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**IL:** Frank Bowman  
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**Nat. Directors:** Frank Keeran  
 Cheri Jeffcoat

### Committees:

**Worker Awards:** Carol Roberts

**Regional Awards:** Bobbi Bedsworth

**Diamond of the Year:** Lucy Hirsch

**Special Awards:** Becki Jackson

**Newsletter:** Susan Maiwald

**Ride Book Info:** Kim Downing

**Ride Book Set-up:** Ruth Mesimer

**New Members & Publicity:** Elizabeth Braznell

**Web Site:** Mike Wallis

**Vest's & Numbers:** Kim Downing

**Historian:** Sharon Koch

**Sale Items:** Chuck Edwards

*Looking back over the year, it's been interesting. The weather for most of the rides in the region was better than average, even Cedar Creek was cooler than normal. We had quite a few more out of region riders and it's always nice to see new faces.*

*The year had a few problems and situations. Riders letting their horses run up hills totally out of control, adult riders not letting junior riders past on the trail when asked nicely. Riders not being considerate when passing. Riders going to ride management complaining about Riding times and amount of miles (I personally think every rider should be part of a management team at some time!) And on the other hand, we had riders go out of their way to help another rider, to make a first time competitor feel welcomed and to say "thank you" to ride management.*

*I especially want to thank everyone who helped me at the Dave Smith ride when Mike had a medical problem and we had to return to Columbia. I really appreciated all the concern and well wishes.*

*I've enjoyed this year as President of Region 6. I hope that I listened and helped anyone that came to me with a problem or an idea. The only goal I had set for myself that I didn't accomplish was getting the states that are not active more involved.*

*Due to another knee surgery, caused by a work accident, I find myself not being able to compete at many rides in 2005 (maybe the Fall rides)! However, I do plan on helping at as many rides that I can!*

*In closing, I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and Holidays!*

*And always remember, ride to finish, finish sound and don't lose any P. & R. points!!*

*Sincerely,*

*E. Christine Wallis Region 6 President*

### From the Editor

*It's hard to believe that another ride season is over. Everyone is anxiously awaiting the Regional Convention and this years awards. Carol Roberts asked me to remind everyone to be sure and turn in your worker sheets to her by the end of December. Don't forget to send your Diamond of the Year Nominations to Lucy Hirsch. The National Convention hosted by Region 5 flyer is in this newsletter as well as hoofprints. The dates are Feb 3-6 and will be in North Carolina.*

### President's Corner

*The 2004 ride season has ended! The trailer is winterized and the horses are enjoying their time off in the pastures. Although they don't know it, they will be learning some new obstacles during the winter. It always makes me sad when the rides are over but then I focus on the upcoming National Convention and the Region 6 Convention.*





Y

Fall/Winter 2004

I hope you all will take time to reflect on this past year and the beautiful trails we have ridden. Without the dedication of so many people none of this would be

possible. Think what you can help to do to preserve our trails for future generations. The Nebraska group handed out a brochure that they created for sharing the trails at the Indian Cave CTR. The efforts of the Nebraska trail riders have paid off with additional trails being opened for equestrian use at Indian Cave. It is so important that each of us find a way to help preserve our trail systems, before trails are closed to equestrians. One final reminder, don't forget to renew your NATRC membership with the start of the New Year. Please

send your news articles to me at [smalwald@neonramp.com](mailto:smalwald@neonramp.com). Wishing you peace and joy this holiday season.

Sue

**Attention All riders.....particularly Open.**

Due to early national convention, if you attain your National Championship at any fall ride please send an alert message with ride name to: Laurie at [natrc@natrc.org](mailto:natrc@natrc.org) an a copy to Cheri at [cj31835@alltel.net](mailto:cj31835@alltel.net). We need to order the blankets etc early this year in order for you to receive them..

***Hello, Everybody***

*For 2004 the rider has declared one breed to compete under. I will not go into the really long story of the good old days when everything had to be done by hand in NATRC. It has been a long process to computerize NATRC. Do you remember when we had to report our mileage by letter at the end of the year? Do you*

*remember when it took 23 people to do points every year? We have come a long way and continue to do so. To answer the question about double/triple registration. We are slowly and with great care expanding our capabilities to do this. As with everything in the modern world, we have had to phase in a lot of things. We will not promise, but it looks like we will begin phasing in multiple breed registries in 2005.*

*Just remember it is the BREED ORGANIZATIONS that make the decision as to whether or not that they will support and supply the breed awards. NATRC thru Kathy Brown our Breed Liaison does everything possible to contact the breed organizations, encourage them to support their breed, work with them for trades in advertising. Just remember that all breed orgs are not enthusiastic about supporting our members. Especially the rarer breeds where maybe only one horse of a particular breed is active in NATRC. It is difficult to encourage supporting when there is no true competition in that breed. So, the long and short of this whole story is.....be patient....we have made great strides and continue to do so. It is easier to climb a mountain one step at a time rather than try running up and only getting a short way due to exhaustion.*

*Cheri J*

***Diamond of the Year***

Many nominations for Diamond of the Year were received last year. I have been printing the nominations throughout the year to serve as a reminder to think of someone special for this year and so that everyone will know how special NATRC people have affected other members. Send your nominations to Lucy Hirsch , 13501 N Virginia, Smithville, Mo 64089, for 04 Nominations ASAP!

I would like to nominate Sharon Koch for Region 6 Diamond of the year award, as I believe she exemplifies the true spirit of NATRC. She certainly has demonstrated to me over and over again this past year, what a special person she is, a great Region 6 competitor, volunteer and friend!

To begin with when my horse came up lame and I knew once and for all she would never be a CTR horse, my friend offered her favorite horse for me to do the rides we had planned together. What an awesome horse he was and throughout the season he proved it over and over again how great he could be. This is the easy part of the story – it's easy to support your friends when it involves CTR riding and competing. It's easy to offer words of encouragement, congratulations and have a wonderful time on CTR weekends. However, the challenge and the true test of friendship would come many times throughout 2003 and would create a bond of friendship. like no other I've had in my life. The CTR rides

were great, but the friendship would reach beyond those weekends!

When my truck broke down coming home from a NATRC ride, she offered her home to me for several days while I was stranded. When I called her in absolute panic because I had lost my job of 6 years, my sole means of support, she listened quietly and assured me I would get past this loss.

When I called her and told her my only sibling was diagnosed with a deadly cancerous brain tumor – she took the time to listen once again and softly encouraged me to have faith, and to know that cancer is not always a death sentence.

When our beloved Domino became gravely ill from colic, she made the decision to get him the best care possible and to spare no expense. He would have had a death sentence if he had been mine. She drove several hours to the hospital each day, even though she was ill, and spent time with the doctors and Domino to help him get through his long ordeal. She called me with daily reports and she nursed him back to health.

As if all of this wasn't enough, she was rock, my emotional support, when I too, was diagnosed with cancer. She called daily to see how I was doing, she listened as I cried with fear that I would lose everything, my job, my home, everything with this new crisis. Starting a new job, I had no sick leave, no vacation time and no work would mean no income. I was terrified, not only of the cancer in my body but what else the future would hold, all the time she kept reassuring me "we" will get through this. She helped me to think rationally, and get my priorities straight and to take it one day at a time.

Sharon knowing I'm a private person and that I was overwhelmed with the turn of events, contacted friends for me and organized updates on how I was doing and what I needed most, so I wouldn't have to constantly relive the events. She drove 4 hours after a major blizzard, on treacherous roads, to be with me as I went through the surgery. She brought a warm comfy robe, prepared home cooked meals to last for weeks, she comforted me and she reminded me that this shall pass. She stayed with me after surgery and took care of the horses, cleaned my house and spoiled me rotten. She helped me through one of the most difficult times in my life and eased my pain and fears. I don't know how I would have made it through the last 12 months without her love and support and I don't think I'll ever be able to repay her kindness. To me she exemplifies the true NATRC spirit, going above and beyond in offering friendship and support. There is a song that I love that says "there are Angels among us, sent down to us from somewhere up above. They come to you and me in our darkest hours, to show us how to live, to guide us with the light of love". Sharon Koch is one of those "Angels" among us

Susan Maiwald

**2005  
NATRC**



**Region 6**

## **Convention** submitted by Stacy Bowman

The 2005 Region 6 NATRC Convention, hosted by Illinois this year, will actually be located in St. Louis in order to get the best bang for our buck. Debbie Webb, who was instrumental in the planning of our last convention, has temporarily secured the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Bridgeton, MO, (see [www.crowneplaza.com](http://www.crowneplaza.com) – Bridgeton, MO) for Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19, 2005.

The Crowne Plaza is located adjacent to the St. Louis Airport and hotel management has made an attractive offer. The Crowne Plaza has offered a room rate of \$85/night plus tax..

This will also be the site of our dinner banquet that they can also provide for around \$15/per/plate. More details on menu will be forthcoming.

I have tentatively secured three speakers for the Saturday agenda. The first is Kande Haertel, executive director of Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (ELCR). A few of you might have heard her speak at last year's national convention. ELCR is dedicated to promoting access and conservation of land for equestrian use. See ELCR at [www.elcr.org](http://www.elcr.org).

I have also asked St. Louis area horsewoman Summer Koetting (owner of nationally advertised Saddle-Up Trail Riders store in High Ridge, MO), to speak on the horse's back and how to look for correct saddle fit whatever the saddle make. She has a great background in proper saddle fitting and riding through her extensive contact with the U.S. Cavalry as a military youth.

And lastly, I've asked Frank to talk to attendees on equestrian issues nationwide as President of the Illinois Horsemen's Council. Frank has been very active with state and national legislation that affects horse owners which has taken him to Washington D.C. as well as Texas and Ohio recently for the American Horse Council (AHC) national and state conventions.



### **Last Ride of the Season**

*Well, the last ride in Region 6 for this year is over. This is always a sad time for me. As my buddy, Gail, says, "It's time to go home and winterize the camper, boo hoo. The riders enjoyed good weather, if a bit cool in the mornings. This coolness may have contributed to some unscheduled dismounts, as I heard there were several riders hitting the ground on Sat. Judges from Region 3,*

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*Kathy Shanor and Donna Johnson supervised the Novice and CP classes, while Jerry Weil and Frank Keeran judged Open. The tone for the ride was set at briefing on Friday night when ride manager Kim Weil warned us to "WATCH OUT FOR SNAKES". Both Jerry and Frank gave accounts of seeing large rattlesnakes, and this had everyone a bit apprehensive, especially Judge Donna, who I understand REALLY hates snakes.*

*We had a large number of our of region riders, mostly Open who were trying to attain those end of the year points. It was just great to see Larry Gould looking so well, and also to see Lin and Jim Ward back home in Region 6.*

*Saturday night briefing was a bit confusing as there were judge look-alikes. Donna and Kathy dressed up like Jerry and Frank and boy did they do a good job, complete with padded tummies and whiskers. It was a hoot!*

*It was a super ride, made all the better since the Red Rider gang got to stay over Sunday night and celebrate Marsha's win and novicing out. Gail's little mare completed her first ride and got 2nd place! Whoopee, look out next year!*

*Becki*



Indian Cave Riders photo Sue Maiwald

*Tammy Vasa, from Nebraska, submitted the following information about progress at Indian Cave. She is a member of both the NHC & NHTC, so can verify that the*

*information is valid. You can reach Tammy at [www.horsetrailriders.com](http://www.horsetrailriders.com)*

### **Corrals Installed at Indian Caves State Park!**

The Nebraska Horse Trails Committee is pleased to announce the management of Indian Caves State Park has opened up approximately 4 - 5 more miles of trail for horse trail riders! These trails are in addition to the 10 miles we have always enjoyed. And just this past weekend, 12 corrals have been installed at the horse camp!

Indian Caves State Park, near Shubert, has always been a friend to equestrians. Boasting well maintained, shaded trails and a wide assortment of wildlife, the park is always a favorite to riders. The new trails afford us a view of the Missouri River in an area previously closed to horses. Follow marked signs! This new area is being introduced to horse trail riders on a **trial basis**. It is important trail riders adhere to the signs and stay on the trail. And we **MUST** clean up any manure that would fall on the roadway when crossing to the north trail.

Park superintendent, Tom Morrison, worked with members of NHTC in planning for the placement of the corrals and signage for the new trails. The project was funded by the Nebraska Horse Council and installation of the corrals was a cooperative effort between park management and the NHTC. At Indian Caves, we are sharing trails with other users such as hikers and bikers. As always, be courteous to these trail partners! And thank your park rangers for making this happen!



One of many wonderful volunteers! Photo Sue Maiwald



Rider checks the map – Indian Cave photo Sue Maiwald

## New Ride for 2005

Mark your calendars for a NEW and EXCITING ride. May 14 and 15, 2005, Three Barns of Sedan, Kansas will welcome everyone to the Osage Hills of Southeast Kansas. Ride beautiful Flint Hill prairies, climb forested hillsides and cross the magnificent Caney River. Ride briefings will be held in the newly restored Casement Barn, one of the largest wooden barns in Kansas. A Saturday evening BBQ will be hosted by Ride Management. For additional information please contact Ride Manager Karen Everhart at 316-522-5493 or [spclck@southwind.net](mailto:spclck@southwind.net) or Ride Secretary Annette Pulliam at 316-744-7447 or [Annette@canterlc.com](mailto:Annette@canterlc.com)

### Flint Hills

10/2-3/04 Region Six-KS

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 31

Chairman: Olivia Huddleston, Duane Daily

Judges: Pat Regier DVM, Frank Keeran

Open Sweepstakes: Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne-100

Novice Sweepstakes: Rick To The Rescue/Childs, Maggie-97

### Open Heavyweight

- 1/1 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne
- 2/3 Royal Sunset/McCullough, Ty
- 3/2 Shadow's Lady/Newton, Norma
- 4/5 Amanda/Walker, Pam
- 5/4 PS Silver Gem/Everhart, Karen
- 6/6 Prairie Country Traveler/Webb, Richard

### Open Lightweight

- 1/1 Treble's Tempt Me/Kendall, Elizabeth
- 2/4 Elmer Bandit/Wood, Mary Anna
- 3/2 Cheyenne/McCullough, Debbie

- 4/5 NASDAQ/Chapman, Kristi
- 5/3 Deacon's Dolly/Cleveland, Trish
- 6/6 PS Sabre's Sun/Everhart, Kira

### Novice Heavyweight

- 1/1 Fox's Kings River/Hayes, Marsha
- 2/5 Diamonds Bad Deal/Ries, Mike
- 3/4 X-D Mutasim/Siebert, John
- 4/3 MAF Dark Shado/White, Hope
- 5/2 Khemo Talakahlil/Wagner, Angela

### Novice Lightweight

- 1/2 Rick To The Rescue/Childs, Maggie
- 2/3 Bandidato/Lyons, Christina
- 3/1 TL Chief/Levinson, Rhonda
- P Fire Penny/Kutz, Carol

### Novice Junior

- 1/1 Nevada/Ries, Trent
- 2/3 Hillbilly Hoctish/Ries, Jason
- 3/2 Razonn Jessie/Colby, Katelin

### Competitive Pleasure

- 1/4 Country Star Jet/Keller, Donna
- 2/3 Pulses' Easter Star/Stich, Kay
- 3/1 Razonn Trail Dancer/Colby, Mary
- 4/2 Glynmary Mary Rose/Wolfe, Kay
- 5/ Cervantes/White, Vickie
- 6/6 Kerry Bleu/Colby, Sheila
- /5 X-D Ashab/Siebert, Marianne

## Indian Cave

10/9-10/04 Region Six-NE

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 52

Chairman: Dave & Maggie Spilker, Chuck Edwards

Judges: Shannon Leska DVM, Norma Newton

Open Sweepstakes: Winchester Charm/Hirsch, Lucy-96

Novice Sweepstakes: Diamonds Bad Deal/Ries, Mike-95

### Open Heavyweight

- 1/1 PS Silver Gem/Everhart, Karen
- 2/4 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne
- 3/6 Pratts Toby IV/Wicklund, Bill
- 4/2 Royal Sunset/McCullough, Ty
- 5/3 Sky/Dye, Darrell D.
- 6/ Amanda Walker, Pam
- /5 Cervantes/White, Vickie
- BHR Hogans Polly Anna/Budd, Don
- Im A Shy Cowboy/Simpson, Brenda
- Ni Raffon/Kunkle, Martha
- P Prairie Country Traveler/Webb, Richard D.

### Open Lightweight

- 1/2 Winchester Charm/Hirsch, Lucy
- 2/ Deacon's Dolly/Cleveland, Trish

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- 3/5 Rits/Sadler, Melinda
- 4/1 Treble's Tempt Me/Kendall, Elizabeth
- 5/3 NASDAQ/Chapman, Kristi
- 6/4 Cheyenne/McCullough, Debbie
- /6 Elmer Bandit/Wood, Mary Anna
- Nejam El Sudan/Van Sciver, Marianne

## Open Junior

- 1/1 Moonshiner Silver Mist/Smith, R. Kate

## Novice Heavyweight

- 1/2 Diamonds Bad Deal/Ries, Mike
- 2/4 MAF Dark Shado/White, Hope A.
- 3/1 Fox's Kings River Ransom/Hayes, Marsha
- 4/5 Country Lee Summit Express/Powell, Todd R.
- 5/ Domino Scout/Cotham, Barry
- 6/6 Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow/Hayes, David
- /3 Dream Catcher/Maxwell, Denise
- Rolls Royce/Vaugier, Stan
- Gallo/Morris, Carolyn
- Ginger/Vasa, Tammy

## Novice Lightweight

- 1/4 Fly Bele Star/Weigel, Connie
- 2/3 MPS Peppodoconita/Parys, Shari
- 3/5 TL Chief/Levinson, Rhonda
- 4/2 SCF Elatraz/Mueller, Nancy
- 5/6 Fantasy Moon Dancer/Prey, Virigina
- 6/ Bandidato/Lyons, Christina
- /1 Flys Meow/Hertner, Anita
- Skipahead Festus/Mruz, Julia

## Novice Junior

- 1/1 Hillbilly Hoctish/Ries, Jason
- 2/2 Fancy Tea Tyme/Veprovsky, Melanie

## Competitive Pleasure

- 1/ Glynmary Mary Rose/Wolfe, Kay
- 2/1 Razonn Trail Dancer/Colby, Mary
- 3/4 Rushcreek Melody/McCoy, Gary
- 4/5 Skyline Red Bambi/Aswegan, Beth
- 5/6 Rock's Strolling Jim/Maiwald, Susan
- 6/3 Kerry Bleu/Colby, Micheal
- /2 Spanish Rose/Esbensen, Dana
- Jamie/Sloan, Marguerite
- Barts Top Gun/Eberlin, Sharon
- DJ Thunderbolt/Bowman, Teresa
- Lucky Light/Garcia, Sarah J.
- P HF Othello/McCoy, Mary

## Kanopolis Canyons

10/23-24/04 Region Six-KS

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 63

Chairman: Kim Downing-Weil

**Judges: Open-Jerry Weil DVM and Frank Keeran,  
Novice/CP-Donna Johnson DVM and Kathy Shanor  
Open Sweepstakes: Summer/Wolgram, Ken-100  
Novice Sweepstakes: Snickers/Elder, Katie-100**

## Open Heavyweight

- 1/3 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne
- 2/6 PS Silver Gem/Everhart, Karen
- 3/ Commander's Easy Going/Ward, Jim
- 4/5 Shadow's Lady Dancer/Newton, Norma
- 5/1 Phantom Shiek/Gould, Larry
- 6/2 Sky/Dye, Darrell
- /4 Royal Sunset/McCullough, Ty
- S.A. Scirocco +/Rubley, Donovan
- Cervantes/White, Vickie
- CO Fandango Mist/Johnson, Peggy

## Open Lightweight

- 1/2 Summer/Wolgram, Ken
- 2/3 Cheyenne/McCullough, Debbie
- 3/5 Huck's Last Love/Ward, Lin
- 4/ NASDAQ/Chapman, Kristi
- 5/ Rita/Sadler, Melinda
- 6/4 Deacons Dollly/Cleveland, Trish
- /1 Nejam El Sudan/Van Sciver, Marianne
- /6 GuS/Kendall, Elizabeth
- Cloudsrest Zephyr/Korthuis, Tracey
- Elmer Bandit/Wood, Mary Anna
- Winchester Charm/Hirsch, Lucy
- PS Sabre's Sun/Everhart, Kira
- CO Swiss Mocha/Riley, Paula

## Open Junior

- 1/1 MKS Shamal Nejma/Shanor, Kymberlie
- 2/2 MoonShiner Silver Mist/Smith, R. Kate

## Novice Heavyweight

- 1/1 Fox's Kings River Ransom/Hayes, Marsha
- 2/4 Grady/Pulliam, Annette
- 3/ Touch Of Prince/White, Kevin
- 4/3 Coyotes Miss Fabianne/Stevens, Gail
- 5/6 MAF Dark Shado/White, Hope
- 6/5 X-D Mutasim/Siebert, John
- /2 Khemo Talakahlil/Wagner, Angela
- Frog's Knight/Wallis, Michael L.
- Captain/Cole, Darby
- P Pushers Painted Lily/Donoghue, Maryann
- P Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow/Hayes, David
- P Fire Nisha/Chalmers, Arthur

## Novice Lightweight

- 1/1 MPS Peppo Doco Nita/Parys, Shari
- 2/4 Rick To The Rescue/Childs, Maggie
- 3/6 Papas Whiskey/Ries, Sandy
- 4/ Luckie/Elder, Janis
- 5/3 T L Chief/Levinson, Rhonda

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- 6/2 Fantasy Moon Dance/Prey, Virginia
- /5 Cuatro Beat Cody /Miller, Jerry
- P Britany Street/Chalmers, Nancy

## Novice Junior

- 1/2 Snickers/Elder, Katie
- 2/5 Nevada Gold/Ries, Trent
- 3/4 HillBilly Hoctish/Ries, Jason
- 4/1 Eddie Arnold/McCoy, Daric
- 5/3 Razonn Jessie/Colby, Katelin

## Competitive Pleasure

- 1/4 Pules Easter Star/Stich, Kay
- 2/6 Country Star Jet/Keller, Donna
- 3/1 HF Othello/McCoy, Mary
- 4/ Razonn Trail Dancer/Colby, Mary
- 5/2 JAC Natalie/Hathhorn, Jackie
- 6/ Spanish Rose/Esbensen, Dana
- /3 X-D Ashab/Siebert, Marianne
- /5 Razonn Cody/Colby, Michael
- Lee's Royal Chance/Jackson, Becki
- Perfections Fancy Star/Wallis, E. Christine
- Jakestrixeeabee/Kearby, Kate
- Rushcreek Melady/McCoy, Gary
- Clouds Very Last Chip/Simpson, Brenda

For Sale: Registered PB beautiful bay Arabian gelding, 16 hands, 16yrs, experienced trail horse, fast and powerful, recommended for experienced rider interested in competitive/endurance trail competition. Located in Omaha, NE. Asking price, \$2000.00. Also, 1997 Keifer Built Bravo, tall, side-by-side, 2 horse trailer. One owner, ramp trailer with tack/dressing room in good condition. Cream colored with decals. Asking price, \$5500.00/OBO. Miscellaneous tack for sale. Contact Debra Wunderlich 6908 Binney St, Omaha, NE 68104. Telephone (402)884-6667 or mobile (402)917-5126, e-mail bfdgrhd@cox.net.

## Going Open?

*A NATRC rider asks, "Do I just go ahead and try it or do I do another year in novice to get better prepared. I don't have a clue."*

What I've done when starting a new horse in Open is to go to the ride with the attitude that we may or may not finish. This is, of course, NOT the attitude you

normally bring to a competition <g>. But with a new horse, there is no way to really know how they will deal with the entire set of

Circumstances at a ride. Even though we have done our home work and lots of mellow camping, usually (not always) a CP ride or two beforehand, stuff like that....you don't know if they are "Open" material until you do it. Anyway, we ride our own ride. My horses are conditioned to trot the flats, walk the ups and downs so that's what we do ..... regardless of what the ride timing sheet says. If he's getting caught up in "race" mode (which oddly my off the track Arab never did have a problem with....maybe why he washed out at the track? <g>) we do lots of circling, and other games to get his mind focused back on me. THEN and only then do we continue down the trail. You want to do your best not to disrupt the ride or get so far behind the time that the poor RM starts thinking about calling Search & Rescue, but you stay focused on riding the ride your horse is capable of, nothing more. If you can find a buddy to ride with who is willing to help you and (this is very important) who has a horse who is a seasoned Open horse, you will be way ahead of the game. Best not to team up with another person trying Open for the first time or who is on a green horse as well. It is always amazing to me to watch how a youngster will copy what the other horse does....even at the obstacles, so best to team up with a seasoned horse (I'd hook up with Elmer Bandit for sure if I ever had the chance! <g>).

One of my pet peeves is somebody saying "The ride was timed so fast I lamed my horse!!!" Hellllloooooo nobody MADE you trot your horse downhill through those rocks....that is a decision that you made. Another thing to keep in mind is that there is no shame in trying and then deciding to pull your horse. Pulling your horse is usually a fine demonstration of good horsemanship. A friend pulled her horse at a ride a couple of years ago and told me later at camp "He just wasn't having any fun at all out there!". It was this horse's first Open ride and he was completely frazzled.

We tried to get the horse to bond with Harca, but he was having none of that. think she made a great call when she pulled him. He looked like a colicky horse waiting to happen from all the stress he was putting on himself. Hope this helps  
Sylvia



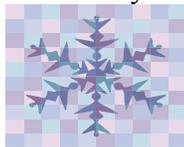
**NATRC National Convention  
hosted by Region Five!**

***Soiree in the Smokies.***

**Night Skiing/Snowboarding at Cataloochee Ski Are on Friday Night, informative speakers, hospitality Suite for socializing, shopping with vendors, touring the Biltmore Estate on Saturday, National Awards Banquet, honoring the legends of NATRC, Mountain Square Dance. February 3-6, 2005. Renaissance Asheville Hotel, Asheville, North Carolina. Please make reservations directly with the hotel. 1-800-458-3571. Deadline for discount rate is January 3, 2005. Be sure to tell them you are from NATRC for the convention rate. For more information contact Convention Chaiman, Bucky Starnes. PO Box 5071 Asheville, NC 28813. phone 828-230-9502 or email [Bstar242@aol.com](mailto:Bstar242@aol.com).**

**New Product on the Market**

I learned of a promising new product at the Central Veterinary Conference recently. Restore is a feed supplement for the bacteria that ferment the feed in the horses hindgut. By keeping these fermentors happy the product increases the digestive efficiency, allows horses to better digest the fiber to volatile fatty acids, keeps the large intestine at a optimum pH. If you have a horse in your care that has trouble holding weight, is nursing a foal, is over 20, ties up, has chronic diarrhea, has had laminitis or ulcers give me a call and we will see if a trial on this product would be a good thing for you and your horse.--Lucy Hirsch



*For sale: "Magnum's Dixie Princess" - a blue-papered reg. Missouri Fox Trotter coming 3-year-old palomino mare w/ blaze and two hind half stockings. Both parents are out of our breeding program and have fabulous foundation foxtrotting bloodlines. Princess has good bone, travels straight and has the temperament needed for a good competitive horse. Will start professional training in early '05 and price will increase accordingly. Priced now - \$2,500. Call Stacy Bowman at (217) 487-7664. Illinois.*

*For sale: "Little Richard" - a blue papered reg. Missouri Fox Trotter coming 3-year-old bay gelding. He's 14.1h and doubt he'll get taller than 14.2h. If you are looking for the perfect competitive trail riding prospect - he is it. He's more unflappable than most mature riding horses I've seen! Very responsive to legs and hands, neck or direct reins, backs and nothing bothers him - cars, motorcycles, tractors, ambushed deer and game birds - you get the picture. Top bloodlines - sired by Patriot's Commander and his dam's sire is Missouri Traveler. He's got an extremely fast smooth fox trot. Smooth muscled vs. bunch and bred for stamina. Don't miss out on this boy if you've got the time to wait on him. \$4,000. Call Stacy Bowman at (217) 487-7664. [www.bowmanfoxtrotters.com](http://www.bowmanfoxtrotters.com). IL.*

*For Sale Beautiful Sorrel Gelding 15'2... Red Hickory Kat. He has multiple winnings in Open CTR. He has approximately 1500 miles in NATRC. He is a great trail horse. He will do it all. He is a nephew to Bill Hinkebein's Country Gold horse. I have started another horse and can't ride both in CTR. \$4500 Todd Powell  
428 W. Madison Street  
Marshfield, MO 65706  
(417) 468-7309 (home)  
(660) 525-5205 (cell)  
[tod8090@centurytel.net](mailto:tod8090@centurytel.net) (e-mail)*