

April 27, 2020

1. I hope this Region 6 update finds all of you safe and doing well. Spring is well underway and hopefully you have been able to get some riding in. As we anxiously await being able to have our first NATRC ride of the year, I wanted to be sure and touch base with everyone on a few of the exciting things we have going.
2. Recently you received a "Special Bulletin" of our Region 6 Rally newsletter. I would like to express a huge thank you to our Region 6 Newsletter editor Tammy Vasa for coming up with this idea and for putting it together. Thank you also to those of you who contributed a short story about one of your NATRC experiences. We are currently putting together a second edition of our Special Bulletin. We need your stories! The more stories the better! Please send your stories and/or pictures to jtvasa@gmail.com by May 4th to be published in our next Special Bulletin.
3. Gina Kollars is our new Region 6 Ride Coordinator. Thank you to Gina for taking on the responsibility of keeping our ride schedule. Ride managers will be working through Gina when they schedule their rides and she will be keeping everyone informed regarding future schedules and rides.
4. Our mentoring committee has reached out to the contacts we made at this year's EquiFest. Margaret Reynolds followed up with an email to every individual. Once our rides resume this committee will be in contact again with these potential new riders.
5. The spring issue of the Hoof Print is out! If you haven't read it yet, go to natrc.org and do your membership log in. This is a membership benefit and so after you are logged in as a member, click "Members" on the orange ribbon and it will take you to a drop down menu where you will then click on "Hoof Print".
6. Region 6 is on Instagram! If you are an Instagram user be sure to follow us @natrcr6. There is usually a new Region 6 NATRC picture posted each day. (There are currently 56 pics!)
7. Region 6 is also on Twitter! This is brand new! Kristen Schmalzried, our new Region 6 Marketing/Social Media coordinator, set this up just a couple weeks ago. As best we can tell, we are the first ones from NATRC on Twitter! If you are a Twitter user be sure to follow us @natrc_6.
8. NATRC kicked off a brand new "Let's Ride" seminar series as part of their 2020 NATRC Coronavirus Response Challenge. If you were unable to watch this first webinar last Friday evening, look for this presentation to be posted on the national webpage for you to view. These seminars are free and are held via Zoom. The first topic was on Using GPS and was presented by Bill Wingle from Region 3. Be on the lookout for the second webinar in this series!

9. Another 2020 NATRC Coronavirus Response Challenge that is rolling out is the 2020 NATRC Mileage Challenge. Log the miles you ride with a GPS between May 1 to Nov 1. Awards will go to the top 6 mileages! Entry fee is \$25 for one horse and \$10 for each additional horse ridden. You must be a NATRC member to participate. Email natrc@natrc.org to enroll and send your entry fee to the national office. Let us see if our Region 6 riders can log the most miles!

10. The third 2020 NATRC Coronavirus Response Challenge is an Obstacle Challenge! These start May 1st. Participants will be divided into four brackets. Riders with more than 1,500 NATRC miles, Riders with less than 1,500 miles, brand new members with 0 NATRC miles, and Juniors 17 and under. Enter monthly (\$10) or enter by April 30th to compete in all five months (\$40). A new set of five obstacles will be issued each month. Video yourself and receive feedback/tips from five NATRC judges on EACH obstacle – what a deal! The judging panel will watch each submitted video and score it on a scale of 1-10 and provide feedback/tips. The top six point earners across five months will win awards. To enter email natrc@natrc.org FYI: The first five challenges were just posted this afternoon on the NATRC Facebook page.

Lots of exciting things going on even though our ride schedule is on hold for the time being. I encourage all of you to participate in one, two, or all three of the 2020 NATRC Coronavirus Response Challenges.

So, get signed up this week for the challenges and remember to send in a short story to Tammy for the next Special Bulletin Region 6 Newsletter!

Stay safe and take care!
John