



The



Stirrup

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Upcoming Events

**NAVAJO LAKE CTR-
 MAY 7-8, 2016
 NAVAJO DAM, NM
Cathycumberworth@yahoo.com**

**NATRC CLINIC-
 GREENLAND OPEN SPACE
 Larkspur (Colorado Springs)
pam.galchutt@gmail.com**

**COLORADO TRAIL CTR-
 JUNE 11-12, 2016
 BUFFALO CREEK, CO
linward50@gmail.com**

**GENERAL ALBERT P. CLARK
 MEMORIAL RIDE - AFA -
 JUNE 25-26, 2016
bissenm@live.com**

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

President's Message:

Our Regional Convention in Cripple Creek Colorado, turned out wonderfully. Chuck Smith did an awesome job as both Convention Chair and Secretary. The turnout for the convention was attended by fewer in years past and last minute changes to save money made it possible to barely stay in the black. Thank you Chuck, your dedication to NATRC Region 3 is fantastic.

Susan Halterman was the local yokel from the Cripple Creek area, Susan helped schedule speakers and was "the boots on the ground". Syndi Scott was the Silent Auction Chair and Lexi Combs helped run awards. Dianna Thearin had the daunting job of keeping track of Worker Points and then having all those awards created. Dianna was astounded at the 177 volunteers it took to put on a ride as well those who perform the countless number of tasks associated with Region 3. Thank you everyone who contributed to the success of the Cripple Creek Convention and thanks to everyone who took time out of your busy lives to attend the convention.



While we still need to encourage as many new riders and members into NATRC, focusing on Good Sportsmanship and Improving Rider numbers will be paramount for the 2016 ride season. Those present at the Convention agreed we should improve Good Sportsmanship and take steps to get more Competitor's at our Region 3 rides.

- My research on the Internet regarding Good Sportsmanship had PLAYING BY THE RULES and INTEGRITY as the most common.
- We cannot play by the rules if we do not know the rules. Start by downloading and reading Sections 4, 5 and 6 of the Rule Book from the NATRC web site.
- We all need to ride each CTR with Integrity and be responsible for our own actions.

We are going to try a few other things to encourage new people to join us and seasoned riders to do a few more rides.

- Ride Managers encouraged to offer 1 Day Novice B rides.(see Ride Managers section for more info.)
- Rocky Mountain Hat Trick - Competitors must ride all 3 rides to qualify for awards. We hope this becomes an annual event with the Hat Trick rides being rotated.
- Make 1st Time Competitors PROUD so they want to do a 2nd, 3rd or 90th ride.
- When they cross the finish line take their photo, send it to the Stirrup.
- As 1st timers cross the finish line give them a Hat. R3 board voted to purchase hats and provide them to Ride Managers.
- BRIGHT YELLOW signs to identify mentors-where newbies can ask questions?
- Green Tags on vehicles and horse's tails identify 1st timers.
- Please help welcome all new riders and encourage them.

Let us have more fun out on the trail in 2016. Let us enjoy the beautiful places we get to ride in 2016. How fortunate we are to have 9 different Ride Management teams spend months preparing for 9 different CTRs so we can have fun camping with and rid-ing our horses for 2 days. That is 18 days of enjoying your horse if you go to every ride. SMILE MORE - HAVE MORE FUN and enjoy this sport we love so much!

Julene Feazell and SAS's Smokey Annie Oakley



Board of Directors

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Committees

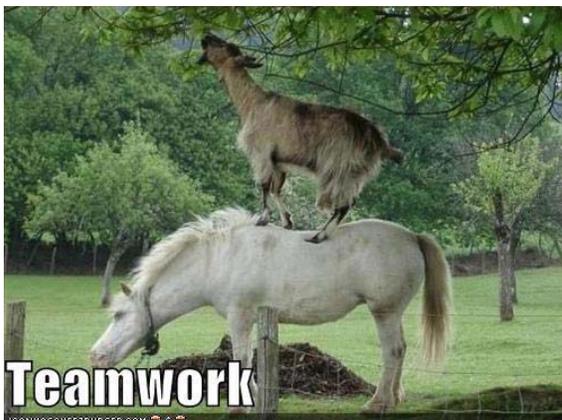
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Region 3 National Directors

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From the Editor...

As I work on this newsletter I was struck with how much of the work is done by some many other people. I don't write the articles. I don't take the pictures. I just make it look pretty.



Thomas Edison said "**Genius** is one percent **inspiration**, ninety nine percent **perspiration.**" I just do the inspiration, the contributors do the real genius work.

Please let everyone know who put in the real perspiration on these articles and pictures how much you appreciate their work.
Thanks, John



NAN Ranch Ride – Manager’s Perspective by Vicki Dowd

The year- long planning for the NAN Ranch Ride culminated the first weekend in April. As Ilene Wignall and I checked the lime arrows early on Friday at the trail’s highest elevation, it was spitting snow. But, back in camp, all was going well with an informative and well-attended clinic given by Jerry Sims and mid-afternoon vet-check by Jerry Weil.

Many entries had arrived the day before to let their horses rest from what was, for most, a long trip. Thanks to all of you who were able to travel this far south to be with us for this first, we hope, of many NAN Ranch Competitive Trail Rides at this amazing place.

As organizers of this first time ride, Ilene and I were nervous about doing things right. We are grateful for your assurances, compliments, and Open riders overcoming little things like locked gates that were supposed to be unlocked. (BTW, We got that fence repaired.)

The trails this year only covered about half the ranch. Next year we will utilize the other half that will go up to a higher elevation and into ponderosa pines. So, thank you NATRC Region 3, for a rich experience and for your support of our first effort. I have managed or been trail master in three regions now and in three states since 1973 and always enjoyed it; but I would like to tell you that Region 3 is the absolute best.



Jody Carman leaves the last P&R headed for camp
By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography
<http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



Juleen Feazell
By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography
<http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



Starting one of Jerry Sim's gate obstacles

By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography <http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



Betty Garrett crossing the Mimbres River early Saturday morning

By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography <http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



Attached is the photo of Ron and Jeni Shelton and 3 Gila Back Country Horseman.

The one safety rider to the right was named Bob ? His family had homesteaded North of the NAN and he had wanted to ride on The NAN all his life. This was the 1st time he had ever been allowed to ride there. He was a very nice cowboy!

By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography <http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



Cheryl Jarrett crossing the Mimbres River on PeeWee

By Tom Maxfeldt at Cow Trail Photography <http://www.cowtrailphotography.com/>



2015 Special Awards

The following special award winners were announced at the Region 3 Convention in Cripple Creek on March 19, 2016. All photos are courtesy of Gary Walls, aka Macgyver.



Greg

Juleen

Chuck

2015 Bill Smith "Buddy" Award

Winners were Greg and Juleen Feazell. Chuck Smith presented this award in honor of his late father, Bill Smith. This award is sponsored by Jenny Smith.

Photo By Bill Wingle

<http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>



2015 Best Managed Ride

Chicken Creek - Chuck Smith - Ride Manager

Photo By Bill Wingle

<http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>



2015 Sue Bretag - Volunteer of the Year

Ed Westmoreland - P&R Captain at every ride in 2015

Voted on by the Region 3 Membership

Thank you Edward, we missed you at the convention.



2015 Novice 1st Year Horse

Safara - Ridden by John Horne

Safara and John Horne at Rocky Mountain Dream Ride



2015 CP High Average Horse and Rider

Cedar Valley's Torden Fjell & Brandy

Ferganchick

98.33% Combined

Thunder and Brandy at Rocky Mountain Dream Ride



2015 Ruth Tyree High Average Horsemanship
Ken Wolgram 100% Average

2015 Ken Burkdoll Combined High Average Horse/Rider
Awesome's Fire N Ice Ken Wolgram
100% Combined Average



Photo By Bill Wingle <http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>

**My NAN Ranch Experience by Chuck Smith**

I was the secretary for the NAN Ranch CTR in Silver City. I was very excited to be invited as a volunteer for this new ride. Although my weekend did not go exactly as planned, I want to share my experiences and the people who helped me get through the weekend.

I was scheduled to leave Farmington on Wednesday before the ride. Since our weather had still been rather cold, I had not filled my camper with water until that morning. As I hooked the hose up and turned the pump on, I kept hearing a strange sound coming from underneath the camper. I looked all over outside trying to figure out what this was. Finally I decided to go inside to investigate. As I opened the door, there was my problem. My entire camper was literally a running river inside. I immediately turned the water off outside and began cleaning up. I was supposed to leave that morning with Jerry & Beth Sims and also Greg & Juleen Fezell. I told them to go on without me and "hopefully" I would be along in a few hours. I called the RV dealership and explained my situation and they said to bring it right in. As I arrived there and was explaining the events, they informed me that this "could" be a major problem and I might not have my camper back for at least a week or two and, potentially, this could be a very expensive repair. I called Beth to update on the situation. She told me not to wait and see what was wrong with my camper, load everything in your truck and that I could stay with them in their camper, there was no need for me to get a hotel room. I was a little taken back by their generous offer, but also thankful that I would have a place to stay if need be. Later that afternoon I received a call from the RV dealership and shockingly, they were able to fix it and for only \$65.00. Who would have thought one pipe could make such a mess. ☺ I picked my camper up that evening and planned to head out Thursday morning.

My drive to Truth or Consequences was uneventful Thursday. When I arrived, there are two different directions to go to Silver City. I remembered Jerry telling me that they were going the southern route down the interstate, through Hatch, NM, and back up to Silver City. Google Maps said to turn at T or C, and go directly west over Emory Pass. This was the shortest route in distance and time. John Volkerding had driven that pass many times, and explicitly said, "Do not take that route with the camper". But, I decided that Google Maps knew better so I set out on that route. The first 30 minutes was a beautiful, easy road. As I started approaching the pass, I could not see how technical this was going to be and by the time I started up, there was nowhere to turn around. The drive was beautiful, however pulling a 44 foot RV over that pass was a huge mistake! I had to keep my truck in 1st gear all the way to the top due to the steepness, and windiness of the pass. There is not one straight stretch of that road either. When I would arrive to a right corner, I would have to stop, look around the corner, and if no other vehicles were coming, I would have to drive in the oncoming lane just to keep my trailer on the road. Coming down the pass was no different, due to the steepness it was 1st gear all the way down to not ride my brakes. Needless to say, Jerry and John were right, I was wrong. ☺

When I arrived at the ranch, there was a creek that you had to drive across to get into the camping area. Water was not deep, but fairly steep on each side, especially for a long trailer. As I just started going up the other side of the creek, I heard a loud noise and looked back and my spare tire from underneath the camper was laying in the creek. Luckily, it did not tear any major components up, just the spare tire assembly.

Friday was uneventful and all was going better until Saturday morning at 1am. This is when my bad luck, went to really bad luck. I had got up to turn my furnace on. I was half asleep, didn't turn a light on, and as I started walking down the stairs, I slipped and fell down the 3 sets of stairs. At first I could not realize what had just happened. It was dark and I was in a lot of pain. My first thought was I had broken my shoulder. I couldn't move, I was laying on the floor in a mangled



position, and just a few minutes later became nauseas and then sick all over myself. I laid on the floor for about 20 minutes before I was able to move again. I wasn't sure how I was going to get help. There was no cell phone service at all in camp, and I could barely get around. I decided the best thing to do was change my cloths and crawl back to bed. As 5am rolled around, I saw that Jerry and Beth's light was on in their camper. I was able to make my way over to them and said I needed help. Beth went into immediate "mommy mode". Jerry set out in search of a First Time Rider who happened to be an Anesthesiologist. His name was Nathan Williams. Nathan rushed right over and began examining me. He was confident I had not broken any bones, but was worried I tore my rotator cuff. He had a sling in his medical bag and told me to get checked out when I got home. Beth was Jerry's secretary and she offered to pass the job onto the backup secretary so she could take me into Silver City to the ER. I felt horrible I would be interrupting the function of the ride so I declined her offer. The rest of the weekend was basically spent lying in bed and taking Advil. A lot of people were concerned about me driving home. And to be honest, I was too. There were so many people who cared for me after falling. I also had several people offer to drive my truck and trailer back to Farmington. Lonnie Smith & Greg Feazell offered to drive me, and if I drove myself, Beth Sims offered to ride with me to make sure I was ok. With offers to drive me home, I also had many people offering to help me get my camper ready to go. The pain was so intense in the shoulder, it was hard just to get in my camper, let alone pack it up.

I felt extremely humiliated as I was the ride secretary, and I don't believe the secretary is supposed to get hurt! ☺ However, even though the weekend was not the best for me, the amount of help and support I received was extremely touching to me!

Greg & Juleen Feazell, Jerry & Beth Sims, Lonnie Smith, Jerry Weil, Rich Garrett, Nathan Williams (First Time Rider), Jim & Lin Ward, and Gerry Engel. I appreciate all of your help and support! Thank you!

Many of us left the ranch Sunday afternoon and headed back to Truth or Consequences to spend the night. We all parked in an empty fair grounds lot. Later that evening after dinner, we were having a glass of wine and enjoying the company of each other. Jim Ward said he wanted to play a game. The rules were as each person's turn came up, you were to state your name, age, and the highlight of your day. Some in the circle did not want to give their age! However, it was a positive, touching experience to listen to each person's highlight of the day. As my turn came around, I had two things to say. My first highlight was having cell phone service again so I could call home and talk to my children. My second highlight was thinking about all of my wonderful friends who helped me through the weekend! Later that night as I was lying in bed, I had more quiet time to reflect on the events and support I received. I had tears in my eyes being reminded of the specialness and uniqueness of NATRC, **FRIENDSHIP**. Over the many years of being involved in NATRC, I have seen people step up when a friend is in need. Regardless if they were a volunteer, or a competitor that sacrificed their own ride to help someone else.

I wanted to share my story as a reminder, and I needed it too, the friendships we make in NATRC are priceless! For myself, almost all of my dearest friends were met in NATRC.

I hope all of you reading this find and experience the same special friendships that I value in each and every one of you!



NAN Ranch 4/222/2016

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 17

Chair: Victoria Dowd

Judges: Jerry Weil DVM, Jerry Sims

CP Combo: Royal's Rock'N EZ Cinnabar/Garrett, Betty

Novice Sweepstakes: Friktion/Matthews, April-94

Open Sweepstakes: Hot Saki/Smith, Terri-99.5

Open Heavyweight

1/1 Gen's Rockin Shadow/Ward, Jim

2/2 MSA Chloe/O'Brien, Wava

Open Lightweight

1/1 Hot Saki/Smith, Terri

2/2 BR Elusive Flame/Jarrett, Cheryl

3/3 Turner's Wild Card/Ward, Lin

4/4 SAS's Smokey Annie Oakley/Feazell, Juleen

P Tres Beau/Poulton, Jennifer

Novice Heavyweight

1/3 Friktion/Matthews, April

2/1 Dexter/Hall, Robert

3/5 NNR Milli/Brett, Cathy

4/4 Pistolero/Wiltshire, Diane

5/2 Soli/Williams, Nathan

Novice Lightweight

1/1 A Magic Streak/Shelton, Jeni

P Matty/Randall, Mary

Competitive Pleasure

1/1 Royal's Rock'N EZ Cinnabar/Garrett, Betty

2/2 Rambler's Danny Rose/Carman, Jody

3/3 My Favorite Harley/Shelton, Ron



Chuck Smith welcoming all to Cripple Creek

A few more convention pictures



Lexi Combs with Spirit Mask on and Natalie Booker leading



Diane Chaffe in Spirit Mask with Janna Combs leading



Gary Inman, Greg and Weldy Feazel, Lin and Jim Ward doing the chicken dance for Chicken Creek

Photos By Bill Wingle

<http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photolist.php?PhotoListID=70>



Region 3 2015 Appreciation Awards

Bill Wingle

When Bill Wingle realized that his wife Diane was going to continue taking off with her horse for NATRC CTR weekends and leave him behind, he decided to join her. They found him a "husband safe" horse named Mariah and they were off together for their first CTR in 2008. Since then Bill has been a valued member of NATRC!

Bill has donated many of his precious hours managing rides, helping scout trail, competing, he is an expert with a GPS (tries his best to teach all of us how to use one) and he's the best map maker on the planet! Region 3 admires and respects Bill's honesty, caring heart, and wonderful intelligent spirit!

Sonny Mills

There are many tireless workers and individuals worthy of recognition in our local NATRC area, but perhaps one of the most important groups is the safety riders always present at our rides.

Safety riders are the last ones out in the morning, help anyone that needs assistance, pick up ribbons, lost E-Z boots and dropped items, arrive at lunch stops to what's left of the food, and are the last ones back at camp in the heat of the afternoon. There are many people to thank in this group, but Sonny (Ivan) Mills may have the longest track record of all the safety riders. He has been sweeping behind the NATRC riders for close to twenty years.

We would like to recognize Sonny for his years of hard work, along with recognition to all the safety riders that greatly contribute to the success of our rides. It's comforting to know that when everyone is out on the trail riding hard, if something unforeseen should happen, assistance will arrive shortly.

Please join us in appreciating Sonny Mills for all his contributions for our rides!

Greg Fezell

When pondering who to nominate for an appreciation award, you look back at the previous year to see who has stepped up and gone above and beyond the call of duty for NATRC. One of the first to come to mind is Greg Fezell. Greg does not ride, but attended every Region 3 ride in 2015 along with his wife, Juleen, who does ride.

Greg has been a ride timer several times, worked P&R's, helped cook, and worked many other odd jobs that needed doing. Greg is always willing to offer his help even if not asked to do so. He does this with a willing attitude, and always treating others with respect. If Greg sees you doing something, he is one of the first to come offer his help.

Region 3 is very fortunate to have an outstanding friend and contributor at our rides! Greg, on behalf of Region 3, we appreciate you and thank you for all you do for us!



Outstanding Sportsmanship of the Year Award

New for the 2015 Ride Season

WAVA O'BRIEN & DAYNA MORGAN - OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP

Outstanding Sportsmanship is a new award that will be donated annually by Greg and Juleen Feazell as long as there are good sports in Region 3. This award will honor one person each year that has demonstrated Outstanding Sportsmanship.

Greg and Juleen couldn't agree on just one person for 2015. Greg observed riders from a volunteers point of view and Juleen observed riders from a fellow competitor's point of view. They picked two competitors whom displayed Outstanding Sportsmanship.

Wava O'Brien was the first person receiving the award. Wava has been competing since 2009. Wava always has a smile on her face. Wava will always happily move off the trail for riders to pass and always, always has a friendly greeting. Last year however Wava took Sportsmanship to a whole new level. Wava lent one of her horses to a junior rider for 2015, she paid this junior rider's membership fees, she brought this junior rider with her to 3 rides in 2015. In addition to helping this junior rider she often had several additional junior riders tagging along while she mentored them. There were several incidents/accidents and Wava always kept her cool and her sense of humor.

Dayna Morgan is the second recipient of the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. Dayna also brought a junior rider with her to nearly every ride. It was at the Rocky Mountain Dream Ride in September where Dayna went above and beyond Good Sportsmanship. Shortly after Dayna and her Junior rider arrived in camp the Junior rider's horse was lame. Dayna decided to lend her horse, Levi to the Junior rider.

Dayna and Levi had been having an excellent ride year and were in the running for all of the Year End Novice Awards. Dayna sacrificed her entire ride season to let the Junior Rider compete on Levi. Dayna was asked why she was going to allow someone else to compete on her horse, Dayna's responded, "It was Natalie's 16th Birthday and I wanted her to have a special 16th Birthday".

These Outstanding Sports women didn't stop there, the most recent display of Wava and Dayna's Outstanding Sportsmanship was last October at Rabbit Valley. These 2 seasoned riders and 3 or 4 junior riders were riding together. You could hear laughter bouncing off the walls of McDonald Creek. The entire group was having fun in the most technical portion of the weekend's trail. Congratulations to Wava O'Brien and Dayna Morgan, you are both an inspiration to the junior riders as well as all us old folks. Enjoy your new riding vests!





Region 3 Year End Mileage

2015 Dr. Joe Quintana High Average Novice Horse Award
Dakota Cole - 97.258 ridden by Calleen Olson

2015 Pat Jubb High Average Novice Horsemanship Award
Calleen Olson - 98.385



We had a special treat at the convention in Cripple Creek when Mike Jubb presented the Pat Jubb High Average Novice Horsemanship award to Calleen Olson. The award was named to honor Mike's mother Pat Jubb. Mike gave a very touching tribute to his late mother who meant so much to NATRC.



Lexi Wins Big at the Nation and Region 3 Convention

Alexis Combs won every Junior Open Award at the National Level and In Region 3. Lexi gave a very touching speech thanking everyone who helped achieve her many accomplishments; Diane Chaffee, Ken Wolgram, her entire NATRC family and most of all her Dad and Mom. Following is a list of her accomplishments for 2016:

- NATIONAL OVERALL OPEN HORSE-JUNIOR - Lincoln & Alexis Combs
- NATIONAL OVERALL OPEN HORSEMANSHIP - JUNIOR - Alexis Combs
- OPEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Lincoln & Alexis Combs
- 4-H AWARD HIGH POINT HORSE & HORSEMANSHIP - Lincoln & Alexis Combs
- OPEN JUNIOR TEAM - Lincoln & Alexis Combs
- REGION 3 HIGH POINT HORSEMANSHIP OPEN JUNIOR - Alexis Combs
- REGION 3 HIGH POINT HORSE OPEN JUNIOR - Lincoln & Alexis Combs

Lexi did a great job of helping deliver all the awards at the Regional Convention. Thanks! Lexi we are so proud of you and we have enjoyed watching you grow up into a beautiful young women.



Photo By Bill Wingle <http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>



100% Club

Congratulation to the 100% Club members.
These fine folks either competed or volunteered at every ride in 2015.



Photo By Bill Wingle <http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>

Bill Wingle-Greg Feazell-Juleen Feazell-Wava O'Brien-Lin Ward-Jim Ward
Not present Cheri Westmoreland Ed Westmoreland.
Best Side of the 100% club in photo below. Lol



Photo By Bill Wingle <http://www.nearbytrails.com/php/photoList.php?PhotoListID=70>



New Ride Manager's Meeting, Region 3 Convention

*Updated after the meeting based upon input from those attending the meeting.

2015 we had more than a few problems at CTRs in Region 3. There were some common things that happened at several of those rides. This session is not intended to point fingers, blame ride management or competitors. We can all learn from the past and find ways to make rides work smoother in 2016.

CONFUSION ON WHO WAS IN CONTROL OF THE RIDE

Rule Book 2016 - Section 3 - Management of Rides

- A. Ride Chair: This position is the CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE RIDE!
You are the CEO - you are the BOSS

FOLLOW THE RULE BOOK

- Read and Understand the Rule Book
- Section 3 Management of Rides - This is only 2 pages and it lists the responsibilities of all the management positions.
 - Recommend all Safety Riders to attend briefing & provide them a map.
 - If your safety riders are local it is really beneficial if they can help you mark the trails.
 - Provide all volunteers with a ride agenda.
- Section 4 Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility - This is 4 important pages that will help with the miles and allowable pace for the various divisions. It also outlines weigh in helmets and distance only.
- Section 5 The Ride
 - Please read and understand the following:
 - C7
 - J2d. Timing and Penalty Points
 - J3a and J4a Early and Late arrivals
 - J4a and J4ab

Lunch Stops, Additional Time Penalties, Announcement of Time Penalty Points, P&R times are also included in this section.

- Section 6 Judging - 4 pages long - Penalty Points are again dis-cussed.

Ride Management Manual

A manual should come to you with your score cards however you might want to down load one because much of the information in that manual you will need to know about before it arrives in the mail. Take some time to look over this manual and use it as a reference.

Encourage Good Sportsmanship - Have an award for Outstanding Dis-play of Horsemanship. Ride Management judges may decide, input from other competitors, input from volunteers. When you present the award let everyone know what they did to be singled out. If your prize pool doesn't allow you to find an award for this, please let Juleen know ahead of time and she will provide one for your ride.

Lin and Jim Ward are planning to ride every ride in 2016 and have offered to have HAPPY HOUR, a social gathering every Friday evening before dinner. So encourage everyone to come and party.

Consider a One Day Novice B Ride - Most experienced Ride Mangers believe you need at least 40 riders to make a profit. So if your ride does not consistently get at least 50 riders, consider adding a Novice B ride for one day.

- Exposes more new riders to NATRC
- Some riders may only be able to dedicate one day
- Some riders/horses may only be able to physically ride 1 day
- You can charge nearly the same amount as a 2 day rider
- B Ride should help your profit margin
- No need to sanction the B ride to your A ride
- Recommend B ride on Saturday- B ride awards prior to Saturday night briefing
- Down side
- Need more awards for another class
- Have to handle them as a separate class



Celebrate 1st Time Riders

As 1st Time Riders cross the Finish Line:

- Give them "The 1st Time Rider Hat" and take their Picture.
- R3 Board has agreed to purchase HATS that say, I survived my 1st NATRC ride.
- Send photo and a brief story to Stirrup editor. Let riders know their picture will be in the Stirrup. WHOOP IT UP!
- Bright Yellow signs will be handed out at the ride to anyone who wished to help mentor or ask questions.
- Sharyl Walls will be at most of the rides but not competing this year and has offered to go and help the 1st time riders.

All Riders should be NATRC MEMBERS: With National offering free membership - all new riders should be MEMBERS! Ride secretaries need to send emails and explain this to all NON-MEMBERS! If they ride 3 or more ride in R3 in 2016, R3 will pay 1/2 their membership fee in 2017. If they haven't been a member for 5 years or more and rejoin R3 will pay 1/2 their membership for 2017. Lin and Juleen are working on a simple list of what 1st time riders should bring. We encourage the Ride Secretaries to send this out via email as soon as 1st time rider signs up in RMS.

PUBLICITY CHAIR: Susan Halterman is the new Publicity Chair. She will help you place ads in local newspapers, write articles explain your ride or clinic. Try to provide Susan with photos of your ride or preparation. Pictures especially of horse seem to draw horse people in to read the articles.

Add them to Craig's List or Facebook Horse events in your area. Lexi Combs can help you with Facebook.

RIDE SECRETARIES USE HIGHER NUMBERED RIDE VESTS: Many of our ride vests are in pretty bad shape and we are looking into replacing them, however there are many ride vests that look like new. Instead of starting with the lower numbers in each division, start with the higher numbers. Look at the ride vests and pick the nicer ones before assigning number to rides. This won't help those who pay for a special number but many of them have their own ride vests.

TRAIL MASTER: Bill Wingle has an excellent spreadsheet available on his web site where you can plug in your distance and miles per hour and it will figure the timing including P&Rs and lunch. It will save your hours if you have ever had to do this the old fashion way. Contact Bill for more information.

QUIZ BOWL: Kay Gunckel will be conducting a Quiz Bowl at every ride she attends in an effort to make Learning the Rules of NATRC fun. She will do it before a ride briefing or before awards when folks are sitting around waiting.

Be Prepared to do a CRI (Cardiac Recovery Index) - Your vet Judge may request you set up an area for the CRI. The CRI's will not be used to deduct points in 2016, it will be used for data collect and to improve the CRI Guidelines.

Ride Management will be responsible to set up a course:

- 125 feet long, even footing required
- Ideally markers with cones or chalk
- With enough room for 2 trotting lanes (3 lanes if you have big ride)
- Pick a central area, as equally accessible to all as possible
- Provide 2 to 3 experience P&R folks for pulse takers
- 1 person to scribe with a clipboard and a CRI log to do the recording for all the pulse takers.

The CRI is best performed near the end of the day's ride, making the results as valid as possible. There needs to be enough room and sufficient personal so that the CRI is performed with a minimum delay to the progress of the ride.

If your ride does not have an area where the above mentioned guidelines can be met, you can explain that and show the Vet Judge if there is not a place to do the CRI. Remember you are the CEO of your ride and if the protocol guidelines cannot be met you can refuse to allow a CRI to be conducted at your ride.

NATRC National Web site has all the most current information for the CRI Protocol and CRI Log.



General Membership Meeting, March 18, 2016

2016 NATRC REGION 3 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 18, 2016

LOCATION:

Double Eagle Hotel & Casino
Cripple Creek, Colorado

CALL TO ORDER:

The annual General Membership Meeting for NATRC REGION 3 was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Region 3 President, Juleen Feazell.

SPECIAL THANKS: Juleen thanked Chuck Smith for his excellent job as this year's convention chair and convention secretary. Chuck was praised for the tremendous amount of work it took to pull the convention together. Chuck thanked Susan Halterman for organizing Mitch Walma, from Teller Country Search and Rescue. Chuck also recognized Syndi Scott for organizing the Silent Auction. Chuck also thanked Greg and Juleen Feazell for helping with various aspects of the convention.

INTRODUCTIONS - GUESTS: Freedom Equine Team; Michele Skerl, from Crawford, CO, April Walker from Cedaredge, CO and Anya Newman from Los Angeles, CA were the guests present for the General Membership meeting. Juleen is recruiting both Michele and April to become new members of NATRC.

INTRODUCTIONS OUTGOING/INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS: Region 3 Board outgoing board members, Kay Gunckel - District 1; Janna Combs & Diana Marquardt - At Large; were thanked for their service and presented with a gift. National outgoing board member Jerry Sims was recognized and thanked for his service to R3 and NATRC. Jerry was not present at this year's convention.

National Board Members for 2016: All three were present and asked to stand; John Horne, Dr. Kay Gunckel and alternate Chuck Smith.

R3 Officers 2016 : Juleen Feazell will continue as President in 2016. Betty Wolgram is outgoing Vice President. Juleen thanked Betty for advising her on Standing Rules, By-Laws, redistricting, elections and countless hours on the phone and exchanging emails. Betty will continue as Membership Chair. Betty was presented with a gift from Region 3. The new Vice-President for Region 3 is Lin Ward. Lin will also be the nomination chair for 2016. Chuck Smith will continue as Treasurer, Historian, and shares the Webmaster for 2016 with Dianna Thearin. Kerry Bingham will continue as secretary for 2016.

Sandy Clayton was a continuing board member and was in attendance. Dianna Thearin was appointed to replace Donna Lewis - At Large, who resigned on 9/15. Dianna was also present. The newly elected R3 Board Members were all present, Lin Ward - District 1; Calleen Olson and Chuck Smith - At Large.

Susan Halterman is the new Publicity Chair, replacing Syndi Scott. Lexi Combs will be helping Susan with Facebook marketing. Other Committee Chairs present were Diane Wingle/Ride Book Editor and Ride Coordinator; Dianna Thearin/Worker Points.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the general membership meeting in held in Taos NM, in 2015 were emailed to all participants to review on March 15, 2016. A motion to accept those minutes as written by Wava O'Brien, seconded by Lin Ward, all members present approved.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Juleen's 2015 message was all about new members. Reach Out was the theme for 2015. Ten, first time NATRC members took advantage of Region 3's incentive, Ride three rides and get your 2015 membership refunded.

A generous anonymous donor from the Taos convention in 2015, donated \$500 and money was used to fund the new member three ride incentive. The same generous anonymous donor gave the Region an additional \$500.00 for 2016 and requested we spend the money in similar fashion. Region 3 board voted to pay 1/2 the membership in 2017 to first time members or previous members who had not renewed their dues for 5 years or more and rode three rides in the region in the 2016 ride season.

The anonymous donor also wanted to challenge anyone to match \$500.00 their donation either in whole or part for 2016. So on behalf of "Mr. Ms. or Mrs. Anonymous" donor Juleen challenged all of you to match the \$500 Donation.



Juleen stated she still believes new members are vital to our sport and we all need to continue to bring new members into NATRC, a more urgent matter in R3 is **Improving Good Sportsmanship**. The convention attendees participated in helping define Good Sportsmanship in the General Membership Meeting. Kindness and respect for fellow competitors and volunteers seemed to be a common thread.

Juleen researched on the Internet and found one of the most common associations with Good Sportsmanship was following **THE RULES**. If we do not know all the rules, we need some work to improve our sportsmanship. Region 3 needs everyone's help in marrying good sportsmanship with following the rules. Juleen recommended downloading Sections 4, 5 and 6 of the NATC Rule Book. Learn and understand those three sections before you ever compete in 2016. Kay Gunckel is going to have a QUIZ Bowl before Ride Briefings or Awards in an effort to make learning the rules fun.

The other word that seemed to appear in nearly every definition of Good Sportsmanship was **Integrity**. Each of us is responsible for our own integrity. Juleen compared GOLF and CTR because the two sports have much in common when it comes to Integrity. Golf is referred to as a **Game Of Honor**. Maybe we should begin to think of a NATRC CTR as **Riding With Honor**.

The Feazell's established a new year end Outstanding Sportsmanship award to highlight a competitor who demonstrated Outstanding Sportsmanship and make it retroactive to 2015. Region 3 board decided last night to encourage Ride Managers to have an award at every ride and recognize a competitor who demonstrated outstanding Sportsmanship.

Juleen is vowed to learn the Rules of NATRC better and take responsibility for her own actions. She challenged all who ride to join her and improve their sportsmanship skills and make 2016 a better ride year.

NATIONAL BOARD REPORT - Kay Gunckel (see R3 Board Minutes for Kay's report.)

TREASURER'S REPORT - Chuck Smith (see R3 Board report for Chuck's report.)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: - Betty Wolgram (because of time constraints Chair reports were not discussed in General Membership meeting but can be reviewed as part of the R3 Board meeting).

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST NIGHT'S BOARD MEETING:

Ride Coordinator - Diane Wingle - 9 rides scheduled for 2016. 2 new rides - NAN Ranch Ride (Silver City NM) and MLazyC.

A few things we are going to try to get more people at our CTRs in 2016 are:

The Rocky Mountain Hat Trick is a Triple Crown type of event having prizes in all divisions and classes for competitors entering all three rides. MLazyC, Island In The Sky and Chicken Creek are the Hat Trick rides. Alpine Bank of Delta, Colorado will sponsor the prizes for this event. Pam and Steve Galchutt created purple bandanas to help advertise The Rocky Mountain Hat Trick. Lexi passed out the bandanas to all attending the conference.

One Day B rides were very popular in the other regions. B rides are good way to introduce new people or people who may only be able to ride one day to come and join us. Ride Mangers will be encouraged to add a Novice B ride to their events.

First Time Rider Celebration; R3 Board also voted to purchase hats to be presented to 1st time riders when they cross the finish line. Ride Managers will be encouraged to whoop it up, take their photos as they cross the finish line, send them to the Stirrup. so they can be published.

Juleen thanked everyone for listening and participating. She and Greg plan on being at every ride in 2016 and hope to see all of you out on the trail.

Sharon Roper made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Syndi Scott, all were in favor, meeting was adjourned at 9:15am.



Rocky Mountain Hat Trick

Rocky Mountain "Hat Trick"

New for the 2016 Ride Season In Region 3!!!



The Women's Surface Creek Saddle Club organized a Triple Crown type of event new for 2016, The Rocky Mountain Hat Trick. A "Hat Trick" is usually associated with hockey but it can also be "3" consecutive sporting events. The 3 Colorado rides comprising the "The Rocky Mountain Hat Trick" are:

M Lazy C (July 9-10 2016)

Island in the Sky (August 6-7 2016)

Chicken Creek (August 20-21 2016)

Eligibility

- Rider must ride the same horse and participate in all 3 rides.
- Points for Horse and Rider will be combined in all 3 rides.
- Horse & Rider must participate in the same division & class.

1st Place Prizes in each Division & Class!!!!!!

- Open Heavyweight
- Open Lightweight
- Open Junior
- Competitive Pleasure
- Novice Heavyweight
- Novice Lightweight
- Novice Junior

Gift Certificates will be awarded at the Region 3 Convention in 2017.

Please join us for all the Rocky Mountain Hat Trick Rides. More information contact Juleen Feazell, 970 965-1182 or jfeazell@rds.net



Sponsors



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All....*



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Arabians*



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for
*Witez II
Arabian
Bloodlines*



*The Place for
No Fly Know
How*



Competitive Trail Events Depend On All Of Us – Betty Wolgram

Volunteers, from the regional board of directors and our national board representatives to all our regional committee chairs. Ride managers and all the helpers (to mention some, ride secretaries, trail markers and timers, p&r workers, judges' secretaries, water carriers, ride timers, rules interpreters, drivers, cooks, etc.) Volunteers are human beings. Sometimes they make mistakes or forget to do things, but they still need to feel appreciated for the jobs they do. No volunteers, no rides.

Judges, who are paid but not nearly what they are worth, as they leave their real jobs and their families to judge rides. Judges are human beings. They are there to give their opinions and most do their best to be impartial and as consistent as possible. Sometimes they also make mistakes or overlook things. They also need to feel respected and appreciated for the work they do. No judges, no rides.

Riders, who pay to compete and who also commit their time to train and condition their horses and pay for fuel to travel, sometimes long distances, to support the rides, are equally important. Many riders also take time off from work to attend rides. Horse owners have lots of choices for their horse activities, and ride management and judges need to treat them like the valued customers they are. Riders are human beings. They also make mistakes. They also need to feel appreciated for the support they give by attending the rides. No riders, no rides.

All our members, many of whom don't compete and may not be able to volunteer much or at all, but they are still as important as the volunteers, judges, and riders. By paying their dues, they help NATRC and Region 3 remain financially strong, able to give year-end awards for riders and ride management, keep trails open for horses, and support many other benefits for our competitive trail riding organization. No members, no NATRC, no Region 3, no rides.

So let's all of us work together and recognize that we are all human beings who need to feel respected and appreciated. We'll all be better for it.

Submitted by:
Betty Wolgram, Region 3 Membership Chair

More Convention Photos



Winner Calendar by Bill Wangle



Worker Point Winners having fun



Natalie Booker and Dayna Morgan
Big Winners in Novice Junior and
Novice Heavyweight



Novice Light Weight Winnvers: Janna, Amelia, Jill,
Susan, Louise, Calleen



Novice Heavyweight Winners: Steve and John



Rewards and Awards – John Horne

Working as a team with a horse, or mule, is a process that requires us to think differently and communicate on a different level than any other activity. We and our partners have to develop a language and a bond of trust and method of communicating that is at the outset foreign from what either of us have learned from birth.

Humans are predators by nature. Horses are prey animals. Humans walk on two feet and have opposable thumbs. Horses are four legged and only know about thumbs because they see them on human hands.

My point is that we bond with our equine partner on a different level than any other relationship.

When we add in competition it reaches an even higher level. As we all know the reward for our competing together is a wonderful sense of accomplishment, as it rightly should be.

My work often involves driving many hours on some days. During one of those recent long drives I had time to think about working with my horse and competing and of course – winning. I wanted to share some of those thoughts with you.

There is a natural tendency to “pat ourselves on the back” when we win. There is a natural tendency to take all the credit for our accomplishments. After all this promotes self-esteem and it is not bad to feel this way; but it is also true that no one wins strictly on their own.

Nobel prize winners have teachers and mentors and patient family members who worked with them and watched some of their work fall short and listened when they needed to vent or needed to question if their goal was worthwhile. The same is true of Olympic athletes; Grammy and Academy award winners; and even the winner of the Junior High School Spelling Bee. No one ever wins alone. The nature of competition is that of a group activity.

Preparing for NATRC competition often involves many hours of you and your horse working together. It is often solitary and all of the communication and repetition and conditioning and practice and rehearsal is completed with only two of you present – until the actual competition. That is the place where you find out how all the work pays off. The two of you have the chance to compare your teamwork with that of others.

I once heard someone on a ride say “where else can you find 50 or 60 of your best friends to help you train your horse?” How true. Competitive Trail rides involve observing others as much as observing ourselves and our horses. There is a lot of reward in realizing the overall setting where we compete.

For myself and many others in NATRC the end of a competition weekend provides a list of new training goals. Whether or not we did as well as the other competitors is often secondary to how well we did together covering miles and completing obstacles.

Of course winning is important. Of course we all want ribbons and blankets and recognition; but the primary goal is to consistently build trust between ourselves and our horse partner and develop superior horsemanship skills.

The rewards for competition are personal satisfaction; personal growth; together with the knowledge of literally hundreds of other things, such as overall physical health (for both me and my horse); nutrition; veterinary practice; animal science; how other people bond with their horses; how other horse breeds move and work and behave; saddles; shoeing; bits; reining; trailers and some truck mechanics; and even predicting the weather.

The awards from successful competition are more tangible: ribbons and blankets and sweepstakes prizes and bragging rights – until the next competition anyway. The awards are not monetary. There are no endorsements deals; no agents negotiating contracts on our behalf; no broadcast or publication rights. NATRC is not about high-level business.

I am looking forward to this ride season; just as I do every year with its promise of accomplishment and the opportunities to spend time with friends and showcase my horse. As I make my list of rides and as I begin my planning and scheduling, I am reminding myself that the rewards from NATRC far outweigh the awards.



Competitive Pleasure: Juleen, Wava, Diane, Vicki, Betty



Open Junior - Lexi



For Sale and Other Barn News

For Sale

Purple Nylon Harness and American Cart and Horse metal two seater easy entry training cart.

Two seater metal training cart made by American Cart and Harness. Two sets of shafts (cob and horse size).

\$200.00

Purple nylon harness (adjustable for cob or horse).

\$75.00

Contact Susan Peters sapeters@pcisys.net 719-439-5669



For Sale: Stonewall "classic" trail saddle in very good condition. Includes girth, leather covered stirrups, and custom mounted water bottle holders in the front of the saddle. Weighs 12.5 pounds. Approx 14"-15" seat – fits a medium sized woman comfortably and a narrow/regular horse back (plenty of room especially for high withered horses).

See more detail and pictures at

www.stonewallsaddles.com/classicsaddle.html

\$500 Susan Peters sapeters@pcisys.net or 719-439-5669

**Versatile NATRC 2011 National Champion
Mare For Sale**

Regretfully, due to major lifestyle changes, I am selling my wonderful competition horse.

Hasty's Blossom is a beautiful, 14 year old, 14.2 hand, bay, registered half arab mare. Her sire was Hasty's Flyer, a "Legion of Supreme Honor" Arabian endurance stallion. Kathy Budd, former R3 horsemanship judge, raised and trained Blossom.

Since 2012 Blossom has been ridden on mountain trails in Colorado and Wyoming for pleasure – in 2015 she was ridden in the mountains by a junior rider. Blossom is also trained to drive. Asking price is \$3800.

You can find additional information on

www.equinenow.com

(AD # 1061792 – search half arab Colorado Springs)

For additional information, please contact my niece, Natalie Brooker

at yellowfang9@comcast.net 719-493-0922





For Sale and Other Barn News

For Sale

Stonewall "classic" trail saddle in very good condition. Includes 2 Woolback-type saddle pads (one wool, one synthetic), 3 girths, nylon web trail-type breast collar, spare ring covers, leather-covered stirrups, and mounted water bottle holders.

No-charge extras: 11' Parelli lead rope and Lovell-of-Mack cantele bag and horseman's raincoat. Approx 14" seat; fits a medium-sized woman nicely. See www.stonewallsaddles.com/classicsaddle.html for saddle photo & description.

Today this saddle sells new for \$1620 without inclusions. Whole trail-ready package for \$1000. Colorado Springs area; contact Karen Moe at (719) 661-7058 or winkieboots@q.com

For Sale

Lightweight (18 lb.) Western trail saddle (Big Horn #102), cordura and leather, in very good condition. Ideal for Competitive Trail Riding in Western saddle. Rounded rear skirt accommodates a shorter-backed horse. Includes woven string Western breast collar and girth and leather flank strap. See www.horsesaddleshop.com/15bighorcorr.html for saddle photo & description. Approx 15" seat.

No-charge extras: Toklat thick wool-and-fleece saddle pad, works perfectly with saddle, and leather bridle with rolled reins.

Today this saddle sells new for \$600 to \$730 without inclusions. Whole trail-ready package for \$300. Colorado Springs area; contact Karen Moe at (719) 661-7058 or winkieboots@q.com

Welcome to all our new and rejoining members so far in 2016 (as of April)

- Ron/Jeni Shelton, Breckenridge, CO
- Tammy Beyerle, Conifer, CO
- Colleen Wills, Sedalia, CO
- Judi Tobias, Colorado Springs, CO
- Kari & Haley Brown, Larkspur, CO
- Kat Bonham, Ft Collins, CO
- Susan DeCloedt, Durango, CO
- Anne George, Silver City, NM
- Linda Honey Cutt, Hesperus, CO
- Amanda Johnson, Colorado Springs, CO
- Susan Johnson, Colorado Springs, CO
- Hugh/Jayne Jones, Ignacio, CO
- Lynda Larsen, Cortez, CO
- K'Lee Ollom, Chamberino, NM
- Beth Parker, Lamar, CO
- Sherry Slade, Parker, CO
- Michelle Wright, Elbert, CO
- Cathy Brett, Silver City, NM
- Marlee Canada, Cortez, CO
- Carrie Gardner, Eckert, CO
- Donna Impero, Cliff, NM
- Kimberly McDonald, Sedalia, CO
- Dotty Williams, Vequita, NM
- Cristy/Leona Lore, Penrose, CO
- Carrie Derco, Austin, CO
- Amy MacBean, Cortez, CO
- Paula Mitchell, Cedaredge, CO
- Mary Randall, Vequita, NM



Open Lightweight Winners: Syndi, Lin, Diana, Cheryl



Open Heavyweight: Bill, Ken, Jim



HOPE HELD BY A HORSE

Third Annual Benefit Ride

Saturday April 30, 9 AM

A great opportunity for conditioning your horse early in the the season! You can ride as many miles and as long as you like. Over 40 miles possible.

\$25 pre-registration fee/ \$30 day of the event

Please send a check to Hope Held by a Horse, 3575 N Hwy 67, Sedalia, CO, 80135 and make a note that it is for this ride.

Lunch provided

For questions contact:

Janna Combs at jannac@sanarroyo.com or 970-576-5606 or
Diane Chaffee at info@hopeheldbyahorse.org or 720-635-3223

We encourage you to ask friends and family to donate, also.

Our goal is to reach **\$5000** this year!

You also have the opportunity to donate your tack. We will have a tack sale right there! If yours does not sell, you may reclaim it at the end of the day.



Region 3 History Book, Part Deux by Chuck Smith

Dear Region 3 Members,

As many of you know, I have been asking for stories for the history book. I did not receive as many as I had hoped. Actually to date, I have received 19 stories. I do want to continue this thru 2016. However, If we cannot produce a good sized book, approximately 50 stories, we are going to have to forgo the book. It is not worth the cost of printing for a small number. PLEASE consider writing a story. The guidelines are below. And please pass this on to anyone who may not receive email, or someone who used to be a Region 3 Member. I have heard from several people that they are intimidated to write a story, don't be! You can write this on your own view, the view of your horse, however you want to. I want you ALL to be a part of this book and to help preserve Region 3's history!

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Chuck Smith

Chuck-smith@earthlink.net

505-215-2625

For each person, please follow this guide to submitting your information. This book will consist of four parts per person.

1. What year did you become a NATRC member?
2. How did you become involved with NATRC?
3. Why do you, or a loved one, (current or previous) compete or work within NATRC?
4. Your favorite or most memorable memory?

Please try to limit your information to (1) page. If you go over a page, I will include everything you submit, but please try and keep it limited to (1). Last, consider looking through old pictures and submitting them for the history book. You are welcome to email pictures. If you do not have a scanner, you can also send me your pictures and I will scan them and send back to you. To save time, email your information to me and if needed, only send a hard copy of your pictures.



My NAN Ranch Experience by Chuck Smith

Region 3 NATRC celebrates 1st Time Riders as they cross the Finish Line and complete their NATRC ride.

These were the 1st Time Rider's who received their Hats a Caballo Canyon CTR.



#78, Eric Bravo rode Precious Easy Aces in Novice Heavyweight A Ride.



#105, Marlee Canada rode Riggs in Novice Heavyweight B Ride



#103 Sherri Guillet rode Malibu in Novice Lightweight B Ride



**NORTH AMERICAN
TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE**

www.natrc.org



The Stirrup

Newsletter of NATRC Region 3

John Volkerding - Editor

PO Box 687

Flora Vista, NM 87415