made a thoroughbred farm that focuses on breeding and sales, and Mitchell Clark Stables, home to Saddlebred show horses. The trip was completed with a tour of Keeneland Race Track, and the ultimate finale: a day of betting at the races at Churchill Downs.

The Breeds across the U.S. trip offered students an invaluable opportunity to visit a variety of equine operations and create connections with influential individuals in the equine industry. Many thanks go out to Dr. Dave Denniston, Ryan Brooks, Cassidy Kurtz and Kathryn Fleischman for making the trip a great success.



Cailin Caldwell – CSU 2013 Alumni

By John Barker



Holsteiners, jumping, 5k's and Reeses candy, Cailin loves it all. Cailin Caldwell is a Seattle native and graced CSU Equine Sciences with her presence in the fall of 2009 graduating fall of 2012. While attending CSU Cailin was the model student getting involved in every equine endeavor that arose. She was president of the English Riding club and competed in Scotland. Additionally Cailin was heavily involved with the Equine Science Stewards and received the steward of the year in 2012. Lastly, she had a successful horse judging career as she was apart of the champion

Arabian team in 2012 and was a fierce competitor on the Quarter horse team in 2011. Without a doubt, Cailin would say that her experiences in the CSU Equine program were priceless.

Currently, Cailin is working as the marketing manager at Rancho Corazon based out of Lamentar, NM. Cailin fell in love with Rancho Corazon during an internship there. Cailin said, "The beauty of the horses, the scenery of New Mexico and prestige that came along with the Holsteiners immediately drew me in to stay." Cailin loves her job as marketing manager being responsible for all advertising for the ranch, the studs, and the breeding program. Cailin also enjoys planning events for the ranch and traveling around the country to promote Rancho Corazon at the country's elite horse shows. However, Cailin will admit that her favorite part of the job is being able to ride such amazing horses with some of the best riders in the world. Cailin truly loves being apart of Rancho Corazon and thanks CSU for all that she has learned and applied to her job.

When asked, "Where do you see your

self 20 years from now?" Cailin replies with a long sigh and an attempt to fit so many goals into such a simple answer. Although Cailin has no clue what she will be doing 20 years from now she is certain that she will find a way to make a true career and living following what she loves, working with such majestic animals and improving the industry as a whole. There is no doubt that Cailin will rise to be a true leader in the equine world.

Finally, Cailin wishes to pass on some advice to current students, "If you follow what you love and make a career out of your passion you will never have a bad day of work because you will always be doing what you love." Cailin truly lives up to this saying, as she never turns down an opportunity to get involved and do what she loves.



M.A.R.E.

By Amanda Summers and Stormy Havens

The Equine Science Stewards recently created a program known as M.A.R.E. This stands for Mentoring and Resource Extension for Students and so far has had an overwhelmingly positive response with about 85 members. This program is geared toward freshman and transfer students to help guide them through their experiences in the Equine Sciences Program. The ultimate goal of the program is to educate, motivate, and assist in networking in the diverse equine industry. The mentors strive to prepare new students not only for their

time at Colorado State University, but also for internships and careers. This is achieved by taking members to different club meetings, advising about upcoming classes, and connecting with other students within the major. Also this program participates in extracurricular activities such as CSU sporting events, study sessions, group outings, and other industry related events. For example, last Spring the members toured Vista Equine Colorado. This experience allowed students to become more educated in managing a breeding facility. Af-

ter this tour, many students became interested in internships and already have applied for the upcoming breeding season. The Equine Science Stewards are excited to start the semester with a group of new and diverse students. If you are interested in applying for the M.A.R.E program, please feel free to email mareprogram@gmail.com at any time throughout the semester.

Bar Rock-N-Bean

By Mary Misgen

Bar Rock-N-Bean is located in Eaton, Colorado and contributes to the Equine Sciences program at Colorado State University. The ranch was started by Todd and Kristen Bean and has only been in operation for the last ten years or so. Todd is an alumni of CSU, having played for the school's football team from 1987 to 1991. Since his graduation the couple has kept close ties to the school, one being through the Leg-



ends of Ranching sale held every year in April. Their operation began with a love of horses and a dashing gray stallion, Quail Hunter aka Hooch, a son of Paddys Irish Whiskey. He was purchased from the Four Sixes in Texas. Along with his eye-catching dappled coat is a heavily built ranching rope type horse with an outstanding disposition. This remarkable trait of his is what they are trying to pass onto his offspring. Kristen Bean has brought Hooch around their local area at shows and other events with a variety of mares and geldings always around. People hardly can tell with his exceptional personality and trainability that a stud is present. The mare side of the operation is just as selective. All are highly bred and selected daughters or granddaugh-

ters of Playgun, Peptoboonsmal, and Real Gun. They are chosen for the program because of their overall conformation, good bone, nice hooves and great minds. In a years time there are normally 4 to 6 foals born and all mares raise their foals out on pasture and are then substituted with hay when necessary. The ranches goal in combining Hooch on these particular mares is to create the ideal versatile, athletic, strong and dynamic horse that can go in any direction their rider chooses. For the 2013-2014 school year the ranch has once again consigned two horses to the Horse Sale & Training class, a gelding and a filly, and will be placing some aged horses into the sale as well in April.

King Creek Ranch

By Chelsea Boggs

This past summer I was given an amazing opportunity to work and earn my internship credits at King Creek Ranch. King Creek is located near the small town of McCoy, Colorado, about forty-five minutes South of Steamboat Springs on Highway 131. When driving past the entrance for the ranch, all that passers-by notice is a big red shop with some corrals on one side of the highway and a typical ranch looking archway that says "King Creek Ranch" with a bull elk skull crowning it on the other side. However, when you drive up the steep, long road into the heart of the ranch, you see picturesque grass horse pastures, amazingly beautiful mansions, and wilderness that stretches for miles. Lucky for me, I was able to call King Creek home for the entire summer!

My days consisted of herding twenty amazing horses into their holding pen for the workday, doctoring and feeding those who needed extra care, and sad-

dling the horses that we planned to use. Several families own the 6,000-acre King Creek Ranch, who would bring friends and family to visit and enjoy the various amenities, such as fishing, golf, shooting, and of course horseback riding. My job focused on taking the owners and their guests for trail rides, giving lessons, and training their horses. The ranch had also purchased some colts from the Legends of Ranching sale this past spring, so I was able to work with one of them as a project for myself throughout the summer. A month or so into the summer, the ranch had a cutting horse trainer come and help me make some big steps with this colt. The extra training ended up paying off the last day I worked when we had to move and sort about two hundred head of cattle.

Not only was my job (if you could call it that) full of riding some amazing ranch horses, it was also full of some amazing

people. Everyone there wanted me to succeed at whatever I did, but were always inviting me to events outside of the workday. I didn't feel like I was working with "coworkers", but I felt like I was more a part of the family. The employees and the owners were incredible contacts to make and have offered to help me in any way that I need when searching for jobs after graduation. Needless to say, my summer was the best I could ask for.



Stewards of Animal Sciences

By Katlin Pittman

The College of Agriculture is small, mighty and very serious about how it is represented. We have the Ag Ambassadors, who represent our college as a whole, from Horticulture to Ag Business to Equine Science. Now in their third year, the Equine Science Stewards (ESS) have also made a name for themselves in the College of Ag. It is with great honor that I formally introduce you to a new set of stewards, the Stewards of



Animal Science (SAS). SAS is in their second year as an organization and their advisor is Dr. Karen Hansen, an Associate Professor at CSU in the department of Animal Sciences.

So who are the SAS and what exactly do they do? In an interview with Dr. Hansen earlier this month I learned all about the program and what they aim to do.

According to Dr. Hansen, SAS was created to meet a need in the Animal Science department. That need was a place for students to improve their leadership skills and be able to give back to their respective department, much like what ESS has done on the equine side. Dr. Hansen saw the student benefit from ESS and wanted that same opportunity for Animal Science students. Much like ESS, SAS is run by a committee system as opposed to electing officers. This means that leadership

positions are voluntary, and every member has the opportunity to contribute in a way that is helpful to the department. For the 2013-2014 year, there are a total of 14 SAS; five of which are returning members from the program's pilot year. Those five returning members hold leadership in the program as the committee chairs for the group. These students range from sophomores to seniors and hail from Oregon to New York and Minnesota to Texas. Though diverse in origin, this group is united in their passion for promoting Animal Sciences.

The SAS activities throughout the year are approximately half planned events and half optional events. These events include promoting the department at various school functions such as Ag Day and Ag Adventure, while also communicating with and giving tours to prospective students. Other activities

include networking opportunities within in the industry, such as attending the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver. At the 2013 NWSS early this year, the SAS had the incredible opportunity to attend the Livestock Leader Award Celebration with CSU President Tony Frank and Head of the Department of Animal Sciences, Dr. Kevin Pond. SAS has also been working in concordance with the ESS on events such as the Spring Branding Banquet and the Fall Gather in order to promote unity in the department.

If you are interested in being involved with the SAS, there are two ways you can do so. For first-year and transfer students in Animal Sciences, the SAS are in the process of launching a mentoring program called CALF, which stands for Collegiate Animal Sciences Leadership Fostering. In addition to being mentored by the SAS, you can also be a part of SAS starting in the 2014-2015 school year! Around the time of spring break, applications should be available for prospective SAS. The application process requires a submitted application which will be circulated throughout the Animal Sciences faculty, a current resume, and an interview. Direct any questions to Dr. Karen Hansen at Karen.Hansen@colostate.edu Fight on, you Stalwart Rams!

Classifieds

- Free to Good Home! 15.2 h OTTB chestnut mare. Brooke Barker: (719)322-8943
- Looking for a new four legged friend? The CSU Polo Club has some wonderful polo horses that are looking for a new home. Have horses that could suite all walks of life. If you are interested, contact Dr. Jason Bruemmer for more information! Phone: (970) 491-8409 jason.bruemmer@colostate.edu
- TexTan Barrel Racing Saddle. Used but in good condition. \$400/ Camlot close contact saddle. Very good condition \$400/HDR Bridle: Horse size Good condition \$45. Sabina Ligas (708)289-9927
- Areion Tack Trunk by Brittany Johnson & Jose Morales. Contact at (303)518-5124.

Club Corner

English Riding Club:

So far this year English Riding Club (ERC) has kept with our traditional activities. We recently volunteered at Lory State Park, cleaning up nails and wood from the burnt down jumps with hopes to assist in the repair process at some point in the near future. ERC has also been bringing in clinicians including trainers Cayla Stone and Jean Dudley with more to come. Keeping up with the season we are also planning some fun nights that involve horses in Halloween costumes! (By Delani Miller)

Collegiate Horsemen's Association:

The Collegiate Horseman's Association (CHA), a club for anyone interested in the horse industry, has had a busy semester so far! In September, we had a great time working as grounds crew at the International Jousting Championships in Estes Park at the Scottish Irish Festival. A few weeks later, members had the opportunity to take a road trip to Rancho Corazon, a warmblood breeding, training and show barn, for their Holsteiner Breed Approvals. We helped them set up for the event, enjoyed watching and learning about the beautiful horses, and relaxed with good company and good food on the ranch. The first weekend of November, we will be volunteering at the annual Fall Cleanup, helping to do yard work around the Fort Collins community. Other events planned include a saddle fitting clinic, a visit to a draft horse farm for a driving demonstration, the ACHA National Convention in South Carolina, and more. CHA meets every other Monday at 6:30pm in Shepardson 102— everyone is welcome! Feel free to contact cha@rams.colostate.edu for more information. (By Taylor Randall)

Polo Club:

The Polo Club has had a great start to the year with a men's team victory over the Kentucky Wildcats on October 18. With a very busy November looming for both the men's and women's teams, full speed practices are getting both the teams and horses back into fighting shape as the women face Cal Poly on November 9 and 10, and Texas A&M on November 22 at home. Also in November, both teams will be traveling to Dallas, Texas for the Fall Fandango tournament where they will be playing other Central Region teams like Texas Tech and Oklahoma State. The men will be traveling to Ithaca, New York for the Fields Tournament where teams from all around the country will battle it out in a four day tournament. Additionally, the Polo Club will bring in some clinicians this semester for the JV and Beginner groups to help boost their game to the next level! Stay updated on Polo Club events and progress this season by visiting www.csupolo.com or liking the "CSU Polo Club" on Facebook. (By Ryan Hattara)

Rodeo Club:

The Rodeo Club just finished out the first half of our rodeo season with our 5th Rodeo of the Fall in Cheyenne, Wyoming. We are proud to announce, our very own Kyle Dickens is leading the entire Central Rocky Mountain Region in the tie-down roping, as well as Luke Bellingsley sitting 15th in the bull riding. In addition to our competing members, we have an amazing group of students partaking in the club and doing an excellent job representing the sport of rodeo in many different ways. We cannot wait to put on our annual Skyline Stampede Rodeo in April and be able to showcase our competitors at our home arena. As the cold weather sets in, we anxiously wait to come back strong in the spring semester's rodeos and send some Rams to the College National Finals. (By Tanner Isaacs)

Versatility Ranch Horse:

The CSU Versatility Ranch Horse Team is off to another great start to the year. With more people than ever getting involved with our club, we have made some positive changes. In order to focus on everyone we have divided the club into a noncompetitive team and a competitive team so there is something for people of all interests. We recently finished up our Silver Jubilee show with record entries, around 135 competitors, the show was a huge success. We are looking forward to competing at the regional championship this December and are excited for the rest of the year. Our club would like to extend a large thank you to our head coach Corky Hall, assistant coach Kelly Hall, and our faculty advisors Bobbie Walton and Cassidy Kurtz for all of your help in preparing our club and making it run smoothly. (By John Barker)