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VOICE ISSUE

Getaway to Woodside Ranch



*By Jason Schultz
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Gangster stories, horseback and wagon trail rides, a full schedule of real-world CE, and baby goats? Yes please!

This year's Spring CE event is a rustic getaway to a time that might feel far away, but just so happens to be right down the road.

Woodside Ranch is a 100-year-old working ranch a few miles outside of Mauston. This historic retreat is a wagon ride back into more simple days, complete with horses, a saddle-up saloon, tales of gangsters and speakeasies, a bison herd, and yes, baby goats.

I grew up just over the hill from Woodside. The ranch was the perfect summertime cure for three bored brothers looking for ways to stay out of trouble. We'd hang out for hours on the safe side of the electric fence and stare in awe at the massive bison roaming freely just a few feet from our faces.

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We'd feed the bad-mannered goats handfuls of fresh alfalfa and irritate the cranky llamas long enough to get a well-deserved spat in the face. For a good laugh, we'd watch the vacationing city folk pretend to be seasoned ranch hands for a weekend. (The horses didn't always find this so funny.)

The "haunted house" (aka, an old barn) about a mile down the wooded path was our rainy-day hideaway when mom wanted us out of her hair. The adults used to whisper about a gangster named Capone who sent his thugs to shoot up and burn down the speakeasy next door to the haunted house. Apparently stealing moonshine from a mobster wasn't a smart move.

I could tell a thousand Woodside stories (and if you join us on May 15, I will. If you ask.) But what I remember most was feeling lucky—I mean, how many other kids in my town could go back in time without leaving their own backyard?

Now it's your turn to travel back. And earn 5 credits of scientific CE while you're there.

This easy-does-it retreat in the middle of almost nowhere has everything you need to get away for the day and get better connected to your fellow veterinarians:

- Large and small-animal lectures featuring real-world insights from vet med specialists.
- Horseback and wagon rides on scenic trails, a walk in the woods to the site of the shootout, a front-row seat to a bison-feeding frenzy, and baby-goat therapy.
- The fresh country air of a serene setting steeped in history under western-ish skies.

So, mark your calendars and saddle up for some serious CE with a side of rustic ranch.

Registration opens in March. Watch your email, read your Voice, and check your Pulse for all the exciting details headed your way. ●



Schedule	
8 - 9 AM	REGISTRATION & EXHIBITS
9 - 10 AM	SA & LA LECTURES
10 - 11:30 AM	EXPERIENCES
11:30 - 12:30 PM	SA & LA LECTURES
12:30 - 1:30 PM	COOKOUT AT THE PAVILION
1:30 - 2:30 PM	SA & LA LECTURES
2:30 - 3 PM	DESSERT BREAK
3 - 4 PM	SA & LA LECTURES

