



FEBRUARY 1, 2023

VOLUME #12

SWITCH WILLO STABLES NEWSLETTER



HELLO FEBRUARY!

February already?! We're finding it hard to believe too! January flew by thanks to a busy schedule of shows and IEA competition.

L: Abby Dewan, Glenn Johnson and I Have A Dream, "Flynn", Champion in Green Hunter 3'3" at Blue Ribbon Winter Festival in Waco

Below: Lauren Buettner and Santa Anna Lux Z, "Lux"

UPCOMING EVENTS

- FEB 11: IEA REGIONALS IN SAN ANTONIO
- FEB 25 AT 6:00: CENTEX AWARD BANQUET AT THE OASIS
- MARCH 11-12: MO DAZE SHOW/KATY
- MARCH 15-26: WEC WINTER SPECTACULAR/OCALA
- APRIL 15-16 TRINITY HILL SHOW/WILCO EXPO CENTER



SAY HELLO TO HORSEMANSHIP CLASS!

We are thrilled to welcome our next Horsemanship Class section on Saturday, February 4th at 1:00. Please say hello when you see these students at the barn! This eight-week class takes new riders through horsemanship fundamentals to prepare for success in lessons. We take a deep dive into grooming, parts of the horse and tack, tacking up, leading, and rider position. We can't wait to watch the learning and connection that happens during the course.



CENTEX END OF YEAR AWARDS BANQUET

If you haven't yet purchased your tickets for the Centex Awards Banquet on February 25th at the Oasis at 6:00 pm, now is the time! Go to <https://www.cthja.com/> for all the details and to get your tickets!

Check your points at <https://www.cthja.com/points!> We have many riders who are receiving year-end awards, *you* could be one of them.

CAMP IS COMING!

Registration is now open for Spring Break Camp (Mar 13-17) and Summer Camp (May 29-Aug 11). To enroll your rider or to share with your friends and family go to our website at the link [here](#).

We're also hiring! Counselors In Training 12+ (volunteer), Junior Counselors (paid in show credits), Senior Counselors 15-17 (paid position), Lifeguards (16+), and Adult Supervisors (preferably 21+). Reach out to Wendy at camp@switchwillo.com to get on our schedule or for more information.

GOOD LUCK IEA TEAM AT REGIONALS!

Good luck to our Middle School Team at Regionals on February 11 in San Antonio! The following team members also qualified as individuals: Magnolia Hance, Lauren Slade, Abi Cunningham, Brie Cunningham, Cole Marshall, Ginger Lillie, Lily Marshall, Lydia Vine, Elle Locke, Grace McCarty, Hadeel Salman, Katherine Siemes, Natalie York and Reese Wilson.

What is IEA? For student equestrians in grades 4-12, the Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) introduces students to equestrian sports and offers an opportunity to learn and compete on a team. The unique aspect of IEA competitions is that none of the riders supply their own horses or tack. Instead, the host team arranges for the horses and equipment. Riders draw the name of the horse they will ride and are not allowed to school the horse before showing. Since the horse is new to the rider, the scores are based upon horsemanship and equitation. The competition season starts August 1st and ends at the National Finals in late spring / early summer. We have an extremely active and successful team, Capital City Equestrian, which is led by head coach Lindsey Mortimer and assistant coach Kylie Wiggins.



ABOVE, FRONT: HADEEL SALMAN,
KATHERINE SIEMES, REESE WILSON.
BACK: SOLEIL FULLINCK, NATALIE
YORK, KYLE WIGGINS, LINDSEY
MORTIMER AND GINGER LILLIE.

UPPER R: ELLE LOCKE AND KATHERINE
SIEMES

R: LINDSEY MORTIMER, MAYA
GRAZIANO, BRIE CUNNINGHAM AND
LAUREN SLADE



RIDER SPOTLIGHT: KATE FASON

We are thrilled to introduce Kate Fason this month! Kate's riding story is one of passion for riding and love of horses from the very beginning. She says, "I started riding at a summer camp at SWS when I was six, and I fell in love and started lessons that fall. My favorite ponies from the lesson program were Funny, Abu, Maddy and Dino, and I remember doing my first show on Abu and I was so excited because he ended up getting champion. Abu taught so many kids to ride and he was the best." (pictured R)



"I got my own pony when I was in third grade when I was lucky enough to lease Rocco (L and lower L with Kirk Berlin). He is a super spunky pony with a great heart. I leased him for four years until I found Toby (below) who I got to take to Pony Finals. He was experienced so he was able to teach me a lot and always helped me out when I made mistakes. After Toby I leased Tango and he was a great horse to move up from a pony on."





"Three years ago I bought Audi and have had him since! He's the coolest horse I've ever ridden and I feel really lucky to have him♥. (top L)

"Right now I am getting Audi back into shape after he had some time off, and I have been showing Redford who has been great. (bottom L and below)

"In the fall I am going to attend SCAD, so I can pursue art and ride on the team there.

"I would say my advice to younger riders would be to enjoy the small moments and the journey of riding. It's easy to get caught up wanting the next best thing or to win big classes but what's really important is the joy and memories that riding brings. We all started riding because we love horses, so always remember that!"



Thank you Kate for sharing your SWS story! We appreciate your generosity in all that you do for our training staff and for other riders. You are a wonderful role model for our Juniors. We wish you the best in the coming show season and as you continue your riding journey at SCAD in the fall!



FEBRUARY PHOTO GALLERY



Clockwise from L: Abby Dewan on Flynn; Allie Eickenhorst on Sugar On Top, "Strawberry"; Isabelle Branc on Calinus 4, "George"; Isabelle and George; Allie Eickenhorst and her dad celebrating her Reserve Champion in combined Short/Long Stirrup.

FEBRUARY PHOTO GALLERY



L: LIZ CUNNINGHAM AND
PPR CANTINA, "CANTINA" AT
BLUE RIBBON WINTER
FESTIVAL



ABOVE: GRACE MCCARTY
AND KYLIE WIGGINS



L-R: REESE WILSON, ELLE
LOCKE, ABI CUNNINGHAM AND
KATHERINE SEIMES



L-R: CHLOE O'CONNELL, COLE MARSHALL AND LILY
MARSHALL STAYING WARM WITH THE IEA TEAM

2023 Local Horse Show Schedule

March 11-12	Mo Daze – Britania GHHJA	GSEC
April 15-16	Trinity Hill CTHJA	Wilco Expo Center
April 22	Bit by Bit TSSA	Bit by Bit Farm
May 6-7	Trinity Hill CTHJA	Wilco Expo Center
May 20	Box T TSSA	Salado
June 3-4	Classic Horse Show GHHJA	GSEC
July 7-9	Summer Circuit CTHJA	WilCo Expo Center
July 21-23	Summer Circuit CTHJA	WilCo Expo Center
August 4-6	Summer Circuit CTHJA	WilCo Expo Center
September 16	Bit by Bit TSSA	Bit by Bit Farm
October 28-29	Halloween GHHJA	Pine Hilll
November 11-12	CTHJA Final Show	WilCo Expo Center
November 18	Box T TSSA	Salado
November 25-26	Finish Line GHHJA	GSEC

2023 USEF Horse Show Schedule

December 8 – 11	Thanksgiving Show	Waco, TX
January 19 – 22	Blue Ribbon Winter	Waco, TX
March 15 – 19	WEC Winter Spectacular XI	Ocala, FL
March 22 – 26	WEC Winter Spectacular XII	Ocala, FL
April 4 – April 8	Pin Oak Charity Horse Show II	Katy, TX
April 12 - 16	Pin Oak Charity Horse Show III	Katy, TX
May 3 - 7	Great Southwest Round Up	Katy, TX
May 10 - 14	Fiesta Classic	Katy, TX
June 15-18	Blue Ribbon Summer Festival I	Waco, TX
June 22-25	Blue Ribbon Summer Festival II	Waco, TX
July 26 – 30	Ocala Summer Series Week 8	Ocala, FL
August 2 – 6	Ocala Summer Series Week 9	Ocala, FL
September 20 - 24	Southwest Showdown	Katy, TX
Sept 28 – Oct 1	GSEC Fall Classic	Katy, TX
October 19 - 22	Monster Mash	Katy, TX
November 8 - 12	Great Southwest Autumn Classic	Katy, TX
November 15-19	Final Chase	Katy, TX