



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

October, 2025 0

Fleet of Angels

October LCHA Meeting
Thursday, October 2
7:0 PM to 9:00 PM
McKee 4H Building
The Ranch

Wow. This will be a really interesting meeting. **Our speaker, Elaine Nash**, is a dynamic presenter with lots of great stories that have resulted from leading Fleet of Angels.



Elaine with Moxie

A Very Active Organization

Elaine will tell us about Fleet of angels: how FOA came to exist in the first place after a crisis with a horse I had sold proved very 'educational'. She will describe what FOA actually does in relation to disaster response and other major emergencies, how it does what it does, and how it is funded.

If we are really lucky, she will also relate some stories of FOA responses to specific disasters, helping horses in dire need.

Upcoming Adventures

Elaine will also fill us in on about a new service we're launching that no one knows about yet.

She can talk a bit about how LCHA members can help support FOA both on their computers and on the ground when disasters affect our area.

And of course she'll be happy to answer questions.

Editor's Note: Fleet of Angels is a 501(c)3 national award-winning service organization with thousands of members.



Recognition and awards:

Homes for Horses Coalition / Advisory Council

Adopted Horse Incentive Program / Advisory Board

See "Recognition" on page 2

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Recognition

The ASPCA Equine Welfare Award / Inaugural Recipient

Great Nonprofits / Top Rated Nonprofit Equestrian Living Magazine / Gold List Favorite Charity, 2024

Editor's Note:

I can't emphasize enough how great it would be if we had a very large turnout for this program. The speaker is dynamic, and humorous, and has important information for all of us.

Wonderful speaker -- great meeting. Don't miss it.

Events – October and November

October

Thursday, October 2, Educational Meeting, Fleet of Angels

Speaker: Elaine Nash
7 to 9 PM
Estes Park Room
McKee 4H Building, The Ranch

Saturday, October 11, Trail Ride, Sawmill Ponds

Cancelled

Friday, October 24, Trail Ride, Lady Moon

Arrive 10:00, Ride 10:30
Walk, Trot, Gait
Bring your lunch

This trail involves a short, gentle ride through open, dry Ponderosa Pine forest and large, attractive meadows. The entire area is scenic, with open Ponderosa Pine forest, rock outcrops, and promontories along the trail.

See "Directions" on page 2

Directions



Directions: From Ted's Place, follow US-287 north for 10.5 miles to "The Forks" at Livermore. Turn left onto the Red Feather Lakes Road (CR-74E). At mile marker 20.8 you will see the entrance to the trail head on the south (left) side of the road.

NOTE: Coggins Test required.

Contact Karen Finfer at 303-9028-9973

November

Thursday, November 6, Fun Educational Meeting, International Horseback Vacations

Speakers: Susan Kurzweil and Karen McGee, Bonnie and Hugh Templeton
7 to 9 PM
Estes Park Room
McKee 4H Building, The Ranch

France, Iceland, and Hawaii (OK, so Hawaii is *not* international, but it is a great place to visit). Our speakers have ridden in these places, and will speak to us (and show pictures), about the experience, the environment, and the enjoyment of riding there.

It will be fun.

See you there for an enjoyable evening.

Wow, What a Weekend

Normally, when people think of a great weekend in September, they think "Goody. I'll have extra time to relax and do what I want."

Whoa there! **LCHA just had a fabulous weekend. And it was BUSY.**

Friday

This was dress rehearsal day for the 2025 LCHA Judged Obstacle Challenge. That meant we had a lot of work to do to get ready for the Judged Obstacle

Challenge on Saturday. All our judges and other volunteers gathered to view the new obstacles, review how to judge each obstacle, and review all our other plans: where will registration occur, where we will park trailers, where we will park cars, where we will the food trailer park and set up, and several other details.

Before Friday, several folks had already been hard at work.

Sherry

Put together scoring sheets,

Wrote descriptions of the obstacles

Wrote the actions required for a competitor to complete a level 1, 2, or 3 at each obstacle.

Gary

Devised obstacles

developed 3 levels of difficulty for a competitor to choose for any obstacle.

Annette Price pushed the value of promotion. So we used FaceBook as one of our promotion tools.

Bonnie Templeton and Sherry revised the web site to show the event, and developed the registration process.

Bonnie served as Registrar. For each person signed up on line, she prepared several items in a packet of information:

- A registration sheet for each sign-up
- An LCHA waiver, a Ravens' Roost Ranch waiver
- A copy of Sherry's description of each obstacle.

Walk-ons also received the packet at registration.

The Big Day – September 20 – THE EVENT

The event started early.

Officially, registration opened at 7:30 AM. Event judges and staff arrived around 7:00 AM. Some participants arrived early, and wanted to register right away.

Judges arrived, more trailers arrived, and when the judges were in place, we started. We were busy, yes, but not overly busy. The overall atmosphere at the event was relaxed, friendly, and fun.

As soon as the first competitors were ready, they started through the obstacles. The judge for each obstacle explained the obstacle and what to do to achieve level 1, 2, or 3.

See "Trailers" on page 4

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

Jean Beucler, Member at Large.....970-231-2219
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.

Trailers

Of course, trailers continued to arrive, park, and unload. By day's end, 23 trailers had parked in the field. Our parking guides ushered each trailer into a spot that would allow safe unloading, and great conversation among the owners.

Up in the arena and out on the open areas, competitors moved through the obstacles smoothly, and judging went well. Seldom did anyone need to stand in line to wait.

Food

A food truck arrived and set up. By 11:00, they were ready to serve lunch. The menu offered a variety of delicious street tacos, plus a couple of more traditional items like burgers and absolutely delicious fries.



Scoring

This year, we streamlined the scoring process, wanting the scoring to be complete by 2:00 PM. Unfortunately, one of the persons who volunteered to help tabulate the scores was sick, so scoring was slowed, and was not complete by the time of the awards ceremony.

See "Young Competitors" on page 4

Young Competitors

Nevertheless, we recognized our young competitors, giving them swag bags and loud cheers and applause.

End of Day

People started to leave, but also repeated a lot of positives about their experience: But before they left, they told us how impressed they were with the event:

- Fun, lots of fun
- Well organized
- Friendly
- Relaxed
- Impressed
- Great idea to have the food truck, and the food was wonderful.

We also started to clean up – load personal items – tables, coolers, etc. – and organize other items that could stay at the ranch. We were high on the success of the day, and talked a lot about how it went and perhaps doing it again next year.

It was the end of a great day at the end of a very busy 2 days.

Judges and Volunteers

LCHA had 25 plus judges and volunteers for this event. Without them, we would not have had the event. These folks gave thought and time into making the event a wonderful success.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU TO ALL THE JUDGES AND VOLUNTEERS.

We appreciate all that you did for this event.

A special THANK YOU to our hosts, Sherry Vaughan and Gary Sibert, who graciously offered their property for our use, and who put in many hours of work to make the event a success.

Results

Here are the results of the event.

23 trailers

41 contestants. To participate, they came from widespread places; *for example*, Westminster, Carr, Wellington, Northglen, Berthoud, Cheyenne, and Livingston.

See "Results, continued" on page 5

Results, continued

43 horses

25 + judges and other volunteers

Ribbons:

IN HAND			
#	RIDER	LEVEL	PLACE
147	MARILEE BELLA	NOVICE	1
No other novice riders for 2- 6th place			
155	MAGGIE McDONOUGH	INTERMEDIATE	1
168	Michelle Larkins	INTERMEDIATE	2 (tie)
161	Sage Bassi	INTERMEDIATE	2 (tie)
151	Paula Moffat	INTERMEDIATE	2 (tie)
165	Peter Hall	INTERMEDIATE	3
170	Julia Pflibsen	INTERMEDIATE	4
163	Kayla Neal	INTERMEDIATE	5
142	Valentine Lovato	INTERMEDIATE	6
143	STACY ROCKWELL	ADVANCED	1
137	Connor McCarthy	ADVANCED	2
145	Elizabeth Ciccone	ADVANCED	3
141	Sonya Straka	ADVANCED	4
149	Robbie Crow	ADVANCED	5
133	Jocelyn Duncan	ADVANCED	6

MOUNTED

#	RIDER	LEVEL	PLACE
168	MICHELLE LARKINS	NOVICE	1
163	Kayla Neal	NOVICE	2
159	Avery Ingalls	NOVICE	3
No other novice riders for 4- 6th place			
170	JULIA PFLIBSEN	INTERMEDIATE	1
169	Trinity Rosenbaum	INTERMEDIATE	2
164	Cheyenne Martin	INTERMEDIATE	3
154	Jean Beucler	INTERMEDIATE	4
139	Whitney Staats	INTERMEDIATE	5
172	Quinn McConnell	INTERMEDIATE	6
See "Advanced" on page 6			

Advanced

138	JOANNA DUNCAN	ADVANCED	1 (tie)
171	PETER PFLIPSEN	ADVANCED	1 (tie)
161	Sage Bassi	ADVANCED	2 (tie)
162	Lauren Conyers	ADVANCED	2(tie)
173	Lisa Wolfe	ADVANCED	2 (tie)
145	Elizabeth Ciccone	ADVANCED	3
148	Jim Newcomb	ADVANCED	4
141	Sonya Strake	ADVANCED	5
137	Conor McCarthy	ADVANCED	6

**OVERALL HIGH POINT CHAMPION In Hand:
STACY ROCKWELL. CONGRATULATIONS!**

New Ideas

Ideas

An Optional Source of Fun

People frequently need something to do while waiting -- especially young people. So we introduced another activity: Dress your horse in something different, something classy, something funny, etc.

We gathered items that people could put on their horses to make them look "different." The idea was that someone could use any item in the collection to "dress up" their horse -- all for fun.

We thought it would be a good way to get youth attention. It did.

See "Ideas" on page 6





Wild Rose

Wild Rose

Wild Rose Mustang Advocacy Group, located near Fort Collins, responded to our invitation by bringing a booth to the arena and by bringing two youth and two young mustangs to compete. Many of us enjoyed stopping to talk with the folks at the booth, and to learn about Wild Rose.

It also got the attention of several adults, who had a ball putting things on their horse.



Wild Rose booth

Here is their review:

"We're so excited that Larimer County Horseman's Association invited us to table at their obstacle course event today in Northern Colorado. Two of our youth from this summer, Maggie with Lucy and Robbie with Sherman, are here competing this morning. So proud of how far they've come knowing these babies were still wild in late May and here they are competing"

See "Youth Competitors" on page 8

Great Reviews

During the event, while eating lunch or chatting after lunch, and as people were leaving, LCHA volunteers heard lots of positive comments about participants' experience. Here are some examples.

See Wild Rose

Youth Competitors



Wild Rose brought two young people -- Maggie with Lucy and Robbie with Sherman

Other Reviews

"I had a great time yesterday! And the 2 young horses I brought learned a lot and gained a tremendous amount of confidence. Everyone and everything was wonderful! What a great group of club members you have!! Bravo!!"

"I would love to get my ribbons i am so happy to ribbon in anything - this was my second horse show ever ? as a 56 year young horsewoman.

"Thank you so much! He will be thrilled when he sees the score!"

"We had a blast. We really appreciate your team putting this on."

"There was a lovely turnout with so many fun people."

"I had a lovely time and I'll be back next year for sure, thank you for hosting such a fun event."

"I'll definitely see you next year, and thank you again for setting this up."

" Oh goodness, wow. Thank you so much!!" (happy about score).

"Thank you!!"

See "Reviews, continued" on page 8

Reviews, continued

"I had a wonderful time riding in the event.

"Thanks for putting on a fun-filled competition!"

In short, we have heard **no** complaints. Everyone had a good time, and went away pleased. Yay!!

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

Bobcat Ride, Unexpected Event

On Friday, Sept 12, Tatiana Caine riding Magic, Cynthia Van Farowe riding Marley, and Susan Kurzweil riding Romeo, rode at Bobcat Ridge Natural Area in Masonville. The weather looked like it might rain, but since we all had rain slickers, it stayed nice.

It was my usual kind of ride, quiet and uneventful, except this ride was educational.

- First, we saw wild turkeys for the first time.
- Second, Marley "hurt the bottom of his hoof on a rock".

We stopped and examined his hind foot at lunch time and could see dried blood on the bottom, but nothing visible. Dr. Cindi could feel that he was still off while riding back and was acting very unusual, so I took all the shortcuts I knew and we went quickly back to the trailers. The three of us then examined Marley's foot very closely and Tatiana noticed something tan, about the size of your pinky nail on the bottom of his foot.

We discussed whether it was a part of his frog or a small stone, agreed that it looked unnatural, and so we dug at it with a hoof pick. After getting it loose with the hoof pick, Tatiana was able to grab it with her fingers and pulled out this GIANT stick!!!! It had penetrated right along the hoof wall! Imagine a stick like this going underneath your fingernail on your hand! Poor Marley!!

When the stick came out, the foot immediately started bleeding quite profusely, but the blood will help clear out some of the contamination the stick introduced, so we let it bleed.



The bleeding could clean out the wound



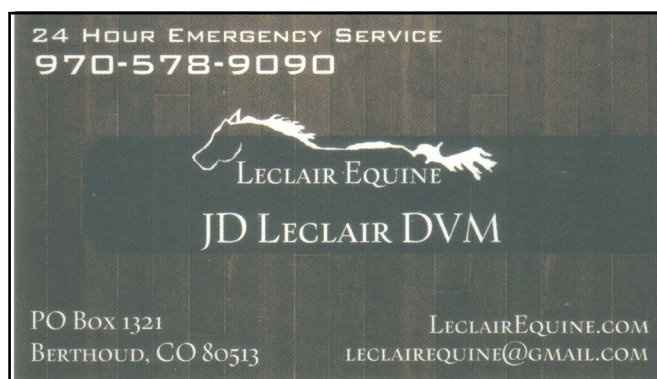
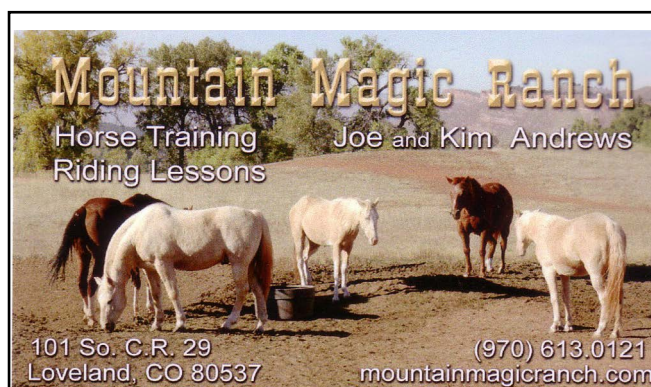
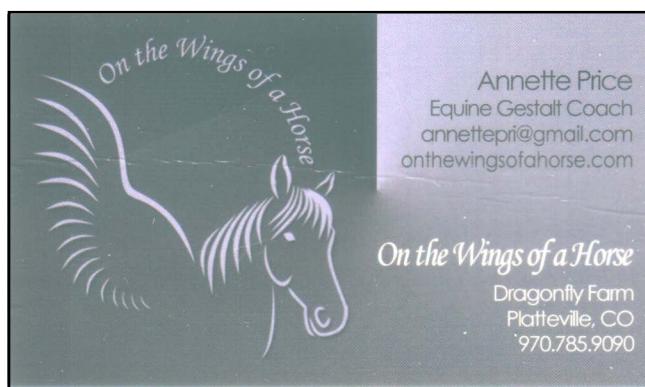
The stick removed from Marley's left hind hoof

Horses can lose up to two gallons of blood before it is life threatening, so we were happy when it stopped bleeding heavily after about 5 minutes. Dr. Cindi went home and soaked Marley's foot in betadine, and thankfully Marley recovered in just a few days.

So thankful to have had such a great group of ladies together to handle this very rare and unexpected event!

Susan Kurzweil
Ride Leader

The Card Shop





Megan Sorentino
Riding Instructor & Horse Trainer
<https://www.classhorsemanship.com/>
970-215-3330



CLASSICAL HORSEMANSHIP
Harmony with Horses

LCHA Roundup



Larimer County Horseman's
Association

P.O. Box 270375

Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-0375

53 Years of Service

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