

HOOF PRINT



Fall 2012

Gutsy Gals!

Machu Picchu
Discovered

A Journey
Inside NATRC

NATRC Choice
of Three
Raffle

Remembering
Betty Menefee

Handling Trail
Emergencies

Hold the Date:
2013 NATRC
National
Convention



Newsletter of the North American
Trail Ride Conference

Important: Year-end Awards Information

The ride year ends the second Sunday in November -- Nov. 11, 2012.

FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR YEAR END AWARDS, IT IS THE RIDER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED AS INDICATED BY NOV. 11, 2012.

- (1) NATRC Membership dues must be received and
- (2) Horse's accurate breed information must be **on file with the NATRC Office. www.natrc.org**
- (3) In addition, National breed associations sponsoring year-end awards require that all the equines must be registered with the "association" and "participant(s)" must maintain their "association" membership.

Any doubt? Email Laurie (natrc@natrc.org) for NATRC membership verification and Cheri (Jeffcoat.cheri@gmail.com) or Colleen (colleen@myedl.com) for breed verification. Contact your own breed association if you have questions for them.



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On the cover: 2012 Bald Mountain Butt Buster Competitive Trail Ride, July 20-22, near Wasilla, Alaska. Upper left: Horsemanship Judge Lory Walls and Cindy Baker-Miller with her horse Manadis. Upper right: Colleen Fisk on Jasmine's Magic. Lower left: Laurie Knuutilia on Indy's Midnight Sun. Lower right: Junior Kristin Wilson on Army's Cache of Class. Photos by Terri Gonzalez with permission.

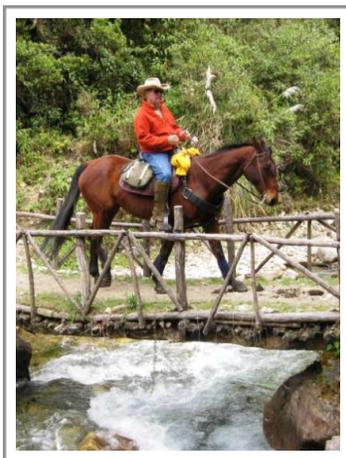
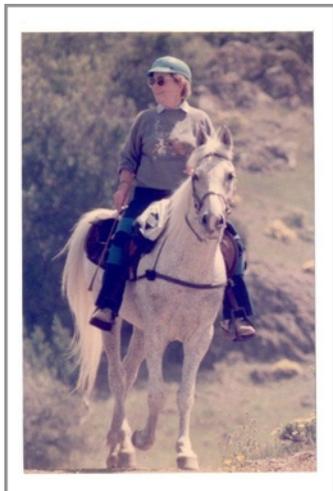
Hoof Print

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NATRC Ride Schedule

Please see current ride schedule at www.natrc.org/RideSchedule/.pdf

President's Message

Gary Clayton



The NBOD July meeting is always interesting and productive. Aside from the normal board business, a

great deal of time was spent discussing our financial position - not just where we stand at the present, but what we did to get where we are, and what we envision for the future. The Treasurer's report indicated we are presently in a good financial situation. Our revenues are up for the year as a result of several factors. Overall membership is up along with the increase in membership dues. Last year a number of rides cancelled for various reasons. That has not been the case this year. As result the ride fee revenue is up over last year even

though in many regions the entries per ride are down. The raffle for the horse trip to Peru was a huge success. There is also a substantial effort in obtaining vendor sponsorships that contribute significantly to our overall revenue. This increase in revenue along with a meaningful effort to reduce costs enabled us to meet our budget for the first half of the year.

We cannot let our guard down. We must continually be alert to opportunities that will assist in meeting the ever present challenges of the future. Continued vendor participation is a vital part of our long- term strategy. This will require a lot of work to maintain, but the rewards have been quite beneficial. A new raffle this year should stir a great deal of interest and bring in some additional monies. Coupling these ventures with the ever present need for minimizing costs will help keep us solvent.

The success of NATRC, however, lies in the participation of the members. I can't stress enough how important it is to encourage member involvement in the rides. They are the ones that can make it a success. We talk about fund- raising endeavors, but the major source of revenue comes from memberships and rider fees. The more effort we put into making our rides a success, the greater the rewards for the Regions and for NATRC. This requires reaching out to members and non-members alike to get involved either by riding, volunteering, or promoting the rides.

These and other steps are necessary if we want to maintain NATRC as we know it today. Many other horse activities out there are now competing with us for rider involvement. If we believe, and I do, that NATRC is a unique and special organization, then it is worth working together to continue the path we have chosen.

NATRC Mission Statement

The North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC) promotes horsemanship and horse care as they apply to the sport of distance riding by offering a variety of challenging and educational experiences designed to strengthen horse and rider partnerships.



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Meet Some Gutsy Gals of NATRC

As competitive trail riders, we know that anyone who signs up to ride up to sixty miles in a weekend has to be a hardy soul — perhaps even a little crazy by some equestrian standards. Training for that kind of mileage is just as rigorous as competition, and many riders can remember a day or week or even month where the effort and time it takes to condition for a ride seems to outweigh the benefit or worth. Family, work, friendships and financial constraints can all take their toll. Yet once we're in camp, at competition, amidst friends and other riders who we don't get to see very often, our energy is renewed and the desire to keep training and trying is again paramount. There's no coincidence in that fact— there are gutsy, brave, and tireless women (and men) who ride with NATRC, and they serve as inspirations to push past excuses and keep on riding.

Erin Glassman

Every active rider and volunteer in Region 6 knows Erin Glassman! Erin has been a frequent rider in Region 6 for the past several years on her trusty Arab gelding, Cisco. Then a couple of years ago, Erin jumped in and managed the Region 6 Benefit Ride at Kanopolis, and this year is managing it again as well as an AERC ride, too.

Erin has also been busy serving as the NATRC Trails Advocacy Chair and just recently took on the job of AERC State Trail Advocate Coordinator. Additional regional jobs were helping with an NATRC clinic and temporarily helping with the Region 6 newsletter.

Erin has recently retired Cisco and is starting a new horse, Rio, an Arab mare, in both AERC and NATRC competitions and is planning to take dressage lessons, too. This year, Erin served on a crew team at the Tevis Cup 100-mile endurance ride, and has her heart set on riding it next year! But, wait, there's more! Erin has a "real life" besides NATRC activities!



Erin Glassman and Cisco. Photo with permission by Sarah Rinne.

Erin works full-time as a nurse-anesthetist, often working 50 to 60-hour weeks, and has a toddler at home—a busy girl! She and her husband, Scott, have a small acreage near Great Bend, Kansas. She spends a lot of her spare time helping Scott make improvements on their farm, building fence, etc., and also takes care of several beehives that produce delicious honey! She says the chickens are Scott's responsibility!

Still more, Erin entered a partnership in a horse business—an Arabian distance horse breeding program with Priscilla Lindsey. They are basing their breeding program on a foundation of several broodmares from Rush Creek Arabians, notable producers of distance horses and working ranch horses, who recently closed their breeding program. Priscilla will manage the breeding herd, and Erin will be the head

trainer and conditioner of the sale horses. That pretty well sums up Erin's active life. Anyone want to trade places with her? As Erin likes to say, "Kids, don't try this at home!"

Deb Steddom

Reading the many newspaper articles about Deb Steddom, Region 3 NATRC rider, gives some insights into this very unconventional woman. In her 30's, she started riding century milers (100 mile bicycle rides). As years passed, she started

thinking even bigger – how about riding across the United States – solo. In the summer of 1999, she decided it better be now or never. Her husband, John Hyde, supported her decision by tearing her bicycle apart in the living room and having her put it back together.

She and John put together a plan for her to ride 60-80 miles a day on back roads. In June she hitched a ride with a friend to Florence, Oregon to begin the adventure. She wanted to do the ride solo (no sag wagon, no fellow riders) as a personal growth experience – and from all accounts it was.

She had a bike outfitted with panniers and about 50 pounds of equipment including a tent, sleeping bags, spare tires, rain gear, a few sets of clothes, and mace for aggressive dogs (notice no cooking gear – a woman after my own heart). She camped many nights – sometimes knocking on doors of houses or churches to ask if she could pitch a tent on their lawn.



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Meet Some Gutsy Gals of NATRC, *continued*

Deb Steddum, *cont.*

Deb Steddum rode through the states of Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Throughout the journey, she had a cell phone for emergencies (which she never needed), and she kept in contact through a blog on the internet (both these technologies were pretty new in 1999). Besides the physical goals for biking long distance, she had goals to foster community spirit and to encourage individuals to live their dreams. She kept the daily mileage down so she could really experience the communities – going to reunions, rodeos and more.

She successfully ended the journey about six weeks after she started – at the Outer Banks, North Carolina. Deb's horse riding career sounds equally unconventional. She started riding at a very young age – and recalls riding with the Jubb family (Pat Jubb judged many NATRC rides) almost 50 years ago.

A few years ago she had major neck surgery and was told to quit riding. Instead she bought a gaited horse, Motown's Black Cash (Jazzbo), a black Tennessee Walker. She heard about NATRC and rode her bike to a one-day ride being put on in Cripple Creek, CO. The ride manager told her that she would be welcome to ride – but she did need a horse. NATRC had to wait as Jazzbo broke his coffin bone and had to be on a year of stall rest and hand walking. Deb started competing him in Novice this summer, and in his first three rides, he and Deb took first in horse, first in horsemanship, and sweepstakes – not an easy task. While Deb claims she is not a professional trainer, she has been training Jazzbo herself for about a year. Deb says that the real fun of doing NATRC is not in the placing (that's the icing), but in the beautiful trails and the great people she meets.

To support her fun habits, Deb is a professional artist – working in glass and particularly stained glass (see

attached picture for a sample of her art – pretty stunning).

You can view some of her art at her website - <http://www.deborahsteddumartglass.com/gallery.html>



Composed of thousands of glass seed beads, the boots are "whip-stitched" beads on copper wire and the frame is loomed beadwork on copper wire. The skirt is slumped and layered dimensional stained glass. It took Deb more than four months to complete.

Angie Meroshnekoff

Angie Meroshnekoff of Region 1 and her horse, Desert Reinbeau, have won not only high place awards regionally, but they have also respectively won impressive high average awards on the national level. When Angie saw a need to have a greater number of NATRC rides, she started putting one on, and this year she'll do two. It isn't often that the average NATRC rider can take on those responsibilities— and that in and of itself speaks to a certain level of dedication that rings true for many facets of Angie's life.

As with many riders, horses are at the center of her life. Angie runs a training and boarding facility, giving lessons to riders of all ages and abilities. Many times, she has aided in helping disabled students to regain their confidence in the saddle and in life. Not content to just give lessons to young riders, she also takes them to competitions (gymkhana, competitive

trail) to test their skills. Angie and her husband, Steve, have been known to become temporary second moms and dads for young riders. Holding true to the adage that one can never be done learning, Angie takes dressage lessons on her own horse to improve her riding, teaching, and competing.

An animal lover all around, Angie takes in almost any stray that comes along – which means that it isn't surprising that she has a contract with the county to board abused and stray horses during criminal cases.

All of this adds up to more than a full-time commitment, but she also raises and shows Great Pyrenees dogs. I'm not sure if it's to "support her habit," but she still works nights as a contract dispatcher for the Ukiah police department. Angie's drive to get things done in all phases of her life makes me wonder, "How does she do it?"

I've often said a person could get a lot done if they didn't have to eat or sleep, and perhaps that's Angie's secret. I guess that's part of what makes up a "gutsy gal of NATRC."



Angie Meroshnekoff and Beau. Photo with permission by Julie Willett.

Remembering Betty Menefee, 1922-2012

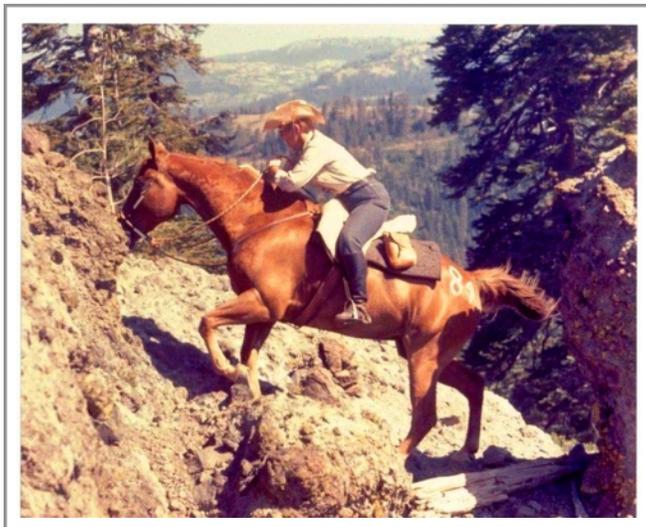
Nancy Kasovich

As I sit here trying to write an article for *Hoof Print* about my friend, my mentor, Betty Menefee, my mind wanders back in time 50 years ago when I first saw her. It was 1962 at an NATRC ride. Betty had recently had her sixth child, and this was her first ride back. All the "old people" (to a 26-year old 40 seemed old) were gathered around her and her chestnut she called Little Mare. "So what's so special about her," I thought?

Everything about Betty was "special." There were times in her life when a lesser person might have folded but adversity was just another challenge. In 1952, her husband Bill Weston was killed in an auto accident leaving Betty (at thirty years of age) with five small children to raise. She wanted her children to grow up with horses, so she moved everyone to a small farm in Windsor, Calif, bought a couple of horses and taught the children to ride. Soon there were other children coming to learn, so Betty formed and led Sonoma County's first 4-H Light Horse Club. As such, she and the children participated in parades, color guards and horseshows. Sonoma County Driving and Riding Club introduced her to trail riding, and as their President she realized there were some serious trail issues that needed to be addressed at the state level, so she jumped in.

During the next eighteen years Betty served as President (three years) then Secretary of the California State Horsemen's Association (fifteen years). She and George Cardinet made numerous trips to Sacramento paving the way for future trail systems including the Heritage Trail Foundation.

In 1961 Betty learned of a new organization being formed called the North American Trail Ride Conference. Forget horse shows and parades - this is where the fun



and action would be, and Betty loved both. However, she had recently married Alvin Benedetti and was pregnant. No problem - as soon as Tony was born she was back on her horse on the trail. From that time on, NATRC took precedence. Her children learned to plan everything, including weddings, around her ride schedule.

After a life change in 1966, Betty met and married Jim Menefee who she called the "love of her life." Together

they rode, judged and promoted NATRC throughout the United States. Jim was head of the Judges Committee early-on while Betty, a fierce competitor, was also a highly respected Horsemanship Judge known for her fairness, humor and common sense. When Jim passed away from cancer in 1977, Betty established the Jim Menefee Lifetime Membership Award, one of NATRC's most coveted honors which the National Board then awarded her in 1985.

Yes, my friend Betty Menefee was *Special* - She raised six children, Hank, Kathy, Debbie, Mark, Brad and Tony. All have gone on to successful careers. Her youngest son, Tony Benedetti (a top endurance rider, who is recognized internationally), never hesitates to give credit to NATRC for knowledge learned during the years he competed as a Junior in the Open Division. Betty was a *Wise Woman* with a terrific sense of humor, who controlled her destiny right to the end. I will miss her so much.

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So, You Have a ... on Your Head

Suzanne Murphree

When Princess Lola first came to my barn she was afraid of just about everything. It didn't take me long to figure out that she was waiting for me to touch the suspicious object first and then maybe, just maybe, she would deign to sniff it. To hurry things along I carried in my arms or put the mystery "thing"... please, hold your chuckles... on my head. It worked!

Perhaps the horse reasoning is that if the human still lives or is at least still standing then maybe the horse will be okay. It was educational for the horse, and I'm sure there was entertainment value for the neighbors. I'm sure they figured out that my horse was leery and I was loony. No harm in that. My horse learned to get along with buckets, tarps, flags...and I learned to wear a hat. One never knows when one must wear an orange traffic cone atop one's noggin. Seriously.

Princess had learned her lessons well and it had been some time since I had sported a strange object on my head when one day the unexpected happened. I was at an NATRC competition when the ride manager gave us additional information for the trail. The water spots were few and far between, she said. It would be best if we took along something with which to

scoop water and stand aside to allow other riders access to the water holes. The idea of course was that a well-trained competitive trail horse would be able to drink from your specially prepared scooper. I rummaged through my trailer looking for something suitable. At last I found a small supplement bucket. If I cleaned it out it would be a good size and could work. But would Princess be ok with a bucket? Quickly, I resorted to the Thing on the Head Method. It worked! She "took" to it and allowed me to strap it to the back of the saddle.

And yes, someone did see me. James K. and his lovely wife were camping next to my rig. James K. has a reputation for being one of the finest NATRC riders out there. His record is sterling. More than one competitor has complained to me that James just doesn't make mistakes. James got an eyeful of me standing there will a plastic bucket on my head. To his credit he didn't bat an eye. Maybe he has seen it all. Or, maybe I just had taught him a new trick. But I didn't care. I had solved the tricky water hole access problem. And if I am going to be seen with a bucket on my head I might as well be seen by the finest.

So off Princess Lola and I went. I now had my helmet strapped to my head and she had the bucket strapped to her...eh buttocks. We banged along pretty well that weekend. Fate decided I didn't need the bucket after all. I didn't have any competition for the water holes when I got to them.

Maybe no one wanted to be seen with me at the water hole. But it was a lesson learned. Be prepared to take care of your horse out there on the trail. Cowboys used their ten gallon hats. Competitive trail riders have to solve the problem another way.

A supplement bucket is a bit unwieldy. Something more packable had to be found. I purchased a collapsible horse bucket from an online store. Now I just have to teach her to use it. Excuse me while I take this folded up bucket off my head. And...well, you know the drill. Seriously.

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Become Recognized Nationally With Your Thoroughbred

NATRC offers breed awards. And North American Thoroughbred Society offers its members a Region 4 cash award, as well as trail recognition in two separate programs. Details can be found at www.hellohorse.com

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SETC: What's it all About?

Erin Glassman, Trails Advocacy Chair

The Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference, founded by Dr. Gene Wood at Clemson University in 1998, was initially called the National Symposium on Horse Trails in Forest Ecosystems. The purpose of the conference is to help us as equestrians keep access to trails by learning to work with the land management agencies, as well as learn ways to minimize our impact on trails and through national lands.

The conference is held annually in the Southeast region, with the location rotating throughout the states of Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky and Tennessee. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the conference in Lexington, KY in July. Next year's conference will be held in South Carolina. A goal for the future of the conference is to make it a more nationalized event and engage states other than those in the Southeast region. It will then be called the National Equestrian Trails Conference.

There are many aspects of this conference that are beneficial to trail advocates and trail users, including networking, education, inspiration and entertainment.

One of the most important aspects of this conference is the networking. Between the lectures and presentations, many opportunities exist to meet the lecturers and other attendees. Representatives from many different organizations attend this conference and set up their own display booths. Some of these groups include the American Endurance Ride Conference, North American Trail Ride Conference, as well as Back Country Horseman (many different chapters), the United States Forest Service, National Parks Service, Equestrian Land Conservation Resource and commercial operations such as Tractor Supply Company (who has a STEP grant useful for projects, especially those engaging youth.) Within these representatives, there lies a wealth of knowledge and experience working with different groups of trail users.

Inspiration abounds at this conference. For example, a Kentucky 4-H group leader engaged a few youths in a program designed to discuss trail issues, safety and education, including Leave No Trace ethics and trail etiquette. Watching the spark kindled in these youths by being engaged in outdoor activities can be quite an emotional experience and, leaves a person with hope for the future.

One young lady who had been engaged in last year's conference through a project put together by a Tennessee USFS representative came back to this conference of her own accord and discussed all that she had been involved with due to her initial experience. This young lady had really taken with her the fire of keeping our trails open to us as horse people.

Presentations were made of projects that had been accomplished using personal pack mules and horses. The benefit and working relationship that can be made with the management agencies is boundless, and seeing the "work in action" is enough to make one want to take a packing course!

Education is an important attribute of this conference. Trail building discussions and lectures demonstrated the many different techniques that can be used to take a problem area on the trail from disastrous to safe and sustainable. Lectures themes included using local resources, grants and



people as well as water conservation and the USFS planning rule.

Last, but not least, entertainment abounds at this conference. Participants enjoyed pre-conference side trips to the Kentucky Horse Park and the historic Shaker Village. We had discussions about their respective trail systems and how they had obtained and used their grants and other funding, as well as how they were able to engage volunteer groups to help build and maintain over 30 miles of trails.

I hope this article informs you of the many benefits to attending this conference, and that you will be inspired to not only attend the conference next year in South Carolina, but also to get involved in the trail advocacy effort. Without our trails, where would we hold our distance riding events?

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Riding Hot or Cold?

Bev Roberts

Beat the Heat Riding

Here are a few tips to help you and your horse make it comfortably through a ride, be it competitive or pleasure, on a hot summer's day.

- ✓ Ride very early in the day before the highest temperature is reached or in the evening when the temperature is dropping.
- ✓ Keep track of your time and pace yourself so you do not have to work your horse hard to be somewhere.
- ✓ Every time you cross water, offer to let your horse drink; drink from your water bottle yourself.
- ✓ Every time you cross water, drop that sponge you have on a string into the water, pull it up and wet down your horse's neck, shoulders and chest to help cool your horse (when you are moving again the air moving across his body will help this water to evaporate to help keep your horse cool). Wet your head and neck, too.
- ✓ If you are stopping for a while, scrape off the excess water, even sweat, especially if there is no breeze because water forms an insulating layer and your horse cannot self cool.

- ✓ Fan your horse and yourself if the air is still, to help with cooling. (NATRC has a nice little twist fan that fits in your back pocket and pops open to about a 9" diameter.)
- ✓ If your horse has a long mane, or you long hair, braid it so that air can get to that side of the neck for cooling.
- ✓ For every 10 miles you travel, give your horse one ounce of electrolytes (after he/she has had a drink of water). You should take salt tablets yourself per the bottle instructions.
- ✓ Wear light colored cotton clothing.
- ✓ If you have a choice, ride in the forest where it is cooler from the transpiration of the trees and you are shaded.
- ✓ Use common sense. Don't overdo it.

Bold in the Cold Riding

Whether you are competing or just pleasure trail riding this coming winter, here are a few things to help you care for yourself and your horse.

- If it is icy, do not ride.
- If pleasure riding, before leaving, let someone know where you are going, when you expect to return.
- Dress in layers and warm boots and bring a slicker in order to stay warm and dry in changing weather.
- Roll up and tie a rump rug to your saddle which you can unroll and cover the large muscles of your horse's hindquarters to keep them warm when you stop for a prolonged break.
- If the ground is snow covered, use shoes/boots with calks for grip or go barefooted.
- Slather petroleum jelly on your horse's sole to prevent snow from balling and sticking to her/his feet.
- Whenever you find or cross water, offer to let your horse drink. Remember, it is drier in the winter and if you are working your horse hard, she/he needs to rehydrate.
- Bring a snack and water for yourself.
- Carry a first aid kit with a space blanket, a cell phone and/or emergency calling device and GPS (to give your coordinates if needed).
- Ride the last couple of miles home at a walk to cool and dry your horse.
- After returning home, if your horse has any wet spots like under your saddle, girth, chest, "cool" your horse out with slow walking alternating with brushing and make sure her/his coat is dry before you put your horse up.

Riding Safely With Friends

Here are some tips for you and your friends to help keep you all safer during your trail adventures.

- Stallions should be identified with yellow ribbons tied to the halter/bridle and in the tail. You and your friends may know that horse is a stallion but others you come across on the trail may not. Others may ask the reason for the yellow ribbons. This is an opportunity to explain their purpose to them. Someone riding a mare in heat may appreciate the heads up.
- Horses prone to kick should be identified with red ribbons tied in their tails.
- On flat narrow trail, keep **at least** one horse length between your horse and the one you are following. If you cannot clearly see the hocks of the horse in front of you, you are too close. Allow more distance at a trot or canter.
- On roads or two-track lanes, when riding abreast maintain a reasonable space between horses. Crowding too closely assures that if one horse spooks or bolts all riders in the group are at risk. Give yourself a little cushion of safety space.

Welcome New 2012 NATRC Members

Region 1

Molly Anderson-junior Ukiah, CA
 Maleah Ikerd-junior Ukiah, CA
 Kirsten Johnson-junior Ukiah, CA

Region 1A

Tracy Coon Gakona, AK
 Kaylee Mahler-junior Wasilla, AK
 Gina Spangler-family Wasilla, AK
 Tim Terwilliger-family Wasilla, AK

Region 2

Lynn Strand Covina, CA

Region 3

Brandy Ferganchick (rejoined) Eckert, CO
 Elsa (Patty) Kern Elbert, CO
 Linda Johnson-Conne Colorado Springs, CO
 Martha Stender-family Black Forest, CO

Region 4

Yvonne Ambrose-family Muenster, TX
 Marta Covington-family Hugo, OK
 Kensee Davis Gunter, TX
 Janet Lolley Lafayette, LA
 Michelle Solis-family Gilmer, TX

Region 5

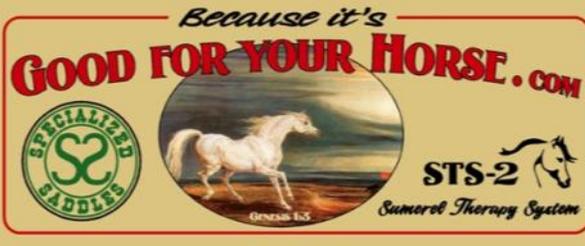
Jan Gellis Blacksburg, VA
 Donna Kronenberger Arcanum, OH
 Elaine Miller Ashville, AL
 Gordon Morrow Leeds, AL
 Cynthia Rogers-family (rejoined) Oakdale, TN

Region 6

Lori Ann Richards Parker, SD

Synthetic Reins Rein

Go to any competitive trail event and you will see that most competitors are riding with reins made of synthetic materials. For most synthetic reins, the materials may be nylon, Biothane (polyester webbing with PVC coating), polypropylene, polyester or some combination of these. They may be round or flat or a combination. They may be split or loop reins of various lengths and colors or color combinations. The hardware is usually stainless steel or brass. One thing they all have in common is you can dunk them in a bucket of water, swish them around and then hang them to dry. Dirt and salt are gone. At home, you can throw them in your clothes washer for a thorough cleaning.



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The Rule Box

We've had recent questions about DO (Distance Only) that would be good to clear up.

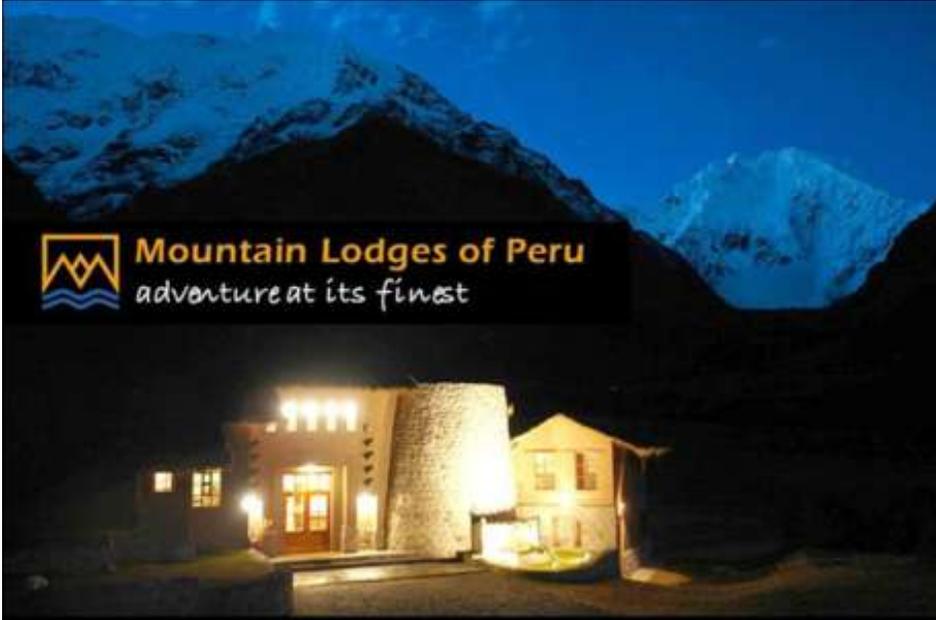
DO is just what it says – Distance Only. The competitor(s) get credit for mileage (distance) only. No placings, no awards, no points. But the Distance Only option offers a competitor several possibilities. A rider who is ineligible to ride Novice can participate DO, but his horse can be a regular competitor. Or both the rider and horse can participate DO. But if the horse is DO, then rider must be DO.

To get the miles, DO participants must follow all the rules EXCEPT those pertaining to leg protection. This means DO participants follow the rules for stabling and being mounted for forward motion.

Similarly to the Open, Novice and C/P divisions, DO must be chosen before the ride starts; one cannot opt to switch to DO once the ride has begun. It IS possible to “downgrade” from doing DO on two days to doing DO on one day if certain conditions are met (see current Rule Book).

Riding DO offers a low-stress option for those riders who want to see the trail, work with their horses and earn the mileage, but would prefer not to ride for placings. An added benefit is that participants receive the instructive comments from the judges on the scorecards, just as the competitors do.

A little different situation exists for CO (Completion Only) in that this designation does happen after the ride starts. Here a competitor would have started in Open, Novice or C/P, but, for example, the horse was Grade 3 lame at the final vet exam. The vet judge can PULL the horse (neither horse nor rider would get credit for the ride) or give the horse CO (Completion Only) status (which would also apply to the rider). In this case, the competitors would get mileage and points for completion, but no placings.



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Two of the NATRCers who made the June group trip.

"If you possibly have an opportunity to go, you must! It was an incredible experience."
Bryce Mobley



"The whole trip was so well done and to have shared it with fellow NATRC folks made it even more special."
Deanne Prusak

NATRC Ride Schedule

Please see current ride schedule at www.natrc.org/RideSchedule/.pdf

A Journey Inside NATRC

Sarah Laden

I remember being really little and my mom just getting back from an NATRC ride. She told me all about it and how her horse, Jake, had gotten a higher score than her own horsemanship score, which I thought was funny. Later, I remember the excitement when I finally was old enough to ride in a competition, and won!

Every year in 4-H we have to give either a speech or a demo about the horse industry; this year I decided to connect the two things I love, 4-H and competitive trail riding. Also, there is a 4-H competitive trail ride project that not many people know about, so I thought that I could spread awareness of it. My only problem was finding a topic inside the vast world of competitive trail riding. Then I started thinking about all the absolutely awesome people (and horses) who are involved with NATRC. I emailed the wonderful and amazing Laure DiNatale to see if she had any ideas and she did! She sent me multiple Hoof Print magazines and I had my topic: "Legends of the Trail: Gary Clayton, Henry Logan, Milne Parish, and Elmer Bandit."

I talked about how Mr. Clayton, Mr. Logan, Mr. Parish, and Elmer Bandit beat the expiration date the horse industry had given them, riding harder than most people at an older age. 4-H is very big on determination, perseverance, and exceeding other's expectations, so I thought that this would be a great topic and it sure was.

Not only did I learn a lot for my speech, but I learned a lot about myself as well. I thought, "Do I have the determination, and perseverance of these people?" I really examined myself and my character. Also, Mary Anna Wood is a real inspiration to me. It's amazing that she had such a wonderful relationship with her horse for so long and accomplished something so terrific.

When I had finished writing my speech and thinking about it, I delivered it at the El Paso County Contest in March. I received scores of 81 and 82, but as I

was the only person and still scored blue level, I got to represent my county at the Colorado State Conference in June.

I was very excited for State Conference as I was also a part of three other competitions. Speech was on the third day and I was second with scores of 91 and 92, which was a definite improvement from the last contest. Even though I didn't win, I really think that I made an impact on the judges and the audience with the stories of never giving up and trying your hardest.

It was really enjoyable to take a journey through NATRC, and I want to thank Laurie DiNatale and Susan Peters for helping me with the information for my speech.

If you had the determination of these legends, what do you think you could accomplish?



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For safety and liability reasons, do not ride in the back of a pickup at any time at our rides.

ATV's used at our rides are covered by our ride insurance, but they must be used in compliance with local laws.

Jean Green, Management Chair and Larry Gould, Safety Chair

California Ride Secretaries:

For those rides not using the RMS, a separate Fees and Stats Sheet for California rides is now available on the web page at <http://www.natrc.org/pdf/FeesandSTATS12CA.xls>. This sheet does not have drug fees added.

Jean Green, Management Chair

All Ride Secretaries:

Ride Secretaries using the RMS should be aware that the current RMS **does not count DO 1 day and DO 2 day riders and horses correctly**. You must correct the Ride Report after you save it to your computer if you have DO riders. You must put "Yes" under either the column labeled "RIDER DO 1 (day)" or "RIDER DO 2 (day)" as applies. The RMS will only put yes under "RIDER DO 1 (day)" for riders that sign up as DO. Delete the inaccurate "yes" under DO 1 for those that ride 2 days. These fields should be blank or "yes". There is no way to change this within the RMS at this time, so you have to correct the Ride Report after you download it as an Excel worksheet before you send it to the office. The same applies to the "HORSE DO 1" and "HORSE DO 2". Please do not change the "CLASS" or "DIVISION" fields to DO. This will not

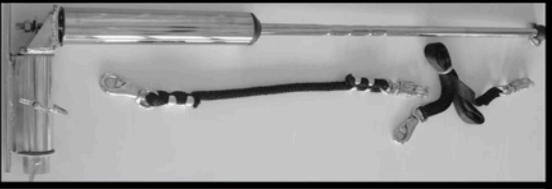
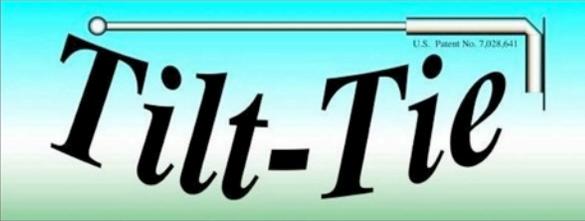
work in the National database! We hope this problem will be corrected by next year. Meanwhile, you can save a lot of confusion in the NATRC office if you can correct them manually. If you do not understand how to change these fields in Excel, contact your Regional RMS coordinator, or Jean Green for assistance.

RMS is a privately owned and maintained system that is not linked to our NATRC Data system.

Jean Green, Management Chair



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Secure Your Judges Early

Managers remember, you must contact and secure your judges well in advance of your ride date! Please contact the National Office for a current Judges List.

If you have difficulty securing an NATRC judge, please contact the appropriate Judges Committee chairman:

Michael Peralez, DVM-Veterinary Judge Co-Chair
626/446-8911
msperalez@roadrunner.com

or

Patsy Conner-Horsemanship Judge Co-Chair
H: 501/663-1477 CELL: 281/381-8189
FAX: 501/663-6781
connerpatsy@yahoo.com

VETERINARY AND HORSEMANSHIP JUDGES:

Has your address or phone number changed? Please notify the NATRC office of any changes. Indicate home and office numbers. Thank You. REMEMBER, APPRENTICING MUST BE DONE WITH AN **APPROVED JUDGE WHO HAS AGREED TO JUDGE AND SUPERVISE AN APPRENTICE.**

NEWLY APPROVED
Kate Jacob, DVM (R6)

THE FOLLOWING ARE APPLICANTS, APPRENTICES OR PROVISIONAL JUDGES. MEMBERS MAY SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THESE TO THE JUDGES COMMITTEE

PROVISIONALS
Veterinary Judges
Natalie Goldberger, DVM (R4)

Horsemanship Judges
Jerry Sims (R3)

APPRENTICES
Veterinary Judges
Cathy Ann Ball, VMD (R5)
Valerie Bixler, DVM (R4)
Phoebe Smith, DVM (R2)
Carrie Porter, DVM (R5)
Natalie Morris, DVM (R5)

Horsemanship Judges
Becky Rogers (R4)

APPLICANTS
Veterinary Judges
Sharon Dehart, DVM (R4)

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4-H Junior Rider High Point Award Changes

To encourage participation by 4-H members, NATRC has offered a 4-H Junior Rider High Point Award for many years. For 2012 some significant changes were made:

- The award goes to the high point rider and high point horse **regardless** of the rider's division.
- The award is a self-nominating award. The nomination must occur before the end of the ride year, Nov. 11, 2012. The rider must (1) be a member of NATRC (2) send Laurie DiNatale an email (natrc@natrc.org) stating 4-H membership, and (3) 4-H leadership verification via an email to natrc@natrc.org.

NATRC Ride Results

Please see latest ride results at www.natrc.org/RideResults.htm

The 2012 Alaskan BMBB Ride

Laurie Knuutila

“I Survived The 2012 BMBB!”

So proclaimed the t-shirts and sweatshirts that commemorated the 2012 Bald Mountain Butt Buster Competitive Trail Ride. At the beginning of the weekend, all the riders were confident that they could proudly wear that shirt by Sunday night. Everyone wondered: would that actually be the case?

The 2012 Bald Mountain Butt Buster Competitive Trail Ride was held on July 20-22, outside Wasilla, Alaska. I attended as a competitor in the Open Division. A total of 56 riders (26 of them first timers!) had signed up for this ride, the most ever at an Alaskan ride. First time Ride Manager Stefanie Bergman and first time Ride Secretary Jenny Daniels had their very capable hands full.

When I arrived at ride camp on Thursday (after an 8 hour, 320 mile trip through some of the most gorgeous scenery in the world), the weather was beautiful, with sunshine and blue skies. The summer in the south central area of Alaska had been characterized by gray skies and rain, but this day was gorgeous.

By the time vet-in started, conducted by Vet Judge Stephanie Ostrowski, DVM, on Friday afternoon, the sunny skies were gone and there was a threat of rain. After a potluck dinner, in which, in the words of Stefanie, “the tables gave birth to food,” the ride briefing was conducted by Trail Master Katie Carney. She warned us that if it rain, the trails would be slick.

During the night, the rain started, and continued most of the day on Saturday. I took the time on Saturday morning to install studs in my horse’s Easyboot Gloves, and by the end of the day, I was very thankful that I had! The rain came down hard at times, at times driven sideways by the wind, at other times it slowed to a light mist.

Right out of camp, the Horsemanship Judge, Lory Walls, watched the riders



Kelly Stevenson with Brisco. Photo with permission by Terri Gonzalez.

pass by. My horse has been known to perform some interesting “airs above the ground” at the start of a ride. But this year, his feet stayed on the ground, and although he did get excited when horses would pass us, he maintained his composure and continued to listen to me. The training I’d done all summer while riding with others of passing and being passed was paying off.

The trail took us through woods on root-filled trails and around open hay fields. Lory was near the top of a field, watching us trot into our first P&R. After a metabolic check, Stephanie asked us to perform a mount and then back our horses three steps in a straight line. Then we wended our way back to camp for lunch.

With all the rain, the trail was sloppy and slick in areas, though not so bad in others. The trails in the woods were “walk only” because of all the roots. But the timing was good, and we were able to easily make our time.

As we were leaving lunch, we performed a mount for Lory. Then the trail took us into the river bottom to a crossing of the Little Susitna River. The rain had not caused a significant rise in the water level. The water was swift, about mid-forearm deep on a 15-hand horse, and the river was wide. To keep from drifting with the current, the rider’s eyes had to be fixed on the opposite bank. Salmon could be spotted swimming in the crystal-clear water.

As we were starting up the mountain for which the ride is named, we were treated to fresh lemonade and cookies handed out by a family who lived along the trail. It was very welcome and refreshing, even on a cold, windy, rainy day!

The climb up Bald Mountain was, of course, punctuated at the top by a P&R stop. The wonderful P&R crew braved the lousy weather to be there to check horses. One of them even took her knit cap off and gave it to a rider who was suffering from the cold!

The trail getting off the mountain was very muddy, chewed up by all the horses’ hooves and very slick in areas. There were reports of butt-sliding and mud-slinging. But everyone made it down (the lemonade-hander-outers were there on the return trip too!), re-crossing the Little Su at a different crossing then back through the river bottom (with a Lory mandated detour into the river around the end of a fence) and into camp.

The fence extended a little bit into the river and we had to ride around the end of it and back onto the trail. Back in camp, both riders and horses were chilled and soaked, but there were smiles and laughter, despite the weather. Some folks loaded their horses into their trailers, while others used truck heaters to warm up and dry out. Vet out revealed a few sore horses, but for the most part, everyone seemed to have survived the tough trail and lousy weather unscathed.

The 2012 Alaskan BMBB Ride, cont.

The judges tallied their cards for the Novice Division riders and after dinner, the awards for them were handed out. Most of the riders in the Novice Division were first time competitors, and despite the weather, they seemed to have enjoyed the ride, and several said they were looking forward to riding next year.

The rain continued off and on through the night, and the next morning, a meeting was called. An unscheduled meeting at a competitive trail ride can mean only one thing – changes to the trail. And indeed, Trail Master Katie Carney had been up since the wee hours, figuring out a re-route of a lot of the trail and re-figuring the ride times.

The trail up Bald Mountain was unsafe due to mud and slickness, so Katie decided for the morning trail to send us around the hay fields we had ridden on Saturday so she and her crew would have time to scurry up the mountain on their four-wheelers and re-flag the afternoon trail. She was very patient and thorough in explaining the rerouting, and having been a Trail Master many times, I knew the stress level she must have been feeling!

The morning trail was ridden in reverse of the day before. This time, at the P&R, Stephanie did her metabolics check, then had us do a short sidepass to retrieve a ribbon from a tree and sidepass back to hand it to her. We were off again through the woods, headed back to camp for lunch. The rain continued off and on, more off than on, all morning. The clouds were starting to break up as we headed back up Bald Mountain. We took a different route, which took us across the river again and then we followed driveways and roads as we climbed the mountain. As we made our way up, the clouds broke up completely and the sun shone brightly. The temperature and the humidity rose dramatically! The Matanuska Valley stretched out below us, and the Chugach Mountains gleamed in the distance, rising majestically above the valley.

After the mountain top P&R, it was all downhill back to the river. The river had risen somewhat with all the rain, and when we came to the crossing, there were “river guards” directing us across the river by the safest route. (Thank you, Jenny and Keith. Your presence was reassuring!)

Back through the river bottom we went, and back into camp by a circuitous route that took us past a pen in which two doe-eyed young calves hung their heads over the fence watching us ride by. They were so cute!

Back in camp, the vet-out proceeded while a delicious dinner was being prepared. The barbecued ribs, chicken, baked beans, salads and several other side dishes were most welcome after a long day on the trail. The sun continued to shine, right up until awards time. Then it clouded back up and spit a little more rain, as if the sky had to have the last word.

Despite the challenges presented by a large number of riders, lousy weather, and trail problems, the management

team of the Bald Mountain ride did an excellent job of putting on the ride. They were well-organized and had all the details covered. The timing of the trail was excellent, the trail markings were excellent (I only took out my map to check timing points), and although the weather caused the trail to be a little challenging, it was still doable, and the country we rode through was beautiful.

Most of the trail is on private land with permission granted only for the ride, a fact that makes the Bald Mountain ride that much more special. Thanks to the entire crew of the ride for making it all possible! And those of us who did finish can proudly wear those shirts that state “I Survived the 2012 BMBB!”

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NATRCers in Peru: Lodge to Lodge Ride to Machu Picchu

Deanne Prusak

In June 2012 an intrepid adventurous group of NATRC members arrived in Cusco, Peru for a 10 day excursion of riding across the Andes to the ancient Incan city of Machu Picchu. Me (Deanne Prusak) from Texas, Laura Azzaro from California, and Bryce and Carol Mobley from Arkansas made up the riding portion of the tour, organized by Mountain Lodges of Peru. The tour and history are well documented in a beautifully written essay by Teresa and Mark Smith in the Summer 2011 *Hoof Print*. That story piqued our interest and gave us the incentive to sign up when an NATRC group tour was offered.

After a day of acclimating to the altitude, we had a tour of Cusco and surrounding Incan ruins, and then we were driven to the stables to meet our horses. The horses are Quarter Horses imported from Uruguay with good bone and wide hooves. Carol had been thrown recently and was a bit timid, so they gave her an adorable, lazy and fat mare called Wopa. For her husband, Bryce, they had a tall hearty bay called Gigante. Laura was given a black mare called Chaska who they said was very fast. I was given a sweet and agreeable chestnut mare called Amira.

The horses were all in excellent shape, well groomed, shod and had good weight. They were tacked up in synthetic Abetta endurance saddles with ample saddle bags that carried our snacks, jackets and water bottles. They all had cruppers and breast collars for the steep trails. The bridle was a nylon Western type headstall with shank bit. The horses were all trained to neck rein. I found Amira to be surprisingly sensitive and responsive, backing up and sidepassing with ease.

We had two guides; one rode in front with the first aid backpack and the second guide rode drag. They had cell phones and first responder training. Our main guide, Guido, was well versed in the history, botany and culture of the area.

The trail to the first lodge was a mildly ascending gravel road which gave us an opportunity to move out pretty fast. We did quite a bit of trot and canter with some sections at a full gallop.

Bryce and Carol were used to their Foxtrotters at home and were not used to these gaits. They decided to ride at a slower pace with the drag guide. There were plenty of places to graze and numerous clear mountain streams that ran across the road.



Salkantay Lodge

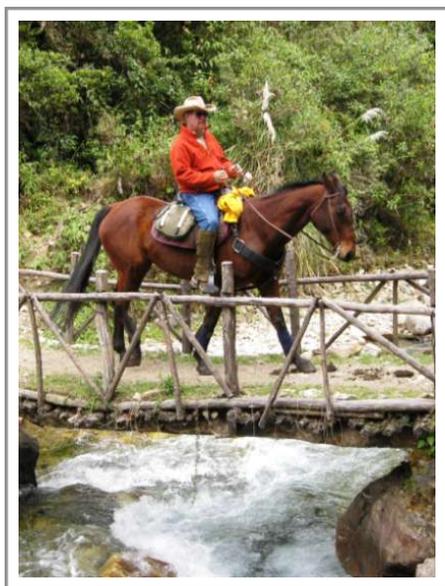
We arrived at the first lodge that afternoon, riding right up to the front door where stable hands took the horses from us. We were just delighted with the accommodations. Such a quaint and lovely place! We were greeted by a woman bearing hot towels and a man with mugs of hot tea. They had a bar with little sandwiches and snacks next to a cozy fire. The rooms were immaculate and had turn down service with chocolates and even a hot water bottle under the covers. After a massage, we sat in the hot tub outside surrounded by 20,000' snow capped mountains and gazed at the stars and Milky Way, so clear in the thin air.

We loved all the lodges. Each one was just as wonderful as the first. The food was gourmet - even the lunch that was cooked out in a tent on the trail. The Peruvian people were warm, friendly and made every effort to please us.



Morning ride from Salkantay Lodge. Left to right – Carol on Wopa, Guido, Deanne

NATRCers in Peru, cont.



Bryce crossing a bridge.

Over the next several days, we rode on increasingly difficult trail, very narrow and rocky with steep climbs. There were times I just couldn't look down the side of the trail and had to trust in my horse. We had to navigate rocky streams, cross bridges, hug the side of a landslide, ride through herds of cattle and deal with naughty loose pack animals. This was real trail riding.

The horses were spectacular! They were so sure footed and careful, never once spooking or rushing. When they tired, they would stop to rest and nibble on the short sparse alpine grass. The guides took very good care of them. During one of our lunch stops, Laura's horse started to colic. The guides recognized it immediately and gave her a pain killer injection. They gave Laura one of their horses to ride while they hand walked Chaska along with us to the next lodge where they tended to her. They showered her with a lot of care and she was fine the next day.



Glacial lake

We rode about 5-6 hours a day, but there were also opportunities to hike. One day we rode out as far as we could to a glacial lake and hiked the rest of the way in. It was sure worth it. The lake was

gorgeous with the glacier in the back-ground and a frozen waterfall. Bryce and I hiked up to the Andean Cross on the summit at 15,000' with a snowy view of the valley below.



Guido and Carol crossing a stream.



Trail to Andean Cross.

We rode the horses over the Salkantay Pass and all the way to the Inca Trail. At this point, the horses cannot continue as the trail is preserved. We turned them over to the stable hands saying goodbye forever. From this point we hiked the ancient trail to the final lodge, passing coffee farms along the way.

The riding part of the tour was sadly over, but I consoled myself by opting to join a hiker group the next morning to hike a 9 mile trek, 2000' up to an overlook getting a first glimpse of Machu Picchu peaking out of the fog.

Continued page 20



Deanne, Guido and Laura celebrating at Salkantay Pass – 15,200 feet above sea level.

NATRCers in Peru, *cont.*



I missed Amira but being on foot allowed me to get a closer look at the rain forest plant life. I caught up with Laura and the Mobleys at the train station and headed to the hotel in Aguas Calientes. The next day we took the bus to Machu Picchu.

It was supposed to be the highlight of the trip, but after communing with nature the past several days, the crowds, lines, and buses were a bit harsh. We had a tour of the ruins, but my favorite part was hiking Huaynu Picchu with Laura. That is the tall conical mountain

overlooking the ruins. They only allow a few hikers on it each day so you have to buy tickets in advance. This was a tough trail, but incredibly interesting and worth the effort to go to the top.

From there it was back to Cusco and a sad goodbye to all our new friends we had made on the trip. We all came away with our best memories. My favorite part of the trip was the night sky with the snow on Salkantay lit up by starlight. Laura was quite touched by the shaman ceremony burning an offering to Mother Earth. Bryce was impressed with the Incan architecture. Carol, I think her favorite thing was the pisco sour!

Deanne and Laura celebrating at the top of Huayna Picchu. Machu Picchu in background. End of trip!

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2013 Convention Raffle: The Choice is Yours

This year the winner of our 2013 NATRC raffle will have a choice. Yes, the lucky person holding the winning ticket drawn at the National Convention in Denver, CO in February will be able to choose one of three terrific prizes. We have combined one of our most successful raffle prizes, a custom saddle, with practical alternatives that will appeal to more than horse people.

The first option is the Custom hand-crafted Eli Miller saddle, donated by Custom Comfort Saddles. Mr. Miller is an Amish saddle-maker who will create a saddle of incredible balance, strength and beauty just for you. If you have too many saddles or the perfect saddle already, you may opt for the Custom Camping package from Cabela's Outfitters. You can go to any Cabela's location and select the items that you need, anything from clothing to water systems to tents or cook stoves. Last, if you would like invest in your horse's training or your property, you may select a 60' foot round-pen from Tractor Supply. Ten foot panels can be handy at the barn in any number of configurations. The choice is all yours!

This raffle is open to everyone – members, non-members, friends, relatives, or strangers. On our website (www.natrc.org) is more information about the prizes. There is even a flyer that you can download, print and post at feed, tack, western wear, convenience stores and so on. And tickets can be purchased online! So if you know a bunch of folks who would love to win this raffle, contact your region's National Directors to get tickets to sell.

Ticket donations will be \$10 each or 3 for \$25, 7 for \$50. Remember, people buying raffle tickets need not be present to win. The drawing will be held Saturday, February 23, 2013 at our convention awards banquet.

Let's get selling! Help raise funds for NATRC and help some lucky person to win the prize they really want. That person could be you!

Your contact people for tickets in each region are:

Region 1 & 1A

Jamie Dieterich - jamiiek@gotsky.com

Jim Ferris - jim.c.ferris@gmail.com

Region 2

Lory Walls - lorywalls@cox.net

Beni DeMattei -

beni2406@hotmail.com

Region 3

Betty Wolgram -

bkwranch@hughes.net

Susan Peters - sapeters@pcisys.net

Region 4

Larry Gould - landbgould@gmail.com

Elaine Swiss -

swissranch@earthlink.net

Region 5

Gary Clayton -

Gclay24251@charter.net

Kim Cowart -

kcneverrestranch@gmail.com

Region 6

Priscilla Lindsey -

lindx_pris@yahoo.com

Jerry Weil - jkweil2@gmail.com

NATRC Announces Convention Speakers

The NATRC 2013 National Convention will be held in Aurora, Colo. (Denver area) on Feb. 21-23, 2013. Speakers will include Dr. Terry Swanson, DVM, of Littleton Large Animal Clinic, Colo.; Dr. Michael Gotchey, DVM, of Steamboat Springs Veterinary Clinic, Colo.; Danny Chappero, Equestrian Yoga Specialist, Dr. Michael Zyzda, sports medicine podiatrist, Denver, Colo.; Colorado Horse Council; William Wingle, GPS presentation; and a NATRC rider panel presentation.

Mark your calendar for a fun and informative convention!

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Equine Trail Emergencies

Susan Garlinghouse, DVM

Reprinted from *Endurance News* magazine, monthly publication of the nonprofit American Endurance Ride Conference (www.aerc.org; 866-271-2372).

While veterinary help is generally available within a reasonable distance at endurance competition, bad things can and do go wrong far from help, or even at home during conditioning rides. In this multi-part series, we'll look at how to identify a problem, what to do out on the trail and back home while (sometimes) waiting for veterinary assistance to arrive and---possibly more importantly---what *not* to do.

Let's start with a few supplies to always carry with you on the trail, if not on your person, then at least on the saddle.

Stethoscope – Even with the evolution of HRMs and GPS units that do everything but bake cookies, a good stethoscope is required to listen for the presence, absence and quality of gut sounds. Many riders get by pressing their ear to the horse's side, but doing so might miss the subtleties during an impending colic episode when normal sounds are compromised. If possible, invest in a better quality model than those commonly used at a P&R check.

Watch (digital or with a second hand) – HRMs work when you're all tacked up, but unless you regularly ride with a hand-held model, sometimes circumstances (such as hyperthermia) require stripping tack. Used with the stethoscope, a watch to track HR will help monitor your horse's status.

Thermometer – easy to carry and absolutely indispensable to help monitor rectal body temperature during episodes of possible hyperthermia. Traditional glass thermometers are waterproof, but more fragile, and will break if stored where temps may exceed 110°F. Digital models are easily replaced for under ten dollars, are generally not waterproof, but can be carried in a baggie to keep them dry.

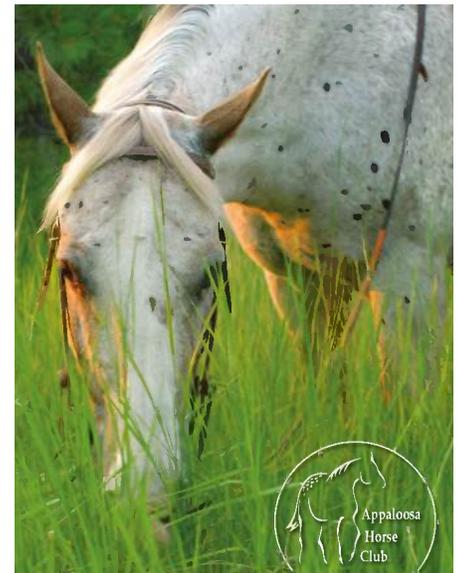
Vetrap or other stretch wrap material to bind over a pressure wrap.

Pressure bandage material – almost any clean, absorbable, foldable material will suffice, including a clean pair of socks in a baggie, disposable baby diaper, or individually wrapped feminine napkin.

Water-carrying device – available water may not always be within reach of a horse that needs it. Many horses will drink from a scoop big enough for their nose to fit. Otherwise, soft, easily squashable cordura buckets are available from vendors and can be clipped to the saddle or stuffed into a cantele pack. In a pinch, a gallon-size heavy-duty plastic baggie will suffice and takes up very little space. Sponges are useful to collect water from shallow puddles not amenable to scooping.

Pocket-sized multi-tool with pliers for dealing with wire and cactus. Especially in Southwest regions where cholla is common, tiny spines can 'ratchet' their way in through the skin and be more difficult to remove later if not dealt with promptly. An unexpected encounter with wire may require wire-cutters to remove safely.

What NOT to carry – Obviously, carrying or administering drugs during competition is prohibited by AERC rules. During conditioning rides, carrying an anti-inflammatory might seem a prudent thing to do "just in case", but are better left behind. Some drugs, such as bute and Banamine® can cause significant damage to kidneys if administered to dehydrated horses. Horses exhibiting signs of colic may not be able to benefit from orally administered drugs if poor gut motility prevents absorption, and may cause subsequent complications and risk of overdose when examined and treated by a veterinarian utilizing intravenous drugs. Finally, drugs which have expired or routinely stored in hot tack compartments may have questionable efficacy and thus may create more problems than they solve.



Apache Land Trail Ride

April 22-28

Empire Ranch, Las Cienegas NCA, Sonoita, Arizona
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July 29-August 4

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Handling Equine Trail Emergencies, *cont.*

Identifying and solving a problem on the trail first means knowing when your horse “ain’t doing right” and that implies knowing what is normal for *your* horse. Resting pulse in horses can range between 24 – 48 beats per minute, but individuals generally have a relatively consistent resting heart rate when all is well, and you should know what that is for your horse, give or take a few beats. Know also your horse’s average heart rate when walking, trotting or cantering, as well as how quickly he usually recovers to 60 bpm after ceasing exercise. An elevated heart rate during exercise or unexpectedly slow recovery could indicate pain, dehydration,

hyperthermia or other problems, often before more obvious signs of trouble present themselves.

Progressive heart rate recovery is of more use than a single reading. For example, a horse with a high heart rate who recovers to 60 bpm (or lower) within a few minutes of stopping exercise is clearly in less distress than a horse whose HR remains consistently high. Keep in mind that presence or absence of a problem cannot be diagnosed *solely* on the basis of HR, and that horses can be actively colicking with paradoxically a very low heart rate. Take an abnormally high or hanging heart rate seriously and investigate further, but a normal heart rate is not a guarantee against trouble if things don’t seem right.

Likewise, the presence of manure is not a strong indicator for or against colic. Although the production of feces is better than none at all, don’t assume that a poop pile is an absolute indicator of “not colicking”.

Learn what normal gut motility sounds like for your horse by routinely listening at home while the horse is eating or after a moderate training ride. Many riders get by pressing an ear to the horse’s side, but a colicky and painful horse can respond to any annoyance with a kick, so keep safety in mind. Gut motility is best monitored by listening to four quadrants of the horse’s belly. If you imagine standing behind the horse, the four quadrants correspond to eight o’ clock and ten o’ clock on the left side; and two o’ clock and four o’ clock on the right side. In general, normal peristalsis activity can be described as a low-pitched grumbling every five to fifteen seconds. High-pitched ‘tinkling’, splashing, continuous noises or complete absence of peristalsis *may* indicate a problem, but is highly individual and requires being familiar with what is normal for each horse under different conditions. Familiarity can *only* be attained through routinely monitoring the horse at home and under different circumstances during conditioning rides and during competition.

What to do if you think your horse might be colicking on the trail? Most cases of colic at rides (or during long conditioning rides) are associated with overexertion, fatigue and dehydration, all components of ‘exhausted horse syndrome’. When overly stressed, the body shunts blood away from visceral organs (such as the GI tract) to the vital organs of heart, lungs and muscles. Decreased blood flow results in slower gut motility and can thus progress to colic. To help increase blood flow back to the GI tract, decrease the exertion level, but don’t stop moving entirely. This is a good time to dismount, loosen the girth and hand walk back towards help. Maximum blood flow to visceral organs is achieved at about 20% of maximum effort---about the speed of a brisk walk.

As dehydration and hyperthermia is often a factor in endurance horses with GI disturbances, take every opportunity to offer water as available and apply cooling via sponging or scooping as conditions warrant. If green grass is available along the trail, a brief stop for a mouthful or two may help with recovery, but don’t attempt to force cookies, grain or other feeds in an attempt to stimulate the GI tract. If an ileus (complete cessation of peristalsis) is occurring, loading more food on top of an unmoving logjam won’t improve the situation.

Although administering mineral oil via a nasogastric tube is still a common therapy for some equine veterinarians, you should NEVER attempt a do-it-yourself version by syringing mineral oil down any horse’s throat. The very smooth texture of liquid mineral (or vegetable) oils does not elicit a good swallowing response, and may result in oil being introduced down the trachea into the lungs instead of the stomach, thereby causing serious aspiration pneumonia. Likewise, adding mineral oil to a bran mash is unlikely to produce any benefits. In most cases, endurance horses experiencing gastrointestinal disturbances are in need of prompt fluid therapy as soon as possible to prevent further deterioration.

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PUBLICATIONS



Handling Equine Trail Emergencies, *cont.*

There are several acupressure points that are useful during colic episodes while waiting for veterinary help. Use the flat or heel of your hand and massage abdominal points in small circles, using gentle pressure. On the abdomen, massage at the same points used to listen to gut sounds, being careful to avoid sudden kicks if the horse is uncomfortable. On the face, several "relaxation" points are located along the angular vein located two to

four inches below the inner corner of the eye and can be gently massaged with the tips of your fingers.

These are also great "time to rest" points to utilize during a vet check.

There are several points located at the ear tip and along the inside of the ear that relate to the treatment of colic and shock. "Er Jian" is located at inside the ear about one inch below the tip and

can be stimulated by gently massaging with the flat of the thumb. Several other related points can be worked by folding the ear lengthwise and very gently pulling along the entire length. A final "Er Men" or 'ear gate' point is located by allowing the tips of your fingers to naturally fall into the hollow in front of the base of the ear.

However, during a crisis is not necessarily the best time to try ear acupressure manipulation for the first time—ideally introduce your horse to this at home, and use alternative points in ear-shy horses.

Perhaps the best take-home message during a colic crisis is to be proactive in seeking veterinary help promptly. If dehydration, hyperthermia and other components of exhausted horse syndrome are a factor in the GI crisis (as is expected with endurance horses), appropriate fluid therapy is critical in addressing the problem, avoiding possible renal damage and ensuring the best prognosis and return to full health.

Next issue – How to recognize and handle heat stress, muscle problems on the trail, including minor muscle cramps, tying up and severe early/late onset rhabdomyolysis.

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Mark Your Calendar

NATRC National Convention
Feb. 21-23, 2013
Aurora, Colorado
(near Denver)

For information, please contact NATRC
at natrc@natrc.org or 303-688-1677.

Proceeds benefit NATRC educational activities.



Marketing -- Google Analytics

Bev Roberts

We have signed up to use the free Google Analytics tool to report activity on our website.

We will be able to receive reports that measure website activity, which pages

are most visited, how many visitors are new for a given time period, how many are return visitors, how often new information is viewed, where visitors came from (like did they click through from an E-News) and so on.

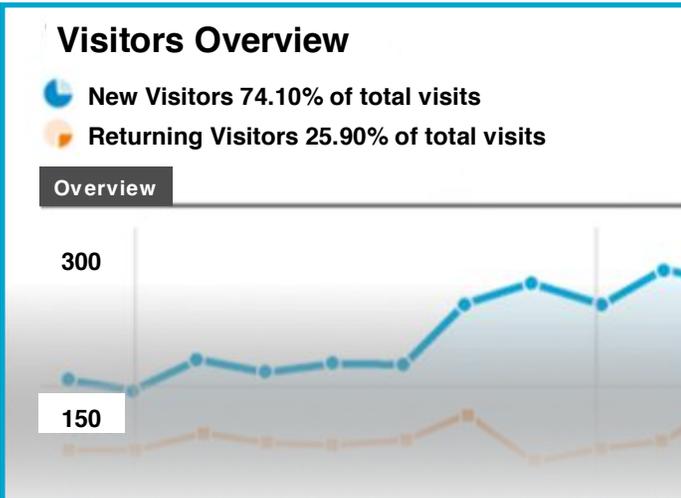
We still have to set up what reports we want to see and to put the code for our unique ID on each page of our website.

Individual information is not collected. Visitors are anonymous. The data will be

numbers such as number of visits, of pages viewed, of times a certain page is opened, and of click-throughs.

Our goal is to learn what works, what does not work and how we can improve the website to bring in more visitors who will try competitive trail riding and become NATRC members.

A year from now, I hope to be reporting on how well this is working for us.



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New National Recognition Award: Bev Roberts National Horsemanship Champion

This was initially submitted by Bev Roberts as a proposed rule change and was discussed further at the July NBOD meeting. Looking at past records revealed that four people would qualify for this award to date. After much discussion, the BOD agreed, with approval from Bev, that it was more appropriate for the award to be a national special recognition award rather than being another annual award. Recipients will be listed in the front part of the Rule Book, similarly to those receiving the Horse Hall of Fame Award. Criteria would be what is cited below in the original proposal and would be included in the Policies and Procedures.

Proposal by Bev Roberts:

One of the aspects of competitive trail riding that separates NATRC from all other CTR organizations is our judging of, and recognition of, the importance of horsemanship in competing, caring for and building partnerships with our horses. We currently have the following national awards:

Horse Awards	Horsemanship Awards
Presidents Cup	-
Jim Menefee Memorial (combined Horse & Horsemanship)	-
Bev Tibbitts Grand Champion Horse (High Avg.)	Polly Bridges Memorial (High Avg. Horsemanship)
Junior Grand Champion Horse	Junior High Average Horsemanship
National Champion	-
Junior National Champion	-
High Point Open Horse	High Point Open Horsemanship
High Average Competitive Pleasure Horse	High Average Competitive Pleasure Horsemanship
Hall of Fame	-
Mileage Medallions	Mileage Medallions
1000 Mile Horse	Mileage Chevrons

Looking at the table above, when it comes to horsemanship, we have a shortage of awards comparable to horse awards. Although this is a team sport, half of the team is being left out on three awards! The same horse can be ridden by a number of different people and still earn a National Championship (Adult or Junior) and be inducted into the Hall of Fame. More than likely only one person will achieve any sort of recognition for the horse's accomplishments, probably the owner (which most of the time is also the rider).

This came to my attention when I found out that the Walk of Fame for the 50th Anniversary convention would include horses with five or more National Championships. Most of these horses are ridden by the same rider. They have formed a partnership that has worked time and again to achieve multiple national championships for the horse. The rider enjoys recognition along with their horse.

What about the rider whose horsemanship shines by forming partnerships with multiple horses and obtains at least one national championship with EACH horse? As it is now, the rider has multiple national championships on horses that do not have multiple national championships and therefore receives absolutely NO recognition. Sadly, these very accomplished horsewomen and horsemen are overlooked.

We do honor riders with High Average and High Point Horsemanship and separate mileage medallions and chevrons. So, we already have split of awards for both members of a team. This just helps to balance the awards out and honors horsemanship.

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New National Recognition Award, *cont.*

To recognize these very accomplished horsewomen and men for their outstanding horsemanship, I propose and wish to sponsor the following award:

BEV ROBERTS NATIONAL HORSEMANSHIP CHAMPION (5 Different National Champion Horses): In the Open Division, a rider shall be declared a Bev Roberts National Horsemanship Champion upon achieving five (5) National Championships with five (5) different horses.

- 1) In 2013, all previous riders (from NATRC's inception) who have qualified for this award and subsequent winners will be named and recognized in various NATRC media in the same manner as all other national awards (Rule Book, website, magazine articles, and so forth).
- 2) The year the fifth national championship is earned will be labeled as the award year.
- 3) No physical awards will be given to retroactive winners.
- 4) In and after 2014, when a rider qualifies with their fifth national championship with their fifth horse, the rider will be named and given an award at the National Convention.
- 5) More than one rider may receive this award in any year.
- 6) There will be years when no award is given.
- 7) The award will be given in increments of five; i.e. another five national championships on another five different horses.
- 8) A recipient who receives the award twice is thus recognized as having achieved 10 national championships on 10 different horses.
- 9) A three time recipient is thus recognized as having achieved 15 national championships on 15 different horses; likewise four times is 20 national championships; five times = 25 and so on.
- 10) In instances where a recipient receives the award more than once, none of the five horses may be horses ridden to achieve the previous award(s).

To pay for the award cost, I will commit to furnishing the award from 2013 forward until my death and will set up a trust fund to carry forward the cost after my death. The trust fund will cease when NATRC ceases and revert to my heirs.

New Sport Horse Awards

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Recreational Trails Program Update

An update on the Recreational Trails Program: On July 6th of this year, the new transportation legislation was signed by the President extending funding for the Recreational Trails Program until September 30th, 2014 and providing 85 million dollars in funding for trails for the next 2 fiscal years. State's governors were able to decide before September 1 to opt out of these funds. Florida and Kansas were the only states to decide to opt out of the program. Recreation groups, motorized and non-motorized, worked very hard to ensure that state governors knew about the importance of RTP. We had some close calls with a couple of states, but in the end our efforts paid off.



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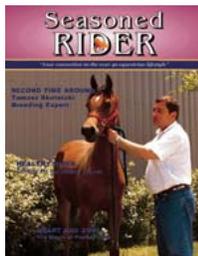
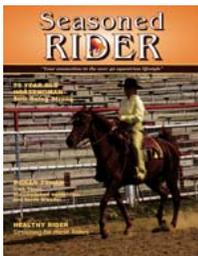
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A Financial Foundation for NATRC

Elaine Swiss

More than two decades ago, NATRC was in serious financial straits. Membership dues and ride income was not keeping pace with expenses and, as a result, the organization was basically bankrupt. Worse, there was no budget and the financial reporting was not sufficient for decision-making, so most of the National Board of Directors and NATRC members did not know how bad the finances were and therefore were unable to fix the problems.

Once informed of the situation, the Board members at that time took many decisive actions. One was to create and fund the NATRC Foundation which is a separate legal entity from NATRC. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide a financial safety net should NATRC find its operating funds depleted. The Foundation by-laws, which can be found on our website, are very specific as to who is responsible for the Foundation (a separate Board of Directors), how funds are to be invested (conservatively) and when they can be accessed.

Today there is about \$75,000 in the Foundation, invested in three major pieces. Half of the money (\$37,500) is invested in an annuity with the Kansas Farm Bureau with an annual income of just under \$1500. About 40% of the Foundation assets are invested in two mutual stock funds with Fidelity Investments and 10% of the money in a non-interest bearing checking account with First Bank in Colorado.

The financial performance of the Foundation is reported by the NATRC Treasurer to the NATRC Board of Directors at each Board meeting and is reported to the membership as part of each financial report in Hoof Print. The Foundation Board of Directors meets annually to elect officers and to discuss and act on fiscal policy matters. Tax returns are filed each year by the Treasurer.

In addition to creating the Foundation, over time the Board enacted better financial reporting. Several years ago the Board adopted a budget and measurement process as well as made software investments to provide better financial reports. These changes help the Board make proactive decisions to avoid serious financial difficulties like those experienced in the past.

This year at its March 2012 Board meeting, the Board officially approved the 2012 budget that had been reviewed at the November 2011 meeting. Through the first six months, income has exceeded the budget and expenses are under budget. Income is up in memberships, sponsorships and the raffle. Expenses are under in Hoof Print, the convention and clinic reimbursements.

While this is good news, we know that we did not assume any growth in membership in the budget so in essence we are treading water as an organization. We also can monitor trends in the ride income and expenses, which are just

slightly under budget through June. If this trend continues in ride income, we know we must take action in marketing or fees to make financial corrections.

With better reporting and the Foundation as a safety net, NATRC is on solid financial ground, enabling the Board, ride managers and members to focus completely on growing this great sport.

NATRC Ride Schedule

Please see current ride schedule at www.natrc.org/RideSchedule/.pdf



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Budget vs. Actuals: 2012 Budget - FY12 P&L

	Total		
	Actual	Budget	over Budget
Income			
40000 Memberships	25,375	24,000	1,375
40010 Platinum Membership Upgrade	1,900	2,000	(100)
41000 Rides	6,913	7,000	(87)
41500 Clinics		0	0
42000 Product Sales	219	425	(206)
43000 Sponsorships	4,774	4,000	774
43500 Raffles	5,469	5,000	469
44000 Hoofprint Ads/Subscriptions	183	360	(177)
45000 Convention and Awards	2,826	1,000	1,826
46000 Trail Advocacy		1,000	(1,000)
47000 Donations	1,453	550	903
48000 Other Income	(5)	0	(5)
49000 Interest Income	1,456	1,650	(194)
Total Income	\$50,563	\$46,985	\$3,578
Gross Profit	\$50,563	\$46,985	\$3,578
Expenses			
*Uncategorized Expenses	0	0	0
50000 Member Dues to Regions	7,480	6,450	1,030
50500 Platinum Membership Upgrades	2,413	2,820	(407)
51000 Ride Costs	349	490	(141)
52000 Clinic Expenses	100	300	(200)
53000 Product Costs		1,000	(1,000)
54000 Marketing	880	900	(20)
54300 Raffle	1,135	1,100	35
54500 Hoofprint	4,103	5,500	(1,397)
55000 Convention and Award Expenses	5,806	6,032	(226)
56000 Trail Advocacy Expenses		0	0
56500 Staff Expenses	16,433	16,355	78
57000 Administrative	4,881	3,360	1,521
59000 Other Expense		20	(20)
Total Expenses	\$43,580	\$44,327	\$ (747)
Net Operating Income	\$6,983	\$2,658	\$4,325
Net Income	\$6,983	\$2,658	\$4,325

National Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Denver, CO, July 14 2012

CALL TO ORDER by Gary Clayton, 8 a.m., July 14, 2012.

ROLL CALL. Dieterich, Ferris, Walls, DeMattei, Pam Galchutt (for Wolgram), Peters, Gould, Cowart, Clayton, JR Kendall (for Lindsey) and Weil present. Laurie DiNatale, Executive Administrator, and Patsy Conner, Sanction Chair and Judges Committee Co-Chair, present. Guest: Louise Vasquez, Judges Committee member.

MINUTES. March 8, 2012. Call for corrections. **Walls moved to accept minutes, DeMattei seconded. Motion approved.**

Webinar meeting on April 24, 2012, included a motion that now needs to be ratified. DiNatale had sent an email with the two options for adding off road vehicle coverage. First option was a flat premium of \$1500 per year. This would need to be billed to rides or absorbed by NATRC. Second option was an increase in the present premium of \$140.50 by \$3.50 per day of competition for a total of \$144.00 per day. **Motion by Swiss, seconded by Ferris, to approve the second option. Motion approved.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Clayton emphasized that this is a volunteer organization and we must spread out the work. Presently a few people are doing the majority of the work. Clayton asked that any BOD members who would like to run for President submit their platforms to the BOD for their consideration before the November meeting.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT. DiNatale sent report with membership numbers.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT. Swiss reviewed her report. We are presently in a good financial situation. Our revenue is up. Membership and ride fee revenue is up. We have not had the cancellations in 2012 that occurred in 2011 with EHV and weather. Raffle was extremely successful. 2013 raffle is set up to succeed. Membership must be driven by the regions. **Motion by Swiss, seconded by Walls, to move our investment portfolio from aggressive stocks to more income and conservative stocks. Motion approved, with authorization given to Swiss to make those modifications.** Clayton asked for financial projections for 2012. Swiss felt that 2012 will be a breakeven year. She doesn't see any proposed actions that would promote growth. Swiss will have tax returns completed by August 15th.

BYLAWS & RULES. Lory Walls (Wayne Hyatt). *List of current rule change proposals on website and in separate article in this issue.*

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. Dieterich. Discussion on Jim Menefee Honorary Lifetime Award. Betty Menefee, the sponsor of the plaque for this award, has recently passed away. Weil suggested that giving a Lifetime Membership is not a sound financial practice any longer. Cowart suggested a NATRC Lifetime Achievement Award instead of the Lifetime Membership. Discussion on whether an achievement award and Worker Hall of Fame award should be combined. Cowart felt that a lifetime achievement award would be a culmination of a lifetime of dedication to NATRC. Patsy Conner offered to sponsor that award plaque with the shift to a Lifetime Achievement Award. Weil offered to take over sponsorship if Conner can no longer sponsor the plaque. Conner also asked that criteria be created for the award, similar to the Horse Hall of Fame criteria. **Motion by Walls, seconded by Ferris, to take the idea to the regions of renaming the Jim Menefee Honorary Lifetime Membership, to the Jim Menefee NATRC Lifetime Achievement Award. Amended by Walls, seconded by Ferris, to state that no lifetime membership will be given with the award. Motion approved.**

PROTEST. Cowart. No current Protests.

PLANNED GIVING. Cowart hopes to have framework for the program in place by 2013. Swiss will write an article for *Hoof Print* on donations through estate planning.

RIDE SANCTION. Patsy Conner distributed and reviewed report. Some regions are struggling with rider numbers. There will be three rides in the winter/spring of 2013 in AZ. Possible buckle series, as is done in Region 4. There were 66 riders at the Air Force Academy ride, including 27 first-time riders. Peters attended several local speaking engagements and a 4-H clinic before the ride to enlist riders and volunteers. Peters reported that this was a one-day ride with two clinics offered the day before. One clinic was on riding with a GPS. Conner needs to know when the Regional Ride Coordinators change. She relies on those coordinators in the sanctioning process. Conner also pointed out that people who agree to mentor new ride managers need to take a hands-on approach, not just tell them what they should do.

BOD Meeting Minutes, *Continued*

CLINIC SANCTION. Linda Clayton. Report filed. Two clinics sanctioned since last report.

MANAGEMENT. Jean Green. Report filed. Swiss is working on recruitment of new ride management for some Region 4 rides.

RULES INTERPRETER. Liz Scott. Sent spreadsheet of RI reports received and comments.

INSURANCE. DiNatale. Nothing to report.

SAFETY. Gould. Has only received one accident report. Indian Territory, a rider marking trail went off her horse and went to the hospital. Gould emphasized safety in the check-in and check-out areas. Gould feels that Horsemanship Judge should stress safety for riders waiting in lines. Discussion on when does an accident report need to be completed. Consensus that anytime someone is hurt, an accident report should be completed.

MARKETING/PUBLICITY. Bev Roberts. Report sent. ENews has been very successful. Roberts will design and send an ENews for any ride. Roberts has been working on redesigning the website.

BUSINESS MODEL AND MEASUREMENTS. Swiss reviewed performance scorecard and budget. Swiss raised ride fee increase question. While some of the urgency of raising fees may have subsided, it will still be needed in the future. An increase of \$5 to member rider fees would bring a projected \$8,000 to the organization. **Motion by Gould, seconded by Cowart, to raise the member rider fee by \$5 starting in 2013.** Discussion. Cowart would like to see a more steady income source so that we won't have to depend on raffles, sponsorships, and/or donations that fluctuate. Walls feels that managers are already struggling to meet expenses. Peters pointed out that managers need to pass the increase on to riders. Question called. **Motion approved, Dieterich, Ferris, Walls and DeMattei opposed.**

SPONSORSHIPS. Swiss submitted a report. We have \$8,750 under contract for 2012 sponsorships. Raffle plans are in progress. Jim Ward is organizing the 2014 raffle and has already received donations from ranches in two regions. He will be working on donations from ranches in the other regions. There will be a limited number of tickets for the 2014 raffle. For the remainder of 2012, 2013 raffle will be held with winner choosing a large prize. Ideas for prizes were discussed. **Motion by Swiss, seconded by Weil, to raffle a choice of three prizes for 2013. Cost will be no more than \$1,500 to NATRC for the selected prize. Motion approved.**

Dieterich revisited the RI Committee. She gave a summary of events at Mt. Diablo ride as RI. Walls asked if any followup action was necessary. Consensus that none is needed.

At Uwharrie, a rider was allowed to take her horse off site during a storm when no shelter was provided. Horsemanship Judge was not consulted. Ride Manager, RI, and Vet Judge made the decision. BOD felt no action was needed.

At Cowboy Camp, a competitor was leading a non-competitor on her horse. BOD felt no action was needed but agreed it could be a liability issue.

ENews will be sent reminding ride managers that people cannot ride in the back of pickup trucks and that, if ATVs are used, state laws must be followed.

MEDIA ADVISORY. Dieterich. Report filed. Swiss reviewed contracts for *Hoof Print* and website. Dieterich reviewed the different roles in the production of *Hoof Print*. Dieterich is looking for content for *Hoof Print*.

JUNIORS. Peters. Full class of Juniors at AFA ride. Region 3 gives a \$30 discount at the first three rides that a Junior member does for the year. Clayton stated that an anonymous donor gives Juniors in Region 5 a \$50 reimbursement for rides, if they are members.

FOUNDATION. Foundation will meet immediately following this meeting.

DRUG TESTING. Jerry Weil, DVM. Four rides have been tested with no positives reported. Discussion on testing.

VETERINARY DRUG COMMITTEE. Michael Peralez, DVM. Dieterich reported that Drug Appendices are posted and kept current on the website.

BOD Meeting Minutes, *Continued*

TRAIL ADVOCACY & GRANTS. Report filed by Erin Glassman. Attended AERC Trails Committee meeting at Reno convention. Glassman will attend the SETC. Has attended two phone conferences for the ELCR. Has written an article for *Endurance News* and *Hoof Print* on Recreational Trails Program. Sends alerts when support is needed on legislative issues regarding trails.

EDUCATION. Jamie Dieterich. Judges Manual has been revised and printed. All Judges and BOD have received one. P&R instructions have been revised with easy directions for P&R Chair and teams.

MEMBERSHIP. Betty Wolgram. Sent report. Wolgram suggested that national and regional memberships be separated. Swiss strongly disagreed with this idea, stating that it would make a National membership irrelevant for many people. She did agree with an affiliate membership.

JUDGES. M. Peralez/P. Conner.

Dieterich reviewed Apprentice and Provisional Vet Judges. Kate Jacobs has completed her Apprenticeship. **Motion by Weil, seconded by Ferris, to approve Kate Jacobs as a NATRC Vet Judge. Motion approved.**

Natalie Goldberger will judge provisionally next weekend in CO. Carrie Porter apprenticed at the Region 5 Benefit ride.

Horsemanship Judges. Conner reviewed report.

The meeting was closed to discuss the Judges Committee's decision to deny the reactivation of a Horsemanship Judge application.

Jerry Sims is in Provisional status. Becky Rogers is in Apprentice status. Mentoring program is working well. A "What Judges Look For" document is on the website.

Discussion on a stipend for Apprentice Vet Judges. They do receive \$200 for their first ride. DiNatale suggested that the Regions may want to help support the Apprentice Vets in their Regions to encourage more judges.

HALL OF FAME. Jackie Coleman. No report.

STUDENT LOAN/SCHOLARSHIPS. DeMattei. No applications received for loans or scholarships.

New applications for both loans or scholarships have been branded. Some discussion on the possibility of using some of the money in Scholarship account to help Vet Judge Apprentices with stipends.

BREED & ORGANIZATION LIAISONS.

A.H.A - Bob Insko. No report.

Breed Liaison - Priscilla Lindsey- no report.

Swiss explained the different areas of the breed association committee. Terry Silver works on year-end breed awards. Priscilla Lindsey is the liaison with all breed organizations except AHA. Bob Insko works with the AHA. Bev Roberts designs ads to be featured in *Hoof Print* for the breed associations.

HONORARY & APPRECIATION. Ruth Mesimer sent report. Mesimer reminded BOD that nominations for appreciation awards are due to her by October 15th. She also asked if the BOD had changes in the criteria for the various awards.

Rule Committee revisited. **Motion by Walls, seconded by Peters, to include a section in the front of Rule Book with the Special Awards, listing winners of the Bev Roberts Horsemanship Award, with criteria for award included in the Policies and Procedures. Although it will not be a rule, the criteria used will be that included in the Rule Change Proposal for the award. Motion approved.**



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BOD Meeting Minutes, *Continued*

ANNUAL POINTS/NATRC DATA. Gloria Becker/Cheri Jeffcoat/Laurie DiNatale. No report.

WEBINAR. Ferris. Ferris will send detailed information on connecting before the meeting.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION. Becker/DiNatale. Consensus that National Recognition be combined with Annual Points/ Data.

CONVENTION 2012. Walls presented a check for \$3,882.75 as the national portion of profit from convention.

CONVENTION 2013. Region 3. Location will be the Hilton Doubletree Denver. February 21-23. BOD meeting on the 21st. Room rates of \$92 which includes breakfast.

CONVENTION 2014. Location has been set in Tulsa, OK. Lee Ann Dreadfulwater will Chair.

Regional Reports

R1-Dieterich. Average of thirty-two riders per ride. Four more rides scheduled. New ride managers. Excellent website and newsletter. Local marketing has been effective.

R2-Walls. Region was busy with convention. Six rides for 2012. Three rides in AZ for 2013.

R3-Peters. Rider numbers are up. Two NM rides.

R4-Swiss. Eight rides already, five more on schedule. Rider numbers are in the forties. A ride in a new location. Working on new manager for Scamper. Excellent newsletter. Working on renewals. 2014 Convention in Tulsa.

R5-Clayton. Six rides so far, four more on schedule. One ride had less than twenty riders. Some have had over forty riders. Benefit Ride was successful with formal dinner.

R6-Kendall. 2011 was tough year for region with EHV and bad weather conditions. Six rides sanctioned, plus clinics. Region will host National Convention in 2015.

Shared BOD amount \$310.38.

Old Business:

1. Electronic Scorecard. Peters stated that a trial of electronic scorecards did not occur at AFA ride. Discussion on the use of electronic scorecards at Robbers Route in 2011. Need volunteer to take over project.
2. Planned giving. Cowart covered earlier.
3. RMS Status. Linda Clayton reported that Peter Yovich of Region 4 is working with Janis Baldwin to learn the system. Peters wondered if there is a way to submit changes to RMS. Gary Clayton asked BOD to make a list of needed changes and he will submit via Linda Clayton.

New Business:

1. Nominations Committee. Ferris asked if there is a conflict if the Chair of Nomination Committee runs for a BOD position.

Walls felt that since the regions are handling the election process, there is really no need for a Nominations Chair. Weil thought we may need a Nominations Chair to remind Regions to do the election. Consensus that "Elections Chair" may be a more appropriate name for position.

Weil has moved to AZ but is representing Region 6 through 2012. Weil maintains a legal address in KS. He will attend November BOD meeting, then a replacement will need to be elected for Region 6.

Peters reminded BOD that Ride Chairs are volunteers, but Judges and BOD are employees and ambassadors of NATRC.

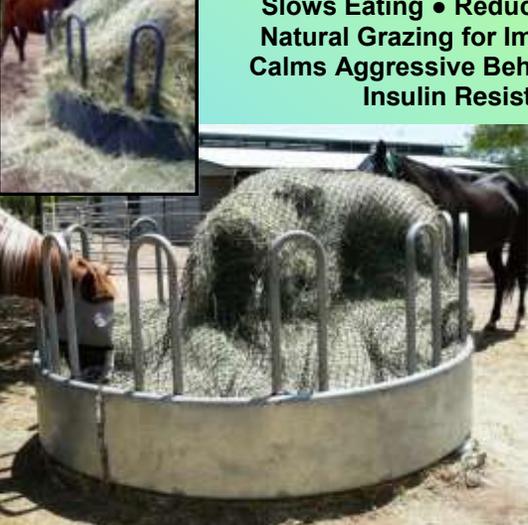
Motion by Walls, seconded by DeMattei, to adjourn. Motion approved.

Minutes on file at National Office.

Next meeting to be held evening of November 9, 2012 (informal discussion) and all day November 10, 2012, at The Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec Street, Denver, Colorado.

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Rule Change Proposals for 2013

Changes (in bold)

Please let your NBOD representatives know how you want them to vote for you.

1. Section 2A.5.f. (page 2-2) reads:

f. To maintain sanctioned ride status:

- (1) A ride must be listed in Hoof Print with the correct date at least once.
- (2) Entry forms must be pre-approved by Sanction Chairman before mailing to members

Change to read:

- (1) A ride must be listed **on the NATRC official web site (with the correct ride date) at least 60 days prior to the ride.**

Purpose: To correct an error in the Rule Book The Hoof Print is no longer published often enough for ride managers to abide by the present wording.

***NBOD voted to continue as an active proposed rule change.*

2. Section 5 I.4. (page 5-3) reads:

4. Riders must remain in the saddle when the horse is in forward motion over the course but may dismount and rest themselves and the horse anytime, provided they do not advance. At any location designated by the trailmaster as hazardous, riders may be instructed to dismount and proceed on foot for a specified distance.

Change to read:

4. Riders must remain in the saddle when the horse is in forward motion over the course but may dismount and rest themselves and the horse anytime, provided they do not advance. At any location designated by the trailmaster, **ride manager, or judges** as hazardous, riders may be instructed to dismount and proceed on foot for a specified distance.

Purpose: To correct the Rule Book since this is often presently done on rides.

***NBOD voted to continue as an active proposed rule change.*

3. Section 6 B.1.e. (page 6-2) reads:

e. P&R scoring will be according to the Judges Committee guidelines.

Change to read:

e. P&R **procedures and** scoring will be according to the Judges Committee guidelines.

Purpose: To clarify that both the process of taking P&R and the scoring of P&R must be according to the Judges guidelines.

***NBOD voted to delete as an active proposed rule change.*

4. Section 10 B.2.a. (page 10-1) reads:

a. National Championship – In Open Division in heavyweight, lightweight and junior classes a horse shall be declared a National Champion when both of the following requirements are met within any three- year period in which rides are held.

Change to read:

a. National Championship – In Open Division in heavyweight, lightweight and junior classes a horse shall be declared a National Champion when both of the following requirements are met within any **consecutive** three-year period in which rides are held.

Purpose: To clarify the three-year period must be consecutive. Note - this is only for Region 1A (Alaska).

***NBOD voted to continue as an active proposed rule change.*

Rule Change Proposals for 2013, cont.

Changes (in bold)

Please let your NBOD representatives know how you want them to vote for you.

5. Section 5 B.4. (page 5-1) reads:

4. Stabling Options **Not Allowed** during competition as primary containment:

- a. Hobbling of any kind
- b. Portable pens/corrals
- c. Staking out in any manner

Changed to read:

4. Stabling Options **Not Allowed** during competition as primary containment:

- a. Hobbling of any kind
- b. **Portable pens/corrals** panels that are not securely anchored to a trailer or a tree
- c. **Portable pens that are constructed of Electric fencing or are flimsy in-**

nature (examples of approved corrals are CarriLite, Preifert or equivalent panels)-

d. Staking out in any manner.

Purpose: To provide the use of certain types of portable corrals/panels.

***NBOD voted to continue as an active proposed rule change with indicated changes.*

6. Section 6. B.1. (page 6-1) reads:

1. Condition 40%: The evaluation of condition shall include, but not be limited to, the following: fatigue, P&R recovery, attitude and willingness, muscle soreness, mucous membrane, azoturia, thumps, hydration and capillary refill, bowel sounds, colic, respiration character, sweat and salivation, coordination, eating and drinking, etc.

Change to read:

1. Condition 40%: The evaluation of condition shall include, but not be limited to, the following: fatigue, P&R recovery, **CRI (cardiac recovery index)**, attitude and willingness, muscle soreness, mucous membrane, **myoglobinuria**, thumps, hydration and capillary refill, bowel sounds, colic, respiration character, sweat and salivation, coordination, eating and drinking, etc.

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- FAMILY**..... \$90 /yr Household of 1 or 2 adults & children under the age of 18 as of Jan 1 (2 votes)
- SINGLE** \$60 /yr Single adult member (1 vote)
- ASSOCIATE**... \$50 /yr Equine-related groups or businesses only (no vote)
- JUNIOR**..... \$40 /yr Single Junior member under age 18 (no vote)

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: One time membership payment.

- FAMILY**..... \$10,000 Household of 1 or 2 adults & children under the age of 18 as of Jan 1 (2 votes)
- SINGLE** \$ 5,000 Single adult member (1 vote)

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- SINGLE** \$ 80 /yr Single adult member (1 vote)

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Convention Package	\$135	\$155	_____
Family Discount <i>(for each add'l family member)</i>	\$ 95	\$115	_____
NBOD Meeting-Thursdays	Free	Free	_____
Speakers – Friday Only	\$ 45	\$ 55	_____
Speakers – Saturday Only	\$ 45	\$ 55	_____
Speakers – Fri & Sat	\$ 90	\$110	_____
National Awards Banquet	\$ 45	\$ 55	_____
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<i>--Dessert- Triple Chocolate Mousse</i>			
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Saturday, Feb. 23

Saturday, Feb. 23

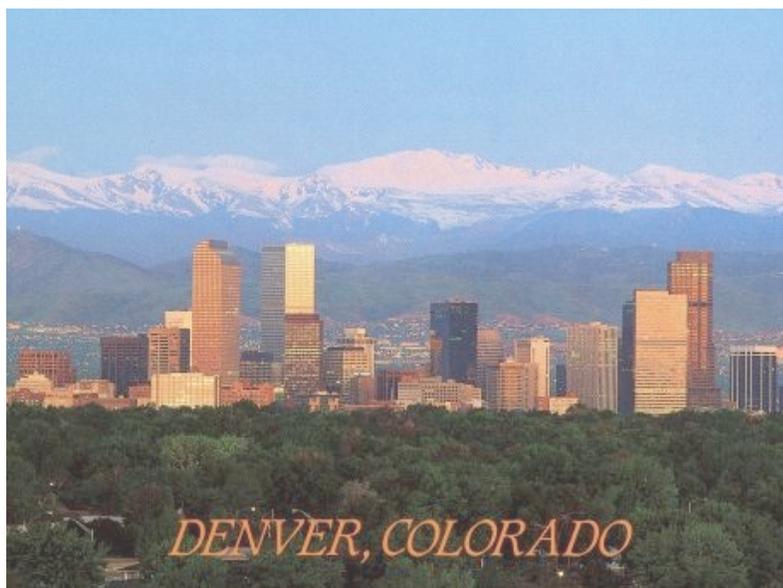
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Speakers/Vendors

Speakers/Vendors

National Awards Banquet

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