

## Dancing on the Hill at Cedar Creek, Marvin Gaye, Stallions

The Editor's Perspective July 2006—Marsha Hayes

Our President, Cheri Jeffcoat, wrote about luck this issue. And perhaps it is luck that often brings charming things together at just the right moment. Then, again, maybe magic is around us all the time and we don't notice it. Personally, being with a horse often makes me more aware of my surroundings and appreciative of beauty and magic of seemingly mundane moments.

Such a magic moment occurred at the recent Cedar Creek CTR. The moment started off with the hot, slow moving, or no moving, check in line at the completion of the ride. There must have been 16 horses in front of me, at least, and I was standing in the sun. The line was snaking around to some trees, but not very fast. Bev Roberts was in front of me with an 18 year old black Arabian stallion she was just starting in CTR. I felt she had done an outstanding job of riding him in a new situation. She remained cheerful, but vigilant as to his behavior.

Finally someone got in line behind me and I immediately felt better. I was no longer last. The new comer turned out to be new rider Debbie Trimble and her lovely horse. All the horses had their heads down and were furiously ripping grass off, but even in graze mode, we could see the black stallion had one eye locked on the mares in line and was ready to breed mares (his previous main occupation code) if the need arose. We were all tired. We were all happy. We completed our ride, our horses were eating. Life was good.

The line inched forward towards the camp of Florence Blanks, renowned P & R chair, and we watched him packing up his tent as his truck stereo sent music across our Cedar Creek hill. Another rider joined the line and I was almost to the shade when Ms. Roberts noticed her stallion's obvious interest in the mares in line. Quietly and calmly she began asking the horse to "turn on the forehand" while gently directing him with her dressage whip.

Suddenly the music changed. Wafting across the hill top, Marvin Gaye's comeback hit, Sexual Healing floated on the north breeze offering relief from the afternoon heat and a perfect movie set sound track for the moment. That is when the dancing started. Debbie and I danced with our horse hearts and rejoiced at being one with the horses . . . sexual beings that they are and shared that moment when we knew, for the first time, that Marvin Gaye had written the perfect song for checking in an 18 year old black Arabian stallion with mares in line in front of him. What a genius.

I will never forget that magic moment, dancing on the hill in the midst of horses, friends, trees, music, enhanced by the great feelings that often come upon completing a ride. Thanks to everyone for putting on the ride, marking the trails, timing, riding, and creating that moment. I don't know if it was dumb luck or not, but it certainly was magic.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

An old saying: I would rather have dumb luck than no luck at all! Well, we have really dumb-lucked into great weather for our rides. We have had rain but not when riding. We have had cooler temperatures during the ride. What more can we ask for? So far, smooth sailing.

I want to take a moment to say thank you for providing great comments during the general membership meeting at Cedar Creek. It was great to see so many folks show up to review the rule changes/addition proposals before the National BOD for 2006. Ty and Ruth have also gone one-on-one at the rides to ensure that as many members as possible have had their opinions heard. At this point, we have charted your opinions and have a good tally of what you want. Thank you!! If you haven't expressed your opinion, contact Ty, Ruth or myself.

We have two new rides coming up in addition to our traditional Brushy Creek CTR. Johnson Creek in Illinois is on track, trails mileage is being completed and trails marked, and experienced management should make this a very good ride. Of course, since I live in Nebraska, I am very happy to have a new ride at Nebraska National Forest. I had never been at the forest until May. I was impressed. I did not know about the vast amount of trail, the varied terrain and didn't have a clue there was that much sand in Nebraska. Since this ride is held on the Labor Day weekend, we hope you will come on out for a new and interesting experience. We have contingency plans in place in case it is hot weather.

Region 6 and all of NATRC is experiencing a decline in the number of riders. Of course, higher fuel costs is a factor and more interesting, a member was telling me that her adjustable mortgage rate had caused her payments to jump dramatically causing her to cut back on lots of things. I am sure she is not the only one out there. I know I have cut back on the number of rides I am attending and staying closer to Region 6. We have gone through these cycles before. We have weathered them because we are a great sport and have much to offer the horse folks of the world. See ya down the trail. Cheri J

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## **IMPORTANT UPDATE for Sunflower State Games in July** By J. R. Kendall

Any horse attending the Kansas (Sunflower) State Games, a one day NATRC Region 6 ride, must show proof of Strangles vaccination. The ride is Sunday, July 30, 2006. This information was not included in the Region 6 ride book, so take note and PASS THIS INFORMATION to anyone who might be bringing a horse to this ride. Please contact ride chair, J.R. Kendall at: home phone number is 913-681-2318; cell number is 913-710-2318; e-mail address is [jrjo@blitz-it.net](mailto:jrjo@blitz-it.net), if more information is required.

## General Membership Meeting at Cedar Creek

At the recent Cedar Creek ride there was a general membership meeting chaired by Cheri Jeffcoat to ask for the members' opinions on several proposed changes to the national NATRC rules.

What was impressive about the meeting was that approximately 35 apparently well informed and interested members took their time to respond, quite seriously, to points under consideration. Held outside on the shaded lawn of homeowners who were away for the week, actually out of the country, Region 6 members showed great restraint and good manners in not killing the several enormous roosters that crowed and flapped and terrorized a lone hen during the meeting. Talk of the establishment of a Fowl Rescue and subsequent mercy hen abduction had to be scrapped when the home owners returned from their trip early.

Cheri had a list of the proposed rule changes and efficiently listed each proposal for consideration. Some points discussed during the meeting were:

1. Having all horses stabled under similar conditions. The group was in favor.
2. Re-naming the classes to get away from saying "heavyweight". Our group wanted things left as they are.
3. Do we want to raise the \$50 protest fee to \$100? Our group doesn't. Our group generally felt \$50 was an adequate cost for whining.
4. If a horse is competing DO, can it be in a portable pen? Our group thought it ought to tie to trailer with the rest of the herd.
5. Our group overwhelmingly agreed we should delete the cumbersome requirement to self-nominate for various awards.
6. There was a discussion on bumping a HDC rider out of the ride if a regular competitor showed up later, even after the HDC had prepaid. The majority of our group felt anyone pre-paying and making a commitment to ride should not be bumped. People should enter early if a ride might fill.
7. Most in attendance felt the Championship Challenge should continue with the possibility of adding a CP division.
8. There was a long discussion of the change in language for "obstacles" or observations. This could cover a whole story in the next newsletter, but it appears people want reasonable and thoughtful obstacles and want to give management some leeway in arranging obstacles.

All of our representatives welcome comments and suggestions to better represent Region 6 at the national level.

Cheri Jeffcoat: 402-866-2198

Ruth Mesimer: 816-781-9496

Ty McCullough: 785-776-9098

Thank you Region 6 members for attending and giving such thought and discussion to issues shaping the future competitions.

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## 2006 National Trails Symposium

Denise Maxwell recently called to our attention that October 19-22 NATRC's own Doreen Portner, Chair for Trail Advocacy and Grants, will speak at the 2006 National Trails Symposium in the Quad Cities. This is the area near Davenport, Iowa on the Mississippi River.

The Symposium provides a meeting place for all trail advocates, managers, planners, users and outdoor product providers to meet with conservationist, private landowners and tourism and business interests to communicate and hopefully promote more trails and preserve the ones we now use.

There is no Region 6 ride that weekend, so look at your calendars and consider the possibility of attending this meeting. More detailed information can be found on the American Trails website, [www.americantrails.org](http://www.americantrails.org) or contact Pam Gluck at 530-547-2060. This could be an excellent networking opportunity to let people know horses need trails, too.

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## National Sponsors

The following are current national sponsors of N.A.T.R.C. Please consider these sponsors when making purchases.

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Shop at Country Supply, enter care code natrc1028, and Country Supply will donate a percentage of your purchases to NATRC. FYI, as of 4/30/06 NATRC has received \$51.53 from these purchases. Every little bit helps!

## Diamonds Are Forever

This is the final submission for Diamond of the Year 2005. Although Elizabeth Kendall, chairperson of the Diamond of the Year Award, read all submissions at the 2005 convention in Manhattan, Kansas, we are printing all 2005 nomination essays to share with those not able to attend the convention and to keep the award alive in our thoughts all year. Be thinking of your nomination choices for 2006. It is an honor to be nominated and the act of stopping to reflect on all those you give to our sport makes us better Region 6 members.

Should any participants in the Diamond of the Year event find they were not covered in the newsletter, please let me know at [mhkansas@comgen.com](mailto:mhkansas@comgen.com) .

### Diamond of the Year Nomination 2005

I have, over the years, been very lucky in picking up items of seemingly little worth that turn out to be valuable. One of my best treasures was a small gray metal bowl-like thing that I bought at a flea market for \$10.00 that turned out to be a rare ant mote worth ( and sold for) \$150.00. And my luck is holding, for at last year's Region 6 convention after hearing J.R.Kendall give the origin and definition of a NATRC Diamond, I realized I had been hoarding a memory that may well be a true diamond.

I collected this memory at the Hillsdale ride in 2003 and have kept it these years because it intrigued me and inspired me. I was riding Hillsdale on a mare we raised that had only been on one ride before, so I was trying to focus on my ride, but I could not help noticing a boy on a jiggging horse that kept popping into view ahead of me. I was trying to keep my space away from everyone and just let my horse relax, but as the first day wore on we began to overtake this rider.

The first thing that drew my attention was the horse the boy was riding. She appeared to be an Arab well into a full blown audition for Poster Horse for the Jiggging Arab. She had a little froth around her lips and was doing as much vertical traveling as horizontal. She did not appear to be tired, but the boy riding her looked less fresh. As we approached the last P & R of the day my horse and I got close enough to hear him say, "Please, Princess, slow down, please Princess." Occasionally the wind would blow back other laments like, "Oh, no, whoa, whoa, walk, walk, walk."

At the P & R I worked my ritual with sponge, girth, water and did not look for the boy. I got back on my horse for the last time (I thought) that day, a milestone that never fails to cheer me as mounting is not my strong point. No sooner than I got on did I see the boy, now trying to mount a moving Princess. As he held the reins, the mare circled him giving him no chance to attempt a mount. Finally she placed a well shod front foot on the boy's foot and made that a twisting move like a woman in heels putting a cigarette out.

I got off my horse to help hold "Princess". I knew the boy was tired and his foot had to hurt, but I was impressed that he never lost his temper with the horse, himself, or other riders. As I held the horse's head, I saw the boy was crying. I was not sure if it was from pain, fatigue, fear, or frustration, or a combination of the day's events. Not knowing the horse or the boy and thinking safety first, I told him, "There are people here whose sole job is to come get this horse with a trailer. You do not have to get on this horse. If you have had enough, there is no shame in that." He did not even hesitate when looked me straight in the eye and calmly said, between tears and breaths, "No, I can finish this. I want to finish."

It was a bit of work to hold the horse and boost him on, but he made it back on top and I just stood there and watched him trot off on Princess. It is one thing to foolishly blunder on, but a whole different dimension to face fears and challenges and not give up. The extra mount I then executed was not one I complained about. I was honored and inspired by this boy who faced obstacles not set by judges and passed every one. I admired him for not taking the easy way out. I admired his attitude towards his horse and himself. He even had the mature presence to thank me for my help, although months later when I actually became friends with him he did not even remember the event. He didn't give up on the sport, either. He continued to ride and over a year later I saw him win horsemanship awards.

Science tells us that diamonds are formed when certain elements are put under extreme pressure. The same is true of a NATRC Diamond. When the pressure is on, a rider, a horse, a spouse, a teacher, or a friend, can all crack under that pressure, or transform into a proverbial Diamond. What I witnessed at the ride that day was the formation of a gem-like character and that inspired me to strive for the same qualities of a young boy who did not get mad or give up. I would never sell my memory for profit like my flea markets finds, but I would like others to share and perhaps recognize the Diamond in the character of Daric McCoy.

Submitted by Marsha Hayes

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## Welcome to the Following New Region 6 Members!

Illinois  
Donna Hanford, St. Jacob

Kansas  
Samantha Peterson, Olathe

Missouri  
Michelle Schmidt, Centralia

## Hill and Dale 2006

Hill and Dale, 2006, was a great success. When ride numbers are generally down, the ride started 53 horses. It was our largest Region Six ride so far this year. Thanks to all the management and judges for keeping this ride on the schedule for 26 years.

### EKAHA Hill and Dale CTR - 53

June 10-11-2006

Chairman: J.R. Kendall

Judges: Heather Colby, DVM & Doanna Gross

Open Sweepstakes: Sassy Stockings / James Keene – 99.5

Novice Sweepstakes: Winchester Charm / Erich Mueller - 99

CP High-Point Combo: Star Santana / Mary Sapp – 198.5

High Point First Time Competitor: Mackenzie White

Gerald Peterson Memorial Traveling Trophy: Star Santana / Mary Sapp – 198.5

(Unofficial until published in Hoof Print)

Horse/Horsemanship

\*\* = first time competitor

### Novice Junior - 6

1/1 – Winchester Charm / Erich Mueller

2/3 - XD Michaela / Mackenzie White \*\*

3/4 - Dazzin Bay / Samantha Peterson

4/2 - Tag / Katie Elder

5/DO - Kerry Bleu / Katelin Colby

P – Docs Bay Harlan / Cali Parker

-/3 - Smart Lena Lady / Christine Wallis

-/- - Take A Walkaloosa / Lucie Hess

-/- - My Nightmare / Vickie White

-/- - Touch of Prince / Hope White

-/- - Cito Mocha Raton / Trish Cleveland

-/- - Lee's Royal Chance / Becki Jackson

-/- - JGC Maximum Overdrive / Rhonda Levinson

P - Razonn Cody / Michael Colby

### Novice Lightweight - 5

1/3 - Akoma Chi / Carol Nichols

2/2 - Bay Masterpece (Jazz) / Denise Lambert

3/4 - Golden Mr. Jet Charge / Marla Stucky

4/1 - Snickers / Janice Elder

5/DO - Admiral Nelson / Melinda Sadler

### Open Junior - 1

1/1 – Carrots / Hannah Winemiller

### Open Lightweight - 11

1/- - Jac Natalie / Jackie Hathorn

2/6 - Strike the Gold / Elizabeth Kendall

3/3 - Elmer Bandit / Mary Anna Wood

4/- - Saku / Cheri Jeffcoat

5/4 - Country Quitea Chick / Kristi Chapman

6/5 – Summer / Betty Wolgram

-/1 - Cheyenne / Debbie McCullough

-/2 - Baskolisa / Maggie Spilker

-/- - Skya / Christine Abbott

-/- - Lucky's Black Gold / Matthew Hiskett

-/- - Spot Me Wild / Karen Sylvara

### Novice Heavyweight - 8

1/3 – Sir Timothy Gold / Elaine Baker \*\*

2/4 - X-Diamond Mutasim / John Siebert

3/2 - Lluvia Dulce de la Sierra / Jan Swalley

4/6 - Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow / David Hayes

5/5 - Cisco Bey / Erin Harles

6/- - SK Candy Nipin / Marilyn Marston

-/1 - Blaze / Tina Clapper

P – Clancey / Gracie Royle \*\*

### Open Heavyweight - 7

1/2 - Diamond's Sassy Stockings / James Keene

2/5 - PS Silver Gem / Karen Everhart

3/3 - Gus / Dave Spilker

4/1 - Royal Sunset / Ty McCullough

5/6 - Country DaHoss wh / Bill Hinkebein

6/4 - PS Twilight Mist / Martha Kunkle

-/- - Prairie Country Traveler / Richard Webb

### Competitive Pleasure - 15

1/1 - Star Santana / Mary Sapp

2/- - Fox's Kings River Ransom / Marsha Hayes

3/5 - X-Diamond Ashab / Marianne Siebert

4/4 - Bart's Top Gun / Sharon Eberlin

5/6 - Razonn Trail Dancer / Mary Colby

6/- - SS HopAlong Kary / Betsy O'Shea

-/2 - Serya Raven / Beverly Roberts

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## Job Market Looks Good

It seems Region Six is full of hard working people. Recently the region advertised to recruit some fresh worker blood for the empty positions of Worker Point Award Person and Award Chairperson. Both jobs, while are not difficult, require time, effort and commitment.

Instead of the usual begging and cajoling most organizations require to actually get qualified applicants to key positions, Region Six had several excellent applicants to fill these jobs. Christine Abbot is our new Awards Chairperson and will be assisted by Carol Kutz at the Regional Convention. Carol will be in charge of organizing and assisting Christine with the handing out of the awards. Hope White also volunteered but is currently serving as our national breed liaison, but will undoubtedly be called upon later for more "work".

It was just so refreshing to have members enthusiastic and eager to WORK! Thanks to all you who expressed interest and the willingness to make Region Six a dynamic and thriving organization.

## Support Johnson Creek Ride

Less than a month away, Region Six will have the Johnson Creek CTR in the Shawnee Nation Forest in southern Illinois. Recently Elizabeth Braznell made a trip to the ride site to scout the trails with trail master of the ride, Denise Maxwell. Here is her report.

The campground is large and flat, with large campsites. Each site can accommodate between one and three trailers (great for those of you that like to camp together) and the sites have tables, a fire pit, hitching posts, and strong and stout high-lines poles although one must bring their own rope. There are pit toilets and horse water and plenty of shade.

The trails I rode ranged from groomed two-tracks to gravel roads to moderately difficult and technical trails. It is hilly, but has lots of shade. There are beautiful rock formations and views of Kinkaid Lake. There appears to be lots of water on the trails.

This is a new ride for Region Six and it is always exciting to ride NEW trail. Stacy Bowman who managed the Sand Ridge Forest ride for many years is the ride manager so you know riders will be in good hands.

The Shawnee Trail Conservancy is fighting to keep trails in the Shawnee Forest open to horses so come and show support for this ride and let the Forest Service know just how much we appreciate their efforts to maintain Johnson Creek as an equestrian destination.

For more information, study your ride book and contact ride management. Let's support this new ride effort!

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## NATRC HORSE EXCELS IN CDE

By Marsha Hayes

When Kay Wolfe would talk about her mare, Glynmary Mary Rose, going to CDEs, I had the vague impression she has doing something with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. I thought she was giving blood or something. Sometimes I get wrapped up in my own little horse world and I fail to see the wonders right around me.

After getting the treat of a flying buggy ride in my own pasture BEHIND (yes behind, not on top of) Glynmary Mary Rose, I actually started paying attention and asking questions and learned something. There is a sport called Combined Driving Events, loosely patterned after Combined Training Events and Region 6 NATRC is privileged to have as a member a cross-over athlete in Mary Rose who can win first (Rendezvous CP Class 2006) in NATRC and then trot off pulling her cart to place in a CDE and win the Best Conditioned Award there, too.

Combined Driving Events are a fairly new sport with segments spread over two days of competition. The first phase is a dressage type event. The driver must work in a large arena and the horse is judged on the freedom, regularity of paces, harmony, and lightness, ease of movement, impulsion, and correct positioning of the horse on the move. The horse must show basic gaits, extended trots, rein backs, shoulder in, transition, change of pace and accuracy of figures. Competitors are judged on their style of driving, accuracy, cleanliness and suitability of horse.

The second phase is called the "marathon". There are three sections to a marathon, and at the recent CDE in Lincoln, Nebraska where Mary Rose was judged Best Conditioned, one phase was a 5 km (3.2 miles) cross country course that had to be completed at a 7-8 MPH pace. This was followed by the request for Mary Rose to pull the cart at a walk for 1 km in 10 minutes, and then another 5.2 km with 5 hazards or "obstacles" to navigate around or through from memorized instructions. This also must be completed with a average pace or 7-8 mph.

Sound challenging? After completing the three marathon phases, Kay was just ecstatic about the course, the competition and her horse. "The marathon is a blast! It's so much fun to see your horse working so well, right out there in front of you. The hazards gave me quite an adrenalin rush! I couldn't stop smiling for about an hour afterward!"

The manager of the event this year in Lincoln announced the club had instituted a "Neil Spahn Best Conditioned Award" in honor of Neil as he was always dedicated to the well being and fitness of the driving horse. Neil's wife, Barbara is a valued Region 6 member and has done many hours of volunteer work for Region 6, where Mary Rose also competes. So it was fitting that this year Glynmary Mary Rose was the winner of the best conditioned event horse. The veterinarian was the one to choose the recipient. With an incoming pulse of 56 and outgoing of 48 after the marathon, Mary Rose represented Region 6 and her owner Kay very well. Congratulations to Kay and Mary Rose.

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**Got News???** Submit your Region Six Rally new story ideas to  
Marsha Hayes, [twosprings@terraworld.net](mailto:twosprings@terraworld.net) or 620-331-3541.  
**Hot tips accepted day or night.**

## Cedar Creek Gets Weather Break

It could have been hotter and wetter, but the recent CTR at Cedar Creek lucked into some decent weather for the 46 horses and riders starting the ride. Considering recent ride number trends, thanks are in order to those supporting this beautiful ride. Chris and Mike Wallis put on a good ride. Trails were well marked with routing into some clear water for horses and riders. Luci Hess, trail master, was out on the trail directing and making sure things were right. And they were. Congratulations to those placing at this popular ride and thanks to all workers and judges for making the ride happen.

### Cedar Creek CTR - 46

June 24-25-2006

Chairman: Michael Wallis

Judges: Jerry Weil, DVM & Bill Hinkebein

Open Sweepstakes: Generators Magic Pride / Gary Clayton – 98.5

Novice Sweepstakes: Kerry Bleu / Katelin Colby - 98

CP High-Point Combo: Razonn Cody / Mary Colby – 195.5

Marshal Smith High Point Rider and Grade Horse Traveling Trophy: Cisco / Diane Lynn Johns – 187.5

(Unofficial until published in Hoof Print)

\*\* = first time competitor

Horse/Horsemanship

### Novice Junior - 6

1/DO - Kerry Bleu / Katelin Colby

2/1 - XD Michaela / Mackenzie White

### Novice Lightweight - 6

1/6 – Duke / Juliette Ritzman

2/1 – Cisco / Diane Lynn Johns \*\*

3/5 – Gator / Yvette Riddel

4/2 - Snickers / Janice Elder

5/4 – Katahdin / Patricia Gardner \*\*

6/3 - CAUM Mighty Mouse / Patricia MacLeod-Welsh

### Novice Heavyweight - 10

1/6 - Cloud's Princess Lynn (Cody) / Debbie Trimble

2/- - Lenas Sure Nuf / Michele Schmidt

3/HDC - Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow / Becki Jackson

4/3 - Wineglass Rouge / Alice Yovich

5/5 - PV Blazen Rocket / Terry Silver \*\*

6/1 - The Bossman's Pride / Howard Hartsock

-/2 - Sparky / Adam Young

-/4 - Dream Catcher / Denise Maxwell

-/- - Eddie Arnold / Carol Kutz

-/- -Max / Eric Nelson \*\*

### Competitive Pleasure - 10

1/1 - Razonn Cody / Mary Colby

2/- - Just Jack / Stacy DeBerry

3/6 - Touch of Prince / Hope White

4/- - Fox's Kings River Ransom / Marsha Hayes

5/5 - Bart's Top Gun / Sharon Eberlin

6/4 - Serya Raven / Beverly Roberts

-/- - My Nightmare / Vickie White

-/2 - Eye Of The Tiger / Ruth Mesimer

-/3 - Cito Mocha Raton / Trish Cleveland

-/- - JGC Maximum Overdrive / Rhonda Levinson

### Open Junior - 1

1/1 – TN Valley Hotrod / Andrew Murray

### Open Lightweight - 8

1/2 - Jac Natalie / Jackie Hathhorn

2/6 - Baskolisa / Maggie Spilker

3/3 - Saku / Cheri Jeffcoat

4/1 - Country Quiteachick / Kristi Chapman

5/4 - Elmer Bandit / Mary Anna Wood

6/5 – SS HopAlong Kary / Betsy O'Shea

-/- - Skya / Christine Abbott

-/- - Spot Me Wild / Karen Sylvara

### Open Heavyweight - 7

1/- - Generators Magic Pride / Gary Clayton

2/3 - Gus / Dave Spilker

3/4 - Diamond's Sassy Stockings / James Keene

4/1 – Windstorm Sienna / Wayne Tolbert

5/2 - Country Lee Summit Express / Todd Powell

6/- - Fletcher's Wild Flower / Marty Findley

-/5 - Domino Scout / Barry Cotham

-/6 - Prairie Country Traveler / Richard Webb

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## SECRET MEETINGS

Have any of you noticed strange, secret meetings going on at rides? Well, they are not really secret, but they are often strange. Lucie Hess is conducting military style briefings in an attempt to marshal an assault on the TEVIS CUP RACE from basically, Reno, Nevada to Auburn, California.

The horse soldiers in this are Bill Hinkebein, Jackie Hathhorn, and Elizabeth Kendall. If they can complete 100 miles in 24 hours or less, we may see three new Tevis Belt Buckles at rides in the future. Go Striker, Go Jac Natalie, Go Bill's Yellow Horse. Region Six supports your efforts and spirit!

## ***Region Six to Elect National Alternate This October***

Politics can be so confusing. Most of us just want to ride our horses and don't realize the importance of a structured, well reasoned organization guiding our sport. Here is a brief summation of the NATRC structure and call to our members to consider being an alternate delegate to our national board meeting. Region Six must elect a new alternate this October.

Each of the six regions sends two delegates to Nation Board of Directors meetings. These delegates are called National Directors. There are three meetings per year. One meeting is at the National Convention in February at various places across the country and the other two are in July and November in Denver, CO. Ruth Mesimer and Ty McCullough serve as our National Directors.

Each region also has an Alternate Director. Presently Norma Newton holds this position for Region Six. The job is to attend the National Board Meeting only if one of the regular delegates cannot attend. Region Six needs to elect a new alternate.

If anyone is interested in being region six's alternate, they need to contact Jean Green to get their name on the ballot. Ballots will be mailed to dues paying members around October 6, 2006 and must be returned by November 1, 2006. During the November meeting, the ballots will be counted.

Currently Region Six pays \$150.00 per day for two days plus shared board expenses. Shared board expenses are the total costs of travel and include airfares, mileage, and parking fees. Although somewhat complicated, it means that Region 6's National Directors expenses are basically covered by Region 6 NATRC, Inc. This is where some of the money raised by the benefit rides goes.

At each meeting a good representative attends lengthy meetings and votes on rule changes that affect how we conduct our sport. Directors approve expenditures, approve sponsors, approve management plans and generally conduct business for our sport.

There are requirements for nominees. Nominees must be and have been voting members of NATRC for at least two full fiscal years previous to the year of nomination. Nominees must, in the opinion of the Nomination Committee, be active as a competitor, or as a judge, or in Ride Management or NATRC Management.

Nominations must be sent to the nominating chair, Jean Green, by September 1, 2006. Contact her at: 11203 SE Goodin Road, Lawton, OK, 73501. Phone: 580-351-9301. Email: Jeaninok@webtv.net

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## ***REPORT FROM NATIONAL BOARD MEETING***

By Ruth Mesimer

I just returned from Denver where I attended the NATRC National Board Meeting. It was a great meeting and I want to thank Region Six for sending me and trusting me to represent our region and our sport.

Friday night I attended the Judges Committee, my first time to attend this committee meeting as an observer. The general directors meeting started the next morning at 8:00 AM. All members came prepared to discuss the issues we went over at our Cedar Creek meeting. Most members had been discussing the changes via email prior to the meeting.

One piece of great news that came out of the meeting was the improved finances of NATRC. As of April 30, 2006 NATRC showed a net income of \$15,783.03 compared to a NEGATIVE net income of \$7,184.50 at the same time last year. A huge boost was made to the national organization when NATRC received \$7,000 in donations ( \$2,000 came from Region Six—remember our Regional Convention Auction?). Another \$4,000 came in corporate sponsorships. NATRC did some belt tightening when they voted to reduce the national year-end award costs, too.

One Region Six related business was the granting of a \$500 Trail Grant for the Hillsdale Trails thanks to an application by J. R. Kendall and Saddleridge Trail group.

Dates were also set for the 2007 National Convention. Mark your calendars now and let's show a strong presence at the National Convention. Next year it will be held February 22-24 at the Nugget in Sparks, Nevada. The program will share speakers with AERC which should benefit both groups. Room rates will be \$72.00 and there will be a free shuttle available from Reno to Sparks, Nevada.

It was interesting to note that nationally, membership is up to 1,508 from 1,464 last year. Region Six's membership stands at 229.

All board members left the meeting with homework; to read through the "draft" document of changes and report back with comments to Jamie Dieterich at the November board meeting. Jamie is in charge of organizing the changes in our documents, a monumental task.

Cheri Jeffcoat reported that she has started an audit of data received from Ride Secretaries. All in all, I felt Region Six was well represented at the national meeting and was proud to be your representative. Please contact me or any National Director with your comments and suggestions.

## ***Ride Managers---Chain of Command By Mike Wallis***

Attention all 2007 Ride Managers! Please coordinate all ride requests through me before sending any sanction requests to the NATRC national office. This will give Region Six a central clearing point and hopefully eliminate any confusion with dates and agreements of scheduling.

Along these same lines, please send me any ride book information as soon as possible. It is hard to believe 2006 is half over, but it is and plans must be made for our 2007 ride season. The deadline for the ride book information is November 1, 2006.

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## **YOUR NATRC PHONE BOOK HAS ARRIVED**

This issue of the newsletter has a complete listing of all our Region 6 members and how to contact them. Anyone owe you money? Give them a ring. Sometimes it does help to look over the list and see who is driving in from what state and comes in handy when you accidentally leave your glasses in someone's trailer. Now that we have contact addresses, perhaps we could start a Christmas Card exchange . . . mandatory to have a picture of one's horse, of course.

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### **Region Board Members**

**IA:** Martha Kunkle 2005-07  
Beth Aswegan 2006-08  
**IL:** Howard Hartsock 2005-07  
Stacy Bowman 2006-08  
**KS:** Becki Jackson 2005-07  
J.R. Kendall 2006-08  
**MO:** Mike Wallis 2005-07, Vice-  
President  
Chris Wallis 2006-08  
**NE:** Maggie Spilker 2005-07  
Cheri Jeffcoat 2006-08, President

### **National Directors:**

Ty McCullough 2005-08  
Ruth Mesimer 2006-09, Secretary/Treasurer

### **Committees**

**Worker Awards:** Trish Cleveland  
**Region Awards:** Christine Abbott  
**Diamond of the Year:** Elizabeth Kendall  
**Special Awards:** Becki Jackson  
**Newsletter:** Marsha Hayes  
**Region Ride Coordinator:** Mike Wallis  
**Ride Book Set-up:** Mike Wallis  
**New Member & Publicity:** Chris Wallis  
**Web Site:** Mike Wallis/Charlie Armour  
**Vest's and Numbers:** Kim Weil  
**Historian:**  
**Sale Items:** Chuck Edwards  
**Radios:** Jackie Hatthorn  
**PA System:** Ty McCullough/Roland Newton

## **Marsha Hayes**

**Region 6 Newsletter Editor**  
**3277 CR 4300**  
**Independence, KS 67301**