

TRUE NORTH NEWS

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www.TrueNorthStables.com

Five Benefits of TIME AT HOME Between Horse Shows

After a great winter season in Ocala, FL, our True North Stables team has spent the last month back at home in Zion, IL!

While it's so easy to get caught up in point-chasing and going from horse show to horse show, our team believes incorporating good stretches of time at home into the schedule is valuable for a large number of reasons! Here are just five of those benefits:

1. It allows your horses to rest and repair.

This may be the most obvious of the benefits, but it's also what we consider to be one of the most important. While our horses are all given different weeks off from the show ring throughout the HITS Ocala winter season, it's not quite the same as their time off at home.

In the first few weeks back in Illinois, we really reduce the intensity of the horses' training schedules and let them enjoy more turnout time, as we're fortunate to have beautiful, large pastures!

2. It's a good opportunity to do inventory and spring cleaning of your tack and equipment.

Once we get home in April, we take spring cleaning seriously!



While at home, we do a thorough inventory and cleaning of all of our tack and equipment (including our favorite Butet saddles)! Photo by [Fine Art Horses](#)



Our True North Illinois base at Buena Vista Farm has ample turnout space for our horses to take advantage of while at home!

We take the time to go through absolutely everything to ensure that all tack and equipment is in good repair and to do a thorough cleaning. We take stock of what we have and of anything that may need to be replaced or purchased. Two of our 'spring cleaning' suggestions include:

- **Deep cleaning your tack trunks** – When was the last time you took everything out of your tack trunk and scrubbed down the inside? While back at home is the perfect time to do so!
- **Cleaning and sanitizing brushes, boots, bits, and more** – While we clean off our horses' boots and bits after every ride, now is a great time to also thoroughly sanitize them. Also, take out all of your brushes, hoof picks, combs, and curries and soak and scrub them in soap and water. You can't keep healthy, clean horses without clean brushes!

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At Home With TRUE NORTH

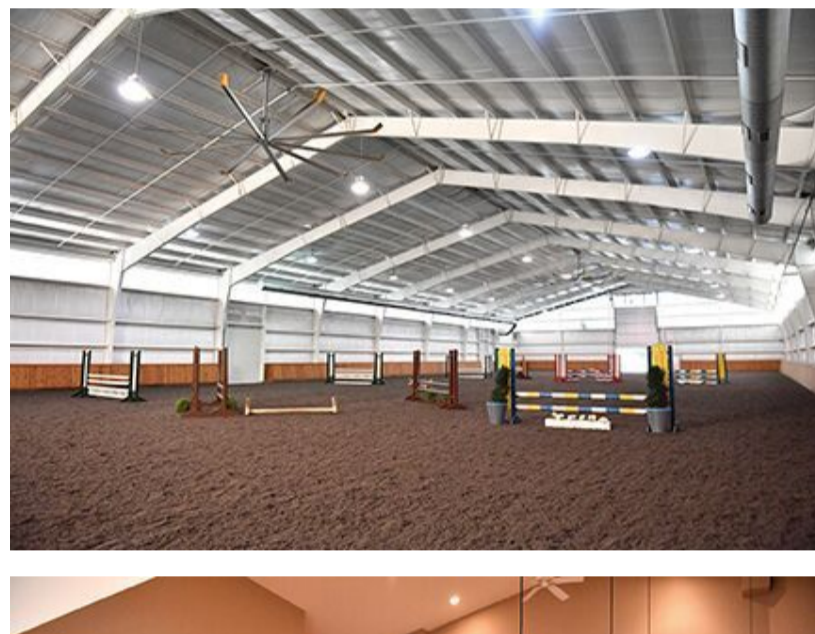
Speaking of time at home! Our team is fortunate to have a beautiful home base in Zion, IL, at Buena Vista Farm, owned by Becky Price.

The facility features:

- a heated barn
- a 100' x 280' heated indoor arena
- a 150' x 275' outdoor arena
- a grass hunt field
- 17 all-weather turnouts and 13 grass pastures
- locker rooms, showers, and more!

A select number of openings are available for horses and riders looking to train with Caitlyn Shiels at home in Illinois!

To learn more, [email us here!](#)



On the Blog: INSIDE THE BARN WITH KT FOREST

If you happened to see a handsome gray gelding turning in clear round after clear round in the low amateur-owner jumpers with the True North team this winter at HITS Ocala, you've seen KT Forest!

Marisa Malevitis purchased the nine-year-gelding in the summer of 2018, and since then, the pair has been pretty unstoppable – thanks largely to all the time and effort Marisa has devoted to him!

So, while we could tell you a few things about KT Forest ourselves, we thought it would be better to go directly to the person that knows him best!

Here's what Marisa had to share about KT Forest "inside the barn!"



Marisa Malevitis and KT Forest. Photo by [Fine Art Horses](#)



Marisa Malevitis and KT Forest. Photo by [Fine Art Horses](#)

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KT Forest is also currently offered for sale. The 16-hand, 9-year-old warmblood gelding is well-suited for a highly competitive children's/adult jumper rider ready to move up to the low junior/amateur owner jumpers!

KT Forest can be seen and tried at home at True North in Illinois or at the Country Heir horse shows in Lexington, KY, this June.

[INQUIRE ABOUT KT FOREST >](#)

Train With TRUE NORTH This Summer

After a great month at home, part of our team returns to the show ring next week!

May 8-12 - Kentucky Spring Horse Show

May 15-19 - Kentucky Spring Classic

June 5-9 - Country Heir I

June 12-16 - Country Heir II

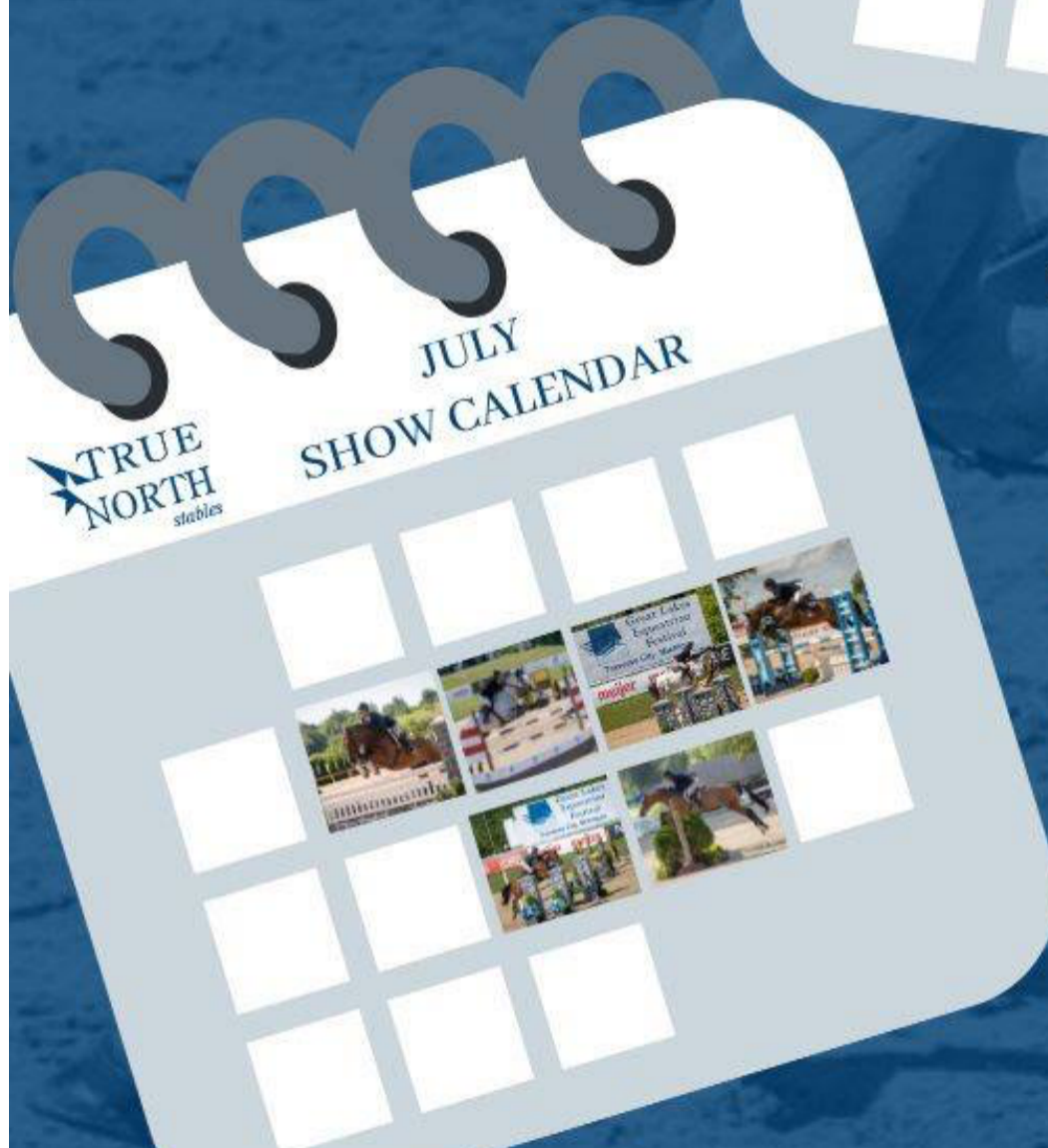


July 10-14 - Great Lakes Equestrian Festival Week II

July 17-21 - Great Lakes Equestrian Festival Week III

July 23-28 - EquiFest I

July 24 - 28 - Great Lakes Equestrian Festival Week IV



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Finalizing your summer horse showing and training plans? True North has limited spaces available for new clients looking to train or compete in Illinois, Kentucky, and at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival in Traverse City, Michigan!

[INQUIRE HERE >](#)

Thank you to OUR SPONSORS



True North Stables is a full-service hunter/jumper training program, dedicated to horsemanship and to providing top-class riding and training services to both horse and rider. Led by Caitlyn Shiels and with bases in Illinois and Florida, True North Stables offers highly-individualized instruction, horse acquisition and sales assistance, and the opportunity to excel in the sport and in nationwide competition.

[ABOUT CAITLYN SHIELS](#)

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