



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

February, 2026 0

First Aid?



Do **YOU** know first aid? If you do, when was the latest time you have had instruction in first aid?

LCHA February Program
Saturday, February 7
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Old Town Library
201 Peterson Street, Fort Collins

Some of our members have remarked that evening meetings at The Ranch, especially in the winter, involve driving in the dark, driving on slick roads, and driving a distance from home. So the Board of Directors decided to do something about that. They set up some meetings on Saturday mornings (daylight), center of the county (shorter driving distance for some), and driving (hopefully) on clear roads.

Oh yeah, the topic is First Aid. **Our speaker is Jesse Green**, who will talk about first aid.

Jesse

Jesse Green is a Lead Natural Areas and Trails Ranger with The City of Fort Collins. He has worked as a Ranger for 13 years in the State of Colorado with the last 5 years being at the City of Fort Collins. Previous to that he worked for Colorado Parks and Wildlife as a Parks Officer at Boyd Lake, Chatfield, and Stagecoach State Parks.

Jesse has been instructing CPR/First Aid since 2016 and is currently a certified Emergency Medical Responder. Jesse enjoys National Park camping trips with his family and summer boating adventures.

Editor's Note: I have worked with Jesse, and I have heard him speak. He is dynamic, informative, and easygoing. You will learn something from his presentation, even if you think you know first aid.

See "First Aid" on page 2

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First Aid

So join us on February 7 in this meeting. Don't be in the group shown in the cartoon at the top of this article.

Remember – The meeting is at the Old Town Library, and NOT at The Ranch.

LCHA Members Drive NWSS Parade Grand Marshal

Did you go to Denver to see the kickoff Parade for the National Western Stock Show? Have you seen a video of the parade? It's the parade that starts with driving 30 head of longhorn cattle down a Denver street.

Immediately behind the cattle and the horses that were driving them in the parade, did you notice the horse drawn carriage carrying the Parade Grand Marshal?

Thursday, January 8, the parade started at 17th & Wynkoop streets and proceeded down 17th Street to Glenarm Place.

See "Paula and Tracy" on page 2

Paula and Tracy

LCHA members Paula Moffett and Tracy Harl drove the Parade Grand Marshal Pete Coors and his wife, Marilyn, in an antique carriage -- an 1896 English Wagonette.



The horses drawing the carriage are Daiquiri and Jack, American Draft Ponies.

In previous years, Paula and Tracy have driven several parade grand marshals: Temple Grandin, Kathy Sabine, and Randy Gradishar.

Paula says, "It's a real honor to be picked to drive the Grand Marshal in the parade."

Well done, and congratulations to Paula and Tracy.

Events – February and March

February

This year, we will have our planning meeting in late February, so we have plans for just two February events: our February program meeting and our Annual Planning Meeting.

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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If you have ideas, comments, or questions about LCHA, horses, the horse industry in Larimer County, or this newsletter, send them to the editor.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 – Program Meeting: First Aid on the Trail

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Old Town Library

Larimer County Horseman's Association Meeting

Topic: First Aid and Trail Safety for Riders

Presenter: Jesse Green, Natural Areas/Trails Lead Ranger

Date & Time: Saturday, February 7, 2026, 10 AM to Noon

Location: Old Town Library, 201 Peterson St., Ft. Collins

LCHA members and Guests welcome!

Contact: Bonnie T. (970)481-4307



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 – Planning Meeting

9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Harmony Library
4616 South Shields, Fort Collins

Larimer County Horseman's Association

2026 Yearly Planning Meeting

Date: Saturday, February 21st, 9:30 AM to Noon

Harmony Road Poudre Library, 4616 S. Shield, Ft Collins



All welcome! Bring fun ideas to the Large meeting room
Contact: Bonnie T. (970) 481-4307

What would **you** like to do this year? Trail rides (where, how often)? Picnics and potlucks (yum)? Challenges, fun days, etc? See the article "2026 Plans," in this issue of *LCHA Roundup*. Got some ideas? Get yourself to the planning meeting and share your thoughts and ideas.

See "March" on page 4

March

March

We have the results of the February Planning meeting, but we haven't had time to list all events. Read your March *LCHA Roundup* for the complete list. However, we can now list *some* events for March. Read on.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 – Evacuation Training, Policies and Procedures

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (We seldom go that long.)

ZOOM

This class explains how call-outs work: Who can call us out, what we need to know about the call-out, what we need to know about the animals we transport, and more. **All new team members must take this class.** Current members may take the class as a refresher. Bonnie Templeton will send a Zoom invitation to all members -- new and current, before the class.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 – Educational Meeting,

Details to be announced

In Person or Zoom

We prefer to have this meeting in person. However, if the weather gets nasty, we will meet by **ZOOM**. So that we are ready for a Zoom meeting if we need it, two days before the meeting, Bonnie Templeton will send an invitation to the Zoom meeting to all LCHA members.

Fixed Dates

Some dates are automatic. For instance,

- LCHA bylaws require that we have an **annual meeting** in June. We typically have the annual meeting on the third Saturday of June.
- In September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May, we have **program meetings**. This year, winter meetings (January, February, and March), we will meet on Saturdays. The rest of the year, we meet on the first Thursday of the month (unless the first Thursday is not feasible.)
- For several years, we have scheduled **Christmas Caroling on Horseback** in Berthoud.
- We also try to have a **Holiday Party** for LCHA members and their guests.

Calendars in hand, we determine the exact dates for each of these events, and then we set the events for those dates.

Other Events

With the fixed-date events set, we then plan other events.

Evacuation team training

Trail maintenance

Trail rides

Trail ride leader training

Fun days



2026 Planning

Planning Meeting

Early each year, LCHA plans events and programs for the year. Yes, we try to **plan** all the events of the year in one meeting:

- **Saturday**
- **February 21**
- **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (we have finished earlier than that on several occasions)**
- **Council Tree Library, Ft Collins**

See "In Person or Zoom" on page 4

Your Chance To Make a Difference Get In Your Two Cents Worth

Our Board of Directors will send a survey to all our members soon. It will ask what you would like to see LCHA do in 2025. Your answers, your thoughts, will guide the plans we set for the year.

See "Question or Suggestion" on page 5

Question or Suggestion

Bring your question, idea, or suggestion for an event you would like to the meeting. If you have an idea for a program, bring it to the planning meeting. We will be glad to hear it, consider it, and probably include it in the list of programs for the year.

If you are a trail ride leader, bring your dates/trails/times (arrival, in-saddle) to the meeting to be scheduled.

So come to the planning meeting. Your ideas and wishes are the basis of LCHA activities.

WITH YOU, WE ARE STRONG. WITHOUT YOU, WE ARE DIMINISHED.



Interested?

Are you interested in joining the evacuation team?

Before you consider it, here are some things you need to know.

Membership in LCHA, NCBCH, or NCCC

To be a member of the evacuation team, you must be a member in good standing in the Larimer County Horseman's Association (LCHA), Northern Colorado Back Country Horsemen (NCBCH), or Northern Colorado Carriage Club.

Training

You must complete all evacuation team training:

- **Trailer safety inspection:** The MOU specifies that all equipment (trucks and trailers) to be used in evacuations must pass an annual safety inspection from a professional truck or trailer mechanic.
- **Driver:** All team drivers must participate in a course that includes driving forward and backing up. We assist those who are less than confident when backing a trailer, especially into narrow spaces or around curves.
- **Process and Procedure:** All members – drivers or not – must attend training in which they learn the procedures we follow during a call-out; that is, who calls us out, what information we should receive when called out, what to expect when participating in a call-out. This training also includes the information we need to gather about the animals we are evacuating, and how to check those animals into their destination.
- **Horse loading:** *My horse will load easily into my trailer, but will my horse load into your trailer?* This training session gives valuable information on loading horses into trailers, and then gives ample practice time for each team member. After a horse loading session, each member will have at least an idea of how any other member may load a horse into a trailer, so that we all operate in “the same ball park.” Partners, team members who are not drivers, should attend this training session to work with drivers so that each knows what the other will do when loading animals.

Evacuation Team Seeks a Few More Good People

Larimer County Horseman's Association (LCHA) maintains a team of volunteers who stand ready in an emergency to evacuate large animals. In fact, during the High Park Fire, LCHA volunteers evacuated 50 animals from the fire zone and during the Cameron Peak Fire, we evacuated over 60 animals.

Over the years, the LCHA evacuation team has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Larimer County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). We have also made our teams available to any other official agency in the county. LCHA opened membership in the evacuation team to members of Northern Colorado Back Country Horsemen (NCBCH – we now have several NCBCH members on the team), and recently invited Northern Colorado Carriage Club members to join the team.

See “Interested?” on page 5?

See “Loading” on page 6

Loading

Does your horse have a ramp? Will he cross a ramp to load? Let's find out.



Safely backing a horse out of a trailer is as important as safely loading the horse into the trailer.

- **Incident Command System:** All team members must take the ICS 100 course on-line and then pass the ICS 100 examination. It is an easy course, but takes up to 2 hours to complete the course. Exam time varies with how comfortable you are with tests or with taking a test on-line.

We have an excellent team. Our team members are dedicated volunteers ready to help horses and their owners when needed.

See "Team" on page 6

Team

We currently have about 40 people who have gone through training, many of whom are drivers and/or partners (no driver may go to an evacuation without a partner). We currently have 29 trailers available, with carrying capacity for more than 70 horses (or other large animals).

But, we need more. More drivers, more partners, more trailers – in short, we need more people for the large animal evacuation team. Why? We are all volunteers who may be at work, on vacation, dealing with illness or injury, or unable to respond for other reasons. This limits our responsiveness for any specific call-out. If we have more team members, perhaps we can increase our responses.

Interested?

If you are interested, and if you will go through **all** the training, contact Hugh Templeton at hughtmpltn@gmail.com or at [970-800-1750](tel:970-800-1750). He will send you a form by email: You can fill it out on-line and return it to him by email, or you can print the form, fill it out, and return it to him by mail. The form asks for your contact information, and for information about your level of participation (driver [and trailer], partner, other). *Note: We do NOT share your information with anyone outside LCHA, NCBCH, or NCCC membership.*

Welcome aboard.

Evacuation Team Events

Each year, the LCHA evacuation team trains new team members and refreshes training for existing members.

Policies and Procedures

New team members must attend a class in Policies and Procedures that we follow if called out. Current team members who want to renew their knowledge of Policies and Procedures may also attend this class. The Policies and Procedures class will occur on Wednesday, March 12, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 P,

See "New Team Members" on page 7

New Team Members

New team members must also take an on-line FEMA class and pass an exam at the end of the class.

NEW TEAM MEMBERS	MANDATORY
Current Team Members	INVITED
Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM	
ZOOM You will receive a Zoom invitation by email two days before the class.	

Who New Team Members **MANDATORY**

Current Team Members **INVITED**

Trailer Safety Inspections

Our agreement with the Larimer County Sheriff's Office (as stated in a Memorandum OF Understanding) is that all evacuation team members who may bring a trailer to an evacuation must have a trailer safety inspection each year. The trailer safety inspections are free to team members. Also, LCHA members who are not part of the team may also get their trailer inspected.

We will set dates for the inspections in February (I hope -- weather permitting).

NEW TEAM MEMBERS	MANDATORY
Current Team Members	INVITED
People who are not members of the evacuation team but are members of LCHA, NOCO BCH, or NOCO Carriage Club	INVITED
All inspections are free.	

After all, who doesn't want a safe trailer to transport your horses (or other large animals)?

Horse Loading

My horses go into my trailer if I lead them. My horses may go into my trailer if you lead them. But will my horses go into your trailer? Will your horse go into any trailer, no matter who leads them?

Find Out

Let's find out. During a call-out, you and your partner will need to be able to load horses into a trailer. Most horses load easily: some, not so much.

Horse loading is an annual event for team members. It is a valuable day for people and horses. We practice loading horses, at least once each year as an **evacuation team**.



All evacuation members should attend this session: drivers **and** partners (after all, partners may need to assist drivers when loading horses during a call-out).

For new members, here is how it works:

- Each driver brings one trailer and one horse to the training area.
- We receive training, and other information as necessary.
- Each person loads each horse into every trailer.

The session usually takes about 2 hours.

New Team Members	MANDATORY
Current Team Members -- All Drivers and Partners	Highly recommended: Should attend this session. We can develop teamwork as we work together to load horses.

See "Find Out" on page 7

Texting All LCHA Members

A couple of years ago, a blizzard arrived one hour before a scheduled LCHA educational meeting. We frantically phoned people to cancel the meeting.

After this, the Board said there has to be a better way.



We set up a texting service so that we could send immediate texts to all LCHA members. We use it to notify members of emergency situations or to remind members of meetings.

In (receive LCHA texts) or Out (do not receive LCHA Texts)?

The texting service we use requires that users Opt In to receive texts. I cannot add a user unless they have specifically said they Opt In to the service.

Users may also Opt out. Those of you who are not currently receiving the texting service will receive an email asking you to Opt In or Opt Out. Please reply.

If you Opt In, please include the phone number you want the texts to go to.

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 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!

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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.

See "No Matter How" on page 9

No Matter How



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.

See "Limit" on page 9

Limit

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.

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 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,

Program meetings typically occur from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

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

LCHA Board Of Directors Meetings

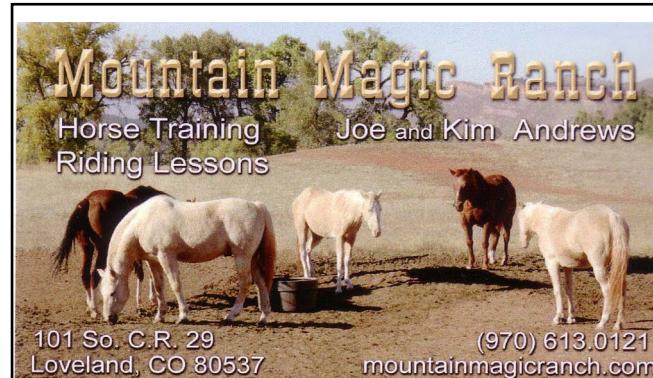
The Larimer County Horseman's Association Board of Directors meets on the second Friday of every month, except December. The 2025 Annual meeting was on June 21. All Board meetings are open to all LCHA members and to the public.

The Card Shop



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Let's Start February with a
Chuckle



LCHA Roundup



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53 Years of Service
