



Front Range Back Country Horsemen (est. 1996)
P.O. Box 150521 Lakewood, CO 80215

info@FRBCH.org

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?

November 2023 Newsletter



November 2023

Highlights of the last membership meeting”

John Case made the following announcements and updates:

- Joan Wealing has volunteered to be the lead trail boss for 2024.
- The application for 501c3 IRS status will be submitted before year end.
- Karen Chaney will Chair for EXPO activities for 2024. Scheduled in March this year. 15-17th.
 - ❖ Passes are given to the volunteers. Dates for volunteers needed: set up on Thursday March 14. Volunteers will be provided with a free pass for the EXPO. Volunteers are needed for March 15-16-17 and booth tear down on Sunday March 17. Please consider volunteering for at least one 2-hour time slot during the EXPO.
- Clinic Discussions:
 - ❖ Clinics to be determined by EXPO; Need volunteers to manage these clinics. Contact an officer if you want to volunteer for one of these suggested by the membership. Membership to determine preferred clinics for next year.
 - Sawyer training-Joan Wealing
 - Mike Brashear
 - Sharon Pizzuto
 - Pam Doverspike: Introduction to trail riding
 - First aide and metabolic clinic for your horse (winter or fall)
 - ❖ Karen Chaney volunteered to help clinic volunteers with organization.
 - ❖ Best months to have clinics, better in the spring, than the fall.

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Shawna Jarvis
Open

State Directors:

Julie Chaney
John Case

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

DISCUSSION AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Calendar for next year. We're going to need more volunteers to make these things happen. More sawyers. Please contact an officer if you are interested in leading an event.
- Asked the membership what to change for next year. Suggestions for next year.
 - Fun rides to increase membership. Keep to basic trails. Very easy rides to bring people in. Trails that are too hard will discourage people from riding with us.
 - Define the level of the ride more explicitly. Shoes or no shoes, water crossings, barriers, difficult terrain. Do pre-rides to determine the description. Add trail descriptions to each ride. Elevation technical terrain. Distance. Bicycles. Dan suggested that we call early season rides conditioning rides. People should be ready for the back country. We need to be sure that people know what to expect when going to the back country. Define rides as easier or harder. Or longer ride or shorter ride.
 - How to condition your horse after winter in preparation for summer and mountain riding. What to expect to condition your horse.
 - Mentorship Program. Match people who are new to people who have more experience to do day rides. (Mentors not have to trailer others)
 - New members should fill out a membership questionnaire about experience and trailers Kitty needs membership to update new member packet and write the questionnaire for our new members. Build up for clearing rides and more difficult riding experiences. Officers asked by John to create a new member questionnaire. (bicycles, water, experience)
 - Trail riding and camping combined. Do other things for the NFS such as moving rock, building corrals, etc.
 - Adopt Indian Creek to make FRBCH more visible 285 committee. Become more visible there. Cyclists are really organized. Equine enthusiasts should be more involved.
 - Discussion on frequency of meetings and location of meetings. Need full membership approval for meeting changes. Zoom call as experiment to see how many join. Zoom Call for November meeting.
 - Agreed that Q's is a great venue. Could have a speaker here. No charge for the room. Very accommodating staff.
 - Agreed that library is no longer meeting our needs.

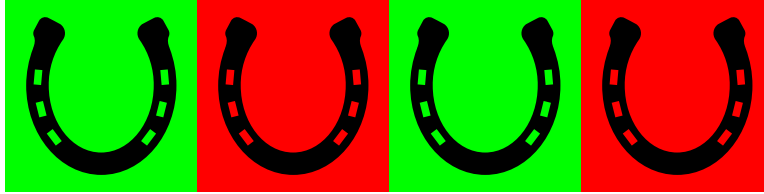


HO HO HO!!! Let's get together for a chapter Christmas Party at the Keller Williams DTC office, kindly arranged by Jim Holmes. The address is 6300 S Syracuse Way, Suite 150, Centennial 80111. It's about 5 minutes west of I-25 & Orchard Rd.

We can gather for pot-luck dinner and our traditional Christmas present exchange - so bring ONE PRESENT to participate in the exchange, it's always a lot of fun. The Chapter will provide beverages and a main course, Details to follow.

Save the Date now before the Holidays hit in earnest!

We need to have leaders and coordinators identified for all the remaining events, so don't be bashful – step up to leading an event with a great trail riding crew!
The online calendar is current, and we continue to update the activities as things change.
See you all on the trails! --John



2023

CHRISTMAS TREE AMBASSADORS

DRESS YOUR PONIES IN THEIR HOLIDAY FINERY

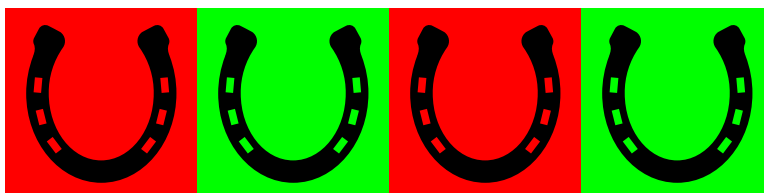
Nov. 24, 25, 26 Dec. 2, 3, and 9

Event Parking

Buffalo Creek, CO

We will be parking in the event parking across from Spring Creek Ranch as in years past. To find this parking, go through Buffalo Creek, up the hill and past the Fire Station. The parking area will be on the right (west) side of the road and will have a FRBCH sign on it. You will need to open it to go in. It will be unlocked. Need to spread out our volunteers over several days to share the holiday spirit with the tree choppers.

*If you plan to participate, please contact **Joan Wealing at 219-863-7253** or joanwealing@gmail.com. Joan will provide further instructions and meet you at the event.*



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 Horse, the Wheel, and Language: How Bronze-Age Riders from the Eurasian Steppes Shaped the Modern World

by [David W. Anthony](#)

Roughly half the world's population speaks languages derived from a shared linguistic source known as Proto-Indo-European. But who were the early speakers of this ancient mother tongue, and how did they manage to spread it around the globe? Until now their identity has remained a tantalizing mystery to linguists, archaeologists, and even Nazis seeking the roots of the Aryan race. *The Horse, the Wheel, and Language* lifts the veil that has long shrouded these original Indo-European speakers, and reveals how their domestication of horses and use of the wheel spread language and transformed civilization.

Linking prehistoric archaeological remains with the development of language, David Anthony identifies the prehistoric peoples of central Eurasia's steppe grasslands as the original speakers of Proto-Indo-European, and shows how their innovative use of the ox wagon, horseback riding, and the warrior's chariot turned the Eurasian steppes into a thriving transcontinental corridor of communication, commerce, and cultural exchange. He explains how they spread their traditions and gave rise to important advances in copper mining, warfare, and patron-client political institutions, thereby ushering in an era of vibrant social change. Anthony also describes his fascinating discovery of how the wear from bits on ancient horse teeth reveals the origins of horseback riding.

The Horse, the Wheel, and Language solves a puzzle that has vexed scholars for two centuries—the source of the Indo-European languages and English—and recovers a magnificent and influential civilization from the past.

The Ghost Horse: A True Story of Love, Death, and Redemption

by [Joe Layden](#)

In *The Ghost Horse*, Joe Layden tells the inspiring true tale of a one-eyed, club-footed thoroughbred racehorse and a journeyman trainer, Tim Snyder, who scraped together every penny he had to purchase the broken and unwanted filly.

Snyder helped the horse overcome its deficiencies, eventually naming her in part after his deceased wife, Lisa, the great and only love of his life—a bright and sweet-tempered woman whose gentle demeanor seemed eerily reflected in the horse. The trainer (and now owner) was by nature a crusty and combative sort, the yin to his wife's yang, a racetrack lifer not easily moved by new-age mysticism or sentiment. And yet in those final days back in 2003, when Lisa Snyder lay in bed, her body ravaged by cancer, she reassured her family with a weak smile. "It's okay," she'd say. "I'll see you again. I'm coming back as a horse."

Tim Snyder did not then believe in reincarnation. But he acknowledged the strangeness of this journey, the series of coincidences that brought them together, and the undeniable similarities between the horse and his late wife. And so did those who knew the couple well, and who could now only marvel at the story of the filly, Lisa's Booby Trap, and the down-on-his-luck trainer who apparently had been given a new lease on life. *The Ghost Horse* is a powerful horseracing story of underdogs and second chances.

The Last Ride of the Pony Express: My 2,000-mile Horseback Journey into the Old West

by [Will Grant](#)

The Last Ride of the Pony Express boldly illuminates both our mythic fascination with the Pony Express, and how its spirit continues to this day.

The Pony Express was a fast-horse frontier mail service that spanned the American West—the high, dry, and undeniably lonesome part of North America. While in operation during the 1860s, it carried letter mail on a blistering ten-day schedule between Missouri and San Francisco, running through a vast and mostly uninhabited wilderness. It covered a massive distance—akin to running horses between Madrid and Moscow— and to this day, the Pony Express is irrefutably the greatest display of American horsemanship to ever color the pages of a history book.

Though the Pony Express has enjoyed a lot of traction over the years, among the authors that have attempted to encapsulate it, none have ever ridden it themselves. While most scholars would look for answers inside a library, Will Grant looks for his between the ears of a horse. Inspired by the likes of Mark Twain, Sir Richard Burton, and Horace Greeley, all of whom traveled throughout the developing West, Will Grant returned to his roots: he would ride the trail himself with his two horses, Chicken Fry and Badger, from one end to the other.

Will Grant captures the spirit of the West in a way that few writers have. Along with rich encounters with the ranchers, farmers, historians, and businessmen who populate the trail,

his exploits on horseback offer an intimate portrait of how the West has evolved from the rough and tumble 19th century to the present, and it's written with such intimacy that you'll feel as though you're riding right alongside of him. The result is an extraordinary portrait of the treacherous and, at times, thrilling landscape of the known and unknown American West, and the people who populate it.

The Last Ride of the Pony Express is a tale of adventure by a horseman who defies most modern conveniences, and is an unforgettable narrative that will forever change how you see the West, the Pony Express, and America as a whole.



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!

- **To** perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- **To** work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- **To** assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- **To** educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- **To** foster and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen's organizations.




Upcoming FRBCH Chapter Events

Date	Task	Needed	Time
Tue., Nov 14, 2023	Zoom BOD & Monthly Meeting	open	5 pm – 8 pm
Fri., Nov 24, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sat., Nov 25, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sun., Nov 26, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sat., Dec 2, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sun., Dec 3, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sun., Dec 9, 2023	Christmas Tree Ambassador	open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sun., Dec 17, 2023	Holiday Party	open	4:00pm – 9:00pm

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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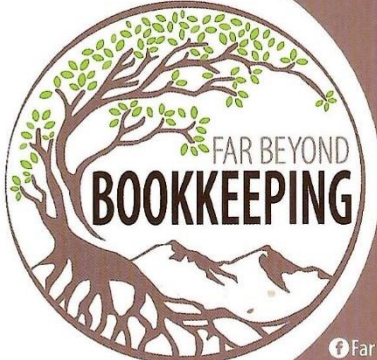
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CowboyEnterprisesLLC.com

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

A guy is walking through the country when he spots a sign that reads, "Talking Horse for Sale." Intrigued, he walks up to the stable to check it out.

"So what have you done with your life?" he asks the horse.

"I've led a full life," the horse answers miraculously. "I was born on an island where I herded for an entire village. Years later, I joined the mounted police force in New York and helped keep the city clean. And now, I spend my days giving free rides to underprivileged kids here in the country."

The guy is flabbergasted. He asks the horse's owner, "Why on earth would you want to get rid of such an incredible animal?"

The owner says, "Because he's a liar! He never did any of that!"

Your contributions to content and feedback are appreciated. Paulette PJ Dyon