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FRONT RANGE EXCEPTIONAL EQUESTRIANS

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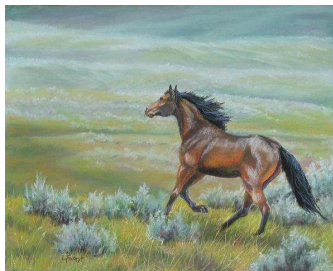


The Hoof Beat Monthly

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August 1, 2006



You can help support us by purchasing a print of "Free" by Lori Forest. [Click here](#) for details!

Volunteer Needs

Everyone can make a difference!!! We need substitute volunteers to help with classes for Tuesday, August 1 and Thursday, August 3 at CSU's Adams/Atkinson Arena. Please let us know if you can help as soon as possible by e-mailing us at ridewithfree@yahoo.com. You can also sign up to volunteer on a regular basis for sidewalking, leading, or other needs we may have by emailing ridewith-free@yahoo.com or calling 970-221-0646. [Click here](#) for more info, including class schedules, other needs, and the necessary paperwork!

This Month's Spotlight

Calling all volunteers!!!

We need substitute volunteers to help with classes for Tuesday, August 1 and Thursday, August 3 at CSU's Adams/Atkinson Arena. Please let us know if you can help as soon as possible by e-mailing us at ridewithfree@yahoo.com.

Rob Hanley – Fourteen Years of Fun and Friends

Rider Highlight

- How long have you been an exceptional equestrian?
I've been an exceptional equestrian for fourteen years.
- How has therapeutic riding helped you?
It helps me keep my balance. It also helps me socially, I make new friends.
- What is the most enjoyable part of our program?
I think meeting new people is the most enjoyable part of this program.
- Who is your favorite horse? Why?
Hutch, who is no longer in the program, is my favorite horse. I learned to ride on Hutch and I rode him for many years.
- Who is more impressive, the horses or the people who make it possible for us to ride?
Both, the horses give us therapy and the people teach us.
- Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the program?
It's a very good program and has been for fourteen years.

Upcoming Events

- 🐾 July 31: There will be [no classes](#) Monday, July 31 due to the Larimer County Fair.

- July 31: There will be **no classes** Monday, July 31 due to the Larimer County Fair.
- August 1 and 3: There **WILL BE CLASSES** on Tues., Aug. 1 and Thurs., Aug. 3, despite an announcement in last month's newsletter to the contrary. Sorry for the confusion!!!
- August 16, 7:00pm: **Board Meeting Wednesday, August 16 at 7:00pm. It will be located at Christ United Methodist Church at 301 E. Drake (1 block East of College on Drake).** We invite and encourage anyone who would like to attend to come share ideas, give us input, or just hang out and meet everyone!
- Sept. 23, 9:00am: It's coming up!!! **The Trail-a-Thon is almost here!!!** Sign-in begins at 9:00am on Saturday, September 23 at the Soldier Canyon Group Picnic Area at Lory State Park. For more info, e-mail us at ridewithfree@yahoo.com or call us at 970-221-0646.

Wish List

Thank you to everyone who is helping whittle away at this list!!! And don't forget, we gladly accept monetary donations to purchase items on our Wish List. Here is what we would still be grateful to receive:

- ✓ Hay
- ✓ Equine Sr. Feed for Marvel and Freddie
- ✓ Vetwrap - especially green and blue
- ✓ Set of Long Lines and Longing Cavasson
- ✓ Two Large Horse Halters and Lead Ropes
- ✓ English Stirrup Leathers and Safety Stirrups
- ✓ Western Stirrups with Trapaderos
- ✓ Bridle with Snaffle Bit
- ✓ 15-17in. Western Saddle
- ✓ Pens for Class Use
- ✓ File Folders (2 prong on both sides, 1/3 cut)
- ✓ Polaroid Film
- ✓ Color Ink Cartridge for HP Deskjet 932C Printer (HP Cartridge 78)
- ✓ First Class Stamps (ongoing)
- ✓ [Also be on the watch for an adopt-a-horse program coming soon!](#)

If you would like to donate to assist with some of our needs, please e-mail us at

ridewithfree@yahoo.com or call us at 970-221-0646.

A Timely Essay, Thoughts on Contribution

By Dan Wilkins

Recently, Time Magazine released its editor's choices for the most influential individuals of the past century. As we enter this new millennium, I cannot help but reflect on their results and what they mean to me; what they say to all of us. Given what we know from history or personal experience, we acknowledge that these people were extraordinary in their clarity and vision; their view of what was and what could be, and worthy of the honor bestowed. Still, as with all stories, there is more to this one than meets the eye. There is a perspective unfamiliar to many, one currently being overlooked by our society, and it is this:

The second most influential person of the last century, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was a wheelchair user. As President of the United States, he played a vital role in bringing the Second World War to an end, and he provided the opportunity for millions of Americans, a blend of many cultures, to return to work; to a life dignified by contribution.

He did this at a time in our history when oppression toward disability culture and all that it represented was so great then even he, a changer of worlds, was compelled to keep his disability a secret.

And Number One? According to editors of Time Magazine, the Most Influential Person of the 20th Century was a Patent Clerk from Switzerland, believed to have grown up with a Learning Disability. Albert Einstein had difficult with numbers. He disliked mathematics early on



And Number One? According to editors of Time Magazine, the Most Influential Person of the 20th Century was a Patent Clerk from Switzerland, believed to have grown up with a Learning Disability. Albert Einstein had difficulty with numbers. He disliked mathematics early on.

And what of Stephen Hawking? A chair user whose mind is literally light years ahead of the most of us; riding the cosmic wave of a currently expanding universe. And where would we be as a society, as a human community, without the sheer electricity of Edison and Graham Bell, the passion of Beethoven, the depth and colour of Monet and Matisse, the imagination of Milton, Keats and Shelley, the vision of Keller and Curie and the poetic footwork of Christy Brown. The list is endless.

Our history as a society, as a whole, is steeped with contribution from its disability culture. I, and many of you belong to this culture; this group of people sharing common or similar experiences, beliefs and concerns, history, language, and oppression.

Yes, our disability culture, like so many minority groups, continues to be misunderstood, marginalized, patronized and pitied, exploited and excluded from so much that our world; our community has to offer. And we have so much yet to contribute.

As we say goodbye to a century filled with war and violence; with hatred and fear and the resultant bigotry and discrimination that has kept us apart, let us listen to each other's stories, acknowledge and celebrate each other's differences and embrace our commonalities. We owe it to those who made and those who may yet make a difference to think and act inclusively in our schools and businesses, in employment, housing and medicine. We owe it to ourselves as a community.

As I sit here in my chair, gently rocking my one year old to sleep, I can tell you that living with a disability is not a detriment. It is not a tragedy. It simply affords a unique perspective. When people ask me 'What kind of chair is that that Stephen Hawking is sitting in?', I am quick to remind them it is the same chair Sir Isaac Newton sat in so many years ago."

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