

NEWS FROM ONION CREEK RANCH



CATS JUST DON'T MAKE FAUX-PAWS

All animals and children remind me that love is what really matters, but it is my cat that reminds me on a daily basis of being here in the moment.

When I am busy typing and just don't have the time or inclination he jumps up on my desk and settles on the keyboard. He leans his weight against me and wants to be stroked. If I ignore him, he reaches up and puts his paw on my arm. He's letting me know that this is important. He's reminding me what the true values are. He is very wise. And insistent.



And beautiful. The expression on his face is one of intense looking and serenity. There is a warmth and yet danger in his darkness. He's not called Jaguar for nothing. His expression flows from his dark face through his deep green, inscrutable slit eyes. There is an unsettling uncertainty in the unexpected. Will he claw me or paw me? The mystery of it all heightens my awareness and adds to his undeniable presence.

There he is, the Zen cat, focused on the stillness and the now. The stillness emanates from his dark grace even when he's moving. He glides beneath my fingers, sliding through each caress in a returning circle, walking away in a figure eight, turning and rubbing his head into my hand. Then he pauses, all stillness, and there's only the sound of his purring.



He graces me with a wrapped hug from his tail
glimpse the soul of a cat for a moment.

and a gaze into my eyes, letting me



Film News

Article on 'The Whole Shootin' Match' in *The Austin Chronicle* Nov. 30. The film will show this weekend at the Alamo Drafthouse.

<http://www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid:565872>



Horse Hair Pottery

"Custom horse hair vessels made from your horse's mane and tail hair. Your horse's name can be added to the bottom. If you don't have a horse I can use the hair from one of mine. It's a great way to celebrate a horse who is with you now, or a wonderful way to remember one who has passed. \$50.00 dollars each (includes shipping)." Austin artist.

You can see what the vessels look like and get more information at <http://www.claypony.com>



DRIVING

CLINIC

DEC 7 AND 8 IN LULING

Cost is \$150 and includes admission both days. Your horse will be worked with on one of the days, but it will be worked through the entire process of sacking out, ground driving and finally pulling a cart. You can be as involved in the training as you want, or you can just watch your horse being worked with. You can also watch the other horses being trained, so if something comes up with you and your horse, you may see a way to deal with it. It's a great clinic - very informative! John Beiler, a native of Pennsylvania but now in Gonzales, will be the trainer working with you and your horse. The clinic will be held at my facility here in Luling - IH 10 and Darst Field Rd. (exit #625).

Renee Ilse, John Lyons Certified Trainer
and CHA Certified Level 2 Riding Instructor, www.full-circle-enterprises.com

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.
~Edmund Burke~



[Free Room at The Inn Helps Families be Together for Holidays](#)

For 19 years, one of the biggest hotel groups in the world has offered free rooms for Thanksgiving and Christmas at all locations in the United States through its "Room In The Inn" Program. Anyone who visits a friend or family member hospitalized or in a nursing home or treatment center over the holidays is eligible for a free room at many Marriott's, Hiltons, Comfort Inns, Hampton Inns, Comfort Inns, and Holiday Inns Express. Info: <http://www.tharaldson.com/>



PLACES FOR YOU AND YOUR DOG IN AUSTIN

Hotels and restaurants where you can take your dog and off-leash parks (of which Onion Creek Park is one!) For more information, see <http://www.dogfriendly.com/server/travel/us/cities/guides/us/cities/sonlinecityTXAustin.shtml>

Great Photos

Roger Blake is a trucker/roamin' photographer par excellence. You can get on his daily pic-mail by emailing him at rblakephotos@windstream.net I look forward to his wonderful unique photos every day. website is <http://www.rblakephotos.com/>



"I have had a lifelong passion for art and an urge to see every corner of this land."

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A politician is a man who thinks of the next election; while the statesman thinks of the next generation. -James Freeman Clarke, preacher and author (1810-1888)



Cat Talk

Very funny... http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JynBEX_kg8

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"Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person." We are done waiting for our religious and political leaders to act. It's time for us to stand up for what is right, for what is moral. It is time for us to speak." -Mother Teresa



ORDER AND NON-ORDER

"Order is good. Mostly. It makes sure that the earth will go around the sun in the same way as it has in the past and bring summer to ripen the mangoes. Patterns are good too -- most of the time. They help us find our shoes easily among an array of other pairs.

But if we stick too much to the same order and pattern, we lose. We lose the opportunity to discover new lands, new paths, new flowers, new ways and new thoughts.

Sometimes the break in order is by choice and at times it's forced, as when you lose a job. Often it's a blessing in disguise. It's an opportunity to explore and discover what remained hidden on the old path. "

- Anu Garg, www.wordsmith.org



The Years Best *Actual* Headlines of 2007

**Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers**

[No, really?]
[Now that's taking things a bit far!]

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

[What a guy!]

Miners Refuse to Work after Death

[No-good-for-nothing' lazy so-and-so!]

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

[See if that works any better than a trial!]

War Dims Hope for Peace

[I can see where it might have that effect.]

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

[You think?]

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

[Who would have thought...]

London Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide

[They may be on to something!]

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges

[You mean there's something stronger than
duct tape!]

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge

[He probably IS the battery charge!]

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group

[Weren't they fat enough?!]

Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft

[That's what he gets for eating chili with
beans.]

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks

[Taste like chicken?]

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

[OMG, Chainsaw Massacre all over again!]

Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors

[Boy, are they tall.]

Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead

(No comment....)





THE *BEST* FREE E-CARDS

are from the ASPCA at

<http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ecards&JServSessionIdr012=gy3djsvz62.app24b>



KUDOS to Prince Moonbeam

and his owner **Elizabeth Kopplow*** of Seguin. This talented stallion is on the cover of Texas Horse Talk for the December issue. You can see it all online at

<http://www.texashorsetalk.com/index.html> (click on Moon's face)

* www.foxtrotexas.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY COWBOY DAVE



Our favorite rootin' tootin' good-huggin' Cowboy. Party till you drop, Cowboy,

We love ya... (12/4)



ISADORA SUE

GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING: A HORSE!

Izzy is A FINE RACKING HORSE MARE. Rides like a dream. This horse is a true LADY, GENTLE & QUIET. Stunning in stature, and truly BEAUTIFUL. SWEET, likes people, and has GOOD GROUND MANNERS. Solid, sturdy, and made well. Has that eye appeal! She is 15hh, 7 yrs old.

Perfect for a trail rider, or someone who wants to ride the ranch on a reliable, comfortable, attractive mount. Advanced beginner friendly, but is appropriate for any level of rider, as she is just plain fun to ride!

I have given her a true, hard test on long trail rides several times, and she was magically calm and willing and smooth to ride, brave to cross water, lead or follow.

Izzy would make a great holiday gift for that special person out there who has been yearning for a great gaited horse. Goes on a DIRECT REIN best, but also neck reins.

NATURALLY GAITED SLOW OR FAST WITH A GREAT ROLLING CANTER.

Smart PRETTY horse. Loads in a trailer and ties quietly. Stands to mount and for farrier. Has EXCELLENT BARE FEET. In good health.

Call --to good home only. This horse deserves an excellent home. \$2,200.



Awaken your passions.

Do what sets you on fire.

And have a great week,

Lin Sutherland, Onion Creek Ranch
Austin, Texas

www.onioncreekranch.net

H: 512-292-1607 * Cell: 512-426-4760

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Monthly column "Home on the DeRanged"
at <http://www.texashorsenews.com>