

Region 6 Membership Update

June 24, 2021

1. Order your limited edition NATRC 60th anniversary shirts today! These items are only available for purchase until tomorrow June 25th! Be sure to get your order in. All proceeds benefit NATRC.
2. A Region 6 general membership zoom meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday June 29th beginning at 8:00 pm since we were unable to have our meeting at the PonyXpress ride. As a part of our meeting, we will discuss the 2022 rule change proposals. If you are unable to attend, we would still encourage and appreciate your input on these proposals. The rule change proposals can be viewed on our NATRC webpage. Go to natrc.org and from the homepage move your cursor over the Resources tab and then when the dropdown menu appears select Rule Changes/Proposals under Rules. Please share your input with either Marla or me so we know your thoughts on any or all of these proposals. These rule proposals will be voted on at the July national board of directors meeting. A link to this zoom meeting will be sent in a separate email.
3. The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public input to guide the development of a Roads and Trails Management Plan at Ozark National Scenic Riverways. I highly encourage our NATRC family to provide feedback to the NPS so that we do not lose access to these horse trails. At issue are the equine trails in the upper Current River area that are not “designated trails” by the NPS or the Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR). Region 6 has held NATRC rides in this area and have used these trails in the past.

If the equine community does not speak up and provide the necessary feedback, we risk these trails being removed and restored to natural conditions. This would affect future NATRC rides in this area as well as local horseback riding facilities that utilize these trails such as Whispering Pines, Pinecrest, Flying W, and Big Creek. Feedback will be accepted until July 18, 2021.

The draft plan includes detailed maps and three options. As trail riders, we want option C to keep trails in the upper Current River. The Back Country Horseman of Missouri and the Trail Riders in Missouri are supporting Option C.

An online “Story Map” is available to provide an overview of the draft plan and the corresponding maps at <https://arcg.is/1Oja9b>

Here is the link to the original announcement
<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=56591>

Link to Documents: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsList.cfm?parkID=158...>

Contact information:
Ozark National Scenic Riverways Roads and Trails Planning Team
404 Watercress Drive
P.O. Box 490
Van Buren, MO 63965
(573)/323-4236

Please let your voice be heard! Let the park service know you want Option C.

4. The Amazon Smile program recently donated \$82.74 to NATRC. To date we have received \$1,079.40. If you purchase items on Amazon but have not yet signed up for the Smile program, please consider doing so. It is very simple to do. 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 are doing this for our favorite sport!
5. Region 6 members Steve and Priscilla Lindsey were recently honored by the Kansas Back Country Horsemen of America with the establishment of the Back Country Horseman of Kansas Lindsey Grant. This grant is in appreciation of a lifetime of dedication to trail building in Kansas. The Lindsey Grant will be awarded annually to support Back Country Horsemen of America projects. Congratulations Steve and Priscilla for this honor!
6. The current ride schedule is posted on the Region 6 webpage natrcr6.org/schedule/. You will also find the ride information pages there as well. Be sure to thank our ride managers and all the volunteers for making our ride opportunities possible.
7. October will be election time for national and region 6 boards. As we will vote on our national and regional leadership in October, it is not too early for Region 6 members to start thinking about running for these positions. Complete information about these elections can be found in the current *Region 6 Rally* newsletter. Serving on these boards is an excellent way to become more involved as well as a great opportunity to “give back” to our favorite sport!
8. The 2021 Summer Virtual Obstacle Challenge Series is here! You should have received an ENews email recently with the details. If not, just go to our NATRC home page natrc.org and then click on NATRC Virtual Challenges. There are three challenge sets. Each set runs for two months. Any membership level may participate! The fee is \$15 per set. You may choose to do one set, two sets, or all three. Get signed up and start practicing. The challenges are all very practical skills for all of us and it looks like a lot of fun!
9. Have you signed up for this year’s NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge yet? You still can. The 2021 Virtual Mileage Challenge runs until October 31, 2021. Help us keep Region 6 in the lead!
10. Please welcome our new NATRC national sponsor Rogue Pet Science. They are providing a 15% discount for NATRC members. In addition, they will match your discount with a donation back to NATRC in that same amount!
11. Reminder: Set up a reoccurring event in your calendar for the fourth Wednesday of each month (Except November and December) for the NATRC “Let’s Ride” Seminar series. Look for posts via Facebook and ENews emails with information on how to sign up. If you have missed any of the webinars you can find all the previous presentations in the Let’s Ride series on our NATRC YouTube channel. Our very own Region 6 member Lucy Hirsch presented last night. Her topic was what the vet judge is looking for at check in and check out. Lucy did a wonderful job as always!
12. Be sure to follow Region 6 on social media and stay up to date. Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are currently 474 Region 6 ride pictures posted! Follow Region 6 on Facebook on our Region 6 NATRC Riders group and our Region 6, North American Trail Ride Conference page. We are also on Twitter @natrc_6! Subscribe to our NATRC (North American Trail Ride

Conference) YouTube channel. Here you will find all the NATRC Let's Ride series webinars plus even more. One advantage of subscribing to our NATRC YouTube channel is that you will be notified immediately when additional videos are added to our collection.

13. Have you made our Region 6 webpage (natrcr6.org) your startup page for your internet browser yet? When you do, every time you open your browser, your opening tab will be our Region 6 webpage. It is an easy way to stay current with Region 6!

14. Important Region 6 Dates:

- General Membership Meeting June 29th at 8:00 pm via Zoom
- Jesse James Rideout CTR will be held August 28-29 at Smithville, MO
- Indian Cave CTR will be held September 25-26 at Shubert, NE
- Honorary and Appreciation Nominations due by October 1
- Exploring Sand Hills CTR will be held October 1-3 at Hutchinson, KS
- Heart of America CTR will be held October 15-17 at Tuscumbia, MO
- Hoofbeats in the Hills CTR will be held October 30-31 at Paola, KS
- The 25th EquiFest of Kansas will be held February 18-20, 2022, in Salina, KS
- NATRC National Convention will be held February 25-27, 2022, in Omaha, NE

We have a great lineup of rides coming up in a few weeks. Between now and then you have an excellent opportunity to continue to enhance your skills. Sign up for the virtual challenges. Go ride some new trails. Get together with other Region 6 members and practice various trail obstacles (opportunities). Go camping at a potential future NATRC ride location. Keep up with those conditioning miles.

Keep your focus on those goals that you have set for yourself and your horse. Consistency and a strong work ethic will reap great dividends as will a positive attitude. Be so positive that negative people do not want to be around you.

Stay focused!

John Zeliff, R6 President