



Front Range Back Country Horsemen (est. 1996)
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Working to keep trails open to saddle and pack stock today and for future generations through education, service and voice.

Without trails, where would we ride?

June 2023 Newsletter



Prez Sez, June '23

Well, it's been the rainiest Spring most of us can remember! Due to the constant rains in May and June, we canceled the campout at Indian Creek planned for May 19-21, and delayed the recreational ride at the **Wealings** to June 11. But many riders turned out on the 11th and a great pot-luck was served up to the team. Thanks for all the efforts by **Joan and Jack** to put this together and help us get out on the trail!

Similarly, we canceled the first trail clearing ride for June 12, and the clearing ride for the Colorado Trail on the 15th. We will work to re-schedule these rides as soon as the weather clears.

We had a very interesting meeting at the Golden Library in May, with presentations by **Margi Evans** and **Robin Shipman**. Margi has written an extensive set of equestrian trail guides for Colorado and also many fiction novels centered on horses. Robin presented and discussed a variety of bits, and updated us on the programs at Arapahoe Community College equine training program. Look for the detailed notes from **Karen Chaney** emailed out on May 30!

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**Deadline for articles
10th of each month!**

Time was short during the May meeting, so we initiated a Board call on Zoom for May 31. We are thinking that this could become a more regular Planning Call, not limited to the Board members. We will email invitations to these calls and add them to the calendar for anyone interested.

We're still planning for the June meeting to be at Sandstone Open Space in Douglas County where we can ride for a few hours, then have a potluck meal and brief meeting. Hopefully the weather will clear up by then, so keep an eye on the Calendar and for emails as we approach that date.

The online calendar is current, and we continue to update the activities as things change. See you all there!

--John Case



Sometimes, one needs to be bold and just go for it! The morning of June 11th was cool and overcast, in Lakewood. The clouds were threatening to deliver the liquid sunshine that Colorado had been blessed with since late April. Yet something told me that things would be different in the Pike National Forest. So, my non-horsey husband and I loaded up the trailer, grabbed some grub to share and headed south to the rendezvous at the ride that Jack and Joan Wealing organized. And what a wonderful treat it was! About 14 riders arrived laden with side dishes and were broken into two groups, a short ride and a long ride, each lead by Joan or Jack. Upon return, Jack retrieved a HUGE container of pulled pork and we gathered to share stories, baby (mule & mammoth donkey) pictures and other pertinent information. How wonderful to have this great spot right in your own back yard and to be generous enough to share your day with others! **THANK YOU, JOAN AND JACK WEALING, for sponsoring!**

****PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS****

Our Community Needs Your Help!

You can be a **“Local Hero”** by using your skills as a CDL driver for the **Rotary Wildfire Ready FIRE TRUCK!** The mission of [Rotary Wildfire Ready \(RWR\)](http://www.rotarywildfireready.com) is to increase wildfire awareness and wildfire preparedness in our communities, and to help make our residents safer from the threat of wildfire. The RWR project is part of the Evergreen Rotary Foundation which is a non-profit organization. Please visit our website at: www.rotarywildfireready.com.

The **RWR FIRE TRUCK** is our mobile educational tool used at various local community events to help educate the public about wildfire preparedness. Our volunteer CDL drivers are incredibly valuable in helping us meet the mission of Rotary Wildfire Ready and to ultimately **SAVE LIVES** in our community. While we'd love to have our CDL drivers be are not required to become Rotarians.



Details to becoming a volunteer CDL driver for Rotary Wildfire Ready:

1. Contact Marianne Temple at 303-641-0692 or at mariannetemple60@gmail.com.
2. Submit a copy of your CDL license to Marianne Temple.
3. Select community event dates to deliver & pick up our RWR Firetruck.

The volunteer CDL drivers are only responsible for dropping off and picking up the truck at each event. You will receive personal transportation to and from your own vehicle. All fuel and other costs are paid by RWR.

PLEASE HELP US SAVE LIVES BY BECOMING A VOLUNTEER CDL DRIVER FOR THE RWR FIRE TRUCK!

RIDERS FOR THE BUFFALO BILL SADDLE CLUB

POKER RIDE

SATURDAY JUNE 24, 2023

STAUNTON STATE PARK

(12102 S Elk Creek Rd., Pine, CO 80470)

First rider out at 9:00

Choose a 2 or 3 hour ride

(everyone must be back by noon)

Entry Fees: \$30.00/non-member

\$25.00 BBSC member or senior

includes lunch

Staunton State Park charges a daily use fee, unless you have an annual pass.

PreRegistration on the website store

www.BBSCGolden.org

- ♣ Ride your horse from the equestrian parking lot down the trail to each of the 5 stations to select a playing card.
- ♣ The selection is recorded on your player's card.
- ♣ Submit your player's card at the last station where it will be tabulated.
- ♣ Prizes awarded to the best poker hand and more.
- ♣ Lunch at 12:30 at the equestrian parking lot.

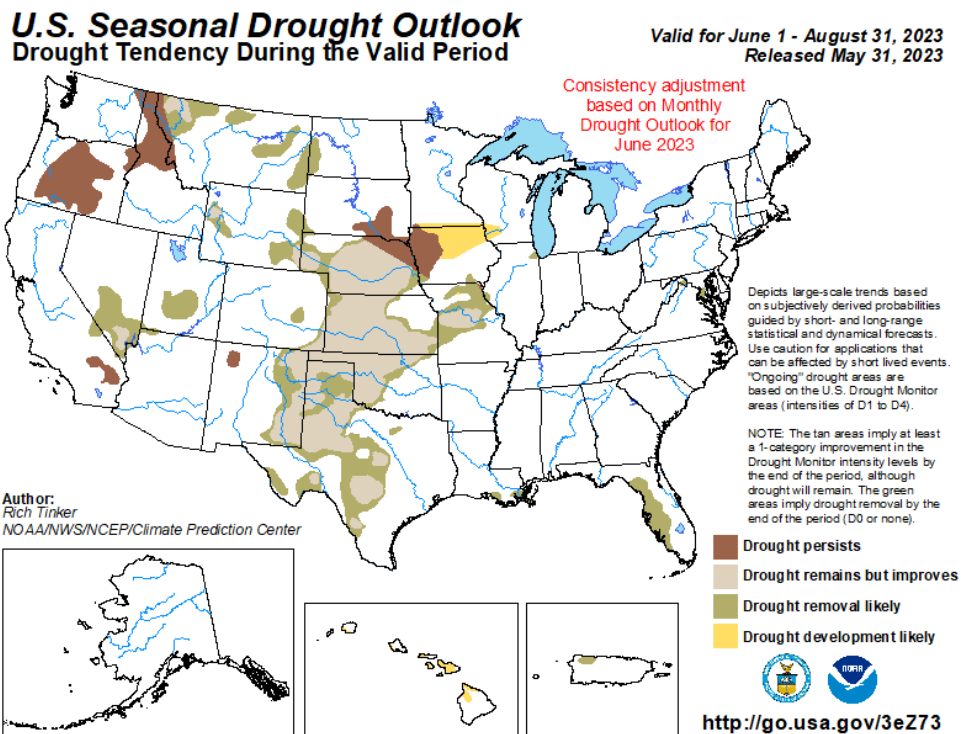
For questions contact

Jan Kray buffalogalcolorado@yahoo.com or

Carolyn Knapp-Nelson equinehands@comcast.net

Preregistration via our website store is **highly recommended** as we will take a count of expected rigs. Come with a friend if possible. Onsite registration will be available but you may have to park in another lot and ride to the equestrian parking lot to check in.

Not that I'm looking for a new career, however, I think I'm about to grow webbing between my toes and fingers. So, what does one do on a rainy Sunday afternoon but look up some weather information, as I ponder the lack of riding weather... The good news is that most of Colorado and the Southwest, in general, are out of the drought. Just saying.





Obstacle Course Challenge @ the ranch-SVHC Events - Summit Valley Horse Center
<https://summitvalleyhorsecenter.org/events/calendar-view/svhc-events/obstacle-course-challenge-the-ranch>

Summit Valley Horse Center Ranch
35405 Highway 9
Silverthorne, CO 80498

Event Date: June 24
Event Time: 9am - 1pm (7am gathering and registration)
Capacity: unlimited - Free for observers
Individual Price: \$45 advanced registration to compete
Late Registration Price: \$65 if registering after June 15.
Location: Summit Valley Horse Center Ranch
Practice: Starting June 1 you can practice riding the course.

For those of you who may have missed it, the American Horse Council did an **extensive** survey of the economic impact of the horse community, nationwide, in 2017. They are re-doing that survey this year. **Here is a link to their economic impact study survey (<https://horsecouncil.org/economic-impact-study/>).** (Taking the survey was eye-opening exercise for yours truly!!) **We should all take this survey and promote any others in the horse community to take it too. The survey is open until September 29, 2023.** What I did was go to the survey, print it out so I could gather my historic information for 2022, then I reentered the website page and entered my information into their categories. There are categories for Equine businesses as well as individuals with horses. The purpose of this survey is to quantify how much the Equine Industry adds to the national GDP.

NOXIOUS WEED IN COLORADO



Be on the lookout, and yes, this is a repeat of last month's article... *Centaurea solstitialis*, the yellow star-thistle, is a species of thorny plant in the genus *Centaurea*, which is part of the family Asteraceae. A winter annual, it is native to the Mediterranean Basin region and invasive in many other places.

<https://ag.colorado.gov/conservation/noxious-weeds/noxious-weed-species-id/yellow-starthistle>

Yellow star thistle has been found in our vicinity (Jefferson, Douglas and Arapaho Counties, as well as in other areas of Colorado). See website for more information including map of where reported. Please be on the lookout for this and report it immediately if you see it (see website for how to report). This is a List A noxious weed in Colorado and a single plant produces 100,000 airborne seeds. **Of particular concern to horse owners is this weed is toxic to horses and other animals.** It causes an irreversible and serious brain lesion. Nigropalladiol-encephalomalacia. This is a long word to describe death of dopamine producing neurons.

Book Corner

Please share your favorite equine themed book titles. Send your favs to pdyon54@aol.com Here are four nonfiction selections for this month. If you can't find any of these at the library, try [Thrift Books](#).

Unbreakable: The Woman Who Defied the Nazis in the World's Most Dangerous Horse Race

by [Richard Askwith](#)

The courageous and heartbreaking story of a Czech countess who defied the Nazis in a legendary horse race. Czechoslovakia, October 1937. Vast crowds have gathered to watch the threatened nation's most prestigious sporting contest: the Grand Pardubice steeplechase. Notoriously dangerous, the race is considered the ultimate test of manhood and fighting spirit. The Nazis have sent their paramilitary elite-SS officers on a mission to crush the "subhuman Slavs". The local cavalry officers have no hope of stopping them. But there is one other contestant: a countess riding a little golden mare...The story of Lata Brandisov is by turns enigmatic and inspiring. Born into privilege, she spent much of her life in poverty. Modest and shy, she refused to accept the constraints society placed on her because of her gender. Instead, with quiet courage, she repeatedly achieved what others said was impossible and rose above scandal to become her nation's figurehead in its darkest hour. *Unbreakable* is a story of endurance and defiance in an age of prejudice, fear, sexism, class hatred, and nationalism. Filled with eccentric aristocrats, socialite spies, daredevil jockeys-and a race so brutal that some consider merely taking part in it a sign of insanity-*Unbreakable* brings to life a unique hero, and an unforgettable love affair between a woman and a horse.

The Perfect Horse: The Daring U.S. Mission to Rescue the Priceless Stallions Kidnapped by the Nazis

by [Elizabeth Letts](#)

The remarkable story of the heroic rescue of priceless horses in the closing days of World War II. In the chaotic last days of the war, a small troop of battle-weary American soldiers captures a German spy and makes an astonishing find--his briefcase is empty but for photos of beautiful white horses that have been stolen and kept on a secret farm behind enemy lines. Hitler has stockpiled the world's finest purebreds in order to breed the perfect military machine--an equine master race. But with the starving Russian army closing in, the animals are in imminent danger of being slaughtered for food. With only hours to spare, one of the U.S. Army's last great cavalymen, Colonel Hank Reed, makes a bold decision--with General George Patton's blessing--to mount a covert rescue operation. Racing against time, Reed's small but determined force of soldiers, aided by several turncoat Germans, steals across enemy lines in a last-ditch effort to save the horses. A compelling account for animal lovers and World War II buffs alike, *The Perfect Horse* tells for the first time the full story of these events. Elizabeth Letts's exhilarating tale of behind-enemy-lines adventure, courage, and sacrifice brings to life one of the most inspiring chapters in the annals of human valor.

The Forgotten Horses: The Beauty of America's Unwanted Horses

by [Tony Stromberg](#)

Through photographs and stories, equine photographer Tony Stromberg explores the lives of rescued horses in sanctuaries across North America. This book reveals the spirit of these animals and honors the people and sanctuaries that have offered them a well-deserved home.

The Horse Boy: A Father's Quest to Heal His Son

by [Rupert Isaacson](#)

After his son Rowan is diagnosed with autism, Isaacson, a lifelong horseman, takes Rowan to Mongolia, the one place in the world where horses and shamanic healing intersect. This is the dramatic and heartwarming story of that impossible adventure.



BCH National Newsletter

As a member of the FRBCH, you should have or will be receiving your copy of the BCH Newsletter. If for some reason you do not, please follow the link below:

To catch up on historical newsletters or to read the current newsletters please go to <https://www.bcha.org/blog/newsletter/> There's great info here!



Upcoming FRBCH Chapter Events

Date	Task	Needed	Time	Filled	Open
Tue, Jun 20, 2023	Sandstone Rec Ride & Chapter Meeting	No Limit	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10	

Date	Task	Needed	Time	Filled	Open
Sat, Jul 8, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	4	6
Wed, Jul 12, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	2	8
Fri, Jul 14-16, 2023	Camping Trip and Recreational Ride	No Limit	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	9	
Tue, Jul 18, 2023	Monthly Meeting	No Limit	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	4	
Thu, Jul 27, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	4	6
Wed, Aug 2, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	1	9
Fri, Aug 11-13, 2023	BCHCO Rendezvous (tentative)	No Limit	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	6	
Wed, Aug 16, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	1	9
Tue, Aug 22, 2023	Chatfield Rec Ride & Chapter Meeting	No Limit	2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	2	

Use this link to view the complete detailed list and for sign-up. <https://signup.com/go/seVyPnj>

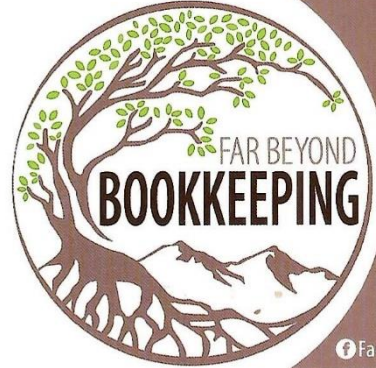


Special Thanks to our Sponsoring Members!




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 Far Beyond Bookkeeping Tools and Tips

Thank you for your patience and persistence for reading all the way to the end of this newsletter.

Your feedback is appreciated. Paulette PJ Dyon

For the past 21 years, my wife has been complaining about my not putting the cap back on the toothpaste. This anniversary I decided to change this bad habit and make my wife happy. For a week, I was diligent, always capping the toothpaste. I was expecting my wife to thank me, but she never did. Finally, yesterday while eating dinner, she turned and looked at me and said, 'Why have you stopped brushing your teeth?'
Marriage is a difficult relationship, I tell you.

Editor: Could go either way...
From the Cornish Association of South Australia newsletter