

Spring 2023

Visit our website

YOUR RFV HORSE COUNCIL'S SEASONAL NEWS



Silver
Transparency
2023

Candid.

We earned a Silver Seal !
[Find out more about the approval of our non-profit on Candid / Guidestar](#)

THE MISSION of the RFVHC is to provide a unified voice for equine related interests by working to preserve access to trails, promoting charitable involvement in equine related experiences and activities, educating the public on equestrian issues, providing connections, resources and supporting the overall well being of horses and horsemanship.

MEETING MEMBERS



INTRODUCTION TO MARGUERITE DYKANN - AND HER HORSE STOLI A LONGTIME RFBVHC MEMBER and BELOVED SKI INSTRUCTOR

Benefits for RFBVHC members are many. We want you to know that your outreach to a Directory member of the RFBVHC will give you the sense of belonging to an equine community that cares for you and your business.

Our **Classifieds** ads <https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/classifieds.html> on Facebook and the website are working. Since 2019 we have posted ads for sellers and buyers and this is a RFBVHC service we offer to members. We are always hopeful that a good deed becomes a renewed or new "membership".

Our **FaceBook Page** www.facebook.com/keephorsesontrails/ is a valuable commodity that generates activity on the social media scene. We have almost 1500 Followers, and our ads and information boosting can find the audience YOU want. And it's fun! We post on-going information for education.

Our **RFBVHC Equine & Business Directory** on our website is a valuable service for networking - <https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/directory.html> Many are businesses and people that we have known for decades, and we value their services. If you are **NEW** in the valley, introducing yourselves to our Directory Members is a great place to start. Belonging in our Directory is a 3 year commitment - and only costs \$150.00 to join. We have 34 equine specialty categories and also include Real Estate Agencies. We ask for your support, and we will support you!

Also, the RFBVHC has an emergency **Hay Bank** for those horse owners in need. See below in this newsletter for more details.

When we attend local **government meetings - you will be sitting in the chairs with us -** to be the voice for the equestrian community, and for our horses and mules. Our Board of Directors is

diverse, so our interests in progress represent YOURS. We try to be present - at the table - making the needs of our members known to our civic and recreational leaders.

As a member, you will receive **newsletters** like this one, filled with photographs, and more thank you's to our members, supporters and community partners. We also post newsletters on our HOME TAB from our partners Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) and Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) to give our members an up-to-date -- one place to go - to read the monthly national equine news! Find that TAB here at the HOME page <https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org> Hold your cursor on HOME and you will see the dropdown menu.

Use our website as your own!. **On our website we will post your shows, clinics and events.** We also use some of our funds to support the local newspapers with ads that thank those who support our partner non-profits and help our mission.

As members of the RFBHC we will keep you informed. As yearly members, or long term wonderful lifetime members, your dollars recognize the importance of sustaining this non-profit organization. **We will continue to work for all of you that love horses and the life they give us.**

Finally, unique to our membership benefits are the relationships we forge with our non-profit partners and our RFB governmental entities. The RFBHC will help protect and preserve our Western Heritage by "keeping horses on trails", and insuring parking for trucks and horse trailers. When we write or talk to agencies, we are talking for you - tell us what you want to say, and your RFBHC will work for YOU. Need an introduction? Contact us!

RFBHC FOUNDER and FORMER PRESIDENT, AN UPDATE FOR CAROL DOPKIN AND HER NEW BEAUTIFUL NORWEGIAN HORSE BRYNJAR.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE & OUR CALL TO ACTION

DEAR Members, Over the last years we have been sending you emails filled with horse council news.

In January 2022, I asked our Board of Directors if we could begin to use Constant Contact for consistent and professional mailings. They said YES! We are now in our second year!

Let me know if you can't see photos... and please do click on the links - our job is to educate and enlighten and I try very hard to build a newsletter that will remind you how the Rfvhc can help its' members.

I always ask that you stay on our mailing list, as your participation and names are vital to forging consensus on equestrian issues in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Remember, we do not share or sell our mailing lists! If you have an interest in becoming involved, a seat on our Board, or work on a Rfvhc committee, please contact us. The Rfvhc exists for you - what can we do for you ? [Contact Karin](#)

If you haven't renewed your membership, here is a button to do so....

**Renew your membership or DONATE
HERE**



CALL TO ACTION

We all Love the Snowmass Rodeo. It is the heart of Snowmass Village in the summer.

The Rfvhc invites the new 2023 TOSV Commissioners and leaders to meet with us for solutions we can offer. The red circle on the map below is the parking area being discussed.

We believe the new parking area TOSV plans for rodeo contestant parking will be insufficient in size. There are efforts to disguise and camouflage the parking area from public view. There needs to be sufficient and safe parking for cars, contestant trucks / trailers and service vehicles parked without expensive art fencing and elaborate bulky landscape shielding.

A metal art fence between the rodeo arena and the parking area will hinder and block the contestants view. This will prevent them from watching their children and seeing their horses are tied securely to the trailers.

Rfvhc is insisting that the current reduced parking area is a HUGE RODEO SAFETY ISSUE and could cause contestants to want to rodeo elsewhere. We need community support on this matter.

For an archive of "everything TOSV Rodeo" - please go to our website for a full library <https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/snowmass-rodeo-archive.html>

Also, before these meetings get started, we want our Rfvhc members & the general public to understand that the protection of the wetlands has not been thoroughly discussed, so if the current approved plans for the rodeo grounds are not slightly altered,

New Board Member Shannon Weeks at the Rodeo

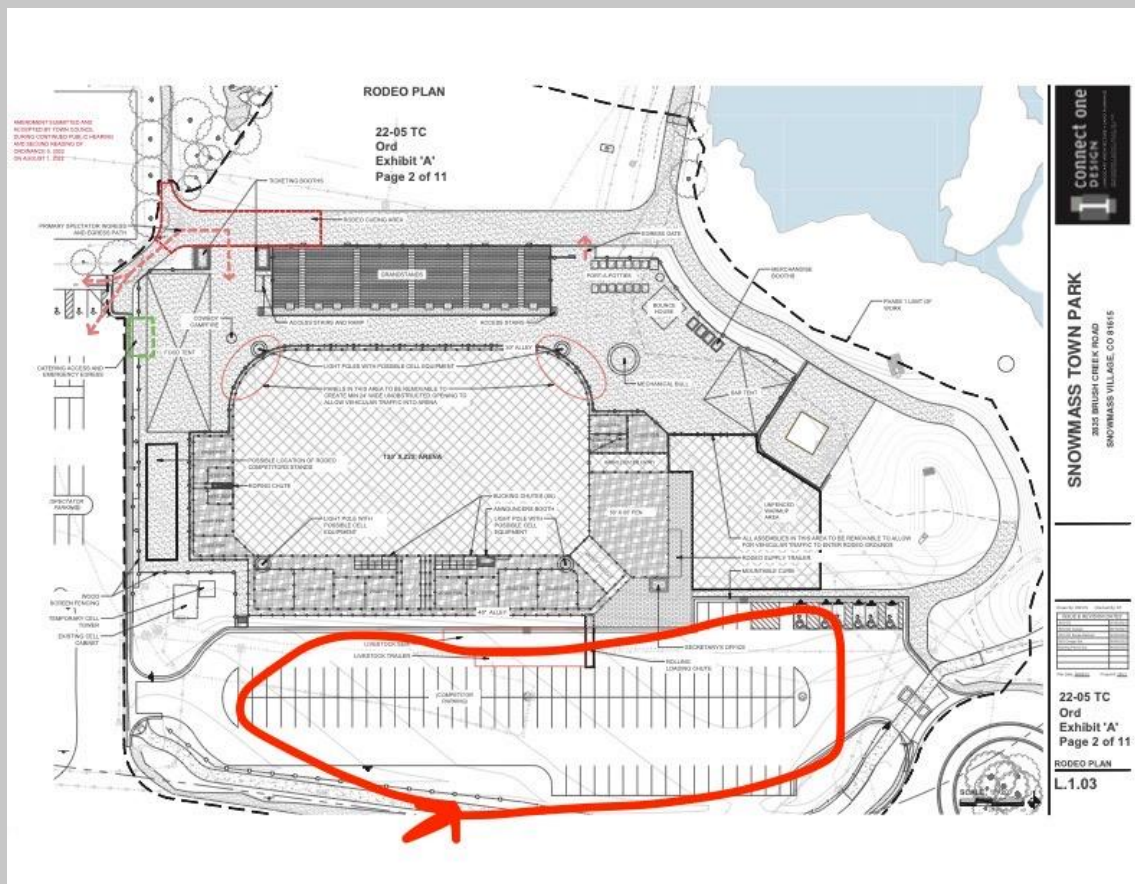
Local naturalist Janis Huggins spoke out about the TOSV Wetlands by saying, “the part of the plans that are to ‘improve’ the wetland section are way off base” and that “this area needs to be left alone for the existing species to thrive. I am in agreement to upgrade anything the community needs around the existing park and the rodeo grounds as long as our town does not infringe on the rights of those species that depend on those wetlands that have already been disturbed too much,”

the Wetlands contiguous to Town Park /Snowmass Rodeo will be DISTURBED.

This parking area is also the trailhead for two of the TOSV hiker and horse trails. We are very grateful for these trails, but parking must be addressed. Please help us preserve and protect access for these horse /hiker only trails and allow common sense contestant parking for the Snowmass Rodeo.

We need your involvement and encouragement as final decisions will be made during the 2023 summer TOSV meetings. Thank you so much for your support,

Sincerely, Karin Reid Ofield RFVHC President/Marketing Chair



EVENTS - Hold the Dates



WindWalkers and the
RFV Horse Council
invite you to our
Kentucky Derby Party

OUR
ANNUAL
KENTUCKY
DERBY
PARTY
IS BEING
HELD ON
MAY 6



WindWalkers and RFVHC will celebrate racing and magnificent horses at a **NEW LOCATION!!**

On a sunny weekend later on in May, the RFVHC is scheduling a **TACK SALE AND SWAP** to be held at Rumble Ridge. Everyone is welcome – but must renew or become a RFVHC member. Bring your own table and chairs with your equipment. Each tack sale participant makes all of their own income. The RFVHC wants to have your support as members, and offers this service to strengthen our equestrian community. Start today to save up your sale items. We hope to achieve a larger membership, general awareness and good fellowship with other members of the community.



CWHJA SCHEDULE

April 29 (Snow date April 30) -CWHJA Spring Opener
June 10-11 – Roaring Fork Hounds Pony Club Benefit Show
June 24-25 – Windwalkers Benefit Show
August 5-6 – Aspen Riding Academy Benefit Show
August 26-27 – Sopris Equestrian Team Benefit Show
Oct 21-22 – CWHJA Year End Show

GLASSIER OPEN SPACE and a NEW HORSE & HIKE ACCESS TRAIL - A three day work session scheduled for late afternoon and evening, by volunteers hosted by PC OST and RFOV in July and August is on our RFVHC calendar - Open registration to RFOV members on March 20, and then open registration to the general public on April 3. It will be fun. See more details below in UPDATES

Tuesdays July 25, Aug 1, and Aug 8, 4-8pm each day.

**THE TRAILS SAFE PASSING PLAN (TSPP)
STOP SPEAK AND STAND BACK at the
AMERICAN TRAILS WEBINAR**

March 30, 2023

Scan the Code with your mobile device's camera to view the Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak and Stand Back - You will be directed to the ELCR.org website



American Trails Webinar featuring the RFVHC SIGN - Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak, Stand Back

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WEBINAR -

<https://www.americantrails.org/training/the-trails-safe-passing-plan-stop-speak-and-stand-back>

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR -

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-oa4wEVOSr-H9PaM-ZQYDA

Because of this webinar, the RFVHC now has a You Tube Channel....help us build it and become a RFVHC Subscriber!

<https://www.youtube.com/@rfvhorsecouncil>

THE TRAILS SAFE PASSING PLAN (TSPP) STOP SPEAK AND STAND BACK

February 7, 2023

To Our RFVHC Members, Land Management Teams and Trail User Groups,
The following information will explain the Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP). We are presenting this safety action plan in an American Trails Webinar on March 30, 2023. The webinar will be an hour in length.

BACKSTORY: The Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak and Stand Back is not just about etiquette. The Plan is a SAFETY ACTION PLAN - a guide to the rule of thumb for multiple trail users. This action plan has been a collaboration of user groups, hearing from and learning from many trail users. A workshop in Michigan, in February 2020, with all trail partners began the conversation. The equestrian trail leadership wrote the TSPP Action Plan and works with public land managers and trail user groups, with the help of the Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council, our non-profit who designed the new sign for trail safety. The sign and the 18 card PowerPoint have been Accessibility Approved.

Description/Synopsis

The Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) STOP! SPEAK and STAND BACK is a safety action plan for ALL trail users on what to do when meeting people with horses on the trails.

The Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak and Stand Back allows you to safely share the trails and is helpful for all trail users, including horses and dogs. Many trail users may not know what to do when meeting horses on the trails. Anecdotal evidence suggests trail users are not interested in making a passing plan with strangers, or they don't want to wait until a horseback rider is near enough to communicate instructions.

It is best to know what to do, BEFORE you encounter other trail users. The TSPP sign, the QR Code, the PowerPoint, and PDF of the Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak and Stand Back have been produced as educational resources for trail users to navigate our trails safely and efficiently. The webinar provides information about yielding on trails, trail communication, and facts about horses to help all trail users and land management teams understand the importance of having a trails safe passing plan in place at trailheads and kiosks.

Trails are Common Ground * and we all have the opportunity to help make the trails enjoyable and safe for everyone. Our goal is to show how learning and performing these actions can inform trail users on what to do when meeting horses on the trail. When a trails safe passing plan is posted, every trail user can discover how to become a safer trail user. When a trail safe passing plan is not posted, many trail users are not comfortable on shared trails. People with horses often choose not to use the trails, due to possible injury risk.

In recreational land use, as stakeholders, we must encourage land management teams and trail groups to participate in inclusive recreation opportunities. We believe that the Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) Stop! Speak and Stand Back and our new TSPP Sign with a QR Code (that can include a local sponsor logo) will be a win-win for recreational land management teams and all trail user groups.

Please join us for this important webinar on March 30, 2023 and learn how practicing, promoting, and sharing the Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP) of Stop! Speak and Stand Back can help our trails be safer and more inclusive for everyone.

*Information on *Trails are Common Ground* link <https://trailsarecommonground.org/>

UPDATES - In the Roaring Fork Valley and beyond

RABBIT VALLEY HORSE CAMP - The camp has been built and reservations go online at recreation.gov on Feb 1, 2023, a long awaited success!

WINDSTAR - RFVHC is working on new truck and trailer parking opportunities

EMMA SCHOOL HOUSE TO BASALT HIGH SCHOOL TRAIL - Almost completed

RIO GRANDE TRAIL - RFVHC is looking for new parking opportunities, Suggestion?

GLASSIER OPEN SPACE and a NEW HORSE & HIKE ACCESS TRAIL - A three day work session scheduled for late afternoon and evening, by volunteers hosted by PC OST and RFOV in July and August is on our RFVHC calendar - Tentatively scheduled for Tuesdays July 25, Aug 1, and Aug 8, 4-8pm each day. It will be fun.



EDUCATION & NETWORKING

RFV Guides & Outfitters keep our trails cleared in the Wilderness - Please support them and make a reservation for a lifetime experience.



Avalanche Outfitters at Redstone Stables - serving Coal Basin, East Creek Pass, Hawk Creek, Perham Creek. 970.963.1144

Capitol Peak Outfitters serving Sopris, Woody Creek, Lenado, Hunter Creek, Hell Roaring & Avalanche Creek area. John Howe: 970.928.0723

Maroon Bells Guide & Outfitters @ T Lazy 7 Ranch - at the mouth of the Maroon Bells Wilderness, Willow Lake Trail & Crested Butte Two-Day Overnight Rides. 970.920.4677

Snowmass Creek Outfitters at St. Benedict's Monastery & McCabe Ranch, serving Main Snowmass Creek Trails, West Snowmass Creek Trails, East. Snowmass Creek Trails Snowmass Village. 970.704.0707

RFV EQUINE NETWORK DIRECTORY

We have over 32 categories of Equine & Business Partners on our website. Many are people that we have known for decades and we value their services. **NEW** in the valley? We ask for your support, and we will support you! Also, we have an emergency [Hay Bank](#) for those horse owners in need.

RFVHC DIRECTORY

Welcome New Business Members !

The Other Side Equine Fitness and Rehab
<https://www.tosranch.com>

Aspen Riding Academy
<https://www.aspenridingacademy.com>

NEW HORSES HEALTH MATTERS! The RfVHC Video Library is now live! **Become a subscriber.** [RfVHC You Tube](#). We are proud of these videos...each is different and each has a lot of information that you will find helpful.

[Dr. Chuck Maker RfVHC Board Member /Alpine Equine Hospital](#)

This is an RfVHC Program sponsored by the Horse Council. Listed below will be the RfVHC Vet Educational Events. Links to PDF's you can download and save on your computers and YOU TUBE Video recordings.

December 08, 2020 #1 **[Trail Riding First Aid PDF \(Video\)](#)** Unfortunately we can only find the final 15 minutes of this video...it was our first ZOOM. Its about 15 minutes, but introduces you to the subject, and the PDF is complete.

February 18, 2021 # 2 **[Lameness and Gastro-intestinal health PDF \(Video\)](#)**

April 12, 2021 #3 **[Inside the Horse - Equine Cushings Disease and Insulin Resistance and Associated Laminitis PDF \(Video\)](#)**

June 1, 2021 #4 **[First Aid Basics for the Barn and Trail PDF \(Video\)](#)**

RfVHC now has a You Tube Channel....help us build it and become a RfVHC Subscriber!

<https://www.youtube.com/@rfvhorsecouncil>

HAY BANK

ROARING FORK VALLEY COVID-19 HAY BANK PROGRAM

**STRUGGLING TO FEED YOUR ANIMALS
DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS? *WE CAN HELP!***

To learn if you are eligible and make a Hay Bank Application, visit
www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/hay-bank.html.
Communications are strictly confidential



WHAT WE NEED!

Donations of hay or any livestock feed

Contact: RFV Hay Bank Manager
Karin Reid Offield - 561-301-7818 - Rfvhc.colorado@gmail.com

To donate: On-line - www.eottr.org/hay-fund / Send checks payable to:

End of the Trail Rescue (EOTTR) & mail to:
5814 Hwy 348, Olathe, CO. 81425

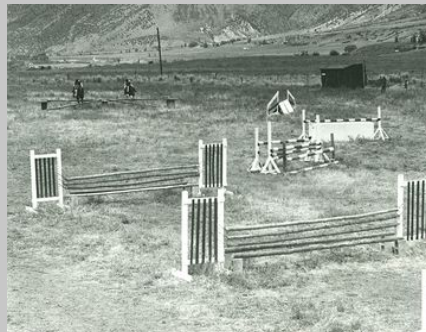
Note on check your donation is for the RFV Hay Bank.
Donor acknowledgement will be from EOTTR, a 501c(3) non-profit
in collaboration with the Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council.

RFVHC BOX 127, SNOWMASS, CO. 81654. RFVHORSECOUNCIL.ORG RFVHC.COLORADO@GMAIL.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/KEEPPHORSESONTRAILS/
*501(C) (3) NON-PROFIT

The RFVHC and End of the Trail Rescue in Olathe, Colorado have served the RFV neediest for a few years, help us continue to help friends. Go to this link for details:

<https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/hay-bank.html>

RFVHC SHOP

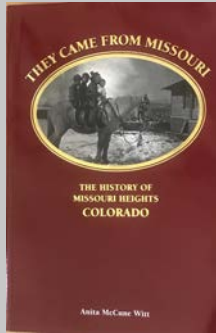


TIME TO BUY NEW JUMPS ?

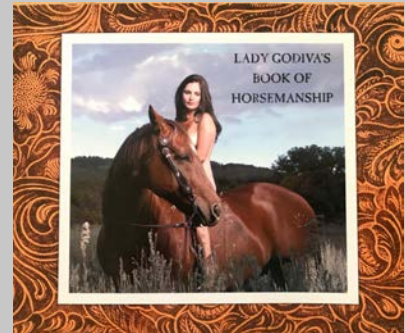


SPRING CLEANING ? We are searching for Western Heritage Items to sell in our SHOP - we

Cool ball and trucker hats, purses, custom art, historical items, books by Anita Witt, jumps for your indoor and outdoor...go to this LINK for [SUPPORT THE RFVHC SHOP.](#)



ask that you provide great photographs and the prices, donate the item to the RFVHC and if sold the shipping will be your responsibility.



MORE RFVHC DIRECTORY MEMBERS



This is my favorite image titled Snow Shadow by RFVHC Member and photographer Roberta McGowanit says to me... Mom - is spring almost here ? We hope you will love her art!
970-319-1110

Here is my favorite oil painting by RFVHC Member Louisa Davidsonshe does many custom commissions.

Available for painting and photographic portraits.
970-274-0658



RFVHorseCouncil.org



Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council | Box 127, Snowmass, CO 81654

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