

Teller Historic & Environmental Coalition

Newsletter 2006 Vol. 1



Welcome to T.H.E. Coalition's 1st Newsletter of 2006! The November '05 issue celebrated the Coalition's first five years by tracing its history and highlighting some of the projects undertaken by member organizations with backing from the Coalition.

Beginning with this issue, we hope to make the Newsletter bi-monthly, emphasizing members' stories, and information (such as upcoming events) that serve their needs.

To make this work, we need input from *you* -- the members and readers. The format for each issue will be roughly: a **lead article by, or about, a member organization** and its projects and activities; short **news items featuring member organizations** or individuals; **upcoming events**

sponsored by member organizations; **calendar** of seminars, workshops, roundtables, or other resources available to the non-profit community.

New Member of T.H.E. Coalition

H-Bar-H Therapeutic Riding, a non-profit organization affiliated with Mulecreek Outfitters near Lake George, joined the Coalition in 2005. H-Bar-H was established to offer cutting-edge therapy for people of all ages with mental and physical challenges. Known as 'hippotherapy' --from hippos, the Latin word for horse -- the program provides physical, occupational and speech therapies to riders mounted on the back of a horse. The horse's walk closely duplicates the walking motion of the human body with its movement side to side, forward and backward, and rotationally. This movement influences the entire central nervous system of the rider, giving him or her the sensation of walking and resulting in better motor skills.



Goals

H-Bar-H's primary goal is to see each rider as an individual and to encourage each rider to develop and progress to the maximum potential.

Physical Benefits

Therapeutic horseback riding gives the body healthy exercise that encourages circulation and changes in muscle tone. Riding improves posture, balance, and coordination, as well as strength.

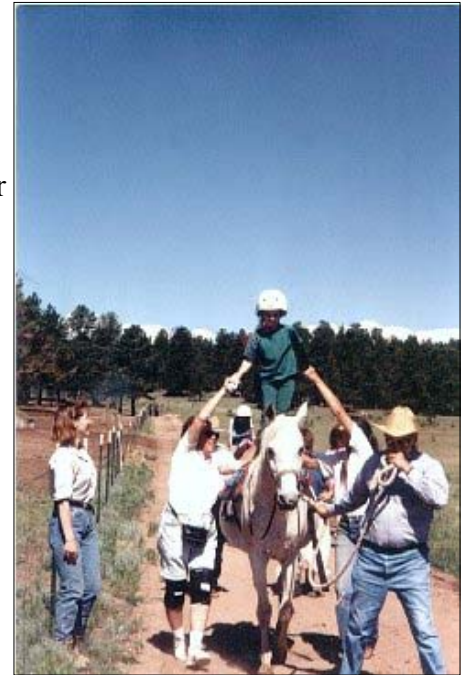
Emotional and Social Benefits



Horseback riding provides a non-competitive setting for learning. The discipline associated with horses develops responsibility and independence, improves family and peer relationships, and most importantly, increases the rider's self-esteem.

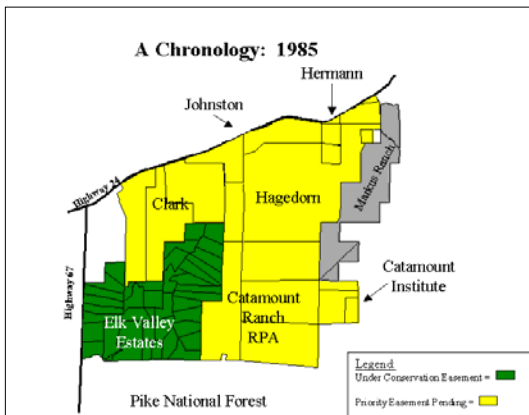
Safety

Safety is the utmost concern at H-Bar-H. Each rider is provided with a special helmet and accompanied at all times by qualified volunteers who are specially trained to work with the riders and horses. Each horse is selected for its quiet disposition and is trained to help with the special needs of the riders.



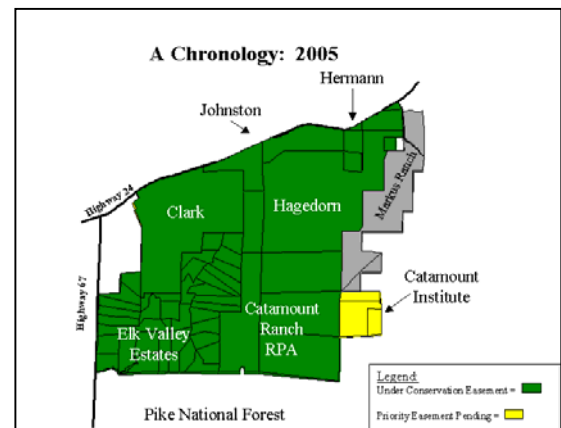
H-Bar-H is supported by Mule Creek Outfitters, Inc., and by individuals and organizations within the community whose contributions help finance upkeep of the horses, tack, special riding helmets and insurance.

It's a Done Deal!



At high noon on the 30th of December, with just hours to go before official business closed for the year 2005, a conservation easement protecting the final 280 acres of the Clark Ranch was signed and sealed. As most of you know, that means that the historic 880-acre property owned by Denny Sponseller will remain a working ranch, intact and undeveloped. It is the final piece in a 5,500-acre mosaic made up of the Clark, Johnston, Hermann, and Hagedorn ranches to the north, and the Catamount Ranch and Elk Valley Estates to the south. Together, the six properties under easement guarantee that wildlife habitat

and migration corridors cannot be interrupted; that watersheds are not damaged, and that Teller's trademark views along the Pikes Peak Conservation Corridor will be there for future generations. Kudos to the public-spirited ranchers that made this possible; to Coalition members RLPG, Palmer Land Trust, and Teller County Division of Parks who shepherded the long, complex process, and to the many donor organizations and individuals whose contributions made it happen.



Colorado Cares!

Leaders of two Coalition member organizations were honored with Teller County's "Colorado Cares" awards at a ceremony in Cripple Creek on January 12. Awards recognize volunteers who devote their talents and energies to the Teller community.



Harold Kaelin was selected in the "Community Pride" category for his tireless work with the Pikes Peak Historical Society, the Gold Belt Scenic Byway, Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, and the Parks Advisory Board.

Jane Lass, rancher and a founding member of the Rural Land Preservation Group (RLPG), won the award in the "Environment" category for work on the Pikes Peak

Conservation Corridor --though the presenter took pains to point out that Jane's 22 years of dedicated volunteer service would qualify her in many other categories as well!



Fifth Anniversary Gathering

The Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition celebrated its first five years with a chili supper, birthday cake, and special guest at Java the Hut on November 9, '05. Special thanks to Brian and Vy of the Hut for the welcoming venue and the savory meal, and to Matt Mayberry, Director of the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum, for his engaging glimpse into the adventures of Zebulon Pike. Jumping the gun a bit on the Pike extravaganza planned for this Bicentennial Year of 2006, Matt gave depth and perspective to Zeb Pike's legendary expedition to the west and his 'discovery' of the Peak that bears his name.

Gathered for this fifth annual meeting were twenty-four people representing 20 organizations from the non-profit, public, and private sectors. A major focus of the meeting was the needs and expectations of member organizations -- what they hope to see from the Coalition over the coming year and the next five years.

A thumbnail summary of feedback expressed at the meeting or via the questionnaire that was distributed is:

- continue to preserve the land, natural, and cultural resources of Teller County
- develop and maintain T.H.E. Resource Center
- assist groups with grants writing, research, and administration
- increase participation by member organizations
- spread the word; publicize your results; get THE name out!
- broaden distribution of the Newsletter. Include Board of County Commissioners, City Council and DDA

If you weren't able to attend the meeting, and haven't yet filled out the questionnaire, please do! We would like to hear from as broad a cross-section of the country as possible. Questionnaires are available electronically from Kevin Tanski at tanskik@co.teller.co.us or in hard copy from Marion Vance 687-1879.

Community Outreach

As part of T.H.E. Coalition's effort to encourage participation by the broader community in its programs of historic and environmental preservation, Board member Dave Conley spoke at the meeting of the Rotary Club on January 20, 2006. Last year Bob Campbell made a similar presentation at Kiwanis, and Kevin Tanski and Marion Vance presented a program for the local chapter of P.E.O.

Gold Camp Victorian Society

Twenty-two enthusiasts interested in the Victorian era chartered the Gold Camp Victorian Society (GCVS) in April of 1999 in the City of Cripple Creek, Colorado. The following year, the Society became a founding member of T.H.E. Coalition.

The Gold Camp Victorian Society is dedicated to the preservation of the history of Cripple Creek and the surrounding area, as well as the history and lifestyle of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. GCVS members are a group of volunteers determined to safeguard history for generations to come by depicting life as it was, enlightening the public and supporting the City of Cripple Creek's effort to preserve the historical culture of the city.



The club started out hosting minor events and then eventually went into larger events, collaborating with other groups in the area to provide Victorian style entertainment. In March of 2001, the club received status as a non-profit 501(C)(3) corporation, solidifying its intent to be more than just a club of enthusiasts and making a statement that the club was here to stay.

Monthly meetings of the Gold Camp Victorian Society are normally held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm at the Centennial Building in Cripple Creek. New members are welcome and encouraged to come join in the fun. If you have any questions about this organization, please call Secretary Linda Johnson at 719-748-0334.

Current calendar of events through May for 2006:

March 11 th	St. Patrick's Parade in Old Colorado City
May 13 th & 14th	Historic Preservation week sponsored by City of Cripple Creek. Historic presentation to the 4 th graders at Cresson Elementary.

Visit our web site at goldcampvictoriansociety.org for further information and upcoming events.

Save the date:
GRANT WORKSHOP
Wednesday, March 22, 9am-noon
Pikes Peak Community Club
check out www.thecoalitionco.org for details

Let us know what's happening in
your corner of the county!
Send newsletter copy to Phyllis Delaney at
windancer10@yahoo.com,
Please put "Coalition newsletter" in subject line,
or contact 686-7956 for other options