



Jefferson County Horse Council (est. 1967)  
P.O. Box 1177, Golden, CO 80401  
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## Mission statement: Promote and protect equines and equine activities in Jefferson County, Colorado

### December 2023 Newsletter



The reason Volunteers are not paid is because what we do is PRICELESS. Thank you to all of our Volunteers!!



### HORSE PERSON OF THE YEAR 2023

Mary Ellen Davis was instrumental in obtaining our 501(c)(3) status. She spent countless hours working with the non-profit attorney and making some modification to our bylaws to insure we met the criteria for a Public Charity. She did a great job on something we were told could not be done. She has also made a major contribution to the EET as a Traffic Manager. Well deserved! Coagulations, Mary Ellen!

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- Deadline for articles**  
**10<sup>th</sup> of each month!**

**We, at JCHC, wish you a Holiday Season filled with Love and Laughter!**

The 2023 year has been a very busy year for JCHC and the Emergency Evacuation Team (EET). Our president, Frank Blaha was asked to put together a punch list of the accomplishments of both JCHC & EET:

For 2023, the four most important accomplishments of JCHC were:

1. Achieving IRS-designated status as a 501c3 non-profit organization.
2. Issuing membership newsletters in May, July, and October, with a fourth newsletter to come out in December.
3. Continued training and involvement with evacuation activities in support of the EET, especially the May 7<sup>th</sup> Training Practical that included horses and the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Functional Exercise.
4. Limiting our liability by signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the County, and further limiting JCHC liability for more active events through purchase of "Event Insurance" from All American Horse Insurance.

**Suzi Cook** took over the JCHC Facebook (FB) page in January 2023 with her first FB post on January 13<sup>th</sup> – Golden Beer Talks, featuring Carla Zinanti, speaking on emergency evacuations.

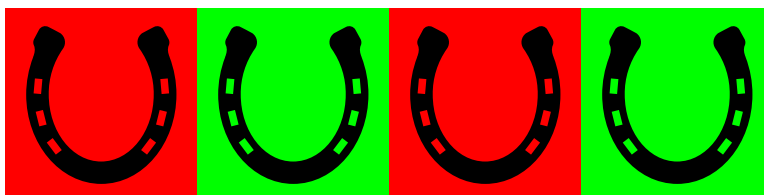
Some of the top FB posts:

- April 1, 2023 – Photos and story about Debbie and Scott at 4C's ranch helping EET and Animal Control learn to halter, lead, handle and care for the alpacas. The Alpacas names were Monsoon, Newton, Silk & Gold.
- Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> and repost Oct. 9 -Table Mountain Ranch – Public information meeting (756 people reached, 145 engaged)
- 2024 Rocky Mountain Horse Expo preliminary information posted on Sept. 6. (556 people reached, 48 engaged)
- Oct. 17 – A link to our October newsletter! (526 people reached, 40 engaged)

The "post reach" and "engagement" numbers have increased. Lakewood leads our audience numbers, with Denver & Arvada coming in second and third.

The goal is to use the FB platform to post a little about each board member, the JCHC meetings, promote our business members and local events/happenings and providing general information about goings-on in the CO horse community, with Jefferson County and the cities within as the focused priority, and keeping in mind our mission statement.

**Tony Rocanova** is our Web Master at [JeffcoHorse.com](http://JeffcoHorse.com). During 2023, Jan Kray was instrumental in passing the baton to Tony. In the process, it was determined that the existing web mechanics were archaic and in need of change. Tony researched and presented his recommendations to the BOD, which was embraced wholeheartedly. Expect to see a revamp of the JCHC Webpage in first quarter 2024.





For all you detail oriented people, *and you know who you are*, the best remembrance of a Chronological List of the 2023 JCHC Activities and Accomplishments follows. The list covers January through the end of November 2023. Important accomplishments are in **Bold**.

It is quite impressive what a small group of dedicated, knowledgeable and committed equine-loving citizens can accomplish, helping the equine community enjoy our own brand of the Pursuit of Happiness. WELL DONE, EVERYBODY!

January 9, 2023 (Monday): JCHC General Membership Meeting, Golden Public Library

January 23, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Training on Traffic flows during intake operations

February 6, 2023 (Monday): JCHC General Membership Meeting, a virtual meeting by Zoom

February 19, 2023 (Monday): JCHC Board Meeting – 2023 Strategic Plan, all members could attend, a virtual meeting by Zoom

**February 24, 2023 (Friday): Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Jefferson County Sheriff Office Animal Control Unit covering the JCHC EET. This MOU provides us protection from liability in declared evacuations**

February 25, 2023 (Saturday): JCHC Board Meeting focused on the 2023 Strategic Plan, all members could attend, a virtual meeting by Zoom

February 27, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Training on barn procedures and layout

March 6, 2023 (Monday): JCHC General Membership Meeting, Golden Public Library, In-Person, and Virtual with Diedre McNab of the Meeker Mustang Makeover as our guest speaker

March 26, 2023 (Sunday): EET Training, Training on Alpaca handling with Four C's Alpaca Ranch, Fairmount Park, Skelton Memorial Arena

March 28, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting, all members can attend, a virtual meeting by Zoom

March 31, 2023 (Friday): EET Activation for the Hogback Fire (the hogback between Jefferson County Open Space Matthew Winters Park and Bandimere Speedway). The JCHC EET responded, and we were prepared to receive animals, but no animals were received before standing down, as the fire was controlled

April 1, 2023 – FB Photos and story about Debbie and Scott at 4C's ranch helping JCHC and Animal Control learn to halter, lead, handle and care for the alpacas. The Alpacas names were Monsoon, Newton, Silk & Gold.

April 1, 2023 (Saturday): EET Activation for the Bear Fire up Golden Gate Canyon. The JCHC EET responded, and we were prepared to receive animals, but no animals were received before standing down as the fire was controlled

April 3, 2023 (Monday): JCHC General Membership Meeting, Golden Public Library, Mary Ann Bonnell on Trail Safety

April 15, 2023 (Saturday): JCHC Table at the 4H Tack Sale at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds

April 15, 2023 (Saturday): JCHC represented at the Douglas-Elbert County Emergency Preparedness Clinic

**May 3, 2023 (Wednesday): Purchase of "Event Liability Insurance" for JCHC providing additional insurance coverage for specific events such as the May 7<sup>th</sup> EET Training**

**May 7, 2023 (Saturday): EET Training Practical, training at the Jeffco Fairgrounds with horses and trailers and focused on traffic control, intake operations and barn management**

**May 14, 2023 (Sunday): First JCHC Newsletter of 2023 Issued**

May 15, 2023 (Monday): EET Training/Discussion, Manager debrief from the May 7<sup>th</sup> Practical

May 19, 2024 (Friday): JCHC Tour of the CSU Spur Temple Grandin Equine Center

May 24, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting by Zoom, finalized JCHC Operating Guidelines (which supplement our By-Laws but are not By-Laws), all members could attend

June 4, 2023 (Sunday): JCHC Foothills Fire and Rescue Pancake Breakfast & Fundraiser, Lookout Mountain Fire Station, good involvement of horse people and interest in our materials at this outreach event

June 4 -6, 2023 (Sunday - Tuesday): JCHC represented at the American Horse Council Annual Conference held at the Le Meridien Hotel in Denver, Colorado

June 20, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC represented at the TogetherJeffco County Master Plan initiative

June 26, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Procedural changes resulting from the May 7<sup>th</sup> exercise

June 27, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting by Zoom, all members could attend

July 24, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Traffic Team Training by the Traffic Managers

**July 25, 2023 (Tuesday): Official notification from the IRS that JCHC has been granted 501c3 non-profit status**

**July 29, 2023 (Saturday): Second JCHC Newsletter of 2023 issued**

August 14, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Office Team Training by the Office Manager, in-person meeting

August 22, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting by Zoom, all members could attend

August 31, 2023 (Thursday): Provided a PowerPoint presentation addressing the economic and other positive impacts of horses and the horse community in the county to the TogetherJeffco County Master Plan initiative

September 17, 2023 (Sunday): Special Care Team Training by the Special Care Manager by Zoom

**September 23, 2023 (Saturday): JCHC EET participated in the Functional Exercise organized by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Unit and involving the other Jefferson County Animal Response Teams (J-CARTs)**

September 24 (Sunday): JCHC Potluck Picnic, Fairmount Park

September 26, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting by Zoom, all members could attend

October 2, 2023 (Monday): JCHC General Membership Meeting, at Westernaires Meeting Room, Focused on upcoming Westernaires Annual Show

**October 9, 2023 (Monday): Third JCHC Newsletter of 2023 issued**

October 16, 2023 (Monday): JCHC was represented and provided input on equine issues at the TogetherJeffco County Master Plan Outreach/Open House held at the Boettcher Mansion on Lookout Mountain

October 16, 2023 (Monday): EET Training/Discussion, Functional Exercise debrief with all JCHC EET volunteers invited

October 24, 2023 (Tuesday): JCHC Board Meeting by Zoom, all members could attend

October 28 & 29, 2023 (Saturday & Sunday): JCHC Booth at the Westernaires Annual Show. NWSS Events Center

November 6, 2023 (Monday): JCHC Annual General Membership meeting and Board Meeting – election of Board and Officers for 2024, Golden Public Library

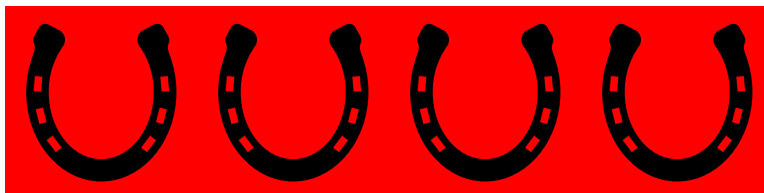
**November 8, 2023 (Wednesday): Review and discussion of Functional Exercise learnings and observations organized by the Sheriff's Office Animal Control Unit and involving all J-CARTs**

November 19, 2023 (Sunday): 2024 Strategic Plan Meeting, Private Residence

November 20, 2023 (Monday): EET Training, Overview of JCHC EET activities and organization, Golden Public Library

Addendum to above list: On December 2, about 16 members put up 23 stalls in Barn 1 at the Jeffco Fairgrounds in less than 2 hours. Photos to follow.

Please remember to renew your JCHC membership. Membership is a bargain. Individual is \$20; Family membership is \$30 and for \$40 your Business will also get published in the Newsletter. Send PJ a business card and it will get published too. You can send a check to our PO Box 1177, Golden, CO 80402-1177. Or you can join/renew online at [JeffcoHorse.com](http://JeffcoHorse.com)



## **BOOK CORNER**

Please share your favorite equine themed book titles. Send your favs to [pdyon54@aol.com](mailto: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](#).

### **Never Trust a Sneaky Pony: And Other Things They Didn't Teach Me in Vet School**

by Madison Seamans

Climb into the truck alongside large animal vet Dr. Madison Seamans and race to the aid of horses with wounds, stomach aches, allergies, and bizarre behaviors, as well as those in severe physical distress. Quite by accident, you'll find yourself familiar with and understanding common equine medical problems and how they are diagnosed and treated, all while marveling at the remarkable situations a country veterinarian can find himself in. Playful yet serious, honest yet tongue-in-cheek, this wonderfully written book is an up-close look at a well-lived rural life that is about as authentic as America gets. No one who cares a whit for the animal kingdom, and the humans who dare enter it, will be disappointed.





## Special Thanks to our Sponsoring Members!

Flapjack Ranch – Ron Cash

Re/Max 100 – Mike Skelton, Sr.

The McWilliams Group at Re/Max Alliance –  
Andrew McWilliams

Leg Up Learning Solutions – Ellen Lichenstein

A business card for RE/MAX 100, Inc. featuring a photo of Mike Skelton Sr. and contact information. The card includes the RE/MAX logo, a photo of Mike Skelton Sr. in a light-colored shirt, and the text: "RE/MAX 100, Inc. Mike Skelton Sr. Broker Associate". Contact details listed are: Office: 303-202-2210, Cell: 303-514-0610, Fax: 303-232-6919, Email: michael@realestatedenver.com. The address is 710 Kipling Steet, Suite 110, Lakewood, CO 80215. At the bottom, it says "40 Years Helping Buyers &amp; Sellers". There are also small icons for a mobile phone, a laptop, and a house.

PS, please send me a pix of your Biz Card.  
[pdyon54@aol.com](mailto:pdyon54@aol.com)

This issue is dedicated to Griffin, the horse struck by a car on December 2, 2023, in Arvada. RIP, Griffin; condolences to your human partner, Laura.

