

# REGION SIX RALLY

July/August 2001

President: Kim Downing  
Vice President: Becki Jackson  
Sec/Treasure: Ruth Mesimer

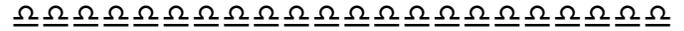
MO: Mike Wallis 2 year  
Kim Downing 1 year  
KS: Barb Taylor 2 year  
Becki Jackson 1 year  
NE: Chuck Edwards 2 year  
Kristi Chapman 1 year  
IA: Martha Kunkle 2 year  
Roland Newton 1 year  
IL: Frank Bowman 2 year  
Stacy Bowman 1 year  
Nat. Directors: Frank Keeran  
Cheri Jeffcoat

#### Committees:

Worker Awards: Barb Spahn  
Regional Awards: Martha Kunkle  
Diamond of the Year: Becki Jackson  
Special Awards: Becki Jackson  
Newsletter: Kim Downing  
Ride Book Info: Kim Downing  
Ride Book Set-up: Ruth Mesimer  
New Members & Publicity: Cheri J.  
Web Site: Mike Wallis  
Vest's & Numbers: Kim Downing  
Historian: Becki Jackson  
Sale Items: Chuck Edwards

problem by convention. Speaking of convention it will be FEB. 15-16 in OMAHA.

*Have fun and be safe, Kim*



## Canceled!!!

Region 6 2001 Benefit Ride at Paradise,  
Missouri.

After much trail and soul searching, we regret to inform you that the Region 6 benefit ride will have to be canceled at Smithville.

### BENEFIT RIDE HAS BEEN MOVED

It will be at Cedar Creek the same as in June. If you can attend please re-send your money. Ruth Mesimer still has the filled out entry forms. Please do this ASAP. If you could not attend Smithville and now can at Cedar Creek please send in you entry ASAP.

Everything in the ride book description for the benefit is the same. There will be a paid dinner on Fri. and Sat. evening. There will be a \$5 camping fee to be paid at check in. Anyone with extra tables please bring them

We are sorry for any inconvenience that this cancellation may cause you. We want to thank those of you that entered and those of you that volunteered to work this ride. We hope that next season the weather will be more cooperative to our riding plans.

Thanks,  
Ruth Mesimer, Ride Manager  
Robin Kurtz, Trail Master

### PRESIDENTS LETTER

We are having a great year thus far. The rides have been pretty full even though they have had a waiting list everyone seems to have gotten in. In this newsletter is a financial statement that everyone will be pleased to see. We are doing excellent in the financial department. All the years of hard work and dedication to our region has paid off. The board will look into putting some of our money back into the region.

It has been a bit of a problem getting all the vest's turned back in after each ride. Those who have bought numbers sometimes don't have their vest at the next ride. I will look into a solution to this

**A BIZARRE EXPERIENCE****By Nancy Mueller**

I planned on riding at Cedar Creek with my daughter and kept telling my friend who trail rides with her horse about NATRC and how much she would like it, etc. Well she sent her entry in and was 12th on the wait list. Then she was 7th and then a few days before the ride she got in. We were so happy! We planned to caravan to the ride with me driving my two horses and she driving her own horse trailer. Well on Friday afternoon, she had her stuff all loaded and horse in the trailer and was on her way over to my place when her SUV caught on fire. She was hauling her horse and the check engine light came on and the next thing she knew the car was in flames. She got her horse out and the fire department hosed down the car. It was burned completely inside and out. Well long story short, I said put your horse in my trailer and my horse can stay home. Throw your unburned stuff in my car and let's go. She rode with my daughter on the trail. I helped and hung out, and actually relaxed. Even with the pouring down rain on Sunday's ride she told me today that she had fun and wanted to do it again! I am amazed! She had a good time. Thanks to everyone who helped us try and get sorted out when we pulled in on Friday. (Her horse just flat out refused to back out of the trailer. I think he felt that he had been through enough in one day and wasn't budging!) NATRC people are fantastic and a big thanks to everyone for your help and kindness.

**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

Well you may have guessed after reading this last article Nancy Mueller won this award for Cedar Creek. She herself exemplifies the true nature of a NATRC person.

**A WRONG TURN PROVES COSTLY****By Priscilla Lindsey**

Well, I guess I had better eat humble pie and relate an embarrassing experience! (I keep telling myself it was just another "learning" experience!)

It is one thing to get confused, miss a turn on trail, and have to go back and ride about 4 extra miles to make up what was missed--- it is quite another thing to get confused, take a wrong turn, then get back on trail only to find you are behind the safety riders, and they are locking all the gates behind them!!! Yes, this happened to me this past weekend at the Cedar Creek ride, in Missouri. My friend, Jackie Hathorn, and I were locked in the Mark Twain National Forest!

It was a beautiful ride, by the way, even after it started raining about half-way through on Sunday, and I congratulate Ride Management for all their hard work! But, it sure would have been nice to have been able to get back to camp a little sooner than we did!

The way it happened: Jackie and I made it through the last P&R on Sunday. We were soaked to the skin from the unexpected rain, but still were pleased with the way our horses had performed and were looking forward to getting back to camp-- only about 5 miles to go! We checked our time: an hour and 15 minutes to minimum; we could walk the rest of the way in on the slick, wet trails. Just enough trotting, we decided, to help keep us warm! We hit some good, solid footing right out of the P&R, so we took off at a brisk trot, with rain still beating in our faces and pouring into our eyes! The "Point C" sign loomed ahead. We recognized it from passing it earlier in the ride. Didn't stop to read it; had my glasses off anyway, couldn't see through them in the rain. We were riding the same trail as Saturday. We knew the route, didn't we?? Yesterday we had ridden straight ahead at "C"; this morning we had turned at "C". Guess what stuck in our memory? Yup. Turn at "C". We dropped to a walk; the trails were really getting sloppy. We double-checked our watches, yup, plenty of time. About 10 minutes later, we suddenly got the uneasy feeling that we knew where we were-- and it was NOT where we were supposed to be! We should have seen the Novice/CP cut-off by now, and---- what's that! It is the concrete water tank we rode by this morning! We aren't supposed to ride by it again, are we?

We quickly grab our maps and check. OH, NO! It

dawns on us what we did. Quick reversal of route! Kick horses into mad-dash mode! (They found out they COULD do extended trot with coronet-deep water on the trails!)

In about 5 minutes we are back at Point C; take the correct direction this time and head for Point A.

Arrive at Point A. The gate is closed at Point A.

Jackie volunteers to dismount and open the gate.

We discover the gate at Point A has a padlock!

It is not hard to figure out what happened. While we were on our little unplanned detour, the last few riders behind us and all the safety riders had passed Point C and Point A. They were now ahead of us, but thought we were still ahead of them!

What does a resourceful trail rider do when faced with a locked metal pipe gate??? Start looking for a way around it, of course, or over it, or through it, or----

Well, there was an old cattle chute on one side, piled full of brush. Major work involved there. On the other side were cattle-working pens and another chute. On closer inspection we find two unlocked gates that lead us through the pens and into the chute. We can make it through!!! We check our time as we dash down the trail. Still plenty of time left. We can make it! IF we don't find any more locked gates!

But just a few minutes and we are faced with another locked gate! No cattle pens here. This one looks very secure! We dismount and begin a thorough inspection while discussing whether or not we have been missed yet! "There were spotters at all the gates this morning, counting us through."

"The spotter at the Open 2-mile Point Gate will tell the safety riders we have not gone through." "They will come back looking for us in just a few minutes!"

"But there was a spotter at this gate this morning, too, and he is no longer here!"

We study this gate some more. It is a metal pipe gate with barb-wire on each side and padlocks on a heavy chain. But, if we can cut or remove the top wire, the padlock chain might lift over the top of the post.

Whip out the trusty multi-purpose tool, which includes a wire-cutter. This barb wire has to be the

highest quality wire ever made! This high-tech wire-cutter will not even make a dent in it! Well, we can just unwind the wire. No, there are also several staples holding the wire to the post and they are pounded in deep! Can't get a hold of them with the pliers to work them loose. So much for that brilliant idea!

But further inspection finds a place where the wire fence corners with another fence. The wire ends around a post that has its top and bottom wired to a tree. Maybe we can un-wire the post from the tree and make an opening that can be easily repaired. Well, it wasn't easy, but that is what we did. To shorten the story, we were able to get only the top wire un-done, lay the post down over the wires so the horses could safely step over, and then wire the post back up.

Off we go again, as fast as we can. Our time has melted away, but we could still make it! We hope we will find someone waiting for us at the two-mile point. We know there is a gate there, and it could be locked also!

It is. And, no one is there. There is absolutely no way through or around this one! We resign ourselves to wait to be rescued. The rain is still pouring down. We are still cold.

Who would expect a cold rain in Missouri in June? It should be a warm rain! We discuss the things it would be nice to have had with us. Good rain gear for starters. Always good rain gear, even when there is no rain forecast! A plastic poncho over a T-shirt is not sufficient! A space blanket would be nice. Some matches for a fire would be nice! ;-) Oh, well. Next time!

Jackie stays in her saddle. Some heat is rising from her horse. I huddle under my horse's neck, trying to soak up a little of her warmth. Our boots are filling up with water. A steady flow of water runs down the slope under our feet. Both horses just stand with heads down, rumps tucked under, ears lopped to keep rain out. We are a miserable looking crew! Suddenly we hear a motor and see the lights of a truck! Hurray! It is ride manager, Mike Wallis, in his 4-wheel drive! He is as glad to see us as we are to see him. We had given him quite a scare by not showing up in camp.

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It sure was nice to arrive in camp to many hugs and greeting of "Thank goodness you are safe!" The first order of business is warm, dry clothes. Then present the horses to the judges for check-out, along with an explanation of what happened.

We are thankful that management shared the blame for our lateness by locking the gates without checking everyone through. The judges were gracious in not assessing us 45 time penalty points! Only a few points off for being off trail. We would have been satisfied with completion only! We really felt like survivors!

Now a more humble and wiser trail rider---- (Really sorry, Joe Peterson, for teasing you on Saturday for going off-trail!!!!)

Priscilla Lindsey

### A CEDAR CREEK REPORT

#### By Becki Jackson

Kudos to Mike Wallis and his team of great management. It was a fun, if wet, weekend. What luxury to have Friday night meal prepared for you, along with lunches on Sat. and Sun.

Trailmaster Lucie Hess was on top of every situation, having alternate routes planned to accommodate for the wet trails. Judges Jerry Weil and Jackie Coleman had as much fun as the riders, planning devious obstacles for the riders. It was good to see Jackie again, as I, for one, had not seen her judge in Region 6 for some time.

Heavy rain on Sunday turned the pasture where camp was into a REAL obstacle when it came time to pull out. We could have made great truck commercials. Most determined was Ginny Peterson, who made it out on her own, gritting her teeth and gripping that steering wheel--the mud flying at least 20 feet behind her wheels!

Betty Wolgram--did you take that dog home? ;)

Update: Betty Wolgram did take home the stray coon hound that attached himself to them. They named him Jack, and can be heard howling in

### Colorado.

TOP TEN REASON'S NOT TO FOLLOW JOE PETERSON:

- 10: Any man who wears a "mad hatter" hat is sure to get lost.
- 9: Horse left hoof prints to lead others off trail.
- 8: Men never ask directions or listen to them.
- 7: Horse's aura causes others to follow like the "pied piper".
- 6: His kids say not to follow him.
- 5: Men usually have accomplices and he has several, Bill, Todd, Jerry, etc.
- 4: "I never get lost" means I am always on trail, and if it is the wrong one it was someone else's fault.
- 3: "Trust me", means I glanced at the map last night.
- 2: He is an adult male.
- 1: He was the only male in the group.

### RIDE RESULTS FOR CEDAR CREEK

(unofficially of course)

#### Open Hwt.

- 1/3 Bill Scriven
- 2/2 James McDonald
- 3/5 Bill Hinkebein
- 4/4 Todd Powell

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5/6 Priscilla Lindsey  
6/1 Babette Maloney

### **Open Lwt.**

1/ Lucy Hirsch  
2/4 Betty Wolgram  
3/5 Mary Anna Wood  
4/2 Ken Wolgram  
5/ Barbara Talyor  
6/3 Kristi Chapman  
/1 Elizabeth Kendall  
/6 Rose Stoeffler

### **Open Jr.**

1/1 Melinda Sadler  
2/2 Stephanie Peterson  
3/3 Diana Sadler  
4/4 Adam Young

### **Novice Hwt.**

1/2 David Spilker  
2/3 Ty McCullough  
3/1 Jerry Weber  
4/ Mike Jones  
5/ Mike Motley  
6/5 Donna Sapp  
/6 Sharon Eberlin  
/4 Vicki White

### **Novice Lwt.**

1/3 Mary Stanford  
2/4 Christine Motley  
3/6 Cherly Weber  
4/ Lea Falck  
5/2 Pattie Smetana  
6/5 Barb Schmidt

### **Novice Jr.**

1/5 Sara Bker  
2/1 Kate Smith  
3/6 Kacy Prattw  
4/4 Victoria Mahrol  
5/3 Katie Franz  
6/2 Caroline Mueller

### **C.P.**

1/6 Mike Colby  
2/1 Mary Colby  
3/5 Maggie Spilker  
4/4 Becki Jackson  
5/ Betsy O'Shea  
6/3 Chris Wallis  
/2 Mary Pat Smith

### **Open Swpk: Lucy Hirsch**

**Novice Swpk: Mary Stanford**

**CP Swpk: Mike Colby**

### **BECKY JACKSON'S VIEW OF HILL&DALE**

This was the 21<sup>st</sup> Hill & Dale ride, I believe I have ridden at least 12 of them, and worked a few also. It is always well organized. Sometimes the weather causes us to call it Hell and Dale, as the heat and humidity can be oppressive there. This weekend was warm, but not humid and at times there was a nice breeze. They had quite a thunderstorm on Thursday afternoon, with lots of rain and there was concern about how slick the trails might be. Amazingly, they dried up very well, and many of us had quite a wait at the 2 mile marker on Sat.

What luxury to be able to purchase meals and not have to take food.

We had some out of region riders, Larry Gould and Paula Riley from Region 4. Larry got his points for his National Championship and Paula picked up some points for hers. From Region 5 we had the Porter family. They were parked next to me. What a great NATRC family, Ken does the driving and worked P&R's while Mom and daughter Carrie ride. Carrie was first place Open Jr. It was great to see Betsy O'shea take first in CP on her new horse, Ollie. He is a jewel!

The only glitch in this ride, in my eyes was the long wait at the last obstacle on Sunday. I waited

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37 minutes, some people waited an hour. The obstacle was, as someone said, a multi-point taking opportunity! :) Back down a rocky slope into and across a stream, back across a log with back feet only and stop, count to 3. All classes did the same. Pretty difficult for novice, I thought. The other obstacles for the weekend were all natural, uphill, logs, off side mount, soundness trot, etc.

It will be a long dry spell for me between rides, as the next one for me will be Labor Day weekend! The rest of you keep those stories coming!

### **Open Hwt:**

- 1/6 Larry Gould
- 2/ Bryce Bedsworth
- 3/1 James McDonald
- 4/3 Bill Hinkebein
- 5/2 Debora Porter
- 6/ Todd Powell
- /4 Bobbi Bedsworth
- /5 Babette Maloney

### **Open Lwt:**

- 1/2 Lucy Hirsch
- 2/3 Mary Anna Wood
- 3/ Barb Taylor
- 4/ Trish Cleveland
- 5/1 Michelle Berry
- 6/4 Paula Riley
- /5 Kristi Chapman
- /6 Elizabeth Kendall

### **Open JR:**

- 1/3 Carrie Porter
- 2/2 Melinda Sadler
- 3/1 Stephanie Peterson
- 4/6 Diana Sadler
- 5/4 Adam Young
- 6/5 Ann Malloy

### **Novice Hwt:**

- 1/ Mike Jones
- 2/1 Vickie White
- 3/6 David Spilker
- 4/ Dick Webb

- 5/4 Mike Motley
- 6/5 Jim Ward
- /2 Carol Kutz
- /3 Ty McCullough

### **Novice Lwt:**

- 1/1 Christine Motley
- 2/2 Debbie McCullough
- 3/5 Kira Everhart
- 4/3 Kay Stich
- 5/ Erin Hilderbrand
- 6/4 Cheryl Weber
- /6 Lea Falk

### **Novice JR:**

- 1/1 Kate Smith

### **CP:**

- 1/ Betsy O'Shea
- 2/1 Mike Colby
- 3/5 Mary Pat Smith
- 4/6 Ginny Peterson
- 5/2 Mary Colby
- 6/ Marianne Seibert
- /3 Becki Jackson
- /4 Judy Newton

### **Open SWP: Lucy Hirsch**

### **Novice SWP: Christine Motley**

### **CP: Mike Colby**

## **SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD FOR HILL AND DALE**

Today, a rider, who shall remain nameless, had an altercation with a tree, causing the rider to land on the ground. Of course, his horse continued down the trail without his rider. The horse got in line behind Cheryee Eldridge and Judith James. Upon realizing the horse was without rider, they captured the horse and went back looking for it's rider.

So in honor of two prime examples of NATRC good sportsmanship, helpful attitude and

concern for others, this award is presented jointly to Cheryee Eldridge and Judith James.

Two young rednecks were camping out in the forest one night. But the mosquitoes were so fierce that the boys had to hide under their blankets to keep from getting bitten.

Then one of the boys saw some lightning bugs. "We may as well give up," he told his friend. "Now they are coming at us with flashlights."

### **BRUSHY CREEK REPORT:**

**By Norma Newton**

If this wasn't perfect weather for a CTR, I don't know what is! Mid-July in Iowa and we have temperatures around 60 at night, and only in the low to mid 80's at the 'heat' of the day. And low humidity to boot! WOW! Granted, ride management begged and prayed for it, but to actually have it happen is great.

Friday was comfortably warm and breezy as riders pulled into camp, jockeying for the best available campsites. By the end of the weekend, I don't think there were any left, with all the other horse people, as well as fishing enthusiasts sharing the same campground! A supper of loose meat burgers and chilled mixed fruit chunks had us ready for the next day. Although the ride had 77 entries sent in, the 53 that showed up were all checked in by horsemanship judge Shirley Parker of Texas and vet judge Cynthia Kuder of North Carolina by dark.

Saturday morning started early, with the traditional potatoes and sausage hash accompanied by eggs, coffee and juice to start us with energy! After rechecking a few horses, 50 riders hit the trail. 28.5 miles for Open and 22 for Novice/CP. As point rider, I tried my best to get out there and stay well ahead of the pack. With a 20 minute head start and a mare that was moving out, I thought I was doing

great, so after about 9 miles, I let her ease up. Pulled into the first P&R and was wondering if maybe we had it paced a bit fast.... I guess not, since the first two open riders pulled in not 10 minutes after me!! Well, the mare's P&R was fine, so I raced off and after cantering a stretch of open trail, zipped down the novice shortcut. Now, this was fun! The judges seemed to do mostly walk by obstacles (water crossing, down and uphill) so things moved along quite quickly. But with the riders moving out so freely, it was hard to get the spotters in place quickly so one rider did an open loop at the wrong point.

Finishing with a trot by right after the timers, riders could take care of their mounts and then head to the tent for a lunch of sandwiches, chips, apples and cookies...with lots of lemonade and iced tea!! Then was relaxation and kicking back during the warmth of the afternoon, with visiting and grazing horses the norm. Trailer check worked it's way through the campground, with the vet judge using a bicycle to try to cover our huge sprawling sites! Ride briefing for Sunday was just before a tasty dinner of chicken breasts in a tomato sauce over angel hair pasta, with garlic toast and lettuce salad. A dessert of ice cream bars was definitely a hit!

Sunday morning was another great weather day! Breakfast came early again (french toast, pancakes, and bacon). The remaining 46 riders hit the trail before 7 am, after doing some trotted circles in camp. With only 15 miles for the novice/CP, and 22 for the open, it was going to be a short morning! A dismount, mount and back at the novice turn around point made it a day. We did have the opportunity to get a third P&R on the Open riders, though!

After crossing the finish line, riders immediately went to the judges. After trotting under saddle, they stripped their tack and were checked out. But after checking out, there was again a sandwich lunch awaiting everyone, with ice cream and brownies to sweeten the wait!



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**Andy Rooneylsms**

- 1. If you have a lot of tension and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: Take two and keep away from children.
- 2. It's a very strange name they picked for "Social Security." For what they actually send you, you can't afford to be "social" nor can you really feel "secure."
- 3. Short skirts have a tendency to make men polite. Have you ever seen a man get on a bus ahead of one?
- 4. It is hard to understand how a cemetery raised its burial cost and blamed it on the cost of living.
- 5. We are born naked, wet, and hungry. Then things get worse.
- 6. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
- 7. It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try and pass them.
- 8. If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.
- 9. The things that come to those who wait may be the things left by those who got there first.
- 10. Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he will sit in a boat drinking beer all day.



There was a loss in our NATRC family. Sharon Rubley from Oklahoma City died of cancer July 25. Even though she was from region four she was also a region six member. She and her husband Don attended many rides in our area. Flowers were sent from her region six family.



Dear Region Six Members,

On behalf of ride management, I would like to thank you for your contribution towards expenses for the 2001 NATRC Championship Challenge Ride.

Because of the support of members like you, we are able to have a great ride, with special "extras" and nice awards for our competitors.

Thanks so much!

Ruth Bourgeois  
Secretary, 2001 CC Ride

REGION 6 NATRC, INC.  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND  
DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 -JUNE 30, 2001

BEGINNING BALANCE		
	\$13,869.62	
RECEIPTS		
MEMBERSHIP DUES		2,415.00
2001 CONVENTION		1,011.88
AUCTION	3,841.00	
SALE ITEMS	765.25	
RIDE BOOK ADS		525.00
VEST # SALES	480.00	
RAFFLE TICKETS		203.57
2001 R6 RIDES	2,463.00	
MISCELLANEOUS		2,148.52
TOTAL RECEIPTS		13,853.22
DISBURSEMENTS		
	5,809.61	
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS		\$21,913.23
	CHECKING ACCOUNT	
	\$1,538.96	
	MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	
	14,395.59	
	CD	5,978.68
		\$21,913.23

Howard Hartsock was featured in a local newspaper "The DeWitt County Constitution" of Illinois, who interviewed Howard on competitive trail riding. It also had a picture of him and "Charlie Brown" crossing a log from the Whispering Pines ride.

We love to get publicity for our sport. Way to go Howard.