

HIGHLINE

August 2024

Vol. 30, No. 8

From the President's Pen

By Kathy Sherer

The next membership meeting is on Thursday, August 15, 6:00 at the Florida Grange. We haven't had a regular membership meeting in a while because we've been holding special educational events, so this is the time to get together and catch up. In the meantime, I hope you've been taking advantage of the social rides members have been offering.

We haven't scheduled our September Poker Ride yet, so we'll be looking forward to your ideas on a new location and maybe even a new format. Please bring them to this meeting.

Other ideas we're looking for are about National Public Lands Day on September 28th. Do you have a special project you'd like us to work on? This could be a chance to have another pot luck and use our new portable BBQ grill.

Some exciting news! I have met with the Executive Director of a non-profit called Community Twine Recycling. They are based in Fort Collins and are working on getting grants to pay for trucking twine from all over Colorado and taking it to a recycler in Arizona. They have already picked up the many tons of twine that Dave Keese has been storing for us for years.

I have already written them a letter of support from 4CBCH. If you have information about other relevant organizations that could write a letter, ideas for local twine drop-off locations, or places to store large quantities until pick-up, please let me know. In the meantime, please hang on to your twine. Help is coming soon!

East Creek Trail Maintenance

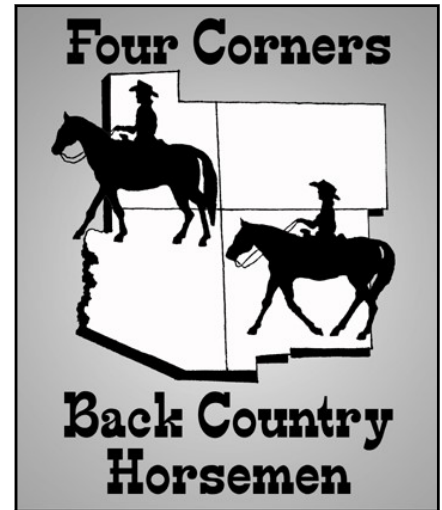
By Jon Sherer

Thanks to Jodie Peterson and Dave Peters for their expertise and guidance in helping to install 11 check dams and one large water bar on the first 50 yards of the trail that were highly eroded.

Todd Rodas, Judi Hurley, Ed Tolen and myself worked side-by-side with them on July 13 to get it done. We had to convince Judi to quit!

Already, the check dams are silting in and raising the trail tread as intended.

Many thanks to our small team!



Next Membership Meeting

Thursday, August 15

Time to catch up!

6:30 Florida Grange

Pizza at 6:00



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PACKING IN & OUT FOR SJMA



Andrew Carroll packed in the tools for the Colorado Trail maintenance project on July 22. It was the perfect training for Marcos Costa's two horses.

Jon Sherer and Trigger headed in on July 24 to pack out the equipment. Kathy's horse, Dupree, carried the load. Antonia Clark rode in to assist.



Packing wasn't the only help that was needed. Jon helped cut out this huge tree that was across the trail.



A DAY OF SMALL MIRACLES

Dr. Michael Steward, Corkie Jeffries, Dr. Ben Hufnagel, Matt Lawlor, Tyler Raymer, & Joel Brown



These equine experts, who came to Durango to work with Matt Lawlor, were assisted by Dr. Ben Hufnagel and his x-ray equipment.

When four lucky horses limped in and later walked out, there was hardly a dry eye in the house.

Many thanks to the Durango Cowboy Church for letting us set up under the roof of their entryway where we had a level cement floor and shade!



This poor guy had been suffering with advanced navicular, and nothing gave him relief until now.



The day before this July 27th event, the experts worked on 2 horses from Four Corners Equine Rescue. They couldn't tell us about it without tearing up. One of the farriers ended up adopting!



A THOUGHT PROVOKING READ

By Jane Smiley

Most horses pass from one human to another – some horsemen and women are patient and forgiving, others are rigorous and demanding, others are cruel, others are ignorant.

Horses have to learn how to, at the minimum, walk, trot, canter, gallop, go on trails and maybe jump, to be treated by the vet, all with sense and good manners. Talented Thoroughbreds must learn to win races, and if they can't do that, they must learn how to negotiate courses and jump over strange obstacles without touching them, or do complicated dance like movements or control cattle or accommodate severely handicapped children and adults in therapy work. Many horses learn all of these things in the course of a single lifetime. Besides this, they learn to understand and fit into the successive social systems of other horses they meet along the way.

A horse's life is rather like twenty years in foster care, or in and out of prison, while at the same time changing schools over and over and discovering that not only do the other students already have their own social groups, but that what you learned at the old school hasn't much application at the new one.

We do not require as much of any other species, including humans.

That horses frequently excel, that they exceed the expectations of their owners and trainers in such circumstances, is as much a testament to their intelligence and adaptability as to their relationship skills or their natural generosity or their inborn nature. That they sometimes manifest the same symptoms as abandoned orphans – distress, strange behaviors, anger, fear – is less surprising than that they usually don't.

No one expects a child, or even a dog to develop its intellectual capacities living in a box 23 hours a day and then doing controlled exercises the remaining one. Mammal minds develop through social interaction and stimulation.

A horse that seems “stupid”, “slow”, “stubborn”, etc. might just have not gotten the chance to learn!

Take care of your horses and treasure them.



August & September Dates to Wear Orange

Archery

Aug. 15-31 Pronghorn (Good luck finding one around here)

Sept. 1-20 Pronghorn (Again, good luck)

Sept. 2-30 Deer/Elk (West of I-25 and Unit 140)

Sept. 2-30 Bear (Oh yeah)

Sept. 7-30 Moose (Please don't)

Rifle

Sept. 2-30 Bear (poor guys)

DATES AT A GLANCE

FIND DETAILS IN THE NEWSLETTERS!



COLORADO TRAIL PACKING II
August 16-18

UPPER HERMOSA PACKING
September

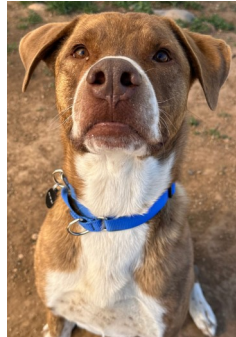
GRANITE PEAKS GUARD STATION ~ TBD

CRATER LAKE ~ TBD

POKER RIDE ~ TBD

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY
September 28

DGO COWBOY GATHERING
October 2-6



Bourbon is a 3-year-old male retriever mix. He would make an excellent family adventure dog with a home that is non-chaotic, older kids, and active.

He is very intelligent and will become your best friend. He's a big playful teddy bear that is looking for his forever home!

Call 970-259-2847 and schedule an appointment to meet with Bourbon.



**FCER
Horse of the Month**

Smokey is an 11-year-old pony gelding standing about 13.2 hands high. He has good ground manners and has a super sweet personality that would make him an excellent pasture pal to greet you at the gate or, with some extra training, a cute cart horse or kids mount!

For information about Smokey or any of his friends here at FCER, please contact us at 505-334-7220 or www.fourcornersequinerescue.org.

Save the Date!

Sept 7, 2024

10a-2p

Hug A Horse Day
@ Four Corners Equine Rescue



Adoptable Horse Showcase

Barn Tours



Demos



Food Truck



Check fourcornersequinerescue.org for updates and more info!

MONTENEGRO
June 24—July 2, 2025

Immerse yourself in a complete local experience while exploring the wilderness and mountains of Montenegro!

Enjoy the wild beauty and serenity of the mountains as you ride through Biogradska Gora National Park on your steady Balkan horse. On this progressive trip, we will ride through small villages, pass by pure mountain lakes, explore the Tara River valley, traverse Durmitor National Park and spend our non-riding time in katuns with local families.

6 full days of riding and 7 nights with local families.

A visit to the Moraca monastery.

Lunch on the banks of the Tara River.

A ride to Zabojsko Lake hidden in Sinjajevina cliffs.

Sleep in a cozy mountain hut sharing a traditional meal.

SIGN UP BEFORE THE TRIP IS FULL

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Our Mission Statement:

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

Please report your volunteer hours!

Go to www.4cbch.org and click on "Volunteer"
or contact Cindy at morincindy7@gmail.com

REMEMBER . . .

You can now pay your dues
online at 4cbch.org.

AND

A valid hunting or fishing license is
necessary in order to access any land
leased by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.
They can be purchased online at
cpw.state.co.us.