

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD SEMINARS

## LEARN ♦ EXPLORE ♦ ADVENTURE

WESTERN HISTORY AND HERITAGE WEEKEND  
AT WIND RIVER RANCH

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2008

COURSE LEVEL: I      COURSE #: 08-051

**FEE:** Includes lodging and meals:

\$700.00 per person single occupancy (enrolled in seminar with trail ride)

\$600.00 per person double occupancy (enrolled in seminar with trail ride)

\$575.00 for additional person sharing room (not enrolled in seminar or trail ride)



PAGE 1 OF 2

**INSTRUCTORS: CURT BUCHHOLTZ, HOWELL WRIGHT,  
SALLY CRUM**

**LOCATION:** Wind River Ranch, on Highway 7 seven miles south of Estes Park, Colorado

<b>TIME:</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 PM—dinner</b>
	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8:00 AM - 8:30 PM</b>
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00 AM—checkout at Noon</b>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Learn about the colorful history of the Estes Valley in an atmosphere of rustic elegance, great accommodations, delicious food, and a wonderful setting for equestrian touring in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Friday: Join Curt Buchholtz, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association, for dinner and conversation about the history of the Estes Valley and RMNP.

Saturday morning: Enjoy a hearty ranch-style breakfast then saddle up for a scenic horseback ride and lively commentary on local western heritage with Dr. Howell Wright.

Saturday afternoon: With Sally Crum, learn about the Utes, Native Americans who first called this area home. In the evening, relax with a gourmet dinner and live cowboy music before retiring to your cozy cabin.

Sunday: Complete your weekend of discovery with a satisfying Sunday breakfast and a tour of a local historical ranch.

**WIND RIVER RANCH:** Wind River Ranch is located seven miles south of Estes Park, Colorado. This Christian family dude and guest ranch is located at 9,200 feet in elevation. The ranch is nestled in the beautiful Tahosa Valley between the majestic Longs Peak (14,255 feet tall) and the Twin Sisters mountains. Wind River Ranch was founded by an itinerant pastor named E.J. Lamb. The current recreation hall is located where his homestead once sat. The fireplace in the recreational hall is the only part left from the original house. The ranch still has the original log barn, which was built about 1889.

Wind River Ranch was originally used as a mountain retreat in the late 1880s. At the time, E.J. Lamb constructed a road, which continued past the ranch. It is rumored that he charged a toll coming and going. At that time, the ranch was a working cattle ranch covering more than 500 acres. Around 1930, the ranch was transformed by the Hutchinson family into a dude and guest ranch. In 1997, Wind River Ranch was transformed into a Christian family dude and guest ranch.

The ranch has had only six owners—probably because nobody truly wanted to move away from the view of the Rocky Mountains that is found on the property. The current property encompasses 110 acres and is nestled between the Twin Sisters Mountains and the majestic 14,255-ft Longs Peak in what is now known as the Tahosa Valley.

**COURSE LEVEL: I**

The seminar will include short-distance walks on maintained trails and/or indoor classroom sessions in accessible buildings.

**BRIEF INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY (additional information available at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org)):**

**Curt Buchholtz** is the executive director of Rocky Mountain Nature Association and author of *Rocky Mountain National Park: A History*. In addition to writing histories of Rocky Mountain, Glacier, and several other national parks, Curt has also been a college history teacher and park ranger. He has served as an associate editor of the *National Parkways* magazine and authored numerous articles about national parks, history, and the West.

**Howell Wright:** While Dr. Wright' primary academic preparation has been in the area of adult education, his interest in the American Cowboy and all things Western began in his early childhood. He was raised next to his families cattle ranch and rice farm and during college he became a rodeo cowboy and a rodeo clown/bullfighter. He rodeoed throughout the Midwest and California. He has taught university courses and published articles on the Kansas Cowboy and the American Cowboy. Howell is an active horseman and is the President of Estes Parke, CO Rooftop Rodeo. He is also a Colorado Reserve Peace Officer and rides in a Mounted Sheriff's Posse.

**Victor T. (Vic) Anderson**, a Montana born cowboy, now living in Estes Park, Colorado, is the Western Music Association's 2003/2004 Male Yodeling Champion. He is also noted for his wonderful whistling, which he calls his "poor man's fiddle." Raised in a musical family, his maternal Scottish ancestors have been troubadours for generations, he learned to play guitar from his grandmother, who also taught him harmonica and bagpipes. His mother, Lillian, played him and his siblings to sleep nearly every night with honky-tonk piano music. His dad "Pops," played harmonica, and button accordion. Vic has worked with such well known entertainers as: Tex Williams, Barbara Fairchild, Patsy Montana, Sons of The San Joaquin, and Rex Allen Jr. among others. Vic is a member of the Western Music Association, and is proud to be a board member of the organization. He is also a member of Orawhistle, a worldwide organization of professional whistlers, and is considered to be a "**world class whistler.**"

**EXPECTATIONS:** Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respected. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

**CAR-POOLING:** Rocky Mountain Field seminars utilize car-pooling to limit vehicles traveling into the Park. Car-pooling makes it easier to keep the group together, reduces transit time, and allows courses greater access because fewer parking spaces are required at destinations. In addition, it provides an opportunity for participants to discuss course material in small groups during transit. Typically, a few participants from each course volunteer the use of their vehicles for car-pooling to course locations.

**WESTERN HISTORY AND HERITAGE WEEKEND  
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**PAGE 3 OF 3**

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Friday:	2:00 – 6:30 PM	Check in and free time (coffee, hot Chocolate, tea, hors d'oeuvres and wine)
	6:00 PM	Gather for wine and cheese in the library of the ranch house followed by dinner and conversation with Curt Buchholtz, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association
	8:00 PM	The History of Estes Valley (Curt Buchholtz)
Saturday	8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Breakfast
	9:30 AM	Horse orientation
	10:00 AM	Riding through History (horseback riding and history Dr. Howell Wright)
	12:30 PM	Lunch on the trail
	3:30 PM	Native American Traditions (Sally Crum)
	6:00 PM	Wine and cheese in the library of the ranch house
	6:30 PM	Dinner and cowboy music (Vic Anderson)
Sunday	8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Cowboy breakfast
	10:00 AM	Visits to historic ranch (Dr. Howell Wright)

**WHAT TO BRING:**

- WATER
- Binoculars
- Wear comfortable clothing, boots (optional)
- Notebook (optional)
- Pen/pencil
- Camera (optional)

**REMEMBER TO BRING THE 10 ESSENTIALS:**

Rocky Mountain National Park recommends that hikers always carry the 10 essentials in their daypacks.

- Raingear
- Sunglasses & sunscreen
- Pocketknife
- Sack lunch, snacks, & water
- Map & compass
- Candles
- First-aid kit
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Matches or other fire starter
- Extra layers of clothing

*Note: Rocky Mountain Field Seminars recommends that participants for all courses dress in layers and wear comfortable, sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Participants should be prepared for sudden changes in temperature and weather conditions.*

**TEACHER RECERTIFICATION CREDIT**

Most seminars are eligible for teacher recertification credit through the Centennial Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES). The new fee is \$25.00 per seminar (.5 units) or \$25.00 per series of threaded seminars (1.0 - 3.0 units). A list of threaded seminars can be found in the Field Seminar catalog or online at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org). Participants must enroll in all seminars of a threaded series in order to qualify for the \$25.00 multi-unit fee. Please be prepared to pay for this credit with a check, made payable to BOCES, on the first day of a seminar or on the final day of a threaded series of seminars.

