

REGION 1 YEAR-END AWARDS PROGRAM

HIGH POINT HORSE & HORSEMANSHIP

Open Division, Adult and Junior classes, 1st through 6th place

CP Division, Adult and Junior classes, 1st through 6th place

Novice Division, Adult and Junior classes, 1st through 6th place

Leisure Division, Experienced, Adult and Junior classes, 1st through 6th place

Requirements for eligibility (apply to all year-end awards involving horses):

1. Rider must be a current member of NATRC/Region 1 no later than the last Sunday in November of the current ride year for a ride to count.
2. Horse or rider must complete a minimum of **two (2) rides of any ride type** in Region 1. **New for 2023.**
3. Only points from Region 1 rides count.
4. Point distribution is the same as national NATRC.

REGION 1 SPECIAL AWARDS:

The following awards have eligibility requirements that are in addition to those above and are detailed in the respective award description.

MAX BARMETTLER AWARD (Honorary Lifetime Membership in Region 1)

The Max Barmettler Award was first given in 1993 in honor of a man who made friends of all over 49 of our 50 states. Born in 1938, Max started NATRC when his wife, Bev, did in 1978. Like many husbands, he was driver and support for his riding spouse. Not one to hang out around camp, he soon became involved working on the P&R teams.

Bev was a horsemanship judge, and she never took a judging job where Max didn't go along and join in the P&R teams, making friends wherever he went. He had a unique ability to be honest and fair with everyone and was often called upon to settle a P&R reading. He eventually became the "Dean" of the Region 1 P&R family, helping develop some of the techniques we use today to ensure the utmost of fairness for all riders; a man loved and respected by all who knew him.

Max did give the riding end of NATRC a try, but after he won a blue ribbon and silver cup from Bev Tibbitts he said, "Enough," and went back to doing P&R's. While primarily known for his work in that area, he also helped chair rides with Bev and provided assistance in many other ways as the situation required. Max passed away in 1992. Fittingly, this award is given in his memory to someone recognized by their outstanding service to Region 1, with first consideration given to those volunteers that men the tranches. (By Bev Barmettler)

Previous Winners

1991 - Tom & Mary Bertken

1993 - Phil Young

1994 - Betty Dever

1995 - Harry Haeussler

1996 - Jean Haugsten

1997 - Rod & Reta Cole

1998 - Karel Waugh

1999 - Steve Meroshnekoff

2000 - Jim & Jan Jeffers

2001 - Kathy Nixon

2002 - Maryetta Stebbins

2003 - Kevin Wilson

2004 - Emma McCrary

2005 - Betty Young

2006 - Jim Ferris

2007 - Not awarded

2008 - Angie Meroshnekoff

2009 - Linda Thomason

2010 - Chere Bargar

2011 - Jamie Dieterich

2012 - Josette Braut & Jim Shura

2013 - Not awarded

2014 - Not awarded

2015 - Lee Cannon

2016 - 2021 - Not awarded

2022 - Jean Armer

BOB SMITH PERPETUAL AWARD:

Presented to the High Point first year Novice and/or Competitive Pleasure Division horse, regardless of class. Based on the NATRC point system. If a tie should occur, the winner shall be the horse that has won first place on the greatest number of rides. If a tie still exists, the most second place finishes, third place finishes, etc. shall be used until the tie is broken. For purposes of this award, a “first year horse” is one that has never previously competed in NATRC or been ridden DO in any previous year.

BOB SMITH

Anyone who ever met Bob Smith had the unique experience of going back in time to the days of the old Spanish Reinsmen when horses took years to make but were true works of art when “finished”. Born in Oklahoma in 1910, his parents worked in Buffalo Bill’s “Wild West Show” as a trick riding and roping act. Occasionally they would combine acts with their friend, Will Rogers. The Wild West Show eventually took them to California where silent movies offered more money. Although Bob grew up surrounded by friends like Slim Pickens, John Wayne and Tom Mix who struggled hard and eventually made it in the film world, Bob wanted to be a horseman. Polo was the game of choice for the very wealthy who employed top reinsmen to train their horses. It was here he learned there were no shortcuts or gimmicks if you wanted the best—only patience, understanding the mind of the horse, and time.

Bob went on to play polo professionally and was known as the Babe Ruth of polo, being the longest hitter of his day. His eight-goal rating took him all over the world but never for too long as he had “horses to work.”

When his wife, Nancy (now Kasovich), excitedly told him about NATRC in 1961 his comment was “Well, do it right. Spend the same time in training and conditioning as you would in any other horse sport. Don’t rush them and your finished horse will go soundly and happily down the trail into his twenties. Remember, many are horse riders, few are horsemen”.

Bob died in 1977. The inscription on the back of the High Point First Year Novice-CP Horse reads simply: “In memory of Bob Smith, — Horseman 1910-1977”.
(By Nancy Kasovich, formerly Nancy Smith)

Past recipients:

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| 1987 - Majik / John Clarey | 2004 - El Morafics Shalom / Lynne Hutnick |
| 1988 - Exzelsor / Leigh Perrona | 2005 - WK Spring Sonnet / Joe Dillard |
| 1989 - Razaaba / Ralph Dever | 2006 - Phantom Dusk / Gene Boicelli |
| 1990 - Nancy’s Cameo / Shannon Mitchell | 2007 - The Terminacre / Alice Tavare |
| 1991 - Zarraba / Ralph Dever | 2008 - NB Nike / Nancy Bacon |
| 1992 - Running Bear / Barbara Lieberman | 2009 - Malikah / Karina Hoog |
| 1993 - WMU Zeus / Ralph Dever | 2010 - Virga BL / Ashley Dillard |
| 1994 - Sierra Spring / Angie Meroshnekoff | 2011 - La Paloma Dream / Ashley Dillard |
| 1995 - AA Sierra Sprite / Mary Chandler | 2012 - CC Honey Dew / Tanya Ballard |
| 1996 - WW Steeleaseyn / Ashley Stone | 2013 - HM Raina Bo Surely / Haley Schlerf |
| 1997 - Hot Request / Pam Frank (Tie) | 2014 - Carson El Maj / Karlie Johnson |
| 1997 - Miss Lindy / Jan Jeffers (Tie) | 2015 - Nausicca Maj / Karlie Johnson |
| 1998 - Mozart / J an Jeffers | 2016 - Chism / Micheline Pino |
| 1999 - Strength of Steel / Carolyn Johnson | 2017 - OM El Sharav / Ashley Dillard |
| 2000 - Arrmita / Ralph Dever | 2018 - Rocket / Aubrey Fansler |
| 2001 - Cimarron AL / Jean Armer | 2019 - Sugar Roan Warrior / Anais Monlux |
| 2002 - Avalonn / Susan Dockter | 2021 - CH-Eirelands Irish / Joyce Driggers |
| 2003 - Aassifah / J osette Brault | 2022 - Dorothy / Ember Hansen |

PAT ERSEPKE MEMORIAL AWARD:

Presented to the High Point Novice Horse/Rider combination in Region 1. Based on the NATRC point system. If a tie should occur, the winner shall be the horse/rider team that has the greatest total number of horse and rider first place finishes. If a tie still exists, the most second place finishes, third place finishes, etc. shall be used until the tie is broken. To be eligible for this award the horse/rider combination must complete four (4) Region 1 rides in the Novice Division.

PAT ERSEPKE

Pat was a Physical Education Instructor at Archbishop Mitty High School in San Jose. She served as the Director of Women's Programs there for 10 years. In the late 70's she was offered a horse named "Papoose" by one of her students who was leaving for college. From that day, her world changed. Harry Haeussler, a friend and local horseman suggested she try competitive trail riding with NATRC. Pat's work began. All her life she had competed in sports, however she said that this had to be the greatest! Her joy of this sport and her enthusiasm were contagious.

Did anyone ever see her without a smile when she talked about horses or NATRC? A quote from a letter she wrote about her horse: "Papoose has reinforced my appreciation for people, nature and animals in my life".

Pat and her close friend and riding companion, Mary Jackson, were invited to be co-guest speakers for novice riders at the Region 1 Convention in 1984 in Concord, CA. At the time, Pat had already been struggling for 2 years with cancer. As she said to Mary later, "If I could live any time over again, it would be the first year we shared as novices".

Pat was also a featured rider in Doni Hubbard's first book, "Favorite Trails of Northern California", and served on the NATRC Region 1 Board of Directors.

Pat succumbed to her cancer in 1985 and, in her memory, Mary created the Pat Ersepke Memorial Perpetual Trophy in the Novice Division to encourage novice riders to dedicate themselves and to make their achievements more special.

Past recipients:

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| 1985 - Pacer / Brenda Pawlo | 2004 - Polaris / Denise Tortorelli |
| 1986 - Aza Sudan / Linda J. Clark | 2005 - El Nabiyah / Debra Foote |
| 1987 - Erik Rebel / Judy Gede | 2006 - Cassanova / Susan Stillman |
| 1988 - Exzelsor / Leigh Perona | 2007 - Deux Chausette / Mary Jones |
| 1989 - El Layl / Shirley Brown | 2008 - JB Rockem Sockem Red / Olivia Armstrong |
| 1990 - Last Chance / Jerry Hlavac | 2009 - Jazz / Doug Brown |
| 1991 - SK Summer Motions / Yaffa Levine | 2010 - Tango Sierra / Laura Harvey |
| 1992 - Cherokee's Pride / Mica Hart | 2011 - Sierra Sunshine / Donna Stidolph |
| 1993 - Spanish Capitan / Amanda Ayres | 2012 - Shayla / Maleah Ikerd |
| 1994 - Destiny Dawn / Donna Hlavac | 2013 - Shayla / Maleah Ikerd |
| 1995 - Miss Corey / Candy Stevenson | 2014 - Carson El Maj / Karlie Johnson |
| 1996 - Mtn. Mist Mirage / Marilyn Orlando | 2015 - Lucky Eddie / Kirsten Johnson |
| 1997 - Andrakhan / Pat Meehan | 2016 - Lucky Eddie / Claire Cichocki |
| 1998 - IBN Baskaborr / Lynnette Love | 2017 - Desert Whiskey / Claire Cichocki |
| 1999 - Raybars Golden Lady / Maureen Olson | 2018 - Rocket / Aubrey Fansler |
| 2000 - The Balias Emerald / Christine Sparks | 2019 - Sugar Roan Warrior / Anais Monlus |
| 2001 - Oryx Sakkar / Suzanne Brady | 2021 - CH-Eirelands Irish / Joyce Driggers |
| 2002 - Moose / Jennifer Heim | 2022 - Dorothy / Ember Hansen |
| 2003 - That Beau / Debbie Murphy | |

OPEN HORSE AWARD (In memory of Fran & Carol Duport):

Presented to the High Point first-year Open Division horse, regardless of class. Based on the NATRC point system. If a tie should occur, the winner shall be the horse that has won first place on the greatest number of rides. If a tie still exists, the most second place finishes, third place finishes, etc. shall be used until the tie is broken. For purposes of this award, a "first year horse" is one that has never previously competed in the Open Division or been ridden or DO in the Open Division in any previous year.

FRAN & CAROL DUPORT

Fran & Carol were fine examples of the kind of competitors NATRC develops. They exhibited, first and foremost, a true love for their horses that naturally carried over into NATRC. They always remembered to have fun—while still remaining competitive. They rode in all divisions, encouraging Juniors, first time riders and fellow competitors alike. Fran & Carol understood the time and patience it takes to ride a first year horse to award level, and, to that end, this award is given in their memory. (By Lynda Burch)

Past recipients:

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| 1990 - Nhaad / Jean Armer | 2004 - Avalonn / Susan Dockter |
| 1991 - BR Azerix / Nora Cook | 2005 - Aassifah / Josette Brault |
| 1992 - MS Bey Shadow / Lynne Landis | 2006 - Ibn El Barak / Laura Berkley |
| 1993 - The Bene Geserit / Bev Barmettler | 2007 - Phantom Dusk / Gene Boicelli |
| 1994 - San La Fyrestrike / Irene King | 2008 - Canadian Diamonte / Sue Flagg |
| 1995 - JJ Flashezer / Nancy Kasovich | 2009 - JB Rockem Sockem Red / Olivia Armstrong |
| 1996 - Starskees PlainJane / Sue Flagg | 2010 - Lady Tigers Hysyn / Hayley Schlerf |
| 1997 - Mtn Mist Mirage / Marilyn Orlando | 2011 - Take-A-Walkaloosa / Lucie Hess |
| 1998 - Bez's Skyrocket / Sheri Krueger | 2012 - Sierra Sunshine / Donna Stidolph |
| 1999 - Elmer's Lover Moon / Nancy Kasovich | 2013 - Tango Sierra / Laura Harvey |
| 2000 - SQR Mondragon / Jan Jeffers | 2014 - Palistar / Stephanie Swain |
| 2001 - Strength of Steel / Carolyn Johnson | 2018 - Spantik Maj / Natalie Nidersot |
| 2002 - Coco / Alicia Dayton | 2019 - High Desert Warrior / Claire Cichocki |
| 2003 - Cimarron AL / Jean Armer | |

BARTHART REGION 1 HIGH AVERAGE AWARD

Presented to the Region 1 Open Division horse that has the highest average score rather than the highest number of points. Only R1 Open division rides shall count. R1 must be the primary region for both horse and rider.

1. To qualify, horses competing for this award must start on a minimum of six R1 Open division rides during the year. "A" ride = 1 ride, "B" = 1/2, "AA" = 1 1/2.
2. If a horse has multiple riders, they must all be current members of R1 no later than the second Sunday in November of the current ride year.
3. A minimum average score of 97% must be attained to receive this award.
4. Every R1 ride which the horse starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the Open Division. A horse shall have started a ride when it is timed out on the first day of the ride.
5. In the event of a tie in the high average scores at the end of the year, the winner shall be the horse that has won first place on the greatest number of rides. If a tie still exists, the most second place finishes, third place finishes etc. shall be used until the tie is broken.
6. The average score of each horse shall be determined by adding the "percentage scores" from each ride started and dividing by the sum of rides started (as defined in item 1. above). The "percentage score" is calculated by dividing the individual horse's score by the highest score (sweepstakes) on that ride and multiplying by a factor for the ride type (B = 1/2, A = 1, AA= 1 1/2).

BARTHART

Bart is one of NATRC's National Hall of Fame horses. He was ridden by his owner, Betty Young, and her son, David, in the Open Lightweight & Open Junior classes from 1984 to 1997. When he was retired from competition, he had accumulated nearly 7,200 NATRC miles, the most for any Region 1 horse and the fifth highest nationally, at that time. His trademarks were his durability and consistently high level of excellence. His many NATRC achievements include: National Grand Champion (High Average) in 1985, Reserve Grand Champion numerous times, National Reserve Open Lightweight Champion in 1988 and nine National Championships. He was the R1 High Point winner in his division for many years. His toughness and durability were also shown when he completed the Tevis 100-mile endurance race both times he was entered (1990 & 1992). In 1992, at the "ripe old age" of 18, he was the oldest horse to finish.

Although his athletic achievements were impressive, it was his character that was most cherished by his owners: self- confidence and independence, a fierce competitive spirit, honesty and reliability, an abundance of personality, and tremendous pride in doing his job well. As Betty said, when Bart was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1992, "he is a kind and wonderful friend, companion and partner, and he will be treasured by our family always".

Since Bart's hallmark was his exceptional consistency, this perpetual Region 1 award was established in his name to encourage and reward that kind of consistently superior performance by horses in the Open Division.

Past recipients:

1997 - JJ Flashezer / Nancy Kasovich
1998 - Prince Alla Baha / Ellen Lovett
1999 - Elmer's Lover Moon / Nancy Kasovich
2000 - Prince Alla Baha / Ellen Lovett
2001 - Elmer's Lover Moon / Nancy Kasovich
2002 - Steelie Dan / Carolyn Johnson
2003 - Symplicity Sue / Nancy Bacon
2004 - Desert Reinbeau / Angie Meroshnekoff
2005 - Desert Reinbeau / Angie Meroshnekoff
2006 - Ibn El Barak / Laura Berkley
2007-2022 - Qualifications not met