



February 2020

Dear Rfvhc Members and Business & Equine Directory Partners,
A snowy winter is here.

SAVE THE DATE: OPEN Rfvhc MEMBERS MEETING and sit down Pot Luck supper on Tuesday March 31st, at Rumble Ridge. We will have special guests - and our young members and equestrians are welcomed to this Youth Oriented Discussion on learning Stewardship principles while riding on the land.

Youth groups invited to attend: Roaring Fork Hounds Pony Club, Roaring Fork Cycling, 4-H Clubs & the Sopris Gymkhana Club

An invitation will follow.

Please RSVP to rfvhc.colorado@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE: KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY on Saturday May 2nd , 2020 with WINDWALKERS & other collaborators. Let us know how you want to become involved. **Sponsors & Partners welcome.** An invitation will follow.

Our **Crown Jewel Trail Fundraising Campaign** to improve the 12 mile loop trail for Equestrians and Hikers only is well on its' way. We thank our wonderful donors to date - Susan, Mark, Lynn, Nancy and the generous Magnolia Foundation, who have gotten us off to a great start. This summer will complete the second portion of this two track trail on the Crown for YOU, our members. We still need your help, so please continue to donate.

There is a Donate Tab on our website www.rfvhorsecouncil.org It's easy to use, most Credit Cards are welcomed, or mail a check to our address:

Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council
P.O. Box 127, Snowmass, Colorado 81654

Please help us realize our goal. Thank You!

Finally, we have prepared an **RFVHC Membership Renewal Invoice** linked below. Your membership money is the engine which runs our horse power initiatives! If you own, lease, care for or just love horses – “We work for you”

Here's the link <https://www.rfvhorsecouncil.org/forms.html>

Sincerely, Karin Reid Offield RFVHC



**A REVIEW OF THE RFV HORSE COUNCIL; GLENWOOD VETERINARY CLINIC;
ALPINE EQUINE HOSPITAL JANUARY 18, 2020**

"WORKING TOGETHER"

RFVHC Veterinarian Educational Events encourage and empower our local equestrians to take better care of their horses. Working together as a TEAM.



Your Board of Directors and our Hosts From Left: Karin Reid Offield; Alexandra Anwyl-Davies; Susan Cuseo; Chuck Maker DVM - Alpine Equine Hospital; Sam Johnson DVM - Glenwood Veterinarian Clinic; Holly McLain; Rheta Fulton and Jasmine Pierce.

The benefits for attending a RFVHC event are many - you get to network, make new friends, find your old friends, expand your knowledge base and we hope ...boost your confidence about horse keeping.

Did we mention fun? RFVHC events are fun, because it's all about horses ...what could be any better ?

Our first 2020 Educational Event was held in Glenwood Springs on a Saturday. The Eagle River Pony Club attended to brush up on their upcoming written exams.

Starting just before lunch time, the RFBVC Board Members chipped in, cooked and delivered home cooking and fresh fruit and vegetables with two varieties of chilies, corn breads and accompanying sweets.



During the three hour event, almost 60 attendees found themselves laughing, taking notes and asking questions of our host Dr. Sam Johnson, owner Glenwood Veterinary Clinic and his colleague Dr. Chuck Maker, owner Alpine Equine Hospital. Sam's newest horse, Zeb, became the model of the day with great quiet personality .

Sam and Chuck discussed "**How Owners Can Self Examine Their Horses**". A SELF EXAMINATION CHART is attached at the end of this review. Everyone in attendance listened with care as both vets took the audience of all ages, step by step, through the kind of inspection, where questions were answered and what expected results were offered.



These are some of the comments and notes....

"Remember: If you do not look, you do not see."

When you groom your horse CAREFULLY, you are looking for fungus, bacteria and parasites. Use your fingers and explore the body - under their mane, under their tails, around their ankles where the urine bounces off the ground, onto their legs. Everywhere. They have no other daily caregiver than you. You are their "person"!

One of the two biggest takeaways was learning why horse owners should not give their horses their own vaccinations and shots. The vets took time to explain why it is so dangerous. Always aspirate before injecting any drug, IM or IV. If drugs are inadvertently injected into the carotid artery, **horses will immediately** seizure within seconds and most likely will result in death.

With your vet involved seasonally, you become part of the team for your horse's well-being. Your veterinarian's professional observations during horse check-ups will give you confidence that you are working in the best interests of the horse.

Veterinarians are professionally trained, horse owners are not. Don't wait until it's an emergency - It's OK to schedule a check-up every 4 months for best results.



Remember, when a vet does an inspection for a client, the physical exam is age, use dependent.

Has anyone said to you, "Your horse does not need hoof care in the winter?" The vets agree that nothing could be further from the truth. This is a HUGE fallacy. Horses need their hooves attended to frequently.

Did you know? The horse carries 60% of his weight on his forehead ??

"What are your horses' normal digital pulse? What is your horses normal heartbeat and temperature ?" Your vet will teach you this - you should know your horses' base lines.

A gelding's sheath should be inspected for lumps and tumors, VS and cleaned at least twice a year and some horses more often.

"Is your horse normal today ? Owners should do a daily, general routine health inspection, including a whole body inspection in the same order, consistent every time. A vet examines a horse like nothing is wrong. Learn from your vet."

Questions answered: Drinking water ? How much water ? How much manure? Normal production is three piles of manure in 12 hours.

"When should you not worry about your horses temperature? What drugs should an owner have in their stable? "

"Banamine paste vs injectable Banamine ? Which is the more affordable choice, and the easiest to administer and quickest for a result ?"

"When is mineral oil a good addition to your horses feed?" One attendee asked about ear inspections. That was interesting.



The RFVHC hopes you enjoyed these "notes" and we hope they will help you become a more thorough and confident horse person.

Thank you to Dr. Johnson and Dr. Maker for your time and interest in helping the Roaring Fork Horse Council meet our members' needs. Dr. Johnson offered to provide the chart he uses to complete self-examinations. We are attaching it below for your daily use.

"As a lifelong horsewoman, I left the Glenwood Vet Clinic a more knowledgeable horsewoman." – President Karin Reid Offield



GLENWOOD VETERINARY CLINIC

Daily Physical Exam

Horse Name:
Owner Name:

Veterinarian Contact: Glenwood Veterinary Clinic
Contact Number: (970) 945-5401

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IF:

Temperature > **101.5**; Heart Rate > **60**; Respiratory Rate > **40**; or **Distress/Painful/Colic**

DATE:							
TIME:							
ATTITUDE: (Quiet or Alert)							
TEMPERATURE:							
HEART RATE:							
RESPIRATORY RATE:							
MUCOUS MEMBRANES; (Gum color)							
CAPILLARY REFILL TIME:							
GUT SOUNDS:							
DIGITAL PULSES:							
FECES:							
URINE:							
APPETITE:							
WATER DRANK: (Liters)							



Not a member? Is your membership current ? Join today at www.rfvHorseCouncil.org/membership
UPDATE: There will be more Educational Events upcoming
Please stay tuned to our Events Tab on our website!



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P.O. Box 127, Snowmass, Colorado 81654

Questions?: Call Holly 970-948-2151

Website www.rfvhorsecouncil.org
Email rfvhc.colorado@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/keephorsesontrails/

* 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization *