



LCHA Roundup

www.larimerhorseman.org

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

December 2024 0



Yes, Christmas Caroling on Horseback

Save the date.
Sign Up Now.
Free.
Open to the Public

Details:

The Public Is Welcome.
Children are welcome.
Meet at Turner Middle School
Saturday, December 7
Arrive at 9:30 AM.
Be in the saddle by 10:00 AM.
We leave the parking lot at 10:45 AM.

GOOD NEWS: UNLIKE a few years in the past, *this year our caroling will NOT occur on Thanksgiving weekend on the day after Black Friday. It will occur on the first Saturday in December.* That should take some pressure off, and allow more LCHA folks to ride and sing with us.

Decorate

Feel free to decorate your horse, or yourself or both, in the Holiday spirit.



Some horse decorations are easy, others are more elaborate

See "Come" on page 2

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Come

Come with Us

Come Christmas Caroling on horseback with us in Berthoud. Susan Kurzweil is our ride leader for the day. She and her horse know all the routes to take to be safe and have fun.

Caroling on horseback may be one of the best events of the year, at least that's what some folks have told us after past trips. For more than 20 years LCHA has Christmas caroled on horseback in Berthoud. As we did last year, we will collaborate with The Rancher's Wife and their celebration plans.

The Rancher's Wife has a celebration with Santa on Dec. 7 and are delighted to have us join in the festivities.

So, we will join them.



Gather and Ride

We will gather at Turner Middle School. If your horse is not available, but you want to sing along, we'll have a truck pulling a flat bed trailer stacked with hay bales. You can have a **hayride while Christmas caroling**.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will join us at the school and ride our hay wagon as we weave our way through side streets singing to folks who come out to see and hear us. Eventually, we will arrive at the square (Third Street and Massachusetts Street) where we will deliver Santa and his wife, and then (maybe) sing to the crowd at the Rancher's Wife.

After the Ride – Goodies and Chats

After our time at the Rancher's Wife, we will head back to Turner Middle School parking lot for hot chocolate and hot cider. **Bring cookies to share.**

See Bad Weather?

page 2

Bad Weather?

If the weather is bad or if the road conditions are icy, we will cancel. So, please make reservations with Bonnie Templeton 970-622-0982 or Susan Kurzweil 970-619-0966 so that we can call you if we need to cancel.

Directions to Turner Middle School

Go to Berthoud. Its main street is Mountain Avenue (used to be US 287).

- Follow Mountain Avenue to 8th Street. Turn north onto 8th Street. The turn is next to an A&W restaurant.
- Follow 8th Street 2 blocks to Turner Avenue.
- Turn left (west) onto Turner Avenue.
- Go one block on Turner Avenue. The parking lot is on the right.

Holiday Party



It's Party Time for LCHA

Sunday, December 8
McKee 4H Building, The Ranch
Loveland and Fort Collins Meeting
Rooms
Start at 5:30pm.

See "Lots of Fun" on page 3

Lots of Fun

We will have lots of fun:

- **Slide Show** of events for 2024 (and maybe a few from earlier years as well). If you have pictures you'd like to share, send them (hopefully by December 1) to Chuck Morel at

chuckm@skybeam.com

Note: If you would like to send a picture of a horse that has died in 2024, you can label it "In Loving Memory Of (name)" and it will appear on the slide show with the memorial message.

- **Holiday Music** for your listening pleasure.

See "Holiday Gifts" on page 3

Holiday Gifts

- **A Holiday Gift Exchange Game**

Bring a gift not to exceed \$15.00. Gift wrapped (*not necessarily* wrapped, but the game is more fun if you wrap the gift).

We will explain game rules at the party.

Dinner

LCHA will provide pulled pork and buns as the main entree, and beverages – decaf iced tea, lemonade, and water. LCHA will also provide the plates, cups, and utensils. You bring a side or dessert to share.

Remember, you can have some of the best food ever at a potluck. Come have a great dinner and a great time with your LCHA friends!

RSVP

Please RSVP by Friday, December 1 with what food you will bring (side or dessert) and how many in your party. Contact Pati Morel at 970-488-0041 to sign up.



Hope to see all of you at this fun event! There will be Great Food and Good Fun.

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.

Events – December and January

December

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7– CHRISTMAS CAROLING ON HORSEBACK IN BERTHOUD

Arrive 10:30 AM, In the saddle at 11:00 AM, We leave the parking lot at 11:15 AM



See the article **Yes, Christmas Caroling on Horseback** in this newsletter for more information.

Contact Susan Kurzweil at 970-619-0966 or Bonnie Templeton at 970-622-0982.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 – LCHA HOLIDAY PARTY



See the article **It's Party Time for LCHA** in this newsletter for more information.

Please RSVP by Friday, December 1 with what food you will bring (side or dessert) and how many in your party. Contact Pati Morel at 970-488-0041 to sign up.

See "January" on page 4

January

January

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9 – PROGRAM: WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR HORSE IN THE WINTER

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM McKee 4H Building The Ranch

Winter is a tough time to ride. Why? It's cold (sometimes very cold). It's muddy (snow melting, or rainy). Don't have an indoor arena (most of us don't have one). Daylight is too short (not enough light outside). In other words, we need some other things to do with our horses to maintain our close bond, and to feel that we have done *something*. Learn some games or other things you can do with your horse in winter, and why it is important for you and your horse.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 – PLANNING MEETING

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM McKee 4H Building The Ranch

We are going to plan LCHA events for 2025. Read the article **Planning for 2025** in this newsletter.



See "In Person" on page 5

In Person

Note: Our January meetings will be in-person. We will try to offer ZOOM as well. However, for any meeting at The Ranch, we have had difficulty with the WIFI system, which affects our ability to have ZOOM connections for our meetings. Nevertheless, we will offer ZOOM for the program meeting and the planning meeting.

Survey Information

This survey will give us information for the January 2025 planning meeting.

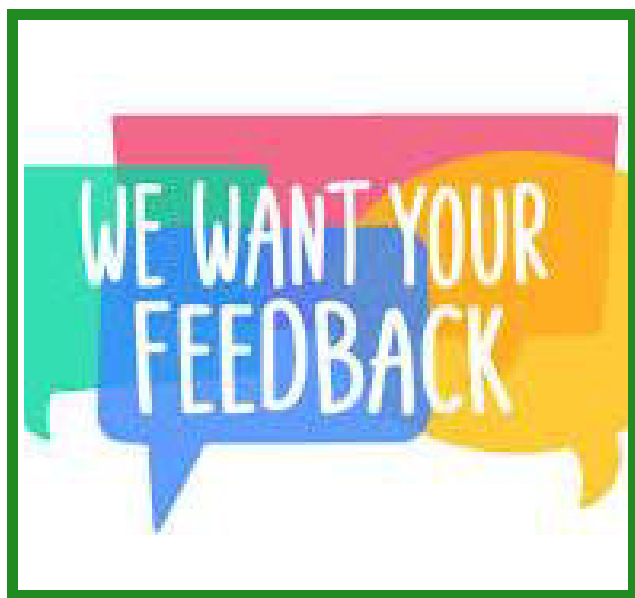
The planning meeting is on Thursday, January 23, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, in the McKee 4H Building at The Ranch (we have finished earlier than 9:00 PM on several occasions).

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.

Thank you!

LCHA Board of Directors

Be Heard! Your Voice And Wishes Count!



Please tell LCHA what events you want in 2025.

An invitation to take a 5 minute survey will appear in your email soon. It is easy to take and we want your input. LCHA is your club, so please influence what we do in 2025!

The invitation email will come from Sherry Vaughn. If you don't see the invitation email for the survey, please check your JUNK (aka SPAM) folder.

You will receive a text that alerts everyone to take the survey.

See "Survey Information" on page 5

Planning for 2025



Planning Meeting

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

- **Thursday**
- **January 23**
- **7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (we have finished earlier than that on several occasions)**
- **McKee 4H Building, The Ranch**

We prefer to have this meeting in person, in the McKee 4H Building at The Ranch. 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.

See "Fixed Dates" on page 6

Fixed Dates

Fixed Dates

Some dates are automatic. For instance,

- Our bylaws require that LCHA 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** 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 – We also schedule Spring training sessions for the large animal evacuation teams to maintain a high level of readiness and skill necessary to make effective and safe evacuations.

Trail maintenance – Ordinarily, the trail maintenance coordinator asks for certain dates for trail maintenance trips, spacing them across the late Spring, Summer, and early Fall. However, we do not have a trail maintenance coordinator, so we do not have anyone who will work with Larimer County or the United States Forest Service to arrange trail maintenance dates for 2025. We desperately need a new coordinator who can lead this critical function. Until then we cannot assign dates on our calendar.

Trail rides – Trail ride leaders list dates and trails on which they would like to lead rides. We try to schedule at least one club ride per month – frequently more than one per month. *Note: We do NOT schedule trail rides on the same dates as trail maintenance trips.*

Trail ride leader training – If people are interested in becoming LCHA trail ride leaders, we schedule a trail

ride leader training class (usually a half day of classroom and a half day of in-saddle training).

See “Fun Days” on page 6

Fun Days

Fun days – a Holiday party, a picnic following a special ride, a judged obstacle trail challenge (again), or other special events.

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.

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.

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

- 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.

Why?

If we need to cancel an event, your ride leader 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 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.

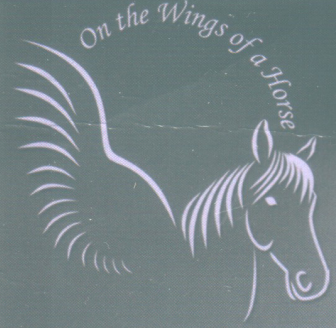


Sign Up for Your Event

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

No matter how you do it, sign up

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



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mountainmagicranch.com



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www.cowgirlcandystore.com



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www.citosrescue.org

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Megan Sorentino
Riding Instructor & Horse Trainer
<https://www.classhorsemanship.com/>
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CLASSICAL HORSEMANSHIP
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Educational Programs

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.

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

See "Educational Programs" on page 9

LCHA Educational Programs

LCHA offers a program meeting on the First Thursday of each month, except June, July, August, and December. Occasionally, program meetings occur on different days, at different times, and at different locations. All members are invited, and the public is invited, to any program meeting. We usually meet at the McKee 4H Building at The Ranch, but some meetings occur at different locations. Watch your newsletter and email for further information about meetings.

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 run from 7:00 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. All Board meetings are open to all LCHA members and to the public.

January Program?

Yes we have a program in January. Take a look.

What To Do with Your Horse in the Winter



when you can't (or don't want to) ride.

LCHA Program Meeting
Thursday, January 9
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Timnath Room
McKee 4H Building
The Ranch

Winter is a tough time to ride. Why? Take your pick:

- It's cold (sometimes very cold).
- Roads or trails are too slippery (snow or ice).
- Everything is muddy (snow melting, or rainy).
- Don't have an indoor arena (most of us don't have one).
- Daylight is too short (not enough light outside).

In other words, we need some other things to do with our horses to maintain our close bond, and to keep the horse's mind engaged

We can learn some exercises, games or other things you can do with your horse in winter, and why it is important for you and your horse.

Our speaker is Amanda Bowen, Equine Ambulatory Resident at CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital.



Amanda grew up and attended school in the Midwest. During her summers as a student, she wrangled at a barn in Estes Park. After spending so many summers exploring the Rocky Mountains, she is excited to be able to practice veterinary medicine in the same area. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, fly fishing, and reading.

Education

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois, 2023
Bachelor of Science, Iowa State University, 2018

OK. Now Some Humor To Enjoy

You know you are a horse-person when:

- You click to your car when you go up a hill.
- Your horse's hair is in better condition than your own.
- You refer to your car as "my portable tack room".
- You are excited when your friend tells you that there is a huge sale at the bridle shop, then you are disappointed when you realise they mean the bridal shop.
- You have the vet's number but not your child's doctors on your speed dial.
- Your other half can track dirt into the house all they want, but God help them if they muddy up the tack room.
- Your house is a mess, but the barn is as neat as a pin.
- Your nice clothes are the ones without horse hair all over them.

Other Humor

I put a bet on a horse to come in at 10 to 1 – and it did! Unfortunately all the others came in at 12.30.

I put a bet on a horse that had excellent breeding. After the horse left the starting gate, he stopped and closed it behind him.

Have you heard the one about the runaway horse? It's a terrible tale of WHOA!

A jockey is walking down the road leading a racehorse when he bumps into a friend. "What are you planning to do with that nag?" the man asks. "Race it," replies the jockey, surprised. "Well, by the look of it," the man says, "You'll win!"

LCHA Roundup



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Association
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52 Years of Service
