



KING RANCH INSTITUTE
FOR RANCH MANAGEMENT
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - KINGSVILLE

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A South Texas Holiday!



Photo by Tom Urban - *Wildlife of the King Ranch* collection

“The best day is the day coming.”

-Tom Lea



TEXAS A&M
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NEWSLETTER

From the Director, Dr. Barry Dunn

Einstein's Revolution

by Dr. Barry Dunn and Les Nunn

A horse, with the great name of Einstein's Revolution, is the current National Reining Horse Association's (NRHA) all-time leading money-earner. Even though Einstein's Revolution was born with talent and athletic ability, reaching the top did not come easily. The five-year-old stallion overcame several setbacks and has thrived in an education and training regime that are counter-intuitive to how most believe a horse should be trained.

Early in his career, Einstein's Revolution suffered an injury that required surgery and rest that put him weeks behind in his training schedule. His assistant trainer at the time thought he lacked the intellect to learn the difficult maneuvers he would be required to perform. His debut in the show pen was termed "ridiculous" by his current trainer Ruben Vandrop. Regardless of his debut, Vandrop believed the horse had great potential, which he felt required the help of another trainer, Tim McQuay. McQuay was able to do some fine tuning on Einstein's Revolution, and as Vandrop had hoped, McQuay started Einstein's Revolution down the path to success. Unfortunately, the young horse failed to perform as expected at the NRHA Futurity. No longer fitting McQuay's program, the horse was sent home. His time off was short, as was his slump in the performance pen. Shawn Florida, another NRHA training great, took over the reins and made minor adjustments to further hone the horse's skills and abilities. Soon the young horse was on his way to many significant victories, with both Florida and Vandrop in the saddle.

Vandrop credits his horse's success to the fact that Einstein's Revolution had the unusual opportunity to spend time with different top notch trainers. A more typical training regime, in all types of equine competition, is for a young horse to be trained and campaigned by a single trainer. For a horse to achieve success with multiple trainers is highly unusual. But Vandrop believes that Einstein's Revolution's success is due to the fact that each trainer was able to add strengths to the horse's

learning process. It was the combination of each of the trainers' strengths that made Einstein's Revolution a success in the highly competitive world of reining.

The model for the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management developed by the King Ranch family, its management team at the ranch, and the faculty here at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, included exposing KRIRM students to multiple teachers and mentors. And today, our lectureships provide our students the opportunity to learn about a variety of topics from the industry's best. Our students study wildlife and range management under the tutelage of the faculty of the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, who are renowned as the finest in the world. They have the opportunity to work on a variety of projects at the King Ranch under the mentorship of VP and General Manager Dave Delaney and his staff. During the summer, they can be found on ranches from South Texas to Nebraska, working for excellent ranchers. Our annual HOLT-CAT® Symposium on Excellence in Ranch Management has brought to Kingsville speakers and teachers from across the United States and New Zealand. And to cap their program off, our students spend an entire semester working with our faculty and their rancher hosts on an internship, studying an actual ranch problem, situation, or opportunity and developing a possible solution.

Multiple teachers and trainers created a unique world champion horse. Multiple teachers and mentors, in a unique educational experience, create young ranch managers ready for a challenging career.

Thanks to Wendy Lind of Performance Horse magazine for information used in this column from her November, 2007 article, "The Tag-team Training of a Genus."



WAGON TRACKS

Scenes from a successful *Symposium!*

2007 Holt-Cat® Symposium Topic

“Developing Management Strategies for A Changing Ranching Industry”



Over 200 people attended our annual Holt-Cat® Symposium on Excellence in Ranch Management in October! Participants from 15 states, Mexico, Canada and Puerto Rico enjoyed the keynote address by Mike Mazzocco and the interactive workshop format. Our next Symposium, “Living the Legacy: Transitioning Ranch Ownership and Management to the Next Generation” will be held October 30-31, 2008 - watch for more details in upcoming newsletters!



King Ranch Institute Seeking Students for 2008 Master's Degree Program

King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management at Texas A&M University-Kingsville is now seeking applicants for the 2008-2009 Master's degree program in ranch management.

The King Ranch Institute, created in 2003 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of King Ranch, is the only master's degree program of its kind in the United States. Each year, four students are selected to be part of this unique and exceptional academic program that is part of the College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

“Our graduate program helps ambitious young people clearly differentiate themselves in a very competitive world,” said Dr. Barry H. Dunn, executive director of the institute. “This degree is unique in the world, but more importantly, the education, training, exposure and experience that our graduates gain prepares them for outstanding careers and will reward them with countless benefits throughout their lives.”

Applicants must be mature and have at least two years work experience in the ranching business. Candidates also should have a bachelor's degree with an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or better and a score of at least 800 on the Graduate Requirement Exam (GRE).

Those accepted into the program are fully funded with a combined two-year scholarship and assistantship that includes a salary, full benefits and out-of-state tuition waivers. Students are responsible for in-state tuition, books, fees and other school-related expenses.

Applications will be accepted from January 1 to March 31, 2008. Additional details may be found at <http://krirm.tamuk.edu> or by calling 361-593-5401.

These aren't your Typical



Now taking applications for our 2008 Class!

Cowboys!



Cowboy + Businessman = KRIRM Graduate!

Meet Our

New Students

for 2007-2008!



Steve Udy - Bass Fellow

Steve Udy comes to the Institute from Deseret Cattle and Citrus (DCC) in central Florida where he was employed for 13 years. At DCC he was responsible for the north end of the ranch in which he oversaw approximately 50,000 acres of improved and unimproved pastures; consisting mainly of bahia grass. With the assistance of three foreman and five cowboys, they oversaw the production of 9,000 cows, the maintenance of pastures, and currently the development of 5,000 additional acres from native land to improved pastures. At DCC, Steve was also responsible for marketing of cull animals, developing replacement heifers, overseeing of stocker animals in Georgia, and organizing the shipping and weaning process. Steve received his B.S. degree from Brigham Young University with a minor in business. He grew up in southeastern Idaho on a purebred Hereford and Red Angus ranch which was a partnership

between his father, Richard and his uncle. The operation also consisted of hay, wheat, and barley production. Steve is happily married to Lori Welch of Bartow, Florida and they have two kids: Austin, 6, and Mikayla, 4. They are excited to be in South Texas and are grateful for the opportunities provided by the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management and those that made this program possible.

Austin Anderson - ExxonMobil Fellow

Austin Anderson, his wife, Ellie, and their two-year-old daughter, Rylee, come to the King Ranch Institute from the RO Ranch in the high desert of Smoky Valley, Nevada. At the RO, Austin was the cow boss of their 2,000 cow operation. His duties included management of an 800 head feedlot facility and a 250 head heifer herd. In December 2004, Austin graduated from Montana State University in Bozeman, with a bachelor's degree in agriculture education. While in school, he worked as a research assistant at the Montana State University Research Farm. There, he learned about the essential roles of research and continued education in the advancement of the ranching industry. After graduating from Montana State, Austin worked for two years at the Double T Ranch in Babb, Montana, where he assisted in the breeding program for their Stabilizer bull operation in cooperation with Leachman Cattle Company. Having ranched with his family in Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, and Montana, Austin's entire life has been centered in agriculture. Seeing an animal grow, thrive, and produce is very fulfilling for him. He has acquired skills and character that he desires to pass on to his children through the ranching lifestyle. Through the KRIRM program, Austin hopes to successfully manage a ranch and use his abilities to make the ranching industry better for generations to come.



Delane Atcitty - Clement Fellow

Delane Atcitty signed on to the King Ranch Institute as a new graduate assistant in the fall semester of 2007. He brings with him over 15 years experience in the livestock industry and is a welcome addition to the King Ranch Institute. Prior to joining KRIRM, Delane was residing in Goodwell, Oklahoma, where he attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University and received his bachelor degree in agribusiness with a minor in animal science. While enrolled at OPSU, he was employed as a pen rider for Hitch Enterprises and also as a research assistant for the Oklahoma State University Extension Service. As a research assistant, he was involved in a project exploring distiller grain effects on beef cattle production. Delane has held various jobs in the industry including cowboy work, volunteering in the training of herd health and Beef Quality Assurance, teaching horseshoeing workshops for tribal entities and local ranchers, and running a successful certified farrier service. Delane is a proud member of the Navajo Nation and Taos Pueblo tribes which occupy most of northern Arizona and part of northwestern New Mexico. Delane realized in his youth, while ranching with his grandfather near the Rio Grande River, that working with livestock and nature was his desire. Delane is looking forward to learning how a systems approach to cattle production, business management, range management and wildlife management will produce a flourishing and successful ranching operation.



Our students are as unique as our program! We're happy to welcome these four new students and proud to introduce them to you. These students began our program in the fall of 2007 and will graduate in the summer of 2009 with a Master's in Ranch Management.



Doug Wilmeth - Tio Kleberg Fellow

Doug Wilmeth was born and raised in the ranch country of southeastern New Mexico. His family was involved with cow-calf and stocker operations as well as the feed yard industry. In 1988 he graduated with an associates degree in electronic engineering technology. He worked 10 years installing and maintaining computer network systems, satellite communication systems, and video teleconferencing for the military as well as academia and commercial industry. After layoffs in the 90s his roots of agriculture called him back to college where he graduated with a B.S. in animal science from Texas State University in 2000. Upon graduation he went to work as a foreman on the historic Callaghan Ranch in Webb County near Laredo. He worked in all phases of this 2,500 head cow-calf and commercial deer hunting operation. He also was in charge of heifer development, weaning, processing, and assisted as a guide during deer season. Doug has spent his last four and half years working with the

USDA as a meat grader in Amarillo. He has worked in all the major plants in the U.S. including Swift, Excel, Tyson, and National Beef. He personally graded 1,000 head per day providing quality and yield grades to carcasses. He has provided carcass data for producers, feeders, and college research teams. His duties included the certification of carcass programs such as Certified Angus Beef, Certified Hereford, Nolan Ryan, and all A40 maturity carcasses for export to Japan. The knowledge gained from looking at and evaluating good and bad cattle daily, and knowing what the industry wants has been priceless. Doug has come full circle in the beef industry from cow-calf to feed yard to the packing plant and with King Ranch Institute would like to tie it all together to become a ranch manager who can utilize the systems approach in ranch management.

A Spirit of Giving

Supporting King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management

At King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management, we understand that you want your gifts to have impact in an industry where jobs are not just jobs. . .they are a way of life. Our commitment is that your gift will be invested wisely, and the earnings used to educate and train future generations of progressive ranch managers who will carry on the tradition and heritage that go hand in hand with ranching. Our endowment funds are



invested through the Texas A&M University System Foundation. Since its establishment in 2003, the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management has received endowments to support faculty, students, lectureships, symposia, and Funds for Excellence. Gifts can be specified to be used at the donor's suggestion or placed into categories according to need. We offer several options for your tax-deductible donation.

To Donate

Our Annual Giving Form is enclosed, or may be downloaded from the Internet at <http://krirm.tamuk.edu>. You may contact our office at 361-593-5401 or e-mail barry.dunn@tamuk.edu

“For most of us, destiny chooses an individual to contribute significantly to our lives, but even more remarkable is when individuals from several generations give so much and influence so many.”

-Helen Kleberg Groves in
Bob and Helen Kleberg of King Ranch



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MSC 137
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Kingsville, TX 78363-8202

Visit our web site at <http://www.krirm.tamu.edu> • 361-593-5401