

# The Leadline

The Voice of NATRC Region 1 Competitive Trail Riding



[www.natrcregion1.org](http://www.natrcregion1.org)

SPRING 2020

## *In This Issue....*

The Un-Convention.....	1
Chair's Column.....	2
2020 Ride Schedule	
Tentative.....	3
Virtual Competitions.....	3
Region 1 BOD meeting.....	4-5
A Ride to Remember.....	6
2019 Ride Photos.....	7
Mini Convention and Awards Luncheon.....	8-11



### NEW MEMBERS ARE FREE FOR A YEAR!

Join NATRC as a new member today, and you'll experience your first year of membership for free! Enjoy many great member benefits and we're convinced that once you've tried CTR, you'll see a difference in your riding and your relationship with your horse.

Although it's a competitive sport, it's not only about keeping yourself challenged or achieving awards, it's about comraderie and building friendships with fellow riders who enjoy riding as much as you do.

### The Convention That Almost Happened!

It was heartbreaking to call off the convention at the last hour. In retrospect, it was the correct action. Personally it was a big letdown after all the months of work put into it. I am sure you would have enjoyed the venue, the speakers, and getting together again. I hope I have thanked everyone who offered to help out but if I missed anyone, well... it was a hectic time. Please know that all your offers to help out with the various functions were appreciated.

Congratulations to all those who placed last year. I hope you will send in photos of yourself and/or horse with your hard-earned ribbons or other awards. I am sad that we couldn't congratulate you in person! Next time!

We'd really like to post those photos on line as a "virtual" celebration of the 2019 ride year. So don't be shy, send in the photos!

I will take most of the silent auction items collected to the Cowboy Camp Benefit ride, now re-scheduled for Sept 5-6. I sincerely hope the Fall rides go as planned so we can connect once again and enjoy the trails.

I would also like to personally thank those of you who contributed towards the awards. We still had over a thousand dollars of ribbons, awards, and engraving to do, as well as mailing most of the awards out. Over the years I've heard some grumbling that we shouldn't ask for contributions when we have had a pretty stable bank account. And while that was true, the buffer in our bank

account which saw us through the past few years is now being used to sustain the region. Last year our income was only 1/2 of our expenditures. We do our best to keep ride and convention costs down. Most of the discrepancy was due to decreased attendance at the rides and the incredible cost increases to put on events. Everything is more expensive, from the park fees, judging costs, and food expenses, to awards. Most everything has gone up. It seems like we pay a lot to compete, but as most ride managers will tell you, it barely covers the expense of the ride.

I am not discussing this to ask for money or to complain, it's just a fact of life that we all need to be aware of. We don't want to increase ride fees, they are already costly and impact everyone's budgets. We understand that. So, perhaps you can put on your thinking caps and suggest ways to raise funds that will help us through the lean times. Tough times require some creative thinking and I know some of you may have ideas. If so, please write your Region 1 Board of Directors and share. We should be grateful to previous Region 1 BOD members who were thrifty and built up a financial buffer so that we can get through the lean years.

Stay tuned as the National Board of Directors figures out how points and awards will be addressed for 2020. We don't know yet how many rides nationally will actually take place, so this is a moving target.

Thank you, everyone, for hanging in there! I miss seeing your friendly faces and being at the rides and convention. Ride whenever you can, help your fellow riders out, and we'll meet up as soon as we safely can.

Linda Thomason, Treasurer, Convention Chair 2020, NATRC Region 1

# Chair's Column. . .

## Horses in the Age of Covid-19 Donna Stidolph, Region 1 Chair

The Covid-19 “behavior restrictions” have directly affected me very little; I’m retired, we don’t have kids, we don’t live in a densely populated urban area. That said, it’s something that’s pretty much on the top of my mind: we have my 86-year-old mother-in-law with us, many of our friends or their families \*have\* been dramatically affected by either the disease itself, or the economic effects of it, there are very few people out and about and many of those are wearing masks - so there are pretty constant reminders of the existence and effects of the pandemic. I guess I’m like a lot of people in that I spend a lot of time in a sort of grey funk, worrying about things way out of my control. Here’s where this circles back to horses.

The direction we’ve gotten is that it’s okay to go outside to “walk your pet.” All the horse people I know, including me, have interpreted that to mean that you can travel to take care of your horse. So, as usual, I go down to the barn where I board Sunny to ride her or walk her or whatever. As time has gone on, I’ve found myself going to the barn more often than I did before the virus. I think the reason is that it’s the one place where nothing has changed: horses don’t seem to care about the pandemic:

- They still expect supplements and junk food to be delivered on time.
- They expect periodic outings or arena work so that they can get their owners in shape for the ride season.
- They expect to be groomed and have their feet cleaned.
- They expect to have treats \*directly\* from your hand.
- Sunny expects serious belly rubs and prefers the “gloves-off” approach.

And the list goes on. The point here is that it’s one place that hasn’t changed; I still have to do all the things I did before, and Sunny reacts in the same way that she did before. And all the other people who have horses at our barn seem to be in the same state, so we do pretty much mind our own business, just like we did before. And it’s such a relief to be in a place and a situation that doesn’t have the virus-cloud tangibly hanging over it.

Another reason that I think being around horses is comforting is that, for me, when I’m doing horse stuff, it’s the only thing I can think about, at least if I want to be successful. Concentrating with that level of focus is actually relaxing in that I’m in a situation that I’m in control of - well, actually Sunny might be in control, but it’s a place where Covid-19 has no agency.

So I’ll continue to work with Sunny every day, just to get out of the emotional fog and into the sunshine. Who knows, with all this time we might figure out how to sidepass gracefully. Or even to open one of those ridiculous spring-loaded gates without risking our lives. There could be upsides!

Donna Stidolph  
R1 BOD Chair

## Region 1 Board of Directors

**Chair:**  
Donna Stidolph  
831.427.3646 [donna@stidolph.com](mailto:donna@stidolph.com)

**Treasurer:**  
Linda Thomason  
510.708.1439  
[linda.thomason0610@gmail.com](mailto:linda.thomason0610@gmail.com)

**Recording Secretary:**  
Stephanie Swain  
707.529.6330 [stephswain@earthlink.net](mailto:stephswain@earthlink.net)

**Corresponding Secretary:**  
Sheila Christiansen  
209.371.7248 [shooflypets@gmail.com](mailto:shooflypets@gmail.com)

**National BOD Representative:**  
Angie Meroshnekoff  
707.743.9973 [awhitedog@aol.com](mailto:awhitedog@aol.com)

**National BOD Representative:**  
Jamie Dieterich  
530.394.7584 (cell) [jamiek@gotsky.com](mailto:jamiek@gotsky.com)

**Board Member**  
Maria Pilgrim  
707.217.3582 [wolves1961@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wolves1961@sbcglobal.net)

**Board Member**  
Kris Skoog  
707.477.1720 [nags2qo@aol.com](mailto:nags2qo@aol.com)

**National Alt. Board Member:**  
Linda Thomason  
510.708.1439 [linda.thomason0610@gmail.com](mailto:linda.thomason0610@gmail.com)

## Committees

**Region 1 Points**  
Donna Stidolph  
831.427.3646 [donna@stidolph.com](mailto:donna@stidolph.com)

**Wonder Worker Recruitment**  
Steve Meroshnekoff  
707.743.9973 [iambrewing@aol.com](mailto:iambrewing@aol.com)

**The Leadline Editor**  
Karen Smart  
209-419-1002 [ummer8@volcano.net](mailto:ummer8@volcano.net)

**Publicity / Outreach**  
Linda Thomason  
510.708.1439 [linda.thomason0610@gmail.com](mailto:linda.thomason0610@gmail.com)

**Ride / Clinic Coordinator**  
Jamie Dieterich [jamiek@gotsky.com](mailto:jamiek@gotsky.com)  
530.394.7584 (cell)

**Webmaster**  
Donna Stidolph  
831.427.3646 [donna@stidolph.com](mailto:donna@stidolph.com)

**Trails Advocacy Representative:**  
Trisha Taniguchi  
619.987.7969 [trishajean6@gmail.com](mailto:trishajean6@gmail.com)



# TENTATIVE NATRC R1 2020 RIDE SCHEDULE

[www.natrcregion1.org](http://www.natrcregion1.org)

May 2	Mt. Diablo Ellen Pofcher Sec: Jessie Simons	Clayton, CA (925) 672-3713 (925) 672-4348	<b>CANCELLED</b>	"B" L <a href="mailto:mtnoaks@earthlink.net">mtnoaks@earthlink.net</a> <a href="mailto:jessiesimons4@aol.com">jessiesimons4@aol.com</a>
July 25-26	Eel River Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Potter Valley, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 217-3582		"A" O/N/CP; "B" O/CP/N/L <a href="mailto:iambrewing@aol.com">iambrewing@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:wolves1961@sbcglobal.net">wolves1961@sbcglobal.net</a>
July 25-26	Lazy Mountain Trail Adventure Cindy Bonine Sec: Claudia Sihler	Palmer, AK (541) 517-2878 (907) 355-2521		"A" O/CP; "B" N/L <a href="mailto:Bonine99@aol.com">Bonine99@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:bettercompanion@gmail.com">bettercompanion@gmail.com</a>
August 22-23	Jackson Forest Summer Steve Meroshnekoff Sec: Maria Pilgrim	Ft. Bragg, CA (707) 743-9973 (707) 217-3582		"A" O/CP/N; "B" O/CP/N/L <a href="mailto:iambrewing@aol.com">iambrewing@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:wolves1961@sbcglobal.net">wolves1961@sbcglobal.net</a>
Sept. 5-6	Cowboy Camp Linda Thomason Sec: Donna Stidolph	Williams, CA (510) 708-1439		"A" O/CP/N; "B" O/N/CP/L <a href="mailto:linda.thomason0610@gmail.com">linda.thomason0610@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:donna@stidolph.cpm">donna@stidolph.cpm</a>
Oct. 3-4	Round Valley Regional Park Gene Boicelli Sec: Linda Thomason	Brentwood, CA (925) 672-6491 (510) 708-1439		"A" O/CP; "B" N LIMIT 45 <a href="mailto:geneboicelli@gmail.com">geneboicelli@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:linda.thomason0610@gmail.com">linda.thomason0610@gmail.com</a>

### North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC)

We told you we were rolling out something **BIG!** Introducing the 2020 NATRC Mileage Challenge and 2020 NATRC Obstacle Challenge! These are non-competitive miles and obstacles, since so many of us are under social-distancing orders right now. Have fun with your horse and earn points for prizes! To enter, write to [natrc@natrc.org](mailto:natrc@natrc.org)

**Mileage Challenge:** Log your miles on a gps May 1--Nov. 1; awards go to the top 6 mileages! \$25 one horse, \$10 for each additional horse ridden.

**Obstacle Challenge:** Enter monthly (\$10) or enter by April 30 to compete in all five months May, June, July, August, September (\$40). A new set of five obstacles will be issued each month. Video yourself and receive feedback/tips from five NATRC judges on EACH obstacle--what a deal! The judging panel will watch each submitted video and score it on a scale of 1-10 and provide feedback/tips. Top 6 points earners across five months will win awards!

All levels of membership can enter! More details on FaceBook North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC) You must be a NATRC member to participate. Remember, we have free annual memberships for first-time members--visit [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org) to join.

Encourage your riding companions to join NATRC and join in on the challenge, even Free Memberships can Participate!!

Take lots of pictures, post on social media and respond to others posts. Let's ride together!!!

# Minutes of the NATRC Region 1 Board of Directors Meeting

Held via Zoom videoconference

12 January 2020

## Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm by Chair, Donna Stidolph

Present: Jamie Dieterich, Sheila Christiansen, Maria Pilgrim, Angie Meroshnekoff, Steve Meroshnekoff, Donna Stidolph, Stephanie Swain, and Linda Thomason

Absent: Lee Cannon (excused)

## Secretary's Report:

Angie moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held 08 September 2019. Linda seconded. All agreed.

Received resume from one candidate for Region 1 Board of Directors election to be held 14 March 2020.

## Treasurer's Report:

Account Balance: 21380.67

2019 year-end expenses exceeded income by \$5000. Will request donations/year end award sponsors.

## Committee Reports:

Physical Resource Coordinator: Linda Thomason – resource list provided via email.

Historian: Donna Stidolph – No update.

Wonder Workers: Steve Meroshnekoff - received volunteer notes from Lee Cannon and will finalize paperwork for 2019 once his computer is repaired. Two hats to be awarded at convention.

Points/Membership: Donna Stidolph – Year-end points finished. Donna signed up as volunteer judge for Trail Trials – will hand out NATRC materials/membership applications to interested parties. On the national level, paid memberships have decreased while free memberships have increased. There have been some conversions, but the numbers are not yet documented. Angie suggested issuing a challenge to each member to bring in one new member this year. Linda will make information cards for members to hand out for the challenge.

Publicity/Outreach Coordinator: Linda Thomason – still need to recruit more help. We've been invited back to Horse Expo May 7-10. Need to investigate further – free booth? Insurance?

The Leadline: Sheila Christiansen – Sheila having too much difficulty with editing – has handed it back to Jamie for now - and will continue to help with content.

National BOD: New budget approved; previous budget exceeded by ~\$13,000. With the overhaul of the organization being done there is “too much to do, too few people to do it”, so things are proceeding at a slower pace. The new website is running, but not up to full speed. New RMS is not ready, so current RMS will continue to be used for 2020. Rule proposals are in *Hoof Print*. Wording will be finalized at the meeting to be held at National Convention in February. If you have suggestions, please submit them soon for consideration.

Region 1 Website: Donna Stidolph – No update; Donna has not yet received ride maps from ride managers/secretaries to be scanned and uploaded to the website. Angie suggested having a Facebook page for each ride (other regions are doing this). Need to get all rides up on the website ASAP.

Ride/Clinic Management: Jamie Dieterich – Debbie Murphy working on date for Cool Leisure ride: possible dates are May 30 or August 15. Leroy agreed to be vet judge for Cowboy Camp ride. Angie proposed having a second benefit ride to be held in the fall (at Cowboy Camp or?) pending recruitment of a ride manager, with Region 1 assuming financial responsibility. Linda seconded. All agreed.

Trails Advocacy Coordinator – Trisha Taniguchi – has provided a trails report which will go out to the membership

Judging Issues – Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich – need more judges.



# Minutes of the NATRC Region 1 Board of Directors Meeting

## Continued

### OLD BUSINESS:

Year-end awards – Procurement of awards in progress. Betty Young will order ribbons and have them sent to Sheila, but will not do perpetual awards. Some issues with engraved name plates, but looks like they will be resolved before convention. Jamie will pick up 100% jackets at National Convention. Gifts to be given to ride chairs this year.

Lynge Groverman (Simoni) offer of \$500 “grant” for putting on a new ride in northern California – need specification of what constitutes a new ride (as opposed to reconstituting an old one). Linda will get list of possible ride sites and send out to BOD members.

Utilization of historic trophies – after further discussion it was decided it would be most appropriate to donate to a 4-H club or therapeutic riding group.

2020 Mini Convention committee – Linda has secured a location at the Lutheran Church in Granite Bay for Saturday, 14 March 2020. Insurance sent in, speakers lined up. Maria will create a sign-up on RMS. Linda to investigate RV camping local to convention location.

Discuss recognition of LeD for Region 1 – per national: awards presentation will be held as soon as possible after conclusion of the ride. Awards may be reiterated at the later awards presentation.

Angie suggested working to have all riders on the trail at the same time to better integrate the divisions. This would need to be done on a ride-by-ride basis, as each location presents different challenges for accomplishing this.

4-H Year-end award – Would this be a high point award? Member, team, or combined ride/volunteer/community service? Linda suggested recognizing any 4-H member who participates as a volunteer, rather than just for competitors. Angie will provide contact information for state 4-H to Linda. Angie moved to have recognition at Region 1 year-end awards through some small gesture – certificate, etc. – all 4-H members who actively volunteer at an NATRC Region 1 event, to be identified by their project leader or other responsible adult. Seconded by Stephanie. All agreed.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Need a platform to formalize volunteer signup on the website for actions that don't necessarily occur during a ride (e.g. trail marking, clearing, ribbon pulling, etc.) – Donna will work on this.

### NEXT MEETING:

Time: Immediately following General Meeting

Date: 14 March 2020

Location: Granite Bay, CA

### CLOSE OF MEETING:

Donna Stidolph moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 pm, seconded by Stephanie Swain. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Stephanie Swain**

THE LEADLINE is the official publication of Region 1 of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC). The Leadline is published three times per year and mailed or emailed to all NATRC Region 1 members. It is available by subscription to non-Region 1 members at \$8 per year. Issues contain updated information from Region 1 committees, ride results, point standings, minutes of board meetings, and the current Region 1 ride schedule. Send subscription requests and payments (made out to NATRC Region 1) to Linda Thomason, 5033 Southside Ranch Rd, Rocklin, CA 95667. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to Karen Smart, 19096 Pine Drive East, Pioneer, CA 95666 or email to [guummer8@volcano.net](mailto:guummer8@volcano.net). NATRC Region 1 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  
 Fall/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 1 members in good standing, one per issue, up to 30 words. Submit ads to the Editor via email or as hard copies via regular mail; hard copies will be scanned as submitted. Make checks payable to NATRC Region 1.

## A Ride to Remember

### By Linda Thomason

Anyone who has ever traveled or ridden with me knows that I have absolutely no sense of direction. I acknowledge this fact, but sometimes I still try to find my own way. There are the good end results and the not so good end results. However, I've learned to live with my directional genetic deficiency and make the best of it. Some of my most fun episodes have been the result of trying to find my way somewhere. And this leads me to my adventure at Swanton, many years ago.

Swanton was one of the most beautiful and adventurous rides Region 1 ever had. It was chaired by a most wonderful woman named Emma McCrary. Those of you who were privileged to know Emma recall that she was a strong pioneer woman who each year blazed new trails for the ride. She prided herself on personally opening up new areas each year so that her friends in NATRC could experience them. She would head out on her trusty steed armed with a chain saw and various trail clearing tools. On occasion, she would stay out for days by herself clearing trail. The McCrary family owned a lumber company that covered thousands of acres in the Santa Cruz mountains near the town of Davenport. So you can begin to picture how wonderful, pristine and challenging these trails were. Not a ride in a park, no signs or road markers. Just Emma's ribbons which she insisted on putting on the opposite side of the trail than all the other rides. It was just Emma! And she could not be persuaded to change.

For the Swanton ride that year I had decided to try to find a "pocket" and ride by myself. I hoped this plan would allow my mare (Sierica) to stay more focused and less reactive. I finally separated myself from "the crowd". My CP class had 16 people and it took me awhile to "lose" them. Later, in the afternoon, Sierica and I were ambling along, enjoying the peace and quiet when I realized that I hadn't seen ribbons in awhile. As I turned the corner I also realized that we were almost back to camp-2 hours early! Yikes, I had taken the wrong turn and followed the wrong set of ribbons back to camp. I turned around and backtracked to the point where I had made the wrong turn and trotted to where the last P&R should be. My heart sank as the P&R crew was nowhere in sight. I realized that I had missed the P&R! Not a good thing in NATRC rides. Feeling very foolish, I realized that I was out of the running to place, so I might as well relax and enjoy the wonderful Swanton Forest. A short time later as I am casually walking past some bushes, Jamie Dieterich, our Horsemanship Judge pops out. After Sierica and I came to a grinding halt, Jamie approached me quite concerned and asked if I knew how late I was? I said yes, but I'd missed the last P&R so I figured I'd just enjoy the day. She excitedly told me that I hadn't missed the P&R, The P&R team was unable to drive to the site due to a downed tree. If I really hustled, I might be able to make it to camp on time. So much for a relaxing afternoon ride! Sierica and I took off and trotted/cantered the last 3 miles into camp. We weaved our way on this great single track through the woods having a wonderful time. Note: helmets are also very handy when you're whipping through tree branches.

As we turned the corner into camp (again!) we charged through the creek and bounded into camp. There stood the P&R team waiting for me. Yikes! Had to stop and do the P&R immediately. I was feeling sorry for my poor mare who had just raced the past few miles. However she usually had great P&R's and was in good condition, so I hugged her and hoped for the best. Her pulse ended up a 10 and her respiration was 3. Gotta love those Arabs (at times)!

As we walked back to our trailer, I realized that no matter what I scored, we'd just had one of the most fun rides of the year. I learned a lot - like paying more attention to ribbons - especially Emma's ribbons! In the future when I tried to find my own "pocket" to ride in, I would have to be more careful and perhaps try to keep an occasional horse in view. Or maybe I should just admit my shortcomings and realize that Swanton was not the place to go it alone. Leave that for a park with markers and signs!

Moral of the story: sometimes when you've messed up, it can be fun, you can learn from it and come away with some great memories and stories. So don't expect every ride to be perfect. I always figured if my horse and I came into camp together, in one piece, it was a successful ride! Don't expect your horse to always be the wonderful steed you ride at home. Just chill, enjoy the ride and the camaraderie. Years down the road, you'll laugh, but you'll realize that you've become a better rider, a better partner to your horse. Life with horses is about the journey, continuously improving as a rider and understanding your horse better. That's what's important. The ribbons and trophies are nice, but they're just frosting on the cake, not the real reason we ride. So, head on down the trails and make some memories!

PS: On that ride we were overtime by a few minutes, so with penalty points we didn't place. But what the heck! We had a great time and I will always remember this ride!



## 2019 Ride Photos

Thanks to Kimberly Naugle - Photographer!



Aubrey Fansler  
Jackson Forest



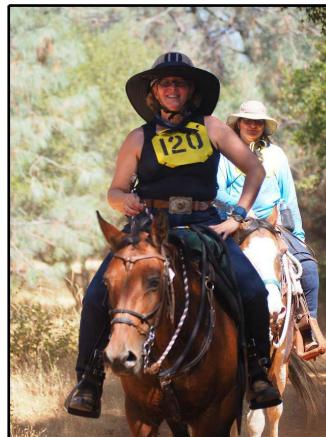
Chesney Kelly  
Round Valley



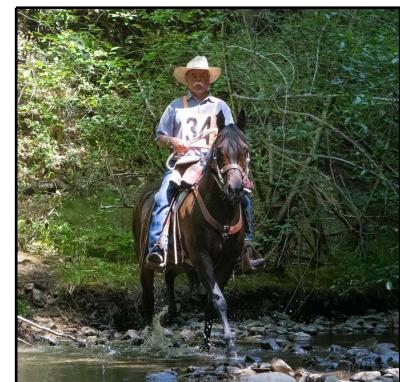
Debbie Murphy  
Round Valley



Maria Pilgrim  
Cowboy Camp



Penny Schatzel  
Cool Canyon



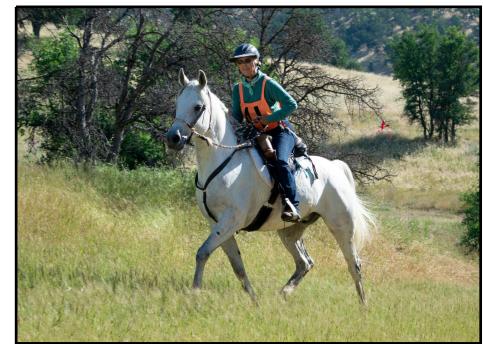
Ron York  
Jackson Forest



Clair Cichocki  
Jackson Forest



Heather O'Donnell  
Round Valley



Ashley Dillard  
Cowboy Camp



Kimberly Naugle  
Cowboy Camp

Junior Photos, Claire Cichocki, Anais Monlux, Natalie Niderost, Chesney Kelly and Aubrey Fansler are used with permission.

## Region 1 Mini-Convention & Awards Luncheon

### Credits:

R1 Mini-Convention: Linda Thomason

### Sponsors

#### Diamond (\$200 - \$499):

Robyn Berwick

#### Gold (\$100-\$199)

Aaron Niderost – Open Juniors

#### Silver (\$50-\$99)

Michelle Bodnar

Joe and Ashley Dillard

Linda Thomason



### National Sponsors: Be sure to thank and support our national sponsors.

Chiggerville Farms

The Distance Depot

EquistriSafe

Equisure

Renegade Hoof Boots

Riding Warehouse

Slypner Gear

Specialized Saddles

Sports Saddle

### 2019 R1 BOD - with thanks and appreciation

Lee Cannon, Sheila Christiansen, Jamie Dieterich (NBOD), Angie Meroshnekoff (NBOD), Steve Meroshnekoff, Maria Pilgrim, Donna Stidolph, Stephanie Swain, Linda Thomason (Alt. NBOD)

**LL Editor:** Karen Smart

**Webmaster:** Donna Stidolph

### R1 Ride Chairs 2019 - with gratitude and appreciation

CMDTRA - Ellen Pofcher

Cowboy Camp - Linda Thomason and Jean Armer

Eel River and Jackson Forest - Steve Meroshnekoff

Challenge of the North - Laurie Knuutila

Cool Canyon Leisure - Debbie Murphy

Round Valley – Gene Boicelli

### Region 1 Appreciation Certificates

#### Kimberly Naugle – by Donna Stidolph

Kimberly Naugle started her “NATRC career” as a volunteer at Round Valley, helping set up trails. That got her interested enough so she showed up for the ride and took pictures. Wonderful pictures, showing both the beauty of ride locale and the beauty of the relationships that our riders and horses have. I guess after watching us once, she figured we needed someone to capture our activities, and she’s been to many rides since, both as a participant and as a photographer, and sometimes both. And she has brought friends along to introduce them to our sport. Kimberly has never been seen with anything but a smile on her face - so I think she’s having a good time, and I hope she continues on this path. As a rider and wannabe photographer, I appreciate her great eye and her great attitude. Thanks, Kimberly!

#### Maria Pilgrim – by Linda Thomason

I think I was probably chosen to write this appreciation award since Maria and I often find ourselves in the same predicament: Unable to say no. You’d think someone with such a great speaking voice would be able to do it, but we are fortunate she does NOT.

## Region 1 Mini-Convention Continued

Maria has emceed not only national convention awards programs, but nearly every Region 1 mini-convention and its awards program for many years. She been ride secretary for Cowboy Camp (2011), Lake Mendocino (2012-2015), Jackson Forest (since 2008), and Eel River (2018-2020). She has been a long-time RMS administrator and on the R1 BOD since 2018.

In addition to competing, Maria can now be seen on the trail mentoring adults and juniors. At the rides, she always has a smile on her face and is one of the first people to greet you and make you feel welcome. Region 1 would like to honor one of its Wonder Women. Thank you Maria for all you do.

### **Debbie Murphy – by Jamie Dieterich**

Debbie Murphy attended an NATRC "How To" clinic in March of 2000. After that, with guidance from Marilyn Hunter, she started competing and placed high in the Novice and Competitive Pleasure Divisions.

She helped with the R1 2002 Convention and served on the R1 Board of Directors. Debbie put on a clinic, and the manual has since been used not only in R1 but in clinics across the nation. She managed the Folsom Lake CTR from 2002-2004, and her organizing skills are shown in the management timeline in the current NATRC Management Manual. She has promoted NATRC at the Western States Horse Expo several times.

In her typical "great gusto" fashion, Debbie's newest promotion is that of the Leisure Division in R1. She's an approved judge and puts on the stand-alone Cool Canyon LeD Ride.

Region 1 thanks Debbie Murphy.

Jessica Monlux

### **LEISURE DIVISION TEAM**

1. Lola 3	gd	Jessica Monlux
2. Mama	gd	Penny Schatzel

### **R1 NOVICE LIGHTWEIGHT – HORSEMANSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Heather O'Donnell
-----------------	-------------------



### **R1 NOVICE JUNIOR – HORSEMANSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Anais Monlux
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chesney Kelly
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Aubrey Fansler
4 <sup>th</sup>	Maren Petersen



### **R1 NOVICE LIGHTWEIGHT – HORSE**

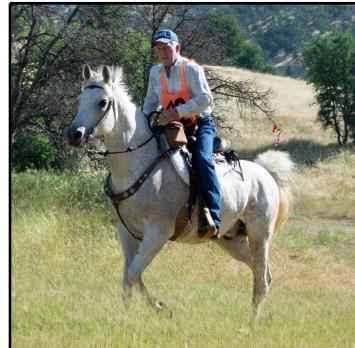
1 <sup>st</sup>	TKR Leather N Lace	har	Stephanie Swain
2 <sup>nd</sup>	First Flyte	ar	Megan Zimmerman, Shusha Ryerson
3 <sup>rd</sup>	BlackCat	ang-ar	Heather O'Donnell, Susha Ryerson

Stephanie Swain

### **R1 NOVICE JUNIOR - HORSE**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sugar Roan Warrior	qh	Anais Monlux
2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Sundance Kid HGR	mft	Maren Petersen
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucky Eddie	gr	Chesney Kelly
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rocket	gr	Aubrey Fansler

Joe Dillard



### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HEAVYWEIGHT - HORSEMANSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Joe Dillard
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kris Skoog
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ron York

## Region 1 Mini-Convention Continued

### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE LIGHTWEIGHT – HORSEMANSHIP**

1<sup>st</sup> Debbie York  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ashley Dillard



Debbie York

### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HEAVYWEIGHT - HORSE**

1 <sup>st</sup>	OM El Shakeeb Dream	ar	Joe Dillard
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cledith's Driver	tw	Kris Skoog
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pipi	gr	Maria Pilgrim
4 <sup>th</sup>	MK Vangouh	ar	Ron York

### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE LIGHTWEIGHT - HORSE**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Om El Bilbao	ar	Debbie York
2 <sup>nd</sup>	OM El Sharav	ar	Ashley Dillard

### **R1 OPEN LIGHTWEIGHT - HORSEMANSHIP**

1<sup>st</sup> Angie Meroshnekoff



Angie Meroshnekoff

### **R1 OPEN JUNIOR - HORSEMANSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Natalie Niderost
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Claire Cichocki



Natalie Niderost

### **R1 OPEN LIGHTWEIGHT - HORSE**

1 <sup>st</sup>	High Desert Warrior	must	Angie Meroshnekoff
-----------------	---------------------	------	--------------------

### **R1 OPEN JUNIOR - HORSE**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Spantik Maj	ar	Natalie Niderost
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Desert Whiskey	must	Claire Cichocki

### **REGION 1 HIGH-POINT BREED AWARDS:**

Created by Angie Meroshnekoff

<b>Arabian:</b>	OM El Shakeeb Dream / Joe Dillard
<b>Anglo-Arab</b>	BlackCat / Heather O'Donnell
<b>Missouri Fox Trotter</b>	The Sundance Kid HGR / Mauren Petersen
<b>Mustang</b>	High Desert Warrior / Angela Meroshnekoff
<b>Quarter Horse</b>	Sugar Roan Warrior / Anais Monlux
<b>TW</b>	Cledith's Driver / Kris Skoog
<b>Grade</b>	Pipi / Maria Pilgrim

### **R1 100% CLUB**

For attending all R1 2019 rides as rider or volunteer and the R1 Awards in Reno.  
Angie Meroshnekoff, Maria Pilgrim, Donna Stidolph

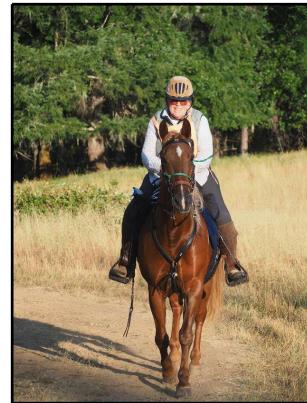
### **R1 SPECIAL AWARDS**

#### **R1 BOB SMITH AWARD**

#### **High Point 1st year Novice or CP Horse**

When his wife excitedly told him about NATRC in 1961, his comment was, "Well, do it right. Spend the time in training and conditioning as you would any other horse sport. Don't rush them, and your finished horse will go soundly and happily down the trail into his twenties.

**Sugar Roan Warrior / Anais Monlux**



Kris Skoog

## Region 1 Mini-Convention Continued

### **R1 PAT ERSEPKE AWARD**

#### **High Point Novice Horse/Rider combo**

Pat's competed on a horse named "Papoose." Her joy of the sport and enthusiasm were contagious. She said, "Papoose has reinforced by appreciation for people, nature and animals in my life....If I could live any time over again, it would be the first year we shared as Novices."

**Sugar Roan Warrior / Anais Monlux**

### **R1 FRAN & CAROL DUPORT AWARD**

#### **High Point 1st year Open Horse**

Fran and Carol exhibited, first and foremost, a true love for their horses. They always remembered to have fun while still remaining competitive. They rode in all divisions, encouraging junior, first time competitors, and fellow competitors alike. They understood the time and patience it takes to ride a first-year horse to award level.

**High Desert Warrior / Angie Meroshnekoff**

### **AWARDS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

*Presented February 15, 2020, at the National Awards Banquet, San Antonio, TX*

#### **TEAM AWARDS – R1 Sponsored by Region1**

Team awards recognize combined horse and horsemanship. All points for rides in which the same horse and rider combination competed are added together. At least three rides must be completed to qualify for annual awards.

#### **R1 NOVICE LIGHTWEIGHT TEAM**

1<sup>st</sup> BlackCat / ang-ar      Heather O'Donnell

#### **R1 NOVICE JUNIOR TEAM**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sugar Roan Warrior / gtr	Anais Monlux
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucky Eddie / gd	Chesney Kelly
3 <sup>rd</sup>	The Sundance Kid HGR / mft	Maren Petersen
4 <sup>th</sup>	Rocket / gd	Aubrey Fansler

#### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE HEAVYWEIGHT TEAM**

1 <sup>st</sup>	OM El Shakeeb Dream / ar	Joe Dillard
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cledith's Driver / tw	Kris Skoog
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MK Vangouh / ar	Ron York
4 <sup>th</sup>	Pipi / gd	Maria Pilgrim

#### **R1 COMPETITIVE PLEASURE LIGHTWEIGHT TEAM**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Om El Bilbao / ar	Debbie York
2 <sup>nd</sup>	OM El Sharav / ar	Ashley Dillard

#### **R1 OPEN LIGHTWEIGHT TEAM**

1 <sup>st</sup>	High Desert Warrior / must	Angie Meroshnekoff
-----------------	----------------------------	--------------------

#### **R1 OPEN JUNIOR TEAM**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Spantik Maj / ar	Natalie Niderost
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Desert Whiskey / must	Claire Cichocki

#### **NATIONAL OPEN JUNIOR HORSE AND OPEN JUNIOR HORSEMANSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Spantik Maj / ar	Natalie Niderost
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Desert Whiskey / must	Claire Cichocki

# NATIONAL SPONSORS



We appreciate and applaud our sponsors. Their support helps us succeed. By buying products and services from these companies, you are supporting the sport you love!



## The Leadline

Sheila Christiansen  
13040 Ivie Road  
Herald, CA 95638

