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July School of Ranch Newsletter

1 message

Mark Gross <mark@schoolofranch.org>

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To: Mark Gross <mark@schoolofranch.org>

...Summertime, and the livin' is easy....well not so much if you are trying to grow stuff in Central Oregon! But whether you are growing hay, veggies, or if you specialize like me in, School of Ranch has workshops for you including six brand new workshops! But enough blabbering...on with the show!

PS - To unsubscribe, reply and let me know

PSS - My fantastic editor Kathy Springman is off biking the Rockies, so I am left at the mercy of my own editing. Please excuse the inevitable. :)

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School of Ranch News

Lights, Camera, Camp Chow. We held our first free workshop with the Deschutes Public Library in June. And the [tv news](#) showed up! Must have been a slow day. :). The workshop was a big success, and a big thank you to the library for bringing our workshops to the community for free. The next one is on July 14, and it includes a [magic way to get kids to eat their veggies](#). There are a few tickets left!

PS - Yes, I have a busted wing in that video. Long and winding tale featuring a sumo wrestler, a monk, a vending machine, and The Rock of Sin. Carolyn, the vending machine, and the sumo seen below before the full sweep of events. Reply if you want to know more.



Shaking the Cup. We're looking to raise \$5K to match two grants we're applying for. We're about halfway there - thanks to everyone who joined and/or contributed! We will use the money to support an intern to help with social media and marketing, to build out some software systems to make us more efficient so I can keep running things, and to figure out how to make Google Adwords work for us so we can use our \$10K ad grant effectively. Please if you can make a [contribution](#) and help us continue to bring you our workshops.

The New New Thing. So many people want to share what they know with you! This month alone we have six new workshops dialed up:

- [Fence Building](#)
- [Goats Milk Yogurt and Cheese Making](#)
- [Local Herbs: Growing, Using and Preserving](#)
- [Understanding Equine Behavior Issues](#)
- [Extending the Growing Season/Winter Gardening](#)
- [Tips & Tricks](#), set of mini sessions at the Sisters Farmers Market

These workshops are ready to go, but for us to schedule them, we need a few of you to pre-register. Pre-registration allows us to ensure that we're not going to cancel or reschedule workshops. So if you want a workshop to happen, sign up. It's free and you are only charged when we set and you accept the date.

Be the Hit of the Paddock with Your School of Ranchwear. You always wanted to wear a hat, t-shirt and hoodie with that fabulous School of Ranch logo on it, right? Well wait no more. Through our partnership with the local custom embroiderer, Our Personal Touch, we're proud to cut the ribbon on our [School of Ranchwear Store](#). Be the first at the next hoedown to show off your School of Ranch duds! [Special shout out to SoR Board Member Joan Sciacca, without whose prodding I never would have gotten this off the ground!].

School of Ranch Workshops

NEW! July 14. "The Magic of Dehydrating Food." Presented by the Deschutes Public Library at no charge, join School of Ranch for this how-to workshop. Dehydrating food is magic. Did you know you can turn vegetables into powders? If you mix them into your kid's food, they'll never notice and get almost all the nutritional value! Shazam! Learn the secrets of dehydrating food, from the equipment you need, to preparing different types of foods, to avoiding food safety problems, to making magical powders. Bonus - Take home a soup-in-a-jar sample!

Price: Free!

Time: 11:00am to 12:30pm

Location: Deschutes Public Library, Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-dehydration-magic>

NEW! July 18. "Howdy Do: Practical Land Management." Join our first community idea swap, brought in partnership with School of Ranch, Pine Meadow Ranch, High Desert Food and Farm Alliance, and the Central Oregon Haygrowers Association, guest starring OSU Extension's Nate Stacey. Get together with community members to share your best ideas, experiences, and questions, and let the wisdom of the crowd guide you to a more productive future. There's nothing like kicking back with some bbq and beers with your peers, learning from each other, and meeting new friends. Come and share! Pot luck too!

Price: Contribute-What-You-Can

Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: Sisters

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-howdy-land>

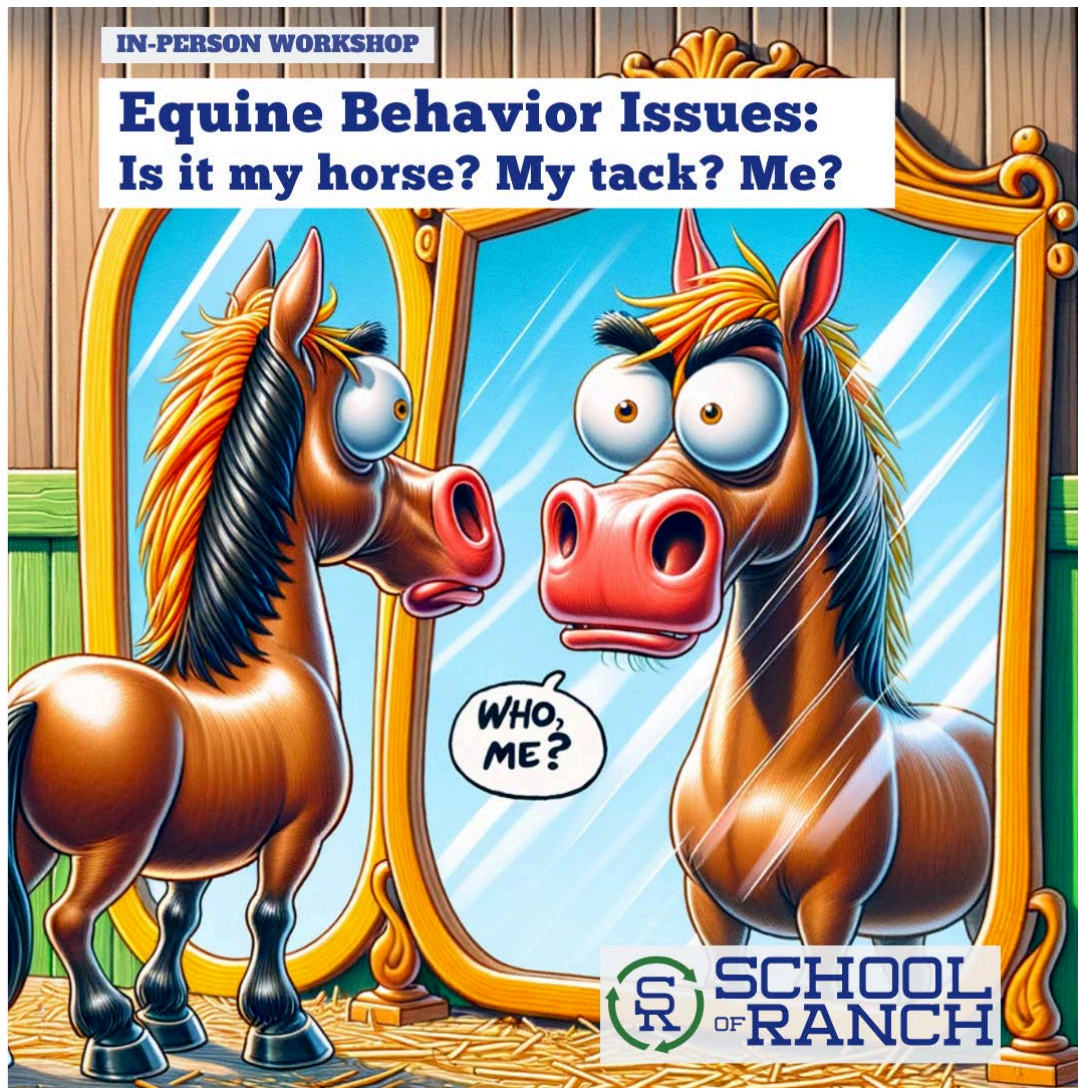
NEW! July 23. "Understanding Equine Behavior Issues." It can be so frustrating, right? Your horse is clearly unhappy, but you can't tell what's causing the distress. This workshop will teach you how to read the signs and understand common root causes, from health, to tack, to rider-caused issues. Don't miss this unique opportunity to enhance your understanding and relationship with your horse. Featuring Doc Persia of Black Diamond, April Taylor of Absolut Horse, and trainer/consultant Kathleen Byers. Reserve your spot today!

Price: Contribute-What-You-Can

Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: Heartspace Horse Sanctuary

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-my-horse-me>



July 27. "Intro to Spoon Carving." In today's hurried world, little can give you the feeling of peace and harmony like hand-carving wood. And what better way to learn this ancient art than by creating a practical tool you can use every day. Join us and make a beautiful, rustic stirring spoon using hand-made tools while taking your first steps at this rewarding and calming activity.

Price: \$125 + \$10 materials fee and a take-home kit

Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Location: Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-spoon-carving>

NEW! Aug 11. "Tips & Tricks: Carpentry, Electric, Motors and Rockhounding." Get a taste of many of our best workshops, and come away with practical tips and tricks. From fixing motors to finding gemstones, spend two hours and get thirty minutes each of insights and ideas you can use at home. Sponsored by the Sisters Farmers Market.

Price: Contribute-what-you-can

Time: 10am to 2pm

Location: Sisters Farmers Market

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-tips-tricks>

NEW DATE! Aug 15. "Introduction to Wildlife Tracking." Uncover the hidden stories of the wilderness in our immersive 3-hour Wildlife Tracking Workshop at School of Ranch. Perfect for beginners, this session introduces you to the fascinating world of animal tracking. You'll learn to identify and interpret various animal tracks, distinguish between species, and understand their behaviors and movements.

Price: \$40

Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: Tumalo

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-tracking>

School of Ranch: Pre-Registration Opportunities

These workshops are ready to go, but for us to schedule them, we need a few people to pre-register. Pre-registration allows us to ensure that we're not going to have to cancel or reschedule workshops. So if you want a workshop to happen, sign up. It's free and you are only charged when we set and you accept the date.

NEW! Pre-Register: "Intro to Goat Milk Cheese and Yogurt Making." Unlock the secrets of homemade goat cheese and yogurt with our upcoming workshop at School of Ranch! Join us for a hands-on class where you'll learn to transform fresh goat milk into delicious chevre, a creamy and flavorful cheese that's surprisingly easy to make and delicious goat milk yogurt. This workshop is perfect for anyone interested in artisanal food crafts and using locally sourced foods.

Price: \$40

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Eight

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-goat>



NEW! Pre-Register: "Fence Building Essentials (Full Day)." In this immersive, hands-on workshop you'll learn the essential skills of ranch and farm fence building. Our expert instructor will guide you through two types of brace construction, wire stretching and tying off, ensuring you understand the critical techniques and tools needed for a sturdy, long-lasting fence. This full-day event is perfect for anyone looking to enhance their practical skills and gain valuable experience in fence construction. **This is a full day workshop.**

Price: \$275 - full day workshop

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Three

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-fence-essentials>

NEW! Pre-Register: "Local Herbs: Growing, Using, and Preserving." Join us for a hands-on workshop designed to elevate your culinary skills. Discover the art of growing fresh herbs in Central Oregon, and learn how to dry or freeze them to keep their flavors vibrant. Understand the key differences between herbs and spices, and explore their culinary uses.

across various international cuisines. This workshop will also teach you how to balance the five basic flavors to make every dish more interesting and memorable.

Price: \$40 + \$8 for samples

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Eight

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-herbs>

NEW! Pre-Register: "Extending the Season and Winter Gardening." Learn to extend your gardening season in Central Oregon's high desert climate. This hands-on class is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge to grow fresh produce throughout the fall and winter months. Walk away with a solid plan for growing winter produce, practical knowledge on managing frost dates, and the confidence to transition your garden through the seasons. You'll also gain hands-on experience in constructing season-extending structures and understanding soil fertility management.

Price: \$40

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Eight

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-cold-garden>

Pre-Register: "Power Saws for Fearless Women." Step into the world of hands-on mastery and empowerment with our "Power Saws for Fearless Women" workshop. Designed specifically for women seeking to harness the strength and versatility of power saws, this workshop promises an engaging and supportive environment where you can learn, practice, and perfect your skills. Limited to eight participants

Price: \$125

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Three

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-power-saws-fearless>



Pre-Register: "Practical Welding for Ranch and Farm." You always wanted to try welding, right? Here's your chance to learn to weld in a safe, welcoming environment. We customize the learning experience to your ability. Sign up for our three-session program today and learn the basics of joining two pieces of metal so that they stay stuck. Small groups and individualized training in a professional welder's shop. You'll get the personal attention you need to succeed. Limited to 6 participants per session.

Price: \$375 for the three session program + \$60 materials fee

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Three

Time: 10am to 1pm on Saturdays, 5:30pm to 8:30pm on Tuesdays

Location: Powell Butte (address upon registration)Learn

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/lp-welding-long>

Pre-Register: "Eureka! Introduction to Rockhounding." Nothing Cooler Than Finding a Gem in the Wild! Rockhound? Gem curious? This workshop will teach you about the various Oregon collectible stones! We'll cover how to find them, where to look, and what to do with them when you bring them home. Go home with maps that show where to find the good stuff. You'll learn: What geologic pieces to look for, what telltale signs to look for, the science in telling different rocks apart. And bonus...resources that rockhounds use to find the good stuff.

Price: \$125 + \$10 materials fee and a take-home kit

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Three

Time: TBD

Location: Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-rockhounding>

Pre-Register: "Bee Curious - Hives, Lives, Drives and You" Bees play a critical role in our environment. This fun, family oriented workshop will get you buzzing! You get to help open a hive and handle bees (if you are brave)! You'll learn what makes these fascinating creatures tick. You'll learn about planting pollinators and how you can keep someone's hive on your property. And you'll find out what it takes to become a beekeeper. Bring the kids!

Price Contribute-what-you-can

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Eight

Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-bees>

Pre-Register: "DIY Electric." Having problems with your electrical system? Outlets obsolete? Working with an old structure? Build basic DIY electric skills and restore power and light safely and easily with this hands-on workshop. Learn troubleshooting steps, how to fix small problems, and when it's the right time to call an electrician. This one-session workshop will have you working safely with electricity in a snap, not a zap!

Price: \$125

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: One more!

Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-electric>

Pre-Register: "Motor Madness for Fearless Women." Put another notch in your tool belt! Cast steely glances at your mechanic! This hands-on course provides a supportive environment where you'll learn essential skills to tackle maintenance and repairs with confidence by working on small engines. From lawnmowers to chainsaws, we'll guide you through diagnosing issues, performing tune-ups, and troubleshooting common problems. Join a welcoming space for women to embrace their mechanical prowess!

Price: \$75

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Two more!

Time: 10am to 1pm

Location: Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-engine>

Pre-register: "Fruit Tree Pruning Basics." Dive into the art and science of fruit tree pruning with our hands-on workshop, "Nip and Tuck: Tree Pruning Essentials." This session will equip you with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage and care for your trees. Discover the crucial role of energy in trees, how to enhance air and light penetration, and the strategic use of bud direction to shape your trees' growth for healthier, more productive outcomes.

Price: \$40

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Seven more!

Location: Redmond/Sisters

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-fruit-tree-pruning>

Pre-register. "Practical Carpentry for Ranch and Farm." In this hands-on, three-part workshop series you'll be guided step-by-step through the process of making a structure from wood. You'll build the skills to do many typical homestead projects, starting with using the keytools. Whether you're ready to take on bigger projects, an aspiring carpenter, or want to become more self-sufficient, this series offers hands-on training in skills that will last a lifetime. Limited to eight participants.

Price: \$375 for the three session series.

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Two more!

Location: Redmond/Bend (weather dependent)

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-carpentry>

Pre-register. "DIY Maintenance for Ranch, Farm and Home." Got a hole in the drywall? Drains sluggish? Circuit breaker keeps tripping? Outlet got wrecked while moving the couch? Tired of waiting forever from someone to fix them, only to have to shell out big bucks for the privilege? Take this hands-on workshop and fix them yourself! Yeah you! Even if you're renting, taking care of these problems before you move out can help you get your full deposit back. Handle these basic maintenance tasks with confidence.

Price: \$99

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: Two more!

Location: Redmond/Bend

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-basic-home-repair>



Pre-register. "Traditional Soap-Making." Dive into the art of traditional soap-making in this immersive workshop. Discover the history and science of soap crafting while using natural ingredients and essential oils. Create luxurious, handcrafted soaps that are gentle on the skin and kind to the environment. Perfect for those seeking a sustainable and creative hobby. Date: Pre-register for this workshop and we'll notify you once we set the date.

Price: \$125 + \$10 materials fee

Pre-Regs Needed to Schedule: The instructor is out till September, We have enough pre-registrants to run the class, so sign up now if you want to attend. Limited tix.

Location: Bend/Redmond

More: <https://schoolofranch.org/w-soap-making>

Workshops, News and Announcements From Friends

July 4th. Rotary Club of Sisters and Citizens4Community present, "Sisters 4th Fest." Announcing the inaugural Sisters 4th Fest – a free, family-friendly, locally-oriented Independence Day celebration in Sisters, Oregon! The festival will include a pancake breakfast, 5K fun run, classic car show, veterans salute, kids mini-parade, live music and line dancing with Dry Canyon Stampede, lawn games, kids crafts, fire truck tours, and more. Come hang out, make new friends, dance, play games, and show off your most patriotic duds! Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are available. Price: Free entry; registration required for fun run and car show Time: 7:30am to 1pm Location: Village Green Park, Sisters Get Details: <https://sisters4thfest.com>

Sundays, June - October: Visit Sisters Farmers Market! Experience the bounty of Sisters country! Browse fresh produce, locally raised meats, seafood, artisan food products, and find the perfect handcrafted gift from local makers. Live music, kids activities, and more!

Price: FREE

Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: Fir Street Park, 150 N Fir Street, Sisters, OR

Get Details: <https://www.sistersfarmersmarket.com/>

I Went to a Garden Party. Superstar workshop leader, School of Ranch Board member, tv star, miniature pony-owning, and gardener Beth Covert, is on the schedule for the *Crook County High Desert Garden Tour*, Saturday July 20, 9am to 3:30pm. Tickets are \$15. Call 541-548-6088 for tickets and info.

Well, Well, Weld. COCC is hiring an Assistant Professor Manufacturing Technology - Welding. This is a full-time tenure track faculty position represented by the Faculty Forum, not eligible for overtime. The assigned position is 9 months (179 days) per academic year. Check it out: <https://jobs.cocc.edu/postings/10248>.

Join the Oregon Pasture Network! The Oregon Pasture Network (OPN) invites new members to connect with a thriving community of 83 producers, managing a combined 9,847 acres in production. If you're actively engaged in pasture production and seeking a supportive network for learning and growth, look no further. Apply today and unlock the benefits of OPN membership!

Get Details: <https://oregonpasturenetwork.org/join/>

Free Membership perks include:

- Exclusive educational opportunities including classes, member pasture walks, virtual office hours, peer-to-peer learning sessions, and more!
- Access to our member forum where you can ask your questions to our network of qualified professionals
- Inclusion in our online pasture product guide
- A monthly newsletter with important news and grant opportunities

Join School of Ranch

School of Ranch is a 501c3 nonprofit. We hire skilled community members to teach practical and artisan skills. While our product is education, our purpose is to create common ground for people regardless of politics, beliefs, age or background. As Americans, we have much more in common than politicians on both sides and the media want us to believe. It starts with common ground: We all can agree that if the gate is broken, you need to be able to fix it. Support our work. [Join School of Ranch.](#)

