



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

May, 2026 0

Grass, Weed, Forage

May Educational Meeting

Saturday, May 2

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Chuck and Pati's Place

39001 Rangeview Dr.

Severance, CO

Grass ID, Weed ID, and Forage Productivity in Your Pasture

Let's talk about grass ID and maybe weed ID, and learn about forage estimates (how to determine how much grass you may have available). and while we're at it, we can also talk about grass defoliation/how to keep grasses growing, especially in a drought season.

A very important discussion this year.

Speakers

Our speakers are Karla Melgar Velis and Lyndsay Gonzalez.

Karla Melgar Velis is the small acreage management specialist for the Front Range with CSU Extension and NRCS, where she has supported more than 100 small acreage landowners in achieving sustainable management of their properties. Over the past three years with Extension, she has focused on small dryland pastures and prairies, as well as integrated weed management. She brings a strong background in nutrient management, agronomy, and natural resources, and strives to help land managers improve soil health and protect water resources.



Lyndsay Gonzalez grew up on a dryland ranch in Ignacio, CO where she competed in English and Western horse showing and rodeo. While working on her bachelor's degree in Soil and Crop Science, she spent her summers working as a wrangler for an outfitting company/dude ranch in the San Juan Mountains.

See "Lyndsay, continued" on page 2

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Lyndsay, continued

After completing her Bachelor's, Lyndsay moved to Lexington, KY and worked as an equine vet tech on large thoroughbred breeding farms and then as the Master Grazer Program Coordinator for the University of Kentucky Extension. Years later, she returned to CSU and received a master's degree with a focus on forages and ruminant nutrition. For the next 8 years, she was the Feed and Grazing Specialist for multiple organic dairy farms. She has been the Small Acreage Management Coordinator for Boulder County since May 2023.



Karla and Lyndsay will begin with some slides and handouts. And then we will walk the pasture, if possible, to give some additional information.

May

Come to our May meeting. The topic is timely and very important. The information is (or can be) helpful. See you there.

Email Solution

As you may be aware, there have been communication issues with LCHA email, specifically with using distribution lists.

See "Email" on page 2

Email

Our solution: We have a replacement email service, Microsoft 365 for Non-Profits. It meets our criteria and has been tested with the Board.

We have 3 distribution lists:

- lchamembers@larimerhorseman.org
- evac@larimerhorseman.org
- board@larimerhorseman.org

You can only send email to the distribution group(s) of which you are a member. For example:

- Everyone can send email to lchamembers@larimerhorseman.org
- The evacuation team can send emails to evac@larimerhorseman.org
- The Board can send emails to board@larimerhorseman.org

If you have a question or problem, please contact Bonnie T., Rachael C, or Sherry V, (the Microsoft administrators)."

Events – May

SATURDAY, May 2– Educational Meeting

Grass ID, Weed ID, and Forage Productivity in Your Pasture

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Chuck and Pati's Place

39001 Rangeview Dr.

Severance, CO

FRIDAY, May 8 – LCHA Board of Directors Meeting

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Harmony Library

LCHA members and public – All are welcome.

Other Days in May – No Scheduled Events

See "Notice" on page 3

Notice

Notice:

We have scheduled no LCHA Club rides on 31 days of this month.

Want to go on a trail ride? The weather certainly has been good for it. So take the bit and set up your own ride.

Buddy Ride

You can call a trail ride leader to arrange a Buddy Ride. Simply put, a Buddy Ride is a spontaneous trail ride with one of the certified LCHA Trail Ride Leaders. The

ride will be just the two of you riding at the location of your choosing.

Have a special concern? Talk it over with a Trail Ride Leader!

Karen Finfer	303-928-9973
Susan Kurzweil	970-619-0966
Bonnie May	970-217-1113
Pati Morel	970-488-0041
Janet Pancoast	970-391-9718

Spontaneous Rides

These are neither club rides nor Buddy Rides

How do they work? An LCHA members accesses the LCHA e-list (a list of contact information for members only) to post a message; for example, "Hi, I am planning to ride at XXX (trail head) on date and time. Would anyone like to ride with me?" Any other member(s) on the e-list can answer, and the two (or more) can work out the details. It is a great way to meet and ride with new friends.

Busy June



See "June" 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.

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The LCHA Board of Directors:

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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
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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.

June

Whereas May had few LCHA activities, June has A LOT of activities:

Saturday, June 6**Trail ride at Sundance Guest Ranch**

Arrive TBA, in saddle TBA

Bonnie May is trail ride leader: 970-217-1113

Rain Date for this ride is Sunday, June 7

See the article *Great Ride at Sundance Trail* in this issue

Friday, June 12**Board of Directors Meeting**

Location TBD

Friday, June 19**Trail ride at Blue Mountain trail head**

Arrive 10:30 AM; in saddle 11:00 AM

Charles Ables is trail ride leader: 831-601-3167

Saturday, June 20**ANNUAL MEETING**

Rachael Cohen and Jim Burch's place
2563 County Road 42, Berthoud.

See the article *A Grand Get Together* in this issue.

Friday, June 27**Trail ride at Bobcat Natural Area**

Arrive 10:00 AM, in saddle 10:30 AM

Jean Beucler is trail ride leader: 970-23-1159

Notes:

LCHA members and their guests are welcome at trail rides. Since all trail ride attendees must be members, guests may join LCHA as full members or temporary members at the trail head.

LCHA members, guests, and the public are welcome at the Board of Directors meeting and the Annual Meeting. However, only LCHA members may vote.



In early June, we have a very special opportunity to ride at Sundance Trail Guest Ranch. In later June, we have a very special time to get together at our annual morning clinic and afternoon Potluck followed by our Annual Meeting. Read the following articles to learn more.

We also have scheduled two trail rides (more information in the June issue).

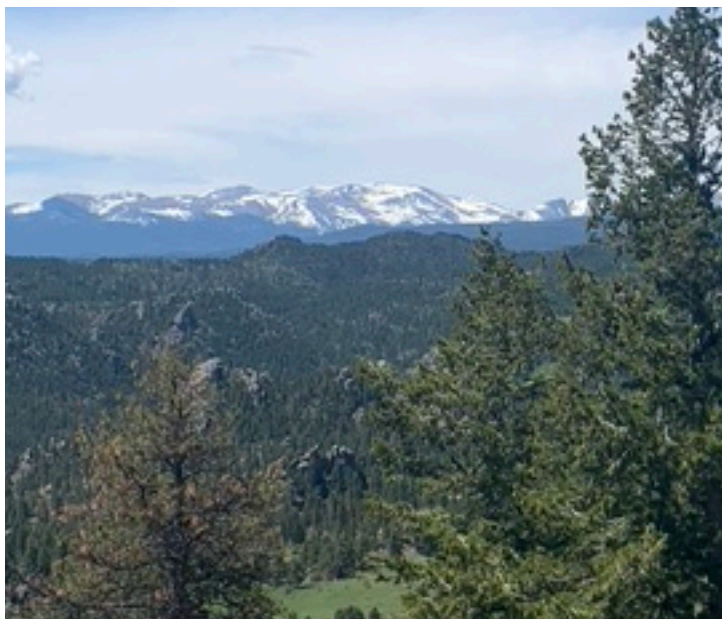
Great Ride at Sundance Trail Guest Ranch

It's fun. It's quiet, except for the chatter of riders and horses' footfall on the soft earth, on the leaf carpet, or on the hard rock. It's beautiful, with deep forest and spectacular mountain scenery. Did I mention that it is beautiful? It is.

If you have not ridden at Sundance Trail Guest Ranch, you have missed a fabulous ride. If you have ridden there before, you will agree that it is an idyllic place to ride.

Sundance Trail property opens into Forest Service land. Trails lead through gentle sloping woodlands and into deeper forest bounded by hills and rock outcroppings. For part of the trail, a small creek bubbles its way, giving a melody to the peace of the valley. It is peaceful. It is restful.

See "Don't Sleep" on page 5

Don't Sleep

But don't go to sleep. The trail crosses hill shoulders offering spectacular views of the mountains to the west. All too soon, the trail turns back toward Sundance Trail property, and you arrive at your starting point, having had a mind-blowing ride.

And what better way to ride in such a setting than to ride with friends:

**Sundance Trail Guest Ranch
Saturday, June 6)
Arrive at 10:00 AM
Be ready to ride at 10:30 AM**

The rain date for this ride is Sunday, June 7.

Come and Ride

You have several choices on this ride.

Horses

- Ride your own horse
- Ride A Sundance Trail Guest Ranch horse.

Costs: If you ride

Your horse -- \$12

A Sundance horse -- \$55

NOTE: If you ride your own horse, you must provide a Coggins Test.

See "Lunch" on page 5

Lunch

Lunch

- Bring your own lunch
- Eat a Sundance Trail Guest Ranch lunch

Costs:

Bring your own lunch -- No Charge

Sundance Trail lunch -- \$15

Sign Up

Contact Bonnie May (970-217-1113). **Be sure to sign up at least one week before the ride; that is, sign up no later than Saturday, May 30.**

Why? Sundance Trail needs to know in advance how many horses to have available. They also need to know in advance how many lunches to fix.

LCHA needs to know who plans to come so that, in case of dire circumstances that require us to cancel the ride, we can inform all those who signed up **before** they drive to Sundance Trail.



See "Directions" on page 6

*Directions***Directions to Sundance Trail Guest Ranch**

The ranch address is 17931 W County Rd 74e, Red Feather Lakes, CO 80545

- Take I-25 to Exit #269 (Route 14).
- Go west on Rt 14 into Ft. Collins until it feeds into Route 287 North.
- North on Route 287 about 20 miles to County Road 74E – Red Feather Lakes Road.
- Turn left at the Forks onto County Rd 74E – Red Feather Lakes Road. (Landmarks are the Livermore Post Office and what used to be the Forks Restaurant.)
- Drive 17.8 miles. Our sign and gate are on the left hand side.
- Our gate is kept closed for the horses. Come on in, and please close the gate behind you!

A Grand Get-Together

(A.K.A Annual Meeting)

Have fun with your horse in the morning, have a fabulous barbecue and potluck lunch, and then come to our annual get-together to talk about what LCHA is doing, where it is going, and who leads it.

With only a short time before this grand get-together, start planning today to be there.

Where?

Both morning and afternoon activities occur at

Rachael Cohen and Jim Burch's place
2563 County Road 42, Berthoud.

Be aware that some navigation apps will take you to the Johnstown area. Rachael and Jim's place is just west of I25, south of Rt 56 (Berthoud Rd), between County Roads 5 and 7.

See "Directions to Rachael and Jim" on page 6

Directions to Rachael and Jim

Directions:

From West

Take CO 56 from Berthoud toward I 25
Turn right onto CR 5 and go about a mile
Turn left onto CR 42 and go about 1/2 mile
Rachel's Driveway is on the left. It goes down a hill, and then through a bend to the left followed by a turn to the right. You should see her arena on the right at the bottom of the hill.

From East, South, or North

Take the exit for CO 56, Berthoud. Follow CO 56 west to CR 7.
Turn left onto CR 7 and go about a mile.
Turn right onto CR 42 and go a little more than 1/4 mile.
Rachel's Driveway is on the right. It goes down a hill, and then through a bend to the left followed by a turn to the right. You should see her arena on the right at the bottom of the hill.

Morning

Last year's mini clinic was canceled due to the 100+ temperatures. Hopefully this year we will have better weather.

This year we will use patterns and obstacles to reveal areas of improvement concentrating on what our horses are trying to tell us. We will first review some of the ways our horses communicate with us. Then we will go over some of the top things all our horses wish we would not do that all of us do. We can then start to replace the annoying habits with more considerate ones. It does not matter what level of rider you are, we can all improve and work/play with our horses with the horse's welfare in mind.

Anything you do with your horse can be improved with better communication but it's up to us humans to make the effort to take the time to observe, listen, think, feel and help our horses give us that "try". To have a brave, willing, relaxed horse, we need to be more precise, fair, consistent and soft with our cues.

We may split up into small groups depending on how many RSVPs we receive.

See "Start and Finish" on page 7

Start and Finish



We will **start at 9:00 AM and finish at 11:00 AM**. We ask a small donation of \$15 for participants in the clinic (WOW, what a deal for a clinic!). You may audit the clinic for free.

After the morning clinic, we will adjourn to lunch.

NOTE: If you bring your horse, you must have a Coggins Test. But don't let that stop you. It will be lots of fun.

Afternoon

Lunch



See "Start Lunch" on page 7

Start Lunch

We start lunch at 1:00 PM.

LCHA will provide grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with drinks, all the condiments, plates, cups, and utensils.

What do you bring? **Potluck** to go with the burgers and dogs, of course. It's a great way to have a delicious meal, and catch up with friends and make new ones.

Get Together

The Get Together will include our annual meeting. We'll talk about issues for LCHA, our budget for 2026-2027, and our need for new members of the Board of Directors and someone to step up to be our new Trail Maintenance Coordinator. We will also elect officers and members at large for our 2026-2027 board of directors.

Of course we will share some of the highlights of our previous year, and some great new ideas we have scheduled for this year.

Please bring your questions and your ideas to this meeting. With you, we are strong; without you, not so much

Contact

We need to know how many folks will attend the morning clinic, and – so that we have plenty of food for the burgers and dogs – how many folks will come to the barbecue and potluck.

Also, this is very important, we need at least one someone to volunteer to grill the burgers and dogs.

To sign up for the morning, the afternoon, or both, or to volunteer to grill, call Susan Kurzweil at 970-619-0966 or Bonnie Templeton at 970-481-4307. Please let them know by June 15.

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 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,

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
Equine Gestalt Coach
annettepri@gmail.com
onthewingsofahorse.com

On the Wings of a Horse
Dragonfly Farm
Platteville, CO
970.785.9090

Mountain Magic Ranch

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Joe and Kim Andrews

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Loveland, CO 80537

(970) 613.0121
mountainmagicranch.com

K's Trailer Parts
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Keith Wright
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Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007

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Cell: 307-630-3657
Fax: 307-632-0601


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970-217-1113 Talk or Text

Website:
www.bonniemayrealestate.com



Cowgirl Candy Store

Lanette Pritchard
719-469-3949
6635 W. 28th Street
Greeley, CO 80634

lanette@cowgirlcandystore.com
www.cowgirlcandystore.com

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Victoria Harms, LCSW
720-927-7297

Stable Elements PLLC
Counseling & Psychotherapy

stableelementshealth@gmail.com | Berthoud, CO 80513
Equine & Nature Therapy | stableelements.clientsecure.me

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



CLASSICAL HORSEMANSHIP
Harmony with Horses

Cindy Loader
970-481-9150



Loader.lifevantage.com

www.Spirit-Dancer-Ranch.com

CLSpiritdancer@aol.com | Fort Collins, CO
Harmony Horsemanship | Equine Touch Practitioner

Go ahead, chuckle.

THANK YOU FOR FLYING
AIR AMATEUR



Exits are located at the front, rear and sides • You may experience some turbulence during your descent • Please remain on the ground until your body comes to a full stop • In the unlikely event of a water landing, your saddlepad may be used as a floatation device • Thank you for flying Air Amateur, and we hope you enjoy your trip.

LCHA Roundup



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

53 Years of Service

