

# **RANCH AT A GLANCE**

## **MAY 2022**



### **In this month's newsletter**

Special Feature "Beyond The Gate" Green Ridge Ranch  
Horses and Dogs  
Ranch Club  
Erin Creegan-Dougherty  
Welcome the Clarkes  
Barn Manager  
Equine Resident  
News from Germany  
Barn Update and Wood  
Operations

## **HOWDY to our neighbours to the West!**

We are GREEN RIDGE RANCH and we are genuinely honoured to be included in this newsletter.

### **How Dreams Come True**

Green Ridge Ranch, formerly Liberty Stables, was purchased by Layton Green who took possession on September 21, 2021.

Layton is a professional saddle bronc rider currently sitting 3rd in world rankings and his profession takes him all over the USA in the winter months. Layton's success took him to the National Finals Rodeo this past year.



This was his second appearance at the NFR. We are hopeful that he will be there yet again this coming season!! Layton is also a past Canadian Champion Saddlebronc Rider and has many other championships and accolades to his name in the Saddlebronc world.

**[Check out Layton's Facebook Page](#)**  
**[Layton Green Professional Saddle Bronc Rider](#)**



Layton and his fiancée Brooke Bornau will be celebrating their up-and-coming wedding here at the ranch this October! It will be a wonderful celebration for a lovely couple. Brooke currently is still working in Edmonton and is a power engineer. Full time relocation to the ranch for her is in the very near future. Currently the couple is living a very busy life away from the ranch, but their hearts and souls are here at the ranch and any opportunity they get - they are here!

Layton and Brooke are avid hunters and horse enthusiasts - and enjoy many outdoor activities this area offers. This is why they fell in love with Green Ridge Ranch and the surrounding area.

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### **All About Family**

**The Green family currently owns and operates a grain farm operation and raise and train bucking horses in Meeting Creek, AB. (near Ponoka). Rodeo runs deep in the family...**

Layton's mother Lana is a former barrel racer.

Layton's father Dave is a former Saddlebronc rider.

Layton's brother Garrett currently competes at the professional level in bull riding.



Lee Phillips (Layton's grandfather) is a former Professional steer wrestler and Tie-down roper. A two-time Canadian champion, Lee was inducted into the Canadian Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2003. Once Lee retired from professional rodeo, he worked in the movie industry in the transportation and wrangling departments. Lee provided and trained horses for many A list films all across Canada. In addition, his resume is full of many other interesting things he has done personally and professionally through the years.

Lee was quite the steer wrestler. In his own words  
**"It was the first year that Calgary awarded the \$50,000. I was the last steer wrestler to compete. I had to beat a time of 4.5 to win the 50,000. I was 4.7. So .2 cost me \$50,000. But hey that's rodeo. "**





Trish Ferguson-Phillips was raised in West Bragg Creek enjoying the foothills before moving to the prairies. Trish grew up with and around horses her whole life. She is a former barrel racer and enjoyed other western disciplines through the years. On a professional level Trish worked in the veterinary world her whole career at large and small

practices in the Okotoks and High River areas. Now retired from the veterinary industry, Trish is concentrating on the wants and needs of the horses and boarders at Green Ridge Ranch and greatly enjoying being back in the foothills.

Since Layton and Brooke lead such ambitious, busy lives at this time - some barn managers needed to be appointed!

Lee and Trish decided to make a lifestyle change - sell their property



in Mossleigh, AB where they had lived for the past 10 years – downsize – and move west to the foothills to support Layton and Brooke in their exciting endeavour at Green Ridge Ranch!! They enjoy being of assistance to Green Ridge Ranch and all parties involved in this beautiful operation.

## **GREEN RIDGE RANCH FACILITY**

Green Ridge Ranch is a horse boarding facility. We provide pasture board, indoor heated arena, sand outdoor arena, outdoor grass arena, heated barn, and amenities! We are a friendly atmosphere facility probably geared to the more recreational western rider.

**We have drop in indoor arena use: \$20 per person and \$10 if the person wants to work a second horse. One hour. Everyone must sign a waiver.**

We are determined to provide a positive and pleasant boarding experience to our boarders and their horses! We are striving for a happy, stress free environment with great atmosphere, great people, and of course great horses!!! A place where horses and riders can learn and progress together in a safe, positive, fun way towards their goals as riders!

We have hosted a few “fun” days where we have done roping, gymkhana, cowboy challenge, etc. – we are hoping to continue on with these enjoyable “fun” days once monthly. We are also very excited to take advantage of the beautiful trail riding opportunities in the area as well!

Thank you for the introduction in your newsletter and we hope to meet some of our neighbours in the area soon!!!

If you ever wish to reach out to us our email is: [greenridgeranch21@outlook.com](mailto:greenridgeranch21@outlook.com)  
Feel free to check us out on Facebook and Instagram!  
Ranch/barn contact: [\(403\) 256-0717](tel:4032560717)





**FOR THE LADIES.....Lee with Brad and Sam (no  
second names needed)**



### **All Residents and Their Guests**

Nothing compares to the wonder of horses and dogs **except** when they don't belong together. This applies to everywhere on our ranch and particularly the pond pasture and roads. Shepherd or herding dog breeds have a strong and natural instinct to chase livestock.

Most of us know that horses are prey animals which means they are afraid unless they are not. The "not" comes from patient building of trust between horse and rider. Horses are still afraid of everything else which is why they prefer to be in a herd. You will often notice one horse in the herd is on lookout just in case...

Horses learn to trust dogs through positive interactions. A negative encounter between horse and dog can "spook" a horse and ultimately endanger the rider. Let's face it - all of the riders here are not getting any younger!!! A horse frightened by a dog can result in serious injury.



We all share these magical acres so let's look out for each other's safety. Here's how:

**-don't let your dog offleash in the pond pasture unless the pup has mastered Recall and will not bark at horse/rider.**

**-if your dog is onleash don't get close to horse/rider in the pond pasture or on the road if there is any chance your dog might bark or lunge at the horse.**

**-visiting dogs from the city will find interacting with horses very exciting. Dogs that are well behaved at home may run up to horses, barking. Please make sure your guests understand the danger their dogs represent to riders.**

**-please do not assume that, because your dog has met a horse, all will be fine the next time they meet.**

**-some horses already do not like dogs so just be cognizant of that when walking through pastures.**

**Thanks for your cooperation.**



## DID YOU KNOW????

The Ranch Club has a Spot Device for staff that can be loaned out to community members when not in use by staff.

What is a Spot Device?

“SPOT determines your GPS location and sends your location and programmed message to communication satellites. ... Your location and messages are delivered according to your instructions via email, text message, or emergency notification to the GEOS International Emergency Response Coordination Center.”

If you are going out into K country or even venturing into the West Pasture by yourself, it is a good idea to take some precautions. The Ranch Club Spot can be found in the feed room in the barn.

There will be a sign out sheet that we ask you to use when taking it and ensure you return it to the barn as it is imperative that it is available to staff when they are out and about working alone. Currently the settings are to send emails and text messages from the help button to Kym Penner, Lori Collins and the Office, along with the 911 being routed directly to the emergency response center for dispatch. Simply turn it on - remember it should always be attached to you, so it does not get lost and you have easy access.



If you are interested in buying your own unit they can be purchased from Amazon or any sporting goods store. The most popular brands

are Spot and InReach from Garmin. You buy the unit and then it is a subscription service.

Always a good idea to let a neighbour know if you are going out alone as well!



## **RANCH CLUB - Kym Penner**

We made it to May! We were fortunate to have a fairly mild winter, but It's so nice that winter is behind us. Winter, not snow ;). We will likely see some snow this month, but we hope to see more people out and about enjoying our beautiful community. We have great places to walk, picnic, ride, fish and play right within our borders and out the West pasture gates the world opens even wider!

Have you visited the Barn lately? The Ranch Club has been working hard to brighten up the lower level of the barn and have it function better for staff and owners. The tack room is brighter and now accommodates more saddles. At the front door there is a cabinet with all first aid items. Equine and Human. These supplies will be checked monthly for stock but please if you take anything write it down to bring it to our attention.

A BIG thank you goes out to Louis DeLesalle for taking the lead and to Keith Almberg and Rob Pearce who spent many hours with Louis measuring and remeasuring, measuring again and cutting!

After a couple of years of few activities the Ranch Club is aiming to put on 1 or 2 community activities a month. Starting with the May 7th Kentucky Derby! Have you RSVPd yet? There will be food and drink, foot races, a little “friendly” betting and of course the Kentucky Derby will be broadcast in the Barn.

**Please RSVP.** to [squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com](mailto:squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com).

Kentucky Derby Fashion is encouraged, with a prize for the best hat! All ages welcome!

We have a couple of fun things planned for June including an afternoon of learning to handle horses from the ground and an afternoon of Roping lessons. More details and dates to come!

**Steve Bansky aka the Dog Whisperer with Bailey, Rufus and Maddie (class in session)**







### **An Update on one of Square Butte's own: Erin Creegan-Dougherty**

Most of you will already know Erin; she has resided at Square Butte Ranch for about 3 years, and has been a Ranchhand assisting with the care of our equine friends for 2 years. She is one of Melodie Creegan's daughters, a student at the Mount Royal University majoring in International business and is now the sole proprietor of

Maskwa Backcountry Foods! Maskwa is Cree for Bear and is a reflection of Erin's Metis heritage.

Through the Entrepreneur and Innovation Institute at Mount Royal University, Erin has recently applied for and been awarded two grants. The first was for "seed funding" through the Founders Fund, which supports student founders in early validation by removing financial barriers to these activities. The second resulted from her entry into the JMH Launchpad Pitch Competition that supports student Entrepreneurs in their business startups.

Erin has a passion for cooking and nutrition. Some time ago she began providing food for backcountry guiding operations, both foods for at the camp and on the trail. Requests received through the guides and their clients alerted Erin to the need to accommodate individual dietary restrictions which included gluten free, paleo, keto and vegan options. Erin experimented with recipes and all of the food she prepares is influenced by both her Indigenous roots and her focus on farm to table options. Grant funding received to date will go towards a Freeze dryer and additional dehydrators (she already has two) and further recipe development.

Erin has another year to complete in her degree. Beyond food production to meet the needs of the Backcountry guiding operations that rely on her, she is also focused on the packaging of her products, e-commerce development, ingredient partnerships and as always ongoing recipe development and improvement. Little wonder that Erin is one of our main expert "go tos" on the dietary needs of our metabolic horses.

**Congratulations Erin, on your continued success!**



Our names are Elizabeth and Peter Clarke. We have purchased Lot 26 - undeveloped lot at the north end of Chinook Ridge - and are hoping to be able to start building a house this summer.

We presently intend to retire as of December 31 2022 and our present plan is to move to Alberta at around that time. We have been told by the builder that our house could be completed by June 2023, barring exceptional delays.

Peter is retiring from a career in child protection, as a supervisor and front line worker. Elizabeth is leaving the positions of CEO of the YW (formerly known as the YWCA) in Kitchener-Waterloo and that of an elected Councillor for Kitchener with the Region of Waterloo municipality.

We decided to move to Alberta after the arrival of our first grandchild, Eammon, now a year old. Eammon was born to our son Riley and his partner Kaitlin, who live and work in Calgary. We have 3 adult sons. Patrick, a PSW, will be moving to Calgary and likely purchasing a condo there. Trevor, a supervisor at UPS, could not be convinced (yet) to abandon his group of close friends and join the exodus west.

We are planning to board Elizabeth's 19 year old Trakehner mare, Piper, at Square Butte (**anyone with knowledge of a good quality horse transporting service please make suggestions – the guy we used in the past has moved to Alberta!**). Please email [peterc37@hotmail.com](mailto:peterc37@hotmail.com)

Our male terrier/husky? cross (we aren't sure as he was a rescue) Macree plans to come with us. We are presently fostering a hound cross named Carter, for the local SPCA, and we have decided to adopt him.

We are looking forward to hiking and trail rides and other activities in the area. We feel we were lucky to find the opportunity to purchase at Square Butte because we think it will allow us to have a house and cottage at once, something we had wanted but weren't sure we could find. In the past we have owned and kept horses in Salmon Arm BC on a small acreage, and outside Dawson Creek BC on a quarter section. Both areas provided good trail riding and we enjoyed our time there.



**We are looking to rent in the area until we are able to move into the new build.**

Possible rental Jan 1 2023 to July 2023 and possibly later if our construction is delayed.

Townhouse or acreage. 2+ bedrooms and 2+ bathrooms. Shedding dog 60 lbs. On the plus side he never has accidents and also never gets on to furniture.

Please contact:

**Elizabeth and Peter Clarke**

**peterc37@hotmail.com. Cell 519 400 7342**



## **BARN MANAGER**

**“The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May”.  
Edwin Way Teale**



I have been pining for Spring since January and truly we had some amazing days that I would declare the season had changed to Spring.... But now it's May and even the Calendar agrees with me.

Spring is a busy time for me.

With the warm weather at the beginning of April I was able to get a jump start on Harrowing the pastures. Harrowing the pasture helps to break up manure and evenly distributes the nutrients in the manure. Breaking apart the manure piles prevents grass from being smothered. Also, the added benefit is the pastures look so much better when harrowed after a long winter!

This month you will continue to see myself along with Erin and maybe even Louis doing our best to get all the harrowing done as weather permits.

Springtime also means daily checks on the Electric Fences, moving horses, and of course hauling water to the different pastures. If in your travels around the ranch you see electric fences down, or a horse outside the fence, please reach out to us at [sbranchhand@gmail.com](mailto:sbranchhand@gmail.com) and [squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com](mailto:squarebutteranchclub@gmail.com) and let us know. Sometimes horses really do think the grass is greener on the other side.

Do you have guests that would like to bring their horses to Square Butte for a weekend of riding with you? Please reach out to me and we can make arrangements for a safe space for the horses away from our herd. There is a fee of \$10.00/day/horse.

Spring also means you may see me around the ranch riding my own horses, checking the perimeter fencing or exercising other horses. Riding the horses is a much more enjoyable way to do my job than on the Quad or truck and I look forward to seeing you all out there on my travels around the ranch!

Peace Be Wild  
Lori

### EASTER EGG HUNT at the Morgans



# MISS SQUARE BUTTE | 💧 MAY | 💧

## \*JEWELS\*

Although relatively new to the ranch, Miss Jewels and her owner have rapidly gained notoriety through their partnership. A total drama queen, Jewels defines the concept of having “mare-ish behavior”.

Jewels is a tough, gritty horse who has a no quit attitude. The initial few minutes into a ride can be rather entertaining however, as she has been known to warm up for rides in a rather unusual manner. Much like an old car that needs to blow the carbon out of the exhaust before settling into a smooth rhythmic idle, Jewels occasionally follows a warm up ritual that includes stomping her feet, humping up, and slamming it into reverse before finally finding first gear and continuing on down the road in a contented manner. Her passenger is left to quietly just sit aboard, unfazed by the performance until she has worked out the kinks and is ready to head out.



Very little is known about the history of Jewels, and what we were told when we bought her left much room for doubt. She came to us from the Williams Lake BC area with the owners wishing to sell her in order to purchase a barrel racing horse. Although our initial “meet and greet” was a bit sketchy, I could see my husband’s eyes were glazed over by her beauty and into the trailer she went.

What ensued was rather predictable as she had clearly had the upper hand in her previous relationship. The first ride with our new found prize was a bit rocky and thankfully took place in privacy as Keith and I wrestled her down to tack her up and get her loaded into a trailer. Getting on her provided key bonding moments for my husband and I, as I cornered and blocked her from taking off with my horse as he quickly bailed on.

Many miles have passed since that initial introduction, and Miss Jewels slowly came to realize she had met her match that day. When the dust finally settled, the perfect team was formed with her and Keith Almborg.







**Sylvia Lambert found a Spring Surprise in her bluebird box.  
Thanks for sharing, Sylvia.**



## **NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS Doris and Jim Setter in Germany**

In March and April we were very busy helping to get apartments ready for Ukrainian refugees. Since the war has started a lot of women and children have arrived in Germany. For us it is very close and we never thought we would experience war in Europe in our lifetime.

We are preparing empty houses and apartments for these refugees. We clean and paint them then furnish them with furniture which people give to help. Some stories are heartbreaking. Since they only let women and children out, there are stories such as a Grandma who went back to her husband and her sons in Ukraine after knowing that her daughter and daughter-in-law and the grandchildren are safe. We have added some pictures.

If you know of anybody looking for a space for a Ukrainian family then we would would like to offer our house.

We are right now on our way to Marrakech in Morocco after being on horses for a week - a great experience but we are a little sore!



## **Barn Update and Wood Available**

**The First Aid Cabinet for People and Equine is pretty much complete at the front door of the Barn. The Tack room has been fully painted and is just waiting for some shelves. Thank you to Hazel Sangster and Kym Penner for the painting and Staining work! New Feed Bins are being constructed that will have a shelf and a lid allowing for more storage for Lori and just a cleaner less cluttered look. With the building that has been happening there are some cut offs of wood that we cannot use. If you are in need of some smaller cut offs please head down to the Barn. The wood that is on the outside of the stall with feed in it is free for the taking. Attached is a picture of the current scrap wood pile.**



## OPERATIONS

After a slow start, spring is arriving out at Square Butte.

The saloon repairs are coming along, and the building is sealed up at the roof line again. Some internal work still needs to happen, but hopefully that won't take much longer.

We are finalizing our spring grass cutting plan and are engaging with townhome owners to ensure that their green space is manicured to their liking. This may require bringing in a dedicated cutter on an as needed basis, but that will be worked out over time here.

Graveling Chinook Ridge is also underway again and that road is looking great. While all other ranch roads are being inspected and will be repaired as required.

As always, if you see anything that looks like it needs repair or improvement please let us know.

Grant Kelba













