



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

January, 2026 0

Tack Exchange

Take a look.

January, 2026 LCHA Program

Saturday, January 10

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Laporte Meeting Room,

McKee 4H Building

The Ranch

You need to know this. In a recent meeting, the LCHA Board of Directors discussed members' meetings, poor attendance at member meetings, and what we could do to boost attendance. Of course, we talked about

- The topics presented at meetings
- The meeting times – night vs daylight
- Meeting activities.

Topics

Board members came up with a variety of possible topics for meetings: tack exchange, human first aid, horse massage, Discover the Horse (international vacations), situational awareness.

Times

January, February, and March occur in the winter. It is dark and cold, and sometimes unpleasant driving. During this time, we could try two things: meetings on Saturdays, and meetings during the day (no driving in the dark). If we meet during the day, it might be better to meet in the morning so that we have afternoons for other activities, chores, etc.

Activities

The activity for a meeting influences the location for the meeting. For example, a demonstration of horse massage would need an arena (preferably an indoor arena).

So what is the outcome of all this thinking and talking?



See "January 2026" on page 2

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January 2026

January, 2026 First Member Meeting -- Tack Exchange

IT'S A NEW YEAR. Let's start the year right. The Board of Directors decided to start this new year with a meeting on a Saturday morning. The "activity" will be a tack exchange.

Here are the details:

When? Saturday, January 10
10:00 AM until 12:00 PM

Where? Laporte Meeting Room,
McKee 4H Building, The Ranch

This Meeting

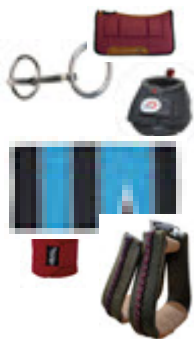
This meeting will give you time to meet and talk with other members, something we don't usually have a lot of when we have meetings in which we sit and listen to presentations. So come, bring tack, browse, and have conversations.

What Do I Do?

Bring yourself.

Bring tack you longer use, but somebody else could find good use for it.

Browse the tables. You might find something *you* can use.



Do you have any of these items you no longer use or need?

- halters or leads
- headstall or bridle
- bits or hackamores
- cantle, horn, or saddle bags
- front or rear cinches
- leg protection
- reins
- saddle pads, blankets
- stirrups
- grooming tools, buckets, feeders

- other??

Some examples of tack you can exchange

Bring it to the tack exchange (aka tack sale, tack barter, etc).

All items, no matter what they are, need to be clean enough to sell. Items that are coated in mud, feces, and anything else are not going to be accepted, including horse blankets.

However, if it is leather, and if it is showing signs of wear or dry rot, do NOT bring it. You can check for this by flexing the leather. If cracks show while you are bending it, it's not going to be safe to use much longer.

What can happen?

You can sell it. You can barter (swap) it. Or, if you are feeling friendly or generous, you can just give it to someone who shows interest in it. If it does not sell, barter away, or become a gift, take it home. **DO NOT simply leave it.** Someone must clean up the room after the exchanging.

Provided

LCCHA will provide coffee, or hot water for tea or hot chocolate -- free. We will also provide baked goodies, \$1 per item.

Setting Up/Displaying Tack

We will start setting up at 9:00 AM. Exchange starts at 10:00 AM. NOTE: If you bring tack, there is a \$5.00 fee for the use of a table.

Good News re EHV-1

We received this message from the **Colorado State Veterinarian's Office**.

"The Colorado State Veterinarian's Office remains committed to provide you with up-to-date information and situational updates, and has two important developments to bring to your attention.



See "Update" on page 3

Update

EHV-1 Multi-state Outbreak Update

We are happy to report the multi-state Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) outbreak is reaching its conclusion. The single EHV-1 positive horse in Colorado has made a full recovery and was released from quarantine on December 11th, 2025. Additionally, after a period of close monitoring ensuring no new cases of illness, all hold orders for Colorado horses exposed at the Texas and Oklahoma events were released on December 10th, 2025. While this is positive news for the equine

community, the risk of disease transmission is never zero. We encourage owners to remain cautious, especially during out-of-state travel and at commingling events. Our updated EHV/EHM webpage continues to serve as a comprehensive resource, offering general guidelines and best practices for enhanced biosecurity for both veterinarians and horse owners.

This outbreak serves as a reminder of the potential disease risks associated with large commingling equine events. The successful and expedient resolution of the outbreak reinforces the critical importance of timely disease reporting and strict adherence to movement requirements. By ensuring appropriate veterinary inspections and health certificates are completed prior to travel, we enable the rapid tracing and identification necessary to contain disease at the earliest possible stage. “

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

Editor: Hugh Templeton, 970-622-0982
hughtmpltn@gmail.com

The LCHA Board of Directors:

Officers

President, Susan Kurzweil,970-619-0966
Vice President, Rachael Cohen720-273-4798
Secretary, Sherry Vaughn,517-852-3458
Treasurer, Pati Morel.....'970-488-0041

Committee Managers and Members at Large

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Karen Muhler, Member at Large.....303-324-5454
Janet Pancoast, Member at Large970-391-9718
Annette Price, Member at Large970-785-9090
Gary Sibert, Member at Large517-852-4486
Bonnie Templeton, Member at Large970-622-0982
Hugh Templeton, Member at Large970-622-0982

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

Events – January and February

January

Thursday, January 10 -- Educational Meeting

Tack Exchange

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Laporte Meeting Room

McKee 4H Building, The Ranch

See the article, “Tack Exchange,” in this issue of *LCHA Roundup*.

February

Saturday, February 7 -- First Aid (for Humans)

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Council Tree Library

Saturday, February 21, Planning Meeting

10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Council Tree Library (if possible, we'll keep you posted).

See the article “2026 Plans,” in this issue of *LCHA Roundup*.

2026 Plans

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)**
- **TBD**

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.

See "Other Events" on page 4



Other Events

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

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

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.

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.

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 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.

See "Process and Procedure" on page 5

Process and Procedure

- 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."



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.

See "Current Team" on page 6

Current Team

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

We currently have about 45 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. He will send you a form: 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.

Great December Fun

Yes. We had two fun events in early December: Christmas Caroling and the Holiday Party.

“Caroling” on page 6

Caroling

Christmas Caroling

No, we did Not have our horses because of the EHV-1 outbreak and the advice to keep our horses at home.

But we did have flat trailers -- two of them -- with hay bales on them so that people could have a hay ride while caroling.



Folks set up one trailer with lots of decorations and some packing blankets spread over the hay bales. It had a full load of people, adults and children.



It was a cool, but not overly cold day. But of course moving through the air made it feel a little colder.

See “Other Trailer” on page 7

Other Trailer

The other trailer also had a full complement of people, including Santa.



*This trailer brought Santa to the **Rancher's Wife** where he met with lots of kids.*

One advantage to having everybody on trailers rather than spread out on lots of horses was that people could hear their own singing, and could sound better.

How Did It Go?

The trailers meandered through Berthoud streets for a while, and then turned toward *The Rancher's Wife*. It is on the corner of Massachusetts and Third streets. When we approached the last block before getting to Third Street, we saw that vendors had built stalls on either side of the street, and that lots of people were there to shop and to greet us as we passed.

People were happy to see us arrive and when Santa got off the trailer, lots of kids swarmed around him as he walked to the chair by *The Rancher's Wife*.

We drove around the block and proceeded to the parking lot. Once there, we set up the makings for hot chocolate or hot cider, and put out cookies for all. YUM!!

People ate and chatted, and all agreed that it was a fun event. They had a good time and were happy we could go caroling, even without our horses.

See "Party" on page 7

Party

Holiday Party

Another great time. We had a large pair of rooms at The Ranch, which was good because we set up tables for 28 people, plus the tables for all the food. Yes, we had pulled pork from Nordy's as the entree (oh, yes, it was really good), but – oh, WOW – we also had lots of the best sides and desserts you can find anywhere.

It was a Potluck, after all.

Slide Show

After dinner, we had a slide show, set to music, from Chuck Morel. It began with a tribute to Tom Dougherty, who passed away in the Fall. Tom was well known to many LCHA folks, and had served often on the large animal evacuation team.

The remainder of the slide show included pictures of LCHA event from the year. They were great reminders of the activities we had over 2025. You can see the slide show on the LCHA web site: www.larimerhorseman.org/videos

Game

After the slide show, we played Bingo. Susan Kurzweil called the numbers and Karen McGee helped verify any bingo. When someone called "Bingo," they went to claim a gift from the table of gifts we had brought to the party. Yes, we had enough gifts for everyone to call bingo and to receive a gift. Showing each gift brought jokes and laughter. It was a fun evening, and a great time together.

It certainly set the stage for a wonderful holiday season for all of us.

May you have a season of love and happiness.

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!

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 9

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.

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

On the Wings of a Horse

Annette Price
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CLASSICAL HORSEMANSHIP
Harmony with Horses

Let's Start the New Year with a Chuckle.

5 Reasons Why You Won't Find a Husband at the Barn

If he's at the barn and hot
- he's gay.

If he's at the barn and rich
- he's married.

If he's at the barn and funny
- he's thirteen.

If he's at the barn and helpful
- he's working.

If he's at the barn, handsome,
reliable, entertaining and employed
- he's a gelding.



Pretty gelding for sale. "Bonebreak"
has an excellent stop. Not head shy.

LCHA Roundup



Larimer County Horseman's
Association

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53 Years of Service

A decorative horizontal line consisting of a series of small, overlapping, wavy shapes, resembling a stylized rope or a series of small waves.