

Hoof Print 2025



**President's
Cup Winner!**

Patti Hicks & RPH Ebony Diamond

NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE



Hoof Print, the official annual publication of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC™), is available electronically from www.natrc.org. Each issue contains updated information from committees and board meetings plus informative articles on trail riding and horse care to educate and inform the competitive trail rider. NATRC™ and the left facing, hill climbing horse and rider are trademarks of the North American Trail Ride Conference, Inc.

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Mission Statement

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

Code of Ethics

We, the NATRC National Board of Directors, Executive Director, judges, committee members, and employees are ambassadors of our sport whether at an organized event or informal gathering. There is an implied code of ethics to adhere to. This code of ethics dictates that we behave professionally, courteously and responsibly. This includes:

- Representing the sport in a professional manner
- Being respectful when giving an opinion
- Substantiating information before giving an opinion
- Being kind and courteous to others

Meet Our Apprentice and Provisional Judges

Members: We welcome our comments on the following apprentice and provisional judges.

<i>Apprentice</i>		<i>Region</i>	<i>Provisional</i>		<i>Region</i>
Veterinary	Katya Spitznagel, DVM	3	Veterinary	Sonya McClendon, DVM	4
Leisure	Sandy Pegram	5			
	Debbie McCullough	5			
	Helen Smith	6			

Judges:

- Have your addresses or phone numbers changed? Give the NATRC office your office, home, and cell numbers.
- Apprentice with an approved judge who has agreed to judge and supervise you.

Ride Chairs:

- Contact and secure your judges well in advance of your ride date!
- The current Judges List is on the website.
- If you have difficulty securing an approved judge, please contact the appropriate Judges Committee Co-Chair:

Veterinary
Pam Hess, DVM
 440-477-3474
drpamhess@gmail.com

Horsemanship & Leisure
Lory Walls
 619-895-0491
lorywalls6@gmail.com

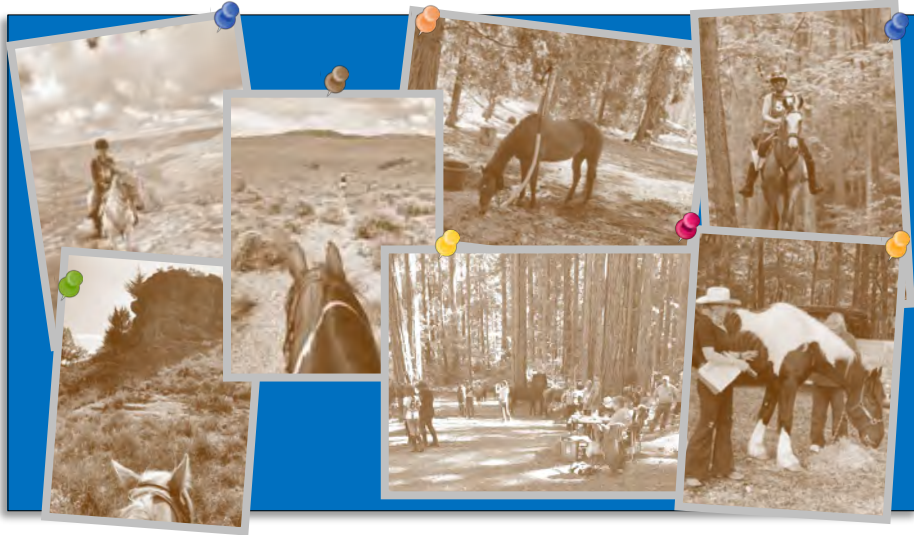
On the Cover

2024 President's Cup Winner
RPH Ebony Diamond and Patti Hicks

Photo by John Nowell

President's Message

Making Memories Ride by Ride



The 2024 ride season was another memorable ride year in so many ways. Special memories were made while traveling to and from our rides, spending time around those NATRC campfires, and of course while we were competing out on the trails and enhancing that partnership with our horse.

As always, the weather set us up for some of these memories such as riding in less than desirable conditions on occasion, to the time that a tornado came too close to the campground in the middle of the night. Then you can also toss in a few flat trailer tires and a couple of truck breakdowns. I am sure everyone has many fond memories of this past year. Collectively, our memories just add to our own and to NATRC's rich history.

Our NATRC membership saw another year of growth in 2024 making it the highest since 2019. Our future continues to be on the right trajectory.

Our initiative of conducting two or more clinics in each of our regions last year was a success. Fifteen clinics were held nationwide last year, with all but one region meeting the goal of two clinics per region.

Clinics are an inspiration in themselves. They provide an opportunity for our members, whom I consider among the best trail riders in the nation, to share their knowledge with others. A direct benefit of these clinics was an increase in the number of riders and members which took place last year.

A New Ride Outreach committee was established in 2024 with the purpose of providing support in establishing new rides across the country. We have members who participate in our virtual challenges and are interested in our sport but are in a location where there are no close rides. Our vision is to send a consultation team to these locations and coach them on how to do an LeD ride with a future goal of putting together a full "A" ride.

Our national sponsor Top Trail is teaming up with us again this year to bring you the 2025 NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge. Signup is currently underway.

New for 2025 is their new Top Trail website along with a Top Trail Horse Mobile app for both Apple and Android. Now you can easily track your ride directly in the Top Trail app, save it, and you are done!

Your riding report stats and all the leaderboards will be updated in real-time!

Our NATRC mileage challenge is a great motivator for you to get out there and ride. This program is also important as it generates revenue for NATRC.

I am looking forward to the upcoming ride season and being out there on the trails with our NATRC family!

Now, get those conditioning miles in, stay focused on your goals for the 2025 ride season, and never pass up the chance to make a good memory!

Follow me on Apple Music @j_zeliff
Follow me on Instagram @johnzeliff

And then be sure to follow me to that next NATRC ride!

John Zeliff, President

#NATRCmemories
#NATRCfamily
#NATRC



From Your Executive Director



By Sarah J. Smith

If you spend any time on social media and follow any influencers that share motivational, inspirational or spiritual material you may have seen the reel I'm going to refer to in my message.

A preacher from a large church goes to his regular barber for his scheduled appointment only to find his barber isn't there due to a personal emergency causing the preacher to either cancel or have his hair cut by another barber by the name of Julie.

Julie happens to be quite colorful in hair, clothing, body art and multiple piercings and the preacher admits to quickly judging her character assuming they could have nothing in common to talk about and that there is no benefit in their interaction or relationship. She proceeds to cut his hair and chat with him, learning about his profession, then emotionally shares, due to her family circumstances, that she has been to his church, purchased a video, Bible and has taken that back to her family struggling with addiction. She is interested in learning about the faith but doesn't know where to start. Realizing his misjudgment, he in turn offers to share his knowledge of his faith with her.

You may be asking, "*Sarah...how is this relevant to NATRC???*"

NATRC, along with many other equestrian organizations, has been likened to churches in some instances when it comes to "getting in the door", Figuring out the sport and the perception of rigidity and rules. While I don't

Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover



feel this has ever been intentional in any capacity in NATRC, it is easy for us to get complacent and comfortable in our roles once we've "settled" into our sport if we've been around for a while. Especially for those of us who have been around a few decades.

We have long established friendships and circles. We have a very specific routine when we get to ride camp for getting our camp area set up, horse comfortable, fed and we don't always notice the new folks in camp as we are on autopilot doing what we always do and have done for years.

We sometimes forget what it is like for the new folks looking to test the waters and see what we are all about. We forget what it was like the first time we pulled into ride camp not knowing anyone, or perhaps with one brave travel buddy who chose to try the sport with us. We forget the feeling of riding in that ill-fitting saddle and being saddle sore, on that fresh horse that is usually a dead head at home, before we started to figure out the ropes. We forget about the first time we read those judges' comments not quite knowing how to interpret what exactly we were reading and may have been too afraid to ask about it. Does this resonate with you?

Our wonderful Leisure Division after five years of official sanctioning has established itself as a solid growth catalyst for ridership, membership and geographical expansion. Not dissimilar to the preacher and the barber, our Leisure Division was met with some hesitation by some of our membership because it is very different from our other divisions. Less mileage, less restrictive in rules, no stabling, team scoring as well as a positive scoring system. It also offers an in and out in one day option for our competitors.

This division quickly became popular in a fast-paced society that still desired recreation with their horses outside of an arena and show environ-

ment. When other equestrian recreational sports continued to decline, we saw growth again. We opted to adapt our options to meet our ridership where they are coming from yet still share all that we have to offer in enhancing the horse and rider partnership, camaraderie with other riders and experiencing incredible trails across our regions.

LeD opened doors and ushered in new opportunities and was the welcome mat NATRC needed to truly uphold our famous saying "come ride with us!"

Our Leisure Division currently comprises 62% of our total ridership and those receiving regional awards for the 2024 season. Our Novice Division received several new competitors either transitioning from LeD, or doing both LeD and Novice. Our Competitive Pleasure division also experienced growth in the number of competitors as well, many of them mentoring competitors transitioning between divisions. Even more encouraging is the number of returning members who have been away from our organization for a decade or better, rejoining to participate in our Leisure Division.

Our history is extremely relevant in terms of sharing it for growth, evolution and education, but it should not become a glass ceiling, nor a measure of how things should be today or in the future. Being open-minded, evolving and taking some calculated risks allow us to remain progressive and relevant in a society that can quickly leave us behind.

By not judging a book by its cover, and allowing our newest division to grow and flourish, our organization as a whole is thriving and expanding in ways we never imagined. There are exciting advancements and plans for growth on the horizon...stay tuned, stay colorful and continue to share and welcome others to NATRC!



National Sponsors and Partners

Sponsors

We appreciate and applaud our sponsors. Their support aids our success. In buying goods and services from them, you also help the sport you love!



Partners

We exchange website logos and links for mutual support and marketing presence. The breed associations also provide us with year-end high point breed awards.



For information about partnering, please contact our [Executive Director](#).



Create a Legacy of Your Own

Make an Impact on NATRC's Future Through Planned Giving

Three simple and effective ways to give.

1. Request In Lieu of Flowers contributions by mourners
2. Designate NATRC as an insurance policy beneficiary
3. Give a gift, known as a Charitable Bequest, in your will

By giving to NATRC, an organization that holds a unique place in your heart, you are ensuring that we can continue to promote equine and equestrian safety through trail competitions and education programs, and to develop and maintain trail systems throughout the country.

Contact: natrc@natrc.org

The North American Trail Ride Conference is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible. To implement any of the donation suggestions, please be sure to work with your attorney or financial advisor.



Photo by Jim Edmondson

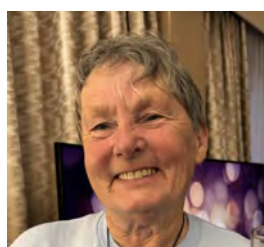


Convention Sponsors



THE DISTANCE DEPOT

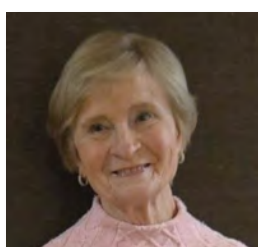
Convention Volunteer Staff



Esther Diaguila
Co-Chair, Banquet, Hotel,
Shuttle, Name Tags



Sherry Garnes
Co-Chair, Publicity, NBOD
Liaison



Linda Clayton
Registration, Name Tags, Wel-
come, Booth, Conv. & R5 Treas.



Sarah J. Smith
National Awards



Carolyn Chapman
Silent Auction



Sallie Kudra
Audio Visual Tech, Awards
Set-up, Photos, Hospitality



Lin Ward
Host Speakers/BOD,
Hospitality



Victoria Whitehead
Host Speakers/BOD,
Awards Set-up



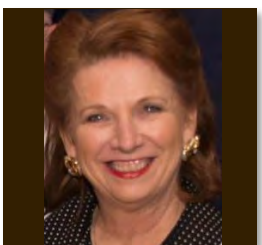
Marty Findley
Host Speakers/BOD,
Entertainment



Cindy Keen
Regional Awards, Vendors,
Welcome Bags



Patricia Petelle
Entertainment



Debbie McCullough
Host Speakers/BOD

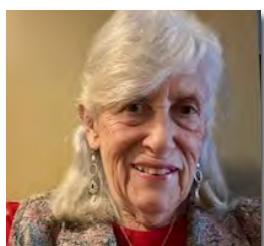


Kim Cowart
National Awards Emcee



Nancy Fuller
Regional Awards Emcee

Tanya Kingsley
Awards Set-up



Sandy Peagram
Vendors

Thank You!





In Remembrance



Karen Susan (Pietsch) Kafka

May 9, 1958 ~ July 11, 2024 | Columbia, Kentucky

Karen Susan Kafka, 66, of Columbia, Kentucky passed away Thursday, July 11, 2024, at T. J. Health Columbia. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on May 9, 1958, to the late Anthony and Laurel Harrod Pietsch.

Mrs. Kafka was an elementary school teacher and an equestrian business owner, rider, and riding instructor.

Karen was active in NATRC competitive trail rides as both a volunteer and competitor. She completed 3,150 competition miles, earned an open national championship with her horse Smokey Sedona in 2016, and

accumulated numerous awards during her competition career.

She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

Survivors include her husband Steven George Kafka; two sons Alexander and Andrew Kafka and a brother Robert Pietsch.



Donations may be made to Hosparus Health Green River or the Vanderbilt Cancer Center in Karen's name.



Marguerite Eleanor Bayles Sloan

October 3, 1931 - April 15, 2022 | Forsyth, Missouri

"Through the ears of a mule, blow the winds of heaven." – Adapted from an Arab proverb

Marguerite Eleanor Bayles Sloan, 90, died peacefully on April 15, 2022 at her home in Forsyth, Missouri.

A conversation with Marguerite would often switch to the topic of horses and mules, her lifelong passion. In her own words, "I was born loving equine of any kind, and when I learned my dad had a work horse that could be ridden, I was obsessed to ride that horse."

She could remember everything about one's horse and riding ability. She was an accomplished rider, judge, trainer, and instructor. Her accomplishments and awards were numerous. She won two NATRC national championships on two different horses in 1985 and 1992.

After retiring to Missouri, she and John enjoyed exploring the local

trails around the Mark Twain National Forest. Marguerite continued to ride her beloved mule, Jamie, until just a few years ago, and in 2013, wrote a book about their adventures together on the trail. The book, *Lookin' Thru the Ears of My Mule*, can be found at www.earsofmy mule.com.

She had several interests and was known for developing a high level of expertise in her interests. She took painting classes as a teenager and painted throughout her life. Her favorite subjects were scenes from the farm and trail rides, animals, and rural landscapes. She was talented at sewing and taught classes in tailoring, dressmaking, and pattern alteration. Later in life, she took a keen interest in computers. Family and friends could always expect homemade greeting cards she made on her computer, featuring her own paintings or

photos she found amusing. She managed her website showcasing her paintings, www.rainbowhillpaintings.com.

"I've spent most of my life riding horses. The rest I've just wasted." – Horse Rider's Proverb



(Continued on page 8)



Mary A. Hanson

August 18, 1955 - January 11, 2022 | Ithaca, Nebraska

Mary A. Hanson, age 66, of Ithaca, Nebraska, passed away on January 11, 2022 at home.

Mary Hanson was born in Omaha, Nebraska to Joseph and Gladys Sokolik on August 18, 1955. She is a graduate of Ralston High School and attended the University of Nebraska where she earned a bachelor's degree in animal science and a masters in regional planning.

After college, she worked at Waldo Farms in Dewitt. She became a mail carrier and worked in Beatrice, Crete, and Lincoln. She was later appointed postmaster at Ithaca, where she met her husband, Dwight Hanson. They were married on May 12, 1990. She finished her post office career as the postmaster of Ceresco.

Mary went back to school and earned a Masters in Regional Planning. With this, she landed her dream job as a trails planner for the National Park Service in the Rivers and Trails Department of the Midwest Region. Several of her projects were in Saunders County and throughout the Midwest Region.

Mary became the first "horse trail" expert in the Park Service and worked on many projects outside of her region including a 1,000 acre



preserve of equestrian land near Lexington, Kentucky.

As an avid animal lover (especially horses), Mary always had cats, dogs and other pets throughout her life. She competed driving horses in combined driving events in the United States and Canada. She volunteered and competed in numerous NATRC competitive trail rides throughout the United States, earning a competitive pleasure national championship, taking home many awards and completing over 1,000 competition miles. She was the past president of the Eastern Nebraska Driving Society and was a regional representative for NATRC.

She also volunteered at the Worlds

Pairs Championship, the Worlds Equestrian Games, Saunders County Lost Pets, the Nebraska Horse Trails Committee, and many other organizations.

Mary is survived by her husband Dwight Hanson, three sisters, one brother, and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials in her name have been used to help build a new building for the St. Lillian's Children's Home in Gayaza, Uganda.

A celebration of her life was held on July 2, 2022 at her home where friends and family accompanied her on her last ride. The celebration included a ceremony where folks shared a few of their memories of Mary. There were trails to follow to view and enjoy nature, an obstacle course for trail riders, a driving derby and a barbecue. As Mary had wanted, her friends and family were able to experience some of Mary's favorite activities.



Judy Jesse

April 2022 | Ringgold, Georgia

Judy Jesse, long time Region 5 & 6 horsemanship judge, competitor, ride manager, trail blazer, National Board member, and friend to many, departed this world in 2022 on her new journey.



2025 Appv'd Rule Changes

Changes are in **RED**.

EXTEND COMBINED WEIGHT CLASSES FOR ONE YEAR

SECTION 4 – DIVISIONS, CLASSES, AND ELIGIBILITY

B. Classes

1. Heavyweight and Lightweight classes are combined into an Adult class on a temporary basis for the **2025** ride year and will revert to 2022 rules unless extended by the National Board of Directors.

VETERINARY JUDGING

SECTION 6 - JUDGING

- A. Procedures: The judges may act together and discuss individual entrants throughout the course of the ride.
2. Start of Competition
 - a. For the purposes of scoring **maneuvering trail/behavior**, soundness and horsemanship, the horse and rider shall be considered in competition from the moment that the horse is presented to the judges for preliminary examination.
5. Final Examination: There must be a final examination (including condition, soundness, and **maneuvering trail/behavior**) of all horses by the veterinary and horsemanship judges after the completion of the final day's ride.
- B. Veterinary Judging: Judges shall not discriminate against any animal due to conformation or type as long as the animal performs satisfactorily. Horses are to be evaluated on the following three criteria: condition, soundness and **maneuvering trail/behavior**. Leisure Division does not have to adhere to these scoring categories.
3. **Maneuvering Trail/Behavior** 15%: The evaluation of **maneuvering trail/behavior** shall include, but not be limited to, the following: disposition, response to rider, kicking, head tossing, prancing, standing for examination and mounting, buddying up, trail wise, etc.
- D. Leisure Division. Horses will be evaluated on **maneuvering trail/behavior**. Riders will be evaluated on equitation and partnership with the horse. Safety may be scored.

Scapulae Pain Tendons Ligaments	Left Hind	
	Right Hind	
Maneuvering Trail / Behavior 15 Points		Check In
Includes, but not limited to, disposition, response to rider, kicking, head tossing, prancing, standing for examination and mount, buddying, trail wise, etc.		
Rider #	Horse Name	
	Rider Name	
DO-1 DO-2	TYPE: AA A B1	

MANEUVERING TRAIL/BEHAVIOR 15 Points

Exams, Mounts: (Max. 3 pts /observation)	
Excellent (perfect standing)	+
Good standing	Good
Balancing step / slight shift or movement	-
Mild Movement (1-2 intentional steps)	-1/2
Moderate Movement (3-4 steps away, turns)	-1
Profound Movement (multiple steps / walks off)	-2
Maneuvering Trail/ Behavior: (Max. 3 pts /observation).	
Additional points may be taken for safety concerns.	
Excellent behavior	+
Good behavior	Good
Misbehavior:	
Slight	-
Mild	-1/2
Moderate	-1
Profound	-2
Dangerous	-5, -10 or DQ
Did Not Complete (DNC) / Pass:	
-3 or less	

(Affected portions of front and back of horse scorecard included here for reference)

STABLING

SECTION 5 – THE RIDE

B. Stabling

4. Stabling option **not allowed** during competition **as primary containment**.
 - a. Hobbling of any kind
 - b. Portable panels that are not securely anchored to a trailer or a tree
 - c. Electric fencing
 - d. Staking out in any manner
 - e. Stallions in portable panels
5. Stallions: Stallions must be double tied...



Meet Our Newly Approved Judges

VETERINARY

Madalyn Ward, DVM



HORSEMANSHIP



Fran Muench

Photo by Family



Debby Starr

Photo by Becky Rogers

LEISURE

Linda Johnson-Conne

Photo by Family



Erin McChesney

Photo by Self



2026 Proposed Rule Changes

To be voted on by NBOD in July 2025 | Changes are in **RED**

#1: CHANGE THE END OF THE RIDE YEAR

SECTION 2. SANCTIONED RIDES AND CLINICS

- A. Ride
 - 1. Sanctioning
 - d. Ride year ends the ~~last~~ **second** Sunday in November

SECTION 9. AWARDS

- B. Annual Awards
 - 1. General
 - e. Ride year ends the ~~last~~ **second**-Sunday in November.

Rationale: To allow sufficient time to wrap up year-end standings.

#2: COMBINE DIVISION WEIGHT CLASSES INTO ADULT CLASS

a: TEMPORARY ONE-YEAR ACTION

SECTION 4 - DIVISION, CLASSES, AND ELIGIBILITY

- B. Classes
 - 1. Heavyweight and Lightweight classes will combine into an Adult class on a temporary basis for the **2026** ride year and will revert to 2022 rules unless extended by the National Board of Directors.

Rationale: Continue current year-to-year approval process. In the 2023 ride season, merging the Heavyweight and Lightweight classes into a single ADULT class yielded the desired results. There were many fewer tiny classes (<3 competitors) and while there were some large classes (>10 competitors), the number wasn't large and was still much less than experienced historically in NATRC. Heavyweights may be at a disadvantage competing with lightweights, but without the merger, many classes would have no real competition. By making the change temporary, it is slightly easier to reverse this change if ridership improves.

b: MAKE PERMANENT

SECTION 4 - DIVISION, CLASSES, AND ELIGIBILITY

- B. Classes
 - 1. Heavyweight and Lightweight classes will combine into an Adult class on a **permanent** basis. ~~for the 2025 year and will revert to 2022 rules unless extended by the National Board of Directors.~~

Rationale: In the 2023 ride season, merging the Heavyweight and Lightweight classes into a single ADULT class yielded the desired results. There were many fewer tiny classes (<3 competitors) and while there were some large classes (>10 competitors), the number wasn't large and was still much less than experienced historically in NATRC. Heavyweights may be at a disadvantage competing with lightweights, but without the merge many classes would have no real competition. By making the change permanent, competitors know this is what to expect going forward and the NBOD would be freed up from annual discussions on this rule. Weight class can be reconsidered when ridership increases to offer realistic competition in the weight classes.

#3: RETURN SWEEPSTAKES AWARD TO ITS ORIGINAL INTENT

SECTION 9 - AWARDS

- A. Ride Awards
 - ~~4. The horses with the highest scores from the Open, Competitive Pleasure and Novice Divisions shall be the recipients of the Open, Competitive Pleasure and Novice Sweepstakes Awards.~~
- A. Ride Awards
 - 4. Open, Competitive Pleasure and Novice Sweepstakes awards will be presented to the equine competitor that receives a FIRST place in the Open, Competitive Pleasure and Novice divisions and only if there are starters in more than one class in a division.

Rationale: The first place requirement further ensures that the equine is truly the top competitor of that division and not a recipient by default. There have been instances when an equine with the "highest score" has been lame on check out and had a second place but still received Sweepstakes. More than one class in a division highlights the original intent of sweepstakes and brings back the element of suspense.



2026 Proposed Rule Clarifications

To be voted on by NBOD in July 2025 | Changes are in RED

#1: SCHEDULING AND FEES FOR SANCTIONED EVENTS

SECTION 2. SANCTIONED RIDES AND CLINICS

- A. Ride
5. Scheduling
- b. Rides scheduled for the same weekend shall be at least 250 miles apart in order to be sanctioned. A Leisure Division-only ride may be excepted.
- ~~c. Priority on ride dates shall be given to rides sanctioned the previous ride year.~~
- ~~d. Rides sanctioned but cancelled will hold their priority date for one year only.~~
- ~~e. Sanction written commitment for established ride is due by the 31st of January. After the 31st of January, the priority date will be forfeited.~~

Rationale: c, d and e are more appropriate in the P&P in the Ride Sanction section.

- B. Clinics
2. Fees - See Clinic Sanction Application
- ~~a. There is no sanction fee.~~
- ~~b. Clinic fees for participants will be identified in the application.~~
- ~~c. Upon request, each NATRC region will be granted funds for insurance at sanctioned NATRC clinics, as determined by the NATRC Board of Directors.~~
4. Scheduling - See Clinic Sanction Application
- ~~a. Sanction application must be received in the NATRC office at least sixty (60) days prior to the clinic date.~~
- ~~b. In addition to NATRC literature, suggested clinic outlines and format will be furnished upon submission of sanction application.~~

Rationale: Not necessary. 2.a-c. and 4.a are covered in the Clinic Sanction Application; 4.b does not apply any more.

#2: ANNOUNCING TIME PENALTY POINTS

SECTION 5 – THE RIDE

- J. Timing and Time Penalty Points
7. Announcement of Time Penalty Points
- a. Timers must inform ride chair, who must in turn inform riders who were early/late of the number of minutes early/late. ~~any early/late arrivals.~~ Barring unforeseen circumstances, **ideally** this shall be accomplished within 2 hours of completion of each day's event, ~~but and~~ no later than prior to awards presentation.

SECTION 6 – JUDGING

- E. Penalty Points
3. Ride chair must inform riders and all judges of any penalty points. Barring unforeseen circumstances, **ideally** this shall be accomplished on the same day, ~~but must be done and~~ prior to ride awards presentation.

Rationale: Sometimes errors in calculating or recording time or other penalties are not found until after the ride. These errors can result in score and placing changes and must be consistent with 5.J.3.(early arrivals), 5.J.4 (late arrivals), 5.J.6 (additional time penalties), 6.E.4 (scoring penalty points) and 6.E.5 (faulting horsemanship).

#3: PULL IS FINAL

SECTION 6 – JUDGING

- G. Pull Criteria
5. A pulled equine or rider may not re-enter the same competition for any reason.

Rationale: This would clarify that a pull is final.



When talking about finding the right trail horse:

"I'm not a fan of drama, so words like kind, curious, sweet, and easy-going are essential to me."

-- Robert Eversole, the "TrailMeister" author of *The ABCs of Trail Riding and Horse Camping*, 2021

2024 Open National Awards

2024 President's Cup Overall High Point Open Horse

*Saddle sponsored by Specialized Saddles & NATRC,
Blanket sponsored by Jan Stewart, Buckle sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench*

RPH Ebony Diamond ridden by Patti Hicks

140 Points/Half-Arabian Mare
Acceptance Speech by Patti Hicks

I'm honored to be here tonight and join the list of riders and horses that stretches back to my childhood, for I was born the year NATRC began.

I've been riding for as long as I can remember. My Dad preferred gaited horses, but when I was 15, I persuaded him to buy me a barrel racing horse. After Ronald and I married in 1979, I continued to rodeo, and we also team roped. I trained horses professionally for many years and we raised Paints and Quarter Horses.

One day I realized my hobby had become a job and wasn't fun anymore. I stopped training, went to work in the school system, and we decided to liquidate our breeding stock. We would keep two colts to replace our aging riding horses. The year was 2002 and I would soon discover a new sport that would change and define my life.

But first, let me thank the many people who have been instrumental in Diamond and me achieving this prestigious award.

My husband Ronald for taking care of the rig, traveling with me, believing always that we could do this, and cooking all of our meals! Thank you!

My family for their support and understanding in what chasing this goal has meant to me.

Neighbors, Brad and Leigh Smith, for taking care of things at home and



RPH Ebony Diamond and Patti Hicks, Photo by Ivy Starnes

leaving special gifts of support on our counter.

My many friends and fellow riders for your help, advice, encouragement and kind words throughout the year.

Our longtime friend and farrier Steve Belyeu for constantly rearranging his schedule to keep Diamond shod and sound. We had a trip planned in March 2014, so he and

wife Sherry kept our mare, Star, and Diamond was born on their place. Sherry said she imprinted her, but Diamond is always hard to shoe on the left rear so we joke that she missed a foot.

And a very special thank you to Beverly Roberts who does so much for NATRC. Without her generosity, this amazing journey would not have begun.

See, it all started back in the spring of 2003. A buckskin Paint filly was born on my birthday at our farm. I named her RPH Go Special Star.

Then I happened to see an advertisement for an NATRC competition that was held near our town of Jefferson, Texas. It sounded interesting! Through the internet, I met local riders Paula Riley, Ginger Bailey and Larry Gould, and that fall went to my first ride at Robbers Cave in Oklahoma. I rode my barrel horse Stormy. We didn't place very well but Ronald and I were hooked.

We had found our people.

While Star was growing up, I competed another mare we owned doing a season of novice and then stepping up to open, learning about the sport.

Eventually Star was old enough to start going to rides. She had suffered a serious injury as a young horse, and I was advised she would likely never see a trail. But she saw 1280

(Continued on page 13)

(**President's Cup** Continued from page 12)

miles in competition and earned two open national championships.

In 2012, she and I embarked on the magical journey of 16 rides, the most you can count for points during a season. I was working full time, but we juggled my days off to make the 13 rides in Region 4 and three more in Kansas in Region 6. Star and I ended the year as number one in open lightweight in both horse and horsemanship in national standings. Tammy Lineback and Susie's Stardust won President's Cup. We rode and traveled together throughout the season and made many fond memories.

Star's earlier injury had been plaguing her and I knew at the conclusion of the last ride what I wanted to do. She was retired and I contacted Beverly to ask if she still had her black Arabian stallion, and could I please breed my champion mare?

Her reply came back, "Yes we still have Raven, but he's 26 years old and we haven't bred him in years." As my heart sank, Beverly then said, "Why don't you come get him, and he can winter in warmer Texas and try to get your mare in foal." And so, we did!



Baby Diamond and Patti Hicks, 2014, Family Photo

March 2014, a sassy black pinto Half-Arabian filly was born. I named her RPH Ebony Diamond, and all of NATRC watched her grow up. Jonni Jewel has reminded me she is special, for she follows the philosophy of being specifically bred and trained for this sport. She is a third generation NATRC horse.

I spent the next few years acquiring a horsemanship judging card and seeing the sport from a different perspective. But soon Diamond was a 5-year-old and I started serious training. In the spring of her 6-year-old year, we attended our first competition starting in open, where we passed on at least three observations!

We continued to work on her conditioning, saddle fit, diet, and all the things she needed to be successful.

In 2022, we missed some rides when she stepped in a hole and strained her suspensory. But she came back and earned her first sweepstakes and open national championship.

In December, she won the Jingle Bell Jaunt, first ride of the 2023 season, and was then sidelined with an abscess. Again, she came back to earn her second open national championship.

Then it was December again and once more she won Jingle Bell Jaunt, the first ride of 2024. But this time, the magic didn't stop. We kept going to rides, winning and placing well, and staying sound.

Next, we went to San Antonio for the Stroll along the Medina River, followed by the long running Scamper on 7IL Ranch, site of her first ride 3 years prior.

Our fourth ride was the surprisingly tough Red Dirt trail in Louisiana. We had cold rain. Diamond received her lowest score when her

hindquarters muscles were stiff and tight. Dr. Tamara Gull was judging and suggested different electrolytes and minerals which corrected the problem, and we had no more issues.

We then traveled east to Alabama for Sprig in Dixie at beautiful and historic Camp McClellan here in Region 5 where she took first with a high score of 98. Traveling west back home, we just missed the eclipse!



Diamond and Patti Hicks

Photo by Cindy Keen

Back in Texas, we competed in the rocky Raising the Bar which became a 1-day B ride due to heavy rainfall. We definitely needed good raingear this season!

Staying close to home, we competed in the lovely east Texas Piney Woods for Leave No Trace, just a 3-hour drive!

Kansas was next on the list, starting out our summer of five out-of-region rides in a row and a lot of driving.

By May, I had started paying attention to the points, planning our trips as Diamond just kept going strong. On long drives, we would leave home on Wednesday, breaking up the haul so Diamond would get more rest. We brought along our Catahoula, Caddo, who was like her emotional support dog!

May 29th, the day before we were to leave for Kanopolis, Kansas, I went to feed and something wasn't right. Diamond was walking slowly

(Continued on page 14)

toward the barn, and drooling. When I saw her hugely swollen jaw, I feared a snake bite, but it was a big nest of wasps by the water trough that had stung her. All day we applied hydro, ice and mud packs, deciding to forego medications. That night, I coated her jaw thickly with mud poultice, put on her lycra mask and went to bed.

Early the next morning she greeted me with a nicker! She had eaten all her hay, drunk a bucket of water, and all the heat and swelling were gone! I ran back to the house yelling for Ronald to get up, that we were going to Kansas! Diamond placed 2nd at Kanopolis Canyons and earned the final points for her 3rd open national championship.

We went to Hillsdale, Kansas for Back in the Saddle where it was very hot. She lost her first and only point at a P&R for respiration.

August was the very long trek north to Brushy Creek in Iowa where she earned another sweepstakes. With 8% grades into camp, I can say that Iowa is definitely not all flat.

I always wanted to attend Ride the Edge in Jamestown, Tennessee, and in September, I got my chance. Such a beautiful, scenic ranch, and Diamond scored an awesome 99.5.

Then it was back to Kansas for Jesse James Rideout where we also got to eat a cheeseburger in Paradise at a local restaurant. So much fun!

We had traveled so far all summer from our home in northeast Texas. Diamond hauled and traveled so well. Always loading, eating and drinking on the road. She continued to stay sound and place high. We were having fun, sharing adventures and making lifetime memories.

The four of us, me, husband Ronald, Diamond, and dog Caddo, were often joined on the road by friend Marilyn Bivens and her horse, Rocky, as we chased our dreams and goals.

In October, we finally returned to Region 4 and Texas for Grasslands Gamble. In placing second and winning horsemanship, we won their special high point combination award, a beautiful hand burned wood plaque donated by a new member!

Early November, I traveled alone to the last ride in Region 4 at Bell

Cow Lake in Oklahoma. We endured a tornado scare on Saturday night with sirens going off, and rode in cold driving rain all day Sunday, placing third. This was our 14th competition.

We had traveled almost 12,000 miles and had ridden 810 miles in seven states and three regions. I had asked my horse to do this for me, and she had never wavered from our goal. We had two more rides on our calendar, in Kansas and Alabama. More cold and rain were predicted, and I had family events at home I would be missing.

I was packed to be gone for two weeks, but after counting points, I decided we were going to stay home. I knew we had achieved what I set forth to do.

This year has been amazing. Riding new places, making new friends and collecting unforgettable memories.

Thank you to all the ride managers and volunteers who made this season, and all seasons, happen.

Thank you to everyone who has sponsored our lovely awards, and to Specialized Saddles for generously donating our beautiful custom saddle. Thanks to our regional representative, John Nowell, for your support, help, and beautiful photography capturing our memories. You have both done so much for us riders and are very appreciated.

I'd like to also recognize Kris Wech for offering me her home while traveling, Jan Stewart for her prayer for safe travel and rides, Marilyn Bivens for Diamond's special good-luck halter she wore all year,



RPH Ebony Diamond and Patti Hicks

Photo by Ivy Starnes

and Jennifer Krause for tagging behind me at most of the rides helping with staying on trail.

Thanks to so many for just being there when I was tired or stressed.

When people are asked what they learn from this sport, they usually mention better horsemanship and horse care. I've learned those things, too. But, when I think what this sport, and especially this year has taught me, I realize I've learned perseverance, determination, preparedness, and humility.

I've learned to be a better rider, and I hope, a better person.

To you the riders, set goals, follow your dreams, and always believe in yourself and your horse. Congratulations to those of you who achieved your goals and won amazing awards this season!

Thank you.





Patti Hicks and RPH Ebony Diamond Photo by Kristen Schmalzried

Jim Menefee Memorial Combined High Point Horse and Horsemanship

Perpetual Trophy Donated by Jack Menefee

Buckle sponsored by Teresa Galliher

Ribbon sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench

RPH Ebony Diamond and Patti Hicks
288 Points

Bev Tibbitts Grand Champion High Average Horse

Buckle sponsored by NECTRA

Ribbon sponsored by Sarah J. Smith

Rushcreek Frontier / Arabian 99.22%

Runners Up

Good Luke Charm / Arabian 97.57%

RPH Ebony Diamond / Half-Arabian 97.14%

**Rushcreek Frontier
and Helen Smith**

Photo by Diana Sadler



Polly Bridges High Average Horseman- ship

Buckle sponsored by Jonni Jewell & Kim Murphy

Ribbon sponsored by Sarah J. Smith

Patti Hicks.....99.23%

Runners Up

Helen Smith99.13%

Cynthia Mettes.....97.56%

Patti Hicks and RPH Ebony Diamond

Photo by Carolyn Chapman



Overall High Point Open

Open Adult Horse

Ribbons sponsored by John Zeliff

1. RPH Ebony Diamond / har Patti Hicks / R4 140
2. Good Luke Charm / gr Cynthia Mettes / R4 107
3. Rushcreek Frontier / ar Helen Smith / R6 99
4. AF Johnny Bravo / ar Jonni Jewell / R4 87
5. Jiminy Cricket / gr Jennifer Mulligan / R5 72
6. Vaquero / smr Teresa Galliher / R4 58



RPH Ebony Diamond and Patti Hicks

Photo by Ivy Starns



Rushcreek Frontier and Helen Smith

Photo by Jan Stewart



Good Luke Charm and Cynthia Mettes

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



AF Johnny Bravo and Jonni Jewell

Photo by Helen Smith



Jiminy Cricket and Jennifer Mulligan

Photo by Nancy Fuller



Vaquero and Teresa Galliher

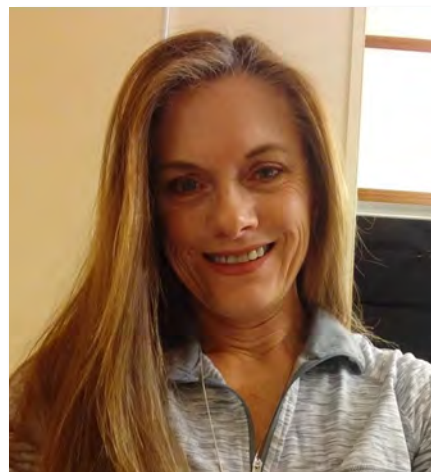
Photo by Kay Gunckel

(Continued on page 17)

Open Adult Horsemanship

Ribbons sponsored by John Zeliff

1. Patti Hicks / R4.....148
2. Cynthia Mettes / R4.....113
3. Jonni Jewell / R483
4. Helen Smith / R680
5. Teresa Galliher / R451
5. Jennifer Mulligan / R5.....51
6. Mary Anna Wood / R632



Patti Hicks

Photo by Pam Bishop



Cynthia Mettes

Photo by Pam Bishop



Jonni Jewell

Photo by Pam Bishop



Helen Smith

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



Teresa Galliher

Photo by Stacey Wilson



Jennifer Mulligan

Photo by Pam Bishop



Mary Anna Wood

Photo by Cheryl Bohling

Open Junior High Average Horsemanship

Buckle and ribbon sponsored by Suzi Geiger

Anna Beth Lawrence 86.79%



**Anna Beth Lawrence and
Mtntop Never Say Never**, Photo by Susie Geiger

Open Junior Horse

1. Mtntop Never Say Never
/ morg..... 24
2. Timber Jac Joe
/ qtr..... 16



Anna Beth Lawrence
Photo by Self



**Mtntop Never Say Never and
Anna Beth Lawrence**

Photo by Susie Geiger



**Timber Jac Joe and Anna
Beth Lawrence**

Photo by Marsha Howard

Open Junior Horsemanship

1. Anna Beth Lawrence / R542

"Distance riders usually look for an angular body type, overall body balance, big barrel and heart girth, short cannon bones, medium length pasterns, a nice round foot, good withers, large well-placed eyes, cooperative attitude, a smart and trusting disposition, and smooth action. Riders also prefer a horse that has been pasture-raised versus stall-raised."

- Deb Bennet, Ph.D., NATRC Rider's Manual, 2021

Open National Champions

Ribbons sponsored by Sarah J. Smith

Region 4

RPH Ebony Diamond / Half Arabian Patti Hicks
(Blanket sponsored by Jonni Jewell)

Good Luke Charm / Grade..... Cynthia Mettes
(Blanket sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench)

AF Johnny Bravo / ArabianJonni Jewell
(Blanket sponsored by Helen Smith)

Region 6

Rushcreek Frontier / ArabianHelen Smith
(Blanket sponsored by Marilyn Marston)



Good Luke Charm

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



Rushcreek Frontier

Photo by Jan Stewart



RPH Ebony Diamond

Photo by Ivy Starns



AF Johnny Bravo

Photo by Jan Stewart-Taylor

NATRC Annual Raffle Results



The winners were drawn at the National Convention awards banquet in Nashville, TN on February 22, 2025. Thank you all who purchased tickets!

1st Prize

\$500 Riding Warehouse Gift Card

Cheryl Bohling, R6

2nd Prize

\$300 Riding Warehouse Gift Card

Catherine Gast, R6

3rd Prize

Quick Draw Tie Line (6 winners)

Whitney Braitto	R1
Lory Walls	R2
Ashley Edwards	R3
Teresa Galliher	R4
Therese Surdel	R5
Kris Wech	R6

Congratulations to the Lucky Winners!

2024 Competitive Pleasure National Awards



Little Rocky Road and Marilyn Bivens
Photo by John Nowell

High Point Combination Adult Team

*Buckle sponsored by Tammy Lineback
Ribbon sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench*

Little Rocky Road and Marilyn Bivens
213 Points

Grand Champion High Average Horse

*Buckle sponsored by Patti Hicks
Ribbon sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench*

Little Rocky Road / gr 98.29%

High Average Horsemanship

Ribbon sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench

Marilyn Bivens 97.92%

High Point Combination Junior Team

Buckle and ribbon sponsored by Marsha Howard

DLC Roxies Peponita and Mikey Patisaul
42 Points

DLC Roxies Peponita and Mikey Patisaul
Photo by Becky Pearman



Overall High Point Competitive Pleasure

CP Adult Horse

Silver Tray sponsored by Jan Stewart

Ribbon sponsored by Patty Lucas

1. Little Rocky Road / grMarilyn Bivens / R4 ...112
2. Shimmer's Golden Perfection D./ mftKathi Wiggins / R582
3. Mageed Ibn Kamal Ma / arMollie Kelly / R4.....79
4. Prince's Rising Moon / mftKris Wech / R676
5. Mnttop Never Say Never / morgMarsha Howard / R5 ...70
6. Mick Jagger / grSierra Patisaul / R560



**Little Rocky Road
and Marilyn Bivens**

Photo by John Nowell



**Shimmer's Golden Perfection D. and
Kathi Wiggins,** Photo by Carolyn Chapman



**Mageed Ibn Kamal Ma
and Mollie Kelly**

Photo by Ivy Starns



**Prince's Rising Moon and
Kris Wech,** Photo by Ivy Starns



**Mnttop Never Say
Never and Marsha Howard**

Photo by Becky Pearman



**Mick Jagger and Sierra
Patisaul,** Photo by Becky Pearman

(Continued on page 22)

CP Adult Horsemanship

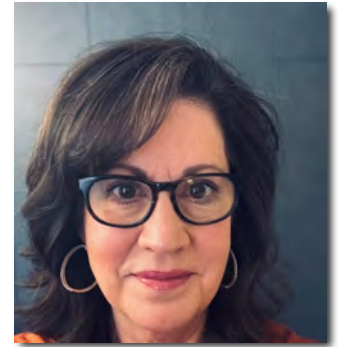
Silver Tray and ribbons sponsored by
Fran & Gayle Muench

1. Marilyn Bivens / R4..... 101
2. Kathi Wiggins / R5 78
2. Sierra Patisaul / R5..... 78
3. Marsha Howard / R5..... 72
4. Kris Wech / R6..... 62
5. Ashley Edwards / R3 60
6. Lael Feist / R5 56



Marilyn Bivens

Photo by
Peggy
Johnson



Kathi Wiggins

Photo by Self



Sierra Patisaul

Photo by Cindy Keen



Marsha Howard

Photo by FastFoto



Kris Wech

Photo by Self



Ashley Edwards

Photo by Self



Lael Feist, Photo by Self

CP Junior Horse

Silver Tray sponsored by Cindy Keen
Ribbons sponsored by Esther Diaguila

1. DLC Roxies Peponita / paint... Mikey Patisaul / R5 ... 22
2. Sonny / gr Virginia Meyer 18

CP Junior Horsemanship

Silver Tray sponsored by Cindy Keen
Ribbons sponsored by Esther Diaguila

1. Mikey Patisaul / R5..... 20
2. Virginia Meyer / R5 18



Mikey Patisaul

Photo by Becky Pearman



Virginia Meyer

Photo by Family



**DLC Roxies Peponita
and Mikey Patisaul**

Photo by Becky Pearman



Sonny and Virginia Meyer

Photo by Family

Competitive Pleasure National Champions

Ribbons sponsored by Sarah J. Smith

Region 4

Little Rocky Road / GradeMarilyn Bivens
(Blanket sponsored by Jan Stewart)

Mageed Ibn Kamal Ma / Arabian Molly Kelly
(Blanket sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench)

Region 5

Shimmer's Golden Perfection D. / Missouri Fox Trotter Kathi Wiggins
(Blanket sponsored by Donna Curry)

Region 6

Prince's Rising Moon / Missouri Fox TrotterKris Wech
(Blanket sponsored by John Zeliff)



Little Rocky Road
 Photo by Ivy Starns



Mageed Ibn Kamal Ma
 Photo by Ivy Starns



Shimmer's Golden Perfection D.
 Photo by Carolyn Chapman



Prince's Rising Moon
 Photo by Ivy Starns

Convention Parody - Equestrians Through the Ages

Costumes courtesy of sorcerer seamstress Marty Findley



Photo by Tina Sanford

2024 Novice National Awards

High Point Combination

Novice Adult Team

*Buckle sponsored by Alanna Price
Ribbon sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench*

Precious and Julie Bills / R4
226 Points



**Precious and
Julie Bills**

Photo by Ivy Starns

Novice Junior Team

Buckle and ribbon sponsored by Elaine Swiss

XEX King Lightfoot and
Emma Walston / R4
87 Points



**XEX King
Lightfoot
and Emma
Walston**

Photo by Ivy
Starns



Thank you Specialized
Saddles for Patti's
beautiful new
President's Cup
saddle!

Photo by
Tina Sanford

Marilyn Hartness Honored

Marilyn, an NATRC member and competitor, cancer survivor, and author of *Brave the Day*, a compilation of her personal journals during her illness, was honored at this year's awards banquet with her National Century Club recognition.



Photos by Tina Sanford

Overall High Point Novice

Novice Adult Horse

Silver Tray sponsored by Sherry Murphy

Ribbons sponsored by Marilyn Bivens

1. Precious / gr Julie Bills / R4120
2. Kensington Palace / thrb Brandy Eggeman / R548
3. MM Mariposa / gr Sara Sydnam / R443
4. Diamond N Bueno Pet / qtr Catherine Crites / R638
5. Hueco Count Victor / hwsh Kimberlee Flint / R435
6. Lightning's Mountainfrost / gr Whitney Braito / R134



Precious and Julie Bills

Photo by Ivy Starns



Kensington Palace and Brandy Eggeman

Photo by Becky Pearman



MM Mariposa and Sara Sydnam

Photo by Ivy Starns



Diamond N Bueno Pet and Cathrine Crites

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



Hueco Count Victor and Kimberlee Flint

Photo by Ivy Starns

Lightning's Mountainfrost and Whitney Braito

Photo by Donna Stidolph



(Continued on page 26)

Novice Adult Horsemanship

*Silver Tray and ribbons sponsored by
Fran & Gayle Muench*

1. Julie Bills / R4..... 106
2. Brandy Eggeman / R5..... 48
3. Sara Sydnam / R4..... 46
4. Kimberlee Flint / R4..... 45
5. Stephanie Sheek / R3 40
6. Jordan Yankton / R3 34



Julie Bills

Photo by Self



Brandy Eggeman

Photo by BeckY Pearman



Sara Sydnam

Photo by Ivy Starns



Kimberlee Flint

Photo by Ivy Starns

Stephanie Sheek

Photo by Family



Jordan Yankton

Photo by Family



Photos by Tina Sanford

Around Convention



**"If you climb in
the saddle,
be ready
for the ride."**

- Unknown

Novice Junior Horse

Silver Tray sponsored by Elaine Swiss
Ribbons sponsored by Patty Lucas

- 1. XEX King Lightfoot / qtr ... Emma Walston / R4 52
- 2. Desperados Kiss / gr Remedy Running Horse / R4 23
- 3. Razz Storm Docs / qtr..... Eva Siljander / R6 22
- 4. Inspector Gadget / gr Farryn Robinson / R5..... 19



XEX King Lightfoot and Emma Walston
Photo by Ivy Starns



Desperados Kiss and Remedy Running Horse
Photo by Rachail Running Horse



Razz Storm Docs and Eva Siljander
Photo by Julie Bills



Inspector Gadget and Farryn Robinson, Photo by _____



Emma Walston
Photo by Whitney Walston



Remedy Running Horse
Photo by Rachail Running Horse



Eva Siljander
Photo by Julie Bills



Farryn Robinson
Photo by Family

Novice Junior Horsemanship

Silver Tray sponsored by Elaine Swiss
Ribbons sponsored by Patty Lucas

- 1. Emma Walston / R4 35
- 2. Remedy Running Horse / R4 26
- 3. Eva Siljander / R6 15
- 3. Farryn Robinson / R5..... 15



2024 Leisure National Awards

Overall Leisure Experienced

Ribbons sponsored by Fran and Gayle Muench

Team	Region	Points
1. Diane Wingle and DM's Sweet Chilly Pepper - SC	3	75.5
2. Sharyl Walls and Takoda Aussie's Sun	3	40
3. Bill Wingle and Majestic's Ringo Star	3	31
4. Kandace French Contreras and Duke of Shadow Canyon	2	27.5
5. Mary Collins and Painted in the Stars	4	27
6. Victoria Whitehead and Graceful Empire	5	23



**Diane Wingle and
DM's Sweet Chilly Pepper**

Photo by Bill Wingle



**Sharyl Walls and
Takoda Aussie's Sun**

Photo by Bill Wingle



**Bill Wingle and
Majestic's Ringo Star**

Photo by Lee Sheek



**Kandace French Contreras and
Duke of Shadow Canyon**

Photo by Robin Campbell



**Mary Collins and
Painted in the Stars**

Photo by John Nowell



**Victoria Whitehead and
Graceful Empire**

Photo by Linda Wright

(Continued on page 29)

Overall Leisure Adult

*Silver Tray sponsored by Region 6
Region 6 recipient Ribbons sponsored by Region 6
Ribbons sponsored by Fran & Gayle Muench*

Team	Region	Points
1. MaryAlice Braun and Ace Cut Diamond	6	61.5
2. Holly Barret and Annie Lennox	6	44
3. Louise McCall and Rio Bravo	6	36
4. Martha Elmore and Joe's Bar Flick	6	31
5. Kate Steffes and Aria	3	30
6. Kathy Ambrose and Bush Rat Splash	3	28
6. Renae Roberts and Amarula Dona	4	28



**MaryAlice Braun and
Ace Cut Diamond**

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



**Holly Barret and
Annie Lennox**

Photo by Bill Wingle



**Louise McCall and
Rio Bravo**

Photo by Mary Fettes



**Martha Elmore and
Joe's Bar Flick**

Photo by Marla Stucky



Kate Steffes and Aria

Photo by Bill Wingle



**Kathy Ambrose and
Bush Rat Splash**

Photo by Bill Wingle



**Renea Roberts and Amarula
Dona**, Photo by AERC

(Continued on page 30)



Sydney Thies and Sunrise Cappuccino

Photo by Family



Farryn Robinson and Inspector Gadget

Photo by Family

Grace Wood and SLF By The Grace of God

Photo by Family



Baylor Batchelor and Delight's Amber Beauty

Photo by Family



Wren Woodall and Delight's Amber Beauty

Photo by Courtney Keen Woodall



Raegan Partch and Roxy

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



Ruby Rinne and Rushcreek Concho

Photo by Marla Stucky



Lorelei Egerer and Dakota A

Photo by Donna Stidolph



Kay Woodall and MCF Mustang Sally

Photo by Becky Pearman

Overall Leisure Junior

Region 6 recipient Ribbons sponsored by Region 6
Ribbons sponsored by Sallie Kudra

Team	Region	Points
1. Sydney Thies and Sunrise Cappuccino.....	2	24
2. Farryn Robinson and Inspector Gadget.....	5	17
3. Grace Wood and SLF ByThe Graceof God	5	16
4. Raegan Partch and Roxy.....	6	13
5. Baylor Batchelor and Delight's Amber Beauty.....	5	10
5. Ruby Rinne and Rushcreek Concho	6	10
5. Taji Simeone and Dunit in the Paint	2	10
5. Wren Woodall and Delight's Amber Beauty.....	5	10
6. Lorelei Egerer and Dakota A.....	1	9
6. Kay Woodall and MCF Mustang Sally	5	9

2024 Region Team Awards at National

OPEN ADULT

Region 1

1. TKR Leather N Lace / har Stephanie Swain32

Regions 1A & 2 (None qualified)

Region 3

1. Dino / gr Scarlett Hager 58

Region 4

1. RPH Ebony Diamond / harPatti Hicks 166
2. AF Johnny Bravo / ar Jonni Jewell 116
3. Vaquero / smr Teresa Galliher 109
4. Good Luke Charm / gr Cynthia Mettes 96
5. Doin What Dady Wants / ap Jennifer Krause 34

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. Jiminy Cricket / gr Jennifer Mulligan 72
2. Windstorm Clay / morg Tommy Mitchell 56
3. Paddy the Baddy / gr Asheton McCollum 31

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Rushcreek Frontier / ar Helen Smith 87
2. Sheesa Spotted Vaquera / ap Mary Anna Wood 64
3. PVA Light Nthe Storm / ar Kristen Johansen 41

OPEN JUNIOR

Regions 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, & 6

None qualified

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. Timber Jac Joe / qtr Anna Beth Lawrence ...28

COMPETITIVE PLEASURE ADULT

Region 1

1. Wind River Rose / gr Maria Pilgrim 69
2. Daris Amir / ar Robin Drechsler 54

Regions 1A & 2 (None qualified)

Region 3

1. Imma Cool Colour / ap Ashley Edwards 102
2. Amazing Grace / gr Cheri Westmoreland 64
3. Midnight's Patriot / gr Kay Gunckel 52

Region 4

1. Little Rocky Road / gr Marilyn Bivens 155
2. Mageed Ibn Kamal Ma / ar Mollie Kelly 132
3. Charlie Daniels SMA / ar Cara Liebman 104
4. KMA Ali Gator / har David Spell 78
5. Razmataz DBA+// / ar Carla Jo Bass 72

6. Phantasma Nora / har Elaine Swiss 60

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. Shimmer's Golden Perf. D. / mft Kathi Wiggins 160
2. Mick Jagger / gr Sierra Patisaul 138
3. Jada Angel / har Lael Feist 110
4. Mtntop.Never Say Never / morg Marsha Howard 88
5. Graceful Empire / gr Victoria Whitehead. 74
6. Princes Pablo Picasso / gr Mackie Rader 72

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Prince's Rising Moon / mft Kris Wech 94
2. Roho Honoy Mocha WH / mft John Zelif 51

COMPETITIVE PLEASURE JUNIOR

Regions 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, & 6

None qualified

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. DLC Roxies Peponita / paint Mikey Patisaul 42
2. Sonny / gr Virginia Meyer 36

(Continued on page 32)

NOVICE ADULT

Region 1

1. Lightning's Mountainfrost / tw Whitney Braitto 58
2. Gold Dust and Diamonds / mft..... Sheri Smith 38

Regions 1A, 2 & 3 (None qualified)

Region 4

1. Precious / mule Julie Bills 144
2. MM Mariposa / gr Sara Sydnam 83
3. Hueco Count Victor / hwsh Kimberlee Flint 80
4. Eddie Miles / asb Sharon Kang 54

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. Kensington Palace / thrb Brandy Eggeman 74
2. Tank / gr Patsy Pfitzner 61
3. Straoght Georgette Max / paint Mathew McIntire 57

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Fiddle / gr Catherine Gast 63
2. Dolly / mule Rianna Deselich 58
3. Diamond N Bueno Pet / qtr Catherine Crites 56

NOVICE JUNIOR

Regions 1, 1A, 2 & 3 (None qualified)

Region 4

1. XEX King Lightfoot / qtr Emma Walston 87

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Victoria Whitehead and the StarLight Farms Family

1. Inspector Gadget / gr Farryn Robinson 34

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Razz Storm Docs / qtr Eva Siljander 37

LEISURE EXPERIENCED

Region 1

1. Andy / gr Rachel Vitorelo 10

Region 1A (None qualified)

Region 2

1. Duke of Shadow Canyon / tw Kandace Contreras . 25
2. Show Me Billy / mule Catherine Peterson . 15
3. Copper Touch / gr Dayna Morgan 9
4. Lite Night / tw Helen Steenman 7

Region 3

1. DM's Sweet Chilly Pepper / mft ... Diane Wingle 62.5
2. Takoda Aussie's Sun / tw Sharyl Walls 40
3. Majestic's Ringo Starr / tw Bill Wingle 28
4. Midnight's Patriot / gr Kay Gunckel 21
4. Norman / gr Donna Lewis 21
5. Speck's Midnight Copy / rkg Teresa Milewski 16.5
6. Skipping Array / qtr Amy Mason 14.5

Region 4

1. Painted in the Stars / tw Mary Collins 27
2. Final Clue / ap Mollie Nelson 21
3. Lace in the Moonlight CTE / mft .Alanna Price 15
4. Cayena de la Madera Roca / pf... Teresa Musgrave 10
5. The Big Red One / gr Alice Perryman 6
6. Moon Shadow's Black Gold / mft .Alanna Price 4

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Sallie Kudra

1. Graceful Empire / gr Victoria Whitehead 23
2. Fairwinds Breezy Surprise / ssh.. Cindy Keen 13
3. Kodak's Breezy Girl / ssh Cindy Keen 7
3. Kodak's Breezy Girl / ssh Courtney Woodall 7
4. Traveling Fancy / tw Renee Gosda 3

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Focus Jessie / ap Helen Smith 16
2. Windy V / gr Tammy Vasa 14.5
3. Roho Honoy Mocha WH / mft John Zelff 7

(Continued on page 33)

LEISURE ADULT

Region 1

1. Astano / gr Susan Smyth 10
2. Denebaborr / ar Samantha Muller .. 4.5

Regions 1A

None qualified

Region 2

1. Boomer / gr Kristin H Cook 21
2. Utah / gr Aleta Haase 19.5
3. Trooper's Choice Eliminator / mft Reuben Contreras 18
4. Buckaroo Buck / gr Rob Dixon 6.5
5. Callie TCR / gr Catherine Dixon 5

Region 3

1. Aria / gr Kate Steffes 30
2. Bush Rat Splash / ar Kathy Ambrose 28
3. Mountain Flame / rkym Janece Nissen 15
4. Gutti fra' Austurey 2 / icl Lauren Scanlan 14
4. Palina / gr Laura Risk 14
5. Remington / gr Siri Kollarik 13
6. Adios Amigos / gr Lynn Allen 12

Region 4

1. Amarula Dona / ar Renae Roberts 28
2. Cash / gr Missy Woodcock 26
3. Dats Bugs Bunny / qtr Tara Jones 19.5
4. Sir Tobias de la Kharm / gr Juliana Cruz 9
5. Aria / gr Gabrielle Springer 2.5

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Sallie Kudra

1. Dancer / gr Beverly Ruff 15
2. Iron Will / rkym Therese Surdel 12
3. Cant Catch Semper Fi / qtr Margaret Plott 10.5
4. Jose's Taylor Made / tw Nancy May 9
5. Lorenzo iL Magnifico / har Suzanne Murphree 8.5
6. Tad / gr Natalie Royer 6

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Ace Cut Diamond / qtr MaryAlice Braun 61.5
2. Annie Lennox / gr Holly Barrett 44
3. Rio Bravo / qtr Louise McCall 36
4. Joe's Bar Flick / qtr Martha Elmore 31
5. Fiddle / gr Catherine Gast 18
5. Hickorys Miss Ashley / abr Megan Place 18
6. Shilohs Boy / paint Valerie Partch 16

LEISURE JUNIOR

Region 1

1. Dakota A / ar Lorelei Egerer 9
2. Valentyne / gr Rhiley Muller 6

Region 1A (None qualified)

Region 2

1. Sunrise Cappuccino / mft Sydney Thies 24
2. Dunit in the Paint / paint Taji Simeone 10

Region 3

1. Tango / gr Grayson Hager 3
1. Talk Til Midnight / tw Grayce Dutenhoeffer 3

Region 4

1. TJ / gr Kenleigh Maler 4

Region 5

Ribbons sponsored by Sallie Kudra

1. Inspector Gadget / gr Farryn Robinson 17
2. SLF ByThe GraceOf God / paint . Grace Wood 16
3. Delight's Amber Beauty / tw Wren Woodall 10
3. Delight's Amber Beauty / tw Baylor Batchelor 10
4. MCF Mustang Sally / must Kay Woodall 9
5. Watermelon / gr Zayne Whitehead 8
6. Impressive Red Rebel / mft Ivey Mason 7

Region 6

Ribbons sponsored by Region 6

1. Roxy / gr Raegan Partch 13
2. Rushcreek Concho / ar Ruby Rinne 10
3. Go-Boy's Finale / rkym Emma Fields 7
4. Just Sienna / gr Camille Leran 5



2024 National Honorary Awards

Jim Menefee Lifetime Achievement

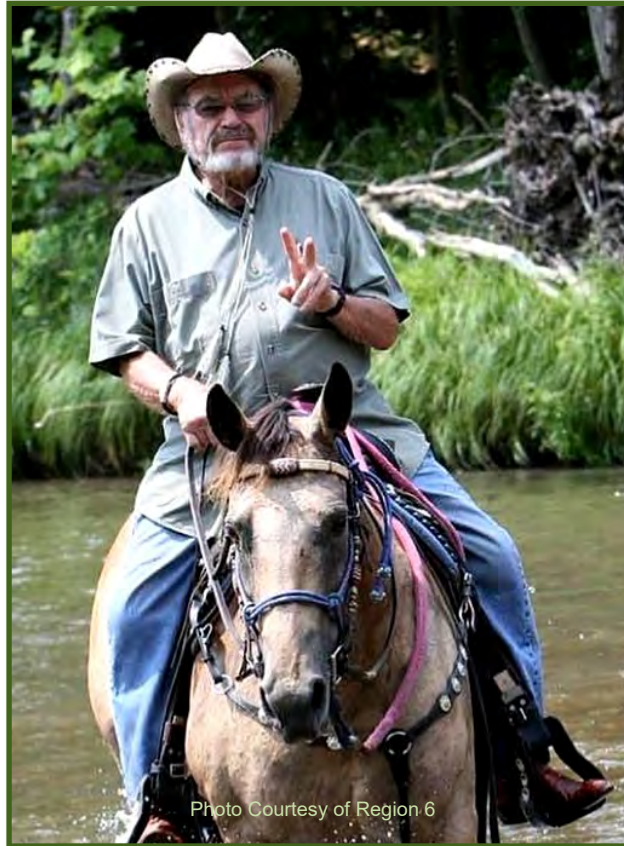
William (Bill) Hinkebein

The quote, "Life can be a hard trail; always ride a good horse," reflects how Bill Hinkebein modeled his life working with horses. After being introduced to NATRC, he knew it was a step in the right direction.

Bill's first competition was in the mid-1980's where he rode Open on his daughter's Arabian. It didn't take long for Bill to realize he wanted a horse with a long comfortable gait. Hickory's Country Gold, an outstanding Missouri Fox Trotter stallion with a golden red coat and competitive personality, was just that horse.

And so, Bill's breeding program of Missouri Fox Trotter horses was born. At least 25 of Bill's horses can be found throughout the NATRC mileage charts. Countless more live with NATRC families earning more miles, national championships, or simply loving life. Current national board members are still riding horses Bill bred and developed.

In 1994, Hickory's Country Gold was the National Sweepstakes Champion, an award later renamed to our current President's Cup. He won the first Championship Challenge Ride in 1995 and was inducted



into the Horse Hall of Fame for 1996. He won nine National Championships

When Hickory's Country Gold was retired, Bill started competing more of his home-bred fox trotters. Prime Sensation, in his first year competing (2005), achieved a national championship in six rides. He later attained two more and won the Champion-

ship Challenge in 2006. With new owner Cheri Jeffcoat, he won the 2010 President's Cup.

In total, Bill campaigned 10 different horses to 21 open national championships, twice earning the Bev Roberts National Horsemanship Champion award (2005 and 2016) and accumulating over 14,000 competition miles.

Bill always brought to rides:

- an extra horse in case anyone needed one,
- his horseshoeing equipment, and
- friends and/or family who would compete.

Many college students from the riding and training classes Bill taught were also frequent competitors. Bill was a horsemanship judge and ride manager.

The legacy Bill leaves NATRC is through the horses he loved and raised. Bill enjoyed the years of competition, but best of all were the friends he made and rode with over the trails. Bill can definitely say, "Life can be a hard trail, but I enjoyed it by riding good horses."



When talking about training horses,

"If you act like you've only got fifteen minutes, it will take all day. Act like you've got all day, it will take fifteen minutes."

- Monty Roberts

(Continued on page 35)

Workers Hall of Fame

Pam Galchutt

Pam has been a volunteer with NATRC for 45 years! In 1979, she began to ride in Region 2 and then, to maintain involvement, she volunteered.

She assisted rides in many positions at Lake Arrowhead, Marshall Canyon and Bonelli Park and helped create a slideshow to present to riding groups to promote NATRC nationwide. She initiated and managed a new ride at a new state park (Chino Hills).

Pam continued volunteering in Region 3 and in 2006 assisted Susan Peters in bringing the US Air Force Academy ride out of dormancy.

She wrote procedures for the EIA epidemic, creating a biosecurity plan to make the rides possible. This plan was communicated to other regions for their use.

She initiated new Region 3 rides - Tarryall River Romp and Rush to Brett Grey CTR. Few of those rides were ever "normal" with many unexpected issues that required being creative and flexible to deal with such things as avoiding ride cancellations when dealing with private land owners as well the US Forest Service and the BLM.

Pam has served in ALL positions as a volunteer. She has volunteered and mentored several new ride managers, ride secretaries and all other positions every year since 2007 for Region 3 rides including Colorado Trail, Rabbit Valley, Chicken Creek, Chokecherry, Highlands



Pam Galchutt

Photo by _____

Ranch, Greenland Open Space, Willow Springs, Bayou Gulch, M Lazy C, Hartsel and Happy Jack.

In addition to CTR rides, she also has been involved in initiating, managing and running numerous clinics.

Pam has volunteered at numerous other activities to include conventions, shows and presentations to clubs. She sat on the Regional 3 board and served as an alternate for the national board in 2012-13. She worked for 5+ years as volunteer scorecard proofreader. For 18+ years her focus has been to do just about every job in R3.

Pam Galchutt, with over 20,000 worker points, has done it all for NATRC.



Faces of Our Future!



Photos by
Tina Sanford

(Continued on page 36)



Alice Perryman

Photo by Self

R4 National Appreciation Alice Perryman

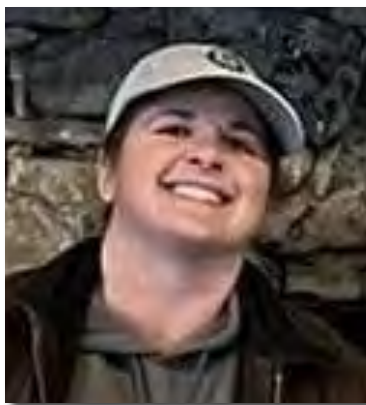
Alice Perryman has been the ideal ambassador for NATRC for more than two decades: hard-working, friendly, knowledgeable and dedicated to the core principles of the sport.

She began her NATRC career in 2002 and has held leadership roles at the regional and national levels, including serving on multiple committees as a national board member for two terms.

Alice has been a ride manager annually for more than ten years and has volunteered in nearly all positions. She organized the first national raffle for the 2011 convention in Nashville. For several years she prepared and hosted a monthly NATRC internet broadcast on "Horses in the Morning." Alice strikes a good balance supporting regional and national endeavors equally.

While all of these accomplishments are certainly worthy of a national appreciation award, the greatest value Alice brings to the sport is her enthusiastic recruitment of new competitors and volunteers. For more than 20 years, Alice has mentored new people she has brought on board.

Alice tirelessly promotes NATRC as the best equestrian sport for every horse and all riders. It's time she is recognized for her efforts.



Kris Gray

Photo by Sallie Kudra

R5 National Appreciation Kris Gray

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Kris Gray and her unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions to our organization.

Over the past years, Kris has served on both the national and regional boards, consistently bringing expertise, enthusiasm, and positive spirit to every aspect of her work.

As treasurer of the national board of directors, Kris has been a vital part of our team, playing a key role in ensuring financial stability and guiding us towards a balanced budget year after year. Her financial acumen and strategic insight have been instrumental in our success, and her commitment to the organization is truly inspiring.

Beyond her financial expertise, Kris's positive personality and energizing presence have made a lasting impact on our region. Her enthusiasm has not only built a sense of camaraderie within our team but also fostered a welcoming and uplifting environment for our riders.

We are extremely fortunate to have Kris as part of our organization, and we are deeply grateful for the knowledge, ability, and passion she brings each and every day. Thank you, Kris for your outstanding service and for being such a vital part of our community.



R6 National Appreciation Ruth Mesimer

What doesn't Ruth Mesimer do for NATRC? It is not possible to list everything here given the 200-word limit for this nomination.

She is Sarah's right-hand woman! Ruth is responsible for overseeing all our national data and keeping our database updated. Without hesitation she will step up and assist Sarah with any task associated with our database. Ruth is our RMS guru!

When rides are finished, Ruth processes all the ride information. She reviews scorecards for accuracy, scans and uploads them for further review by our audit team that she spearheads. Immediately following this review, she compiles the official ride results and then uploads the results to our website and database making sure the points are accurate and that the information goes out to the regions.

Ruth gives of her time unselfishly. Many of her tasks are done behind the scenes with no expectations of any recognition. In fact, upon learning of this nomination, in typical Ruth fashion, her immediate response was "Thank you for nominating me for national appreciation; that is enough of an honor for me."

Ruth Mesimer is the consummate professional. Because of her dedication and countless hours of service she has made our organization even better.

"What separates a winner from the rest of the pack is not raw talent or physical ability, it is the drive and dedication to work hard every single day and the heart to go after your dream."

- Linda Mastandrea

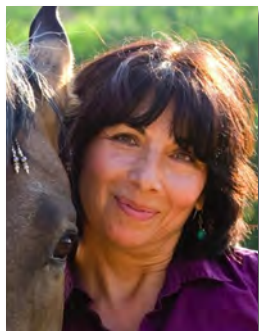


2024 Regional Appreciation at National

REGION 2

Audrey Pavia

It isn't often that a region has one person as dedicated to the sport of competitive trail riding, but Region 2 and NATRC have Audrey. She has been the region's president and responsible for our website and advertising for many years.



Audrey Pavia

Photo by Family

However, this year when the Insko's decided to back off from managing many of the Region 2 rides, Audrey raised her hand. She volunteered to not only manage a ride, but one in a totally new location. We could share some of the horror stories she encountered and still laughed about, but she got the job done. And then when one of our other managers had family health issues, Audrey again raised her hand and took over that ride this past fall. Audrey jumped in with both feet, ended up doing a great job with two rides for 2024, and has tentatively agreed to do one in 2025.

It is selfless volunteers like Audrey that make a region succeed.

Audrey, thank you!

Unforgiven Ranch Ride Management and Volunteers

The new Region 2 ride held near Kingman, Arizona, is a true jewel in the desert. This incredible team includes Carol Evans, Jo Goss, Robin Campbell, Victoria Nelson, Susan Callahan, Joe and Melady Simeone, Clint Hiatt, Anita Biro, and the Unforgiven Ranch and its owner, Joy Chadsey, who provide staging, stalls, and water.

The deep bench of additional volunteers has put together two amazing LeD rides for two years now.

Their rides fill up and don't disappoint. They are now planning to offer a clinic and full division ride in 2025.

This hard-working management team and volunteers are impressive in all their hard work, organization, and joyful attitudes. The Unforgiven Ranch ride management and volunteers work together to offer a great venue in support of NATRC and Region 2. This is a great new ride location all NATRC riders should add to their ride list.

Well done, Unforgiven Ranch Ride Management and Volunteers!



REGION 3

Amy Mason, DVM

From the very first CTR rides in 2023, Dr. Amy Mason started doing things to make sure other riders



Amy Mason

Photo by Self

were having a good ride. She offered to ride with a new rider who was off her horse and headed back to camp because the horse was being crazy leaving camp.

Amy has come early to rides to help ribbon and stayed late to pull ribbons. She has brought her second horse to many of the rides this year for others to use to ride safety or help management pre-ride trails.

Amy has also caravanned to many of the rides with other riders to make sure they get to and from the rides safely. Amy also volunteered to do safety at a ride that she was competing in since that ride did not have a safety rider for the Novice/CP Division. She stopped and assisted a competitor who was suffering from heat exhaustion.

Dr. Amy also jumped right into the veterinary judge apprentice program and got her vet judge's card in November 2023.

Dr. Amy Mason is just that kind of person. She will jump in and help with whatever needs to be done.

Thank you, Amy, for everything you do and for just being you!!!!

Kay Gunckel, DVM

Dr. Kay Gunckel started competing in NATRC when she was 12 years old. Her parents hauled her all over Colorado and New Mexico with her horse in the back of a pickup truck.

During a 17-year break from NATRC, she earned her DVM degree and opened her own veterinary practice.

Since returning, she has earned multiple national championships, become an NATRC veterinary judge, managed several CTR rides and a clinic, and served on the Region 3 and national boards.

Dr. Gunckel diligently supports NATRC and Region 3. She supports our events by competing, judging, volunteering in many capacities, and bringing new people to events often with one of her personal horses. In the last two years, she has participated in 100% of the regional events, often both competing and volunteering.

She started the new and popular Happy Jack ride and this year added



Kay Gunckel, DVM

Photo by Family

(Continued on page 38)

(Regional Appreciation at National

Continued from page 37)

a clinic. She and her husband, Rob, are also innovating new ways to financially sponsor events. This all while starting a mobile veterinary business and judging NATRC events nationally.

She is always there to help. She always has a smile and kind advice. Dr. Gunckel is a great asset to Region 3!

Kristen Munson

Region 3 has a great number of riders who step up and support the region's rides in various ways to ensure they run smoothly or have enough riders to break even. One of those members is Kristen Munson, safety rider extraordinaire.

She found an advanced CPR class that would equip her to be an invaluable safety rider out on the trail. Kristen paid for half the class out of pocket, and Region 3 agreed to fund the other half of the class.

Kristen was faithful in her commitment driving from her home in New Mexico to all the rides in Colorado (except one due to a family event) and Wyoming for our region's events this year.



Kristen Munson

Photo by Family

Kristen not only attended as safety rider but on a few occasions brought friends along, exposing them to our sport as well! She always has a smile on her face and a welcoming energy. She is the ideal safety rider in many ways, including her great attitude, an impossible-to-miss, steady-going mount, and the knowledge and skill to assist competitors when duty calls.

Region 3 recognizes and appreciates Kristen's commitment to our sport and riding community.



REGION 4

Anita Waldrip

Anita has been an NATRC member since 2005. She competed a lot in the first few years, and around 2016 switched her focus to volunteering. She rode many rides as a safety rider for several years. Later she branched out to other volunteer roles and has done almost all of them!

She enjoys the comradery of P&R's and really enjoys how much she learns as a judge's secretary. Her favorite role to date has been as a secretary for leisure judge, Betsy Zimmerman.

Anita is a ride manager's dream volunteer! Even after sustaining a very serious injury while riding safety, which left her with chronic pain issues, she has continued to add volunteer hours totaling nearly 500!

Her volunteer motto is, "How can I help?" She pitches in to fill whatever role or need there is. Anita surely deserves our thanks and our appreciation!



Anita Waldrip

Photo by Family

Jan Stewart

In 1977, Jan Stewart rode her first NATRC ride and was hooked! In the years since, she has ridden in every division and won an Open National Championship.



Jan Stewart

Photo by Family

An adventurer by nature, Jan worked with forest rangers, a deputy sheriff, some ATV riders, a Fort Polk captain and others in the 1980s to develop what is now known as

the Sandstone Multi-use Trail in the Kisatchie National Forest near Natchitoches, Louisiana. And why would you work hard to develop a trail system, ... unless, you wanted an NATRC ride there?

Jan's first managed ride was in 1987, the aptly named Kisatchie National Forest CTR. That ride occurred annually until 1990 when the Forest Service created a conflict by scheduling the youth hunt on the weekend of the ride.

While taking a long hiatus from being ride manager, Jan volunteered in many positions including rules interpreter, P&R chair, judge's secretary, and Region 4 president. She competed several horses during this time.

In 2012, Jan revived the ride in the national forest. Now called the Red Dirt CTR, Jan continues to make it fun and different by exploring and adding new loops to the ride.

Fran Muench

Region 4 would like to recognize Fran Muench for her giving back to the sport she loves. Having over 4000 miles in competition, including winning the President's Cup in 2019 with her best buddy, Jack, Fran has almost 3000 volunteer hours.

She has served on the national board of directors and has also become a horsemanship judge. From trimming and marking trails for an upcoming ride to managing the 2020 national convention in San Antonio, no task is too big or small for Fran to take it on.

She's done it all.

And she does it because she loves the sport that has given so much to her.

Thank you, Fran, for being a shining star in NATRC.



Fran Muench

Photo by Rick Rosinski

(Continued on page 39)

REGION 5

Lael Feist

Joining NATRC in 2020, Lael won Combined Horse and Horsemanship in the Novice Division in 2022. She adores her horse, Jada Angel, and they are now in Competitive Pleasure.



Lael Feist

Photo by Self

When not able to ride, she and her husband can be seen volunteering. She is a Region 5 board alternate. At the 2024 mini-convention, she was involved with the purchase and demonstration of Region 5's new AED defibrillator.

Lael is an environmental engineer, EMT, volunteer firefighter, and a living kidney donor. Some years ago, she lost her son to kidney disease, and in 2022 she donated a kidney to a college student. It's obvious she has a heart of gold, and we are thrilled to have her in Region 5!

In the four years Lael has been a member of NATRC, she hasn't just ridden, she has become an active part of our region. Folks like her bring new energy and help all of us.

Thank you, Lael.

Patty Lucas

Who knows what brings a person to NATRC? But everyone in Region 5 is happy that Patty Lucas joined in 2007. At one of her first rides, on a 100°-in-the-shade day, here she comes - lost, late, and laughing.



Patty Lucas

Photo by Self

Patty's smile and up-beat personality have made a huge impact on our region.

In the past 15 years, Patty has managed successful and fun rides at four different facilities, attended many national and regional conventions, and is ALWAYS willing to help. As a Region 5 board member for 12 years, she never hesitates to do more than her part.

Running the Region 5 store has been no small task. She has hauled all that stuff used to raise funds to help riders with needed gear plus T-shirts to ensure that first-time riders are recognized in style.

As a rider, Patty has competed for 16 years earning both Open and CP National Championships with her two horses, Georgia and Honey Bun.

Recently, Patty became a popular LeD judge. Her smile and encouraging comments are bringing riders back to the sport over and over again.

Thank you, Patty, from Region 5.

REGION 6

Christina Lyons

We all know Christina as the judge's secretary with the beautiful penmanship. It is much easier to read our comments when they are



Christina Lyons

Photo by
Universal Church Directories

written neatly and precisely. She is sought after by judges, be it horsemanship, veterinary, or leisure, because of her knowledge of the sport and easy to get along with attitude.

Ride managers appreciate her accuracy and attention to details.

But this wasn't always her goal. Christina has accumulated 900 competition miles. As with many of us, family and work took priority, and the joy of riding and competing with our friends faded. But Christina found a way to come back to the sport she enjoyed through volunteering. She is a Region 6 board member and newsletter chair, historian, and 100%

club member. She's also been known to conduct an interview or two and write up an NATRC bit in her column for the Beatrice Daily Sun.

If we can get her away from her cows long enough, she'll be waiting for you as you check-in your horse at the next NATRC ride down the road. Thank you, Christina, you have certainly earned this national recognition for your regional contributions.

Kristen Schmalzried

Kristen was the catalyst for an extremely successful NATRC arena demonstration at this year's Equi-Fest of Kansas horse expo. She took the lead in the planning of this event and wrote a detailed script for this successful demo.

As another example of her unselfishness and her willingness to step up on behalf of our region, she brought back a ride location to our region this year and served as the ride manager.

When it comes to promoting Region 6 and NATRC, Kristen does not hesitate to help. She does it all for our region, from taking pictures at rides to



Kristen Schmalzried

Photo by Alisha Elizabeth
Photography

making social media posts, and she has even started to create short videos of our sport for marketing purposes aimed at the younger generation.

Kristen constantly looks at ways she can help market what we do. Her efforts have resulted in her now being a viable part of our national marketing committee.

Kristen is very deserving to be the recipient of this national recognition of our region's appreciation of her.



(Continued on page 40)

Rianna Deselich

This past year Rianna really stepped up on behalf of Region 6 with our NATRC live demo at the EquiFest of Kansas horse expo. She was instrumental in planning our arena demo and worked with the expo staff to make sure we had the items needed in the arena and the stall barn for our horses.

During our ride season, she took on the responsibility of being ride secretary for two of our rides. As a first-time secretary, she did a good job. There obviously was a learning curve, but she managed everything with ease and was not hesitant to ask questions as things arose.

Rianna then went above and beyond working on the trails at Smithville Lake. She spent hours and hours helping trim and mark the trails in anticipation of the Jesse James Rideout. Many of those hours were spent out on the trails by herself. Her efforts did not go unnoticed as many riders commented on how well-marked the trails were.

Rianna is a great cheerleader for our sport as she is always promoting and encouraging others to join us. She is very deserving of this recognition.



Rianna Deselich

Photo by Kristen Schmalzried



**By Robert Eversole,
the Trailmeister**
An NATRC Partner

I recently read one of Ty Evans' reflections on training and the standards we should aim for with our animals. A sentiment he often hears is "I don't need any of that fancy stuff; I just want to go down the trail." At one point I was one of the people who said it. I used that exact phrase far too often, not realizing how naive I was.

I used to call "fancy stuff" what Ty calls control. This "fancy" training includes yielding the fore and hinds, flexing softly, or being able to smoothly side-pass on command. When I'm deep in the backcountry, miles from the trailhead with no cell service and no quick access to help, I want as much control as possible. Out there, "good enough" simply isn't enough. That level of control, or as Ty calls it, "handiness," is what I now strive for in every bit of groundwork, ride, or training session.

I ask a lot of my animals. I'm not one for "intense," but the places I prefer demand readiness. Steep country and narrow trails are the gatekeepers to the best fishing spots! My animals need to be as handy as possible for my peace of mind, and that's only achievable with serious work long before we leave the barn.

A Philosophy

Ty echoes this need for readiness in his training philosophy: "If the mule can't operate and maneuver accurately on flat ground, how the heck are they going to do it in the mountains and rough country?" His words resonate with me. When I'm in the high country, I need my mules at their best. To get there, I need to work towards that goal when in familiar conditions at home.

During my clinics, I stress the importance of mastering a solid whoa, go, and steer. But I don't stop there—I want those responses to be as effortless as possible. That means having my animals centered, balanced, and able to respond calmly and lightly to my seat, legs, and reins. This isn't about being fancy; it's about being safe.

Safety means having an animal that's light and calm in the bridle. I want a critter that's easy to stop, easy to turn, and easy to back. If I have softness in these basics, I can count on that softness translating to side passes, pivots, and other moves that require control of the front and hindquarters. This is like driving a truck with a big engine, great brakes, and power steering. Just as we want control when towing a trailer on mountain roads, we should expect no less control when we're in the saddle, whether we're at home or navigating unpredictable terrain.

Over time, I've learned more about what my animals are capable of. Before I knew how to ask for more, I hesitated to challenge them beyond the basics, worried that asking for more might bring a response I couldn't handle. That intimidation—my reluctance to rise to their potential—kept me out of some remarkable areas requiring a little extra work to get to.

Pushing Ourselves

When pushing our limits feels intimidating, a good trainer can be your best ally. I'm a fan of Ty Evans because he speaks in a way I understand, but for you, it might be someone else. The important thing is to find someone whose guidance helps you rise to meet your animals where they are—and where they can go. Strive to be the person your animal deserves.

For those looking to build control and readiness in their animals, consider practicing and refining the foundational skills: a responsive whoa, rotating on the fore, and a smooth backup. These exercises can set the stage for a more advanced partnership,

where trust and responsiveness grow hand-in-hand with control.



For more thoughts on these topics, check out Robert's book, [The ABCs of Trail Riding and Horse Camping at Amazon](#). You can also visit his website; [Trailmeister.com](#) for more resources. You'll find info for building the skills and confidence that make exploring the backcountry as safe as it is rewarding.



2024 Virtual Mileage Challenge

Congratulations to the 2024 NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge top ten national riders and to the top three riders in each region. These individuals are now recognized every year

at our national convention.

Each of them exemplifies true dedication to riding during this past year.

Together, the top ten riders racked up 10,786.16 miles in the saddle. All

riders totaled 20,790.05 miles. What an inspiration they are for us all.

Join the 2025 NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge on [Top Trail](#) and start logging those miles today!

Top Ten National Riders

	NAME	REGION	MILES
1	Robin Morris	3	2,000.23
2	Gayle Muench	4	1,347.10
3	Helen Smith	6	1,239.49
4	Matthew Kennedy	6	1,217.99
5	Mindy Kane	2	992.38
6	Anna Beth Lawrence	5	864.72
7	Margaret Reynolds	6	859.97
8	Stephanie Sheek	3	832.62
9	Preston Springston	1	792.00
10	Cindi Coffroth	5	646.89

Top Three Regional Riders

REGION 1 / 1A		REGION 4	
1.	Preston Springston 792.00	1.	Gayle Muench 1,347.10
2.	Colleen Fisk 237.95	2.	Kimberlee Flint 605.69
		3.	Fran Muench 460.92
REGION 2		REGION 5	
1.	Mindy Kane 992.38	1.	Anna Beth Lawrence 864.72
2.	Lory Walls 233.46	2.	Cindi Coffroth 646.89
3.	Catherine Dixon 194.78	3.	Lisa Jamison 639.66
REGION 3		REGION 6	
1.	Robin Morris 2,000.23	1.	Helen Smith 1,239.49
2.	Stephanie Sheek 832.62	2.	Mathew Kennedy 1,217.99
3.	Rosemary Carlson 600.11	3.	Margaret Reynolds 859.97

A Way of Life

By Robin Morris
2024 Virtual Mileage Challenge Winner

I absolutely love to ride, and I do it often. As of December 31, 2024, I've logged 22,207 miles on Beau, my 18-year-old Quarter Horse Mule. I am 66 and had both knees replaced in October of 2023. Our first ride was on June 16, 2014, and we've been inseparable ever since. We live in south-central Montana, where winters can be harsh, but we saddle up and ride year-round.

If the sun is shining, the wind is calm, and the temperature is hovering around 20 degrees, I'm all in for a long ride. In fact, we often rack up more miles in the winter because we're limited to the ranch and primitive county roads that surround us. While I prefer the forests and wilderness areas, the roads allow us to cover more ground.

Beau is a gentle and loving soul. He gets along with other equines and dogs and is not fazed by wildlife.

Our little dog, Aghy, a 7-year-old miniature Aussie cross, joins us on most of our day rides. She's still good for 30+ miles and comes home tired but with a big, satisfied dog smile.

The peace I feel while riding is hard to describe. It's a deep sense of grounding and tranquility that stays with me long after we return home. I mostly ride alone, and for me, it's not about speed or distance. It's about the quality of our time together and the beauty we witness along the way. I never ride without my camera, and over the years, I've taken thousands of photos. They help me share the



Robin Morris, Beau, and Aghy (left of Beau's nose)
Photo by Self

wonder of my rides with my spouse, fellow equine enthusiasts, and those who may never get the chance to travel or explore the way we do. In the summer, we venture into the mountains of Montana and Wyoming for overnight and week-long adventures. My camping setup is simple but cozy—I sleep in the tiny tack room of my trailer and secure Beau

(Continued on page 42)

(A Way of Life Continued from page 41)

on the hi-tie when a corral or hi-line isn't available.

Fishing is another passion of mine, so many of our trips are to

alpine lakes. I'm not a catch-and-release angler; I believe in savoring the bounty of the land.

I always bring along a hand saw since fallen timber is a constant in our forests. As a volunteer, I've spent countless hours clearing trails with the local Backcountry Horsemen group.

Beau has a unique way of alerting to everything around him. With a subtle yet clear signal, he slows down or comes to a stop, lifts his head, and then points with his nose toward whatever has caught his attention. It could be a herd of elk in the distance, a mountain lion on the ground, a porcupine perched in a tree, or

even a boulder that's been dislodged from a cliff since our last visit.

Every mile, every ride, and every moment with Beau is a reminder of the deep bond we share and the beauty of the world around us. Whether we're exploring quiet backroads, tracking wildlife, or simply enjoying the stillness of a winter morning, these rides are more than just a journey—they're a way of life.



Robin Morris and Beau high in the mountains.

Photo by Self

2024 - Fun Facts

Total Miles	2000.23
Longest ride miles	30.5
Trailer miles	6,942.5
Solo miles	1,404.55
Hours in the saddle	723
Feet of elevation gained	216,813
Top Partner Agony miles	790
(logged alongside Beau)	



Thank You

**For all your hard work and
for serving on our national
board.**

Outgoing
Board Members

R1, **Donna Stidolph**, Alt.

R5, **Sallie Kudra**, Alt

R6, **Margaret Reynolds**, Alt

*Best wishes to all of you
from our entire
organization!*



2024 High Mileage Awards

Rider High Mileage

Medallions presented at the Convention; Chevrons mailed directly to all of the recipients.

9,000 Miles

Jonni Jewell / R4

8,000 Miles

Patti Hicks / R4
Cynthia Mettes / R4

4,000 Miles

BRONZE MEDALLION

Kay Gunkel / R3

Horse High Mileage

4,000 Miles

Windstorm Clay / morg Tommy Mitchell / R5

3,000 Miles

Jiminy Cricket / gr Jennifer Mulligan / R5
Beau /gr..... Sherry Garnes / R5

2,000 Miles

RPH Ebony Diamond / har Patti Hicks / R4
Roho Honoy Mocha WH / mft John Zeliff / R6

1,000 Miles

Rushcreek Frontier / ar Helen Smith / R6
Dino / gr Scarlett Wilson-Hager / R3
Jada Angel / har Lael Feist / R5
Timber Jac Joe / qtr Anna Beth Lawrence / R5
Windy V / qtr Tammy Vasa / R6

2024 High Point Breed Awards

<i>Breed</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Rider</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Half-Arabian.....	RPH Ebony Diamond	Patti Hicks	Arabian Horse Association
Arabian	Rushcreek Frontier	Helen Smith	Arabian Horse Association
Appaloosa Horse	Imma Cool Colour	Ashley Edwards.....	Appaloosa Horse Club
Grade.....	Precious	Julie Bills	NATRC
Thoroughbred	Kensington Palace	Brandy Eggeman.....	Jockey Club
Missouri Fox Trotter	Prince's Rising Moon	Kris Wech	Missouri Fox Trotter HBA
Paso Fino.....	MGA's Fuerte del Energia	Erin Rosser.....	Paso Fino Horse Association
Rocky Mountain Horse ..	She's a Gold Digger	Chrissy Knight	Rocky Mountain Horse Assn.
Quarter Horse	Timber Jac Joe.....	Anna Beth Lawrence ..	American Quarter Horse Assn.



"The horse may not be doing the thing that is the right thing for what the rider is asking him, but as far as the horse is concerned, he is doing the right thing."

- Tom Dorrance

Volunteers Who Work for Us

2025 NATRC Standing Committee Chairs

At publication, there were five vacancies. Contact President [John Zelif](#) if you'd like to give back to NATRC and take on one of those roles.

Annual Points/Data.....	Ruth Mesimer	On-line Library.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Breed & Organization Liaison	Megan Place	Planned and Charitable Giving ..	Dayna Morgan
Clinic Sanction.....	Linda Clayton	Policies and Procedures.....	Jamie Dieterich
Education	Jamie Dieterich	Protest	Marla Stucky
Foundation	Angie Meroshnekoff	Ride Management	<i>Vacant</i>
Grants.....	<i>Vacant</i>	Ride Sanction	Cathy Cumberworth Sarah Smith
Hall of Fame	Sarah Smith	Rules and Bylaws.....	Fran Muench
Honorary and Appreciation	Ruth Mesimer	Rules Interpreter/Safety	Roger Garlitz
HP Advisory.....	Bev Roberts Jamie Dieterich	Sponsorships.....	Holly Jones John Zelif
Judges.....	Pam Hess, DVM Lory Walls	Student Loan/Scholarships	Marilyn Marston
Juniors.....	<i>Vacant</i>	Technology	Alex Braun Sarah Smith
Marketing / Publicity / E-News ...	Kimberly Murphy John Zelif	Trail Advocacy and Grants	Bob Insko Linda Johnson-Conne
Member Incentive Program.....	<i>Vacant</i>	Veterinary Drug Committee.....	Tamara Gull, DVM
Membership.....	Mollie Kelly	Virtual Mileage Challenge	John Zelif
National Drug Testing.....	Kimberly Murphy	Webinars	Linda Johnson-Conne
National Historian	Maria Pilgrim		

Veterinary Drug Committee

Tamara Gull, DVM Chair
Susan Dent, DVM
Carol Ormond, DVM
Jamie Dieterich Ex Officio

Ride Management Support Fund

Jamie Dietrich Administrator

Judges Committee

Pam Hess, DVM Co-Chair Veterinarian Judge Rep*
Tamara Gull, DVM..... Veterinarian Judge Rep
Kay Gunkel, DVM..... Veterinarian Judge Rep

Lory Walls Co-Chair Horsemanship Judge Rep
Pricilla Lindsey..... Horsemanship Judge Rep
Kim Cowart Horsemanship Judge Rep

Angie Meroshnekoff Rider Rep
Jonni Jewell..... Rider Rep
Helen Smith Rider Rep

Jamie Dieterich..... Ex Officio (Education)
– non-voting member
Sarah Smith..... Executive Director
– non-voting member
John Zelif..... President
– non-voting member

*Rep - Representative

**"Two feet
move your body,
four feet
move your soul."**

- Unknown



Committee Corner

Membership

By Mollie Kelly, Chair

NATRC must continue to grow its number of memberships. We need more competitors and volunteers. The purpose of the Membership Committee is to assist the regions in their efforts to recruit new members, retain current members, and provide more and better services to members.

There is at least one representative in each region that comprises this committee along with a National Board member chairperson. As an example of their efforts, this committee initiated the program to provide 1st year free memberships for "new NATRC" riders. Below is an image of the flyer for 2025. Please share this flyer by clicking on the image to link to the image file.

We are exploring ways to get more junior competitors involved. Some of

the representative's duties are to encourage everyone in their regions to renew their memberships, follow-up with any non-renewals, reach out to any potential new members with NATRC information, encourage participation in our virtual mileage challenge, and suggest ways to recognize our members.

If you feel that you would be good at the above duties and would enjoy doing them, please talk to your representatives. We need to have members (not only the representatives) to actively promote our sport.

Please talk to your equestrian family and friends about trying our sport. Each region has been encouraged to have at least 2 clinics per year. If you have any suggestions to promote NATRC, please reach out to a membership committee representative.

Incentive Winners. Winners of the renewal membership drawings were:

1st Drawing - Mollie Kelly (R4)
\$100 Entry Fee Voucher

2nd Drawing - Mary Dukes (R5)
\$100 Gas Voucher

3rd Drawing - Kathy Ambrose (R3)
Competing membership of her choice

Membership Trend. Our NATRC membership saw another year of growth in 2024 making it the highest since 2019.



2020 - Covid shutdown

2016 - Free memberships started

Current regional representatives.

R1 - Danna Stamper and
Linda Thomason

R2 - Helen Steenman and
Sherrie Bray

R3 - Janece Nissen

R4 - Sherry Murphy

R5 - Sallie Kudra

R6 - Kris Wech

Chairperson - Mollie Kelly (R4)



(Continued on page 46)

NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE
The USA's Original National Competitive Trail Ride (CTR) Organization Since 1961

FREE 2025 COMPETING MEMBERSHIPS
For First-time Members

WHAT IS CTR?
It is a distance competition over a measured trail and completed within a window of time. A family sport, open to all equines, that educates riders through evaluation of both horse and rider by qualified judges.

WHAT WILL YOU RECEIVE?
Full membership benefits including discounted ride entries, eligibility for year-end awards and mileage recognition, eligibility for the annual mileage challenge, access to: sponsor exclusive member discounts, members part of our website, Let's Ride webinars, and more.

WHAT YOU WILL EXPERIENCE
The challenge of distance riding, a deepening partnership with your horse, camaraderie with like-minded folks, camping with your horse, riding in awesome country, receipt of your scorecards with judges' comments, a confidence boost, exhilaration, and just plain fun.

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR RIDE

Come Ride with Us!

PO Box 78, Adams, NE 68301 | www.natrc.org | natrc@natrc.org

Judges Committee

A Few Words from the JC



By Lory Walls, Co-Chair

Consistency and Balance. One of the greatest concerns the Judges Committee continues to hear is inconsistency among judges. Judges bring their style and personality to an event, but ultimately the way an event is scored must be relatively consistent. In fact, the main reason to create NATRC was to establish uniform rules and judging procedures. Social media is currently serving to demonstrate inconsistencies and providing a platform for competitors to express complaints.

During 2025, the Judges Committee will continue to focus on bringing balance and consistency to the riders. We are reminding our judges that *"Your individual exceptions to the rules and judging guidelines, regardless of how valid the reasons, create confusion for riders who compete in many rides and may deprive them of otherwise just awards."* The

longevity of NATRC will partly be dependent on our judges bringing a consistent effort.

Time Penalty Points. These were a large problem in 2024. Getting time back: Rule Book Sect 5 J 9. reads, *"Official delays. If horses are delayed by ride chair, trailmaster, or judges, the time lost will be credited to the rider's maximum time. The minimum time is not affected."*

It doesn't say riders have to report it to the secretary to be entitled to the time. If a judge holds you up, it's on the judge to help keep track. We have reminded judges to keep track of hold time at obstacles or remind riders to give times to their secretary; it's a mutual responsibility.

Focus. Our veterinarians should focus on what they are trained to do and that is to judge for metabolic conditioning, soundness, and behavior. The project to rebalance the scoring by focusing more on actual behavior has worked well. We aren't

seeing multi-part obstacles with stacked deductions. Riders seem happier with more reasonable scores. The guidelines for scoring MT/B are on the back of the scorecard

Reminders for Judges. Reminders for our horsemanship judges:

- Tack, trail care, and trail safety & courtesy are important categories on the scorecard.
- Terms like "rushing" and "sore back" are comments for the horse card. Horsemanship judges can comment on what the rider could do to deal with the issue.

All judges **always** should consider

"Are the obstacles safe? Appropriate? Do they affect the flow of the ride?"

Have a safe and enjoyable 2025 ride season, and remember, the Judges Committee is always available to hear your questions and concerns.



Vet Drug Committee

Approved Changes to the Drug Rule Appendices

From Tamara Gull, DVM

Upon recommendation by the Vet Drug Committee, the NBOD approved changes to Appendices A and F of the drug rule on 10-1-2024.

Appendix A. Prohibited Substances - two additions.

Zylkene (alpha-casozepine). This drug is marketed as a "behavior supplement to help horses relax, adapt to new environments, and cope with challenging situations." Although It would be covered in Appendix B, Prohibited Categories, *(Substances designed, marketed, and/or administered to affect the behavior of an equine in a calming (tranquilizing) or energizing (stimulating) manner. This is to include herbal products.)* it was added to Appendix A. for clarity.

Medroxyprogesterone acetate (Depo Provera). The AAEP position statement: "Medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA) is a synthetic progestin hormone administered to mares off-label in an attempt to suppress behavioral estrus. However, a controlled research study found that MPA was not effective at suppression of behavioral estrus. (1) Many veterinarians believe MPA modifies behavior by producing a calming effect in the horse and does not have a therapeutic benefit that goes beyond this behavior modification. Therefore, the AAEP recommends that MPA should not be administered to horses in competition." This was added Appendix A. to be in alignment with other organizations such as AERC, USEF, and the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium.

Appendix F. Prohibited Treatments - one addition - Patches such as AcuLife.

Patches marketed to relieve pain via acupuncture points ([sample link](#)) were used on a horse in a recent ride. The rider apparently said they hadn't been questioned before, and those at the ride couldn't find anything to specifically address them. Whether or not these patches work, products to relieve pain are counter to the spirit of the sport.

Appendix F.3. now reads, "Any manipulative using an external device or instrument such as devices to manipulate or stimulate acupuncture or response points, including but not limited to bioscans, laser lights, magnetic stimulation, AcuLife Patches or similar products." — 🐾 —

(Continued on page 47)

Education

From Jamie Dieterich

By Maureen Fehrs, DVM

Reprinted with permission of the American Endurance Ride Conference's Endurance News magazine. For more information, visit AERC.org.

You completed the ride – congratulations! Now what?

Before getting comfortable or visiting, you need to take care of your horse. While your horse is munching on some well-deserved hay, there are a few things you can do to help him recover faster.

In the first half-hour, it's important to get some carbohydrates into your horse. It can be grain a mash of beet pulp, or hay pellets, if your horse is willing to eat wet food. Getting some carbs in them within the first half-hour goes a long way towards replenishing muscle glycogen so they are not as stiff and sore the next day.

Most horses are ravenous after a ride. If yours isn't, ask a control or treatment vet to take a look at them. We are there to help your horse get through the ride as safely as possible.

Get as much mud/dirt/sweat off as you can so their skin stays healthy. Obviously, you don't want to soak a horse if it's cold, but you can sponge and brush a lot of it off. For the first two hours after a ride, I like to use ice boots – 20 minutes on, 20 off. If you want to poultice post-ride, wait at least these two hours so tendon temperature is back to normal. Increased tendon temperature is associated with increased tendon injury. In between icings, a gentle walk/graze will help keep them loose – but if they want to nap, let them! It

won't be long and is very restorative.

If everyone in the vet check is wearing jackets, you should have a cooler on your horse even if you are warm in a t-shirt. It will keep the superficial vessels open and allow the horse to cool faster.

If you're actually cold, even though you've been riding, add more blankets. Fleece under another blanket will help wick away moisture from your horse while keeping them toasty. Make sure lots of fresh water is available.

After hot rides, offering a bucket of plain water and one with electrolytes will allow your horse to drink what they like and help replenish what they've lost. On hot days, it's helpful to sponge/hose your horse periodically after their initial cooling. They will be getting rid of excess heat for one to two hours after the ride.

If the ride vet recommended an anti-inflammatory after the ride, remember to decrease the dose to one-third of normal because your horse is most likely dehydrated. If your horse received a B or C on muscle, walking periodically will help. Forced marching and trotting/longeing is not needed. Just an occasional mosey for available grass is sufficient. This is especially important if your horse is tied or in a stall in camp. If your horse is crampy, be very careful moving them while they are still tight.

Check tack areas for heat, soreness and swelling an hour after the ride. These areas can become numb while riding if there are areas with pressure and problems often don't show up immediately after riding.

If you're standing for best condi-

After the Ride is Over

Photo by Lee Sheek

tion, you will have time to offer a grain meal and get 20 minutes of ice boots before presenting. Remember to clean your horse up before bringing them to the vet. I assume you're hiding something if I can't see their legs.

The vet should be able to see and feel legs without getting mud or Desitin-covered. A quick trot-out to make sure your horse is still sound before presenting is a good idea, but endless longeing to keep them loose is not.

For one thing, a standing pulse is taken as soon as you present and that counts towards recovery score. For another, you're cutting into their rest time unnecessarily and could be making a crampy horse worse.

If at all possible, stay the night after the ride to let your horse recover and rehydrate before getting back on the trailer, especially if your trip will be more than two hours.

Obviously any of these suggestions would be overridden by a control judge's recommendations since they evaluated your horse.

Now get something to eat and take a nap. You earned it!

Editor's notes:

- *Poulticing, topicals, and drugs like anti-inflammatories are not allowed during NATRC competition.*
- *All horses in NATRC competitions are examined after the ride. Check with the ride vet about using ice boots before that exam.*
- *A standing pulse at the end of an NATRC ride would be scored as part of the Cardiac Recovery Index.*



(Continued on page 48)

Protest Committee

Protest Report By Marla Stucky

It was determined that horse "Chics Voodoo" belonging to and ridden by Karen Stewart at the Southern Trails CTR, Leisure Division, on November 16-17, 2024, tested positive for the drug firocoxib; brand names include Equioxx, Previcox, and Firox. The drug level indicated that the horse likely received the drug the same day the blood sample was drawn.

NATRC rules do not allow horses to compete under the influence of medication.

NATRC Rule Book Section 7.A. states:

A. General Provisions

1. Purpose: The purpose of this rule against the use of prohibited substances or prohibited treatments in equines during NATRC rides is both to protect the equines from harm and to ensure fair competition. Equines should compete under their natural abilities without the influence of any drug, medication or veterinary treatment.

2. Prohibited substances or prohibited treatments as defined in this rule shall not be administered to or used in an equine competing in an NATRC ride. No equine in which a prohibited substance or its metabo-

lite is present shall compete, regardless of when the prohibited substance was administered to it. Further: NATRC Rule Book Section 5.C.6 states:

6. Entering the ride constitutes implied consent for drug testing.

A committee, formed pursuant to Section 7.E.3.c and Section 8.E, reviewed all pertinent information in determining the penalty for this protest. In communication with the committee, Karen Stewart admitted that her horse had received firocoxib that weekend and unfortunately, she had not really investigated it as she is new to NATRC. She indicated that she would make sure to be completely aware of the rules for future NATRC rides.

Penalty determined is as follows:

- Disqualification
- No points
- No mileage
- Notice printed in *Hoof Print*

Respectfully,

Marla Stucky - Committee Chair
Kim Cowart - Judge
Jonni Jewel - Competitor
John Zelff - Ex-Officio



You don't have to be an "official" representative on any committee in order to impact our growth. We all represent NATRC.

Just SHARE! Share social media posts, pages and feeds. Share your photos and ride stories. Invite people to events. Encourage riders you know to try our virtual mileage challenge or leisure division rides or even to volunteer.

Share with equestrians you meet when you're out conditioning.



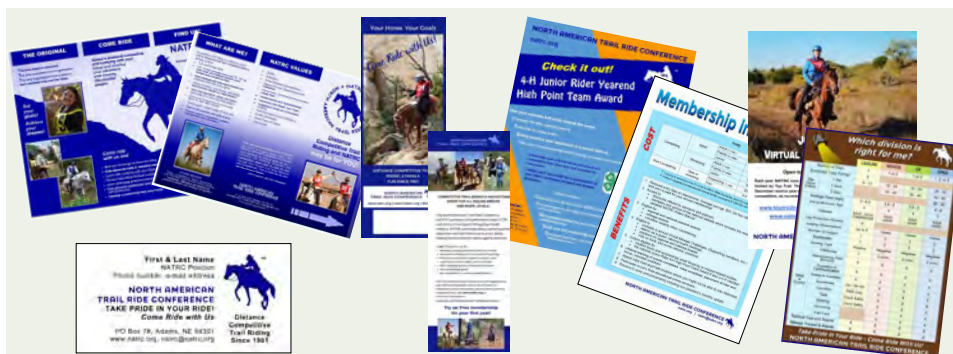
Photo Courtesy of Creative Commons

When you talk to others about our wonderful organization and "family," they hear and feel your enthusiasm, which could make them interested in checking us out and coming to an event.

NATRC has resources to help you. Did you know we have these items available either printed or downloadable?

- Brochure
- Rack Card
- Business Card Template
- 4-H Flyer
- Membership Benefits Flyer
- Virtual Mileage Challenge Flyer
- Which Division for Me Flyer

Contact natrc@natrc.org to request any of these documents or templates.



(Continued on page 49)



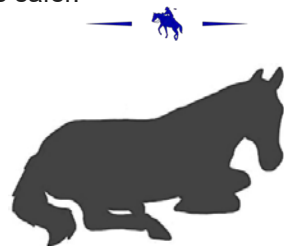
Trail Advocacy & Grants

By Linda Johnson-Conne

Did you know that grants of up to \$500.00 are available for trail safety or maintenance issues at your ride locations? This is a program that many are not aware of, so please take advantage of it.

The fund request guidelines and interactive application form are on our [website](#).

Download the form, gather necessary information and submit your request to lconne@gmail.com. If approved by the trail advocacy committee, we can help you make your trails safer.



Linda Johnson-Conne
Webinars and Trail

Being an NATRC member for over 15 years, I have been a ride manager and am currently on the national board and Region 3 board of directors.

I came from a marketing background and produced the Region 3 video at Colorado Trail. I recently received my Leisure judge accreditation.

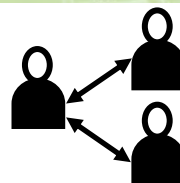
Skye, my second of three NATRC horses, and I received our national championship in 2019. I just love this sport and all it has taught me.



Photo by Family



Photo by John Zelfiff



Megan Place
Breed & Organization Liaison

When Megan is not competing with us you may find her out trail riding, working with her horses, participating in local clinics, cowboy mounted shooting, the extreme cowgirl challenge, and the Ultimate Cowboy Showdown.

And if you are lucky enough you might even see her appear on an episode of the Better Horses TV Show.

An Iowa State graduate, Megan is a parts specialist for one of the leading suppliers of integrated packaging solutions in the country, located in Kansas City, Missouri.

Megan was recognized as the 2023 Region 6 Rookie Rider of the Year competing in Novice.

Also, in 2023 Megan received a second gold buckle as the Region 6 High Point Rider of the Year. This award was based on the total points from all divisions, classes, and horses in Region 6.

Breed and Organization Liaison

By Megan Place

2024 was a good year for breed association awards. We had a total of eight associations provide awards to our high point registered horses and members with active breed memberships.

It is very important to keep your membership active with your breed association and to keep our RMS updated with your correct breed information including the registration number. In 2024, we had 16 NATRC

competitors who lost out on awards by failing to keep an active memberships with their breed associations.

Listed on page 43 are our 2024 winners. (Tennessee Walking Horse award winners are pending at the time of publishing this issue of Hoof Print).

Besides providing breed awards, many also provide riding incentive programs that can provide rewards for just doing what we love to do, spending time with our horses. I

encourage members to check into these programs as well.

There is a lot of time and effort in coordination, as it takes hours of phone calls to promote and to do outreach to keep NATRC in good standing with the associations.

If you would like to see if your breed association is willing to sponsor NATRC awards, please provide their information to me at kmplace2008@gmail.com and I will contact them.

(Continued on page 50)

National Honorary and Appreciation Awards



CRITERIA FOR AWARDS

- For all nominations, membership must be "in good standing".
- Nominees must have followed the NATRC's [Code of Ethics](#), philosophies and procedures.
- Activities for consideration must pertain to NATRC, not extra-curricular activities.
- Nominees must have not had a history of exhibiting behavior unbecoming an ambassador of the sport whether or not that resulted in a formal letter of concern or complaint".

RECOGNITION LEVELS

Regional Appreciation for National Recognition

Each region may submit up to three.

Considerations:

- Prospective recipients have done outstanding work for their region and should receive recognition from the national organization
- Examples include ride chair or secretary; timing trails, P&R teams, safety rider/personal, ride timer, rules interpreter, judges' driver, judges' secretary, raffle chair, regional BOD, helping at clinics; region webmaster, ride cook, photographer, region newsletter, 100% attendance at

rides or regional events (100% club); mentoring riders; ride-clinic coordinator

National Appreciation

Each region may submit one who must be a member; may be an individual or pair.

The NBOD selects up to three. If more than three have been nominated, those not selected in the first round of voting may be approved for regional appreciation at the national level.

Considerations:

- Prospective recipients have done outstanding work for the region (see Regional Appreciation for National Recognition)
- Prospective recipients have also done outstanding work for national level activities.
Ex: national convention chair or committee; NBOD or alternate; judge; national committee chair; ride and/or convention award chair; E-News

Workers Hall of Fame

Each region may submit one who must be a member.

NBOD selects one or more.

Considerations:

- Regional activities as stated in Regional Appreciation
- National activities as stated in National Appreciation
- Has conducted these jobs

multiple times for multiple years

- Will cheerfully and efficiently do "all duties as assigned"

Jim Menefee Lifetime Achievement

Each region may submit one who must be a member.

NBOD selects one.

Considerations:

- Typically has given a *Lifetime* of service to NATRC
- Usually has been a competitor
- Regional activities as stated in Regional Appreciation
- National activities as stated for National Appreciation
- Has usually won previous regional and national level recognition
- Has spearheaded and led new projects (ex: marketing, publicity, safety, ads, sponsor solicitation and recognition; NATRC sponsor; major role for *Hoof Print*; branding specs; virtual challenges
- Has gone above and beyond for NATRC

Mark your calendars now; include this information in region newsletters; talk about it during CTR ride briefings.

The 2025 Honorary and Appreciation write-ups (in Word, no formatting please) are due to Ruth Mesimer at RuthM9496@gmail.com by 10 pm CST, Wednesday, October 1, 2025.



Photo by Marilyn Hartness

Plenty of time to talk horses at the convention!

Past National Winners

PRESIDENT'S CUP WINNERS

OLD PRESIDENT'S CUP

(National High Point Horse, Unlimited Number of Rides)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1961	Duke	Quarter Cross	Frances Huling
1962	Suds	Morgan	Maxi Riggs
1963	Shamus	Arabian	LeRoy Krusi
1964	Warriors Merry Lady	Missouri Fox Trotter	Larry Rossi
1965	Posse	1/2 Arabian	Leah Martin
1966	Posse	1/2 Arabian	Leah Martin
1967	Raffez	Arabian	Sandy Parker
1968	Dandy Bar IV	Quarter	Dave Nicholson
1969	Shafarr	Arabian	Mel Eriksen
1970	Lippitts Dusty Thursday	Morgan	Linda Throgmorton
1971	Casey	Grade	Beverly Tibbitts
1972	Stormy	P.O.A.	Denise Throgmorton
1973	Dagger	3/4 Arabian	Linda Peters
1974	Kandar	Arabian	Ruth Waltenspiel
1975	Double	Grade	Lynn Anne Kohlmeier
1976	Jayess Rykstan	Arabian	Ken Burkdoll
1977	El Gaynik	Arabian	Linda Waltenspiel
1978	Chicaro's Mocha	Quarter	Violet Peak
1979	Antelope New Moon	Appaloosa	Beverly Tibbitts
1980	Sailor	Grade	Gail Gouskos
1981	Flashy Tomboy	Thoroughbred	Georgia Boulton
1982	Bezarue	1/2 Arabian	Sue Eoff
1983	Capi Comet	Arabian	Ginger Johnson
1984	Mighty Aledo Gal	Quarter	John Webb
1985	Mahra Khan	1/2 Arabian	Milne Parish
1986	Cody Joe	Grade	Tammy Thompson
1987	Angel	Mule	Pat Seymour
1988	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1989	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1990	Lokman	Arabian	Barbara Harvey
1991	Spring Fever	Mule	Pat Seymour
1992	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol

NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPION

(National High Point Horse, Number of Rides Limited to 16 Starts)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1993	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1994	Hickory's Country Gold	Missouri Fox Trotter	Bill Hinkebein
1995	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1996	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1997	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1998	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks

NEW PRESIDENT'S CUP

(National High Point Horse, Old Name Returned, Ride Limit Remains at 16 Starts)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1999	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks
2000	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks
2001	Sonic's Morning Star	Tennessee Walking Horse	Gerald Ferguson
2002	Summer	Grade	Ken Wolgram
2003	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2004	Swiss Mocha	Grade	Paula Riley
2005	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2006	Diamond's Sassy Stockings	Missouri Fox Trotter	James Keene
2007	Diamond's Sassy Stockings	Missouri Fox Trotter	James Keene
2008	Generator's Magic Pride	Tennessee Walking Horse	Gary Clayton
2009	Marquisesmischief	Arabian	Jonni Jewell
2010	Prime Sensation WH	Missouri Fox Trotter	Cheri Jeffcoat
2011	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2012	Susie's Stardust	Missouri Fox Trotter	Tammy Lineback
2013	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2014	Loco Motion	Grade	Sara Baldwin
2015	Danamyte	Arabian	Esther Diaguila
2016	Turner's Wild Card	Kentucky Mountain Horse	Lin Ward
2017	Tezuby	Arabian	Jonni Jewell
2018	By The Grace of God	Grade	Victoria Whitehead
2019	Giacomo	1/2 Arabian	Fran Muench
2020	None – year of Covid 19		
2021	Bantam Z	Arabian	Cynthia Mettes
2022	TA Kaiser+//	Arabian	Deanne Prusak
2023	Beau	Grade	Sherry Ganes
2024	RPH Ebony Diamond	1/2 Arabian	Patti Hicks

JIM MENEFFEE MEMORIAL

(Combined Horse and Horsemanship)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1979	Antelope New Moon	Appaloosa	Beverly Tibbitts
1980	Sailor	Grade	Gail Gouskos
1981	Flashy Tomboy	Thoroughbred	Georgia Boulton
1982	Bezarue	1/2 Arabian	Sue Eoff
1983	Capi Comet	Arabian	Ginger Johnson
1984	Mighty Aledo Gal	Quarter	John Webb
1985	Mahra Khan	1/2 Arabian	Milne Parish
1985	Arab Incognito	1/2 Arabian	Ripley Tate
1986	Cody Joe	Grade	Tammy Thompson
1987	Angel	Mule	Pat Seymour
1988	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1989	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1990	Lokman	Arabian	Barbara Harvey
1991	Spring Fever	Mule	Pat Seymour
1992	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1993	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1994	Hickory's Country Gold	Missouri Fox Trotter	Bill Hinkebein
1995	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1996	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1997	PS Ganamus+//	Arabian	Steve Lindsey
1998	Moonshiner Silver Mist	Missouri Fox Trotter	Frank Keeran
1999	Moonshiner Silver Mist	Missouri Fox Trotter	Frank Keeran
2000	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks
2001	Sonic's Morning Star	Tennessee Walking Horse	Gerald Ferguson
2002	Summer	Grade	Ken Wolgram
2003	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2004	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2005	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2006	Diamond's Sassy Stockings	Missouri Fox Trotter	James Keene
2007	Diamond's Sassy Stockings	Missouri Fox Trotter	James Keene
2008	Generator's Magic Pride	Tennessee Walking Horse	Gary Clayton
2009	Prime Sensation WH	Missouri Fox Trotter	Cheri Jeffcoat
2010	Prime Sensation WH	Missouri Fox Trotter	Cheri Jeffcoat
2011	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2012	Susie's Stardust	Missouri Fox Trotter	Tammy Lineback
2013	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2014	Desert Reinbeau	Mustang	Angie Meroshnekoff
2015	Danamyte	Arabian	Esther Diaguila
2016	Turner's Wild Card	Kentucky Mountain Horse	Lin Ward
2017	Tezuby	Arabian	Jonni Jewell
2018	By The Grace Of God	Grade	Victoria Whitehead
2019	Giacomo	1/2 Arabian	Fran Muench
2020	None – year of Covid 19		
2021	Windstorm Clay	Morgan	Tommy Mitchell
2022	TA Kaiser+//	Arabian	Deanne Prusak
2023	Beau	Grade	Sherry Ganes
2024	RPH Ebony Diamond	1/2 Arabian	Patti Hicks

BEV TIBBITTS GRAND CHAMPION

(High Average Horse)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1975	Sheiks Scimitar	3/4 Arabian	Barbara Jagoda
1976	Jayess Rykstan	Arabian	Ken Burkdoll
1977	Gam's Borkaan	1/2 Arabian	Julie Munger
1978	Velvet	3/4 Arabian	Gloria Becker
1979	Antelope New Moon	Appaloosa	Beverly Tibbitts
1980	Elmer Bandit	1/2 Arabian	Mary Anna Wood
1981	Talib Amil	1/2 Arabian/Morab	Joan Throgmorton
1982	Touches Velvette	Arabian	Elisabeth Grogan
1983	Capi Comet	Arabian	Ginger Johnson
1984	Mighty Aledo Gal	Quarter	John Webb
1985	Barthart+	Arabian	David Young
1986	Arab Incognito	1/2 Arabian	Linda Tate
1987	San Barraf	Arabian	Kathy Morris
1988	San Barraf	Arabian	Kathy Morris
1989	Bo Rand	Arabian	Helen Logan
1990	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol
1991	Hickory's Country Gold	Missouri Fox Trotter	Bill Hinkebein
1992	Aur Shammar (Sam)	Arabian	Lory Walls
1993	Wing Tempo	American Saddlebred	Shirley Sobol

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BEV TIBBETTS GRAND CHAMPION (Cont'd from page 51)

1994	Winchester Charm	1/2 Arabian	Lucy Hirsch
1995	Hickory's Country Gold	Missouri Fox Trotter	Bill Hinkebein
1996	Wilsons Abbey	Arabian	Don Parkhouse
1997	Woods Rawhide Ace	Missouri Fox Trotter	Jenny Smith
1998	Prince Alla Ba Ha	Arabian	Ellen Lovett
1999	Brown-R Dawud	Arabian	Judy Wise Mason
2000	Prince Alla Ba Ha	Arabian	Ellen Lovett
2001	Winchester Charm	1/2 Arabian	Lucy Hirsch
2002	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks
2003	Symplcity Sue	Arabian	Nancy Bacon
2004	Panama Jack	Grade	Terri Smith
2005	Desert Reinbeau	Mustang	Angie Meroshnekoff
2006	Andarko (Alex)	Arabian	Lory Walls
2007	Fraidy Cat	Tennessee Walking Horse	Terri Smith
2008	Diamond's Sassy Stockings	Missouri Fox Trotter	James Keene
2009	Andarko (Alex)	Arabian	Lory Walls
2010	Fawn Creek	Norwegian Fjord	Brandy Ferganchick
2011	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2012	Hot Saki	1/2 Arabian	Terri Smith
2013	Prime Sensation WH	Missouri Fox Trotter	Martha Findley
2014	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2015	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2016	Awesomes Fire N Ice	1/2 Arabian	Ken Wolgram
2017	Hot Saki	1/2 Arabian	Terri Smith
2018	Desert Reinbeau	Mustang	Angie Meroshnekoff
2019	Lonesome Lady Bug	1/2 Arabian	Terri Smith
2020	None – year of Covid 19		
2021	Windstorm Clay	Morgan	Tommy Mitchell
2022	Beau	Grade	Sherry Games
2023	Jiminy Cricket	Grade	Jennifer Mulligan
2024	Rushcreek Frontier	Arabian	Helen Smith

POLLY BRIDGES MEMORIAL

(High Average Horsemanship)

YEAR	RIDER	YEAR	RIDER
1987	Barbara Jagoda	2006	Wayne Tolbert
1988	Charlie Crider	2007	Elizabeth Kendall
1989	Charlie Crider	2008	Wayne Tolbert
1990	Betty Young	2009	Lory Walls
1991	Terri Roberts	2010	James Keene
1992	Terri Roberts	2011	Ken Wolgram
1993	Betty Young	2012	Terri Smith
1994	Betty Young	2013	Debbie Payne
1995	Ellen Lovett	2014	Ken Wolgram
1996	Charlie Crider	2015	Ken Wolgram
1997	Angie Meroshnekoff	2016	Ken Wolgram
1998	Jenny Smith	2017	Sarah Rinne
1999	Frank Keeran	2018	Angie Meroshnekoff
2000	Charlie Crider	2019	Terri Smith
2001	Lucy Hirsch	2020	None – year of Covid 19
2002	Gerald Ferguson	2021	Tommy Mitchell
2003	Wayne Tolbert	2022	Sherry Games
2004	Angie Meroshnekoff	2023	Sherry Games
2005	Wayne Tolbert	2024	Patti Hicks

JUNIOR GRAND CHAMPION

(High Average Horse)*

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1990	Friday's Applauz	Arabian	Jeanne Kelly
1991	Sadiki	1/2 Arabian	Heather Parson
1992	Shannon's Cameo	1/2 Arabian	Shannon Mitchell
1993	Saint Simon	Morgan	Holly Ward
1994	Cherokee's Pride	Appaloosa	Mica Hart
1995	Jazz	Grade	Klare Chapman
1996	Jazz	Grade	Klare Chapman
1997	Lucite	Grade	Janelle Meuten
1998	Avar Desert Storm	Arabian	Kalinda Renfro
1999	Heartlight Delila	Arabian	Sarah Neunzig
2000	MKS Fancy's Folly	Arabian	Kymberlie Shanor
2001	Cisco Kid	American Indian Horse	Carrie Porter
2002	Rita	Grade	Melinda Hirsch Sadler
2003	MKS Shamal Nejma	Arabian	Kymberlie Shanor
2004	Fortunataa	Arabian	Kymberlie Shanor
2006	TN Valley Hotrod	Appaloosa	Andrew Murray
2007	Rambler	Spanish Mustang	Jenna Galliher
2009	Kiva	Spanish Mustang	Layne Lampley

JUNIOR GRAND CHAMPION (Cont'd)

2012	Gorgeous Dixie	Grade	Maggie Steinke
2013	Flash of Lightening	Spotted Saddle Horse	Jameson Moulis
2015	Lincoln	Grade	Alexis Combs
2016	Shady Sunset WH	Missouri Fox Trotter	Jessica Reeter
2020	None – year of Covid 19		

JUNIOR HIGH AVERAGE HORSEMANSHIP

(High Average Horsemanship)*

YEAR	RIDER	YEAR	RIDER
1990	Jeanne Kelly	2003	Kymberlie Shanor
1991	Heather Parson	2004	Kymberlie Shanor
1992	Shannon Mitchell	2006	Andrew Murray
1993	Holly Ward	2007	Jenna Galliher
1994	Mica Hart	2008	Jennifer Maddox
1995	Klare Chapman	2009	Layne Lampley
1996	Klare Chapman	2011	Hannah VanPoolen
1997	Janelle Meuten	2012	Maggie Steinke
1998	Kara Galliher	2013	Jameson Moulis
1999	Paula Nelson	2015	Alexis Combs
2000	Melinda Hirsch Sadler	2016	Jessica Reeter
2001	Carrie Porter	2020	None – year of Covid 19
2002	Melinda Hirsch Sadler	2024	Anna Beth Lawrence

*Missing years had no qualifying juniors.

COMPETITIVE PLEASURE GRAND CHAMPION

(High Average Horse)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
2015	Silver Valley Tate	Morgan	Mary Hanson
2016	Andarko	Arabian	Lory Walls
2017	Impressive Red Rebel	Missouri Fox Trotter	Paula Riley
2018	Spirit of Spotted Alen	Tennessee Walking Horse	Cindy Keen
2019	TA Kaiser+//	Arabian	Deanne Prusak
2020	None – year of Covid 19		
2021	Impressive Red Rebel	Missouri Fox Trotter	Paula Riley
2022	Giacomo	1/2 Arabian	Fran Muench
2023	TA Kaiser+//	Arabian	Deanne Prusak
2024	Little Rocky Road	Grade	Marilyn Bivens

COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HIGH AVERAGE HORSEMANSHIP

(High Average Horsemanship)

YEAR	RIDER	YEAR	RIDER
2015	Leigh Riley	2020	None - year of Covid 19
2016	Lory Walls	2021	Kelly Queen
2017	Diane Wingle	2022	Victoria Whitehead
2018	Beverly Roberts	2023	Deanne Prusak
2019	Deanne Prusak	2024	Marilyn Bivens

HORSE HALL OF FAME

(Outstanding Horse Performance Record)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
1986	Elmer Bandit	1/2 Arabian	Mary Anna Wood
1989	Casey	Grade	Beverly Tibbits
1991	Barthart+	Arabian	Betty Young
1993	Rebel's Raider+//	1/2 Arab/Appy	Marilyn Hunter
1996	Hickory's Country Gold	Missouri Fox Trotter	Bill Hinkebein
2000	Mahra Khan	1/2 Arab	Milne Parish
2002	Winchester Charm	1/2 Arab	Lucy Hirsch
2004	Brown R Dawud	Arabian	Judy Wise Mason
2010	Chargers Rampage	Missouri Fox Trotter	Lisa Brooks
2014	Swiss Mocha	Grade	Paula Riley
2015	Windstorm Sienna	Morgan	Wayne Tolbert
2021	Desert Reinbeau	Mustang	Angie Meroshnekoff

WORKER HALL OF FAME

1998	Lew Muzzy, R2	2002	Phil & Betty Young, R1
	Bill Cumberworth, R3		Joyce & Frank Keeran, R6
	Ann Burnsed, R4	2003	Karel Waugh, R1
1999	Max Barmettler (posthumous), R1		Bob & Margie Insko, R2
2000	Joan & Bill Throgmorton, R1	2004	Kathy Nixon, R1
2001	Linda Shannon, R2		

*Missing years had no qualifying juniors.

(Continued on page 53)

(Past National Winners Continued from page 52)

WORKER HALL OF FAME (Cont'd)

2005	Jim & Jan Jeffers, R1 Bill Smith, R3 Mike Bridges, R5	2014	Larry and Barbara Gould, R4
2006	Steve Meroshnekoff, R1 Garrie and Marshall Bates, R5	2015	Jamie Dieterich, R1 Beni DeMattei, R2
2009	Sue Flagg, R1 Jenny Smith, R3	2016	Angie Meroshnekoff, R1
2010	Cork Weir, R4 Florence Blanks, R6	2017	Linda Thomason, R1 Mary Jo Malone, R2
2011	Bev Roberts, R4	2018	Chuck Edwards, R6
2013	Lory & Randy Walls, R2 Susan Peters, R3 Elaine Swiss, R4	2019	Shirley Brodersen, R4
		2021	Becky Rogers, R4
		2022	Dee Overholt, R3
		2023	Alanna Sommer, R4
		2024	Pam Galchutt, R3

BEV ROBERTS NATIONAL HORSEMANSHIP CHAMPION

(Five National Championships on Five Different Horses)

RIDER	YR QUALIFIED	RIDER	YR QUALIFIED
Nancy Diamond	1990	Bill Hinkebein	2005, 2016
Terri Smith (Roberts)	2002	Bev Roberts	2007
Kymberlie Welp (Shanor)	2004	Jonni Jewell	2023

COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HIGH POINT TEAM

(Combined Horse and Horsemanship)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
2021	Halcon	Grade	Kelly Quees
2022	Oakies' Roanwood	Quarter	Bobby Fields
2023	TA Kaiser+//	Arabian	Deanne Prusak
2024	Little Rocky Road	Grade	Marilyn Bivens

NOVICE HIGH POINT TEAM

(Combined Horse and Horsemanship)

YEAR	NAME OF HORSE	BREED	RIDER
2021	Dec Docs Curious Pep	Quarter	Shae Gragg
2022	Jada Angel	½ Arabian	Lael Feist

2023	StarLight's Macksimum Flex	Grade	Nancy Fuller
2024	Precious	Grade	Julie Bills

JIM MENEFFEE LIFETIME AWARD

JIM MENEFFEE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARD
(Award of Lifetime Membership for Outstanding Service)

YEAR	REG	NAME	YEAR	REG	NAME
1977	R1	Leroy Krusi	1995	R3	Michelle Glover, DVM
1978	R1	Joan Throgmorton	1996	R3	Neal McKinstry
1979	R1	George Cardinet	1997	R5	E. Larry Bentley, DVM
1980	None		1998	R2	Henry Logan
1981	R2	Bob Bohannon	1999	R6	Jerry Weil, DVM
1982	R3	Duane & Bessie Scott Family	2000	R1	James C. (Jim) Ferris
1983	R4	Ann Burnsed	2001	R1	Robert (Bob) Goulding, DVM
1984	R1	Fred Kirkham	2002	R5	Connie Driskell
1985	R1	Betty Meneffee	2003	R1	Jamie Dieterich
1986	R1	Bill Throgmorton, DVM	2004	R2	Lory Walls
1987	R1	Nancy Kasovich	2005	R5	Bucky Starnes
1988	R1	Bev Tibbitts	2006	R3	Bill Smith
1989	R3	Iris Mosgrove	2007	R4	Patsy Conner
1990	R6	Joann Christensen	2008	R4	Shirley Parker
1991	R3	Patricia Jubb	2009	R3	Doreen Portner
1992	R2	Elisabeth Grogan	2010	R1	Jim & Jan Jeffers
1993	R1	Rod Cole	2011	R3	Bill & Judy Cumberworth
1994	R3	Gene Naugle, DVM			

JIM MENEFFEE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

(Changed from an award of Lifetime Membership to Lifetime Achievement Recognition)

2012	R4	Jean Green	2019	R4	Larry and Barbara Gould
2013	R5	Paula Riley	2020	None	- year of Covid-19
2014	R6	Priscilla Lindsey	2021	R1	Angie Meroshnekoff
2015	R6	J.R. Kendall	2022	R3	Jim Ward
2016	R3	Laurie DiNatale, NATRC	2023	R4	Bev Roberts
2017	R2	Greg Fellers, DVM	2024	R6	William (Bill) Hinkebein
2018	R5	Mike Bridges, DVM			

Past Appreciation Award Winners

PAST NATIONAL APPRECIATION AWARD WINNERS

Year	National	Year	National	Year	National
1982	none	1983	Bill & Judy Cumberworth, R3 Helen & Henry Logan, R2 Amanda Hyatt, R5	1984	Irene Mandeville, R1 Maryetta Stebbins, R1 Dorothy Smith, R1 Chere Bargar, R1 Al & Nancy Moss, R2
1985	JoAnn Christensen, R6 Ike Mosgrove, R3	1986	Theresa Duncan, R1 Nancy Kasovich, R1 Helene Pritchard, R5	1987	Michael Bridges, DVM, R5 Barbara Dean, R4 Rod Cole, R1
1988	Jim Wright, DVM, R6 Richard Becker, R2 Neal McKinstry, R3	1989	JoAnn Christensen, R6 Pat Jubb, R3 Elisabeth Grogan, R2	1990	Gloria Becker, R2 Henry Cook, DVM, R1 Pat Wasmund, R4
1991	Larry Bentley, DVM, R5 Jim Ferris, R1 Ann Burnsed, R4 (declined)	1992	Bev Tibbitts, R1 Helene Pritchard, R5 Gene Naugle, DVM, R3	1993	Nancy Kasovich, R1 Sylvia Rogers, R4 Ruth Bourgeois, R6
1994	Michelle Glover, DVM, R4 Nancy Moss, R2 Heidi Wallace, R1	1995	J. R. Kendall, R6 Jerry Weil, DVM, R6 Helen Logan, R2	1996	Mary Francis Britt, R5 Jill Hicks, R3 David Shannon, R2
1997	Peter Rich, R1 Henry Logan, R2 Pam Pintchuk, DVM, R5	1998	Jim & Jan Jeffers, R1 Jim Ferris, R1 Raymond Brooks, R5	1999	Bill & Jenny Smith, R3 Stephanie Ostrowski, DVM, R5 Steve & Priscilla Lindsey, R6 Ann Burnsed, R4 (declined)

(Continued on page 54)

Year	National	Year	National	Year	National
2000	Shirley Parker, R4 Garrie Bates, R5 Helen Logan, R2	2001	Raymond Brooks, R5 Cheri Jeffcoat & Sharlyn McDermot, R6 Laurie DiNatale, R3	2002	Jamie Dieterich, R1 Randy Walls, R2 Sylvia Rogers, R4
2003	Lee Hoth, R3 Ray & Sue Brezina, R2 Greg Fellers, DVM, R1	2004	Sue Flagg, R1	2005	Robert Young, R1 Jim & Lin Ward, R3
2006	Bob Goulding, R1	2007	Beni DeMattei, R2 Kathleen Green, R2 Kathy Brown, R3	2008	Jennie Paddock, R4 Mark & Debbie Jones Family, R5
2009	Peter Rich, R1 Michael Peralez, DVM, R2 Linda Clayton, R5	2010	Betty Wolgram, R3 Laurie Knuutila, R1A Sue Singletary, R3	2011	Jonni Jewell, R4 Kim Cowart, R5 J. R. Kendall, R6
2012	Linda Clayton, R5 Leona Harris, R4 Phil Young, R1	2013	Jerry Sims, R3 Shirley Brodersen, R4 Cindy Keen, R5	2014	Erin Glassman, R6 Tanya Kingsley, R5 Brenda Simpson, R4 Chuck Smith & John Volkerding, R3
2015	Mary Jo Malone, R2 Debbie Jones & Vickie Moore, R5 Sarah Rinne, R6	2016	Linda Thomason, R1 Betty Wolgram, R3 Kim Cowart, R5	2017	Phil Young, R1 Phil Brodersen, R4 Marty Findley, R5
2018	Dave & Sharon Roper-Dashner, R3 Kimberly Murphy, R4 Bill Moore, R5	2019	Lory Walls, R2 Dee Overholt, R3 Jonni Jewell, R4	2020	none
2021	Pam Galchutt, R3 Shari Parys, R6	2022	Judy Cumberworth, R3 Helen Smith, R6	2023	Cathy Cumberworth, R3 Esther Diaguila, R5 Chuck Edwards, R6
2024	Alice Perryman, R4 Kris Gray, R5 Ruth Mesimer, R6				

PAST REGIONAL APPRECIATION AWARD WINNERS

CERTIFICATES NOT SPECIFIC TO REGION

1981	Dorothy & Bernie Bargar, R1 Jan Blawat, R1	Jackie Coleman, R4 Bill Cumberworth, R3	Irene Mandeville, R1 Lew Muzzy, R2	Duane & Bessie Scott, R3
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CERTIFICATES SPECIFIC TO REGION

YR	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
1982	Chere Bargar Suzanne Hurst Irene Mandeville Joan Throgmorton Bev Tibbitts Heide Wallace-Blonigan	Gloria Becker Richard Becker Gene Grogan Nancy Moss	Tom Butterfield Nola Frasure Ike Mosgrove	Sam & Ann Burnsed		
1983	Nora Cook Fred Kirkham Maryetta Stebbins Dorothy Smith	Richard & Gloria Becker	Louie Pavetti, DVM	Barbara & Ted Dean Diane & Ray Spencer	Bucky Starnes	Dale Jackson, DVM Marian & Al Tritch Col. Gurney Gunther & Army Corps of Engrs
1984	Pat Ersepke Greg Fellers, DVM Dale Lake	Larry Rossi Sheryl Brezina	Jim & Violet Peek	Ray Ledwig Cathie Wincovitch & Glenda Stevens	Lawton & Frances Johnston	Harold Nickeson Tom & Kay Slusher Wayne Thomas
1985	Harry Haeussler Max Barmettler Jill Pass	Noni Mickelson Brian Beckwith Susan Kewley	Pat Jubb	Arthur & Desira Byrd Lloyd Wallace Mary Lou McNeel	Shirley Sobol	Frank & Nancy Diamond Neil & Barbara Spahn Richard & Kaaren Jones
1986	Henry Cook, DVM Nancy Kauk	Sandra Williams	Jeri Avila & Laurie Butterfield	Marion Tomlin Leonard Smith, DVM	Billy Bonds Laurie Sherfese	Gerald & Virginia Peterson Chuck Edwards Jim & Roberta Bess

(Continued on page 55)

(Past Appreciation *Continued from page 54)*

YR	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
1987	Marilyn Hunter Bev Barnettler Jean Haugsten	Linda Dopson, DVM	Vel & Gene Naugle, DVM	Barbara Harvey Angelina Trail Riders Assn	Charlie Crider Martha Findley	Bob & Mary Scheer Mary & Jerry Weil, DVM Lucie Hess
1988	Dorothy Smith Paul DeLay, DVM Patti Pearson	Ken Truesdell Linda & David Shannon	Bill & Judy Cumberworth	Mike & Sherry Murphy Linda Reuland Kay Rumfield	Ron & Beverly Williams	Kathy & Rod Smith J. R. Kendall John & Janice Schell
1989	Reta Cole Bev Barnettler Maryetta Stebbins	Susan Kewley Walt, Larene & Willie	Bonnie & Michael Kaufman	Mary Lou & Patrick McNeel Alan & Emalu Nutter	Tom, Sandy & Jeanne Kelly Mark & Debbie Jones	Pam Bond Iowa Trail Riders Assn Dale Seymour
1990	Rita Schlim Al & Irene King Mary & Tom Bertken	Ron Watson Judy Kuplent Bonnie & Hank Peralez	Jill Talbot	Shirley Parker Oklahoma Equestrian Trail Riders Assn Charles & Trudy Kincade	The Harwell Family - Diane, Ron, Matt & Meredith Edna Cook & Michelle Cook Goza	Jackie Coleman Russ & Bethany Kness Carol Roberts
1991	Robert "Bob" Golding, DVM Karel Waugh The Young Family - Betty, Phil & David	Lew Muzzy Tom Thomas Lory & Randy Walls	Judi Tobias	Darlene Wallace Leonard Smith, DVM Danny & Michelle Glover, DVM	Judy Jesse Anne Hayward Phyllis Ellis	Sho-Me-Mo Trail Riders Riders Nebraska Endurance & Comp. Trail Riders
1992	Marilyn Hunter Carolyn Tucker Maryetta Stebbins	Noni Mickelson Trish Downing Leslie & Dave Wilson	Tom & Barbara Butterfield	Rita Hays Gretchen Pattersion-Tinker James & Belinda Henderson	Garrie & Marshall Bates Raymond & Lisa Brooks Sarah & Chris Dunn	Steve & Priscilla Lindsey Jacqui Register Dalyn Wilson, DVM
1993	Jim & Jan Jeffers Jim Ferris Nora Cook	Stephanie & David Fling Debbie Zinkl Henry & Helen Logan	Lois Arbour	Larry & Jeanne McFarland Peggy Hixson Pat Wasmund	Connie Ward Martha Findley Dianne & Gary Poovey	Dave Smith & Martha Kunkle Olivia Huddleston & Duane Daily Mary Rayburn
1994	Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride Assn Emma McCrary Dale & Deana Lake	Pam Ronning Wendy Bishop Joyce Miller	Dee Overholt Sue McKelvy	Larry Gould Greg Smith Rusty & Frances Henderson	Cathy Springer Jane Hillegas Julie & Jim Capaldi	Roland & Norma Newton Lucie Hess Mike & Mary Colby
1995	Paul DeLay, DVM Lynne Landis Kathy Nixon	Linda Shannon Randy Walls Trish Downing	Karen Laden Neal McKinstry	Ann Burnsed Dr. Ed & Doreen Atkinson Gretchen Patterson	John Howard Tanya Kingsley Charlie Crider	Kim Downing Marguerite Sloan Joyce Jensen
1996	Marilyn Hunter Phil Young Jean Haugsten	Chris Wagner Judy Kuplent Larry Kelly, DVM	Lisa Sowell Clair Gamble Dale McCoy	Ann Pfeiffer Julie Watson Alice Kidwell	Stephanie Ostrowski, DVM Bobbie Hancock Kim Cowart	Susan Manley Florence Blanks Stacy & Frank Bowman / Diane & Darrell Brauner
1997	Jamie & Bob Dieterich, DVM Karel Waugh San Martin Horsemen's Assn	Bruce Qualset	Judi & Larry Tobias Cavalier Trail Riding Club San Juan Valley Trail Riders	Lone Star Distance Riders Angelina Trail Riders Oklahoma Equestrian Trail Riders Assn	Linda Moss Sallie Kudra Lyn Lewis	J. R. Kendall Cindy Cameron Frank Keeran
1998	Leroy Burnham, DVM McCrary Family Carol & Dan Barnes	Pam Miller	Kris Cummings	Joan Richardson Ted & Barbara Dean	Garrie Bates Lyn Lewis	Gerald & Virginia Peterson Bill Hinkebein Cheri Jeffcoat
1999	Kathy Nixon Sue Flagg Chere Bargar, Kitty Swindle & Judy Hayamizu	Roberta Dewey Linda Warnekros Linda Shannon	Iris (Ike) Mosgrove Joe Quintana, DVM	Barbara Harvey Kim McKenzie, DVM	Johnnie & Annie (Dow) Strader Gerald & Brenda Ferguson Jim & Vickie Rubeck	Dave Smith
2000	Mary Bertken Lynette Love Ellen Carter	Bob & Margie Insko Vicki & Tony Coscia Cheryl & Steve Erpelding	Kris Cummings Sue Benjamin	Maurice Nelson Cork Weir	Sallie Kudra	Ed McDevitt Ed "Van" VanSciver Gerald Peterson
2001	Ellen & Rufus Lovett Karel Waugh	Carrie Garufis Sylvia Beverly	Steve & Janine Ancell	Tom Richmond Doanna Gross Linda McGrath	Bucky Starnes	Becki Jackson Chuck Edwards
2002	Steve Meroshnekoff Kevin Wilson Phil Young	Virginia Schick Michael Sterns Harca	Betty Wolgram Judy Mason	Larry Gould Linda Stanford	Gary & Linda Clayton	Hickory's Chillicothe Express
2003	Mike Witt, DVM Bob Young, DVM Debbie Murphy	Melanie Pelczar	Milne Parish Mahra Khan	Shirley Brodersen	Shirley Sobol Tanya Kingsley	Brent Hathhorn Florence Blanks Ron Pappan, DVM
2004	Carolyn Johnson Kathryn Kennard Laurie Knuutila	Pam Miller Ray & Sue Brezina Bob & Margie Insko	Bill & Jenny Smith Bill & Judy Cumberworth	James Keene Katie Weir LeeAnn Dreadfulwater	Nancy Sluys Janis Baldwin	Martha Kunkle Lucie Hess

(Continued on page 56)

(Past Appreciation *Continued from page 55)*

YR	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
2005	Marlene Takle Judy Etheridge	Beni DeMattei Kathleen Green	Kip Korthuis Donna Johnson Kathy Shanor	Don Rubley Mark Cole Deanne Prusak	Wayne Tolbert Linda & Gary Clayton	J. R. Kendall Charlie Armour
2006	Neil & Kitty Weber Jack & Mary Chandler	Marcia Nelson Jim Monroe	Kathy Brown Tracey & Kip Korthuis Linell Miller	Carla Jo Bass Brenda Wyant Lisa Gallery	Ginny Tolbert Marlene Buttrey Vicki & Andrew Murray	Kim Weil Marsha Hayes Susan Manley
2007	Nancy Kasovich McCrory Family CMDTRA	none	Kay Gunckel Mike Mason San Juan Trail Riders	none	Phillip Buttrey Sara Baldwin Doug O'Connel	Pat Welsh Zack Edwards
2008	Sue Flagg	Lynda Sterns	Gary Inman & Linell Miller Mike & Judy Mason	Liz Scott	Mary Leslie Tammy Lineback	Ruth Mesimer
2009	Lynn Hutnick Chere Bargar, Kitty Swindle, & Judy Hayamizu	Nancy Reed Liz Grogan	Jeff & Kathy Brown Susan Peters Beth Sims	Alanna Sommer	Kathy Nicholl	Cheryl & Jerry Weber Kim Weil
2010	Carol Ormond, DVM	Pima Medical Sue Brezina	Bill & Diane Wingle Chuck Smith Maarten Van Poollen	Linda Courts Linda Reuland Barbara Gould	none	Ginny Peterson J. R. Kendall Virginia Prey
2011	Betty Young Maria Pilgrim	Kandace French, Sherry Bray & Katy Taylor	Pam Galchutt Susan Peters Russ & Linda Jones	Phil Broderson Art & Dee Byrd Vickie Ives	Marty Findley	Mary Anna Wood Sarah Rinne
2012	Leroy Burnham, DVM	Dana Conklin Mary Jo Malone	Alyce Wich WSCSC	Ronald Hicks Rusty Harris Shane Murphy	Cindy Keen Kendal & Debra Porter Sandy West Pegram	Steve Lindsey
2013	Linda Thomason White Dog Ranch	Arizona Triple Crown	Dee Overholt	Becky Rogers Erman & Nettie Sands Alice Yovich	Regina Broughton Mike Daniels Courtney Woodall	none
2014	none	Beni DeMattei	none	Teresa Galliher Patti Hicks Barbara Rubley	Michelle Goza Ginny Tolbert	Fred Altwegg Trish Cleveland Marilyn Marston & Marla Stucky
2015	Darlene & Brian Schlerf	Audrey Pavia	Greg Feazell Sonny Mills Bill Wingle	Patty Lampley Becky Lucht Debby Starr	Terry Riley Andrea Rogers	Liz Klamm Gary & Mary McCoy Shari Parys
2016	none	Elvis Lynn Bray Karen Kafka Margie Insko	none	none	Victoria Light Patty Lucas Walter & Medora Mullins	Debbie & Ty McCullough Robin Nore Christine Wallis
2017	none	Carrie Garufis	John Horne	Doanna Gross Daniel Kris Hapgood Betsy Zimmerman	Rita Lowery John Saunby Dave & Maggie Spilker	Cheryl Bohling Debbie Payne John Zelif
2018	none Peter Yovich from all	none	Husbands Club Louis & Cathy Martin	Danny Martin Cheryl Middlebrooks-Ray	Sallie Kudra Andrew Murray Nancy Sluys	Kathy Jackson David Nore
2019	none	Bob & Margie Insko	Pam Galchutt Maarten Vanpoolen San Juan Valley	Amy Martin Maddie Martin Teresa Musgrave	Dream Team Carol Ault Courtney Woodall	Helen Smith Marla Stucky & Marilyn Marston
2020	none	none	none	Gayle Muench Mike & Sherry Murphy Elaine Swiss	Alan Yauck	Shari Parys Mike & Chris Wallis John Zelif
2021	Leroy Burnham Lory Walls	none	Hannah Clark Juleen Feazell Dayna Morgan	Pat Collins Cara Liebman Fran Muench	none	Cheryl Bohling Kristen Schmalzried & Mary Licata Priscilla Lindsey
2022	Gene & Vicki Boicelli Steve Meroshnekoff	Kim Johnson & Bonnie Pollock Catherine McCord & Rob Dixon	Steve Ancell	Betsy Zimmerman David Spell Michael Perryman	Virginia & Wayne Tolbert Paula Riley Sallie Kudra	David Hayes Mary Fettes & Kristen Johansen Ruth & Rob Schindler
2023	none	Carol Evans Bob & Margie Insko	Linda Johnson-Conne Paula Sue	Chrissy Knight LeeAnn Dreadfulwater Holly Jones & Mollie Kelly	Nancy Fuller Cindy Keen Debbie & Ty McCullough	Alex Braun Sarah Smith
2024	none	Audrey Pavia Unforgiven Ranch Mgmt & Volunteers	Kristen Munson Amy Mason, DVM Kay Gunckel, DVM	Anita Waldrip Jan Stewart Fran Muench	Patty Lucas Lael Feist	Kristen Schmalzried Christina Lyons Rianna Deselich

Reminders

Many of these reminders say to contact our Executive Director (ED). Contact Sarah J. Smith at natrc@natrc.org.

Ride Mgrs & Secretaries

Ride Management Forms

Please download [new ride forms](#) EACH year. Last year's are **OBSOLETE!**

Ride Management Support Fund

- Up to \$1,000 available to help defray upfront costs.
- Ride manager must be a member.
- Submit 1-pg [application](#) & supporting papers 90 days prior to ride.

Riders & Members

Membership

- [Join](#) or [renew](#) online or use form.
- New member? First year is FREE!
- Find out [which division](#) is right for you!

Virtual Mileage Challenge

Can't travel? Ride at home and compete in our [mileage challenge](#).

Let's Ride Seminar Series

- Watch our [website](#) for details.
- Suggest seminar topics to our ED.

Ride Results

Find recent / past ride results [here](#).

Give Feedback on Judges

Let [us](#) know how our apprentice and provisional judges are doing.

Life Changes?

*Moved? Changed name?
New phone? Added a junior?*

Please report any changes in your membership information to our ED.

Basic changes like address, email address and phone can be made on the website under My Account at the top right side of the screen. Remember, it is your responsibility to keep your information up to date.

Points and Data

Please notify our ED of horse, rider, or ownership changes so we can properly apply points and mileage!

NBOD Meeting Minutes

Includes [monthly and full meetings](#).

High Point Breed Award

- Does your breed association sponsor a yearend high point breed award?
- If not, ask them to contact our ED to arrange to sponsor one.

Rule Changes

- **October** - Deadline - submit proposals to your region's [national directors](#).
- View proposed or approved rule changes in [Resources/Rules](#).

Riders & Members (cont'd)

- Standing Schedule:

NBOD Meeting Activity
Oct - Receive rule change proposals
Nov - Decide proposals to carry forward
- Publish / post for comment
Feb/- Finalize wording
Mar - Publish / post for comment
Jul - Vote on changes
After July - Update Rule Book

Honorary and Appreciation Nominations

Mark your calendars now. The 2025 write-ups (in MS Word) are due to [Ruth Mesimer](#) by 10pm CST, October 1, 2025.

• PROCEDURE

Submit nomination write-ups to your region's BOD by the region's due date. Please keep to the word limits. The boards forward approved nomination write-ups to the H and A Chair.

Your NBOD makes the selection at the December meeting. Awards presented at the national convention the following year.

• CRITERIA

Jim Menefee NATRC Lifetime Achievement Award (400 words)
Awarded one time only to a person. Each region may nominate one member. The recipient gives a brief acceptance speech at the national convention. Award honors Jim Menefee, a favorite judge who was especially encouraging to Novices and first-time competitors.

Workers Hall of Fame (400 words)
One time only to a person, pair or couple. Each region may nominate one member. The NBOD selects one or more at their discretion.

National Appreciation Award (200 words)
Each region may nominate one member. The BOD selects three. Recipients eligible once every 3 yrs.

Regional Appreciation Award (200 words)
Each region may nominate up to three members. Nominees may be persons, pairs, or groups.

Donations

NATRC is a non-profit organization and [donations](#) are tax deductible.

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Coupons for you - donations for us! Get coupon codes and [Goodshop](#) deals at thousands of stores, while a small percentage of what you spend goes to NATRC. Searching on [Goodsearch](#) helps, too.

Juniors & Students

4-H Junior Rider

Yearend High Point Team Award

Use your valuable 4-H skills outside the arena and compete for this special award. Trail riding is a great way to cross train your horse for shows, to safely practice your equitation in a scenic setting, and even to use your showmanship skills during in-hand vet checks!

Encourage your 4-H friends to join you at CTRs and compete for this award. Contact us if you would like a presentation to your club to introduce the sport and answer questions.

Eligibility is simple. Compete in any division, nominate yourself, and prove that you are a 4-H member! The specifics:

- 1) The award goes to the high point horse and rider team *regardless* of the division.
- 2) Your self-nomination must occur before the end of the ride year, the last Sunday in November.
- 3) You must: (a) be a competing member, (b) nominate yourself by contacting our ED, and (c) have your 4-H leader contact our ED to confirm that you are a 4-H member.

Additionally, in a number of states (Colorado for example), 4-H now recognizes competitive trail as a qualifying activity for a 4-H member's project. How cool is that? To document each ride, use [this form](#).

Student Loan & Scholarship Program

Student loans and scholarships are available at the amount assigned by the National Board of Directors. Fulltime students who have been members, or whose families have been active members for at least 3 years, preferred. We also consider students, or whose families, who have been active for less than 3 years but more than 6 months.

Priority: 1st, a student enrolled in an accredited School of Veterinary Medicine; 2nd, in studies leading to a degree in Animal Science, Nutrition, Health and/or other related equine field; 3rd, in other related equine studies; 4th, a college student in his/her senior year, then junior, sophomore, freshman. For a student loan, a student enrolled in other studies may be considered.

Scholastic achievement, financial need, and character, are also noted.

To apply, download the [Student Loan Application](#) or the [Bev Tibbitts Memorial Scholarship Application](#).

Email the completed form to our ED.

Find us on 

 YouTube

Find us on 