



The



Stirrup

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Nov-Dec Events

Merry Christmas!
Happy Holidays!
Froehliche Weihnachten
Feliz Navidad
Milad Majid
Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun
Glædelig Ju
Kala Christouyenna
Merry Keshmish



<http://www.natrc3.org/>

President's Message:

The 2010 ride season is gone, and it's time for reflection. I like to reflect. When I consider the past, whether it's yesterday, last week, last month, last year, or a decade or more ago, it doesn't matter that the past can't be changed. The important thing is that we can benefit by looking back, by celebrating even the smallest accomplishments and by considering how we can improve in areas where we may have fallen short (often referred to as our "failures," but I prefer not to think of it that way).

The theme for the 50th anniversary of the inception of NATRC is "Proud of Our Past, Focused on Our Future." Region 3 has a lot to be proud of. We met two of the three 2010 National goals, a 10% increase in the number of rides (from 8 in 2009 to 9 in 2010). We could not have achieved this goal without our dedicated ride management and volunteers. Our ride managers devote a lot of time, energy, and money putting on rides. Please consider volunteering next year to help at one or more of our rides, to co-manage, trail master, ride secretary, rules interpreter, judges' secretary, awards chair, publicity, etc. They all need your help to fill these jobs. If we lose our rides and trails, we lose our reason for existence.

Region 3 was also the only region that met and actually exceeded the 2010 NATRC membership goal of a 5% increase in members. A huge part of this accomplishment is due to the obvious fact that a large number of our members renew their memberships whether they plan to compete or not, to support the recreational use of trails. We thank you for your continued dedication to the ideals of NATRC.

The only goal we fell short on was to achieve a 10% increase in competitors. We averaged 42 riders per ride compared to an average of 48 riders per ride in 2009. Most regions averaged even fewer. I personally believe that we did very well considering the recessive economy and that we will do even better next year.

After twelve years, the NATRC Board of Directors has bowed to the inevitable. There will be a dues increase in 2011 (see inside article by 2011 NATRC Treasurer Elaine Swiss). In 2005, NATRC sanctioned 75 rides compared to 48 in 2010, the lowest number in thirteen years. In 2005 NATRC had 1464 members compared to 1220 in 2010. This is resulted in a significant loss in revenue.

The National Board has worked very hard the past several years to cut expenses everywhere it can. The dues increase only amounts to about 75 cents per week and will greatly help our National organization maintain its much needed services and benefits.

The good news is that those who join or renew before March 1, 2011, can do so at the lower 2010 membership rates. Your continued support of NATRC means a stronger Region 3. We receive and will continue to receive \$20 for each family membership, \$15 for each single membership, and \$10 for each junior membership. In 2010 that amounted to \$1,845.00 returned to Region 3.

I hope a lot of you will attend our Region 3 Seminar scheduled for March 18-19, 2011, in Pueblo, CO, to celebrate our 2010 ride season and "Focus on our Future" in 2011. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Betty Wolgram
President



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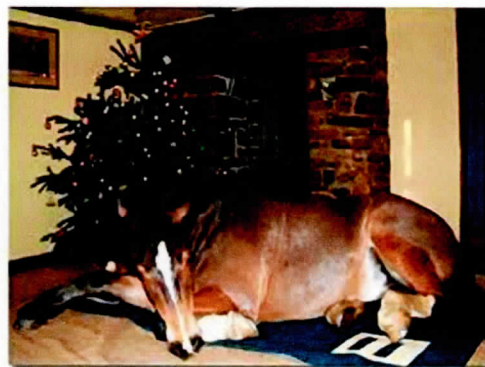
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From the Editor...

This has been a fun year starting to work on the Stirrup. I have really enjoyed being able to contribute in this manner. I am thankful for everyone's contributions to the newsletter because without each of you there would be very few pages. I am looking forward to continuing in the new year and look forward to all the neat, fun, educational, and inspiring submissions from everyone. If I could ask for one thing in the new year is if people would be willing to share more pictures of rides, horses, etc... since not everyone get to attend every ride it would let people enjoy in the fun. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

John



**Meet our Region 3 Member from Down Under, by Bec (Rebecca De Vries)**

G'day from Down Under ... aka Australia ☺. It sure looks and sounds like the 2010 ride season has been busy, enjoyable, and successful, and I'm sure it included a lot of hard work for all those who have been involved with the rides this season.

After a few trips to the USA over the years, I was in Boulder over the Christmas 2009 holidays and found Jill Talbot's store "Boulder Horse and Rider" and decided to drop in and see what I could bring back home with me ☺. Jill graciously spent her time talking to me about horse events in and around Boulder and told me about the NATRC.

Although I'm about 8000 miles away, it's been great to read all about the Region 3 rides this season from The Stirrup and other ride emails. I'm sure looking forward doing the same with the 2011 season, and maybe even come to a ride sometime in 2011 or 2012 if I can.

When I joined NATRC Region 3 earlier this year, Betty Wolgram asked me to write a little story about myself, so although I'm not sure that this following story will qualify as "little", it's my story ... so far.

I was "born and bred" in a place called Glenhaven, about 40 miles northeast of Sydney, Australia. I don't remember the exact day I fell in love with horses, or more to the point, I can't remember ever *not* loving horses. My parents had an acre of land, but it wasn't arable enough to have a horse, so after years of asking for a horse for my birthday or Christmas (which I think I started asking for from about the age of 5, much to the annoyance of my parents I'm sure), they partially gave in, and found a riding instructor by the name of Pippa Longworth near home who had a pony she could give me lessons on once a week. Little did my parents know this only fueled my love for horses all the more. That pony's name was Beau and he cemented my admiration for an animal that is so powerful and big yet can be so graceful and gentle at the same time.

I had lessons on Beau for about 2 years until he was retired, and at the time Pippa, who had by then become like another mum to me, didn't have any other horses to give lessons to me on, so I started working for her and her husband doing stable work every weekend with their five Warmbloods that they competed in Dressage on in the local Dressage show circuit - Quasi, Quadroon Luke, Leroy and Klute. I was an extra pair of hands at Dressage comps for Pippa and back at their place I'd sometimes help tack and untack the horses after their ride.

The five "boys" were definitely not what you would call "small" in stature. The shortest was 15.2hh and they all had movement that always left me in awe. They were all from the same Dam - an Australian Stock Horse mare by the name of Queenie - that Pippa and her husband owned from a young filly. Australian Stock Horses are the Aussie equivalent to the American Quarter Horse in USA and, although Australian Stock Horses are leaner looking than Quarter Horses, they are just as tough and are part of our rural history as well. They were sired by some of Australia's top Dressage sires at the time and Quadroon was sired by one of the first Lipizzaner stallions that arrived in Australia.

I stopped working at the stables when I started high school and had to concentrate on my school for a couple of years, much to my disgust. I hated being stuck in a classroom learning about things that had nothing to do with horses, which therefore, didn't interest me in the least. Every day I would dream of getting back in the saddle and being in the one place that I have always felt the happiest and like the real me.

After those first couple of years of no horses while I started high school, my mum had a friend who wasn't riding her Q/H X Gelding, Sam, so I rode him for about 18 months on most weekends and at pony club. I then moved on to another Q/H x Holsteiner Gelding, "Triple S Raphael", Ruffles. I only stopped riding Sam and Ruffles when their owners decided to sell them. I begged to be able to buy Sam first and then Ruffles, but my parents always said to me "we'll buy the horse, if you can afford to keep it". As we didn't have any land of our own to keep a horse on, and agistment around our suburb was, in those days, over \$100 per week plus vet, shoeing, and all the other costs that seem to materialize out of nowhere when you have any large animal, they both went to other homes where I hope they were loved as much as they deserved to be.

I finished high school in 1996 and did get accepted into one of Australia's top Universities for Horse Management courses, but not being a great one to study I decided not to waste 4 years of University Fees and just enrolled in a basic Horse Management course through a little local tertiary studies centre and completed that the year after I finished school. I was accepted to work at one of one of Australia's top Thoroughbred studs as a Yearling Prep handler when I finished that one year course, but other things in life stopped this from happening at that time.

At that point in time, I left horses behind and started working in an office for a while and didn't have anything to do with horses again until I went to the USA to work as a Camp Counselor and Horse Riding Instructor at a summer camp in Virginia in the summer of 1999.

I came home from the USA in October 1999 just before my 21st birthday and moved north from New South Wales to Queensland with my family. I still had a love for animals, but didn't know anyone in the horse industry in Queensland, so I started working for a dog groomer and then ended up buying an Alaskan Malamute puppy from a breeder about an hour west of Brisbane (Queensland's Capital City), and I then went to work at one of her large boarding kennels. I worked at the kennels for just over a year and then went into office work again where I still am, unfortunately. Working in the "big smoke" helps me pay the bills and pay for the now two Alaskan Malamutes that have become my "kids" and have taken over my little place, and hopefully one day soon it will enable me to finally be able to call a horse my own.

I was back in the USA in September, 2008, to spend time with family in Boulder, CO, and took myself off to a Ranch in Montana for my 30th Birthday. It was an amazing week, hard work at times, lots of laughs, and about 12 hrs in the saddle each day - my idea of perfect! After that first visit to the Ranch in 2008, I can now safely say, although it's hard work on both rider and horse, driving a herd of about 150 head of cows and calves through a blizzard on horseback is the best feeling in the world! It's tough, but I wouldn't trade that experience for the world!

I don't know if the love of horses is something I was born with, but I can say that the feeling that I get from the smell, feel, and touch of anything to do with horses is something that I will never get out of my system - and I will never try to. From the smell of the leather when you walk into a tack room or saddlery, or the sweetness of the feed in a feed room or a produce store, everything about horses makes me feel content and lucky that I'm around them.

Thank you to all involved in NATRC Region 3 for allowing me to become a member of a club that is such a wonderful way to enjoy both the animals we love and the friendships that are made through the love of such an amazing animal.

I wish all the Region 3 members a happy and safe holiday season for 2010 and I hope you all have a safe, fun, and adventurous 2011 ride season.

Happy Trails to You All!, Cheers, Bec (Rebecca De Vries)

**Ride Results****Island in the Sky , 8/7-8/10 Region Three-CO**

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 60

Chair: Judy MasonJudges: Jerry Weil DVM, Terry YatesNovice Sweepstakes: JOR Picasso/O'Brien, Wava-98Open Sweepstakes: Touch's Yeller Gold/Inman, Gary-100Open Heavyweight

- 1/2 Touch's Yeller Gold/Inman, Gary
- 2/3 Rocky Top II/Ward, Jim
- 3/ Dee Bar/Westmoreland, Cheryl
- 4/1 Awesomes Fire N Ice/Wolgram, Ken
- 5/6 Peanut 2/Baker, Matt
- 6/ Doc 4/Emond, Boyd
- /4 Rock'n E.Z. Rey/Sims, Jerry
- /5 Mariah 3/Wingle, Bill
- Obie Won/Spanhoff, Olga
- IM Sombrero/Haeberle, Yvette

Open Lightweight

- 1/1 Fawn Creek Thor/Ferganchick, Brandy
- 2/2 Prime Sensation WH/Jeffcoat, Cheri
- 3/4 SA Jhake/Peters, Susan
- 4/3 Phantom's Masquerade/Lane, Roxann
- 5/6 Frank's Proud Prince/Ward, Lin
- 6/5 Mack Arthur/Carman, Jody
- Kenlyn Irish Rose/Young, Jane
- GE Spartan/Jarrett, Cheryl

Novice Heavyweight

- 1/3 JOR Picasso/O'Brien, Wava
- 2/ Lite Foot Slow Poke/Arnett, Leona
- 3/2 Royal Thistle/St. Peter, Diane
- 4/1 Lefty/Guthrie, Jan
- 5/6 Bailey's Angel Baby/Westmoreland, Edward
- 6/5 ESA Pro Temp/Chamberlain, Alden
- /4 Thor 2/Mottern, Julie
- P Dash of Quicksilver/Hensley, Perry
- P Julee's Dream Ride/Kirkpatrick, Julee

Novice Lightweight

- 1/1 Shiloh Sphinx/Roper, Sharon
- 2/2 Winnie 2/Thearin, Dianna
- 3/6 Jasper 3/Egolf, Tracey
- 4/5 Abaric/ Parks, Linda
- 5/4 Sixes Peppy Lady/Feazell, Juleen
- 6/3 Not A Chance/Vanpoolen, Kirt
- Ace 5/Kanenwisher, Nancy
- Handsome Henry/Houck, Barbara
- P Bo 6/Gist, Wende
- P Hank Williams/Collins, Evy
- P ROS Jabez/Dashner, Dave
- P Pure Country Windsong/Goscha, Cathy
- P Brass Dancer/Sanford, Julie
- P Mistique/Fry, Erin
- P Ttamus/Hofkamp, Sarah
- P Bella Blue/Simons, Sandie
- P Bold Kozar /Smith, Susan

Novice Junior

- 1/1 Hank 6/Winter, Morgan
- 2/3 Day Comes Easy/VanPoolen, Hannah
- 3/2 Midnight Diamond/Houck, Antonio

Novice DO

August/Spikker, Ingrid

Competitive Pleasure

- 1/1 Eduardo El Negrito Knight/Wingle, Diane
- 2/4 Magical Serenade/Halligan, Sherri
- 3/2 Guld Rush/Talbot, Jill
- 4/3 Nathan Arizona/Sims, Beth
- 5/6 Baby Doll's Spotted Man/Miller-Inman, Linell
- 6/5 Kourages Sky/Brooks, Wendy
- Estrella de Yanqui/Marquardt, Diana
- P Hey Dud/Paul, Kathryn
- P CR Blaze of Glory/Frank, Nancy
- P Mikkor/Holder, Sharon
- P Blue Spruce Shanta/Howell, Perran
- P Summer/Wolgram, Betty

Quartz Creek, 8/20-21/2010 Region Three-CO

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 38

Chair: Kathy MorganJudges: Linda MacKinnon DVM, Judi TobiasNovice Sweepstakes: Sixes Peppy Lady/Feazell, Juleen-96.5Open Sweepstakes: Cedar Mesa Rushai/Mason, Judy Wise-98Open Heavyweight

- 1/4 Rock'n E.Z. Rey/Sims, Jerry
- 2/2 Awesomes Fire N Ice/Wolgram, Ken
- 3/1 Dee Bar/Westmoreland, Cheryl
- 4/ Moonlight Gambit/Bulcock, Bob
- 5/3 Amiri Zambis/Bulcock, Debbie
- 6/6 Touch's Yeller Gold/Inman, Gary
- /5 Obie Won/Spanhoff, Olga
- Rocky Top II/Ward, Jim
- Mariah 3/Wingle, Bill

Open Lightweight

- 1/5 Cedar Mesa Rushai/Mason, Judy Wise
- 2/1 Fawn Creek Thor/Ferganchick, Brandy
- 3/2 SA Jhake/Peters, Susan
- 4/3 LD Dixie Lee/Vasquez, Louise
- 5/4 GE Spartan/Jarrett, Cheryl
- 6/6 Jaxson/Combs, Janna
- Frank's Proud Prince/Ward, Lin

Open Junior

- 1/1 Red 9/Combs, Alexis

Novice Heavyweight

- 1/1 ESA Pro Temp/Chamberlain, Alden
- 2/6 Bold Spirit/Noland, Rebecca
- 3/5 Lite Foot Slow Poke/Arnett, Leona
- 4/3 May Day Parade/Reeder, Dawn
- 5/ Bo 6/Gist, Wende
- 6/ Bailey's Angel Baby/Westmoreland, Edward
- /2 Royal Thistle/St. Peter, Diane
- /4 Lefty/Guthrie, Jan

Novice Lightweight

- 1/1 Sixes Peppy Lady/Feazell, Juleen
- 2/2 SAS's Aussie/Walls, Sharyl
- 3/4 Jumping Jack Flash/Hansford, Bobbi
- 4/3 Not a chance/Vanpoolen, Kirt

Novice Junior

- 1/2 Hank 6/Winter, Morgan
- 2/1 Day Comes Easy/Vanpoolen, Hannah

Competitive Pleasure

- 1/1 Summer/Wolgram, Betty
- 2/6 Kourageous Skyy/Brooks, Wendy
- 3/5 Baby Doll's Spotted Man/Miller-Inman, Linell
- 4/ Moose 4/Dunkelberger, Donna
- 5/4 Eduardo el Negrito Knight/Wingle, Diane
- 6/2 Nathan Arizona/Sims, Beth
- /3 Magical Serenade/Halligan, Sherri

**Ride Results****The Chile Line, 9/11-12/10 Region Three-NM**

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 35

Chair: Kathy and Jeff BrownJudges: Shannon Leska DVM, Pat MontgomeryNovice Sweepstakes: Tonight's Top Story/Schick, Marcia-96Open Sweepstakes: Phantom's Masquerade/Lane, Roxann-96Open Heavyweight

1/5 Touch's Yeller Gold/Inman, Gary

2/6 Rock'n E.Z. Rey/Sims, Jerry

3/4 Peanut 2/Baker, Matt

4/3 Obie Won/Spanhoff, Olga

5/1 Dee Bar/Westmoreland, Cheryl

6/2 Awesomes Fire N Ice/Wolgram, Ken

Open Lightweight

1/1 Phantom's Masquerade /Lane, Roxann

2/3 Hasty's Blossom /Peters, Susan

3/2 Fawn Creek Thor/Ferganchick, Brandy

4/5 GE Spartan/Jarrett, Cheryl

5/4 Nottingham's Mystic Prince/Vasquez, Louise

Open DO

DO-2 Skhy/McNally, Maggie

Novice Heavyweight

1/4 Tonight's Top Story/Schick, Marcia

2/6 Sage 3/Miller, Tyler

3/ Bailey's Angel Baby/Westmoreland, Edward

4/3 Bailey 7/Hansen, Carolyn

5/2 JOR Picasso/O'Brien, Wava

6/5 Southern Bulls Stride Master/Seidl, Lonnie

/1 May Day Parade/Reeder, Dawn

Novice Lightweight

1/4 Ringo Star/Casara, Kimberly

2/2 Sixes Peppy Lady/Feazell, Juleen

3/5 Hawk 2/Miller, Amy

4/1 Winnie 2/Thearin, Dianna

5/3 Not a chance/Vanpoolen, Kirt

Novice Junior

1/1 Frodo/Walker, Lumina

Novice DO

DO-2 Ted/Johns, Kathleen

Competitive Pleasure

1/2 Magical Serenade/Halligan, Sherri

2/5 CRR Trigger's Arielle/Feischer, Donna

3/3 Summer/Wolgram, Betty

4/4 CR Blaze of glory/Frank, Nancy

5/1 Nathan Arizona/Sims, Beth

Competitive Pleasure DO

DO-2 Bay's Sweet Lady/Ballourdet, Antoine

DO-2 Blue Mesa Duster/Fitzpatrick, Sena

DO-2 MKS Fancy's Folly/DiNatale, Laurie

DO-1 Ace of Hearts WDG/Miller-Inman, Linell

Chokecherry Canyon, 9/25-26/2010 Region Three-NM

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 40

Chair: Kathy BrownJudges: Joe Quintana DVM, Kathy BuddNovice Sweepstakes: JK White Gold/Schick, Marcia-96Open Sweepstakes: Awesomes Fire N Ice/Wolgram, Ken-96Open Heavyweight

1/1 Awesomes Fire N Ice/Wolgram, Ken

2/3 Rock'n E.Z. Rey/Sims, Jerry

3/5 Rocky Top II/Ward, Jim

4/2 Touch's Yeller Gold/Inman, Gary

5/4 Dee Bar/Westmoreland, Cheryl

6/6 Obie Won/Spanhoff, Olga

Peanut 2/Baker, Matt

Open Lightweight

1/3 Cedar Mesa Rushai/Mason, Judy Wise

2/1 Fawn Creek Thor/Ferganchick, Brandy

3/6 Phantom's Masquerade/Lane, Roxann

4/2 Prime Sensation WH/Jeffcoat, Cheri

5/ Frank's Proud Prince/Ward, Lin

6/5 Mack Arthur/Carman, Jody

/4 GE Spartan/Jarrett, Cheryl

Novice Heavyweight

1/ JK White Gold/Schick, Marcia

2/5 Golden Ambition/Bingham, Kenneth

3/3 Lumbre/Bechtolt, Phoebe

4/2 JOR Picasso/O'Brien, Wava

5/ Sage 3/Miller, Tyler

6/1 May Day Parade/Reeder, Dawn

/4 Bo 6/Gist, Wende

/6 Chromium Dee Bar/Ortiz, Patricia

Chance's Irish Threat/King, Tom

Novice Lightweight

1/2 Winnie 2/Thearin, Dianna

2/1 Sixes Peppy Lady/Feazell, Juleen

3/3 Shiloh Sphinx/Roper, Sharon

4/5 Not a chance/Vanpoolen, Kirt

5/6 Champagne/Poulton, Jennifer

6/4 Bugs Is Azure Thing/Brown, Gwen

Hawk 2/Miller, Amy

P ROS Jabez/Dashner, Dave

P Sabrina 2/Hansford, Bobbi

Novice Junior

1/1 Mustang Sally 3/Vanpoolen, Hannah

2/2 Rusty 11/Ortiz, Caleb

Novice DO

Phoenix 6/Smith, Susannah

Competitive Pleasure

1/1 Summer/Wolgram, Betty

2/2 Ace of Hearts WDG/Miller-Inman, Linell

3/3 CR Blaze of Glory/Frank, Nancy

4/4 Magical Serenade/Halligan, Sherri

Competitive Pleasure DO

DO-1 SW Windwalker/Fitzpatrick, Sena



Summary Highlights of National Board Meeting

**Summary Highlights of National Board Meeting
Denver, CO
November 13, 2010**

Congratulations to **Susan Peters**, our new Region 3 Alternate Director for 2011-2014.

The By-Laws ballots were not counted due to a procedural problem with the publication of the ballot's instructions. The required language was not on the printed ballot in the Hoof Print. Ballots will be distributed for voting again hopefully in the Winter Issue of the Hoof Print to be returned by the first of April and counted and voted on by the Board by the first of May to be in effect for 2011. I will be writing an article for the Stirrup and also sending an e-mail to all Region 3 members explaining the by-laws proposed changes in detail right after the first of the year and we will talk about them at our general membership meeting at our Seminar in Pueblo in March.

The hoof boot rule passed. Please study the new changes carefully compared to the 2010 rule book (see below). The rule will go into effect with the 2011 ride season and is very specific as to how hoof boots will be judged. Remember, the new rule allows hoof protection, including boots with straps, gaiters, and keepers, but does not allow leg protection such as bell boots or splint boots.

Page 5-2 Section 5.E. Reads: Shoeing

1. There are no shoeing restrictions.

Change to: 5.E. Hoof Protection

1. There are no shoeing restrictions.
2. All types of hoof boots that provide sole protection are allowed. However, any attached strap, keeper, or gaiter must not extend above the pastern. The judges may request to observe the area covered by the attached strap, keeper, or gaiter.

Page 5-2 Section 5.F.4. Reads: Protective devices on the legs of the horse are not allowed. The leg is defined as all structures above and including the coronet band. Change to : Protective devices, such as bell boots or wraps, are not permissible on the legs of horses except for hoof sole protections as allowed under Section 5.E.2. The leg is defined as all structures above and including the coronet band.

Page 6-2 Section 6.B.2. Reads: Soundness 45%: The evaluation of soundness shall include, but not be limited to, the following: lamenesscinch sores, rubs, splints, ringbone, spavin, sidebone, etc. Change by adding: The evaluation of soundness shall include, but not be limited to, the following: lameness.....cinch sores, rubs (including areas covered by any attached strap, keeper, or gaiter), splints, ringbone, spavin, sidebone, etc.

Page 6-2 Section 6.C.1.c. Reads: Tack and Equipment: The evaluation of tack and equipment.....proper fit, adjustment, repair; trail gear placement and security. Change by adding: The evaluation of tack and equipment.....proper fit, adjustment, repair; adjustment, proper fit of any attached strap, keeper, or gaiter; trail gear placement and security.

All but one section of the Prohibited Substance (drug rule) passed. Roger Garlitz (Region 4) is chairing an ad hoc committee to more clearly specify the consequences of drug rule violations. As of now, consequences for drug violations will remain as published in the 2010 rule book.

There will no longer be a Championship Challenge.

The Board approved a new Mission Statement and it is posted on the NATRC website. Please check out the new and improved website.

The Board chose Chuck Smith as NATRC's new FaceBook champion. Chuck also survived his first National Board meeting. He's going to be a great representative for Region 3.

Submitted by:
Betty Wolgram
Region 3 Director

**NATRC Approves Dues Increase**

Fifty years - what a tremendous milestone for our organization. Founded in 1961, NATRC has weathered the ups and downs of our national economy and has remained an institution dedicated to promoting long distance competitive trail riding across the country. Today our National organization provides its members with a variety of services, including:

National and Regional Recognition Programs (Awards)	Hoof Print Newsletter
Mileage Database (Horse and Rider)	Educational Materials
Automatic Regional Membership	- Websites
Competition Administration	- Rider's Manual
- Sanctioning	Trail Grants
- Rule Book	Clinic Assistance
- Scorecards	Sponsor Discounts
- Drug Testing	Scholarships
- Management Manual	Student Loans
- Judge's Manual	NATRC E-News
Platinum Insurance Program (extra fee)	Advertising Opportunities

Like all non-profit organizations, NATRC struggles to minimize its operating expenses in the face of ever-increasing costs for basics such as postage, software, liability insurance, and internet access. Coupled with increased costs of services such as printing, it has become impossible to make ends meet in light of lower membership and ridership revenues.

As a result, after much analysis and discussion, for the first time since 1998, your National Board of Directors has approved an increase in the dues for NATRC membership as a necessary means to increase revenues. Effective March 1, 2011, all dues will increase. Single membership will be \$60 per year, Family membership will be \$90 and Junior membership will be \$40. New lifetime memberships will no longer be offered other than those awarded as Honorary Lifetime members. Benefits for lifetime memberships previously purchased will not change. The amount submitted by National to the individual regions will remain the same.

New members who join and members who renew before March 1, 2011 for the 2011 year will pay our current lower rates. Every member is important to NATRC, and your Board is confident that our organization will ultimately be celebrating 100 years of competitive trail riding.

Elaine Swiss, R4
NATRC Treasurer, 2011



Barn Sales & News Bits

"WALK OF FAME"

Celebrating 50 years of Exceptional Champions

At the Nation Conventions there will be a Special Recognition Ceremony for Champions of NATRC History

Collection is underway for any available pictures of past winners of the following awards: President's Cup, Jim Menefee Memorial, Bev Tibbitts Grand Champion Horse, Polly Bridges Memorial, Junior Grand Champion Horse, Junior High Average Horsemanship, and Horse Hall of Fame.

Please send to Debbie Jones
1038 Gaddis Rd., Canton, GA 30115 or
email: jonescant@aol.com



Make plans to attend the 50TH Anniversary Celebration!

2010 NATRC National Convention
February 10 -13 2011 Nashville, TN

Embassy Suites Nashville Airport Hotel
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Reservations 1-615-871-0033

Special Programs & Visits to Local Attractions!

\$70.00 ALL Sessions (Fri & Sat)
\$40.00 Fri Only, \$40.00 Sat Only
\$50.00 Sat Awards Banquet

\$110.00/ALL INCL. registration for Early Birds Before Nov 1

For More Information Contact:

KIM COWART
KCNeverRestRanch@gmail.com
678-773-6038

Sell Your Product

Become A Vendor At The 2011 50th Anniversary NATRC National Convention.

Region 5 invites you to be a trade show vendor at the National Convention.

Do you sell/market a product of interest to the horse community? Booth space and sponsorship packages are available.

Please contact

Terry Silver at 901-2168-1127 turquoisehorses@aol.com



MFT, light palomino, 9 yrs old, 15.2 H. Great trail horse has done many Competitive Trail rides. Great personality. Asking 3250 / OBO. Located east of Denver, CO. call Linell @ 303.644.5895.



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Mark Your Calendars!!

Region 3 Annual Seminar

March 18-19, 2011

Hampton Inn & Suites

Pueblo, CO

Hosted by: Don & Kathy Budd

Look for registration forms and seminar details in the January/February Stirrup and on the Region 3 Website.

Don't miss this fabulous get-together!!

Attention Ride Management!! IMPORTANT!!

The Region 3 Board has approved purchasing novice ribbons for all Region 3 rides again this year. If your ride wishes to piggyback on the region's bulk order and purchase additional ribbons for the Open and C/P Divisions for your ride, please contact Susan Peters as soon as possible.

Deadline to place order is January 15, 2011. Susan's e-mail is sapeters@pcisys.net and her phone number is 719-488-2267.



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To all of our beloved friends, a gift from the heart can heal all things. A special "Thank you" for all your support, friendship, and prayers.

We were so sorry not to be able to attend the auction at the Chokecherry Ride and Thank you all personally with hugs and kisses.

Here's hoping to see you all next year. May you all have a Wonderful Christmas and the Happiest New Year. Don't forget to let your friends and family know how much you love them. With all our love, Steve and Janine



Laughs and Letters to Editor

Railroad tracks



The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used?

Because that's the way they built them in England, and English expatriates designed the US railroads. Why did the English build them like that?

Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did 'they' use that gauge then?

Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.



So who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (including England) for their legions. Those roads have been used ever since. And the ruts in the roads?

Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing.



Therefore the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. Bureaucracies live forever.

So the next time you are handed a specification/procedure/process and wonder 'What horse's ass came up with this?', you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses. (Two horses' asses.)

Now, the twist to the story:



When you see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah.

The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site.

The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains, and the SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds.



So, a major Space Shuttle design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass.

And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important?



**NATRC Region 3 Board Meeting
September 24, 2010 Farmington (Chokecherry CTR), New Mexico**

Welcome and Call to Order at 12:08 p.m. – Betty Wolgram, President

Attendance of Board of Directors:

District 1	Betty Wolgram	President
	Diane Wingle	
	Sherri Halligan	Alternate
District 2	Linell Miller	Vice-President
District 3	Chuck Smith	Treasurer
	Jenny Smith	Alternate
At Large Cheri Westmoreland		
	Beth Sims	
	Brandy Ferganchick	Secretary
National Board Representatives		
	Betty Wolgram	
	Chuck Smith	

Reading of minutes of May 22, 2010, board meeting at Cavalier CTR, Colorado Springs, CO. There was a motion by Linell to approve the minutes, seconded by Jenny. AIF

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Chuck Smith has been very busy with school and ride secretary duties for Chokecherry Benefit Ride but will submit report as soon as possible to Betty by e-mail. Betty will then send on to other directors.

National Board report – submitted by Betty Wolgram (Summary highlights from National Board of Directors Meeting July 10, 2010)

Membership/Stirrup report – submitted by John Volkerding, editor...Betty read...it was noted that John Volkerding has personally donated the cost of snail mailings of the Stirrup.

Ride Book/Ride Coordinator report – submitted by Diane Wingle

Publicity/Advertising Chair report – Cheri Westmoreland-no report

Historian Chair report – Janine Ancell-no report

Supply Chair report – Judy Mason sent e-mail of report...read by Betty...Some questions of replacing/repairing of vests needed...Judy will be handling this. All members agreed that Judy should keep the ride notebooks since so many rides have their own notebooks. Managers who need the notebooks should contact Judy.

Safety Chair report – submitted through e-mail by Ole Morgan...question of who provides list of what is needed/needs replaced in box. Not sure where box(es) are at this time...needs better tracking...didn't make it to Chile Line...Linell has offered to be in charge of keeping track of boxes and has offered to be new Safety Chair as Ole has expressed the desire to step down from the position.

Awards Chair report – submitted by Jenny Smith. She will try to get them going by end of November...to qualify for horse/horsemanship year-end placings need to have been in at least 3 rides...Ruth Tyree, Ken Burkdoll and Competitive Pleasure high point combined require participation in at least 75% of Region III rides. Blankets, for subsequent National Championships and for NATRC Region 3 CP Champion Horse awards will be purchased by Betty. Jenny suggested flysheets as a possibility in the future. The board approved the purchase of more glasses for mileage awards.

Worker Points report – submitted by Beth Sims-May need to purchase more chevrons for awards. It was suggested that more time is needed at convention to give out worker awards.

Nominating Committee Chair Report – submitted by Linell Miller.

Old Business:

1) Discussion on design and cost of Region 3 business cards. Board looked at samples presented by Diane Wingle and chose one with logo and quote of Laurie DiNatale (Betty to ask Laurie's permission to use quote without her name and let Diane know) on one side and NATRC information on the other. It was decided not to include personal information but riders/members will be encouraged to include that (handwritten) if they would like to. Unanimously approved initial purchase of 5,000 business cards at a cost of \$80 plus shipping.

2) Ride startup funds criteria: Submitted by Betty...approved by board. AIF

3) Decision on any payment to Cristy Cumberworth for photos she might donate to history books. Advantages/Disadvantages/how would be handled/other options. Tabled.

4) Changes to Region 3 District boundaries. Tabled until March, 2011, first meeting of the year. If changes are made, there should be at least a year transition to put changes in place i.e. effective 2012.

New Business:

1) Discussion/board vote on Region 3 rider fees/allocation for ride season

2011. Options: lower rider fees for members AND non-members i.e. from \$6 to ??? for members and from \$7 to ??? for non-members; lower just for members to ??? and leave the same for non-members; raise for both (not really a good idea in this economy), or leave as is.

Standing rules presently state:

Region 3 member rider's fee shall be \$6.00 per rider for each ride and non-member rider's fee shall be \$7.00 per rider for each ride. Three dollars of this money shall support the National Board members' travel expenses. Remainder shall be allocated for Region III general fund or to such fund(s) as the Region III Board shall deem necessary.

If rider fees are changed for 2011, new fees and allocation will be revised in Standing Rules and Board will re-examine from year-to-year.

It was suggested to lower them but this was not accepted. Discussion and consensus to leave rider fees as they are at the present time.



2) Vote on continuing the following for ride season 2011:

a) Awarding a fleece blanket for subsequent National Championships on same horse (discussed a flysheet as an alternative in the future/embroidery could be a problem). AIF

b) Region 3 CP Champion Horse Award. AIF

c) Bulk purchase of novice ribbons for every ride (should be somewhat fewer due to some novice ribbons not being used) and allowing managers to "piggyback" on region's bulk order if they wish to order the same kind of ribbons for CP and Open divisions. AIF

d) Allow 2010 ride management to deduct \$20 from their total region 3 rider fees due for the cost of premier parking goodies. **Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention. AIF

e) Allow 2010 ride management to deduct the NATRC rider fee/drug fee/region 3 rider fee from their total fees due Region 3 for the winner of the entry to their ride. **Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention. AIF

f) Allow 2010 convention transferable auction premier parking spot for each ride separately. ** Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention. AIF

g) Allow 2010 convention transferable auction premier check in/out for each ride separately. ** Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention. AIF

h) Allow 2010 winning ride entries auctioned to be transferable. ** Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention. AIF

3) Announcement of 2011 Region 3 Seminar: Convention Chairs Don and Kathy Budd. Location will be Pueblo, CO. We have a confirmed date of March 18 and 19, 2011. Convention will be held at the 'new' Hampton Inn for \$89 per night, which includes breakfast buffet.

4) NATRC proposed new Mission Statement – needed consensus of Board for Betty and Chuck to take to National board meeting for a vote in November:

OLD MISSION STATEMENT:

NATRC promotes natural horse care and good horsemanship as it applies to distance riding and, through the challenges of competitive trail rides, offers a variety of educational experiences for both horse and rider.

PROPOSED NEW MISSION STATEMENT:

The North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC) promotes horsemanship and horse care as they apply to long distance riding. NATRC competitive trail rides offer a variety of challenging and educational experiences designed to strengthen horse and rider partnerships.

Board was AIF, will now go to National for a vote in November.

5) Board voted to approve, for ride season 2011, a "100% Club" which would be earned by any member who documents that he/she competed and/or volunteered at all Region 3 rides. To be awarded a jacket not to exceed \$75 cost with the words NATRC Region 3 "100% Club" 2011 embroidered on front of jacket. Subsequent years would be awarded a patch to sew on jacket. **Vote on continuation and/or changes each year before year-end Region 3 Convention.

6) Board voted to offer incentives for ride managers i.e. purchase a case of twelve (12) rolls of pink ribbons for each ride manager (ride managers will be responsible for picking up this ribbon). Jenny Smith will check on prices and report back to Betty.

Other new business:

Board voted to approve switch with Region 2 hosting National Convention in 2012 and Region 3 hosting National Convention in 2013. AIF

Other Discussion:

Members will be encouraged to market the sport more personally and not just rely on advertising. It was also noted that RMS is not very user friendly and we may need to take steps to change this. Maybe better directions for use? It was noted that we need new ride managers and people are not offering. We cannot afford to lose any rides as that could result in a loss of membership. It was suggested that we put something in the Stirrup and send out e-mails.

Next Board Meeting:

Date: Friday, March 18, 2011

Location: Region 3 Seminar, Hampton Inn, Pueblo, CO

Time: 7:00 p.m.

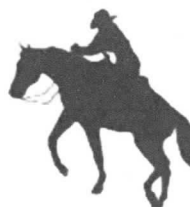
Motion to adjourn by Diane. 2nd by Jenny. AIF

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



NORTH AMERICAN
TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE

www.natrc.org



The Stirrup

Newsletter of NATRC Region 3

John Volkerding – Editor

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