

The Leadline

The Voice of NATRC Region 1 Competitive Trail Riding



www.natrcregion1.org

Summer 2011

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Coming Soon!

We're working on doing an expanded on-line only version of The Leadline, which will include more ride stories, photos, and informational articles.
Stay tuned for more info!

Trailblazer Emma McCrary, 80, helped build miles of county trails

Reprinted with permission from the Santa Cruz Sentinel
By Jason Hoppin

SWANTON - Emma McCrary, who carved hundreds of miles of trails through Santa Cruz County's wilderness to help bring others closer to the natural wonders around them, died Friday after a battle with cancer. She was 80.

Using her cherished horses and a sharp chainsaw, McCrary, a member of a prominent logging family, shaped paths through Henry Cowell, Fall Creek, Wilder Ranch and Pogonip parks, forging ahead with hard work and a philosophy that the deeper people got into the woods, the more they would care for them.

"I think it's good for people to know how those trails got where they are," said husband Homer "Bud" McCrary, co-owner of Big Creek Lumber. "She left a legacy of concern for other people in allowing them to get out into the forest, because if she hadn't done what she did, a lot of those trails wouldn't be there."

McCrary was as beloved as she was tough, a child of the Great Depression who bought her first horse, Chiquita, over her father's initial objections. She worked trails until the end of her life, and even testified in front of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors the day she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Her calm determination was legendary, and friends say it came without pretense or ego. As a girl, she would ride Chiquita from her home in Palo Alto to her grandparents' house in Morgan Hill, a 12-hour journey.

As a 17-year-old, she found work on the McCrary family ranch in Swanton.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

The raging 1948 Pine Mountain fire burned 20,000 North Coast acres. Big Creek Lumber was a fledgling company at the time, and among the firefighters was Bud. Though Bud's face was covered with soot, Emma later proclaimed that she fell in love the moment she saw him smile.

Bud proposed after a two-week courtship, but Emma's father forbade her from marrying until she turned 18. The wedding was held on her birthday; that it also happened to be Christmas Day did not dissuade her.

McCrary was around animals from a young age, and was active in 4-H. She was also a longtime board member of the Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association, and hosted annual rides on the miles of trails she cut for herself on the McCrary's Swanton property. She also served on the board of the North American Trail Ride Conference.

But her lasting legacy comes in the



Emma McCrary

Continued on Page 3 . . .

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**See Hoof Print for National Board,
Committees, and Secretaries**

Chairman's Corner

I hope you are all enjoying the warm summer days. After the rainy winter and spring, it's nice to have sun and dry trails and not have to brush the caked mud off your horse. I wish you all many enjoyable hours on the trail this summer.

This past weekend I attended the memorial service for long time NATRC promoter Emma McCrary. For those of you who never rode with her, she was a tireless worker promoting trails throughout the Santa Cruz Area. She put on the Swanton NATRC ride for 35 years and competed in many of the other rides. I had the privilege to both ride with her and camp by her multiple times. She was a strong supporter of NATRC and the values the organization promoted. She will be missed!

As times change, we sometimes lose sight of the values that brought us together in the first place. It's easy to focus on the negative rather than fight to maintain the positive aspects. Our organization is facing a challenging time: the economy, the changing focus and financial hardship of the park systems, and the changing dynamics of everyday life for members. It feels like we don't have as much "free time" for ourselves and our horses as we used to. These are daunting obstacles. However, we must focus on the important aspects of what we get back from riding and competing our horses. I recently received an e-mail from a member and was reminded of what you "get" out of NATRC. She wrote that NATRC allows you to "put together on the trail everything you've learned." Information gathered from reading, clinics, videos, riding with and learning from experienced riders - all is applied as we compete in this sport. While endurance is challenging because it's a race, NATRC is challenging because you do the same distance as LD endurance riders but you do it in *control*, utilizing all the principles of horsemanship you've learned throughout the years. NATRC is actually providing more of a challenge than endurance, and you can be successful at it without having to condition your horse for 50-100 milers.

We need to hold our heads up high and communicate to the rest of the riding community how exciting and fun this sport is and how much we learn every ride season. ALL of us should speak to other riders - at the barn, out on the trail, at clinics - and promote the excitement of having a venue where you can "put it all together" while you're out there riding and competing. I would like to challenge all of you to give back to a great organization - just a few hours each month to work on promoting NATRC and bringing it to the attention of your local riding community. This must be a grass roots effort. The Board of Directors provides leadership - they can't possibly do all the work. I welcome any ideas that you might choose to share with me or any other member of the board. As the saying goes: "It takes a village."

Happy Trails-Keep On Riding

Linda Thomason

Region One Chair

THE LEADLINE is the official publication of Region One of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC). The Leadline is published three times per year and mailed or emailed to all NATRC Region One members. It is available by subscription to non-Region One members at \$8 per year. Issues contain updated information from Region One committees, ride results, point standings, minutes of board meetings, and the current Region One ride schedule. Send subscription requests and payments (made out to NATRC Region One) to Phil Young, 674 La Porte Rd, Quincy, CA 95971. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to Laurie Knuutila, 455 Ream Lane, Fairbanks, AK or email to wildrosephat@yahoo.com. NATRC Region One and The Leadline do not necessarily endorse or support the opinions expressed in printed articles or advertisements. The Editor reserves the right to edit material as necessary. No letters to the Editor will be printed if not signed. NATRC and the staff of The Leadline are not responsible for errors in spelling of horses' or riders' names.

Deadlines:

Spring issue -
Submission: April 15; Publication: May 1
Summer issue -
Submission: August 1; Publication: Aug. 15
Winter issue -
Submission: Dec 15; Publication: Jan. 1

Advertising rates per issue:

Full page—\$40
Half page—\$20
Quarter page—\$10
Business card—\$5

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

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Emma Walker and Bud McCrary engagement 1948

form of miles of trails she helped build, often with her husband and a unique trail-cutting machine. Bicyclists, hikers and equestrians alike enjoy her work, with the trails sometimes challenging but often rewarding users with impressive vistas.

She was as skilled with a chainsaw as she was on a horse. Bob Berlage, who works in Big Creek's forestry department and lives near the McCrary's property, came across her one day about a decade ago. She was in her early 70's, standing on her horse, wielding a chainsaw.

"She was literally standing on her saddle and cutting a rather large limb off. There were two things going on there: this was an extremely brave woman, and a very good horse," Berlage said. "She was a phenomenon. More energy than the vast majority of people a third of her age."

BLAZING A TRAIL

Emma McCrary was known to disappear into the mountains for hours on end, threading her horses through dense



Emma was most at home on the back of a horse

woods and imagining new pathways. A partial list of her trails includes the Wheel, Cabin and Zane Grey trails in Wilder Ranch; the Lost Empire, Big Ben, Escape

and Spur trails in Fall Creek; and the U-Con trail connecting UCSC and Rincon Road.

"I think she wanted to get people out into the forest and let them see the beauty and experience the beauty. She saw the beauty in a well laid-out trail along the mountainside. She saw them as a work of art," Bud McCrary said.

McCrary worked with state parks to build several trail connectors, rode horse patrol and at one point was the only civilian

allowed to carry a chainsaw in state parks.



Emma in an English competition

"A lot of people write letters and do things on paper. Emma went out there with a chainsaw," said Robin Musitelli, a friend and former Sentinel reporter. "The word 'determined' is hardly adequate."

Her legacy is everywhere, but perhaps unknown to those who don't know the stories. Lost Camp, a trail through Fall Creek State Park, was not named after some long-forgotten loggers redoubt, but because McCrary became lost there in 1987.

In 1973, she wrote a book called "Influencing Horses" that took a new approach to raising horses. Her gentler style came decades before "The Horse Whisperer" popularized the idea.

"That book was way ahead of its time," said Claudia Goodman, head of the Horsemen's Association. "It's only in the last 10 to 15 years that a lot of the ideas that she had are coming to the fore."

McCrary's approach to nature was symbiotic to the views of the family she married into. The McCrarys have operated Big Creek in a way that has earned praise from environmentalists, rebuking harmful logging practices and selling hundreds of acres of land over the years for preservation.

After surgery following her diagnosis 11 months ago, doctors warned McCrary to take it easy. She didn't. Her family bought her a chainsaw that started with a push-button rather than a rip cord.

"That made her happier than anything," Bud McCrary said.

A celebration of Emma McCrary's life is being planned.

"There really isn't anybody like her," said friend Mary Fenton. "We're going to miss her."

Emma McCrary

BORN: Dec. 25, 1930

DIED: June 24, 2011

HOME: Swanton

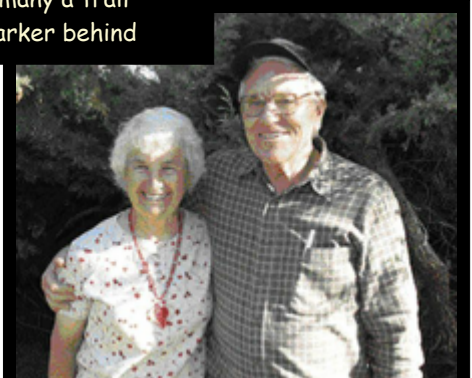
OCCUPATION:
Mother, volunteer trailblazer

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: active in 4-H; former board member, Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association and North American Trail Ride Conference

SURVIVORS: Husband, Homer "Bud"; son, Ken; daughters, Carol and Emmy Lou. Preceded in death by son, Michael.



Emma cleared many a trail with mileage marker behind



Emma and Bud in 2003

Request For Memories

By Betty Young

I am hoping that many of you, who either rode or volunteered at Swanton over the years, will write down your special memories associated with Emma or the ride itself, and send them to me. My plan is to compile a booklet of those memories and have it printed and ready in time for our 2012 Awards presentations. I think the Swanton Ride created more memories, tall tales and funny recollections in people's minds than any other Region 1 ride. To have those compiled in one place would be

so much fun, as well as a tribute to Emma and her wonderful ride.

Please get them to me by the end of this year (sooner is much better than later.....do it while you're thinking about it) and mail or email them to:

674 La Porte Road
Quincy, CA 95971
pbyoung@sunset.net

Thanks very much---hope to hear from a whole slew of you folks!

Certificates of Appreciation

DEADLINE for Nominations: October 15

Please contact your Region 1 BOD if you would like to nominate anyone for the following appreciation awards.

Jim Menefee Honorary Lifetime Membership (HLM)

Each region may nominate one member of NATRC for the JM Honorary Lifetime Membership award. At the final board meeting, the National Board will select one recipient with the award being presented at the following National Convention. Nomination letter to be limited to 400 words. **This award is not related in content to the Jim Menefee Memorial Combined Horse /Horseman-ship award.*

Workers Hall of Fame

Each region may nominate one member of NATRC for the Workers Hall of Fame. At the final National Board meeting, the board will select one or more recipients at their discretion. Recipients may be individual or pairs. The award is presented at the following National

Convention. Nomination letter to be limited to 400 words.

National Appreciation Awards

Each region may nominate one member for a National Appreciation Award. At the final National Board meeting, the board will select three (3) recipients who will be presented at the next National Convention. A recipient can be eligible only once every three years. Nomination letter to be limited to 200 words.

Regional Appreciation Awards for National Recognition

Each region may select up to three (3) recipients for national recognition. These recipients will be presented to the board at the final National Board meeting, and appreciation certificates will be presented at the following National Convention. Recipients may be individuals or pairs or groups such as ride sponsors or clubs. Nomination letter to be limited to 200 words.

Region 1 Benefit Ride

Please join us for the Region 1 Benefit Ride, to be held at Cowboy Camp near Williams, California, on September 24th.

Please think about what items you might be able to donate for the raffle and silent auction.

Come prepared to bid on exciting items already donated, including a set of four Michelin passenger/light truck tires, valued at up to \$1300.00. Bids will start at \$500.00. The tires will be shipped to the winning bidder, who will be responsible for expenses associated with installation at their location of choice.

If you can't be there but are interested in bidding anyway, contact Jo-sette Brault at josette@wildblue.net.



Photo by Michael T. Solomon

Gary Fitts and Fames Baydal BL
at the Mount Diablo ride.

Mark Your
Calendar
Now!



Join Region 2, NATRC and AERC
At the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada
March 8 - 11, 2012
For the NATRC National Convention



Fabulous
Speakers
and Vendors!

Highlights From the National BOD Meeting - Denver, Colorado, July 9, 2011

Webinars: Jim Ferris organized and conducted 2 Webinars/ GoTo Meetings for the NBOD between the February and July regular meetings to discuss a special raffle, the proposed bylaws changes, the Hoof Print, and "branding" applications. Jim has resolved some technical difficulties, and the effectiveness of the meetings has increased. This technology uses telephone communication as in a conference call, but in addition enables the attendees to view a computer screen. The service is available for our Regions or special committees to use. Please contact Jim Ferris for more information.

Business of NATRC: Elaine Swiss, NATRC Treasurer, wrote an excellent article and provided good information in the financial statements in the Summer Hoof Print. Largely due to fewer rides, fewer riders, and fewer members – even though expenses are down - we are looking at a \$5,000 - \$8,000 shortfall for 2011. Each Region has a goal for 2011 to help decrease this shortfall. R1's goal for 2011 over 2010 is to have one more ride (7 instead of 6), a higher average number of competitors per ride, (31 instead of 28), and one more member (155 instead of 154).

Proposed bylaws changes: Bylaws changes are difficult to enact and require a majority vote of the responding membership plus an affirmative 2/3 vote of the NBOD. Three proposals were considered this year.

***Term limits** did not pass.

***The length of a term** for an Alternate NBOD member who fills the seat of a regular NBOD member passed.

***The proposal for regions to conduct their own elections for National Board** representatives passed. See separate article.

Proposed rule changes: Please read the report in the Fall Hoof Print and let us know what you think.

A Protest was filed regarding an obstacle. See report in the Fall Hoof Print.

Jean Green, **Management Chair**, Bev Roberts and I worked on getting all of the on-line management documents standardized to the new branding specifications. Jean and I also updated the *Management Manual*, and the 2011 edition has been posted on the website.

Marketing and Publicity: NATRC has gotten free publicity in 17 publications, websites and radio shows from articles submitted by members and Bev Roberts, Marketing and Publicity Chair. E-News, a subscriber based email application administered by Bev Roberts, is delivering information very efficiently. Find NATRC on FaceBook.

National Raffle: Details in the Summer Hoof Print and on the NATRC website for details on the incredible opportunity to travel lodge to lodge, by horseback, in Machu Picchu, Peru.

Contact any R1 BOD member for tickets.

Sponsors: Please remember to buy from and say thanks to our wonderful national sponsors. See the Region 1 or national web sites for more information.

Hoof Print: Preparing, printing and mailing Hoof Print remains a large part of our budget. We are investigating ways to make it more informative and efficient.

Judges Committee: The third copy of the scorecards is still being reviewed in an effort to improve judging quality and consistency. Improvement in the comments of several judges has been seen. In addition, this year we'll be asking for comments from riders.

Membership: Personal contact with prospective new members is very important.

2012 National Convention will be hosted by Region 2 in conjunction with the AERC Convention in Reno, NV March 9-10.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Dieterich

Information & Education Committee
Judges Committee
Hoof Print Advocate/
Media Advisory Committee
Policies & Procedures Committee

2011 Ride Schedule

August 6	Georgetown Helen Steenman Sec: Lucinda Elliott	Georgetown, CA (530) 333-4364 (530) 887-9785	"B" O/N/CP hsteenman@yahoo.com siselliot@att.net
Aug 20-21	Jackson Forest Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Ft. Bragg, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 795-8163	"A" O/CP; "B" N iambrewing@aol.com wolves1961@sbcglobal.net
Sept. 10-11 NEW RIDE !	WA State Horse "Park & Ride" Kathryn Lewandowsky Sec: TBD	CleElum, WA (360) 403-8471 (425) 737-4594	"A" O/CP/N; "B" O/CP/N KKMoonshadowranch@msn.com
Sept 24 NEW RIDE !	Cowboy Camp Jean Armer Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Williams, CA (530) 755-8301 (707) 795-8163	"B" O/N/CP armer@citlink.net wolves1961@sbcglobal.net

Regions Will Conduct NBOD Elections

The following proposed change to the National Bylaws was passed at the July NBOD meeting:

3. Voting within each region: The proposed amendment is in *italics and underlined*. Present wording is struck out.

A. ARTICLE XIII. Committees
Section 4. Nominating Committee: ~~The President~~ *Each region* shall appoint a Nominating Chairman and a *Nominating Committee*. ~~of one voting member from each region.~~ This committee may nominate annually, sufficient individuals to fill the positions of *National* Board Members/*Alternates* whose terms expire at the end of the year. Nominees must be and have been voting members for at least two full fiscal years previous to the year of nomination. Nominees must, in the opinion of this committee, be active as a competitor, or as a judge or in Ride Management or NATRC Management. The committee shall give due consideration to

geographical areas and states, and to different categories of occupation, so that the Board of Directors is idely representative of NATRC and is a true composite of the leadership thereof. At least thirty (30) days before the Fall meeting of *National Board of Directors*, the ~~chairman or designee~~ *regions* shall submit to the voting members *of their region* by ~~written mail ballot~~ a slate of nominees for the vacancies to occur on the *National* Board of Directors. Such ballots shall also provide space for nominees to be written in by the members. ~~To be available for tabulation, all ballots shall be returned by 9 a.m. of the first day of~~ The tabulation *from each region* shall be presented at the Fall meeting of the *National* Board of Directors. ~~The ballots shall be counted before noon of that day.~~

Section 5. Ballot Committee: ~~Ballots shall be counted at the Fall meeting by a committee appointed by the president, excluding nominees and~~

~~members of the Nominating Committee.~~ *This Each region's Nominating Committee* shall report the results to the President, who shall cause an announcement of the election to be made thereafter.

This means that each region will elect its NBOD representatives before the November NBOD meeting. Region 1 will have to revise its own bylaws accordingly, but for now, the National bylaws supersede those of the region.

Region 1 needs to have an election for its NBOD Alternate position, currently held by Phil Young who was appointed to fill the remainder of a term for Jim Ferris.

The Resume form to nominate a person is included in this issue as well as in the Summer Hoof Print. If you wish to run, you may nominate yourself and return the resume to Jim Ferris. If you would like to nominate someone else, please notify Jim Ferris. **The deadline has been extended to September 1.**

Ballots will be mailed to you.

How I Heard About NATRC

By Michelle Pimentel

I don't know why I wanted to do distance riding when I purchased my first horse. That was when I was close to 40. Coming from a long distance running background was a HUGE part of it.

OH! I also come from a Piano background - classical piano lessons at the teaching convent in Fremont (yes, that's right, NUNS), where we had full blown recitals on stage, etc. UGGG!! A painfully- shy kid's nightmare!!!!

SO....needless to say, getting in a show ring and performing was OUT OF THE QUESTION for me as an adult. So WHAT TO DO WITH THIS HORSE?

I heard about NATRC at my first boarding place. I went riding with the owner of the property. She trailered us out and when we got to the trailhead, we tied our horses

to her trailer on the side that has the spare mounted. She said, and I'll never forget, "I don't think that this would be right for NATRC." She also mentioned that the latch for the back door should be protected so that the lead rope could not get trapped in it.

This was all information that I was filing in my brain. At this point, I think I had been on a horse 10 times, so I was like a SPONGE - just absorbing every bit of information. AND I remembered the name NATRC.



Photo by Michael T. Solomon

Michelle & Royal Prancer

I logged onto the website and I kept logging onto the website for a few years. I kept note of who was winning and kept reading about the divisions and the distance and speed. I think I knew that website better than the creators! I think that the MOST important part to me was the emphasis on SAFENESS!!!! WOW!

I had a vet judge who would pull my horse if I didn't condition it well enough. This was extremely important to me, this new horse person who read every Susan Garlinghouse article and every long distance book.

Without getting off topic, NATRC is not a highly advertised sport. And that's really too bad. I was so impressed with the SAFETY part of NATRC.

I truly hope that we don't dissolve in R1. It will be a sad day if we can't take our new/upcoming horses to a safe, long distance trail competition where people have the etiquette and politeness and common sense to help others along.

I plan on boarding my Mule at a facility for the next few weekends so that I can ride and take care of my dad recovering from cancer. I will hopefully be a good ambassador for the sport....these are all trail people in Pollock Pines, CA....

A Ride To Remember

By
Victoria
Boicelli

And so it was at last a spring day as we sat on the deck of Jim and Sheri Ferris's beautiful home in Penn Valley, California. The view is gorgeous there. The oak studded green rolling hills stretched out reaching for the flat land far beyond. Betty Young, Sheri, and myself joined in conversation as our men folk attended to the business of the Region 1 board meeting inside. I almost felt like we should be quilting or something, but we found something much more fun to do. Sheri has numerous bird feeders ideally situated for her feathered visitors. We watched them flutter at the feeders in a kind of bird feeding frenzy and enjoyed their antics. We were trying to identify each one. Sheri had that one hands down, plus tidbits of information about their different habits.

The sun was much too inviting. We moved our chairs into it to soak up the warmth and glow. Now I know why old dogs lie in the sun. Soon our talk turned to a common denominator, that of horses and their stories. Betty began to tell us about her favorite horse Bart and a very special time in her life.

Bart, it seems, was a Crabbet line Arabian. Not the kind with spindly legs and exaggerated dished faces animatedly trotting at the end of a lead in a halter class. Bart was what was expected of a Crabbet line Arabian. (A Can Do Horse). He was 14.3 hands, a chestnut in hue, with a splash of white running down his face in between two wide spaced, expressive, kind eyes. His body depicted strength, well sprung ribs, good width of chest, plenty of room for heart and lungs. He had substance, good dense bone, strong hooves, the foundation to carry his muscular frame over miles, but Bart had much more than all of this. He had desire, the desire to please, the desire to go the distance, the desire to reach their goal.

Betty's sincere, determined, steel blue eyes took on a far away look now, she was some where back there. Back where it had all started. Phil evidently was the catalyst. You see, he was quite certain that Betty and Bart could finish the Tevis.

Betty was somewhat reluctant, but she just couldn't escape Phil's urging and prodding, which in some instances she found annoying. Phil was insistent, and so Betty began to condition Bart in earnest for the Tevis.

The big day had arrived. The sun had yet not risen but the eastern horizon foretold of its arrival. The air was cool as they started out, but the still, dry day promised a warm if not hot Tevis. In fact it would be one of the warmest Tevis rides. As they traveled up the rocky steepness to Cougar Rock, it was already getting warm, and Betty was not heat tolerant. Throughout the ride Betty would say she never really felt the heat. It seemed to her as if she was enveloped in some kind of magic cocoon, protecting her from that external influence.

On to Robinson Flat they went, to rest a bit and replenish themselves with fluids. The crew of friends and family were there to encourage, support, and ready them for the next part of the ride. Both horse and rider were doing well at this point. As they started to get back on trail there was some confusion. Some riders had taken a wrong trail on the way out and had doubled back. Riders were bunched up wanting to proceed and anxious to get going once again. People were getting frustrated and loudly protesting from behind. Betty and Bart got back into their rhythm after that fiasco and trekked on. Puffs of beige dust from the horses ahead hung in the air, and endless scenes of conifers surrounded them. Bart and Betty moved on down into the hot, humid canyon floors and then up again. The elevation changes on the Tevis are tremendous. Yet Bart did not falter, and Betty's cocoon still surrounded her.

And so here they were at Michigan Bluff and by now Betty was getting tired. Phil had made a makeshift shower there. Betty rested for a bit. Bart still gave no indication of fatigue. He watched other horses leave and patiently waited his turn, his work not yet done.

Arriving at Foresthill was, at best, surrealistic. People and horses were everywhere, glow sticks and the full moon adding to the eeriness. Betty suffered from vertigo in the darkness, but Bart knew none of that and was eager to get underway. He was, after all, a horse and darkness did not hamper him. Betty once again bid her loyal crew goodbye and headed out.

Francisco was a "give out give up" stop for many people. Close to the finish yet so far. Betty got off her horse and was worried about him. They had come so far. Tears fell then, and she cried uncontrolla-

bly. Phil had his stethoscope on Bart and reassured her that his pulse was coming down. It was then Gregg Fellers approached. He had checked many horses and told them it was no use, their horses had given all they had. He looked Bart over, took his vitals, watched him trot out, gave him a pat and said "He is good to go." Then he looked at Betty, who was still crying, and said, "What's wrong with you?" Her crew then helped her back onto Bart, wished her luck and told her they would see her at the finish.

The moon peeking through the trees cast splotches of light on the trail. All was quiet except for Bart's steady and sure hoof beats. Both horse and rider knew they were nearing their goal. There came that time of connection that a rider never forgets. Both horse and rider are equally focused. They move literally as one unit, different species but the same.

Gliding across time, which has seemed to vanish now, they are caught up completely in the moment. Bart senses the excitement and forges ahead. Betty fingers the reins and calls him back effortlessly to her hands. "Okay, mom," he says. He does this one more time and gives the same response. The ride has taken on a dream-like quality. The finish is nearly in sight, the adrenalin pumping through both horse and rider. There they are, her crew. David, her son, sports a wide grin and holds a can of beer in one hand to toast his mom. Phil, who knew they could do it all along, smiles with pride at his wife and Bart. Linda Thomason, Betty's riding buddy, assists in getting Betty down. Betty feels like so much jelly all over and is sobbing now. One more time Linda helps Betty back up for her victory ride. Her eyes are full as she does so. Betty is too proud of her little horse to speak. The ride has been ridden, but it will be re-ridden many more times in Betty's mind. Further on, David would also ride Bart on another Tevis ride, but of course that is another story. After all, horses are wonderful creatures if only for the stories they leave with us.

It is said Phil never posed the question to Betty of who she loved best, Bart or himself. He was just too afraid of what the answer might be.

Thank you, Betty, for taking me along with you on this ride.

(Bart was the winner of the Grand Champion Horse Award for 1985, was inducted into the Horse Hall of Fame in 1991, and Betty was three-time winner of the Polly Bridges Award for high average horsemanship.)

Ride Results

Results not official until posted at www.natrc.org

Mt. Diablo Spring

5/7/2011 Region One-CA

B-O/N/CP Total Riders: 21

Chairperson: Ellen Pofcher

Judges: Stephanie Ostrowski DVM,
Karel Waugh

Novice Sweepstakes: Tuscany
Berlitz/Berlitz, Barbara-98

Open Sweepstakes: Stealth
Knight/Boicelli, Victoria-92

2/2 Om El Shakeeb Dream/Dillard,
Joe

3/3 Nura BL/Hoffman, Rose

4/ Fames Baydal BL/Fitts, Gary

5/ Laarkin/Brown, Tammy

6/ Azzana BL/Mertens, Becky

/4 Huck Finn/Frey, Ute

/1 La Paloma Dream/Dillard,
Ashley

/6 Lakota 5/Lieberknecht, Kay

Competitive Pleasure DO

SD SzZaphira/Huff, Suzanne

Round Valley B

June 18/2011 Region One-CA

B-N Total Riders: 17

Chairman: Gene Boicelli

Judges: Carol Ormond DVM, Jamie
Dieterich

Novice Sweepstakes: Pokani/Owens,
Jill-98.5

Open Heavyweight

1/1 Stealth Knight/Boicelli, Victoria

2/2 Take-A-Walkaloosa/Hess,
Lucie

CO Marilyn/Pestana, Philip

Open Lightweight

1/2 Cobay/Wolf, Jeanine

2/1 Royal Prancer/Pimentel,
Michelle

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 Tuscany Berlitz/Berlitz,
Barbara

2/2 Kodi/Pimentel, Joe

3/DO Amiaborr/Boicelli, Gene

Novice Lightweight

1/1 Sierra Sunshine/Stidolph, Don-
na

2/2 7th Heaven Star/Fuller, Lisa

3/3 Snap 2/Ward, Keith

Novice Junior

1/1 Garnet/Barash, Emma

Competitive Pleasure

1/5 Banner 3/Doub, Kathleen

Round Valley A

June 18-19/2011 Region One-CA

A-O/CP Total Riders: 11

Chairman: Gene Boicelli

Judges: Carol Ormond DVM, Jamie
Dieterich

Open Sweepstakes: Desert Rein-
beau/Meroshnekoff, Angie-95

Open Heavyweight

1/2 Stealth Knight/Boicelli, Victoria

2/1 Tura Lura/Cannon, Linda

Open Lightweight

1 /2 DesertReinbeau/
Meroshnekoff, Angie

2/1 Andarko/Walls, Lory

Competitive Pleasure

1/4 Om El Shakeeb Dream/Dillard,
Joe

2/1 La Paloma Dream/Dillard,
Ashley

3/3 Lady Tigers Hysyn/Schlerf,
Haley

4/5 Take-A-Walkaloosa/Hess,
Lucie

5/2 Lakota 5/Lieberknecht, Kay
P MJ Abiad Amir/Ferris, Jim

Novice Heavyweight

1/2 Laarkin/Brown, Tammy

2/DO ZK Rubicon/Christopherson,
Stu

3/3 Tuscany Berlitz/Berlitz,
Barbara

4/DO Blue Camel/Brown, Doug

5/1 Tango Sierra/Harvey, Laura

6/4 MK Van Gough/York, Ron

Novice Lightweight

1/5 Pokani/Owens, Jill

2/4 Garnet/Isgrigg, Kaysha

3/3 SC Tecka/York, Debbie

4/2 Apache's Shila/Arnold,
Mary-Ellis

5/6 Sierra Sunshine/Stidolph,
Donna

6/ Tehya 2/Ross, Sandy

/1 Amiaborr/Thurman, Ariel

P Sunny 9/Ross, Nicole

Novice Junior

1/1 Kaylee/Johnson, Karlie

2/3 Sage 5/Heinzman, Catherine

3/2 Shadow 7/Goodfriend, Ariel



Photo by Donna Stidolph

Vickie Boicelli and
Stealth Knight at Round Valley



Photo by Michael T. Solomon

Ariel Thurman at Mt. Diablo

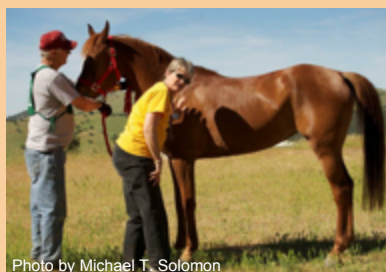


Photo by Michael T. Solomon

Gene Boicelli and Amiaborr
at Mt. Diablo

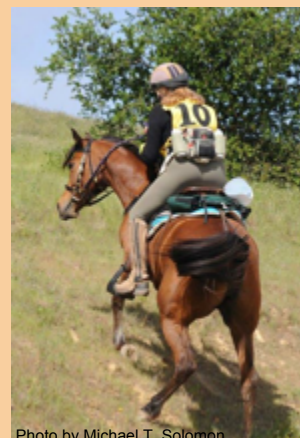


Photo by Michael T. Solomon

Rose Hoffman & Nura BL
at Mt. Diablo

More Ride Results

Results not official until posted at www.natrc.org

Challenge of the North A

7/16-17/2011 Region 1A-AK

A-O/CP Total Riders: 28

Chair: Laurie Knuutila

Judges: Mike Peralez, DVM, Sue Flagg

Open Sweepstakes: Quest Forelegance/Hamlin, Kiana-91

Open Heavyweight

1 / 4 Always Lucky/Romine, Rebecca

2/3 Star of Excellence/Halley, Catherine

3/1 Indy's Midnight Sun/Hess, Lucie

4/2 The Jewel Thief/Lythgoe, Marcia

P Jasmine's Magic/Fisk, Colleen

Open Lightweight

1/1 CR Splash of Magic/Hamlin, Ginger

2/3 Willow Bey Star/Grogan, Brenda

3/2 ShaMara/Forrester, Donna

Open Junior

1/1 Quest Forelegance/Hamlin, Kiana

2/3 Sanalta's Sugar and Spice/Carlson, Jessica

3 / 4 Siddasnickerechoes/Lorence, Kelti

4/2 TWS Echstravaganza/Quinn, Chase

Competitive Pleasure

1/5 Genuine Arctic Attitude/McDonough, Barbara

2/1 Electrache/Bergman, Stephanie

3/2 Bo/Schamber, Pam

4/ Dixie Girl/Rinke, Gaila

5/ Gypsy/Stevenson, Kelly

6/3 Dartagnon's Path/Schirack, Julia

/4 Wild Lady's Night/Dent, Susan

/6 Daisy/Hrncir, Dorothy

Sam/Bentti, Keith

Lola/Berkley, Claudia

Poncho/Faulkner, Jane

Spiffy/Gotschall, Sarah

Cinch/Sands, William

P Rio Borealis/Williams, Nancy

P Haidas Handy Lad/Carney Katrina

P October Impulse/Elsberry, Dorothy

Novice Sweepstakes: Dapper Dan Da Lady's Man/
Kolehmainen, Karol-98

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 Dapper Dan Da Lady's Man/Kolehmainen, Karol

2/5 Push Flirt's Button/Wilson, Shirley

3/3 Dynfari From Arctic Arrow/Miller, Charles

4/4 Lady's Midnight Scout/Kolehmainen, John

5/6 Genuine Silver Dollar/Covel, Kathy

6/2 Pace N Mad/Wilfer, Lauren

Novice Lightweight

1 / 3 Manadis/Baker-Miller, Cynthia

2/2 LaReigna/Smith, Angela

3/1 Hoss/Kiskin, Anna

Novice Junior

1/1 Jake/Bue, Cortney

2/2 Is A Perfect Dream/Parsley, Morgan

3 / 4 Cherries Jubilee/Smith, Rebecca

4/3 Dusty/Miller, Kiana

Challenge of the North B

7/16/2011 Region 1A-AK

B-N Total Riders: 13

Chair: Laurie Knuutila

Judges: Mike Peralez, DVM, Sue Flagg



Photo by Jenny Daniels

← Vet Judge Mike Peralez gives instructions to CP rider Stephanie Bergman.



Photo by Leila Johnson

← Region 6 member Lucie Hess riding Indy's Midnight Sun. Also pictured is Lucie's riding partner, Open Junior Kelti Lorence on Siddasnickerechoes.



Photo by Jenny Daniels

▲ CP rider Nancy Williams manages a smile despite the pouring rain as she times out.

Open Junior rider Chase Quinn works a side-pass obstacle. ➔

Scenes from the Challenge of the North Ride

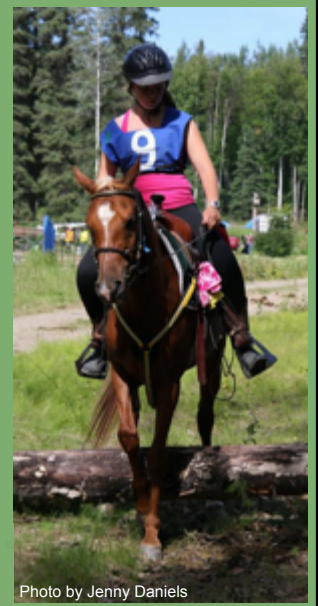


Photo by Jenny Daniels

Minutes of the NATRC Region 1 BOD Meeting

The meeting was held on May 22, 2011, at Big Oak Valley, CA. The meeting was called to order by Linda Thomason, Chairman, at 10:26 a.m. Present: Phil Young, Jamie Dieterich, Jim Ferris, Linda Thomason, Gene Boicelli, Stephanie Swain, and Laura Harvey. Absent: Angie Meroshnekoff and Steve Meroshnekoff. Guests: Sherry Lindley-Ferris, Betty Young, and Vicki Boicelli.

Secretary's Report:

Phil Young moved to approve the Secretary's Report, including approval of the Minutes of the meeting held 13 March 2011, seconded by Jim Ferris. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Primary Checking: \$22276.76

With the 2011 Benefit Ride postponed due to the EHV-1 outbreak, if not rescheduled, there will be no income for this year. Also, there will be no income from the 2012 R1 Convention because the National Convention will be hosted by Region 2 in Reno, and we will have our program associated with that. Due to Quicken file conversion issues (PC to Mac) the 2011 Budget Proposal has been delayed. Phil Young will complete the Budget Proposal by end of week, including accounting for each event (Convention, Benefit Ride, etc.) Phil investigated moving the checking account to a new bank, but the requirements are rather onerous, so the account will remain at Bank of America.

Committee Reports:

Physical Resource Coordinator:

Should ride managers be charged a refundable deposit for using the bibs, to be refunded when the bibs are returned, with a fee for missing or damaged bibs? Phil Young moved to approve, Stephanie Swain seconded. Approved unanimously.

Historian: Kathy Nixon – still has NATRC pictures that were donated at Convention to be put into albums. Laura Harvey has pictures to make new boards to show at Convention, rides, clinics, etc.

Wonder Workers: Steve Meroshnekoff – No report.

Points/Membership: Jim Ferris – 62 members, down significantly; due to a lot of non-renewals. No points yet.

Publicity: Linda Thomason – Ride Magazine has printed the pre-Convention article and will print a post-Convention article in the early summer issue. They would like an article on the R1A Alaska ride to print in a later issue. Jim believes there may be an article available from Laurie Knuutila. Rides are being advertised in Ride Magazine, BAEN Calendar.

Benefit Ride: Rescheduled due to EHV-1 outbreak. Tentative date September 24. Angie to be reimbursed for fuel costs relating to ride preparations in an amount up to \$300.00. Jim Ferris moved to approve, Gene Boicelli seconded. Approved unanimously.

The Leadline: Phil Young – No report. National BOD: Electronic NBOD meeting will be held this coming Thursday, May 26, 2011, via webinar to deal with 3 items: ratification of bylaws changes, ratification of 2012 Convention Raffle prize, discussion of branding. Jamie and Jim to update board regarding bylaws voting.

Region 1 Website: Debi Carpadus will continue to host the Region 1 website and hold the domain registration. Donna Stiddolph continues to work on a new site which will include updated pictures as rides are held. The transition to the new website should take place by 01 June 2011.

Ride/Clinic Management: Still researching dates and locations for Ride Clinic to be held March/April 2012. Tentative rescheduled ride dates: Arnold Rim – July 23, Cowboy Camp – September 24. Jim to e-blast membership when rescheduled dates are firm.

Gene Boicelli mentioned possible 2012 change of venue from Round Valley to Los Vaqueros in Antioch.

Outreach Coordinator: Linda Thomason – handed out one new rider gift bags at Mt. Diablo ride. She will be at the Round Valley ride, but needs someone to handle New Rider outreach at rides she can't attend. This entails giving out new rider bags, which include copies of the new boot rule and information on the drug rule.

Trails Advocacy Coordinator: Judy Etheridge – contacted by Linda. Reported that there is an advocacy group working to keep Coe Park open in the face of State

Parks closures. Projected 2 year closure at Sunol for dam work will not be happening. The park will remain open while the work is completed. We need members to represent NATRC at trails advocacy work days, preferably wearing NATRC T-shirts.

Bylaws: No report – see minutes of March 13, 2011 meeting.

Judging Issues: Protest filed in R3 regarding unsafe obstacles. No update.

Old Business:

T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Sales: Angie Meroshnekoff – Linda stated T-shirts and sweatshirts were sold at Convention. Linda has remaining shirts and will bring them to offer for sale at the Round Valley ride, then pass them to another board member to get them to rides she will not be able to attend.

NATRC Computers: Jim Ferris – work in progress. No update.

Change of location for R1 BOD meetings: No update.

R1 Corporate and Non-profit status: Ongoing – no update.

New Business:

Year End Awards: we need a replacement for Kathy Nixon. She is willing to continue doing perpetual awards gifts for ride chairmen, Leadline editor (Special awards). Betty Young graciously offered to take over the horse and horsemanship awards, and Jamie Dieterich will do certificates. Betty requests that we share any ideas for award items that we come across in catalogs or on the Internet.

Next Meeting:

Date: September 25, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Cowboy Camp ride, Cache Creek Wilderness

Tentative upcoming meeting dates/locations:

??January 2012 via Go-To-Meeting

Close of Meeting: Motion to adjourn by Gene Boicelli; seconded by Phil Young; all agreed. Meeting adjourned by Linda, Chairman at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Swain

Get NATRC E-News

NATRC E-News is the official electronic communication channel of our organization. E-News is a subscriber-based electronic marketing software from Constant Contact.

With E-News, you can receive electronic announcements on upcoming NATRC rides and clinics, new sponsors and special offers, NATRC promotions and contests, and general NATRC information including details on rules changes and proposals as well as regional and national Board minutes in a timely manner by subscribing now.

To begin receiving NATRC E-News, simply go to the NATRC website (<http://www.natrc.org>), click on "Join/Renew" along the top, then select "Join NATRC E-News." After you are directed to the E-News sign-up page, you can choose to receive a variety of different types of announcements.

If you would like to send NATRC information to all subscribers or just specific regions, contact Bev Roberts (matefey@gmail.com) or the National office (natrc@natrc.org) for help to put your announcement on the official NATRC electronic communication channel.

RESUME

FOR NOMINEES FOR ALTERNATE TO NATRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Region 1

In order to select a slate of nominees for this year's ballot, we need a resume of your qualifications. Please answer the following, sign the pledge and return this form to the Nominating Committee Chairman by **September 1, 2011**.

NAME _____ REGION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A NATRC MEMBER? _____

INTEREST IN NATRC (RIDER, MANAGER, JUDGE) _____

Please make a statement regarding your interest, qualification, related interests and what you would like to do for NATRC. Be brief and please do it in 200 words or less. The information will be used on our ballots to acquaint the voters with you. Use the back of this page for your statement or attach an additional page and return to the Nomination Committee Chairman.

Results of the election will be presented at the fall meeting of the National Board of Directors. Your term will begin in January.

As an Alternate member of the NATRC Board of Directors, you will be expected to attend the Board meetings held three times a year if the regular NBOD member cannot. Expenses related to the Board meetings are borne by the Board members. The current Board has voted to split transportation costs (not rooms or meals) equally between all Board members who are attending the meeting. The average shared cost of the transportation for 2010 was \$326.02. Total average cost to attend the three meetings, including transportation, hotel and meals, was about \$550.00 per meeting. Most of the Regions are able to provide some funding for their Directors. Please check with your Regional Directors to receive additional information.

Thank you for your interest in your NATRC.

PLEDGE:

IF I AM ELECTED TO THE NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I AGREE TO BE PRESENT AT ALL BOARD MEETINGS, IF POSSIBLE, AND TO ACCEPT THE EQUITABLE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AS VOTED BY THE BOARD ON WHICH I SERVE.

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE _____

Please return no later than September 1, 2011, to:

Jim Ferris
PO Box 300
Penn Valley, CA 95946
530/ 432-6513
jcferris@yahoo.com

NATRC Student Loan Program

Student loans are available up to \$5,000 per person /year, at the discretion of the NATRC National Board of Directors, after proper application has been submitted. Preference will be given to a full-time student who has been a member of NATRC or whose family has been an active member for at least three years. Consideration will also be given to a student or a student's family who has been an active member of NATRC for less than three years but more than six months.

A loan will be made based upon financial need, scholastic achievement, and character of the applicant as determined by the Student Loan/Scholarship Committee.

A loan is to be repaid in monthly installments, with an annual interest rate of 3% charged on that loan, beginning not later than six months following graduation or when the recipient ceases to be a full-time student.

For an *application*, contact the NATRC Executive Administrator at natrc@natrc.org Please complete the form in Word and submit via email to the NATRC Executive Administrator at natrc@natrc.org

Attention Junior Riders!

The Region 1 Board of Directors voted to continue the Junior Rider Payback program at their October 2010 meeting. Junior riders can receive a payback of 30.00 per ride on a minimum of two rides and a maximum of three rides entered during the 2011 ride season. Contact Phil Young for more information.





The Leadline

Phil Young
674 La Porte Rd
Quincy, CA 95971

