

The Leadline

The Voice of NATRC Region 1 Competitive Trail Riding



www.natrcregion1.org

Fall / Winter 2018

2018 Round Valley "C" Ride

By Linda Thomason

Ride management was hesitant to explore putting on a "C" ride at Round Valley, as it would be challenging to develop a 10-mile ride and to enlist additional support personnel in order to provide a positive, fun experience.

However, a plan was developed, and we moved forward. Hardy Trail was selected as it was the only trail that offered a low to moderately challenging terrain with enough mileage. In order to accomplish this, the ride had to be an out-and-back format, but things always look different to both horse and rider when doing them in reverse. So, we went with it.

Several wonderful folks stepped up to help. Debbie Murphy volunteered to be the "judge", Chris Barn-

hart offered to be a mentor/safety rider for the "C" rider group, and Jessie Simons came on board as the scribe for Debbie. Rider packets were made up by Debbie and Linda Thomason, a judges' binder was created using out-of-date scorecards, an older set of bibs was washed and untangled, and we were off and running!

Many thanks also go to Robin Berwick for trailering her horse to Round Valley so Chris Barnhart could ride as the mentor/safety rider. Chris' horse suffered an injury shortly before the event, and Robin graciously stepped in to help. Kudos also to Chris who mounted and rode off on a horse she'd never ridden before and set the example for all the new competitors. Quite the horse-woman!

Nine "C" riders entered. Most arrived Friday afternoon and benefited from watching the "A" and "B" riders check in. We were able to meet them socially over the Friday potluck dinner and answer questions regarding camping setup and the ride in general. Debbie was ambassador extraordinaire. She introduced herself to each of the "C" riders and was there 100% to answer questions and provide support. The reigning motto of the weekend was "there is no dumb question except the one that isn't asked". New riders were encouraged by the atmosphere of openness and less stress since the "judge" was a fellow rider. They were there to learn, to experience what competitive trail riding entailed, and to see if this

was a sport they could enjoy and have fun participating in.

On Saturday afternoon after the ride, there were many smiling faces and positive comments. Having the opportunity to experience competitive trail riding in such a supportive environment allowed the "C" riders to push themselves a bit further than they normally might have, to try things on the trail that some had not tried before, and to feel more confident that they could return home and continue to train their horses to become safer and more dependable trail mounts.

Training a good trail horse encompasses aspects of all disciplines. The horse must learn to trust and listen to its human partner, to move off the rider's leg, to stand still and safely allow the rider (Continued on [page 2](#))



C rider Ros Davidson and Rocky

Photo by Kimberly Naugle, used with permission

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to mount, and to be touched and worked with. The human partners must educate themselves and learn to be the leaders they expect their horses to believe they are. I participated in hunter jumper and dressage in the past, but felt that the working relationship between a good trail rider and a good trail horse was deeper than either of the other disciplines in which I rode. You spend many more hours together and learn to interpret each other's body language in a unique way.

I've focused on the "C" ride volunteers, but the entire ride depends on the generosity of all volunteers. As with most rides, there is always the last-minute switching around of the volunteer positions due to illness, injuries, etc. Everyone graciously jumped in wherever needed. As part of the ride management team, I can tell you that we are always appreciative of the help received. So, if you can't ride, there is a myriad of other spots that need filling at rides, and we always are grateful for our volunteers.

The Region 1 NATRC family welcomes all the new riders and hopes to see them again in 2019.

Welcome to Competitive Trail Riding!



Megan Mangiaracina and Cozmo

Photo by Kimberly Naugle, used with permission



Tara Gee and Nique

Photo by Kimberly Naugle, used with permission



Safety rider Lynn Burnham

Photo by Kimberly Naugle, used with permission

THE LEADLINE is the official publication of Region 1 of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC). The Leadline is published three times per year and mailed or emailed to all NATRC Region 1 members. It is available by subscription to non-Region 1 members at \$8 per year. Issues contain updated information from Region 1 committees, point standings, minutes of board meetings, and the current Region 1 ride schedule. Send subscription requests and payments (made out to NATRC Region 1) to Sheila Christiansen, 13040 Ivie Road, Herald, CA 95638. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to Laurie Knuutila, 455 Ream Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99712 or email to wildrosephd@yahoo.com. NATRC Region 1 and The Leadline do not necessarily endorse or support the opinions expressed in printed articles or advertisements. The Editor reserves the right to edit material as necessary. No letters to the Editor will be printed if not signed. NATRC and the staff of The Leadline are not responsible for errors in spelling of horses' or riders' names.

Deadlines:

Spring issue - Submission: April 15; Publication: May 1
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Fall/Winter issue - Submission: Dec 15; Publication: Jan. 1

Advertising rates per issue:

Full page—\$40
Half page—\$20
Quarter page—\$10
Business card—\$5

Classified ads are free to Region 1 members in good standing, one per issue, up to 30 words. Submit ads to the Editor via email or as hard copies via regular mail; hard copies will be scanned as submitted. Make checks payable to NATRC Region 1.

From the Region 1 Board Chair...

I don't know how it's been where you are, but between the smoke and the rain (don't get me wrong – I'm REALLY grateful for the rain), and the holidays, I haven't had a chance to do much riding or to commune with my horse or my horse-crazy friends. And our first NATRC ride isn't until MAY!

I'm the kind of person who needs something to look forward to, and my choice for this winter is . . . THE CONVENTION.

I always enjoy our mini-conventions, and I always learn something from them. As a matter of fact I was re-reading Kirk Adkins' previous presentation on hoof trimming just last week. (It's on the R1 website, you know.)

In 2019, though,

- AERC and NATRC are partnering and holding national conventions together.
- The speaker lineup is always incredible.
- Region 1 and Region 2 are having their awards breakfast together.
- There is a trade show that has so much irresistible stuff that my credit card is smoking before someone does an intervention and gets me out of there!

The national convention is a big enough deal that really impressive speakers are willing to make the trip. Each of the speakers is a specialist in some aspect of keeping the horse sound over long distances – a concern we definitely share with the AERC community. And having breakfast with Region 2 will allow me to meet some of their riders and hear about their rides – and if they sound good, well, it's not THAT far to southern California. And we might even inspire some of their riders to join us at some of ours.

I don't have to explain why the trade show is attractive, do I?

Finally, a real attraction for me is that I'll be surrounded by lots of people who share my love of horses and trail riding. You know you're in the right place when every conversation you overhear in the elevator piques your interest!

So. Put it on your calendar: March 7 – 9 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno. The registration form is on the NATRC National website and in *Hoof Print*. See you there!

Donna Stidolph

Old Timers – A Bit of History

The photo below was taken by Linda Thomason at the Fall Fiesta ride in October. The people in the photo represent a lot of history of NATRC in California. They are, left to right, Leroy Burnham, DVM, Nancy Kasovich, Ashley Dillard and Joe Dillard.

Leroy Burnham, DVM

As a senior veterinary student, Leroy was on classmate Bill Throgmorton's team studying pulse and respiration values on horses competing on the Mt. Diablo Ride in 1962. Soon he was told, "Here's how you judge a ride – now go do it." He has been judging NATRC and endurance rides all over the country ever since.

Nancy Kasovich

Nancy rode her first NATRC ride in Mt. Diablo in the early 1960's. She has been a highly respected horsemanship judge since she got her card in 1971. She is a respected horse trainer and for years has been the "Lady to See" when someone is looking for a good

NATRC horse. She served on the R1 Board of Directors, on the National Board of Directors, and as NATRC President. She chaired the committee that developed the CP Division.

Ashley and Joe Dillard

Ashley rode the first ride in 1961, and Joe rode the second in 1962. They rarely miss competing in a ride.



Region 1 Board of Directors

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See www.natrc.org for a complete list of National Board members and Committees.



March 7-9, 2019

**Grand Sierra
Resort,
Reno, Nevada**



*Trail of Two
Hearts*

**Speakers
Country Music
Vendors
Silent Auction
Hospitality Suite
Banquet
Awards
Co-Host AERC
Raffle
Free Shuttle
Free Parking**

Convention Chair
Lory Walls
619-895-0491
lorywalls6@gmail.com

Website:
www.natrc.org

NATIONAL CONVENTION 2019

NATRC is hosting the 2019 National Convention in partnership with AERC at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada. Watch www.natrc.org for updates. Make room reservations directly with the resort. For the best rates, our room block is under AERC's online hotel passkey link. Please mention NATRC when making your reservations by telephone. Either way guarantees that NATRC obtains credit for the rooms booked. Rates for activities and meeting rooms depend on the number of rooms booked; your support is appreciated.

Friday Night Entertainment - Sponsored by NATRC

Country party with the Country Kickers. For the finest in classic and contemporary country music, Paul Perryman and the country band are unbeatable. With a repertoire that spans over 75 years and a song list that includes over 2000 songs covering bluegrass, country music, classic rock, western swing, and even adult contemporary, The Country Kickers is one of the most versatile, most sought after bands in Reno. You will remember an evening with this crowd pleasing, show stopping band for a very long time!



Fun for the whole family. Free airport shuttle. Free parking.

Enjoy a mini-vacation at the Grand Sierra Resort. Children 17 and under stay free in their parents' or guardian's room. Roll away beds available. Free Wi-Fi. Pets allowed in specific rooms (see hotel website for details). On site entertainment includes movie theatres, bowling, restaurants, health spa, shopping, galleries, exercise rooms, and of course, gaming. Nearby Truckee River and Recreation Trail.



NATRC Hospitality Suite

Open Thursday evening for picking up registration packets, during speaker breaks, after the Friday night entertainment, and after the Saturday awards dinner. Join friends for snacks, drinks and discussion of the day's events. The "official" gathering place for NATRC attendees and their guests. Refreshment donations suggested. Silent Auction items on display.



Speakers



The speaker schedule will be posted as soon as it is final. Speaker fees:
Friday: Single: \$45.00 - Additional Family Members: \$25.00 each
After 2/22/19: \$55 / \$35
Saturday: Same as for Friday.

Each registree will receive a colored bracelet allowing entry to the speaker seminars. Separate colored bracelets will be issued for Friday and Saturday.

Awards

Saturday Evening: Dinner, awards, and Riding Warehouse gift cards raffle drawing.
Sunday Morning: Region 1 Awards Breakfast



Registration

Registration forms are available on our website and from the convention chair. Packets will be available Thursday evening in the hospitality suite and Friday and Saturday in the vendor hall.



Payment

Payment may be made by check or cash (on site only for cash). Please call if you have questions.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact the convention chair to volunteer. We need help with registration, shifts at the our booth in the vendor hall and other "jobs." Pitch in. Help your convention succeed!



SILENT AUCTION ITEM DONATIONS NEEDED

These need not be equestrian related. Items such as wine, gift baskets, wood carvings, art work, and weekend escapes are great auction items. Don't be shy. This is a major NATRC fundraiser. Contact the convention chair if you have questions.

**Support NATRC and competitive trail riding
AND enjoy a fun and educational weekend.**

CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Seminar Theme - Ride. Integrity. Determination. Education.

Meet some of the speakers.

Yvette Nout-Lomas, DVM

Assistant Professor of Equine Internal Medicine, boarded by both the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Medicine.

Dr. Nout-Lomas' clinical interests - horses with neurologic disorders and critically ill foals and horses. As part of a team at CSU providing specialty care to horses, her research goal is to improve diagnostic capabilities and treatment options for these horses. In particular her research is focused on gait assessment, comparative neuroscience, and spinal cord injury.

Kenneth L. Marcella, DVM

Graduate of Dartmouth College and the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University. Was assistant professor of Comparative Medicine at the University of Virginia and part of the veterinary staff for the '96 Olympic Games. Now in private practice.

Dr. Marcella places special emphasis on lameness and sports medicine in his practice. He teaches continuing education and hosts students at his practice. As an FEI vet for over 25 years, he is a veterinary selector with the US endurance team. He is one of the few FEI 4* rated endurance vets in the country and travels nationally and internationally working with athletes and their riders at the highest level of their sport.

Margaret Brosnahan, DVM

Clinical interests: Neonatology, infectious diseases, cardiology, gastrointestinal diseases, exercise physiology and athletic performance, equine welfare.

Dr. Margaret Brosnahan works as an academic veterinarian allowing her to integrate the three things she truly enjoys doing: looking after the health and well-being of all horses from backyard pets to performance athletes, educating the veterinarians of the future, and conducting research in the areas of infectious diseases and immunology and to ensure the continual improvement of care for all equine patients.

Langdon Fielding, DVM

Graduate of Harvard University and the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Internship at Texas A&M. Board certified in the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation.

A life long equestrian, Dr. Fielding finished the Tevis at age 17 and again in 2010. He has over 30 research publications on topics from electrolyte and fluid therapy, emergency medicine, endurance horses, to neonatal foals, and co-edited *Equine Fluid Therapy*, the only text focused on fluid and electrolytes in horses. Now pursuing an MBA at the University of Pennsylvania, his goal is to bring high quality vet medicine to as many horses as possible.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Please use one form per registrant

Name: _____ Email: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (home): _____ Other: _____

Discounts: Family – If registering as an additional family member please indicate the primary registrant's name here to obtain the discount: _____

Early Bird - Register by February 22 and save. See table below right.

Banquet Reservation Due on or before: 2/22/19

Registration Cancellation Fees: \$15 fee before 2/22/19; \$30 after 2/22/19. **No Show/No Refund.**

Convention Updates: See www.natrc.org

Friday night entertainment by "The Country Kickers"; free with speaker registration. \$10.00 at the door.

Room Reservations - Make directly with:
Grand Sierra Resort.
Room block is under AERC.
Don't worry – we'll find you!
Use passkey
<https://book.passkey.com/event/49648521/owner/16854/home>

Or

Contact the Grand Sierra Resort at 1-800-501-2651 and mention NATRC
<https://www.grandsierraresort.com>

Convention Registration - Make checks payable to: NATRC 2
Mail checks and registration forms to:
2250 E Marks Ridge Rd
Garfield, KY 40140

Item	Fee		Am't
	Before 2/22/19	After 2/22/19	
NBOD Meeting 3/7/19	Free	Free	
Speakers – Friday	\$ 45	\$ 55	
Additional family member	\$ 25	\$ 35	
Speakers – Saturday	\$ 45	\$ 55	
Additional family member	\$ 25	\$ 35	
Entertainment – Friday Free with speaker registration			
National Awards Banquet			
Lemon Rosemary Chicken	\$ 40	\$ 45	
Grilled Salmon			
Vegetable Turnover			
R1/R2 Awards Breakfast Sunday, March 10, 2019	\$ 25	\$25	
TOTAL			

March 7-9, 2019

**Grand Sierra
Resort,
Reno, Nevada**



*Trail of Two
Hearts*

Fun

Camaraderie

Learning

Shopping

Dining

Gaming

Relaxing

Theaters

Galleries

Spas

Convention Chair

Lory Walls
619-895-0491
lorywalls6@gmail.com

Website:

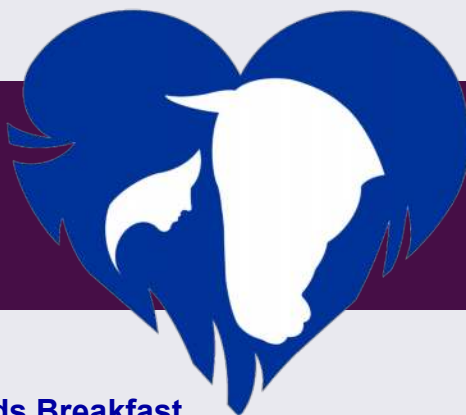
www.natrc.org

R1 / R2 AWARDS BREAKFAST

Sunday March 10, 2019

Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, Reno, NV

*Trail of Two
Hearts*



Please joins us for the
Region 1 / Region 2 Awards Breakfast
Sunday morning following the national convention.

9:00 am R1/R2 Breakfast and General Meeting

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, ham and Gruyere cheese croissant, fresh seasonal melon, broiled tomato, orange juice, assorted pastries, assorted jams and jellies, butter, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, or herbal tea. *Register [here](#). Price (\$25) includes tax and tip.*

General Meeting: Includes election of R1 BOD. For an absentee ballot, contact Stephanie Swain at stephswain@earthlink.net if unable to attend.

9:30 am Awards Presentation

11:30 am BOD Meetings. Feel free to attend.

Contact: Lory Walls, 619-895-0491, lorywalls6@gmail.com

**NORTH AMERICAN
TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE**



A Word From Your Newsletter Editor...

Greetings from the heart of Region 1A, Fairbanks, Alaska! We are deep into our long, dark winter, but we're past solstice and already the days are getting longer!

This is my last issue as Editor of this newsletter. I've asked the Region 1 Board of Directors to find a replacement for me. I've been doing this job for just about 10 years now, and I've enjoyed it! It's been my way to give back to NATRC and the sport that I love from my remote location here in the Far North. But I feel that it's time for new energy and ideas to be brought to the job. So look for some changes to your newsletter. And give your wholehearted support to the new editor by supplying ride stories and photos to be used in the newsletter.

I will be at the National Convention in Reno in March and I hope to get to see many of you there. I'm looking forward to a great time with all of the NATRC family!

I will be managing and acting as trail master for the Challenge of the North ride to be held here in Fairbanks in July, another way of giving back to the sport of CTR. And I'm also planning on participating in a new-to-me horse sport, Working Equitation. Add to that the fact that I have a young Half Arab colt to train, and my horse life will certainly be busy!

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in March in Reno!

Laurie Knuutila

NATRC Student Loan Program

Student loans are available up to \$5,000 per person /year, at the discretion of the NATRC National Board of Directors, after proper application has been submitted. Preference will be given to a full-time student who has been a member of NATRC or whose family has been an active member for at least 3 years. Consideration will also be given to a student or a student's family who has been an active member of NATRC for less than 3 years but more than 6 months.

For more details and an application, please go to: www.natrc.org.

Junior Rider Rebate

Junior riders who are NATRC members by the second Sunday in November of a ride year and complete 3 or more rides in that same ride year are eligible to receive a rebate of \$30 per completed ride for up to 3 rides. The deadline to apply is December 1. Please contact [Linda Thomason](#), R1 Treasurer, for more details.



Marion Inez (Robie) Arnold

August 8, 1945 – June 15, 2018

Marion Inez (Robie) Arnold of Newcastle, CA, passed away peacefully in the early hours of Friday, June 15, 2018. Marion was a noted horsewoman and pioneer in the sport of endurance riding.

Marion was born on August 8, 1945 to John and Elizabeth (Kangas) Robie in Sacramento, CA. She is survived by her loving son, Wendell C. Arnold of Newark, CA, her beloved grandchildren Emma, Lilla, and Samuel Arnold, her devoted sisters Wendy Robie of Chicago, IL and Marcie Chester of Lithia, FL, her loving nephew Xo Larimer of Berkely, CA, cousin Suann Stone of Tahoe, CA, and many life-long friends.

Inspired by her grandfather, Wendell T. Robie, Marion learned to ride before she could walk. Arabian horses, trail riding and endurance riding became her life's passions. In 1958, at the age of 12, Marion finished the (now) historic 100-Miles-One-Day Western States Trail Ride (colloquially called the Tevis Cup) that was founded by her grandfather. She would go on the finish the ride 10 more times, winning in 1969. Her eleventh and final completion was in 1994 with her son.

Shortly after her final Western States Trail Ride, she transitioned to NATRC where she rode and worked tirelessly. She will especially be remembered for an

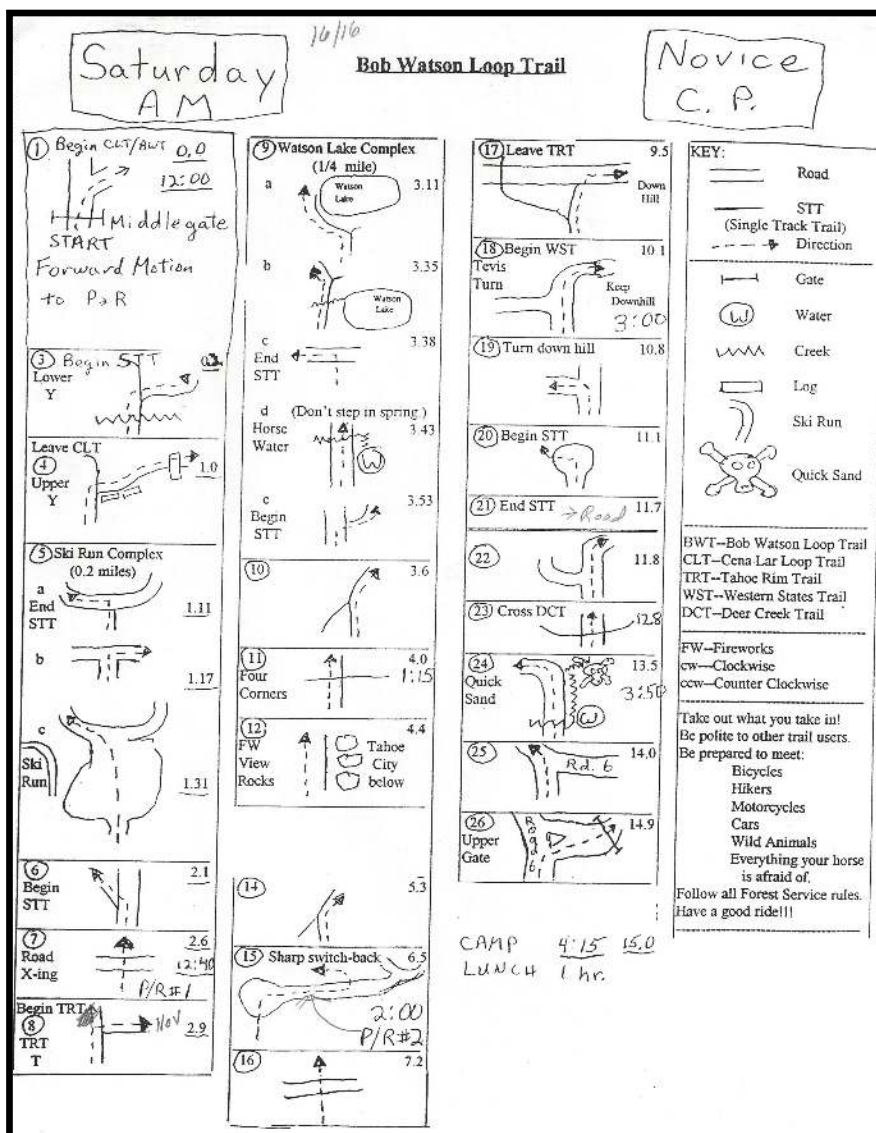


NATRC event that she co-chaired out of Robie Park in Truckee. She was one of the founders of the Amer-

ican Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) and was elected to their Hall of Fame in 1982. She was also a founding member, and former president, of the Wendell and Inez Robie Foundation.

After graduating from Placer High School, class of 1963, as a National Merit Scholar, Marion attended Wellesley College and California State University, Hayward, graduating with a major in mathematics, teaching math shortly thereafter. Marion enlisted in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and cared for newborns at the base hospital at Travis Air Force Base.

Marion's family is proud of her military service. But it was in promoting and celebrating riding and conserving the historic emigrant trails of the High Sierra mountains where she made her mark. Marion will be sorely missed by all who love the mountains and who know we love them best from atop a horse.



Robie Ride Map

Those who rode Marion's ride out of Robie Park will never forget her maps. Because the usual ribbons didn't seem to stay up very long, Marion's map depicted every intersection and which way to go. Some said her maps were like a Chinese Take-Out Menu. But you know what? They worked!!

2018 Region 1 Year-End Point Standings

Open Division Combined

Lightweight

PI	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Desert Reinbeau	Must	Angie Meroshnekoff	91	330

Junior

PI	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Spantik Maj	Arab	Natalie Niderost	70	330

Rider

Lightweight

PI	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Angie Meroshnekoff	40	330

Junior

PI	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Natalie Niderost	33	330

Horse

Heavyweight

PI	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Amiraborr	Arab	17	150

Lightweight

PI	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Desert Reinbeau	Must	51	330

Junior

PI	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Spantik Maj	Arab	37	330

Competitive Pleasure Division

Combined

Adult

PI	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	OM El Shakeeb Dream	Arab	Joe Dillard	100	140
2	OM El Sharav	Arab	Ashley Dillard	96	140
3	Dundee's Playboy Bunny	MFT	Robyn Berwick	80	120
4	Cledith's Driver	TW	Kris Skoog	74	180
5	NHR Bravo	Morg	Sheila Christiansen	72	180
6	Pop Star	MFT	Linda Cannon	70	180
7	Hot Midnight	Paint	Trisha Taniguchi	66	120
8	Pistol Pete DF	Arab	Jean Armer	56	140

Rider

Adult

PI	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Joe Dillard	52	140
2	Ashley Dillard	47	140
3	Robyn Berwick	40	120
4	Sheila Christiansen	39	180
5	Trisha Taniguchi	38	120
5	Kris Skoog	38	180
7	Jean Armer	32	140
7	Linda Cannon	32	180

Junior

PI	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Desert Whiskey	Must	Claire Cichocki	66	220

Junior

PI	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Claire Cichocki	33	220

Horse

Adult

PI	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	OM El Sharav	Arab	49	140
2	OM El Shakeeb Dream	Arab	48	140
3	Dundee's Playboy Bunny	MFT	40	120
4	Pop Star	MFT	38	180
5	Cledith's Driver	TW	36	180
6	NHR Bravo	Morg	33	180
7	Hot Midnight	Paint	28	120
	Pistol Pete DF	Arab	24	140

Junior

PI	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Desert Whiskey	Must	33	220



2018 Region 1 Year-End Point Standings

Novice Division Combined

Heavyweight

Pl	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Pipi	Grad	Maria Pilgrim	45	120

Junior

Pl	Horse	Breed	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Rocket	Grad	Aubrey Fansler	71	160
2	Lucky Eddie	Arab	Chesney Kelly	24	60

Rider

Heavyweight

Pl	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Maria Pilgrim	20	120

Junior

Pl	Rider	Pts	Miles
1	Aubrey Fansler	30	160
2	Anais Monlux	25	140
3	Chesney Kelly	14	80

Horse

Heavyweight


Pl	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Pipi	Grad	25	120

Junior

Pl	Horse	Breed	Pts	Miles
1	Rocket	Grad	41	160
2	Lucky Eddie	Arab	17	80

2019 NATRC Region 1 Ride Schedule (tentative)

<http://www.natrcregion1.org/>

April 13	NATRC Clinic Sheila Christiansen	Valley Springs, CA (209) 371-7248	shooflypets@gmail.com
May 4	Mt. Diablo Ellen Pofcher Sec: Jessie Simons	Clayton, CA (925) 672-3733 (925) 672-4348	"B" O/N/CP/L mtnoaks@earthlink.net mtnoaks@earthlink.net
May 18-19	Cowboy Camp Chair: Jean Armer Sec: Linda Thomason	Williams, CA (530) 755-8301 (510) 708-1439	"A" O/CP/N; "B" N/L armer@citlink.net linda.thomason0610@gmail.com
June 29-30	Eel River Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Potter Valley, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 795-8163	"A" O/N/CP; "B" N/L iambrewing@aol.com wolves1961@sbcglobal.net
July 27-28	Challenge of the North Laurie Knuutila Sec: Marilyn Dowding	Fairbanks, AK (907) 590-4080 (907) 888-7756	"A" O/CP; "B" N wildroseph@yahoo.com mddowding@yahoo.com
August 17-18	Jackson Forest Summer Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Ft. Bragg, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 795-8163	"A" O/N/CP; "B" N/L iambrewing@aol.com wolves1961@sbcglobal.net
October 5	Lake Mendocino Steve Meroshnekoff 	Ukiah, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 391-3408	Leisure Division Only iambrewing@aol.com awhitedog@aol.com
Oct. 12-13	Round Valley Regional Park Gene Boicelli Sec: Linda Thomason	Brentwood, CA (925) 672-6491 (510) 708-1439	"A" O/CP; "B" N LIMIT 45 geneboicelli@gmail.com linda.thomason0610@gmail.com

Notes From the National Board Of Directors Meeting, November 2018

Participation in NATRC rides has been declining. From just 2016 to 2017, the number of riders decreased by 20%. Paid memberships dropped by 1/3 from 2014 to 2017. Change is necessary if we want to survive.

A survey was conducted last winter to help identify issues that should be addressed. Barriers to participation included time and money, challenges of proper conditioning before competition, and complex rules.

To go forward, the help of a professional in organizational growth was enlisted. Margaret Reynolds' presentation to the NBOD at their meeting in Albuquerque last February showed a graph of the typical progression of businesses growing, hitting a peak, and falling off. That's where we are in NATRC. A business can do nothing, change things to slow the decline, or really change things so the curve goes upwards again.

A new core concept – inclusiveness – was identified. Goals included making it possible for every horse and rider to be able to participate in our rides at an appropriate level and in a fun, safe environment; having more opportunities to participate and more events within geographic areas; and helping riders accomplish their own goals through fun, safety, education, and competition. Inclusiveness would offer something for beginners as well as increasing challenges for the more experi-

enced riders. Progress, not perfection, would be emphasized.

A core committee was appointed to develop specific recommendations that would hopefully change the direction of the curve for NATRC. The Development Committee has been guiding "Operation NATRC" this year. Several subcommittees including marketing, technology, financial, events, member benefits committee, and ride/roles/awards committee were approved at the July NBOD meeting. Through two face-to-face and many video-conferences, the core committee has led the subcommittees to research and evaluate problem areas and make recommendations for improvement.

Funds were approved to revamp the website and online ride registration system and to hire a marketing coordinator. More recommendations were approved by the national board in November. The membership structure was revamped (watch for more member benefits). A new website and ride registration system will be launched soon. An online library will be available. The Leisure Division, using approved lay judges, was approved.

Changes to the ride flow and to the structure of rides and awards are still pending. A new survey was distributed, and responses are being analyzed. At this time, the recommendation is to leave the Open Division competition as it is. The President's Cup, based on number

of points, would be discontinued, and a new award recognizing the combined high average of horse and rider would be implemented.

The Novice and CP Divisions would essentially be rolled into a Sport Division with classes based on experience and past achievements: Sport Pioneer would be for those with 250 or fewer lifetime horsemanship points; Sport Partner would be for those who have accrued 750 or fewer lifetime horsemanship points; Sport Performance would be aimed at those with over 750 lifetime horsemanship points. Juniors (ages 1-17) would be separate in each of these classes.

The National BOD met by video-conference on December 29. The consensus was that due to the significance of these changes and the importance of rider input, the development of the proposals to change the structure of rides and awards would continue through 2020. Implementation would be in 2021.

Coordinated efforts between ride management and judges will improve the flow of rides.

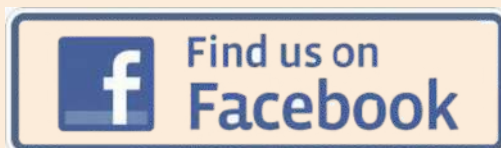
Your R1 BOD and National BOD needs your thoughts and opinions. Please contact us soon. Our information can be found [here](#).

Respectfully,

*Angie Meroshnekoff and
Jamie Dieterich*

[NATRC Region 1](#)

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[NATRC Region 1
Discussion Group](#)

NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE



MEMBERSHIP FORM – Renew, Join or Buy Items online at www.natrc.org or use this form.

Memberships run for a 12-month period from each individual's joining date. We offer a Platinum Upgrade to our adult and family plans, which adds personal excess liability coverage with a \$1,000,000 policy limit.

Continued for 2019 - FIRST YEAR FREE FOR BRAND NEW COMPETING MEMBERS!

PLANS

Membership Plans, Eligibility, Benefits and Fees

Plan Name	Competing			Non-Competing	
	Adult	Family	Junior	Supporting	Fan
Fee	\$75	\$125	\$25	\$50	\$35
Eligibility					
Single adult age 18 or over	X			X	X
Household		◇			
Single child age 10 through 17			X		X
Benefits					
Voting privileges	1	2		1	
Reduced ride entry fees	X	X	X		
Ride awards eligibility	X	X	X	◇◇	◇◇
Volunteer awards eligibility	X	X	X	X	X
Lifetime mileage tracking	X	X	X		
Mileage awards	X	X	X	◇◇◇	◇◇◇
National year-end awards eligibility	X	X	X	◇◇◇	◇◇◇
Regional year-end awards eligibility	X	X	X	◇◇◇	◇◇◇
Sponsor discounts	X	X	X	X	
Can purchase excess liability ins.	X	X		X	
Electronic <i>Hoof Print</i> and E-News	X	X	X	X	X
Region membership and newsletter	X	X	X	X	X
Decal for new members	X	X	X	X	X
CHECK PLAN DESIRED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Annual Platinum Upgrade: (Optional) Not included with free memberships

Platinum members receive insurance benefits thorough Association Resource Group-ARG. They receive personal excess liability coverage with a \$1,000,000 policy limit. Coverage is for claims brought against members of NATRC™ (Platinum) arising from the use and/or ownership of a horse and for horse-related accidents involving third party bodily injury or property damage. Coverage will apply when engaged in any horse related activity, and coverage is in excess of any existing valid and collectible insurance. There is no deductible. Professional Liability and business exposures are excluded.

Adult \$20/yr
Family \$40/yr
Supporting ... \$20/yr
No Upgrade .. \$0/yr

◇ Adult(s) & children under age 18 as of Jan 1

◇◇ Eligible for ride awards only if non-member ride fee paid.

◇◇◇ May upgrade to competing member for year-end and mileage award eligibility before the end of the *ride* year.

NATRC Specialties (Optional)

- Patch..... \$5 ea
— 10" Round NATRC Emblem Sticker \$5 ea
— 4" Round NATRC Emblem Sticker - free to new members \$3 ea

Download your free Rule Book from www.natrc.org.

To request a print copy, check here ☐.

PRINTED HOOF PRINT (Optional) *Hoof Print* delivered electronically. For a print copy, add \$15 & check box: ☐

\$ TOTAL ENCLOSED _____ (Nebraska residents please add 5.5% on Specialty Items)

Please list first and last names, especially those with different last names, of all competing family members.

Name(s) _____ Jr(s) Birthdates _____
Street _____ City _____
State, Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
Email _____ (We need your email for delivery of *HOOF PRINT*. Address stays within NATRC. Thanks!)

New member? Please share how you found out about NATRC: _____

Mail completed form and check to : NATRC, PO Box 969, Beatrice, NE 68310

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