

# The Leadline

The Voice of NATRC Region 1 Competitive Trail Riding



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

Summer 2015

## *In This Issue...*

Letter to the Membership.....	2
2016 Convention Info.....	3
Mt. Diablo Spring Ride.....	4
Region 1 Trail News July....	4
Round Valley Ride 2015.....	5
Region 1 BOD Vacancies...	6
Thank You, Leroy.....	6
From the Editor.....	7
Ride Calendar.....	7
NBOD Candidate Resumé.....	8
Region 1 Trail News Aug....	9
Region 1 BOD Meeting Minutes.....	10
More Region 1 BOD Meeting Minutes.....	12
Photos From the Alaska Ride.....	13
NATRC Membership Form.....	14



## Region 1...

...as diverse  
as they  
come!

## Come Ride With Us!



### **Top Photo:**

Riders Karen Kafka  
on Smokey Sedona  
and Briana Floyd on  
Rocky at the  
Round Valley ride in  
California.

Photo by Kimberly Naugle, with  
permission.



### **Bottom Photo:**

Riders take a break  
at a foggy, wet P&R  
stop at the  
Challenge of the  
North ride in  
Alaska.

Photo by Mike Peralaz, DVM,  
with permission.

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See [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org) for National Board,  
Committees, and Secretaries

*Letter to the Membership...*

We are well into the ride season now, and we have had a good year so far - no one injured, and horses are all doing well with the hot weather and dry conditions. There is only one ride in our region left, but you may consider checking out rides in other regions as they can be a lot of fun, and a little change is always good.

Something to think about when you're watering your horse in camp and out on trail, and that is to try to use your own bucket or water bag rather than letting your horse drink from a common trough. I know the big water tub looks good, and the horse may be very thirsty, but diseases can spread by using a common trough, and no one wants a sick horse.

Coming into the P&R is always a concern for me as that is my thing. When you get your P&R card, try to get in line (pull the saddle if you choose to), loosen that cinch, and let the horse get some well needed rest. If your horse is not standing still and resting, it may be something to work on at home. It does become a problem for the P&R crew if they have a hard time with a horse moving around making the job a challenge to get the numbers on that horse and the horses around them. Always safety first.

At a P&R stop, I always say "get it and get out," but remember the horse next to you might be in the middle of being checked, so look around before you decide to move out.

Take care, and as always, if you have a concern please contact myself or any of the board members. We are always here for you.

Region 1 Chair,

*Steve Meroshnekoff*

**100% Club**

Join R1's 100% Club. If you attend all 2015 rides as a rider or a volunteer AND you attended the Davis Event in March, you can be a member of the R1 100% club and receive an embroidered blue fleece jacket.



Anyone may buy a similar green jacket. Details for ordering will be in the Winter Leadline.

# NATRC National Convention 2016

## Reno, Nevada



*Enjoy the excitement  
of Reno!  
Fun for the  
whole family!*

*E-Blasts will be sent out with updates of convention information. Stay tuned for details. Watch the R1 and NATRC websites ([www.natrcregion1.org](http://www.natrcregion1.org) and [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org)).*

**NATRC Region 1**  
**[www.natrcregion1.org](http://www.natrcregion1.org)**

**Region 1 is hosting the  
2016 National NATRC Convention  
with the AERC Convention  
on February 19-20 at the  
Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada.**

Please mark this date on your calendars. The convention is a bit earlier than usual for 2016, so plan ahead for a fun-filled weekend in "The Biggest Little City." Rooms will be available at a discount for NATRC attendees. As soon as pricing is confirmed, an E-Blast will be sent. The Grand Sierra Resort has something for the entire family: bowling, theatres, stores, gaming, nearby skiing and of course the NATRC/AERC vendors and convention guest speakers.

Region 1 2015 awards will be presented at a Sunday morning awards breakfast, whereas National NATRC awards will be presented at the Saturday night awards banquet.

We need volunteers, so please consider helping out - everyone is welcome! This is the perfect opportunity to support the sport you love. Family members and non-riders can join in the fun AND volunteer. Contact Maria Pilgrim or Linda Thomason. Stay tuned for additional information.

**Maria Pilgrim (707) 795-8163**  
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## MT. DIABLO SPRING RIDE

by Kay Liberknecht

When “my kids” and I talk about this year’s Mt Diablo ride, we just say it was perfect - the trail marking, the timing, the food, the awards, the raffle (well, I’m always crabby about raffles, so “perfect” means I only grouched once). Even the weather was perfect!

The hills were green and golden under a sunny blue sky, and brightly colored wildflowers were beautiful. At the lunch break at Diablo Ranch there was hay and water for everyone. Although my kids were not into eating the hay, the horses were glad to eat anyone else’s share. Oh yeah, did I men-

tion that the food was perfect? The spaghetti dinner is so special on Fridays, every year, and then the barbeque on Saturdays – mmmm!

“Perfect” doesn’t come without a lot of taking in of feedback over all these years that this ride has been put on. Personally, Mt Diablo is my favorite ride because I’ve given feedback to the wonderful ride management many times, and it’s been taken very well. Changes were carefully thought out and tried out, and boy, they’ve been working!

Our favorite part of the ride is actually going through the Mercury Pond – the leaps! Or maybe the careful sniff, followed by slow, high steps. In any case, it’s one of those healthy risk situations that kids need to experience, right? I remember one year I had to somehow ride around it – my horse

totally refused. And that was OK too! What flexibility and resourcefulness is available among those who put on rides!

We enjoyed the long trotting opportunities, with bouncing tails and posting girls and exclamations of joy and wonder! The variety of terrain is remarkable, with everything from switchbacks to meadows to chaparral vistas. The obstacles were appropriate to the various divisions, and especially our horsemanship judge was supportive and able to teach as we faced challenges.

It seems like a long time until next May, like we’ll be longing for the Mt. Diablo ride to happen way before it can. I suppose that’ll give us time to get our horses in shape for this not-so-easy ride.

## Trail News

Presented by Trisha Taniguchi, Region 1 Trail Advocate

Trail News • July 2015 • [www.natrcregion1.org](http://www.natrcregion1.org)



A few of our fellow NATRC members volunteering at the 2014 Tevis Cup 100 mile ride. Far right is horsemanship judge, Karel Waugh. Support of this event helps to maintain over 100 miles of trails that equestrians have historically used from Truckee to Auburn.

### Portola Valley Trails

For those of you who ride in the bay area, the trails of the El Mirador Farm are still open despite the ongoing work on the property. However, the Woodside Trail Club would like to remind us to be aware of the repairs, downed tree clean up, and other users while enjoying the trails at this time. They have asked that riders continue to be courteous of the property owners and to stay on the marked trails along the way.

### Santa Cruz Rail Trail

There have been talks of developing a trail along the railroad in Santa Cruz County that would accommodate hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Region 1 representatives have been actively involved in meetings held by the SCC Regional Transportation Commission regarding this project. A draft report is now available online for viewing and providing your input.

More about this project found here: <http://www.sccrtc.org/projects/rail/pas-senger-rail/>

### Large Animal Rescue- East Bay

Many of you might have heard of the devastating horse-related accidents that have occurred in the East Bay over the last few months. Horses have fallen down treacherous trails while others have been involved in fatal vehicle collisions. In both situations, large animal rescue equipment was needed, but not available.

As a result, the East Bay Regional Parks District has initiated a fundraising effort with the goal of purchasing the

equipment necessary for large animal rescue. They intend to use part of the donations to provide annual training for their first responders that would be responsible for use of the rescue equipment as well.

To donate to this cause, please visit the below link and specify that it is for “Emperor’s Fund for large animal rescue equipment”:

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

# Round Valley Ride 2015

Story and Photos By  
Linda Thomason  
RV Ride Secretary

Twenty-seven hardy riders enjoyed the Round Valley Regional Park's peaks and valleys on June 6-7, 2015. The weather gods were kind and the temperatures didn't get too high. The park service mowed under the trees and we were again allowed to camp in some shady areas, which was much appreciated by both horses and riders. Round Valley trails cover terrain within the Morgan Territory watershed land and a few sections in private property. Once on top, there are great



Chris Heath pounding stakes.

views of the San Francisco Bay, Livermore Valley, and on a clear day you can see the Sierras looming in the distance. A challenging but rewarding ride. Weeks of preparation go into putting on rides. Gene and Vicki Boicelli and Chris Heath and a host of other volunteers were out there checking trails, working on the camp site and putting up ribbons. While it was fun, it's many hours of preparing for that ONE weekend. Many thanks to all the volunteers - those of you who timed the trails, drove the judges, secretaried for the judges, timers, Rules Interpreter, P&R crews and a host of others who truly don't get

enough pats on the back! You are the reason these rides happen, and you all are the "wind beneath" the ride manager's wings. Thank You, Thank You!!

Round Valley ride enjoyed a visit from four Region 2 riders from Arizona who had banded together to compete in multiple rides in CA. Many thanks for including us in your journey. The Arizona contingent brought one mule, our own Marilyn the Mule from Region 1 competed, and our two safety riders rode mules. It was great fun (but loud at times) to have four mules in camp. I had intended to get all four together for a picture but sadly missed the opportunity!

This year at Round Valley, Gene Boicelli had some surprises in store for us. As we enjoyed the traditional Mexican dinner on Saturday evening, we were entertained by Rachel Smith who had won a national fiddle championship in 2013. Rachel is a student of the Berkeley School of Music and is completing her degree this year. She also competes in dressage and 3-day eventing on her Norwegian Fjord horse, "Cinco de Mayo". It was delightful to enjoy our dinner and listen to Celtic music on a warm summer evening. It added a great ambiance to the evening that we seldom get to enjoy "roughing it at the rides."

After dinner, Gene surprised us again! He raffled off one week at his time share in Hawaii as a fund raiser for the Round Valley ride. Neil and Kitty Weber (our wonderful, long time timers) had the winning ticket.

They will enjoy April 1-8 2016 at The Point Resort, Poipu beach, on the lovely garden island of Kauai. What a delightful surprise from Gene and Vicki, and it couldn't have been won by a more deserving couple. Neil stated that he's always promised to take Kitty to Hawaii and never made it. Now they are excitedly planning their Hawaii trip. ALOHA to Neil and Kitty!!

This year's Round Valley ride was unusual in that we had entertainment and a Hawaii raffle. However this ride is always great, mostly due to Gene and Vicki and their wonderful neighbor, Chris Heath (famous rattler eliminator). Chris is the guy in camp with a great smile who is always on the move, working hard to help



Gene Boicelli hanging ribbons.

make the ride a success. Chris and Gene unloaded tons (literally) of rock to fill in holes, patrolled the area to eliminate any unwanted snakes, trucked in water- well you get the picture. To those of you who have never ridden at Round Valley- join us next year. Yes, it's a challenging ride. Yes, some years it can get toasty. BUT it's a fun ride and we have a GREAT time! Join us in 2016 and "soar with the eagles" at Round Valley.



Rachel Smith playing her fiddle on Saturday night.



Horsemanship Award, Round Valley 2015.



## Region 1 Board of Directors Vacancies

Two 3-year terms on the Region 1 Board of Directors are up for election. Any member wishing to be nominated to run for one of these seats needs to submit a short resumé to the R1 Recording Secretary, **Stephanie Swain, prior to January 1**. Stephanie's contact information is in the Roster and in this issue.

The health of our organization requires the regular addition of new faces to the BOD to get new energy and ideas. If you would like to give back to our sport and could consider devoting some time and energy to participating in its management (there are only four regular meetings each year), please consider submitting your resumé for consideration.

Votes will be cast and counted at our annual meeting held at the National Convention in Reno, NV, February 21, 2016. If you cannot attend, you may request a ballot from Stephanie Swain. She must receive it back before the meeting.



## Thank You, Leroy

By Kay Lieberknecht

I wanted to share with you how Leroy handled some needs my horse, Feathers, had at the Round Valley ride. I knew she wasn't in super good shape and that she pants a lot when it's hot. After one P&R that was supposed to just be a trot-by, Steve (P&R captain extraordinaire) had alerted me that he wanted Leroy to pay attention to Feathers' elevated respirations, and Leroy did everything to check that all was fine.

At the end of the first day, her pulse was 56 at the half-hour check back, and Leroy had me bring her back after he was done with everyone else. The pulse was still elevated, and he confirmed my suspicion that she was off in the rear. Massaging the muscles down the rear (below the tail) that function to extend the leg made her upset, so I went back to Leroy who had me back her up. She appeared uncertain in placing that foot – a brilliant way to confirm her problem. I did a lot of massage that night, iced the area, and by morning she showed no pain and her pulse was fine. During the day, I felt her hesitate for a couple of steps going uphill, something Leroy had warned me would be the hardest thing. At the half-hour check out at the end of the day, she was grade two lame, which I felt really sorry about.

She's gotten plenty of rest since then, me having less than adequate opportunity to ride her. She is totally sound, spunky, and we'll see how she does at Jackson Forest!

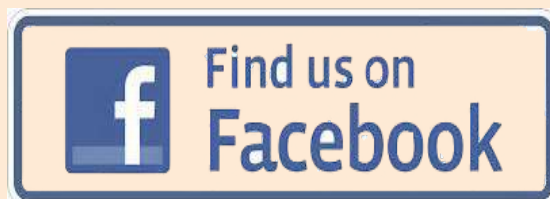
With this rather crabby horse, Leroy was so attentive, caring and respectfully knowledgeable, I just really appreciated him a lot. One of my girls told me after the Round Valley ride that she enjoyed Leroy's humorous comments to her, that he'd been very supportive to her too. It's great to share about this positive experience and good outcome!

Thank you, Leroy!



Dr. Leroy Burnham, DVM

[Region 1 has a  
Facebook  
Page!](#)



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NATRC  
Region 1](#)

### From the Editor...

I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone enjoying summer and getting in lots of saddle time! I've gotten some myself the last few months.

I volunteered to take on the editing of this newsletter several years ago, and I've enjoyed putting it together. As I review back issues, it's fun to look at the photos from past rides and read about everyone's adventures on the trails. But I've also noticed that, as the time has gone by, more and more of the content of the newsletter has been left up to me.

To come up with newsletter content, I've scoured the Web to find articles about trail riding, horse care, etc. that I felt would be of interest to the folks of Region 1. I've included articles and photos from our Alaska rides, and when I've been able to get them, I've included photos and stories from the rides in Region 1.

And therein lies the problem. For the past several issues, I haven't received much in the way of material to include in the newsletter. Coming up with articles on my own is time consum-

ing and takes away from my enjoyment of being the Editor.

Additionally, I sort of have to guess at what you, as members of Region 1, would like to have included in your newsletter. This is not MY newsletter, it is YOUR newsletter, and I need YOUR input, suggestions and feedback to keep it YOUR newsletter and not MY newsletter.

When I volunteered to be the Editor, I budgeted a certain amount of my time to compile, design and publish this newsletter. But as more and more of the content has been left up to me, it has gotten way over budget on the time thing. So, if I am to continue as the Editor, I need to bring this newsletter back into its time budget, and that's where you, as the members of Region

1, come in. If you send me things to include in the newsletter, it takes me a whole lot less time to put it together for your reading enjoyment. I would like you to send me photos, stories, and even if you just have a suggestion of a subject related to competitive trail riding that you'd like to know more about, send me that too. If I have a subject, finding information on that subject is a whole lot less time consuming.

This issue does have some ride stories and some photos from around the region. And I certainly appreciate receiving them. But they were received well after the submission deadline, which partially accounts for why this issue is late in getting to everyone.

Even if you don't send me submissions for the newsletter, I still need to balance the time budget if I'm to continue as the Editor and you know what that means? That means that your newsletter will include only board meeting minutes and other regional business information, like a ride schedule. How boring is that? I don't think that's what you want in YOUR newsletter. I'm counting on you to come through for me!

See you on the trail!

*Laurie Knuutila*



My horses enjoying their pasture as rain clouds gather.

## Region 1 2015 Ride Schedule

<http://www.natrcregion1.org/>

**Sept. 26-27 Lake Mendocino**  
Steve Meroshnekoff  
Sec: Maria Pilgrim

Ukiah, CA  
(707) 743-9973  
(707) 795-8163

"A" O/N/CP; "B" N  
[iambrewing@aol.com](mailto:iambrewing@aol.com)  
[wolves1961@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wolves1961@sbcglobal.net)

**Sept. 26-27 Jackson Forest Fall Ride**  
Steve Meroshnekoff  
Sec: Maria Pilgrim

Ft. Bragg  
(707) 743-9973  
(707) 795-8163

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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 Phil Young, 2384 Templeton Dr, Redding, CA 96002. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to Laurie Knuutila, 455 Ream Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99712 or email to [wildroseph@yahoo.com](mailto:wildroseph@yahoo.com). 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.

## **RESUMÉ**

### ***FOR NOMINATION to NATRC NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

#### ***Three-Year Term – 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 **October 1, 2015**.

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, qualifications, related interests and what you would like to do for NATRC. Be brief and please limit it to 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 Chair.

Results of the election will be presented at the fall meeting of the National Board of Directors. If elected, your 3-year term will begin in January.

As a member of the NATRC Board of Directors, you will be expected to attend the National Board meetings held three times a year. As a dual director serving also on the Region 1 Board of Directors, you will be expected to attend four meetings a year. Expenses related to the National Board meetings are largely borne by the Region, but you will have out-of-pocket expenses.

Thank you for your interest in serving 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 October 1, 2015, to:***

*Jim Ferris*  
8720 Eden Ct, Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
541/ 205-5269      *jim.c.ferris@gmail.com*



# Trail News

Presented by Trisha Taniguchi, Region 1 Trail Advocate



An impressive group of open riders at the Round Valley ride this past June. To see more wonderful photos taken by Kimberly Naugle, search for NATRC Region 1 on Facebook!

## Securing Trails for the Future

Lucky for us, many areas in our region have recently announced their successes in securing trails for equestrians and other recreationists now and in the future. For instance, the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region was declared a National Monument, promising public access to this area for generations to come. The American River Conservancy just announced their acquisition of the 10,000 acre Granite Chief Wilderness which will guarantee us access to beautiful trails

along the American River.

Meanwhile, Concord Hills is a new regional park being developed. They are hosting public meetings to get an idea of how the land should be used. It is opportunities like this where a NATRC presence would be crucial to ensure that equestrians have a say and keep their privilege of accessing different trails. If you have the time to attend one of their meetings, please do! Riders will thank you for years to come!

## Catching Fire...

As the drought and bark beetles continue to cause high fire hazards in our region, wildfires ravage many of the trails we know and love. Cowboy Camp, where we hold a benefit ride each May, is among one of the areas that has burned recently and is now closed. Before heading out to ride, be sure to check the Cal Fire website and/or with your local park to ensure that the area is safe to ride in. While riding, be alert! And for other fire safety tips for equine owners, consider checking out online resources.

## Last Ride of the Season!

Don't forget to send in your entry for the **Jackson Forest Fall Ride**! This will be our last ride of 2015! Angie, Maria, and crew have been hard at work preparing new trails and timing the ride among many other tasks. Come on out to enjoy the fantastic scenery the Jackson Demonstration Forest has to offer amid the wonderful company of your fellow NATRC riders and volunteers.

THANK YOU to everyone who makes these fabulous rides possible!



## Upcoming Events:

- September 2-7  
EBHT Benefit Hike & Ride  
Alameda, CA
- September 16-20  
WANAC Stone Cellar  
Loon Lake, CA
- September 26-27  
**NATRC R1 JACKSON  
FOREST FALL RIDE**  
Fort Bragg, CA
- October 3-4  
NATRC R2 RAHA Rally  
San Diego, CA
- October 3  
GDET Poker Ride  
Georgetown, CA
- October 30-November 1  
NATRC R2 Sage Hill  
Santa Maria, CA



Hailey Schlerf and Doodah try their hand at (and totally rock!) endurance at the Fireworks ride in between NATRC events this July.

## Minutes of the NATRC Region 1 BOD Meeting - March 14, 2015

The meeting was held at Davis, California.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am by Acting Chair, Linda Thomason.

Present: Stephanie Swain, Phil Young, Linda Thomason, Angie Meroshnekoff, Steve Meroshnekoff, Gene Boicelli, Jamie Dieterich and Laura Harvey

Absent: Davern Kroncke (excused)

Guests: Jean Armer, Betty Young, Vicki Boicelli

### Board of Directors Election Results

Davern Kroncke

Phil Young

### Junior Representative Election Results

Karlie Johnson

Kirsten Johnson – Alternate

### Election of Officers:

Secretary: Angie Meroshnekoff nominated Stephanie Swain for Secretary; Jamie Dieterich seconded. All agreed.

Treasurer: Jamie Dieterich nominated Phil Young for Treasurer; Angie Meroshnekoff seconded. All agreed.

Chairman: Angie Meroshnekoff nominated Steve Meroshnekoff for Chairman; Gene Boicelli seconded. All agreed.

Alternate Chairman: Stephanie Swain nominated Gene Boicelli for Alternate Chair; Linda Thomason seconded. All agreed.

### Secretary's Report:

Linda Thomason moved to accept the Minutes of the meetings held 22 June 2014 (revision) and 11 January 2015.

### Treasurer's Report:

There was a total of \$880 in Region 1 dues from National for 2014; \$280 of that was from Region 1A. It was agreed upon to continue passing Region 1A Membership dues back to Region 1A (as if it were a separate organization).

There was a discussion regarding reimbursement of expenses for NBOD meetings, including airfare, per diem, mileage to/from airport, parking, hotel. Angie stated that most of the hotels have complimentary breakfast.

Stephanie moved to change from a per diem to reimbursing for actual expenses (with receipts) up to \$40.00/24 hours, based on Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon being two 24-hour periods. Linda seconded. All agreed.

NBOD members must demonstrate due diligence/prudence/common sense in purchasing airfare; reimbursement of airfare expenses are subject to approval of the board.

Six Juniors were qualified for ride fee reimbursement in 2014; only four requested it.

Will try to make qualifications more prominently displayed throughout ride season. A suggestion was made to have a Junior Fund donation "can" at rides/events. Angie to be in charge of donation can.

Conclusion: Keep Junior reimbursement plan the same for 2015.

2015 Budget Projection: \$4635 (see detailed report)

Need signature card for bank account signed by Treasurer, Secretary and Chair. Bring Minutes with election of officers to bank. Steve and Stephanie will meet and go to Bank of America to sign card, then send by mail to Phil.

Laura moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; Linda seconded. All agreed.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Physical Resource Coordinator:** Linda Thomason. The coffee pots and NATRC tablecloth have been located and returned to Linda.

**Historian:** Laura has received the boxes of historical items/information from Jamie.

**Wonder Workers:** Steve Meroshnekoff. There is the possibility of new hats.

**Points/Membership:** Jamie has historical points/membership data files from Jim Ferris in Excel format going back to 1991, including horse/rider mileage and membership information.

**Publicity:** Linda Thomason. Written report.

**Benefit Ride:** Application is in to BLM. Date is set for May 15-17. Laura Harvey will be Ride Secretary. Judges: Leroy Burnham, DVM and Nancy Kasovich.

**The Leadline:** Phil will remind Jim Ferris to mail rosters this year. LL deadline 4/15 (see master calendar).

**National BOD:** Angie Meroshnekoff Rules/Rulebook proposed changes. Final wording at July NBOD meeting.

Hoof/leg protection – optional boot accessory above coronet or wraps/socks under boot not allowed. Not a change, just a clarification of what is already in place.

CP National Championship qualification - proposed to change from 12 ride/75 points to either 12 rides/65 points or 16 rides/75

points. R1 votes to keep current requirement. All agreed.

Novice eligibility - no judge, riders having won prestigious awards, or riders with 3,000 or more miles may compete a horse in Novice for awards. R1 votes YES. All agreed.

For the purpose of clarification, change language "Safety Riders" to "Safety Personnel" as some rides use ATVs. Also change language "follow riders" to "available on trail to assist riders in the event of an emergency." R1 votes YES. All agreed.

For the purpose of cleaning up the Rulebook, remove superfluous statement regarding award qualifications. R1 votes YES. All agreed.

For the purpose of making information more visible, "Horses receiving award...during the ride year..." add: "the ride year will end immediately after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in November." R1 votes YES. All agreed.

Establishing a National High Point Novice award - R1 votes NO. All agreed.

Suggestions made to promote NATRC:

- Each Region do print ads to attract new riders, establishing a presence on various ride calendars
- Use NATRC branded items for ride awards (logo mugs, hats, t-shirts, etc.)
- Speak at local events, 4H, club rides, etc.
- Educate the people you meet out on the trail
- There's a new brochure coming out soon
- Put on Clinics/Events/Mini-rides/Intro rides
- Offer discounts to new riders, returning newbies, 4H riders
- Take special care of new riders
- Have adequate prizes (people want ribbons!)
- Have a mentor program
- Award a cross-region/cross-ride buckle (like the AZ triple crown)

**Region 1 Website:** Donna Stidolph. Master Calendar posted in 'Contact Us' tab – Activity Schedule.

**Ride/Clinic Management:** Jamie Dieterich. Ride schedule submitted.

**Outreach Coordinator:** Linda Thomason. Wrote letter to all non-member riders.

(Continued on [page 11](#))

(Continued from [page 10](#))

**Trails Advocacy Coordinator:** An e-blast was sent regarding the open position. Trisha Taniguchi has 'applied' for the position. Steve will appoint her.

**Bylaws:** Jamie Dieterich, Phil Young. Steve will investigate CA Non-profit corporations.

**Judging Issues:** Nancy Kasovich, Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich. Jamie distributed minimum judging standards for veterinary judges established at NBOD meeting in November 2014.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**R1 Bylaws/Non-profit status:** Phil Young and Jamie Dieterich. No update.

**2015 Region 1 participation in 100% club:** Linda moved to repeat; Laura seconded. All agreed.

**National Convention 2016:** To be held in Reno, NV, hosted jointly with AERC. Jamie will be the AERC liaison. Sheila Christiansen would like to help. Betty to bring CD of possible Friday night entertainer for board review. Speakers, vendors are done. Need booth chair, hospitality and all other committee chairs. Linda will draft an e-blast to recruit Convention committee members.

**Regional Breed Awards:** Discussed options for 2016, and all were in favor of certificates with personalized pictures.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Junior Representative on R1 BOD:** See election results.

**Trails Advocacy Coordinator:** Trisha Taniguchi.

**Opening a Region 1 PayPal account to receive payments for Convention Registration:** Would allow Convention registration to be done on RMS, with the option of paying through PayPal or sending a check. Using PayPal adds a charge (2.9% at this time) to the registration payment for the convenience of using a credit card. Discussion to be continued at next meeting.

**Jamie's position on the board:** She is selling her house in CA and will be living in AZ and AK. The board will consider options, one of which is to have Jamie attend meetings electronically. To be discussed further at the next meeting following the sale of the house.

#### NEXT MEETING:

Time: 12:00 pm  
Date: 15 May 2015  
Location: Cowboy Camp

#### CLOSE OF MEETING:

Steve Meroshnekoff moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:19 pm; seconded by Linda Thomason. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Swain

### Reminder from the Points and Data Committee Cheri Jeffcoat

1. To be eligible for year-end awards, membership dues must be paid by the second Sunday in November, the end of the Ride Year.
2. It is the responsibility of the owner of the horse to accurately report/verify the horse's breed to NATRC.
3. Year-end breed awards. Many breed organizations sponsor year-end high point breed awards. Memberships in NATRC and the breed association are required.
4. Questions about the horse and/or rider records should be directed to NATRC, [natrc@natrc.org](mailto:natrc@natrc.org).



### Attention All 4-H Horse Members!

To encourage participation by 4-H members, NATRC offers a 4-H Junior Rider Year End High Point Award.

- The award goes to the high point rider and high point horse **regardless** of the rider's division.
- The award is a self-nominating award. The nomination must occur before the end of the ride year, which is the second Sunday in November. This year, it will be November 8, 2015. The rider must (1) be a member of NATRC (2) send Laurie DiNatale an email ([natrc@natrc.org](mailto:natrc@natrc.org)) stating that they are a 4-H member and (3) have their 4-H leader verify that they are a member with an email to Laurie DiNatale ([natrc@natrc.org](mailto:natrc@natrc.org)).

In a number of states (Colorado is one example), 4-H now recognizes competitive trail as an activity that qualifies as a 4-H member's project.

Questions? Contact Angie Meroshnekoff, [awhitedog@aol.com](mailto:awhitedog@aol.com), Chair, Riders and Juniors Committee.



**Michelle  
Pimentel  
and  
Kat Man D  
at the  
Round  
Valley  
Ride.**

Photo by  
Kimberly Naugle,  
used with permission



## Minutes of the NATRC Region 1 BOD Meeting - May 15, 2015

Held at Cache Creek, California.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 11:59 am by Chairman Steve Meroshnekoff. Present: Stephanie Swain, Phil Young, Linda Thomason, Angie Meroshnekoff, Steve Meroshnekoff, Gene Boicelli, Davern Kroncke and Laura Harvey. Absent: Jamie Dieterich (excused). Guests: Kitty Weber, Betty Young, Vicki Boicelli.

### Secretary's Report:

The Minutes of the meeting held 14 March 2015 need to be reviewed and approved when all agree.

### Treasurer's Report:

Checking balance: \$18,492.07 (+\$110 checks not yet deposited). 2015 budget/expenses discussed: The Davis Day event earned \$411.12 while Year End awards cost \$437 for a net loss of approximately \$26.00. A \$600 donation was made to the Davis Center for Equine Health (CEH) for which a very nice thank-you was received. Three vet judge memberships were paid for 2015. A \$200 donation was made to National for National Awards. Region 1 rosters were printed at a cost of \$120, which includes mailing seals. Phil will hand out rosters in person at rides, then mail any which have not been handed out. Linda moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Angie seconded. All agreed.



**Catherine Halley and  
Creek's Gunner at the  
Challenge of the North Ride.**

Photo by Teresa Lindner, used with permission

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Physical Resource Coordinator:** Linda Thomason. No change.

**Historian:** No report.

**Wonder Workers:** Steve Meroshnekoff. Will order new hats for Convention 2016.

**Points/Membership:** Jim Ferris. Jim has put data from 2005 through 2014 on an HP laptop running Windows. He will continue to work with Phil to run the system and work out any bugs. He has offered to sell the laptop to Region 1 for \$200-\$300 once it has been debugged, if we choose to buy it.

**Publicity:** Linda Thomason. A BAEN banner was purchased by Linda to publish the Ride Calendar, and BAEN comped two additional months of the banner publication.

**The Leadline:** 35 copies of the Leadline were printed at a cost of \$50 plus postage. Phil will be reimbursed at end of year for all LL expenses.

**National BOD:** Angie Meroshnekoff. Proposed Rule Change: Open Sweepstakes horse would be based on the number of starters in the division (rather than the highest number of horses in the class +2). Other proposed changes discussed at the March 14, 2015 R1 BOD meeting.

**Region 1 Website:** Donna Stidolph. Old ride dates from 2014 removed.

**Ride/Clinic Management:** Jamie Dieterich. No report.

**Outreach Coordinator:** Linda Thomason. No report.

**Trails Advocacy Coordinator:** Trisha Taniguchi. Posted report to R1 website. Donna Stidolph will attend the Fort Ord Equestrian Trails meeting on 3/22 regarding development of an overall use plan for the Rails to Trails project in Fort Ord and the Monterey Bay area.

**Bylaws:** Jamie Dieterich, Phil Young. No report.

**Judging Issues:** Nancy Kasovich, Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich. Angie discussed issues with contrived obstacles, such as having riders back their horse over an object, and having Novice riders canter on trails (not much issue with this in R1 as there is not much terrain to canter on, mostly an issue in Regions with flat terrain). Riders need to email issues with judging to

the co-chairs of the Judges Committee, currently Priscilla Lindsey and Mike Bridges.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**R1 Bylaws/Non-profit status:** Phil Young, Jamie Dieterich, Steve Meroshnekoff. No update.

**National Convention 2016:** AERC is in negotiation with the hotel for dates. Linda says a flyer will go out ASAP once the hotel/date information is available. Linda will continue to follow up with Jamie. Betty Young brought CD of possible entertainer for Friday night to Cowboy Camp. Board members liked what they heard. Linda and Maria will get together to work on the Convention format.

**Opening a PayPal account to receive payments for Convention registration, etc:** Linda Thomason and Maria Pilgrim (Convention co-chairs) will open a separate bank account for Convention and accept PayPal payment. PayPal fees are 2.2% for non-profit and 2.9% for profit. We will evaluate the PayPal experience after Convention. If it is well utilized, we will consider making it an option for ride registration and other events.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Jamie's position on the board:** The board agrees that Jamie is an invaluable member of Region 1 and can attend meetings via Skype or other electronic means when possible.

**Region 1 Benefit Ride issues:** Gene Boicelli moved to have the R1 Board split the Benefit Ride responsibilities between the board members. Steve Meroshnekoff seconded. All agreed. Jean Armer has agreed to stay on as Ride Chair for 2016.

### NEXT MEETING:

Time: 12:00 pm  
Date: 25 September 2015  
Location: Lake Mendocino

### CLOSE OF MEETING:

Gene Boicelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 pm. Seconded by Steve Meroshnekoff. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Swain





**First time Novice rider Mark Rockwell and Pinedoll cross the finish line.**

Photo by Beth Patterson, with permission



**Novice rider Ivana Haverlikova and Stoney at a creek crossing.**

Photo by Brittney Damman, with permission



**Dr. Mike Peralez, DVM vetting horses out of the rain under the cover of a large tent.**

Photo by Beth Patterson, with permission

## Photos From the Challenge of the North Ride in Alaska



**Wet but smiling riders Colleen Fisk on Jazzy (left) and Susan Dent on Wild Lady's Nite.**

Photo by Beth Patterson, with permission



**Horses, riders and crew members at a wet, foggy pulse and respiration stop.**

Photo by Brittney Damman, with permission



Photo by Kimberly Naugle, used with permission



Ashley Dillard on OM El Nairobi (left) and Joe Dillard on Om El Shakeeb Dream at the Round Valley Ride.

## 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.

For more details and an application, please go to: [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org).

## MEMBERSHIP FORM – Renew, Join or Buy Items online at [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org) or use this form.

Memberships run from January 1 - December 31. We offer six membership plans: four Regular; two Lifetime. We also offer a Platinum Upgrade which adds personal excess liability coverage to our family and single plans.

### CHECK PLAN DESIRED Renewals receive a 4" NATRC Decal as an Appreciation Gift!

All memberships include: electronic national newsletter-*Hoof Print*, your region's newsletter, E-News subscription, eligibility for annual national and regional high score awards and championships, horse and rider mileage awards, reduced ride entry fees, sponsor discounts, member services, and automatic membership in your region.

**REGULAR**  
 \_\_\_ **FAMILY**.....\$90 /yr\_\_\_ Household of 1 or 2 adults & children under the age of 18 as of Jan 1 (2 votes)  
 \_\_\_ **SINGLE** .....\$60 /yr\_\_\_ Single adult member (1 vote)  
 \_\_\_ **ASSOCIATE**... \$50 /yr\_\_\_ Equine groups or businesses only (no vote)  
 \_\_\_ **JUNIOR**.....\$40 /yr\_\_\_ Single Junior under age 18 (no vote)

**LIFETIME** (One-time payment)  
 \_\_\_ **FAMILY**... \$10,000 Same  
 \_\_\_ **SINGLE**... \$ 5,000 Same

**Platinum Upgrade:** Platinum members receive insurance benefits thorough Association Resource Group-ARG. Platinum members receive personal excess liability coverage with a \$1,000,000 policy limit. Coverage is for claims brought against members of NATRC (Platinum) arising from the use and/or ownership of a horse and for horse-related accidents involving third party bodily injury or property damage. Coverage will apply when engaged in any horse related activity, and coverage is in excess of any existing valid and collectible insurance. There is no deductible. Professional Liability is not included. Business exposures are excluded.

\_\_\_ **FAMILY**.....\$40 /yr\_\_\_ **SINGLE**.....\$20 /yr\_\_\_ **NO UPGRADE**.....\$ 0 /yr

### NATRC Specialties (Optional)

\_\_\_ Patch (inc. w/new membership). ....\$5.00  
 \_\_\_ 10" Round NATRC Emblem Sticker...\$5.00  
 \_\_\_ 4" Round NATRC Emblem Sticker...\$3.00

A Rule Book is free with your membership. To save NATRC \$\$\$, the Rule Book can be downloaded from [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org) or a hard copy can be requested by checking here \_\_\_.

**PRINTED HOOF PRINT** (Optional) *Hoof Print* will be delivered electronically. For a print copy, add \$15 & check box: ☐

**\$ TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_ (Colorado residents please add 2.9% on Specialty Items)

Please list first and last names, especially those with different last names, of all competing family members.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Jr(s) Birthdates \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ (We need your email for delivery of *HOOF PRINT*. It will not go outside of NATRC. Thanks!)

New member? Will you share how you found out about NATRC? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Mail completed form and check to : NATRC, PO Box 224, Sedalia, CO 80135

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## The Leadline

Phil Young  
2384 Templeton Drive  
Redding, CA 96002

