



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

August, 2026 0

LCHA 2026 Obstacle Fundraiser

Join us for a great day of solving obstacles with your horse.

Over 17 obstacles to work in-hand or under-saddle or both, in any order, No pressure, no judgment. We will have coaches instead of judges to explain the obstacles and provide help if requested.



You can tackle any obstacle you want, either in hand or in saddle. These are a few of the obstacles for your fun.

What Time Do We Start?

Gates open at 8:30 AM at Spirit Dancer Ranch (6347 Savvy Place, Fort Collins, 80524)

We begin at 9:00 AM. On-site registration ends at 11:00AM.

We will have a food truck with wonderful lunches from 11:00 AM to 2:00PM. There is a prize drawing at 1:00 PM and the course closes at 2:00 PM.

How much Does It Cost?

The cost is \$65.00. per rider/horse pair. If 2 people ride 1 horse, that is 2 tickets. If one person rides 2 horses, that is 2 tickets.

You have 3 methods to pay. Each method requires that you go to the LCHA web site: Scan the QR code on the flyer. If that doesn't work, enter www.larimerhorseman.org.

1. Fill out a reservation form (download below) and mail with a check for \$65,00 by August 20.

2. Register and Pay online. Go to the LCHA website (www.larimerhorseman.org). Click the **Pay Online** button. The on-line processor (Eventbrite) charges a \$6.21 processing fee, so you will be charged \$71.21 or

3. Pay on-site, On-site tickets will be \$75.00 per pair. Download the registration form below. Pay with check or cash.

See "Another Obstacle" on page 2

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Another Obstacle



Another obstacle to try. Come on. You and your horse can do it. Note: There are several bridges to cross, each one a little different.

Everybody Can Help

Spread the Word

The LCHA 2026 Fund Raiser (September 19) is going to be both a fun and a learning experience, **but only if people come. But people won't come if they don't know about it. We have to get the word out.**

Can each of you please post the flyer on all of your social media sites? You can download the flyer from <https://www.larimerhorseman.org>. **Note:** The home page shows two downloadable files: one is a PDF file, the other is a .PNG file. For social media, use the PNG file. For your friends or others, you can print the PDF file, and hand it out.



Use YOUR social media skills to promote the LCHA by posting the flyer on your site.

Can you share the information with your friends and contacts? Other organizations that you are connected with?

If each of us spreads the word, it will be successful.

Need Helpers

The LCHA 2026 Fund Raiser is a big event. We will need helpers.



Please volunteer to help staff it. It will be work, but we will also have fun.

We have a special need for people to train as coaches. This will involve a session at Spirit Dancer Ranch in which Cindy Loader, horse and riding trainer, and the person who built the obstacles, will show our coaches how to help people with the obstacles. This session will be on Saturday, September 12.

See "More Ways To Help" on page 3

More Ways To Help

Besides coaching, there are lots of other ways to help. For example, we will have people directing parking, registering, and answering questions.

To volunteer, contact Susan Kurzweil at 970-619-0966 or Bonnie Templeton at 970-481-4307.

Join Us

You might be surprised at what your horse will or won't do. You might be delighted (or dismayed) at some of the surprises.

Either way, it will be fun. You will have a large area in which to meet obstacles. And you will have a **LOT** of obstacles on which to play.

Come. Find out. Have Fun. September 19 at the LCHA 2026 Fund Raiser.

Things To Do In August

LCHA Roundup is a newsletter of the Larimer County Horseman's Association (LCHA), P.O. Box 270375, Fort Collins, CO 80527-0375.

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Bonnie Templeton, Member at Large970-622-0982
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If you have ideas, comments, or questions about LCHA, horses, the horse industry in Larimer County, or this newsletter, send them to the editor.



Saturday, August 8

Chicken Fried Trail Ride

Eagles' Nest Open Space

Arrive 4:00 PM, Ride 4:30 PM.

Walk/Trot/Gait

Potluck: LCHA will provide fried chicken. You bring a chair, bring a drink, and bring a dish to share.

See "Contact" on page 4

Contact



Contact Susan Kurzweil 970-619-0966 or Pati Morel 970-488-0041

Friday, August 14

Board of Directors Meeting

Council Tree Library,
2733 Council Tree Avenue, Fort Collins
9:15 AM to 11:15 AM

Notes:

All LCHA members and their guests are welcome at trail rides. Since all trail ride attendees must be members (insurance requirement), guests may join LCHA as full members (\$30 individual, \$40 family, \$50 business) or temporary members (\$10 per person) at the trail head.

LCHA members, guests, and the public are welcome at any Board of Directors meeting.

Stewardship

LCHA has a strong, positive relationship with Larimer County. It is a principal form of LCHA advocacy which has always been central to the LCHA mission: "Promote the welfare, use, and enjoyment of horses through Advocacy, Community, and Education."

See "Past" on page 4

Past

Over the years we have collaborated with the county in a variety of ways:

LCHA volunteers have helped to build and maintain trails in the county, working alongside county trail crews. We maintain an excellent relationship with other organizations such as the US Forest Service, local bike clubs, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Wilderness Restoration Volunteers, and Back Country Horsemen, to name a few. Our crews and people from these groups have worked side by side.



Several organizations joined forces to create a trail in Hermit Park. An LCHA crew joined the project.

LCHA has written letters of support as part of the grant applications for GOCO funds to build the trails, and make them multi-use. Our interest, of course, is especially for horse riding use. The grants helped pay for new trails, new parking areas for horse trailers, and more.

In 2006 when Larimer County proposed radical sweeping changes to the land use code regarding keeping animals in Larimer County, LCHA put together an alternative realistic proposal. The County used that information in their final land use code.

In 2009, we had a very active and influential role in the formation of Larimer County's new horse business regulations. LCHA was on the committee that drafted the regulations over 14 months.

See "Technical Advisory for Hermit Park" on page 5

Technical Advisory for Hermit Park

LCHA has participated on Technical Advisory Committees for Hermit Park with the goal of horse trails and equestrian camping facilities. An LCHA representative served on the committee to revise the Management Plan for Horsetooth Mountain Open Space. LCHA has also supported and helped Red Mountain trail projects, and has consulted on the Chimney Hollow project.

We have consulted on trail routes from an equestrian perspective. The goal has been to keep the trails as safe for people and horses as possible.

We have been able to get things done and participate in these horse causes because county officials recognize LCHA as helpful and knowledgeable.

Recent LCHA/Larimer County Cooperation

So what have we done lately?

Ongoing

- We continue to work with Larimer County Sheriff's Office:
Our evacuation team assists the evacuation of large animals.
- We participate on the Technical Advisory Committee for Chimney Hollow.

Looking Forward

We are talking with county Department of Natural Resources about how to reinstate volunteer work on trails or other projects.

We asked, "How can we help? "

The answers:

- Help clean up camp grounds in the spring, getting them ready to be reopened; for example Eagle Camp Ground at Carter Lake
- Clean up trash on the shores of the lakes and reservoirs; for example, shoreline at the campground on South Bay

See "Remove Fences" on page 5

Remove Fences

- Remove fences from areas that will open to the public in the future; for example, new open spaces
- Work with other groups to help the county trail crew work on trails
- Schedule an all-LCHA trail maintenance day, working with a county trail crew member or two

To schedule a trail maintenance day, we would need to have a minimum of 10 volunteers. We currently do not know if 10 LCHA members would volunteer for a day of trail work. We also do not know which trail would need our attention. However, **we are going to find out if YOU are willing to maintain trails with us.**

But not right away.

Our talk with the county agreed that we could schedule a trash pick-up day, perhaps in October, on the shore of South Bay, working from the camp ground. The work is easier and faster than maintaining trail, and we could have a nice picnic at the end of the project.

In the meantime, we are going to contact every LCHA member to find out if we have the people power to start other projects, working toward trail maintenance.

Robert Moor, in his book, *On Trails*, observes "Among all living things on Earth, humans are, as far as we know, uniquely rich in what we call culture – art, stories, rites, religion, communal identities, moral wisdom – and our trails have grown to reflect this."

Here in Larimer County, we are blessed with many trails. Some of these trails are simply paths that animals have made when going from one place to another. Some are trails that humans have made to travel from one area to another.

No matter the purpose or the history of the trail, it will eventually need TLC, We benefit from sharing so many trails to ride. Can we give back to the trails we ride by helping to keep them safe and beautiful?

Classified Ads

At **Mountain Magic Ranch**, Joe and Kim Andrews stress safety, balance, communication, and unity. We provide foundation training for young & old horses, and young & not so young humans. Our lessons build a proper foundation through the use of proper ground work exercises that prepare you and your horse for correct balance, movement, and better use of self. To receive a wealth of knowledge, call today for private lessons at MMR and/or your location. Also barefoot trimming by Joe. Contact us at 970-613-0121 www.mountainmagicranch.com

Larimer County Horseman's Association is always looking for new members to join in the equestrian fun. Are you looking for some real horsey friends for rides, education, and community events? If so, we would like very much for you to join us. Check our website at www.larimerhorseman.org or go to our Facebook page for more information at www.facebook.com/larimerhorseman We are a non-profit and we also love new volunteers. Happy Trails!

Classical Horsemanship <https://www.classhorsemanship.com/> 970-215-3330 msorentino@classhorsemanship.com **Classical Horsemanship** <https://www.classhorsemanship.com/> 970-215-3330 msorentino@classhorsemanship.com 2546 Boettcher Farm Ct, Fort Collins, CO 80524

Sign Up for Your Event

Please! Please! Please! Sign up for events in advance (especially events that involve riding):

- For any weekend ride, sign up by the end of Thursday before the ride.
- For any week day ride, sign up at least two days in advance.
- For some events, earlier sign-up may be required.



No matter how you do it, sign up

Why?

If we need to cancel an event, your ride leader or event coordinator can get in touch with you to let you know before you drive to the location. You won't use gasoline or time waiting for an event that isn't going to happen. Also, your event leader/event coordinator needs to know if anyone is coming: If no one signs up, the leader may cancel or reschedule the event. And, if you have any special concerns or circumstances (for example, it is your horse's first ride with a group), your leader can plan to deal with the situation in the best possible way.

What's the Deal with "Limit"?

Wilderness areas, properties owned by the city of Fort Collins, and Red Mountain Open Space have a "12-heartbeat rule": A group cannot include more than 12 heartbeats when using trails in these areas. When riding our horses, the rule limits our groups to 6 riders (plus 6 horses with hearts) to meet the 12-heartbeat rule. However, if we have significantly more than 6 riders who want to ride, we can split them into 2 or more groups, each group including 6 riders (1 ride leader plus 5 others). The second group must leave the trail head 20 to 25 minutes after the first so that they do not merge with the first group.

When "Limit" is 4 horse trailers, it means that the parking space can hold only 4 horse trailers (tightly packed). However, we encourage "trailer pooling" if more than 4 people want to go on the ride. Actually, we encourage "trailer pooling" for any ride. The benefits are obvious.

See "Lunch" on page 7

Lunch

Lunch?

For all rides except the Christmas Caroling Hayride, bring your lunch (unless your ride leader tells you otherwise). You will have lunch somewhere on the trail.

LCHA Educational Programs

LCHA offers an educational program meeting on the First Thursday of each month, except June, July, August, and December. In 2026, the first three meetings will be on Saturday mornings. All members are invited, and the public is invited, to any program meeting. For evening meetings, we meet at the McKee 4H Building at The Ranch. For Saturday meetings, we may set a different location.

These programs involve in-person meetings. We also try to present the programs in Zoom, but cannot

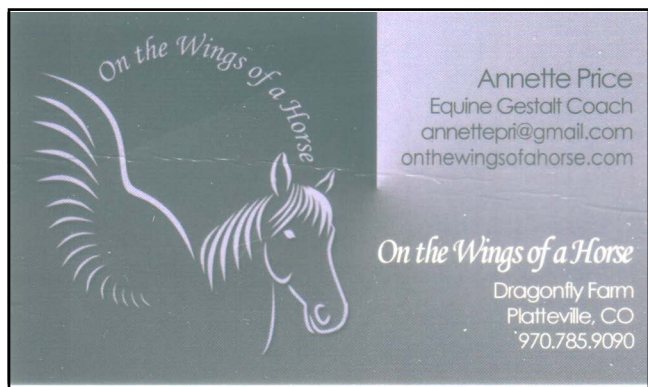
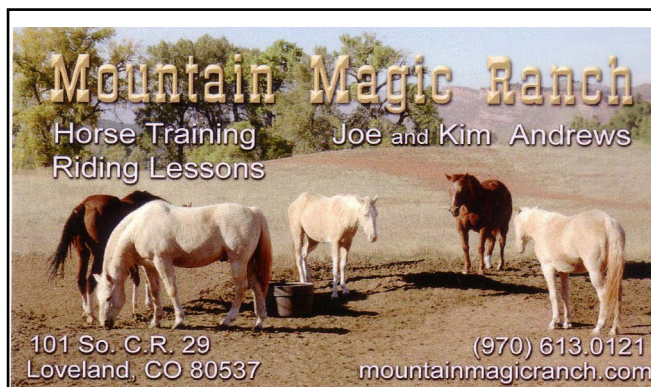
guarantee that viewers will see items shown by a presenter. We recommend attending these programs in person,

Before each educational meeting the LCHA newsletter, *LCHA Roundup*, will publish program details.

LCHA Board Of Directors Meetings

The Larimer County Horseman's Association Board of Directors meets on the second Friday of every month, except December. The 2025 Annual meeting was on June 21. All Board meetings are open to all LCHA members and to the public.

The Card Shop



24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
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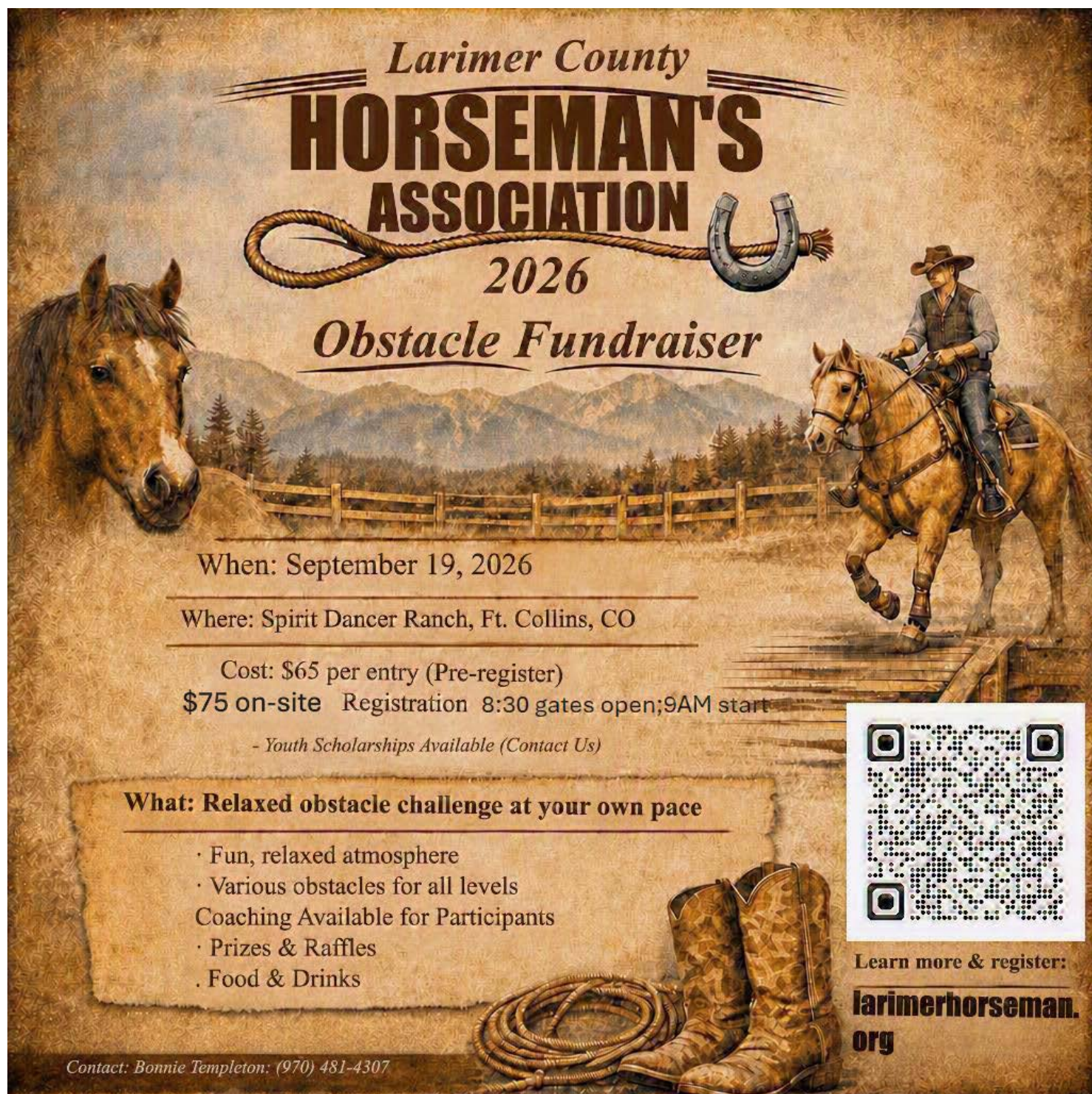
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Larimer County
HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION
 2026
Obstacle Fundraiser

When: September 19, 2026

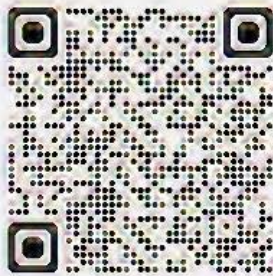
Where: Spirit Dancer Ranch, Ft. Collins, CO

Cost: \$65 per entry (Pre-register)
 \$75 on-site Registration 8:30 gates open; 9AM start
 - Youth Scholarships Available (Contact Us)

What: Relaxed obstacle challenge at your own pace

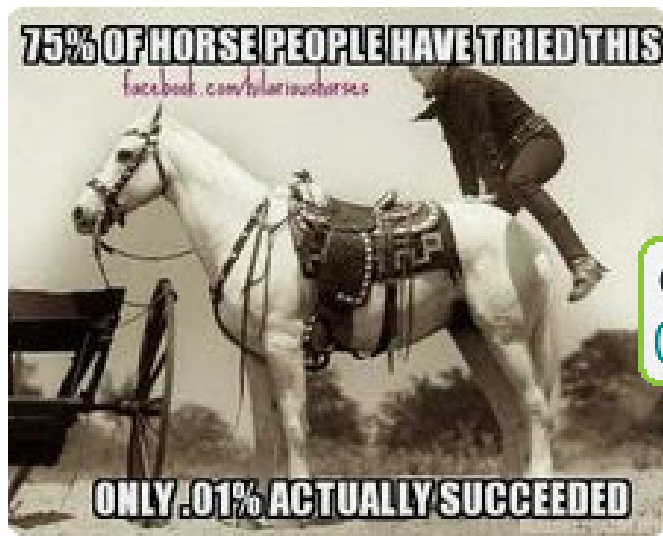
- Fun, relaxed atmosphere
- Various obstacles for all levels
- Coaching Available for Participants
- Prizes & Raffles
- Food & Drinks

Contact: Bonnie Templeton: (970) 481-4307



Learn more & register:
larimerhorseman.org

Some chuckles.





LCHA Roundup



Larimer County Horseman's
Association
P.O. Box 270375
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-0375

54 Years of Service
