

The Leadline



The Voice of NATRC Region One Competitive Trail Riding

April 2009

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TAIL WINDS

My last column ranted a bit about needing volunteers to step up for various things, ranging from Leadline Editor, to Region 1 Board Member, to our desperate need for new rides. Maybe it pays to rant and rave at times, because several things happened:

1. Both Karen Willis, from Idaho, and Laurie Knuutila, from Alaska, volunteered their services (both from the extreme edges of Region 1 :-). Karen, as the first volunteer, found that while her spirit was more than willing, her computer was not quite up to the task. Laurie (a longtime member who also publishes another newsletter and puts on an Alaska ride every year) is the one who is now the current Leadline Editor. My very sincere thanks to both of these wonderful ladies for volunteering to take up that task!

2. The Mini-Convention this year, at a new location, was attended by more than 90 people (the largest number in several years) and was a great success for the region. Linda Thomason handled all of the details, including discovery of and negotiations with the site, lining up a great list of speakers, recruitment of vendors, dealing with insurance (which exposed a flaw in the system that required the help of Laurie DiNatale, the Executive Administrator of National, to resolve) and organizing set-up and take-down crews. Many thanks to those who helped on those crews. The Mini-Convention netted almost \$1,900 of needed funds for the region, due mostly to the great generosity of the attendees who supported the raffles and silent auction. Many, many thanks to Linda for a fantastic job and persevering during times that were trying for her personally.

3. Linda also volunteered to run for a seat on the Region 1 Board of Directors along with Angie Meroshnekoff, who ran for re-election. Both ladies are now Region 1 BOD members. Sue Flagg, in the National election, was re-elected as Region 1 Alternate to the National Board (as well as a member of the Region 1 Board—a Dual Director is what the Region 1 Bylaws call her). Once again, people stepped up! Sue has also graciously agreed to be the Chair for the 2010 National Convention, which will be held in Reno in conjunction with AERC. Please pay attention to her announcements during the year and be prepared to offer your help!

4. Lastly, I'm absolutely delighted to report that we have THREE NEW rides this year (please see ride schedule in this issue). The Harvey Bear Ranch ride, on Sept. 6th in San Martin, will be put on by Chere Barger, long-time Trailmaster and point-rider for many rides, including the Almaden Benefit Ride last year. The secretary will be Kathie Bruns, who chaired the Almaden ride for several years and also provided valuable help at Almaden last year. The second new ride is the Round Valley Regional Park ride on Oct. 10th, chaired by Gene Boicelli, a regular NATRC competitor, and secretaried by the ubiquitous and invaluable Sue Flagg. The third is the Pilchuck ride in Washington State on July 18-19, chaired by Kathryn Lewandowsky (formerly Kennard) and secretaried by Patty Knapp. Please support all these new rides as well as all the returning favorites. It's really tough for managers to break even with meager support from riders. It's also tough in these economic times for riders and volunteers to attend. But without their support, rides will cease to exist.

So, my heartfelt thanks to all of you who responded to my rants and raves. May this be the beginning of a renewed growth of our sport.

Phil Young, Chairman

**Region One
Board of Directors**

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See Hoof Print for National Board, Committees, and Secretaries

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From the Editor . . .

My name is Laurie Knuutila and I have recently taken on the job of Editor for the Leadline. I have put together newsletters for several local horse clubs over the years and when I saw that Region 1 was in the market for an editor, I decided I could take on the job. There's not a lot that I can do to help the Region from way up here in Alaska. But I felt that this was one thing that I could do to contribute to the Region.

Some of you know me from my travels around Region 1 a few years ago and from attending National Conventions. For those of you that don't know me, here's a little bit about myself: I live about 20 miles outside of Fairbanks, Alaska with my husband, four horses and two dogs. Three of my horses are Half-Arabians and one is a Purebred Arabian. They range in age from 27 to 2. My dogs are Australian Cattle Dogs. My husband, well, he's Tony. I've lived in Alaska for 34 years and although I've been told repeatedly by many people that I'm crazy, I wouldn't live anywhere else.

I rode my first CTR here in Alaska in 1979 and have ridden almost every year since. My first NATRC ride was in 1983, when Bob and Jamie Dieterich lived here and were promoting NATRC. The rides here in Alaska have been sanctioned since then. In addition to competing, I have also been a Ride Manager, Trail Master, Rules Interpreter, P&R crew member and various other jobs associated with putting on a ride. This summer I will again wear both the Ride Manager and Trail Master hats and put on the Challenge of the North Ride. The invitation is hereby extended to all of you to Come Ride With Us!

As for the newsletter, I hope you find it easy to read and helpful. I am always open to input and suggestions for improvement. Submissions of ride stories, photographs, and other items of interest are most welcome. As space allows, I will try also to include training and conditioning articles of interest to distance riders. When you send me a ride story or other article, don't worry about doing too much formatting. I will probably have to reformat anything you send anyway, so just give it to me in a basic layout and I'll take care of the rest. And please don't wait until the deadline to send me stories. As things happen, such as rides, send me a story as soon as you can.

So here goes with my first edition of the Leadline . . .

Laurie Knuutila



Spring training, Alaskan style -
Photo taken 4-4-09

Region One Convention Report

By Linda Thomason
2009 Region One Convention Chairperson

I would like to thank all the convention attendees for making the 2009 convention so successful. We had an excellent turnout (95 attendees), some great speakers and a fun group of vendors. I heard the same comment multiple times from the vendors- "this was one of the most fun groups they'd been around". All of them agreed they would do it again. Vendors are difficult to entice to such a small venue and I thank all of you for being so friendly, making them feel welcome and making it financially worth their while. Region One is one of the few Regional conventions that has vendors- even the National Convention this past year only had 3 or 4 vendors.

The Bothwell Art Center staff was a terrific group to work with. Please let the Region One board members know if you'd like to see it there again in the future. I feel that bringing it back to the Bay Area was a major factor in getting such a good turnout. Bothwell staff kindly left their Mardi Gras decorations up to add a bit of color to our convention. During the early stages of setting this up, I was asked what our décor was?? My surprised response was "What décor??" I doubt they'd ever had an equestrian group there before!

I'm hoping someone else writes a few words about the speaker topics. I discussed topics with them prior to convention but was "occupied" and didn't get a chance to listen to more than a few minutes here and there. The feedback from all of you was good, so I hope the information was useful and the talks enjoyable. I have listened to all of these speakers in the past and enjoyed them. Please keep convention speakers in mind as you attend other events through the year. If you find someone who would be an interesting NATRC speaker, notify one of the board members. We are always looking for new topics and ideas. This is a participatory organization and we need input from all members- old and new- to keep things interesting. Don't ever feel that you're too new to contribute.

I have so many people to thank that I don't know where to start (sounds like the Academy Awards!). It's a lot of work to put on an event like this, but very satisfying to see people having a good time. Convention is a great time to say hello to friends- old and new- and have a fun "horse oriented day". I'd like to thank Kitty Weber and Marlene Takle for coming to my house and working on the lunches and convention packets. Kudos to Marlene for washing all those oranges you ate and Kitty for putting together the brown bags for the lunches. Carolyn Johnson stepped in to help me obtain "goodies" and literature from manufacturing companies. All those wonderful bags of Knicker treats were her doing! Kathy Nixon carted all the table coverings and utensils from Quincy and spent most of the day keeping tabs on the food tables. Thanks, Kathy, and all of you who brought treats to share! I have to say that the last two conventions I missed out on Marilyn Hunter's "hooch cake". After listening to me moan about this, she brought one to convention and placed it at the registration desk so I could be the FIRST one to take a piece. It was great -as always- and Marilyn also brought a second cake to contribute to the raffle. I received multiple bids from those of you, who like me, are hooked on it. Thanks Marilyn! Jamie Dietrich and Diane Uchytel helped with the registration table. If you've ever helped out do-

ing this, you know how overwhelming it is when hordes of people descend on you the first couple hours and you need to deal with getting the correct packets to folks as well as answer many questions. Thanks Jamie & Diane! These two also pitched in and helped with whatever needed to be done throughout the day! Jim Ferris, Sherry Lindley and Phil Young manned the voting/membership table. Kudos goes to Maria Pilgrim who took on the emcee job again (glutton for punishment!). Great job! Thanks for taking care of the speakers and getting everyone back and forth on time. Region One owes one more Thank You to Judy Etheridge. Judy spoke at a couple horse club groups and passed on articles from me to the editors of additional horse club magazines. She was most helpful in promoting the event and I appreciate the time she generously gave.

I hope you all enjoyed our Wine Goddesses at the Saturday dinner. Can't wait to see the pictures! Kathy, Jamie and Sue were wonderful as usual! Our awards presentation is one of the most entertaining I've been to and it's primarily because these three - for many years - have taken it upon themselves to provide themes and entertainment for all. Thank you also to Summer and Allison Johnson for making the creative name tags for the wine bottles that were presented to vendors and speakers. The raffle was overseen by super trooper Betty Young with help from Robyn Berwick in the afternoon. Great job for a very successful raffle! Even some of the vendors purchased raffle items!! BIG THANKS from Region One to all of you who brought raffle items!

Numerous members showed up Friday afternoon to help with set up and many of them stayed Saturday evening to help with cleanup. I appreciated everyone's help, especially those who stayed late Saturday after a long, tiring day. Bothwell staff were very happy with our group (they would welcome back NATRC Region One - anytime!) and the entire cleaning deposit was returned to Region One.

Before I end this long dissertation I must say a heartfelt thanks to super hero- Betty Young. Betty drove from Quincy and spent 3 days at my house - working with me on the finishing touches for convention. Without her guidance and hard work, I would never have made the deadlines and pulled it together. And yes Betty - I will never volunteer to do this by myself again! Convention definitely needs a couple people to accomplish this without a major headache and many Margaritas! Bless You, Betty, for your help and support!!

Well, I've rambled on too long. I know there were many others who helped on convention day but I was too preoccupied to remember each and every one of you. All Region One members deserve a big THANK YOU for helping to make this a success. We had fun! We made a profit for Region One! We listened to great speakers! We shopped! We drank great Livermore wines! We enjoyed a great dinner! We enjoyed catching up with old acquaintances and making new ones. We are ready for the ride season to begin!!

Thanks Everyone - see you in Reno 2010!!

**"this was
one of
the most
fun
groups
they'd
been
around"**

2008 REGION 1 AWARDS PRESENTATION

Welcome by Jamie Dieterich

Remembering:
Harry Haeussler

Honoring:
Parents:

Parents who helped with rides last year: David & Julia White, Thearo Snider, Bob & Pam Dorsey, Brian Schlerf
All the parents who helped and supported us along the way

Credits:

Convention Chair: Linda Thomason

Convention Programs: Linda Thomason, Betty Young, Marlene Takle, Kitty Weber

Meeting MC: Maria Pilgrim

Registration Table: Jamie Dieterich

Membership/Voting: Phil Young, Jim Ferris, and Sherry Lindley

Raffle and Silent Auction: Betty Young, Diane Uchytel, and Robyn Berwick

Meal Arrangements: Linda Thomason

Breakfast Table: Kathy Nixon and Diane Uchytel

Caterer: Black Tie Affair

Table Decorations: Linda Thomason and Diane Uchytel

Photographer: Art Johnson

Awards: Kathy Nixon

Program: Sue Flagg and Jamie Dieterich

Photos: Thearo Snider, Cait Hutnick, Bob Dorsey, Jamie Dieterich, Phil Young, Deb Foote, Patsy Conner

Special Thanks: Laurie DiNatale, Executive Administrator, who helped us get event insurance

Region 1 also sends special thanks and appreciation to Jim and Jan Jeffers. Jim and Jan have been huge contributors to our awards, especially the first place awards. Again, they did the embroidery on the vests and jackets, and they always give us a great price break. Our awards wouldn't be the same without their support and generosity. In addition, Jim did the artwork for the convention program.

Award Sponsors:

Dr. Bob & Charlotte Goulding
Phil and Betty Young – Open Lightweight Horse
Bev Barmettler
Nancy Bacon
Robyn Berwick
Clara Buellesbach
Linda Thomason
Bob & Marlene Takle

Jim Ferris
Sue Flagg – Team Awards
Tom & Nancy Kasovich – Bob Smith Award
Greg & Kathy Fellers– Pat Ersepke Award
Lynn Hutnick and Lynda Burch – Fran and Carol Duport Award
Kathy Nixon – Max Barmettler Award

Outgoing Board Members: Kathie Schmidt

Incoming Board Members: Angie Meroshnekoff (re-elected), Linda Thomason, and Sue Flagg, new alternate National Board representative.

Mentors:

Angie Meroshnekoff
Debbie Coe
Sue Flagg
Robyn Berwick
Kay Lieberknecht

Ride Chairmen:

Ellen Pofcher – Mt. Diablo
Helen Steenman - Georgetown
Diane Sullivan – Bald Mtn. Butt Buster Alaska
Steve Meroshnekoff – Jackson Forest
Michelle Pimentel – Oakland Hills/ Bort Meadow
Phil Young - Almaden

Region 1 Appreciation Certificates

Michelle & Joe Pimentel

By Robyn Berwick and Sue Flagg

Michelle and Joe did their first NATRC ride at Almaden in October 2005. They arrived and parked in an area near Judy Etheridge, Robyn Berwick, and Sue Flagg. They were hooked!

In 2006 and 2007 Joe and Michelle competed on several rides, including Santa Ynez. Then in 2007 Michelle was talking about new rides and someone said, "Why don't you put one on?" So she said, "Why not?" and the 2008 Oakland Hills Region 1 Benefit Ride was born.

Besides helping put together the Benefit Ride, Joe came and helped at the NATRC booth at the Back-country Horsemen's Rendezvous in March 2008.

We thank Joe and Michelle for their selfless volunteering and organizational skills. Joe is chairing the 2009 Oakland Hills Region 1 Benefit Ride, and Michelle will be the Trailmaster.

Josette Brault and Jim Shura

by Nancy Kasovich

Staging an NATRC ride is a real production, and often the riders only see or notice the primary players. There are so many other people needed to make a ride successful, and tonight we're going to talk about two people who have done it all.

Jim Shura started helping behind the scenes at NATRC rides in the 1980's doing whatever was needed. In 1994, Josette Brault attended an NATRC clinic in Grass Valley and did her first ride at Cool, the year it rained so hard and everyone got stuck and they had to use her 4 wheel drive vehicle to pull everyone out.

Two people, who hadn't met, and were on separate courses, finally crossed paths in 2002. Lucky NATRC!

Jim encouraged Josette to compete, which she did on her lovely mare Aassifah, placing first in CP then Open while Jim did P&R's. Josette is a person who gives back - so in 2006, 2007, and 2008 she has secretaried, ridden safety, timed, ribboned, driven judges around - you name it, while Jim has hauled water containers, done P&R's and most importantly, been there with his shoeing equipment and has fixed many a shoe allowing a competitor to finish the ride.

Tonight Region 1 honors two people who between them, have done it all!

Region 1 Appreciation At The National Level

(Text Published in Hoof Print)

**Dale Lake
Judy Etheridge
Sue Flagg**

Region 1 High-Point Breed Awards

Half-Arabian: Canadian Diamonte / Sue Flagg**

Arabian: Majnu / Ashley Dillard and MJ Abiad Amir / Jim Ferris

Appaloosa: Renno / Tanya Ballard

Connemara Cross: Tura Lura / Linda Cannon **

Haflinger: Tori / Chris Markus

Missouri Foxtrotter: Dundee's Playboy Bunny / Robyn Berwick

Mule: Molly D / Rudy Dezzani

Mustang: Desert Reinbeau / Angie Meroshnekoff

Paso Fino: Royal Prancer / Michelle Pimentel **

Thoroughbred: Willow / Alexis DePaolis

Grade: Kami Ko / Ariel Thurman

** National breed award

End of Year Placings

Novice Division

Novice Heavyweight Horsemanship

- 5th Becky Mertens
- 4th Pamela Dorsey
- 3rd Joe Pimentel
- 2nd Gary Fitts
- 1st Chris Markus

Novice Lightweight Horsemanship

- 5th Tanya Ballard
- 4th Stephanie Swain
- 3rd Alison Johnson
- 2nd Kay Lieberknecht
- 1st Deborah Coe

Novice Junior Horsemanship

- 6th Alexis DePaolis
- 5th Kaysha Isgrigg
- 5th Alison Anderson
- 4th Summer Johnson
- 3rd Bailey Dorsey
- 2nd Ariel Thurman
- 1st Olivia Armstrong

Novice Heavyweight Horse

- 4th Harmony - Grade / Pamela Dorsey
- 3rd Fames Baydal BL - Arab / Gary Fitts
- 2nd Bey Shadow BL- Arab / Becky Mertens
- 1st Tori - Hafl / Chris Markus

Novice Lightweight Horse

- 6th Renno – Appy / Tanya Ballard
- 5th Shine - Grade / Kay Lieberknecht
- 4th Garnet - Grade / Kay Lieberknecht
- 3rd TA Mira-Image Arab Stephanie Swain
- 2nd Tango Sierra - MFT / Alison Johnson
- 1st Cimarron AL – Arab / Deborah Coe

Novice Junior Horse

- 6th Geronimo - Grade / Jordan Yankton
- 5th Chi - Grade / Kyle Jones
- 4th DM's Mingo - MFT / Summer Johnson
- 3rd Redwind - Grade / Bailey Dorsey
- 2nd Kami Ko - Grade / Ariel Thurman
- 1st JB Rockem Sockem Red - Other / Olivia Armstrong

Competitive Pleasure Division

Competitive Pleasure Horsemanship

- 5th Joe Dillard
- 4th Mary Jones
- 3rd Ashley Dillard
- 3rd Nancy Bacon
- 2nd Jim Ferris
- 1st Robyn Berwick

Competitive Pleasure Horse

- 5th OM El Shakeeb Dream - Arab / Joe Dillard
- 4th Deux Chausette - Arab / Mary Jones
- 3rd NB Nike - H-Arab / Nancy Bacon
- 2nd MJ Abiad Amir - Arab / Jim Ferris
- 2nd Majnu - Arab / Ashley Dillard
- 1st Dundees Playboy Bunny – M-FX / Robyn Berwick

Open Division

Open Heavyweight Horsemanship

- 2nd Rudy Dezzani
- 1st Linda Cannon

Open Lightweight Horsemanship

- 3rd Michelle Pimentel
- 2nd Sue Flagg
- 1st Angie Meroshnekoff

Open Junior Horsemanship

- 2nd Haley Schlerf
- 1st Drina LaRose

Open Heavyweight Horse

- 2nd Molly D - Mule / Rudy Dezzani
- 1st Tura Lura - Other / Linda Cannon

Open Lightweight Horse

- 3rd Royal Prancer - PF / Michelle Pimentel
- 2nd Desert Reinbeau - Must / Angie Meroshnekoff
- 1st Canadian Diamonte - H-Arab / Sue Flagg

Open Junior Horse

- 2nd Abbishagg - Arab / Haley Schlerf
- 1st Kaylee - H-Arab / Drina LaRose

Region 1 Awards At The National Level

Team Awards

These Regional Championships were announced at the National Convention Awards Banquet in Kansas City, MO. They are awarded for combined horse and horsemanship. All points for rides in which the same horse and rider combination competed are added together. At least three rides must be completed to qualify for annual awards.

Novice Heavyweight Team

1st Tori - Hafl / Chris Markus

Novice Lightweight Team

4th Garnet - Grade / Kay Lieberknecht

3rd TA Mira-Image - Arab / Stephanie Swain

2nd Tango Sierra - MFT / Alison Johnson

1st Cimarron AL - Arab / Deborah Coe

Novice Junior Team

5th Chispa - Must / Alison Anderson

5th Buzzard - Grade / Kaysha Isgrigg

4th DM's Mingo - MFT / Summer Johnson

3rd Redwind - Grade / Bailey Dorsey

2nd Kami Ko - Grade / Ariel Thurman

1st JB Rockem Sockem Red - Other / Olivia Armstrong

Competitive Pleasure Team

3rd NB Nike - H-Arab / Nancy Bacon

2nd MJ Abiad Amir - Arab / Jim Ferris

1st Dundeeds Playboy Bunny - M-FX / Robyn Berwick

Open Heavyweight Team

1st Tura Lura - Other / Linda Cannon

Open Lightweight Team

2nd Desert Reinbeau - Must / Angie Meroshnekoff

1st Canadian Diamonte - H-Arab / Sue Flagg

Open Junior Team

2nd Abbishagg - Arab / Haley Schlerf

1st Kaylee - H-Arab / Drina LaRose

National Awards

Region One National Champions:

Canadian Diamonte - H-Arab / Sue Flagg

Overall Open Lightweight Horse:

5th Canadian Diamonte - H-Arab / Sue Flagg

Overall Open Junior Horse:

5th Kaylee - H-Arab / Drina LaRose

6th Abbishagg - Arab / Haley Schlerf

Overall Open Junior Horsemanship:

3rd Drina LaRose

5th Haley Schlerf

Horse Mileage Award:

1000 miles G.T. Orion - Grade / Judith Etheridge

Wonder Workers

Bob Waugh was awarded a jacket and thanked for his many years of help

Region 1 Special Awards

Bob Smith Award

High Point 1st Year Novice or CP horse

NB Nike ridden by Nancy Bacon (CP)

Pat Ersepke Award

High Point Novice Horse/Rider Combo

JB Rockem Sockem Red ridden by Olivia Armstrong (NJ)

Fran & Carol Duport Award

High Point 1st Year Open Horse

Canadian Diamonte ridden by Sue Flagg (OL)

Max Barmettler Award

Honorary Region 1 Lifetime Membership

Angie Meroshnekoff

Barthart Award

High Average Open Horse

(minimum average 97%, minimum 6 rides started)

Sponsored by: Phil & Betty Young

Usually presented by Phil Young

Regretfully, we will not be presenting one of our Annual Special Awards tonight. The Barthart High Average Open Horse Award was not won in 2008 because there was an insufficient number of rides available in our Region to qualify. This Award requires that a horse start, at a minimum, the equivalent of 6 "A" rides, and this year our Region offered only the equivalent of 4. This should point out the great need our Region has for new and more rides. We ask that each of you consider whether you might be able to participate in helping to establish more Region 1 rides, either as Ride Chairman or Ride Secretary or Trail Master. If enough of us step forward, we should be able to put some teams together to accomplish this goal. Please feel free to discuss this with any Region 1 Board member.

2009 REGION 1 TENTATIVE RIDE CALENDAR

March 28	Hoofin' It Clinic Kay Lieberknecht	Ukiah, Lake Mendicino, CA (707) 621-3662	
May 2	Mt. Diablo Ellen Pofcher Sec: Martha Flannery	Clayton, CA (925) 672-3733 (925) 673-9858	"B" O/N/CP mtnoaks@earthlink.net
May 16	Mt. Quarry Vickie Myers Sec: Marilyn Hunter	Auburn, CA (530) 823-1202 (530) 885-4819	"B" O/N/CP mhunter@onemain.com
June 20	Georgetown NATRC Helen Steenman Sec: Lucinda Elliott	Georgetown, CA (530) 333-4364 (530) 887-9785	"B" O/N/CP hsteenman@yahoo.com siselliot@att.net
July 18-19	Challenge of the North Laurie Knuutila Sec: Lezlie Wilfer	Fairbanks, AK (907) 378-9190 (907) 474-4631	"A" O/CP "B" N wildroseph@ yahoo.com wilfer@acsalaska.net
July 18-19 	Pilchuk CTR Kathryn Lewandowsky Sec: Patty Knapp	Stanwood, WA (360) 403-8471 (360) 652-9107	"A" O/CP "B" N kkmoonshadowranch@msn.com
August 22-23	Jackson Forest Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Ft. Bragg, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 795-8163	"A" O/CP "B" N iambrewing@aol.com wolves1961@sbcglobal.net
September 6 	Harvey Bear Ranch Chere Barger Sec: Kathi Bruns	San Martin, CA (408) 683-2247 (408) 683-5695	"B" O/N/CP kvbruns@aol.com
September 19-20	Bort Meadows Reg. 1 Benefit Joe Pimentel Sec: Sue Flagg	Oakland Hills, CA (209) 537-9355 (925) 890-2144	"A" O/N/CP; "B" N Limit 85 LegacyRanch1@aol.com iluvmulestoo@yahoo.com
October 10 	Round Valley Regional Park Gene Boicelli Sec: Sue Flagg	Brentwood, CA (925) 672-6491 (925) 890-2144	"B" O/N/CP Limit 30 geneboicelli@aircloud.net iluvmulestoo@yahoo.com



NATRC Region 1 Board Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2009

Board Members Present: Phil Young, Sue Flagg, Jim Ferris, Lynne Hutnick, Robyn Berwick, Angie Meroshnekoff, Steve Meroshnekoff

Absent: Jamie Dieterich, Kathie Schmidt

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:52 a.m., in Auburn, California, by Phil Young, Chairman.

Secretary's Report: Corrected minutes of September 27, 2008, were sent via email. Corrections: None. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking: \$6,182.65

Convention Checking: \$1,251.78

Savings CD: \$11,503.72

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Physical Resource Coordinator: Jim Ferris. Linda Thomason has requested several items to use at the Convention.

Historian: Kathy Nixon. No report.

Wonder Workers: Steve Meroshnekoff. One jacket to be issued at convention. Ride managers are supposed to turn over worker liability release forms to Steve Meroshnekoff after each ride.

Points/Membership: Jim Ferris. Only 23 renewals so far. Will pick up more at mini-convention.

Publicity: Kathie Schmidt. No report.

Benefit Rides:

Oakland Hills - 2008 ride earned approximately \$1800 after final adjustments.. 2009 ride scheduled for Sept. 19-20, 2009 - Bort Meadow, Oakland, California. Carol Ormond and Dale Lake have agreed to judge. Trails will be changed and Saturday's ride will be in Redwood Park in the morning, lunch in camp, then afternoon portion in Chabot Park. Sunday ride will be all in Chabot.

Almaden - Currently no one willing to take this ride over. 2008 ride earned approximately \$1700.

The Leadline: Helen Steenman/Sue Flagg. Fall Leadline never put together, so Helen Steenman offered to do it for Winter 2009. Angie sent her what she had already done. Helen sent .doc file to Sue who took it to the printer, printed labels, and mailed out 200 copies. Need to firm up the list of members willing to get Leadline via email.

This would provide a significant savings to the region. Karen Willis has volunteered to take over as editor.

National BOD: Jamie Dieterich, Lynne Hutnick & Sue Flagg.

FINAL RULE CHANGES FOR 2009

after November 2008 National BOD meeting:

1. Page 1-1 Section 1 A 1.b. Junior Membership: Any person under the age of 18 as of the beginning of the ride year. Page 4-3 Section 4 B.3.a. The rider must be 10 years old to enter competition; thereafter the age of a junior shall be determined by whatever their age is as of the beginning of the ride year and this age shall continue throughout that ride year.
2. Page 3-2 Section 3 B7. Safety Riders: One or more safety riders will follow competitors on the trail to assist any horse or rider in event of emergency. Safety riders must be 18 years of age or over.
3. Page 4-4 Section 4C.6b. The DO team will receive the standard mileage allotments for each day ridden. If the rider chooses to ride the second day, but does not complete that day, then no mileage will be awarded for either day.
4. Page 5-2 Section 5. C. 9. Stallions must have a yellow ribbon attached to their tail at all times.
5. Page 6-4 Section 6. G. "Completion Only":

1. A horse and rider, for the purpose of "completion only", are considered a team. "Completion only" for one automatically constitutes "completion only" of the other.
6. Page 8-2 Section 8 D.6. The decision may be appealed by any affected party. The appeal shall be in writing, signed by the person initiating the appeal, be accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 (cash, certified check or money order), and be mailed (postmarked) to the NATRC Executive Administrator not later than ten days after receipt of the Protest Committee's decision. The National Board of Directors shall hear the appeal. The decision of the Board is final. If the appeal is allowed, the \$50.00 shall be returned to the party making the appeal. If the appeal is disallowed, the \$50.00 shall be retained by NATRC. The fee for an appeal, which has been filed, processed but then withdrawn, will not be refunded.

Region 1 Website: Angie Meroshnekoff. Information re mini-convention, tentative 2009 ride schedule, and Winter 2009 Leadline have been posted. Need to make correction to date for Oakland Hills Ride -

Sept. 19-20 is correct.

Ride/Clinic Management: Jamie Dieterich.

Lynne and Jamie prepared the ride schedule for 2009, Jamie formatted and sent to webmaster.

Gene Boicelli is in process of scheduling a meeting w/East Bay Regional Park District to discuss a new ride staging from Round Valley Regional Park. Robyn Berwick's possible new ride in Avery will not happen in 2009. Debbie Murphy's possible new ride at the V-6 Ranch in Parkfield will not happen in 2009. Chere Barger's ride at Harvey Bear Park is scheduled for **Sunday**, September 6, 2009.

Outreach Coordinator: Linda Thomason. No report.

Trails Advocacy Coordinator: Judy Ethridge. No report.

Bylaws: Jim Ferris, Jamie Dieterich, Phil Young, Sue Flagg, Nancy Kasovich. No report.

Judging Issues: Jamie Dieterich, Betty Young, Sue Flagg. Peter Rich sent a letter to the R1 BOD and other parties.

Old Business:

R1 Handbook: Karel sent a draft job description for Benefit Ride Chairperson. Phil has made some additions and will forward to Sue.

2009 Mini Convention: Linda Thomason, Chair. Linda forwarded her list. Please send suggestions if we see something she missed. Items she wanted already discussed.

National Convention 2010: Sue Flagg, Chair

Sue put a blurb in Leadline asking for theme ideas and offering a free registration to the winner. Will be held with AERC in Reno. Date is February 19-20, 2010.

T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Sales: Checking prices. Possibly will sell them on entry for Benefit Ride, then do sweatshirts and long-sleeved tees at February convention.

New Business:

New ride grants: \$300 loan. Ride management has to return money if ride makes money. Phil and Sue will work on documents.

Junior rider paybacks: Discussed since significant amount went out for that this year. Currently junior members must ride

two rides, but can be reimbursed \$30 per ride up to three rides. Discuss at March meeting re possibly reducing to \$30 per ride up to two rides.

Peter Rich Letter re Resuscitating

NATRC: Phil has invited Peter to attend March meeting to discuss. Phil asked R1 BOD to read and submit comments on Peter's letter by February 15, 2009.

Donations to National for R1 Year-End Awards: Discussion. Lynne moved that R1 donate \$200 to National for year-end awards. Second by Robyn. Unanimously

approved.

Backcountry Horsemen's Rendezvous Booth: March 20-22, 2009 in Turlock, CA. No one available to coordinate at this time.

Unsupervised juniors on the trail: Discussion re requiring juniors to ride with an adult. Several instances of unsupervised junior riders getting lost on trail recently. Motion by Angie, second by Lynne to require the following on future Region 1 ride entries: **All riders under age 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times while on the trail.** Call for vote.

Five votes in favor, one abstention. Passed. Add the above sentence in BOLD PRINT to future Region 1 ride entries effective with 2009 ride season.

Next meeting on Sunday, March 8, 2009. Time and location TBA.

Lynne moved to adjourn, Sue seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Flagg, Secretary

American River Classic Endurance Ride Supported by NATRC Members

The 36th annual American River Classic Endurance Ride (30, 50 and 70 miles) was held April 25, 2009. Paul and Erin Klentos, NATRC members, were the ride chairs. Nine other NATRC Region 1 members(current or former) participated at the Auburn Overlook insuring the Auburn stop and one hour hold went smoothly. Those NATRC members were: Debbie

Murphy, Head Volunteer, P&R Captain, Jim Ferris , P&R personnel Sherry Lindley, Dorothy Peterson , Jill Pass and Odette Parker. Suzanne Brady and Christina Griffiths handled the vet cards and Kelly Williams took care of all the in and out timing cards.

What a great group to work! The American River Classic appreciates NATRC's

participation in this ride and owes a debt of gratitude to all the workers who helped make this ride successful.

Kind Regards,

American River Classic
Ride Management

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NATRC Region 1 Board Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2009

Board Members Present: Phil Young, Sue Flagg, Jim Ferris, Jamie Dieterich, Lynne Hutnick, Robyn Berwick, Angie Meroshnekoff, and Linda Thomason

Absent: Steve Meroshnekoff

Guests: Sherry Lindley, Diane Uchytal, Peter Rich, Betty Young.

The meeting was called to order at 8:48 a.m., at Emil Villa's Restaurant in Livermore, California, by Phil Young, Chairman. Phil welcomed new Region 1 Board member, Linda Thomason.

First order of business was election of officers for 2009. Jamie moved to accept the current slate of officers by acclamation.

Chairman:

Phil Young

Secretary:

Sue Flagg

Corresponding Secretary:

Robyn Berwick

Treasurer:

Jim Ferris

Second by Jim Ferris. No other nominations. Call for a vote. Approved.

Secretary's Report: Corrected minutes of January 25, 2009, were sent to everyone via email. Corrections: None. Robyn moved to accept, Lynne seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking: \$5,687.26

Convention Checking: \$251.78

Savings CD: \$11,531.65

\$300 check was issued to Harvey Bear Ranch Ride.

For the mini-Convention, Robyn reported that the junior fund auction netted ~\$200, \$606 raffle, \$350 on silent auction. Angie moved, Robyn seconded, to accept treasurer's report, unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Physical Resource Coordinator: Jim Ferris.

Linda Thomason will store the following for safekeeping:

Dry Erase board and pens

Easel and two giant paper tablets

Raffle tickets

Money box

Karaoke machine

Blue display board

Box of miscellaneous office supplies

White display board

Jim Ferris has R1 computer, digital projector and spare bulb.

Discussion re possibly ordering new R1 rider numbers. Peter Rich said he had a set of bibs he'd be interested in donating. Peter mentioned referee jerseys for ride officials. Phil suggested wearing hats. Sue suggested vests/bibs like Tevis. Phil appointed Linda Thomason, Lynne Hutnick, and Sherry Lindley to research.

Linda Thomason has been appointed as new Physical Resource Coordinator.

Historian: Kathy Nixon. No report.

Wonder Workers: Steve Meroshnekoff.

One jacket was issued at Convention to Bob Waugh. Reminder that ride managers should turn over worker liability release forms to Steve Meroshnekoff after each ride.

Points/Membership: Jim Ferris. Picked up 3 or 4 renewals at mini-convention. Also directed a few to the National website to pay online, so he thinks about 8 total.

Publicity: Angie mentioned Darlene, the mother of one of her juniors, might be interested in doing this. Linda Thomason would also like to be involved. Linda suggested a series of articles - personal stories - interspersed throughout the year. Phil appointed Linda Thomason as new Publicity Chair. Darlene will assist.

Benefit Rides:

Oakland Hills - No report.

The Leadline: Karen Willis. Laurie Knutila has volunteered to take it over, too. Will keep her as a back-up. Jamie and Sue will get summary of mini-convention to Karen.

National BOD: Jamie Dieterich, Lynne Hutnick & Sue Flagg.

National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, was attended by Jamie, Lynne and Sue.

Financially NATRC is down \$16,000. Ridership down, sponsorships down. Hoof Print down to four issues per year. National trying to get more things online. Question of Team Awards came up. There is a feeling they're redundant. Peter suggested

a Leadline article w/pros and cons. He also mentioned that when originally established we had Sundowner as a sponsor.

National has been working on a National drug policy. Have been waiting on AERC's proposal which has now been prepared. NBOD wants to adopt a similar policy with threshold levels of some drugs since testing procedures have gotten so much better. Mike Peralez and Greg Fellers are working w/AERC and John Parke (AERC attorney). Discussion. Will wait for more information.

Region 1 Website: Angie Meroshnekoff. Debbie has been great about updating things and posting corrected information.

Ride/Clinic Management: Jamie Dieterich. We have a ride schedule. Kathy Kennard sent an email re possible new ride in Washington July 18.

Outreach Coordinator: Linda Thomason. Linda would like an assistant because it's difficult for her to get time off work. Sherry Lindley volunteered. Linda also wants assistance tracking first time riders so she can send follow-ups.

Trails Advocacy Coordinator: Judy Etheridge. No report.

Bylaws: Jim Ferris, Jamie Dieterich, Phil Young, Sue Flagg, Nancy Kasovich. No report.

Judging Issues: Jamie Dieterich, Betty Young, Sue Flagg. Peter Rich mentioned Mt. Diablo's mercury pond, and the gate opening obstacle after lunch.

Old Business:

R1 Handbook: Phil forwarded Ride Chairperson description to Sue. She needs to review.

2009 Mini Convention: Linda Thomason, Chair. 85+ attendees for speakers, 55 attendees for dinner. Raffle made \$606, Silent Auction made \$250. Linda will have complete report at a later date.

National Convention 2010: Sue Flagg, Chair. Sue received only one Convention theme idea. "Hats Off To Our Horses." This

came from Kathy Nixon. If approved by R1 BOD, Kathy will get the free registration. Now that AERC's 2009 National Convention is over, Sue will begin coordinating with them for 2010.

T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Sales: Blue Moon looks like it will be the least expensive. Angie has not confirmed w/if they have a silk screen set-up charge.

Junior rider paybacks: Discussion about possibly reducing to \$30 per ride up to two rides. Jamie moved to leave it as minimum of two rides, maximum of three. Angie seconded. Unanimously approved. Angie suggested the kids should have some sort of fundraiser at a ride – possibly a bake sale. Juniors bring items, other riders could donate a dessert for the juniors to sell. Linda will contact Kay. Suggestion to add the junior rebate program to the roster. The roster cover will be fuschia this year.

Unsupervised juniors on the trail: Discussed at general meeting adding the following on future Region 1 ride entries: **All riders under age 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times while on the trail.** Many riders were in favor of this. Jamie discussed w/Laurie DiNatale and Patsy Connor. They felt it was okay for ride managers to require this. Lory Walls said NATRC insurance is based on the Rule Book. Call for vote.

Five votes in favor, one abstention. Passed. Add the above sentence in BOLD PRINT to future Region 1 ride entries effective with 2009 ride season. Jamie talked to Kay about this. Her current juniors don't fall into this category. Jim made a motion to rescind previous motion, and appoint a committee to discuss this issue and have report ready by September 2009 meeting. Angie seconded. Vote, 7 aye, Sue was nay. Peter Rich brought up how even is the playing field when one junior (younger) is required to have a sponsor, and others aren't. Committee appointed of Lynne, Jamie, Sue and Angie.

New Business:

New ride grants: Grant application and letter that Phil, Sue and Jamie came up with was approved. Ride management has to return money within 30 days if ride makes money. Jim suggested possibly increasing to \$500 for two-day ride. Discussion. In view of the current economy, it was decided to see how the ride attendance goes in 2009, and revisit this issue next year.

National Clinic Reimbursement: Currently up to \$300 per year per Region (\$100 per clinic to help with insurance cost) is allowed. National wants to give this back to the regions beginning in 2010 due to financial difficulties. Angie said if National does give this back to the Re-

gions, we should have the money as a loan. Phil suggested that National make it a loan for clinics like the ride grants rather than a repayment. Phil suggested that National might raise their dues to give a larger portion back to the regions. Jim moved to suggest to National that they make it a no-interest loan rather than a grant. Second by Linda. Approved.

Peter Rich Letter re Resuscitating NATRC: Peter Rich emailed his letter to about 200 people. He got about 15 responses. Peter asked if the R1 BOD had gotten any responses. Phil gave Peter a copy of Greg Fellers' response. Lengthy discussion of letter. Phil set up a meeting on the Sunday after the Mt. Diablo Ride. It is not a mandatory board meeting.

2009 Region 1 board meeting dates: June 14, 2009 and Sept. 27, 2009.

Next meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at Lynne's house, 9:30 a.m. Robyn will be unable to attend.

Jim moved to adjourn, Lynne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Flagg, Secretary

THE LEADLINE is the official publication of Region One of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC). The Leadline is published quarterly and mailed to all NATRC Region One members. It is available by subscription to non-Region One members at \$8 per year. Issues contain updated information from Region One committees, ride results, point standings, minutes of board meetings, and the current Region One ride schedule. Send subscription requests and payments (made out to NATRC Region One) to Laurie Knuutila, Editor. 455 Ream Lane, Fairbanks, Ak 99712. Email wildrosepht@yahoo.com. Contributions are welcome. NATRC Region One 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.

2009 Deadlines:
Summer issue – August 1
Winter issue – December 1

Advertising rates per issue:
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Classified ads free to Region One members in good standing, one per issue, up to 30 words. Ads may be emailed, or hard copies mailed to the editor can be scanned as submitted. Send ads to Editor and make checks payable to NATRC Region One.

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Platinum Upgrade to Current Single Adult Membership.....\$20
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Hoof Print subscription only.....\$15.00 per year US and \$20 foreign

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