

Region 6 Membership Update

August 9, 2020

1. I have a challenge for you. I am looking for two or three individuals to step up and schedule a weekend of riding and camping – no judges, just fun. For example, pick a weekend between now and the end of November, invite who ever wants to come, give out 1 or 2 or even 3 maps (but no one has to ride the map because there is no competition). No check in, no judges, no P&Rs (people know their own horses and since no competition if their horse is hot go back to camp). It is just for camaraderie and fun! That is it. It would give us a chance to be with our people and do what we love. No expenses. People bring their own food. Can social distance around a campfire. If we wanted to make some money for Region 6 we could ask for a donation to participate – as much as they are able. It could be held anywhere. Perhaps we could go somewhere new that could be a possible future location for a Region 6 ride. There would be little to no organization to doing this. Just pick a weekend and a location that you would like everyone to go to and we can get the word out. What do you think? Would you be willing to do this?
2. It is time to start working on our 2021 ride schedule. Gina Kollars is our new region ride coordinator. I anticipate that she will be reaching out to all of us soon. In the meantime seriously consider being a ride manager in 2021. We have experienced ride managers very willing to serve as mentors for any new ride managers. As a rider we benefit from those willing to manage a ride. If we all returned that favor by managing a ride we would have every weekend filled. We have all been disappointed with the cancelation of rides in 2020. Why not turn that into a positive by using that as a motivation to have a full schedule in 2021. It is not unreasonable to have as a goal 10 A rides! Look at the number of riders Region 6 has participating this year in just the virtual mileage challenge. We can rock it! Let's fill our Region 6 ride schedule now and make our neighboring regions work around our schedule! We need YOUR help to do this! Don't wait and expect someone else to do this. PLEASE!!!!
3. The Amazon Smile program recently donated \$75.93 to NATRC. To date we have received \$735.26. It is simple to do and it benefits our organization. Just go to smile.amazon.com and designate the North American Trail Ride Conference, Inc. as your charity of choice and when you do, .5% of your eligible purchases go to NATRC. Every little bit helps, so thank you to those of you who do this for NATRC!
4. The Region 6 Board of Directors election use to be done in person during our regional convention (usually in March) but now we will be switching over to a ballot and voting in October. In order for our new members (and older ones too) to get to know something about the person running for the board we would like to replicate what we do for our National Board of Directors candidates and have them submit a 200 word or less bio about themselves that is included in the ballot.

5. Region 6 Board of Directors with terms expiring December 31, 2020 are:
Missouri State BOD Position: John Zeliff
Three at large positions: Helen Smith, NE/Marilyn Marston, KS/Rhonda Levinson, KS
One at-large alternate director: Priscilla Lindsey, KS
The above listed people ARE eligible to run for these BOD positions. Ruth will be sending out the details to be a nominee soon. Ballots will be sent out in September with the voting to be completed by October 31st.
6. This year Region 6 needs to fill one position on the NATRC Board of Directors. The term of Shari Parys expires on December 31, 2020. The term of a NATRC director is 3 years. Three meetings are held each year with two usually in Kansas City in July and November and the third in conjunction with the national convention, usually in February. Shari is eligible to run again and it is certainly fine to have other nominees. Ruth will be sending out the details to be a nominee soon. Ballots will be sent out in September with the voting to be completed by October 31st.
7. Nominations for the 2020 Regional Appreciation for National Recognition awards are due October 15th. Each region may nominate up to three members for recognition. Nominees may be individuals, pairs, or groups such as ride sponsors or clubs. Write-ups are limited to 200 words. The Region 6 Board will decide which nominations will go forward to the National Board. The National Board will then vote to approve them at their November meeting. Due to the cancellation of the 2021 national convention, NATRC will recognize the award winners in Hoof Print and on the national website. Ruth will be sending out more information soon.
8. Have you been following the NATRC Mileage Challenge? For the third month in a row, Region 6 is leading the nation. Keep up the good job! Way to represent!
9. The "Let's Ride" webinars that are a part of the 2020 NATRC Coronavirus Response Challenge just keep getting better and better. There have been five of them so far. If you have missed any of these webinars or like me you would like to watch some of them again, you can find all of them on our NATRC (North American Trail Ride Conference) YouTube channel. Be sure to go ahead and subscribe to our NATRC channel while you are there so you won't miss any new videos as they are added.
10. Have you updated your account on [NATRC.org](https://www.natrc.org)? eNews is moving to MailChimp! NATRC doesn't want you to miss a single email. Now is the time to go to the national website to verify that your email address and account info is correct. It only takes a few minutes. That will be the database used by NATRC for all future emails from the national office. Go to [NATRC.org](https://www.natrc.org) and log in to your account today! Having trouble logging in? Send an email to natrc@natrc.org
11. Be sure to follow Region 6 on Facebook on our Region 6 NATRC Riders group and our Region 6, North American Trail Ride Conference page. Follow us on Twitter @natrc_6 and follow us on Instagram @natrcr6. A new Region 6 picture is posted each day on our Instagram account. There are currently 155 pics! Is your horse in one of them?

12. Stay current with Region 6 by visiting our webpage at natrc6.org. If you haven't already, I would encourage you to make our Region 6 webpage the startup page for your internet browser.

I hope all of you are taking the time this summer to enhance that partnership between you and your horse. There has never been a better opportunity than there is right now to do that!

Stay focused, set your goals, be diligent in your own growth and work to improve your goals!

Safe trails!

John