



CARGO chronicle

www.cargoranch.org

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est. 2008

Co-founders: Robert and Carrie Carter

Co-founders: Jeff and Debbie Goss

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The Vessel for Something Greater

written by Tammy Poyer, Cargo Classic co-chair

Cargo Classic 5k and Fun Run participants show up at the race, run the course, and leave feeling accomplished. They are filled with a hot breakfast and a sense of pride at not only finishing their run, but also on being able to help Cargo Ranch continue their mission. They may even leave thinking to themselves, "it looked effortless." At least that's what we want them to feel.

Planning the Cargo Classic takes months of meetings, brainstorming, getting donations and door-to-door visits asking for sponsorships. When Carrie came to my husband and

me last year and asked if we would consider helping with a 5k run for a fundraiser, my first initial thought was, "no, no way am I able to pull something like this off for Cargo. They need to raise money and not have someone as incapable as me putting this event on". But then, there was the tug at my heart, the pull and the gentle speaking to my spirit. I then realized that we were simply the vessel to be used for something greater. All we are called to be is available and He will equip us in all we need for His glory. And boy, did He!



Race day may have been cold, but runners did have a warm send-off!

As soon as we committed, the meetings started in our home and that's when we all got creative. What course do we use? Do we hand out prizes? Are we having food?

Entertainment? Who do we ask to sponsor and donate?

These are just a few of the questions we had to start with for our run. One of our volunteers told us that her cousin owns I-40 Race Service. We were off and running then. We wanted our course to be USATF-certified so we could time

our race and pull in runners from outside our city. Since then, we have had runners from all over our state and even out of state that heard about our race. It became evident at each meeting that everyone had his or her own task to achieve in order to make the Cargo Classic successful. They say it takes a village, and it did!



We had 150 5k and Fun Run participants this year. Thank you to everyone who came out!

were there to support Cargo Ranch. Then, after the race there were people sitting around tables and visiting while they waited for the awards to start, and the excitement just kept going. Let me tell you, we had no shortage of pure talent running at the race.

We gave away the medals and the cash prizes, ate the breakfast, and just considered it all pure joy.

I would be remiss to say we could have done this on our own. Sponsors, there are not enough ways to say thank you for your generosity. We know none of this would have been possible without you. John and Heather Burgess, thank you for the breakfast!! WOW!! Homemade and ready for over 250 people that morning. The City of Shawnee and Shawnee PD, thank you for helping keep our runners/walkers safe on the roads. Of course, thank you to our participants. Your smiles, your comments, and your thoughtful donations make every minute of effort worth it. We see your faces and know why you choose to show up on a cold Saturday morning. Thank you!!

Next time you think you can't be used, just wait, sit back and watch. God used me and my husband to plan two years of successful races. My dad, Jim Smith, did the 5k last year and the 1-mile Fun Run this year, and he is 87! Excuses just went out the window, folks! All USATF certified courses are good for 10 years, so here's to 8 more Cargo Classics to come!! **Stay tuned, and we will see you there!**



Reid and Tammy, thank you for all your hard work to make the Cargo Classic a success!

Important Dates:

- May 9 - last day of Spring sessions
- May 26-7 - Cargo Garage Sale
- June 5 - first day of Summer sessions
- June 28 - last day of Summer sessions

Faith at Work written by Mr. Jeff Hawkins

Some friends and spiritual warriors, if truth be told,
wanted to see their dream unfold.

So a horse ranch they formed,
On land they adored,
To glorify Jesus Christ, body and soul.

They were pretty clueless 'bout what they would do.

They started with just an old horse or two;

Opened their hearts to some kids,
With the horses as a bridge.

Little ones who'd been shattered,
To show them they mattered:
Jesus would carry them 'cross valley and ridge.

What started not so long ago,

With sweat, toil and prayer started to grow.

What God has poured out,
And caused to sprout,
Has become what we see as Cargo.

Many children have come and gone.

The blessings continue on.

OBU students, by the kids are adored.
Now LifeChurch has come on board!
The dream has gone far beyond.

Oh, those spiritual warriors still work there 'til late,
With their toil, sweat and their faith.

So if you want to go meet,
Those dreamers so sweet,
Take a drive through that old Cargo gate.

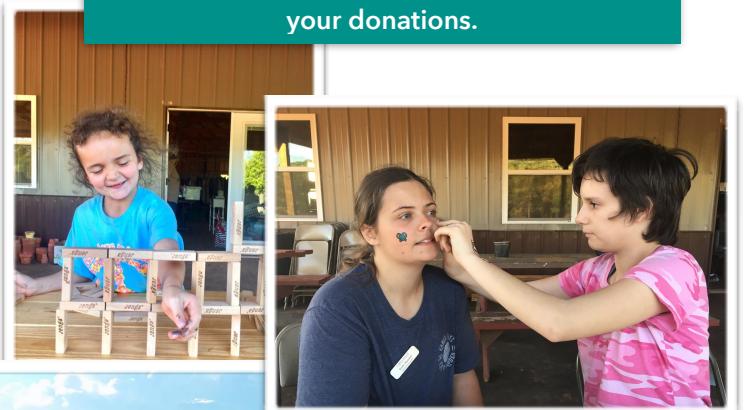
Ride your dream,

Mr. Jeff



Over \$1,000 was donated in memory of William Dow Meek (known to our co-founders as Papaw).

We have been able to purchase some new, sturdy, and very needed picnic tables that are being enjoyed by kids and volunteers. Thank you for remembering Papaw, and for your donations.



How Can You Help?

If you would like to help support Cargo, there are many ways to do so. Most importantly is PRAYING with us. The Lord is why we do what we do. The kiddos, their families, and the horses are just the blessings that come along with it.

Here are some specific things you can join us in praying about as we finish up the spring session and head into summer:

- ♦ Our kids. Our kids and their families could always use the benefit of your prayers.
- ♦ The Board. We are excited to be adding some new members to the Cargo Board and would appreciate prayers for wisdom and unity.
- ♦ Our graduating seniors. We have known these guys for four years, and love them dearly. Pray with us as they take what they have learned at Cargo into their post-grad lives and share the love of Christ in places all over the country and world.
- ♦ Funds for Thrive. Thrive is a horse feed that is great for the needs of our herd - many of our horses are rescues or older horses that greatly benefit from this feed.



When you shop Amazon via Smile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price of your items to the eligible charity of your choice. Just go to smile.amazon.com, type "Cargo Ranch" into the search bar on the right, hit "Select", and shop Amazon like normal.

Financial Support
If you would like to come alongside us in the financial responsibility of the ministry, we thank you.
Donate through PayPal via the link at cargoranch.org
Make out checks to Cargo Ranch and mail to:
Cargo Ranch 8895 Coker Road Shawnee, OK 74804
If sending a check, please cut out this section and include in the envelope.
Please use my donation...
<input type="checkbox"/> wherever it is most needed
<input type="checkbox"/> horse care and rescue
<input type="checkbox"/> landscape improvement (barns, arenas, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> savings
<input type="checkbox"/> other _____

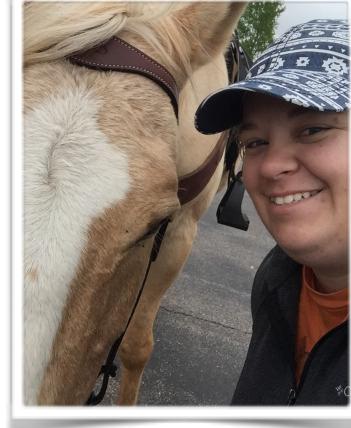
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Email carrie@cargoranch.org and tell us to email you the newsletter.

Familiar Faces - Bobby Baker

Bobby was a volunteer at Cargo from her freshman year at OBU until she moved to Kansas five years later to be closer to family. Even living a state away, she continues to talk about Cargo and uses skills she learned during her time here in her career.

About six months after moving to Kansas, Bobby had her gallbladder removed after months of pain. As she was recovering from that, she got a phone call one day. "The phone call was my aunt asking if I wanted and was ready for a job. Of course I wanted a job! It was the first time in a year and a half that I actually felt good! I filled out the application and was interviewed a week later. The interview started like most do: tell me about yourself, strengths, and weaknesses. Then the interviewers started asking questions about my experiences working with kids. This part of the interview came as naturally as talking to anyone off the street about Cargo. Every question they asked me I had a Cargo story to give back to them. The hardest part of the interview was fitting five years of stories into thirty minutes!"



I am now a Para to a School Psychologist. Before getting the call from my aunt I didn't even know that was a job. I get to work with kids from pre-school age all the way to seniors in high school everyday. Coming from Cargo to this job has been such an easy transition. Cargo taught me many of the skills that I use at my job every day. While walking down the halls I get to talk to kids of every age, just like at Cargo. Sometimes I need to talk with the families of the students that I work with and because of my experience at Cargo I have had practice forming a comfortable relationship with them. I can now build faster relationships with students and their families because all the years of practice that Cargo has given me.

Cargo influenced my life in an astounding way for five years and it continues to help me in my everyday life."



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