



HOOFPRINTS



MARCH 2025

DOUGLAS COUNTY TRAIL RIDERS

816 N. 1750 ROAD, LAWRENCE, KS



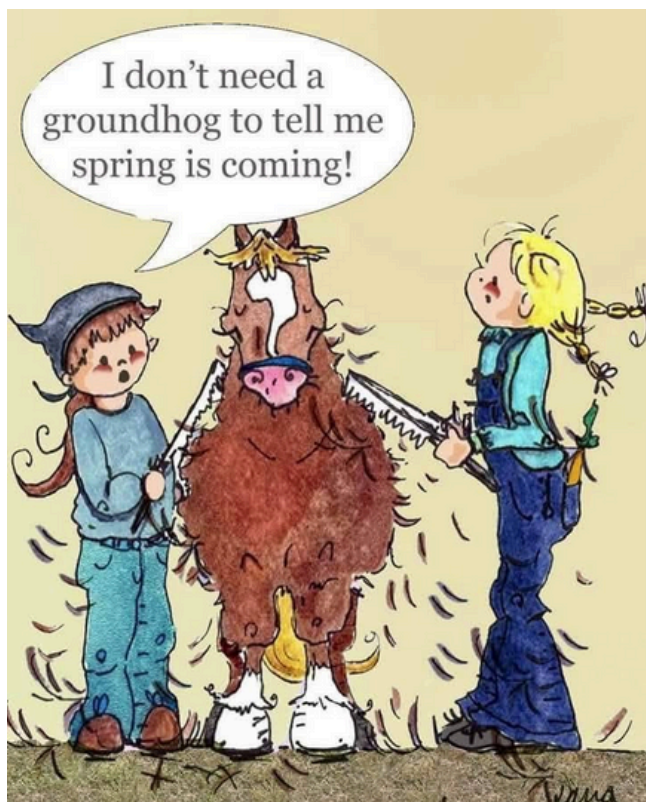
UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 7th DCTR Monthly Club Meeting
- 8th Paint Night!

April

- 4th DCTR Monthly Club Meeting
- 19th Bingo Night!



DINNER IS SERVED!

Dinner for our march Meeting will be potato bar!

Contact Julie Springer if you would like to volunteer & bring a side dish.

785-979-1161

side suggestions: cornbread, salad, fruit, desert

a \$10 donation is greatly appreciated

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT • WINDY CUMMINGS

When not at work in a career she loves, or at competitions, you will find Windy in the southeast corner of Douglas County with her husband, Clayton aka CC at their home, CWIN Ranch. Although Windy is not a cow person, CC is, so they raise Corriente cattle. The steers get roped, since CC is an avid team roper and the heifers are put into the breeding herd. They have Australian Cattle Dogs, one red, one blue, to help with the cattle and to keep visitors in their cars. Windy's heeler has also been known to keep friends and even CC at bay. He is very protective of her and travels with her if she is going alone.

Windy competes in American Horsemen Challenge Association, Extreme Cowboy Racing (EXCA), Ultimate Horsemen Challenge Association and Versatility Ranch Horse events with her geldings Chromedncshinchex and Flippin Coin, traveling to the surrounding states plus Arkansas, Kentucky and Texas. Windy and Coin began their journey in May 2022. Coin is a lot of horse, being trained as a cutter Windy said she really must stay centered, sit deeper and be ready. Coin loves cattle work but not a big fan on the obstacle course, which brings us to Chrome joining the herd of geldings. "We only own geldings, no old mares around here but me".

Windy said she was fortunate to be able to purchase Chrome. Chrome had made a couple EXCA runs with his previous owner. Windy was determined to qualify for the 2024 EXCA World's on Chrome. With only about 40 rides on him, the team headed to Glen Rose, Texas in November. The first run wasn't good, but the second run jumped them ten places. Ending World's in 20th out of 36 competitors. Windy by nature is very competitive and although happy they made it to Worlds in such short time, is focusing on placing higher at 2025 World's.

Windy is a DCTR Board Member and part of our Clinic Committee! Thank you for your contributions to the club, Windy.



FUN FACTS

- Horses' eyes are bigger than those of any other mammals. The fact that they are also located on the side of their head means they can see over 300 degrees. Blind spots are right in front of their nose and directly behind their rump.
- Horse's brains only weigh around 22 ounces.
- The Przewalski's horse is the only wild horse species still in existence. The last wild Przewalski was seen in Mongolia in 1968.
- Arabian horses have one less vertebra compared to other breeds. They have greater bone density, have one fewer pair of ribs.
- Horses' hearts are quite large. It's approximately 1% of its body weight. So a standard 1,000-pound horse has a heart weighing a whopping 10 pounds
- Most horses gallop around 44-65 kph or 27 mph, but the fastest recorded sprinting speed of a horse was 55mph for a quarter horse!
- Old Billy, the oldest domestic horse on record, lived for 62 years.
- The first cloned horse, Prometea, was created in the lab by fusing an adult skin cell and an empty egg from a female horse, then returning the resulting embryo to the female's womb after a few days.



EVENT INFORMATION

PAINT NIGHT AT DCTR



JOIN US FOR A FUN AND CREATIVE EVENING AT OUR KANSAS SUNSET PAINT NIGHT! WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED ARTIST OR A BEGINNER, THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY, HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS, AND SUPPORT OUR CLUB.

EVENT DETAILS:

- DATE: MARCH 8, 2025
- TIME: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- LOCATION: DCTR CLUBHOUSE
- COST: \$40 PER PERSON (INCLUDES PAINT, SUPPLIES, SNACKS, AND DRINKS)

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE: ONLY 20 SPOTS, SO DON'T WAIT TO SIGN UP!

BYOB WELCOME! FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR FAVORITE DRINK TO SIP ON WHILE YOU PAINT!

**tell your horse
i said hay.**

FEELING LUCKY??



BRING YOUR LUCK ON APRIL 19TH FOR BINGO NIGHT WITH YOUR EQUESTRIAN FRIENDS

EVENT DETAILS:

- DATE: APRIL 19, 2025
- TIME: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- LOCATION: DCTR CLUBHOUSE
- COST: PER CARD

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR FAVORITE DRINK TO SIP ON WHILE YOU WIN FUN PRIZES!

TIP OF THE MONTH

EVALUATE THE SADDLE ON THE HORSE

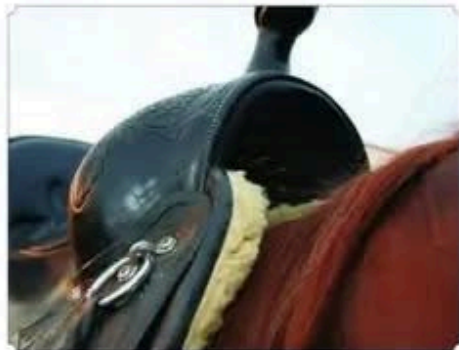
With the saddle positioned correctly-the bars of the tree behind the shoulder blades of the horse-evaluate the following points:

Levelness of Saddle

- ❑ Step back and look at the saddle on the horse's back. The saddle should be level. If the saddle is not level, you can try adjusting it by using shims, sliding it forward or back to raise or lower the front, or trying different rigging positions. When all else fails, you may need a different saddle with a better fit.
- ❑ If the front of the saddle is high the tree may be too narrow.
- ❑ If the front of the saddle is low, the tree may be too wide.



Great saddle fit-the saddle is level and there is adequate gullet clearance.



*LEFT:
Saddle is too narrow and perched up on this horse's withers. Pinching would occur.*



*RIGHT:
Saddle is too wide with gullet resting on horse's withers and tilted downward.*

Improper saddle fit prevents the rider's weight from being distributed evenly through the bars of the saddle tree, resulting in pressure points, rub marks, soreness, or the development of white spots. Your horse's attitude under saddle can clue you in to a problem, but keep in mind that many a good horse will endure an ill fitting saddle until the damage becomes unbearable before complaining. So be proactive in evaluating good saddle fit for your horse.

Sweat Patterns

- ❑ Sweat patterns can give an indication of how the saddle fits. Ideally, the sweat pattern will be even, without dry areas that indicate pressure points, areas where the hair has been rubbed off, ruffled hair or swirl marks that indicate excessive movement.
- ❑ Keep in mind that damage from past saddle fit issues can cause areas of dry spots or white marks
- ❑ Is most of the wear in the middle, and none on the ends? The saddle may be rocking-excessive rocking can be corrected with pads or shims.



Dry spots in center of back indicate bridging.

- ❑ Pictured right is an example of sweat patterns from a bridging saddle. The saddle bars put pressure at the front and rear only and not down the middle creating pressure points against the horse. This can lead to serious damage and soreness. A bridge pad is needed to bridge the gap between the horse's back and tree bars and to effectively distribute the rider's weight.

Saddle Pads

- ❑ You can tell by the hair, dirt, or wear marks where the most pressure is on the horse.
- ❑ Is most of the wear in the middle, and none on the ends? The saddle may be rocking-excessive rocking can be corrected with pads or shims.
- ❑ Is the middle of the pad under the bar not as dirty or compressed as the ends? That could be an indication of bridging. If you think there is even a chance there is any bridging (pressure at the front and back of the bars) it is best to correct with a shim or bridge pad in the center of the bars to correct the problem.