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Editor's Message by Marsha Hayes

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There are clinics to attend on how to be centered and how to ride one's first competitive trail ride. We can all sign up for dressage lessons, barrel clinics, roping seminars and gaited learning experiences. I recently found a huge hole in my equine education when I spent a beautiful weekend in NATRC horse camp watching dozens of others time-out for a two day ride in perfect weather to traverse beautiful county. It was a painful experience whose major lesson was: apparently one does not actually die from not riding.

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This event (or non- event) came about when, after hauling for six hours to attend a Region 4 ride, Arkansas Traveler, my horse checked in intermittently lame. After personally studying his way of going at the trailer, I concurred 100% with the observation that something was off on the left rear leg. I turned in my number and set about concocting a positive spin on the situation since my husband was riding and I couldn't just sulk off and go home.

Thank You R6
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Hey! I wouldn't have to get up so early! I could read my book! I could take the dog hiking! I could nap and rest! I could worry about what was wrong with Ransom later! All these were truly positive things, but there was still this nagging ache building in my chest. I wanted to ride. When the horses timed out Saturday morning, all I had were flashbacks to this wretched coon dog we owned 15 years ago. When we saddled up and Hopeless could not accompany us, we would lock him in the chain link fence and he would emit this truly pitiful howl that I never truly comprehended until Arkansas Traveler. The compulsion to move out with the pack was overpowering. I returned to my trailer and laid my head on the table and allowed a few howls to escape. I'm sorry Hopeless; I just didn't know how hard it was to be left in the pen.

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I executed my plan. I read, and napped, and hiked and cheated a little and rode Ransom for about 45 minutes per day to check and loosen muscles and I discovered an added reason to feel happy. Our horses, Moon and Ransom, who had never totally separated at a competition behaved wonderfully. Moon timed out with probable qualms, but perfect behavior. Ransom went out Sunday against the flow of riders and rode along beside Moon until separating again at camp. I was so proud of our horses for their behavior. They cried a little, but like me, the forced non-rider, they did what they had to do.

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I called my friend Gail Stevens who was at home, also not riding, but for a much more serious reason than intermittent lameness. Gail was grounded by an evil, painful, and soon to be fatal illness that took her on Sunday May 6th. Although the words were not always clear, the message I received from our conversations was: every ride is a gift, treasure your time on earth and accept what you cannot change.

Mileage
ChartSee external file:
[Time Conversion
Chart.xls](#)

The next weekend, I borrowed by husband's horse, drove to Kanopolis and completed my first Open Ride. I was thrilled to finish it and excited to place. It was harder and further and faster but I loved it because I kept thinking of the previous weekend, stuck at the trailer and the comparison made me relish the experience. I was riding. I was moving across the earth with the wind on my face and a great horse beneath me.

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I know how to ride better than I know how not to ride, but I am learning. Maybe there should be a clinic on how to deal with "grounding" experiences. We all have had or will have down time. Horses go lame, riders break down, truck's quit, and weather cancels rides. Ride when we can. Treasure our horses and our rides. Every ride is a gift.

President's Message

By Cheri Jeffcoat

Finally! We had our first competition. After the disappointment of having the Benefit ride at Smithville cancelled, it was a relief that the Kanopolis Canyon ride was held. And, now Benefit Ride Two at LaCygne has been cancelled due to flooding. Are we ever going to get to ride? The good news is that Cedar Creek has agreed to be the Benefit Ride, edition number three. In case of rain, they have plenty of road and other terrain to get around messes.

Kanopolis - It was a perfect weekend. Yes, it did get into the 80's and some of our furry, still in winter mode mounts showed the effect of heat. Many horses lost some P&R points on Sunday afternoon and a few novice horses were held. It was the old dilemma for April. To clip or not to clip! Will it be 25 or 95 degrees? Oh, sigh.

Debbie and Ty McCullough did a great job. Everything ran on time, the trails were well managed; the food prepared by the parents of Ty & Debbie was excellent. What else can we ask for?

Unfortunately, Becki Jackson's horse Chance suffered from colic on Saturday afternoon. Lots of folk assisted Beck in breaking her camp, getting the trailer ready and loading up for the trip to K-State. The good news was that Chance recovered quickly. But, it sure was scary for Becki.

The year appears to be off to a tough start, reminiscent of the major flooding and rains in the early 90's. Back then, I didn't know you could ride without it raining! I think it was my 2nd year of competition that I learned you didn't have to wear raingear all the time.

We have scheduled a board meeting and general membership meeting at the Hill and Dale ride: a Region Board meeting for Saturday June 16 at 4:30 PM and a General Membership Meeting for Sunday June 17 after check-in and before awards.

Our condolences to Elizabeth Braznell, who after a 2 ½ year gallant effort to rehab her beloved horse Duke after he broke his pelvis, had to send "Dukie" on to join others in horse heaven. Elizabeth really loved "Dukie" and I know will sorely miss his company. Oh, the stories we could tell about their early days in CTR. What a pair!

As I sit looking out the window, the 4 inches of rain last night is slowly being absorbed. My horse is still slightly lame from Kanopolis, my trailers are sitting in a lake, somebody is stuck out on the road in front of the house and I am thinking POSITIVE! The rest of the year just has to get better. Looking forward to seeing everybody out on trail . . . hopefully soon!

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Welcome to the Following New and Returning Region 6 Members!

- Mary Buckner, Newell, IA ● Karen Glock and family, Ankeny, IA ● Noveen Altweeg, Junction City, KS
 - Becky Arheart, Rose Hill, KS ● Alan Bouska, Junction City, KS ● Liz Klamm, Hutchison, KS
 - Jim Leach and family, Marshfield, MO ● Gail Seidler, St. Louis, MO
 - Marilyn Snow, Kansas City, MO ● Arlyce Krug, Lincoln, NE ● Julia Mruz, Kearney, NE
-

Thank You Card to Region Six

From Becki Jackson

The NATRC family is truly unique. Although we may vociferously disagree on a subject, such as electrolytes, when one of us needs help, the rest jump in unreservedly to do whatever is necessary. Such was the case at the Kanopolis Poker Run when my horse began to show signs of colic soon after timing in Saturday afternoon.

I had ridden Open for the first time in many years and had a WONDERFUL ride with my buddy Marsha Hayes. Our horses ate on the trail, drank, and just motored along. Chance lost no PR points but when I got back to the trailer and he was not interested in grazing, I knew there was something amiss. Apprentice Vet Rhonda Gregory found very minimal gut sounds, and when she tubed him, got about 3 liters of reflux off his stomach. This, I learned is bad.

Ride vet judge Donna Johnson along with Lucy Hirsch concurred with Gregory that I should get Chance to K-State, as they felt treating him at the ride was not an option. I was in such a stupor, that it took a figurative “swift kick” from Lucy to get me moving. I am eternally grateful to her for that. This was the point at which the NATRC angels took over. Somehow it was decided that Erin Jacob would drive me and Lucy would follow in her truck to bring Erin back. During this time, friends who learned of my plight began to pack up my camp. If there is ever a game show where the object is to tear down a campsite in short order, this group of people will be hard to beat!

The list includes, and please excuse me if I leave someone out, it was pretty hectic: Steve and Priscilla Lindsey, Marsha Hayes, Chris & Mike Wallis, Deb and Ty McCullough, Liz and Larry Kendall, Lin and Jim Ward, Erin Jacob, and Lucy Hirsch. Ty called the vet school and told them we were coming. Larry Kendall alerted the Kansas Highway Patrol. Marsha called my husband. In minutes we were pulling out of camp, after hugs from friends and instructions to let them know what was happening.

Not only did Erin drive me expertly, she kept up a running dialog to distract me. Fortunately for me, she knew the way, every turn and every exit. Turns out, her sister is graduating from vet school at K-State this month. Erin called her sister, Kate, who met us there and got us admitted quickly. Lucy interpreted what the vets were doing for me, and provided strong emotional support, as did Erin.

The vets at K-State felt, after examining Chance and looking at blood work, that he was just dehydrated and they suggested IV fluids and watching him. Lucy and Erin headed back to Kanopolis, and I set up camp in the parking lot, where I could run in and check on him whenever I wished. By bedtime, he was begging for food and looking MUCH better. By morning, there was normal looking poop in his stall and he was looking like his normal spoiled self, begging for treats. They continued to watch him most of Sunday, and released us to come home about 4 pm.

There is no way I can ever repay all of you who helped pack, offered prayers and hugs, called and e-mailed to check on me, and most of all took time to drive me when I know both Lucy and Erin were tired after a long day. I only hope that no one ever has to deal with a sick horse, but if my NATRC friends ever need similar assistance, I hope I can be there to help. I cannot say how much everyone’s actions meant to me so a simple “Thank You” will have to suffice. I will never forget how quickly all differences fell aside to be replaced by the loving support of the NATRC family.

History of the Sunflower Games

(PLUS TWO IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE RIDE BOOK!!)

By Kay Wolfe

I live in Lawrence, where the Sunflower Games started. I remember quite distinctly, the day I heard my co-workers talking about their training and plans to do track in the games. I was envious. I thought to myself: My horse and I train regularly, why am I not considered an athlete?

Years later, I heard plans to initiate equine sports in the games. I was excited. The Sunflower games mission is to provide quality amateur competition for Kansans of any age, and foster their physical fitness and well being. Three equine events added to the games are: long distance, an arena type horse show, and barrel racing. I was finally included and considered an athlete!

For the 2007 Sunflower Games, I am the manager of the long distance section which translates into a one-day Competitive Trail ride. The big news for 2007 is a change of location. The ride will be held at Melvern Lake. This also means No Strangles Vaccination Required!!

Melvorn is a fairly easy ride with rolling hills and a nice area to camp by the lake. This would be an excellent ride to bring a beginner to try CTR. I know one of NATRC's goals for the year is to introduce new riders to the CTR. A one day ride with state recognition seems a good draw. I am asking you to please consider encouraging friends who ride routinely, but don't compete in NATRC to come and join the fun. After all, they don't know what they're missing! Right? The park fee for the competition day has been waved so families can come and cheer riders on.

Change in Directions

The fees for the ride have been announced differently than usual. The fee is complete with the stated price, no need to add drug, NATRC, Region 6, or other fees. One other CHANGE is, in the directions. The road from Hwy 75 to the camp is K 278 not 178. I am looking forward to seeing you there with a NEW friend.

We Are Not the Postal Service

Taking a common sense approach to riding, Region Six ride management has adopted sensible, general guidelines on when to cancel rides. Unfortunately, this has resulted in a batting average of .333 with two of the first three rides being cancelled.

The first benefit ride at Smithville was wisely called off when snow and below freezing temperatures made the ride look less than beneficial to participants. The park personnel also had serious doubts about turning on the water supply with such low temperatures.

The second benefit ride was cancelled when, with only days until check in, sections of the trail remained under water, as well as several camping spots. Charlie Armour's announcement cited, "water, water, water," as the decision maker.

The THIRD benefit ride will be at Cedar Creek, June 23-24 and perhaps the third time will be the charm. Please support this ride especially to display the stubborn, don't give up attitude all distance riders should embrace. We cannot afford to just lie down and roll over in the mud and let the weather beat us. The only alternative would be to move Region Six to a better climate, a fairly impractical plan.

Weather has proved to be "An Inconvenient Truth" for Region Six so far this year, and no, we are not the postal service who struggles through rain, sleet and dark of night to bring those Wal-Mart circulars to our door. Thank Goodness.

Camping Fees May Rise Like Flood Water at Johnson Creek

Pat Welsh, Trail Master for the Region Six Ride at Johnson Creek this coming August 3-6 wants to give everyone a heads up about possible camping fee increases. During her last conversation with the forest manager, it was mentioned that camping fees could double, but there has been no date set for the increase. Even with the increase, fees are very reasonable with single sites increasing from \$5 to \$10, double sites from \$10- to \$20 and triple sites from \$15 to \$30. Since the fees are paid at the campground on the honor system, Welsh just wanted to let everyone know about the possible increase. With two Region Six rides cancelled due to weather, plan on filling our remaining rides. NO Floods!

A Different Approach

By Jackie Hathhorn

Recently there have been articles about how to track point standings in our Competitive Trail world. I take a different approach. I don't keep track of points or miles and view year-end awards as possible "Christmas Presents".

I know some competitors track everyone's "points" and know where they stand at all times. For me, this would take some of the fun out of the rides and I'm afraid might influence how I ride "my ride". When my horse placed Nationally in the CP division it was a surprise to me and an added "present" to all the fun and experiences we'd had competing that year.

I really prefer to stay in the dark, but then I've never tried to win National placing awards and might feel different if that was my goal. It's wonderful that our sport offers so much freedom to set goals, ride our rides and track points or not track points. Competitive Trail allows us to have different approaches to the same trail but with the common ground of learning while seeing the country on horseback with others who love their equine partners.

National Sponsors

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

- Gulf Coast 4 Star Trailer Sales
 - Easycare Inc.
 - Specialized Saddles
 - EZ-UP Leg Saver
 - LongRiders Gear
 - Smooth Stride
 - Don Rubley of Region Four
-

Distance Only Option at NATRC Continued for Second Year!

Kathy Brown, Publicity Director for NATRC, has asked all members to spread the word about the Distance Only Program. In 2007, every NATRC sanctioned ride will offer a Distance Only Class (DO) for riders who want mileage credit only. Riders can also choose to 'DO' only one day of a two day ride and still get mileage credit! It's a great opportunity for newcomers to distance riding, or seasoned competitors who want a break from competition.

All mileage earned at NATRC rides is transferable to breed organization mileage programs. The new DO program is a great way to find out what an NATRC ride is like. If you have friends who are hesitant to be "judged" let them know about this program. Anyone could enjoy the options the program offers.

For more information and a ride schedule, go to www.natrc.org, phone 303-688-1677, email: natrc@natrc.org, or write: NATRC, PO Box 224 Sedalia, CO 80135.

THANK YOU ARKANSAS TRAVELERS

Deborah Keene-Starr

The Arkansas Traveler First Time Competitor Fund Benefit ride was a great success. The weather was great, no one became lost, and the volunteers were plentiful.

Saturday morning dawned with 46 riders ready to hit the trails. With maps in hand, mounts under control, and smiles; the riders headed across the highway to the beautiful Arkansas trails. But, they didn't get far before they found a wad of logs across their trail and a judge watching their reaction and actions. The "Weil Log" obstacle (a favorite of Dr. Jerry Weil, R6) just wasn't enough to stop this crowd. Jean Green (horsemanship judge, R4) decided to get in on the fun with her own log. However, she couldn't deter the riders either. She did however notice that some riders were down in the saddle or maybe some didn't chose the best path, but all in all, everyone handled the logs with grace and dignity. So, on they rode; up hills, down hills, around hills and through the creeks, not to mention over rocks.

Dr. Weil tries again to get some action and reaction from the riders and their mounts; a side-pass while straddling a log might just do the trick. Some teams must have begun to feel the stress of a judge watching because they jiggled a little, danced a lot, but all continued right on down the trail past Jean. Some teams knew they passed Jean, but many didn't know that particular downhill was any different than any other.

The riders then made their way along a beautiful trail that meandered through stands of hardwood and pines, back across the creek twice, then right back through camp. Rather, all the way through camp and out the other end! Forty-six horses and riders made their way down another trail offering different challenges. This trail eventually took them right back to those great judges. But what to do? The riders were instructed to get off, get back on, and just trot away. Well, some riders jumped off, some stepped off and some stumbled off, but they all performed the dismount and ended up just having to get right back up on their mounts. Oh those judges . . . the riders did the typical hop, hop, hop, moan and groan with a flop, or the graceful up, balance, slow to sit style and some times it was the quick up and over mount, but all riders were able to get back on the horse and trot away with a bounce, or post, a few even seemed motionless trotting down the trail. However, there was a rainbow at the end of the trot, a beautiful creek with plenty of room to just let the horses cool their heels, and hocks. The photographer even managed to get some great pictures at this spot. The rules interpreter (Patsy Conner, R4) was also getting some great pictures while hiding upstream in the creek. Tanked up on water, the riders were off again; uphill, downhill, over hills and around them, more rocks, and more creeks and of course, more observations. They finally ended the day all back at camp, some with moans and aching joints, but all with smiles and helpful points.

Sunday morning dawned with only 42 teams ready to rock and roll. Three horses had had enough of the rocks (all are reported as recovered) and one with a tummy ache (also better after getting some special care and attention from his "Mommy"). The open riders were given a special treat from the trail master (James Keene). He cut out one of their open loops, gave them some extra time and told them to enjoy the scenery. They cheered and clapped and took his advice. They slowed their pace and made sure not to miss any of the judges, however, Jean can be elusive. Many riders missed her on the uphill but the photographer got them after they passed her.

Several hours later after a side-pass, a backup, and an uphill observation, the end was in site. All 42 teams timed in, checked out, and packed. They cleaned up the manure, raked up all the hay and checked their campsites for items they wanted to take. With not a thing left to do, they grabbed a chair and headed for the awards ceremony. Well, some had to leave and start the long haul home, but a great many stayed, in fact, more than I've ever seen. Boy was I glad. Our awards chair (Bev Roberts) was a master at collecting awards. All placing teams were awarded a ribbon as well as some type of prize, from etched mirrors to bucket straps, some handmade, some purchased and some donated.

For those of you who missed the ride, you missed a great one. Some pictures of the ride can be seen in the photo files of the R4 chat list or you may purchase a disk of all the pictures by emailing Deborah Keene-Starr. They are available for \$10.00 and I'll bring them to IT or Cass County.

Thank you to all the riders and workers who became ARKANSAS TRAVELERS!

Do Horses Spread Non-Native Plants on Trails? The Answer is Probably Not

By Stith T. Gower, PHD, February 11, 2007

Can plant and weed seeds contained in horse manure, hooves, and hay cause nonnative plant species (plants that were introduced to that ecosystem but do not grow there naturally) to spread along trails and into parks and forests? This is an ecological question that often arises. Stith T. Gower, PhD, of the Department of Forest Ecology and Management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has determined that while there are seeds from weed and non-native plant species in horse manure and hay, the plants that result don't survive or spread on trails. Therefore, horses do not appear to be a major source for the introduction of nonnative species.

"Nonnative plant species pose a serious ecological and economic threat to managed and natural ecosystems," said Gower. "Therefore, there is a great need to identify major sources for the introduction of non-native species and implement management plans to reduce or eliminate their introduction. Horses have been suggested to be an important source for the introduction of nonnative plant species along trails, but the data are largely anecdotal."

The objectives of two studies were to determine if horse hay, manure, and hoof debris samples contained seeds from nonnative species, and if so, whether their seeds would germinate and establish on the trails.

Gower took samples of horse hay, manure, and hoof debris from 12-24 horses at each of five American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) rides held in North Carolina, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Subsets of these samples were sown in potting buckets and grown outdoors in ideal conditions in Madison. In addition, samples from the horses at each ride were placed back on the horse trail.

On average, nonnative plant species germinated from 5.2% of the hay samples placed in the potting buckets, indicating horse hay contains seeds from nonnative plant species. However, only three of the 288 hay, manure, and hoof debris samples placed on the horse trail contained plants after the first growing season, and no surviving plants were observed after the second season.

Gower also did vegetation surveys along 50-meter (150-foot) survey lines perpendicular to horse and hiking (horses not permitted) trails at three of the five sites to compare species composition of native and nonnative plants. He wanted to determine if newly introduced plant species were moving into ecosystems adjacent to the horse trails and trails that prohibited horses.

Species composition and percent of total nonnative plant species did not differ between horse and hiker trails, and the nonnative plant species always occurred within 2 meters (6 feet) of the trail. Other potential sources for nonnative species might be birds, he said. "Many studies have observed that trails and roads (of all uses) facilitate the establishment of nonnative species," added Gower.

"The results of this and other studies demonstrate that horse hay and manure contains seeds of nonnative plant species, but native and nonnative plant species rarely become established on horse trails because of the adverse effects of harsh environmental conditions and frequent disturbance on seedling establishment," concluded Gower.

For more information about the study, e-mail Gower at stgower@wisc.edu. The study was funded by the American Endurance Ride Conference (www.aerc.org).

Region 6 Board Meeting & General Membership Meeting

Region Six to hold a board meeting and general membership at the EKAHA Hill and Dale ride

The board meeting will be held on Saturday, June 16 at 4:30 PM. President Cheri Jeffcoat notes that the meeting will to a continuum of business first presented at the convention in Lincoln.

The general membership meeting will be held on Sunday, June 17 after check-out and before awards. Everyone is encouraged to attend and check on the business end of our organization. Board members spend time and effort to keep Region 6 operating. Their work is appreciated.

The Lighter Side of Endurance Riding

A Book Review by Beth Aswegan

At the 2007 NATRC National Convention, I found the author Angie McGhee speaking. She was highlighting her new book "The Lighter Side of Endurance Riding". When I read her short introduction in the conference schedule of speakers, I bought her book before hearing her speak. Angie has been compared to Erma Bombeck with her entertaining style of writing. Every chapter that I read was laugh out loud hilarious. And I could easily exclaim, "Me too, that happened to me!"

Some of the chapters covered the pain we endure to compete, the proper way to bum a trailer ride for your horse, the wrong ways to train your horse to sponge at a stream, bad housekeeping of equestrians, and my favorite "Any endurance course should be marked well enough to be followed by a delirious person barreling down the trail astride a rocket with no brakes and faulty steering..."

As I read her book, I recognized articles that have been printed in *Hoof Print*. Quoting from a recent copy of *Hoof Print*, "Angie McGhee's new book "The Lighter Side of Endurance Riding", a collection of over 60 articles is available at <http://www.lightersideofendurance.com> or by mail for \$16.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling to Angie McGhee, 138 Walker Rd, Wildwood, GA 30757".

Somewhere, Someone is Drinking out of Styrofoam

The Region Six official coffee mugs have arrived and are awaiting their pick-up at the June 16th ride at Hill and Dale. At the Lincoln convention, it was decided to order mugs for those definitely committing to purchase them. There should be some extra mugs.

These coffee mugs could become rare and very collectible due to the cancellation of two rides, so far. You could own a mug with ride dates that did not occur and should the sub-division of obscure equine sports coffee mugs take off, you could be holding the equivalent of that rare stamp printed upside down. Or not.

In any event, they will be fun to sit and sip coffee from at a later date, fondly reminiscing about the ride that got snowed out, the ride that got rained out . . . the ride that actually went off. The ride year is still young. Get your mugs before something truly astounding happens and you will be left without a mug to remember it by.

Trailers for Sale: Who Really Needs a House?

2004 Bloomer, 4-horse slant, aluminum, 8' wide, 7.5' tall, 10' Duster LQ. Trailer has rear tack, mangers with storage under, stud divider, drop-doors on both sides, double water tanks (60 gal.), built-in Onan generator, awning, outside water faucet. LQ has queen bed, sofa-bed plus an overhead bunk (sleeps up to 5); ref/freezer, microwave, sink, lots of cabinets and closets! Full-size shower in bathroom, china toilet, lavatory, lots of cabinets and closets! One more thing, a built-in vacuum cleaner for easy clean-up. This is a top-of-the-line trailer! Buy from us and save more than \$15K over a new one.

2004 Platinum, 3-horse slant, aluminum, 7.5' wide, 7' tall, 10' Outlaw LQ. Rear tack, mangers with storage, stud divider, drop-doors on head side; built-in Onan generator; awning. LQ has queen bed and sofa-bed; nice kitchen with cook-top, sink, microwave and large deluxe ref/freezer, lots of cabinets and closets. Bath has full-size shower, sink and toilet, closet. This is a very well-designed trailer and a good buy for the price.

Pictures available via email. Contact: Priscilla Lindsey, plindsey@nckdirect.com, or call 785-259-1687.

Wonderful Responses

This newsletter was truly great in one respect. Several (count them) people really came through with wonderful news stories. Kay Wolfe, Beth Aswegan, Jackie Hathhorn, Stacy Bowman, and Becki Jackson all sent in interesting stories. Please send more. It doesn't even have to be a whole story; just ideas are great, too.

The idea of reviewing a book was wonderful. The history lesson on the Sunflower Games was interesting. The personal Thank You reinforced our family concept. Stacy Bowman helped educate us. Jackie rounded out our perspectives. Call, write, or waylay Marsha Hayes or Ruth Mesimer. Marsha: mhkansas@comgen.com, 620-331-3541. Ruth Mesimer: rmesi@msn.com, 816-781-9496.

Kanopolis Canyons Poker Run

4/28-29/07 Region Six-KS

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 38

Chairman: Debbie McCullough

Judges: Donna Johnson DVM, Kathy Shanor

Open Sweepstakes: Phantom Sheik/Gould, Larry-98.5

Novice Sweepstakes: Royal Pazzazz/Haeberle, John-98

CP High-Point Combo: JGC Maximum Overdrive /Rhonda Levinson

(Unofficial until published in Hoof Print)

Horse/Horsemanship

* = 1st Time Competitor

Open Heavyweight

- 1/1 Phantom Sheik/Gould, Larry
- 2/2 Diamond's Sassy Stockings/Keene, James
- 3/3 Gus/Spilker, David R
- 4/4 Rocky Top II/Ward, Jim
- 5/6 Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow/Hayes, Marsha Ann
- 6/ My Nightmare/White, Vickie
- /5 Touch of Prince/White, Hope
Blaze 5/Clapper, Tina
Little Grey/Wallis, E Christine
- P Lee's Royal Chance/Jackson, Becki

Open Lightweight

- 1/4 Classic Son CC/Courts, Linda
- 2/6 Winchester Charm/Wood, Mary Anna
- 3/2 Huck's Last Love/Ward, Lin
- 4/ Skya/Abbott, Christine
- 5/ Strike The Gold/Spilker, Maggie
- 6/1 Treble's Tempt Me/Kendall, Liz
- /3 Saku/Jeffcoat, Cheri
- /5 Skip-a-Head Festus/Mruz, Julia A.
- DO Spanish Rose/Esbensen, Dana B.

Open Junior

- 1/1 Carrots/Winemiller, Hannah
- 2/2 XD Michaela/White, MacKenzie

Novice Heavyweight

- 1/1 Royal Pazzazz/Haeberle, John
- 2/ SK Candy Nipin (Zip)/Marston, Marilyn
- 3/6 D.M.'S Eye of The Tiger/Altwegg, Noreen Ann
- 4/ Sun Rock Blaze/Bouska, Alan James
- 5/3 Coyote's Jody/Weber, Jerry
- 6/5 Sir Timothy Gold/Andre, Tamara
- /2 Crystal Roan Allen/Klamm, Liz
- /4 Dust Em Topper/Lysinger, Patricia *
- P Clancy O'Tucker/Royle, Gracie *
- P Buck/Steckline, Janie Marie
- P Lluvia Dulce de la Sierra/Swalley, Jan

Novice Lightweight

- 1/2 Bar Diamond Jessie/Payne, Debbie Jean
- 2/1 King's Mountain Hale Bop/Dollarhide, Patti J

Novice Junior

- 1/1 Scooter/Haeberle, Joe

Competitive Pleasure

- 1/1 JGC Maximum Overdrive/Levinson, Rhonda K
- 2/2 Cito Mocha Raton/Cleveland, Trish
- 3/3 Habida El Phoenix/Molloy, Ann

Big Hill Thrills - 38**May 19-20, 2007**

Chairman: Karen Everhart

Judges: Rhonda Gregory, DVM, Priscilla Lindsey

Open Sweepstakes: Prime Sensation / Bill Hinkebein

Novice Sweepstakes: X-D Mutasim / John Seibert

CP High-Point Combo: X-D Ashab / Marianne Siebert

(Unofficial until published in Hoof Print)

Horse/Horsemanship

* = 1st Time Competitor

Novice Lightweight

1/1 Golden Mr. Jet Charge / Stuckley, Marla

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 X-D Mutasim / John Seibert
 2/4 SK Candy Nipin / Marston, Marilyn
 3/3 DM's Eye of the Tiger / Altwegg, Noreen
 4/2 Crystal Roon Allen / Klamm, Liz
 5/5 Sun Rock Blaze / Bouska, Alan
 6/6 Clancy O'Tucker / Royle, Gracie
 P The Bossman's Pride / Hartsock, Howard

Competitive Pleasure

1/6 Star Santana / Sapp, Mary
 2/1 X-D Ashab / Siebert, Marianne
 3/2 Ribbon Ridge Moon Shadow / Hayes, David
 4/ SA Scirocco / Cooper, Barbara
 5/4 Fox Kings River Ransom / Hayes, Marsha
 6/ JGC Maximum Overdrive / Levinson, Rhonda
 /3 Cito Mocha Raton / Cleveland, Trish
 -/5 Take A Walkaloosa / Hess, Lucie
 -/- Jakes Trixee Babe / Kearby, Kate

Open Junior

1/1 Carrots / Winemiller, Hannah

Open Lightweight

1/6 Classic Son CC / Courts, Linda
 2/1 Treble's Tempt Me / Kendall, Liz
 3/3 Cheyenne 1 / McCullough, Debbie
 4/2 Elmer Bandit / Wood, Mary Anna
 5/4 Lucky / Elder, Janis
 6/ Skya / Abbott, Christine
 /5 SBJS Luckee Dee / Roberts, Beverly
 / Jac Natalie / Hathorn, Jackie
 P Leggs / Snow, Marilyn
 P Lucky's Black Gold / Hiskett, Matthew

Open Heavyweight

1/2 Prime Sensation / Hinkebein, Bill
 2/4 Diamond's Sassy Stockings / Keene, James
 3/5 My Nightmare / White, Vickie
 4/6 Blaze 5 / Clapper, Tina
 5/1 Royal Sunset / McCullough, Ty
 6/- Little Grey's Osage Star / Wallis, Christine
 -/3 Phantom Sheik / Gould, Larry
 P- Cisco Bey / Jacob, Erin
 P Sundance Khid / Rubley, Don
 DO/P / Anton, Chris *

RULE CHANGES FOR CONSIDERATION

Approved at February, 2007 BOD meeting to take to membership for feedback.

1. Section V – The Ride, page V-1, subsection C.3. – Handling

Reads:

3. After a day's ride, riders may handle and care for their horses at their discretion, with any time restraints to be announced by management and/or judges.

Change to read:

3. After a day's ride, riders may handle and care for their horses at their discretion, unless specific restricted hours were specified and announced by management and/or judges at the previous day's briefing.

Purpose: Makes the verbiage "restricted hours" consistent between Rule V C 3 and V D 1.

2. Section V – The Ride, page V-2, subsection F.2. – Tack

Reads:

2. Trail gear and horse feed desired by the competitor during the day (i.e., at lunch stop) will be carried on the horse. No part of a rider's wearing apparel is considered trail gear.

Change to read:

2. Trail gear desired by the competitor during the ride will be carried on the horse. No part of a rider's wearing apparel is considered trail gear.
3. Horse feed desired by the competitor during the day (i.e., at lunch stop) will be carried on the horse. Feed provided by management to all horses at lunch or other locations on the trail are exempt from this rule.

Purpose: Requested because many rides where there is no grazing available have provided hay for all horses at lunch. This practice that is again in the best interest of the horse is currently in conflict with rule V D3.

3. Section VI – Judging, page VI-1, subsection A.4. – Procedures: Morning Examination

Reads:

4. Morning Examination: Prior to the start of a day's ride, there will be an examination of all horses by at least one judge. The manner of examination is at the discretion of the judges.

Change to read:

4. Morning Examination: Prior to the start of the second and subsequent days of a multi-day ride, there will be an examination of all horses by the veterinary judge. The manner of examination is at the discretion of the judge(s).

Purpose: According to the current rule, this mandates that there be some check of all horses by at least one judge on the first day of the ride as well as for the second and/or third day of Class A and AA rides.

4. Section IV – Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility, page IV-1, subsection A.2.c. (2) – Novice, Mileage

Reads:

- (2) Total mileage in this division is 15-24 miles for a "B" ride and 30-40 miles for an "A" ride.

Change to read:

- (2) Total mileage in this division is 15-24 miles for a "B" ride and 30-40 miles for an "A" ride.

In steep and rugged terrain this distance may be shortened.

Purpose: If it is desired that Novice and Competitive Pleasure can be shortened in steep and rugged terrain, then this change is needed. The Rule Book does say "Exception to this rule shall be at the discretion of the Sanction Chairman," but it would be more consistent to word it the same as for Open.

5. Section IV – Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility, page IV-1, subsections A.2.b.(1)(a) and A.3.b.(1)(a) – Novice and Competitive Pleasure, Age of Horses

Reads:

- A.2.b.(1).(a) Registered horses will be considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Change to read:

- (a) Registered horses are considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Reads:

- A.3.b.(1).(a) Registered horses will be considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Change to read:

- (a) Registered horses are considered 48 months of age as of actual foaling date on registration papers.

Purpose: "Are" is "stronger" and makes the rules less ambiguous.

6. Section IV – Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility, page IV-1, subsections A.1.b. and A.2.c.(1) – Open and Novice, Mileage

Change to read (add):

- IV A.1.b. (1) (renumbering the rules below as required):
 - (1) Mileage in this division shall be a minimum of 15 miles on any one day.

Reads:

- IV A. 2. c. (1)
 - (1) Mileage in this division shall not exceed 24 miles in one day or 40 miles in two days. (Exception to this rule shall be at the discretion of the Sanction Chairman.)

Change to read:

- (1) Mileage in this division shall not exceed 24 miles on any one day.

Purpose: *As it stands, a Class A ride Open division "could" be divided into 48 miles on day 1 and 2 miles on day 2. Also clarifies that there is a maximum miles on any one day. Specifying the max in 2 days is not required, since the max mileage is specified elsewhere for an A and/or AA ride. This would also bring the "concepts" of the mileage between Open and Novice/CP in line, as there is such a max mileage limit specified for Novice, and by implication for Competitive Pleasure as well.*

7. Section V – The Ride, page V-2, subsection F.1. - Tack

Reads:

1. Riders must use a saddle. The type of saddle and other equipment is at the discretion of the rider within the bounds of good horsemanship. However, no inhumane method of restraint is to be used.

Change to read:

1. Riders must use a saddle at all times while mounted (in camp or on the trail) while in competition. For the definition of when competition starts and ends see Rulebook Sections V and VI. The type of saddle and other equipment is at the discretion of the rider within the bounds of good horsemanship. However, no inhumane method of restraint is to be used

Purpose: Clarify that since the intent of NATRC is to encourage the concepts of how to provide such long term benefits to horse and safety, which this should also apply to any time the horse is ridden during competition.

8. Section VI – Judging, page VI-1, subsection A.2.a. - Start of Competition

Reads:

- a. For the purposes of scoring trail ability/manners, soundness and horsemanship, the horse and rider shall be considered in competition from the moment that the horse is presented to the judges for preliminary judging.

Change to read:

- a. For the purposes of scoring trail ability/manners, soundness and horsemanship, the horse and rider shall be considered in competition from the moment that the horse is presented to the judges for preliminary examination.

Purpose: *Consistency*

9. Section VIII – Complaints, Protests, and Drug Violations, page VIII-1

Add:

A. Informal Concerns, Inquiries, and/or Suggestions

1. Most concerns, inquiries, and/or suggestions are questions of a general nature and are most appropriately directed to ride management, judges, Regional Board members, or the NATRC Executive Administrator. They should be handled diplomatically and informatively on a case by case basis. This can usually be done at the ride where a question arises and without triggering a "formal process."
2. Concerns, inquiries, and/or suggestions that cannot be answered satisfactorily in this manner may be referred to the NATRC Executive Administrator (NEA) for possible referral to the appropriate NATRC Committee.

B. Letters of Concern

1. Letters of Concern addressing issues, other than those which are appropriately handled as either Complaints or Protests per Rule Book Section VIII, may be submitted by any member, competitor, judge, ride management or ride official.
2. A letter of concern must be in writing, signed by the author, and mailed to the NEA.
3. The NEA shall inform the involved parties. These individuals may reply to the NEA within 21 days with any information that they deem relevant regarding the concern.
4. The NEA will then forward the information received to the Chair of the Committee he/she deems most appropriate to receive the letter of concern. Copies shall be sent to the President. The Committee to which the letter of concern has been referred shall render a written conclusion in a timely manner and forward that conclusion to the NATRC Executive Administrator. The NEA, or the Committee Chair as assigned by NEA, shall then notify all affected parties of that conclusion. A copy of the notification will be sent to the NEA.

10. Section VII (Championship Challenge Ride) – Delete this section and retire the trophy to the Horse Park.

Purpose: *This was intended as a challenge to other distance sports. That has not happened. It doesn't draw even within NATRC and costs both the regions and the national organization.*

11. Section V – The Ride, page V-1, subsection B.1. -- Stabling

Reads:

1. Horses shall be kept in a designated area to permit proper supervision at night. All horses must be kept under similar conditions from preliminary check in until the presentation of awards.
2. Stalls or paddocks if available for all competitors may be used. All horses must be free or tied as instructed.
3. Stationary Tie: If horses arethe rider's discretion unless prohibited by management.

Change to read:

1. Horses shall be kept in a designated area. ~~to permit proper supervision at night.~~ All horses must be kept under similar conditions from preliminary check in until after the final exam.

2. Stabling options (at the discretion of the CTR management):
- Stationary Tie: Horses shall be kept tied to stationary objects (trailer, fence post, tree, tie stall, overhead tie, etc.) unless prohibited by Ride Management (the paragraph remains the same as B.3.).
 - Stalls or paddocks: If available for all competitors stalls or paddocks may be used.
 - Sliding tethers: Horses may be tied to a trailer or between trailers via a sliding tether. If trees are used, stops and tree savers must be used.
3. Portable type corrals will not be allowed during competition. Refusal to comply will lead to disqualification from the ride.

Purpose: *to clarify. As the Rule Book presently reads the conditions are to be similar in B.1., but then 2 through 4 gives three different stabling conditions.*

12. Section IV – Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility, page IV-4, subsection D.

Add: D. Distance Only (DO): horse and rider riding for mileage only

- Horses and riders participating DO, for any reason, will be judged in all ride activities as are other competitors, but will be eligible for mileage only.
- Horses and riders participating DO must obey all NATRC rules (except the exemptions specified in paragraphs IV C3, 6-10 under HDC and IV D3-6 below) and any ride rules. The DO horse/rider team must ride in an acceptable manner and not disrupt the ride for other competitors.
- Both the horse and rider must ride DO.
- Both the horse and rider may ride in any division or class.
- The DO team has the option of riding one or two days of an 'A' CTR. When choosing to ride one day only, the team must ride the first day.
- The DO team will receive the standard mileage allotments for each day ridden.

Change IV D. Eligibility of Riders

IV E. Eligibility of Riders

Purpose: *to add "Distance Only" class to the rule book for 2008.*

13. Section IV – Divisions, Classes, and Eligibility, page IV-4, subsection C – Hor de concours (HDC)

Change Hors de concours (HDC) to Distance Only (DO)—only change the name, all rules will remain the same.

14. Section IX – Awards, page IX-2, 3, subsection B.2.c. and B.2.e. – Bev Tibbitts Grand Champion and Junior Grand Champion

Reads:

- B2c(3) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the declared class.

Change to read:

- (3) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the same Open class.

Reads:

- B2e(3) Every ride which the horse officially starts during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing, provided it is entered in the declared class.

Change to read:

- (3) Every ride which the horse officially starts in Open Junior during the year shall count, regardless of placing or finishing.

Purpose: *Since the declaration requirement was removed, the wording needs to be clarified.*

OBSTACLES

The following proposed rule changes pertain to terrain, obstacles, trail ability/manners, and trail equitation.

15 A. Section III – Management of Rides, page III-2, subsection C.2 – Trail Supervision

Reads:

- C2 The course must be natural and native to the local terrain and the use of artificial or unsafe obstacles/trail is prohibited.

Change to read:

- C2 The trail must be native to the local terrain, including bridges, gates, markers, and any terrain that must be negotiated to complete the course. The course may be routed over difficult natural terrain that might be encountered in a cross-country ride as well as through gates and across bridges. The course will not be altered to cross over or near unusual, unnatural or unsafe items that might be incidental along the trail such as trash, mattresses, old appliances or vehicles.

15 B. Section VI – Judging, page VI-1, subsection A.2.7. - Obstacles

Reads:

- A.2.7. Obstacles: Judging obstacles must be natural and native to the local terrain and the use of artificial or unsafe obstacles is prohibited.

Change to read:

- A.2.7. The judges should use natural terrain wherever possible. The following obstacles are forbidden:
- Backing over any obstacle more than 8 inches tall
 - Dragging any object in a circle or any pattern other than a straight line where the rope may get tangled in the horse's legs or under its tail or saddle
 - Backing between, stepping over or onto any unusual, manmade objects that are not part of the natural course such as old appliances, mattresses, set up tape fences, etc.

- d. Asking riders to carry any object other than typical rider's apparel such as a raincoat or slicker while mounted (example: plastic bags of cans, tarps, flags, live or dead animals)
- e. Opening a wire or electric gate while mounted
- f. Specifying a canter/lope over obstacles or uneven terrain
- g. To require a jump

Add

- A.2.8. Horses may be asked to perform trail-related tasks that simulate the negotiation of trail situations that require careful, controlled foot placement. The following are examples of allowed obstacles:
- a. Horse and rider teams may be observed while passing by or over anything that must be passed by or over in order to complete the course.
 - b. Side passing, turns on the forehand or haunches are necessary to negotiate a tight spot in the trail.
 - c. Backing around and between logs, trees or rocks. Poles, posts or boards may be used to simulate these, but not ribbon, wire, tape or other manmade materials. Ribbon should be used to mark the required path through the obstacle when needed, but will not be used to simulate a barrier.

15 C Section VI – Judging, page VI-1, subsection

B.3. – Trail Ability/Manners 15%

Reads:

B3. Trail Ability/Manners 15%: The evaluation of trail ability/manners shall include, but not be limited to, the following: disposition, response to rider, kicking, head tossing, prancing, standing for examination and mounting, buddying up, trail wise, etc.

Change to read:

B3. Trail Ability/ Manners 15%

- a. Trail ability/manners shall include biting, kicking, head tossing, standing for examination and mounting, obedience, willingness and response to rider, and the general ability to safely carry the rider over difficult terrain and obstacles without rushing, buddying, stumbling or falling.
- b. The judge will use the natural terrain to evaluate trail ability whenever possible. The use of set-up obstacles requiring the performance of a specific task such as opening a gate, tying a ribbon, backing, side passing, etc. will be limited to one obstacle per day's ride. The veterinarian may elect to observe an obstacle set up by the horsemanship judge, work with the horsemanship judge to create the obstacle, or set it up independently.

15 D Section VI – Judging, page VI-2, subsection

C.2. – Horsemanship Judging 50%

Reads:

C2. 50%

- a. Trail Equitation: The evaluation of trail equitation shall include but not be limited to the following:

balance/lightness, body and leg position, control, hands, and aids to horse on ascending, descending and level terrain; mounting, dismounting and obstacles; control, timing, lightness, etc.

Change to read:

C2. 50%

- a. The horsemanship judge will use natural terrain to evaluate trail equitation whenever possible.
- b. The evaluation of trail equitation shall include, but not be limited to the following: balance/lightness, body and leg position, control, hands, and aids to the horse on ascending, descending, and level terrain and obstacles.
- c. Obstacles and observations may include mounting, dismounting, and any trail related task as allowed in VI.A.2.8. a-c (from the proposed rule change as described above)
- d. Obstacles described in VI.A.2.7.a-g will not be allowed (from the proposed rule change as described above)

General comments to think about or discuss:

1. Natural materials may be used to simulate a natural trail situation; example surveyor's tape may be use to mark a route off trail.
2. Limit the parts to a obstacle to "3" and the timing to 30 seconds - can we try to emphasize outside of rule?
3. Judges must have enough *knowledge, common sense, self-discipline, and courtesy* to stop when something set up is not working out safely or efficiently.
4. When considering an obstacle, ask:
 - 1) Is it safe for horse and rider?
 - 2) Is it relevant to long-distance trail competition? (relevant = definition problems?)
 - 3) Does it adversely affect the flow of the ride?"
5. The "in camp" question has been discussed, at present, all who responded = do not write rule preventing in camp judging.
6. Is "willful ignorance" actually negligence and how liable are the directors and officers. For example: relative to a jumping obstacle - that every other equine discipline requires a helmet for jumping, if a rider chooses to jump and is not wearing a helmet, then what?

Region 6 Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 20, 2007 at the Country Inn & Suites,
Lincoln, Nebraska

Meeting called to order by President Cheri Jeffcoat at 8:03 AM

Board members present: IL - Howard Hartsock 2005-07
 NE - Maggie Spilker 2005-07,
 Cheri Jeffcoat 2006-08
 IA - Beth Aswegan 2006-08,
 Martha Kunkle 2005-07
 KS - Becki Jackson 2005-2007,
 JR Kendall 2006-08
 MO - Christine Wallis 2006-08
 Board members not present IL – Stacy Bowman 2006-08
 MO – Mike Wallis
 2005-07
 National directors present: Ty McCullough and Ruth
 Mesimer

President Jeffcoat thanks Executive Committee of Ruth Mesimer and Mike Wallis for going above and beyond; Mike for when he wasn't feeling well and Ruth for helping pick up the slack and aide Mike with the ride book.

Motion by JR Kendall, second by Martha Kunkle, to approve June 24, 2006 with noted correction that Ty McCullough was not in attendance. Motion carries.

Motion by Martha Kunkle, second by Howard Hartsock, to ratify the 7 motions made during email meetings of July 23, November 16, November 20 and November 30, 2006.

- 1) Region 6 will provide a donation of \$300 for the 2006 Championship Challenge.
- 2) R6 Benefit Ride charge entry fees of Adults \$70 and Juniors \$50. This is \$10 more than what we charged in 2005 but \$10 less than what we charged in 2006. 2006 fees included meals.
- 3) Region 6 sponsor the May 12-13 Rendevous Ride at Lake LaCygne (Manager to be Charlie Armour.)
- 4) R6 provide \$500 seed money for the April 28-29 Kanapolis Canyon Ride managed by Debbie and Ty McCullough.
- 5) Region 6 provide \$500 seed money for the August 4-5 Johnson Creek Ride.
- 6) BOD approve the Region 6 Benefit be held at Smithville Lake, Smithville, MO on April 14-15, 2007 managed by Kim Weil, secretary Ruth Mesimer, trail master Robin Kurtz.
- 7) R6 use Shirt Hole for any worker awards purchases as Shirt Hole has R6 logo for embroidery and silk screening. Motion carries.

Secretary / Treasurer's Report – Mesimer distributed Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for 2006. Ending balances are: \$1,596.80 in checking, \$7,031.21 in Money Market and \$7,421.63 in an 18 month CD at 4.62% interest that matures 11/8/07 for a total of \$16,049.64 in cash and investments. Mesimer referred to Financial Accountability Report that summarized the Region's financial position at the beginning and end of 2006 and a year-end history for 2001 through 2006. Region has ended the last four years with a loss. Part of the loss years are due to the purchase of a PA system and sale items. However, Mesimer thinks R6 BOD needs to tighten review and control of region sponsored ride budgets in areas of food, awards and judges contracts and expenses because it seems that some of these items have gotten out of control.

President's Report – Jeffcoat discussed ride expenses further, specifically judges' contracts and expenses associated with the judges. Normally the judges try to transport themselves to the ride at the least expense possible. Ride management has the responsibility to review judges' contract and associated expenses and pin down those travel expenses. As BOD members you need to alert ride managers in your area to review judges contracts and negotiate/discuss with your judges expenses that you think are prudent and fair.

Committee Reports

Region Ride Coordinator – Mesimer – Report filed. 14 rides for 2007 scheduled and sanctioned.

Ride Book – Mesimer – Report filed. 600 printed at a cost of \$402.38 (savings of \$93.60 with a 20% off coupon).

Web Site – Chris Wallis reporting for Mike – National web site updated with a web page for Doreen Portner, Trail Advocacy and Grants Chair. Working on Region 6 web page to add link to RMS (Ride Management System) developed and maintained by Janis Baldwin, R5.

Nominating Committee – VP Mike Wallis – Report filed. Sent ballot to Mesimer.

Newsletter – Marsha Hayes – Report filed. May change the letterhead to reflect that while I may be the editor, Ruth Mesimer has become the publisher, actually doing a great deal of grunt work in getting it formatted, copied, labeled, stamped and mailed. I certainly want to hear any comments or suggestions as to how our primary means of communication with the membership is doing. Additional comment: Would like reminder for a story mid-summer of who the outgoing BOD members are and that nominations are being sought for these positions.

New Member & Publicity – Hope White – Report filed.

During the first quarter of 2007, I plan on doing an e-mail or letter to people who were members in 2005 and/or 2006 who have not renewed for 2007. The goal is to try to encourage them to rejoin. I am currently working with Ruth to get all the current information to send out as we receive new member information or when we are notified that someone is interested in joining NATRC. I also plan on doing follow-up with the people we send materials to, to see if they have any additional questions that I can get answered for them.

Region Trails Coordinator – Karen Everhart – No report filed

Vests and Numbers – Kim Weil – 3 vests continually had been missing for over 2 years. Some turned up this year that had been missing for a long time and vests had been made to replace them. 2006 voted to make new carrier boxes for vests. JR is still planning on making the carriers this spring. Vest numbers will be sold during the seminar sessions.

Region 6 Annual Awards – Christine Abbott – No report filed, everything in order.

Worker Awards – Trish Cleveland – Report filed. 25 people submitted worker points in 2006; 21 of these reaching various milestones – 3 earned jackets, 2 earned ball caps; 4 people submitted points without reaching a milestone. Additional comment - Trish is making available to all ride secretaries a folder that contains forms for workers to self report at the ride the jobs they held and also to request their cumulated points. Then the folder can be returned to Trish.

Special Awards – Becki Jackson – No Report

Diamond of the Year – Liz Kendall – No Report

Historian – Martha Kunkle volunteers for this position in exchange for Management Recognition chair.

Management Recognition – Looking for new chair with fresh ideas.

Financial Accountability – No additional comments. Jeffcoat thanks Maggie and Howard for work on committee for reviewing information received and asking the hard questions.

Sale Items – Chuck Edwards – Inventory Report filed – Mesimer added cost basis to inventory report. Region is basically at a break even point on all that has been purchased. Need to keep in mind that our cost basis on current inventory is \$4,800. Kendall poses the question of having a sale of inventory.

Kim Weil asks if there is someone in charge of traveling sales items tubs. Mesimer, Hope White volunteered to handle travel tubs in 2006. Hope may be interested in taking care of that in 2007; it is a volunteer position as to who is interested in taking a travel sales item tub to the ride and setting it up. Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Howard Hartsock, to sell R6 short sleeve t-shirts at \$8. Discussion follows. Motion withdrawn.

Motion by Martha Kunkle, second by Ty McCullough, to sell R6 short sleeve t-shirts at \$10 just for the convention. Motion carries.

Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Chris Wallis, to sell R6 long sleeve t-shirts at \$12 just for the convention with the provision that on Sunday can assess what the sales are and decide at that time to carry the sale price throughout the year. Motion carries.

Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Howard Hartsock, to leave the tank top price the same at \$12. Discussion follows. Motion carries.

Motion by Ruth Mesimer, second by Ty McCullough, to use R6 mouse pads as promotional materials in new member packet. Motion carries.

Christine Wallis asks if we are going to continue the mugs. Cheri Jeffcoat states motion failed. Ruth Mesimer does not like mugs because of breakage and left over stock. While packing travel tub in 2006 trashed 2 because they were chipped and broken. The left over stock of previous years mugs (2 discarded because of chips and cracks, 41 distributed to riders, 10 still available) were filled with candy and given to riders at the 2005 Benefit ride. Maybe we have moved on from the traditional china mugs. Cheri Jeffcoat, Basically we were not selling about 25% of the mugs. Christine Wallis, In past years mugs were not available at the rides. Martha Kunkle, Difficult to ship the mugs around. Chuck Edwards to go home and get left over mugs to sell at convention on Saturday.

Radios - Jackie Hathhorn – Report Filed - I have all the radios checked in at the shop to have a technician make sure they are all in good working order before rides start. I will cover any repair costs and make sure that Kim Weil has them before

Smithville. Additional comments – Replaced: 3 remote speaker mikes, 2 batteries, 1 antenna, and 2 power plugs.

PA System – Martha Kunkle taking equipment to Roland Newton to get to vendor for evaluation. Kim Weil comment did not have antennas for base radios at Whispering Pines; Ty McCullough adds that when equipment was set up at Indian Cave the only antennas in the tube were for PA system. Ty McCullough responsible for locating antennas for radio system and getting them to Kim Weil for Smithville ride. National Directors Report – Ty McCullough – Report Filed – As we all know 2006 was the year of the great debate on rules. The NBOD had 14 rule changes that were reviewed to see if they would be forwarded onto the general membership to vote on in 2007. The #1 rule that was subject to much debate nationwide, and still is being debated, was the obstacle rule. This rule was tabled at this time for more discussion and modification. Ruth, Cheri, and I could expand more on these rule changes at the meeting if necessary. All the rule change votes were recorded as to how your NBOD voted. The minutes and decisions will be posted in the First Annual Hoofprint NATRC yearbook.

Norma Newton was voted to be our R6 national board alternate for another term. Nationally we are financially better than we were 2 years ago, but this is due to tough decisions made in those 2 years, and now we are seeing the benefits. Lin & Jim Ward have done a great job of getting us National Sponsors, that has also helped our financial picture. Kathy Brown, our National Publicity chair, is working hard to get our name out in many national publications. Our trail advocacy chair, Doreen Portner, has been busy letting our Federal and State governments know that we need and will help with trails. Ruth Mesimer, our national student loan and scholarship chair, has made our applications for financial aid for young members of our sport a little easier to understand and to file. Nationally we had 2468 total riders in 2006. Not bad for high fuel prices.

Make a date to attend the National Convention in Sparks, Nevada on February 22-25, 2007 at the Nugget Casino & Hotel, this is being held in conjunction with AERC. We will be able to attend speakers at both conventions and great vendor hall. I want to publicly commend Ruth Mesimer and Cheri Jeffcoat for the past year; with their help and friendship, it made this years work on the NBOD that much more enjoyable.

Old Business

PA system - pending

New Business

Donation to NATRC for 2006 year end awards tabled by Ty McCullough until Sunday morning.

Motion by Ruth Mesimer, second by Ty McCullough, to purchase a half page congratulatory ad to run in the convention edition of Hoof Print at a cost of \$50. Marsha Hayes agrees to write copy for ad. Suggest list R6 2006 national champions. Put ad together and send out to BOD for comment, deadline of February 1, 2007. Kendall comments that half page may not be enough room, a full page could be required.

Mesimer and McCullough amend the motion to purchase 2 half page congratulatory ads for a total cost of \$100.

Motion carries. Purchase of 2 half pages, Marsha Hayes to coordinate with Cristy Cumberworth, Hoof Print Editor.

Region Convention Rotation Schedule – Iowa's turn is 2008, Martha Kunkle taking this information back to group for discussion.

Memberships for 2006 – 56 family, 5 junior and 104 senior Annual report to the state of Kansas filed by Mesimer on Thursday, January 18, 2007.

Ty McCullough comment for the record – It has been a pleasure serving with Ruth and Cheri these last couple of years. Let me tell you these two women, you guys do not know how much work they do on a national level. And Ruth has just been awesome for coming in and she has done a great job. So thank you very much.

Motion by Martha Kunkle, second by Beth Aswegan to adjourn meeting at 8:45 AM. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Mesimer, Secretary/Treasurer

Region 6 NATRC General Membership Meeting Minutes
**Saturday, January 20, 2007 at the Country Inn & Suites,
Lincoln, Nebraska**

Meeting called to order by President Cheri Jeffcoat at 3:38 PM.

Motion by Martha Kunkle, second by J.R. Kendall, to accept minutes of June 24, 2006 general membership meeting as read. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report – Mesimer distributed Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for 2006. Ending balances are: \$1,596.80 in checking, \$7,031.21 in Money Market and \$7,421.63 in an 18 month CD at 4.62% interest that matures 11/8/07 for a total of \$16,049.64 in cash and investments. A CD totaling \$5,513.62 was cashed out in order to pay upcoming expenses.

Elections for Region 6 Board of Directors 2007-2008

President Jeffcoat will announce who has been nominated; then ask for nominations from the floor. This will be done on a state by state basis. Can use note pads on tables or pink cards being distributed. Those eligible to vote are those who have already renewed their membership for 2007; senior membership is 1 vote; family membership 2 votes (if adults are present, minors do not vote), junior membership no vote.

State of Kansas; one nominee Christine Abbott. Marsha Hayes nominates Kay Stich as Kansas representative. Kay Stich accepts nomination. President Jeffcoat calls the vote. Mesimer and Esbensen collect and count the Kansas ballots. State of Nebraska; two nominees are Maggie Spilker and Chuck Edwards. No nominations from the floor. Nominations are closed.

State of Iowa; one nominee, Martha Kunkle. No nominations from the floor. Nominations are closed.

State of Illinois; one nominee, Denise Maxwell. Beverly Hartsock nominates Howard Hartsock. Nominations are closed.

State of Missouri; one nominee, Jerry Weil. No nominations from the floor. Nominations are closed.

Motion by Norma Newton, second by Sue Maiwald, that Iowa accept by acclimation Martha Kunkle as board member. Motion carries.

Kay Stich is new R6 BOD member for the state of Kansas. Howard Hartsock is reelected to R6 BOD for the state of Illinois.

Motion by Jackie Hathhorn, second by Erin Jacob, that Missouri accept by acclimation Jerry Weil as board member. Motion carries.

Mesimer and Esbensen collect and count the Nebraska ballots. Maggie Spilker is reelected to R6 BOD for the state of Nebraska.

Committee Reports and/or Announcements

Region 6 Sponsored Rides - Jeffcoat announces there will be 2 Region 6 sponsored rides during 2007. They will be Region 6 Benefit at Smithville and Rendezvous. In addition the board voted to provide seed money to 2 rides, Kanopolis Poker Run and Johnson Creek IL.

Newsletter – Reminder to send in your stories to Marsha Hayes.

Sale Items – Chuck Edwards – Running a sale this weekend only; short sleeve t-shirts are \$10 and long sleeve t-shirts are \$12.

Membership/Publicity – Hope White new chair for 2007.

Publicity materials are available to those setting up a NATRC booth at a horse fair or a convention, let me know and I will get materials to you. Please send interested persons list to me and I will contact those people by either mail or a phone call. If you are working with specific individuals to join NATRC and have given them information, let me know so we don't duplicate efforts.

Lucy Hirsch is the liaison between the United State Pony Club and distance riding. Lucy is a clinician at the Pony Club Festival at the Kentucky Horse Park late July or August.

Camp in the horse park and the ride is over the Rolex course.

Helpers would have to participate at their own expenses.

Need helpers to mark trails, judge, set up obstacles, etc. If anyone is interested in helping out with the clinic at the Kentucky Horse Park, contact Lucy Hirsch at

Vests – Kim Weil – Looks like a record breaking year, will break over the \$500 mark. I have collected on 47 vests; nearly out of CP vests.

Region 6 Benefit, Smithville – Kim Weil – This is a “no frills” benefit ride. We are going to do this as minimally as possible. We are going to use donated awards, ribbons. Would like donations of food or meals or anything like that; contact Kim and she will let you know what she needs or what you can do to help her with that. Workers, need them too! Contact Kim and volunteer for a worker position for the Region 6 Benefit ride.

Worker Awards – Trish Cleveland – For 2007 will have at all the rides individual pieces of paper that the workers can write down the job they did, what ride and leave with management or give to Trish. At the rides I attend I will try and take care of it. This way people who intended to work only one day but ended up working two or three rides where they could have accumulated points but didn't because they didn't have the sheet to record their worker points. Forms will be available where workers sign release forms. Encourage people that you bring with you that volunteer to fill out the forms and turn them in.

Historian – Martha Kunkle new chair for 2007 – Send pictures to Martha; please identify on the back of the picture who is in the picture, where and when the picture was taken.

Diamond of the Year – Liz Kendall – This year we had only two nominations for people that we think have really brought a lot into our sport. I encourage people to start thinking about your nomination.

Reminder stories – Marsha Hayes – Sometimes need filler pieces for newsletter. Reminders about Diamond or pictures to the historian with your contact information would be helpful. To keep information flowing to members, send those reminder stories to Marsha Hayes.

Management Recognition – need new chair, contact Cheri Jeffcoat.

State Reports

Iowa – M Kunkle – Have 2 rides again next year; Brushy Creek and Dave Smith Fall Fiesta. Angela Gambill - Iowa Horse Fair March 30-April 1, State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, headliner clinician Lynn Palm, \$15 for 3 days. Web site, Iowa Horse Industry Council will have all information about horse fair.

Kansas – JR Kendall – Kansas has 6 rides. EquiFest is coming up; same weekend as national convention, if not going there come down and visit us. Sunflower CTR, a one day ride associated with the Sunflower State Games, is being held at a new location this year. Kay Wolfe has taken over management duties and ride is being held at the Cowboy Camp at the Eisenhower State Park, formerly know as Melvern Lake.

Illinois – Howard Hartsock – Johnson Creek ride managed by Denise Maxwell and Stacy Bowman in August. The ranger and workers were very glad we were at Johnson Creek. They were able to obtain additional funding because of the size of our ride. They went to P&R's to see what we did and if there was anything they could do to help the ride work better. They also moved a lot of gravel that was dumped at the starting trailhead by mistake by the 3 or 4 gravel trucks. They did this with 4W mules and shovels just the day before the ride. The gravel had been dumped on Thursday and the trailhead was usable on Saturday morning time out. Illinois Horse Fair coming up March 22-24. Frank Bowman very involved with Illinois Horse Council.

Missouri – Chris Wallis – Having 3 rides; Benefit Ride at Smithville, Cedar Creek and Whispering Pines.

Nebraska – Maggie Spilker – 2 rides; Pine Ridge Labor Day weekend and Indian Cave. Nebraska Horse Expo March 9-11 in Lincoln, Gary and Mary McCoy in charge of booth. Can

search on Nebraska Horse Clinic, Josh Lyons headliner clinician.

National Directors Report

Ty McCullough – Several things coming up. National convention February 23, 24, 25 in Sparks, NV. Love to see everyone come out there. Being held in conjunction with AERC. Speakers are being shared. Will probably have another huge vendor trade show. Some of the hot topics going on at the national level are the proposed rule changes. The board met in November, a couple of the rule changes were tabled; one of them being the obstacle rule. We will revamping, going back and coming up with something worthwhile for the national membership. Most of the rest of the rule changes should be coming up for vote by general membership at national convention in February.

Cheri Jeffcoat – Motion passed so open riders no longer have to self nominate for any of the high average awards. Motion failed to change name of divisions from Novice, CP and Open to Divisions I, II and III.

Championship Challenge - Retire Championship Challenge trophy failed. Adding CP failed in November but some discussion is still going on. Some board members are trying to get CC back to what it was originally set up for. That was involving other distance sports like AERC, MOTRA in the CC. Other issues discussed perhaps CC on an every other year basis; some of the regions possibility going together to put on the CC. Too late to come to NBOD in February and then have ride in September. Looking at changing to come to NBOD 2 years in advance. Discussion of having CC in a more centralized location.

New Business

Hope White is chair of National Breed Awards, over 20 breeds. There are 2 breeds that never receive awards, grade and quarter horse. Wonder if R6 would like to sponsor those awards for 2006 year end awards.

Yvette Haeberle - Quarter horse association has an award know as the Best of Americas Horseman, self-nominating for people participating in events outside of quarter horse sanctioned events.

Marsha Hayes – NATRC mileage program within Missouri Foxtrotter Association. Starting in 2006 the Missouri Foxtrotter Association started a promotional campaign called "Go the Distance". It is a goal that you set for yourself; give a cap at 250 miles, jacket at 500 miles, decal for your trailer that says "Go the Distance, NATRC, Missouri Foxtrotters". This program is very beneficial because it brings recognition to the Foxtrotter breed as well as to our organization and sport, NATRC.

Mary Ann Wood – Point of information dealing with weed free hay. Discovered 50 pound bags of alfalfa cubes by Mann Pro labeled "noxious weed free" with a label stitched in that had a certification number and a lot number.

Comments and discussion about mugs, magnets, R6 financials.

Priscilla Lindsey, Why no mugs this year? Jeffcoat, Motion to buy mugs was withdrawn after discussion during a BOD email meeting.

JR Kendall, Board got hung up on selling price versus cost; cost is about \$4.11 per mug/selling price \$5.

Margin of profit may not be enough but is something we can give back to membership. Yes, can still get the mugs; minimum order is 36 or 48.

Liz Kendall, Like mugs because can share it with family and coworkers; it had my ride schedule on it so people knew where I would be. The magnets that we have gotten the last couple of years; is it a possibility to replace the costs of mugs sufficiently that we can sell the magnets?

Jeffcoat, Sunday morning there is an additional Board meeting where we can put mugs and magnets on the agenda. My job as President is not to make comments on motions other than occasionally I have to ask ugly questions. We want to be able to serve our membership with sale items they would like to have. The problem is money is tied up in inventory from a consistent amount of left over stock (approximately 25%) and breakage. Tonight amongst yourselves, if there are enough of you who want the mugs (36 or 48) and would sign up and make that commitment; bring it before the board tomorrow morning.

Ruth Mesimer, Magnets were purchased with donated funds with a minimum order of 500. Many were thrown away.

Jackie Hathhorn, It was really nice when magnets were included in rider packets. Depending on cost of magnets, might be very cost efficient if magnets brought in 20 more entries to other rides.

Liz Kendall, Thought the magnet could be something we could purchase. For example if the purchase cost is 50 cents, the club could sell the magnet for \$1.

Jackie Hathhorn, Why were magnets thrown away instead of taking them to the ride and handing them out in rider packets? Steve Lindsey, If you recover your costs, what difference does it make if you throw half of them away?

Jeffcoat, Magnets were being given away. J.R. Kendall, Magnets cost \$398.57 total for 500 magnets. (80 cents per magnet)

Ruth Mesimer, Magnets can be distributed in rider packets only if management and ride secretaries are willing to do that. So you have to have willing workers wanting to add another piece to their jobs. We can buy the magnets and hand them out to everybody in management to distribute, but that is all the further we (as the board) can go.

Jeffcoat, Then we have the cost of getting the magnets to ride management too.

Jeffcoat, We have had losses the last few years. How many years can we run at a loss?

Mesimer, I provided the board a history of gain and losses since 2001 when I took over the duties as Secretary/Treasurer (numbers are the financial picture for the region overall at the end of each calendar year). Gain: 2001 of \$4800, 2002 of \$8300. Loss: 2003 of \$8300, 2004 of \$1400, 2005 of \$700, 2006 of \$1500. At one time we had \$15,000 in CD's and probably carrying between \$3,000 and \$5,000 in the checking account and we aren't doing that any more.

Jeffcoat – Have to understand this year our ridership was down. Our ride fee is only a \$1 per rider. So we don't get big bucks from that. The membership fee that you pay, Region 6 only gets \$15 {for a Senior membership, \$20 for a Family membership and \$10 for a Junior membership} of that. We have to operate and keep things going for you all. That is why you have the 2006 financial statement. National ran into

the same situation; everybody wants to throw money on oh what's 50 cents here and \$3 there. Over the years if you ignore the \$3, the \$5, the \$100 the \$500 you get into a tough financial situation and have to make some hard decisions. If we are going to operate as a non-profit organization and at least break even, we have to be accountable. And you have to hold your board accountable for what money they vote to spend. We can't keep throwing money at stuff. If I have to be the bad guy to say let's think about these things before we start spending more money, just because I like the magnets, or the mugs or the sweatshirts we use to carry. We have got to quit operating like a Mom and Pop organization and start paying attention to what we are doing. Anyone who wants to bring these things before the Board in the morning, please do so. If you can come up with an order of 36 or 48 mugs bring it to the Board in the morning.

Mesimer, I found the invoice for the magnets. 500 at 76 cents each = \$380, plus handling and delivery for a total of \$408.31 (82 cents per magnet). Jackie Hathhorn, I thought somebody said the magnets were donated. Jeffcoat, The money for the magnets was donated. That donation isn't happening any more.

First-Aid Kit

Lucy Hirsch, Would the board consider purchasing a good, well equipped, trail riding appropriate first-aid kit in a cantele bag to send with the regional equipment for the safety riders.

Steve Lindsey, Put a first aid kit in your trailer. If it goes with region equipment, probably won't be able to find it or supplies won't be in the kit that you need.

Jeffcoat, Perhaps some of us that attend most of the rides should own their own personal first-aid kit.

Kim Weil, Most of us have our own first aid kits.

Norma Newton, R6 provided first aid kits in the past. Many R6 pieces of equipment that we purchased in the past have disappeared. Someone has to be responsible for: keeping the kits up to date, knowing where they are, and making sure they get from ride to ride. The more we purchase for the region, the more expense we have and the more likely it is to disappear. We have got to take personal responsibility.

Jeffcoat, A number of years ago we had a lot more R6 stuff that went from ride to ride. We stopped doing that because the equipment was not kept in good repair or was lost. This item will be on the board agenda for tomorrow.

Yvette Haerberle, Suggest state organizations or ride management provides a first aid kit. Thinks it should be a ride management issue. Whoever is managing the ride is ultimately responsible for what goes on at that ride. As a ride manager, you should have a safety plan. If you having a ride on National land, you have to have a safety plan included in your ride application for use of those Federal lands.

Trish Cleveland, Many times a volunteer is left at base camp with a radio to respond to situations as they arise. That volunteer should be provided with a written safety plan that includes a list of phone numbers in case an emergency occurs. Management needs to develop a plan and provide that plan in writing to all key volunteers.

Karen Everhart, Has the R6 logo ever been purchased as a screen printed decal so that people can put in on their own choice of clothing? Jeffcoat and JR Kendall, yes Shirt Hole, you can contact them.

Jeffcoat, Anyone wishing to purchase individual items, we have a sponsor, Shirt Hole, who has advertised in our ride book for years. They have our logo. Tonight you will see some wonderful things that were done for the workers by Shirt Hole in screen print and embroidery. Go to page number 18 of your 2007 ride book for the Shirt Hole ad.

Bill Hinkebein, Thanked all that went to California to support himself, Jackie Hathhorn, and Liz Kendall who competed in the Tevis ride.

Angela Gambill, As a relatively new member to R6 NATRC, I want to state my appreciation to those who serve on the Board so I can enjoy myself and ride my horse. It is keeping this organization fiscally responsible that makes that possible. So thank you very much.

Jeffcoat, National board voted to continue with the testing of the Distance Only (DO) program for 2007. Reason being there were significant additional entries. Couple of changes: if someone is riding DO, both the horse and rider ride DO period. A DO person signed up for an "A" two-day ride, after finishing the first day they will be allowed to have the mileage credit for the one day only. If they ride two days, they get mileage credit for the 2 days. This will be a little more work for our ride secretaries but hopefully this will prove out well. Will ride under the HDC rules except for the ability to get credit for 1 or 2 days mileage and that both horse and rider are Distance Only.

Jeffcoat, The following is a cautionary tale for ride managers or someone considering being a ride manager. When budgeting for your ride, it is your responsibility as a ride manager to review the judges' contracts and associated expenses and make sure all expense related items are spelled out. Many times judges do not complete the entire contact leaving the specifics relating to travel and travel reimbursement very vague. It is important for the ride manager to compare travel costs; the cheapest means of travel (airfare) versus how the judge prefers to travel (driving) to your ride. If the costs associated with flying are cheaper than driving, ride management must negotiate with the judge travel costs and get this settled in writing way before the ride date.

Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Howard Hartsock, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Mesimer, Secretary/Treasurer

Meeting called to order by President Cheri Jeffcoat at 8:05 AM

Board members present: IL - Howard Hartsock 2007-09
NE - Maggie Spilker 2007-09,
Cheri Jeffcoat 2006-08
IA - Beth Aswegan 2006-08,
Martha Kunkle 2007-09
KS - Kay Stich 2007-2009, JR
Kendall 2006-08
MO - Christine Wallis 2006-08,

Jerry Weil 2007-09

Board members not present IL – Stacy Bowman 2006-08

National directors present: Ty McCullough and Ruth Mesimer

President's Report - Jeffcoat thanks Becki Jackson for her service to the board. Jeffcoat also welcomes Jerry Weil and Kay Stich to the Board.

Secretary/Treasurer Report Update – Mesimer, \$2,669.50 from auction; \$500 from vest number sales (one of the best years, Kim Weil). Chuck Edwards, Sold \$553.50 in sales merchandise Saturday of the convention.

President Jeffcoat distributes updated Region 6 Standing Rules & Administrative Procedures. Jeffcoat and Mesimer reviewed minutes and pulled out motions regarding ongoing policies and procedures. These are not cast in stone. These are standing motions that Board has passed over the years and are rescindable by a current sitting board.

Mesimer given a receipt for \$147.71 for hospitality room above what NECTRA donated for the hospitality room. McCullough asks if they were given a budget of any kind. Jeffcoat, same old story, no budget established for this kind of thing. Mesimer gave receipt to Maggie Spilker for discussion at NECTRA meeting in February. Jeffcoat states NECTRA has quite a bit of money.

Old Business

PA System – Ty McCullough – Roland Newton and I hooked up system yesterday and charged up the batteries. Two of the systems work, I didn't. Think it might be a loose wire. Roland is taking everything back to have it checked. Roland will email Ty with the results of the check and then Ty will email the Board and then the Board can make a decision. Jeffcoat asks the Board do we want to continue forward with this system because of problems people have with the system and with transporting system. Even if the system is repaired and working, is this something the Board wants to continue with or should be consider selling it and recouping some money.

Martha Kunkle, Think we should sell PA system, not easy to transport. It is heavy and bulky, breaks down, being transported by different people in horse trailers it gets bounced around, don't think it is a system for us, just not working well.

Kim Weil, Not all rides need the PA system, so don't want it passed to them to be able to pass on to the next ride. JR Kendall, Make sure Roland is aware that this appears to be an intermittent problem; started to work and quit at Indian

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Sunday, January 21, 2007 at the Country Inn & Suites,
Lincoln, Nebraska

Cave and at Benefit Ride in 2005. McCullough assures that Roland is aware of all the problems with the system. Jeffcoat, Is this something that someone wants to bring forward a motion to sell and recoup some of the cost, even though we don't have a report on repair cost. And if so, who would be willing to put the motion forward.

Motion by Maggie Spilker, second by Martha Kunkle, to sell the PA system.

Ty McCullough, Talked with Roland about selling, we have to be prepared that we won't make any money on it. Can probably sell component parts, PA speakers are of good quality and can probably decent money. The rest of the PA system is a matter of what we can get. We were able to get remanufactured police band radios at cost, a type that is no longer used. Will probably not recoup half of our money. **Motion carries.** Ty to work with JR Kendall and Roland Newton to find a ready market and as good as a price as we can get.

First aid kit, Kit has to be constantly updated, encourage ride managers to have a first aid kit at their ride. Consensus of board that first aid kit not a good item for Region 6 to attempt to maintain and assure that it travels from ride to ride.

Mugs, JR Kendall has list of 24 mugs that are sold. **Motion by Christine Wallis, second by Ty McCullough, that R6 purchase 36 or the minimum order of mugs for the 2007 ride year and that if there are any mugs left, Christine Wallis will personally them. Motion carries.**

2006 Year-end Awards Donation to National, McCullough, historically R6 has given \$200 to year-end awards, \$300 to CC and last year \$2000 to help out the National situation that most of the other Regions did not do. I think we need to stop being a door-mat and start evaluating what we can realistically do. **Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Christine Wallis, to donate \$300 to National for 2006 year-end awards.** Jerry Weil, think we can skip a year after donating \$2000 in 2006. JR Kendall, R6 donated its portion of national convention profits in 2003, \$1800 or \$1900, to the Trail Fund. **Motion fails.**

New Business

Election of Officers for 2007 Board

President Jeffcoat opens the floor to nominations for President. Jerry Weil nominated by Christine Wallis. Cheri Jeffcoat nominated by Maggie Spilker. As there were no other nominations, Jeffcoat closes nominations for President. Paper ballot vote taken; Cheri Jeffcoat, President. Jeffcoat notes that she is going off R6 board at end of 2007 and will not come back on the board.

President Jeffcoat opens the floor to nominations for Vice-President. Jerry Weil nominated by Howard Hartsock. **Motion by Maggie Spilker, second by Christine Wallis, to close nominations. Motion carries. Motion by Howard Hartsock, second by Ty McCullough, to elect Jerry Weil as Vice-President by acclamation. Motion carries.**

President Jeffcoat opens the floor to nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. Ruth Mesimer nominated by Ty

McCullough. **Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Martha Kunkle, to close nominations. Motion carries. Motion by Christine Wallis, second by Howard Hartsock, to elect Ruth Mesimer by acclamation as Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carries.**

Officers for 2007: President, Cheri Jeffcoat, Vice-President, Jerry Weil, Secretary/Treasurer, Ruth Mesimer

Motion by Ty McCullough to adjourn Sine Di, second Howard Hartsock. Motion carries. Meeting of 2006 business adjourns at 8:27 AM

President Cheri Jeffcoat calls to order the 2007 Region Board meeting at 8:28 AM. Jeffcoat asks those who currently have a Committee assignment if they wish to continue. If someone is interested in a committee, please speak up.

Nominating Committee – VP: Jerry Weil

Special Awards – Christine Wallis, Becki Jackson explains that these awards are for anything that comes up during the year that the Board wants to recognize. For example, Board wanted to recognize Juniors that had not meet the 3 ride rule at the award banquet. Over the years some silly things were done, Kim Weil had done in the past as well. No budget.

Worker Awards, Trish Cleveland informs board that getting to the point where worker award cost is going to be a major financial factor. During the next couple of months, Trish Cleveland and Christine Wallis to look for potential special awards and get some prices.

Motion by Ruth Mesimer, second by Jerry Weil, to remove from Worker Awards the award level at 10,000 points as a Lifetime NATRC membership. Motion carries.

Motion by Ty McCullough, second by Christine Wallis, to rescind the September 21, 2002 authorization by the general membership to reimburse workers who have attained 10,000 points up to \$600 for a NATRC lifetime membership. Motion carries.

Historian – Martha Kunkle. Budget, past historical data indicates \$50.

Management Recognition – Maggie Spilker asks why Management Recognition separated out from Worker Awards. Jeffcoat, would someone be willing to chair an ad-hoc committee to establish criteria for Safety Chairs and to review ride management awards? Ad hoc committee to review Management Recognition: Chris Wallis, Maggie Spilker and Trish Cleveland. Cedar Creek potential site for next Board meeting, could committee meet prior to then and bring recommendation to Board by that date.

Region 6 2008 Convention – Iowa is host. Martha Kunkle asks about convention guidelines booklet. Mesimer working on getting Convention Guidelines put together; will get to Kunkle ASAP.

New Business

National Convention Hosted by R6 in 2009 – Kim Weil volunteers to be national convention coordinator for 2009 National Convention Committee Chairs. JR Kendall will chair hotel negotiations.

Clinics – Priscilla Lindsey, People would like to see more clinics. Back when Joan Christensen and Jackie Coleman were very active in the sport they use to have a clinic every year in the Kansas City area for years. Introductory clinics, not a full-fledged, whole weekend ride; but a one day, or an over night and one day clinic to introduce people to the sport. Need a dual purpose clinic: introduction to the sport and need how to move up to Open. Jeffcoat, I think clinics are invaluable and directors of that state should provide the leadership to get clinics going in their respective state. Directors need to work on clinics in their state because there is a need.

JR Kendall – If Sunflower State Games ride continues, what about the possibility of having a one day clinic prior to this one-day ride.

Motion by Martha Kunkle, second by Howard Hartssock to adjourn at 9:02 AM. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Mesimer, Secretary/Treasurer