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NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE

Region 3

The Region 3 Newsletter is published bimonthly. It is available by subscription to non-Region 3 members for \$8 per year. Requests/payment for subscriptions should be sent to Iris Mosgrove 10590 Egerton Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80908.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season and your New Year is filled with Heath and Happy trails.

I've enjoyed being the President of Region 3 this year. Even though my life was too busy for me to spend all the time I should, we have such a wonderful group of board members and chairmen that the work pretty much got done without me. I would like to thank everyone for all their efforts. The board has come up with some innovative ideas and interesting programs to try to grow our wonderful sport. My greatest fear is that if we don't grow, we will perish.

We have an exciting season before us with several brand new rides and the Colorado Trail Ride rising from ashes. We are planning a membership drive: if you sell 2 memberships you will get a free membership. There will also be a District Challenge Competition for new members. The district with the largest percentage of new members wins possession of a beautiful traveling trophy (donated by Bill and Jenny Smith). Surely our District 3 will win, we might as well get the trophy engraved now. It would be nice to have a little competition though.

Let's talk rider pacing. My personal preference is to ride at the back of the pack. I do not like riding with the crush of folks at the front. I feel like I can find a space without a lot of horses to distract mine easier near the rear, there are lots of footprints to help me between ribbons, it's peaceful, I get to enjoy the scenery. What amazes me however is that although I usually ride right on my median time, ride management tends to panic because everyone else is so far ahead. It occurs to me that if I have an allotment of time to do a trail, it is to my horse's benefit if I use as much of the time as I can (without having a nervous breakdown). I take it a little slower and walk the rough stuff.

This subject comes to mind because there are some complaints about how rocky some of the trails at Golden Gate are becoming. I agree, they are, but if the rough spots are timed at a walk we can normally get safely through them. I believe this is part of the "Good Horsemanship" and careful horse we are supposed to be encouraging. You may say it is not good horsemanship to ride on rocks, I say balderdash! Frequently when we are out on trails in the mountains they are rock and it is good to have a horse accustomed to going slowly and carefully. I have even been known to ride horses barefooted in rocks to teach them this caution.

The new NATRC rule on shoeing is "there are no rules". This is great for horses that have a problem and need corrective shoeing, or for endurance riders that don't want to re-shoe a padded horse to do a NATRC ride. However, the original NATRC purpose was to encourage the breeding, selection and training of good trail horses AND encourage riding to help our horses over the trail in a safe and careful manner. It is not apparent to me how rushing padded horses over bad footing fosters any of the principals NATRC is about. Hopefully, the convenience of "same" shoeing will outweigh the negative aspects.

OF STREET

Happy Trails - Judy Wise Mason - President.

REGION 3 TENTATIVE RIDE SCHEDULE FOR 1999

Plan your vacations, mark your calendars, and arrange to support as many of our rides as you can in 1999! Let's make this the best Region 3 ride season ever!!! 1999 Ridebooks will be out to members by March 1. Board members and ride managers will receive extra copies, so contact one of them if you need an extra copy to give to a friend.

ANASAZI "B" RIDE, FARMINGTON, NM- Limit 60 Riders. APRIL 10

Abbe Hazelwood and Mary Weaver did a super job their first year as management last year. Let's all give them our support and make this first ride of the year a success! They need more riders!!

RABBIT VALLEY "A" RIDE, WEST OF GRAND JUNCTION, CO **APRIL 24-25**

(Sanctioned as a Utah Ride) - Limit 70 Riders. This year Lovell Sasser and Sue Benjamin have increased the rider limit to 35 Open and 35 CP/Novice and are arranging for extra judges so they won't have to turn anyone away from this always terrific ride!

MAY 8-9

NAVAJO LAKE "A" RIDE, FARMINGTON, NM - Limit 60 Riders. An always special "Mother's Day" ride for the ladies, 1999 is EXTRA SPECIAL because it marks Navajo Lake's SILVER ANNIVERSARY, 25 years and the oldest competitive trail in New Mexico!

Let's fill this ride for Bill and Judy Cumberworth!!

MAY 29-30 CAVALIER "A" RIDE, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO - Limit 60 Riders.

If you agree that Sandie Wilson's famous "Telegraph Hill Hat" should be dedicated as a Traveling Trophy for this ride, make your wishes know to lke Mosgrove of Ride Management at seminar---Be sure to enter early for Cavalier...It always has a waiting list!!

JUNE 12-13 **NEW FOR 1999!** SAGE & CEDAR "A" RIDE, MAYBELL, CO - Limit 60 Riders.

Our very own Dee Overholt has bought a place and is moving to Craig, affectionately known as "the end of the world," and she and Lois Hoth, her ride secretary, are reviving the old "Hole in the Wall" ride, last held three years ago.

JUNE 25-26 **NEW FOR 1999!** GREAT WESTERN COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE/MFTHBA

UTAH (5 MILES NORTH OF HARDWARE RANCH)
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP "A" RIDE OPEN/CP/NOVICE Limit 60 Riders and

"B" RIDE CP/NOVICE Limit 40 Riders.

Bruce and Lori Heckelman are hosting this ride in conjunction with the Missouri Fox Trotter Association's National Horse Show which will be held the following week. All breeds are welcome and a Championship Trophy will be given for the High Point Missouri Fox Trotter. This ride will be held in the beautiful Cache National Forest north of Ogden, Utah, on Friday and Saturday, to allow a day in between the ride and the horse show. You will meet Bruce at seminar. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!

JULY 24-25

EL JINETE SOLITARIO "A" RIDE, DURANGO, CO - Limit 60 Riders.

Bill and Jenny Smith are sponsoring El Jinete as this year's Region 3 Benefit Ride, so we must fill it, no excuses!! Bill, in his role as Region 3 "Chef Supreme," is furnishing all riders and workers with breakfast both Saturday and Sunday, dinner both Friday and Saturday nights, and Sunday lunch. All

we have to do is sign up, sit back, relax, and ride, ride, ride!!!

SEPTEMBER 4-5 NEW FOR 1999!

COYOTE CREEK "A" AND "B" RIDE, MORA, (near Albuquerque) NM

Sheri White Manganaro, Holly Dake, and the Arabian Horse Association of New Mexico, along with new member and enthusiastic veterinarian and ranch owner Dr. Mike Riegger, are planning a very special Labor Day Weekend! To be held on Dr. Riegger's beautiful ranch, this ride will be the IAHA Regional Championship in Y2K and hopefully the IAHA National Championship the year after. This is going to be a spectacular ride, not to be missed!

SEPTEMBER 18-19

GOLDEN GATE COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE "A" RIDE,

GOLDEN GATE STATE PARK, BLACKHAWK, CO

Kathy Shanor, Judy Benham, and Roxann Lane are taking over the management of this spectacular last Colorado ride of the season. Let's show them that we appreciate their efforts.

OCTOBER 2-3

CHOKECHERRY CANYON "A" RIDE, FARMINGTON, NM

Steve Ancell and the San Juan Valley Trail Riders, who have given so much to our sport in Region 3, are struggling to keep this ride alive as rider numbers have dropped over the last few years. Let's let them know that we are committed to being there! The fall weather in Farmington is beautiful and the

trails are relaxing and fun!

OCTOBER 16

DAVID B. THOMAS "B" RIDE, FARMINGTON, NM

Last chance of the year, folks, and a fun, fun ride to end the season!!! The Halloween Costume Contest alone makes it worth attending. Muriel Webb is hard to beat, though, I warn you! This is also the ride at which the annual Land of Enchantment Awards (High Point Trail Horse for the State of New Mexico) and the Kavai-i Award (High Average Horsemanship for the State of New Mexico) are bestowed. Let Lonnie and Terri Smith know that you plan to attend and share the last ride of the sea-

son with them and the rest of the Region 3 family!!

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW

is the Season... Well, Christmas and New Year's may be over, but there's still time for a celebration if you mark your calendar and get your reservations in for the Region 3 year-end seminar to be held the weekend of January 15-17, 1999, in Craig, Colorado, at the Holiday Inn.

If you miss this year's convention, you will be missing a fun-filled get-together. It's a time to greet old friends and make new ones. It's a time to celebrate the old riding season and to start anticipating the new one.

LOVELL of MACK

"CUSTOM PRODUCTS for the DISTANCE RIDER"

THE ORIGINAL NO BOUNCE CANTLE & WITHER BAGS, BOTTLE HOLDERS (front or rear) ENGLISH, WESTERN or any ENDURANCE SADDLE can be equipped with any or all of these items. O'KEAHEY'S FULL SELF SEAT cotton/lycra tights, JMS SEAT COVERS etc.

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GREAT SPEAKERS & TOPICS

Floyd Martin – Traveling legally with your horses. State of Colorado Brand Board inspector for thirty years.

Bev Mason – Benefits of cross-training horses. Co-Owner of Thorpe Mountain Morgans, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Doug Gordon – Nutrition for the performance horse. Doug is from Purina Feeds, Elizabeth, Colorado, 1989 graduate of Fort Collins, Colorado, in equine science.

Dr. Temple Grandin - Keynote Speaker.

Assistant Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. Dr. Grandin teaches courses on livestock behavior and facility design at CSU and consults with the livestock industry on facility design, livestock handling, and animal welfare. She has appeared on televisions shows such as 20/20, 48 Hours, and CNN, and has been featured in People Magazine, the New York Times, Forbes, and U.S. News and World Report. She has authored over 300 articles and has written a book about animal behavior entitled "Thinking in Pictures."

Brad Petch – Map reading skills. Brad is from the Division of Wildlife.

Dr. Mike Gotchey – Developing strong bone in the distance horse. Dr. Gotchey, DMV is from the Steamboat Springs Veterinary Hospital in Steamboat Springs, CO. Dr. Gotchey, a 1985 graduate of Colorado State University, completed an equine reproduction residency at Shelton Ranches in Kerrville, Texas, and was employed at Peterson Smith Equine Clinic in Ocala, Florida, where his duties included reproduction, lameness, medicine, and surgery. Dr. Gotchey is accredited by the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society and is an Associate Professor at Colorado Mountain College, teaching classes in equine health management.

Don't miss this seminar. It's Too much fun!!

WHERE TO STAY:

he Holiday Inn in Craig is offering a special room rate for Region 3 seminar of \$59.00 per night/double room/up to four in a room. The Holiday Inn has lots of amenities including indoor pool, hot tub, game room, fitness room, HBO, Cassidy's Lounge, and live weekend entertainment. Call Holiday Inn direct at (970) 824-4000 for your reservations and mention that you will be with the NATRC Region 3 Seminar/Convention.

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ABOUT THE 1999 REGION 3 SEMINAR

I'M SOLD, HOW DO I SIGN UP?

If you have not registered yet, the first thing you should do is call the Holiday Inn at (970) 824-4000 to make a room reservation. Then call Betty Wolgram at (970) 824-8359 and let her know you are coming. If you cannot get a room at the Holiday Inn, call Betty for information about where else to stay.

WHAT'S COOKING

Buffet lunch Saturday is \$8.50,
Buffet banquet for the awards Saturday night is \$16.00
Buffet breakfast
Sunday is \$6.50.



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Vest Numbers to be Auctioned

Region Three rider vest numbers will be auctioned off on Sunay, January 17, at the awards banquet. All division numbers go on the block and the number is good for the 1999 ride season.

Imagine having your number put on a T-shirt so you never have to wear a vest or never getting the number 13 again. Proceeds will go to Region 3 year-end awards fund. Steve Claypoole, Craig auctioneer, is donating his services to this fundraiser.

If you are unable to attend the seminar and wish to place a bid on a vest number, please call seminar chairman Betty Wolgram at (970) 824-8359 before January 15.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, 15 January

2:00 PM – 7:00 PM Check in/Registration, get your

seminar Packet

3:30 PM – 6:30 PM Board of Directors meeting

Open to all members

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM Hospitality Room, sponsored

by Bill and Jenny Smith 1998 ride video

Saturday, 16 January

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Second chance to Register

8:00 AM - 11:30 AM Speakers

11:30 - 1:15 Lunch – Keynote Speaker

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Speakers

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM General Membership meeting

7:00 PM – All Hours Awards Banquet

Sunday, 17 January

7:00 AM – 9:00 Breakfast with Sundowner

NATRC/REGION 3 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 1999

				DISTRICT 1	2 3	(Circle one) (See below f	for district)
Name	(List both adults if a	household membership)					
Street		City	Fax #	State	e-mail	Zip C	Code
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Your Application for 1999 NATRC-Region 3 Membership Renewal is on the Opposite Page Please send it in as soon as possible!!

Region 3 Membership based on the Calendar Year January 1-December 31st - 1999

MILEAGE/ HORSE/RIDER POINTS WILL BE TABULATED FROM THE DATE THAT 1999 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE PAID.

You will receive the Region III-NATRC Newsletter, 1999 Trail Ride Book, and be placed on the Mailing list, upon receipt of your 1999 Membership.

A Letter from Susan McKelvy

held off writing to permit time's passage for some perspective. My concern is the trails we ask our horses to travel in our sport. In the past two years I've been on two competitive rides in which I adjudged the trails at the time of the ride and in retrospect to be dangerous to my horse and to me. The first was the infamous Brown's Park ride "Outlaw Trail" and the second is the most recently completed Golden Gate Canyon this past September.

Any ride in which 90% or more of the competing horses check out with varying degrees of lameness has a fundamental problem. I believe that problem is squarely the responsibility of the ride management particularly the ride's Trailmaster. The trailmaster's job is a big one. I know, for I've done it several times. The Trailmaster has to sleuth out, time and assess the trails for judging points, P & R team accessibility and safety. The last item seems to be taking a back burner to other considerations. We cannot expect people in this sport to come to more than one ride if their experience on that ride was unsatisfactory. My experience and those of others with whom I've discussed the problem on the Golden Gate Ride this year was highly stressful due to the extreme rockiness. No matter how attractive the location, the Trailmaster has a responsibility to call off a ride if he or she judges the trails to be hazardous to competitors and their horses. The Golden Gate ride should have been cancelled after the Trailmaster rode the

trails. Too many horses were injured as the record of lameness attests in the execution of the ride.

Golden Gate Canyon State Park has spent substantial funds improving the campsites and adding campground amenities but nothing has been done in trail maintenance. Erosion and traffic has taken quite a toll. It is my belief that the Park really wants to discourage horseback riders and encourage only foot traffic. They have not come right out and stated it but their current program seems to indicate that is their plan.

Every year we acquire one or two new rides which is good. I usually hate to see rides cease such as the Top of the World but in this case, for me, the Golden Gate Canyon Ride has ceased. I will not ask my horse to traverse the rocks there again. Region III needs to ask themselves, are there rides that should not be sanctioned because of the unsuitability of the trail and they need to recommend against sanctioning such rides in the future. We all know how much we've got invested economically and in conditioning time in pursuit of our goals in Competitive Trail Riding and we need to be certain our sanctioned rides have trails which are safe in footing for the horses and riders. This should not be done after a Ride has occurred but should be done before it is sanctioned or maybe even proposed for sanction.

N.A.T.R.C. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Street	NATRC offers six membership plans (che	eck plan desired):	
annual high score awards and championships, rider and horse mileage awards, and reduced ride entry fees. PLEASE LIST ALL FAMILY MEMBERS: Name(s) Street	SENIOR membership	year Single adult member (one vote) year Single Junior member under age 18 (not year Equine-related groups or businesses (not 0.00 Any person of any age (one vote) 0.00 Husband and/or wife at the time member the age of 18 as of Jan.1 (two votes) erships are for twelve months from date of re	o vote) o vote) ership is obtained & any children under
Street	annual high score awards and championships,	rider and horse mileage awards, and reduced	ride entry fees.
Street	PLEASE LIST ALL FAMILY MEMBERS:		
Birthdate of Junior(s) \$ enclosed	Name(s)		
Phone (Street	City, State, Zip	
NATRC Specialties* Lapel Pin	Phone ()		
□ Lapel Pin	4.		
make checks payable to NATRC (U.S. funds only) and mail to:	□ Patch (inc. w/ membership)\$1.75 □ 10" Decal\$2.00 □ 4" Decal2 for \$1.50 □ Hat\$4.50 + \$2 P&H 1-5 hats □ Jacket\$30.00 + \$3 P&H Sizes □S 34-36 □ M 3840 □ L 42-44 □ XL 46-48 *All prices subject to change without notice *All manuals available to anyone, regardless of membership)	□ Judges' Manual	added support by contributing to the NATRC Foundation, Awards, Student Loan, or General Funds, please increase the amount of your payment and direct how you wish it to be used. \$\textstyle \textstyle \textsty

REGION 3 NEWSLETTER

North American Trail Ride Conference Iris Mosgrove 10590 Egerton Road Colorado Springs, CO 80908





ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

