

Region 6 Membership Update

October 14, 2021

1. The most important ride of our entire ride season is the upcoming Region 6 Benefit ride. This year's benefit ride is the Hoofbeats in the Hills ride that will be held the weekend of October 30-31 at Hillsdale Lake near Paola, Kansas.

Your support for this ride will help provide our region with necessary funds for various regional activities including year-end awards, ride support (radios, rider vests, etc.), as well as NATRC awareness.

I challenge our entire membership to support this ride, either as a rider, a volunteer, or by simply sending in a donation to Region 6 if you are unable to attend.

If you cannot be there, donate the cost of a ride entry \$90, or donate the amount of a ride deposit \$30. Donate any amount you feel comfortable with and **send your donation to Ruth Mesimer, 6818 N. Elm Street, Liberty, MO 64068. Make your check payable to Region 6 NATRC, Inc.**

We did not have a benefit ride in 2020 and so it is even more important to have each member contribute in some way.

At this moment, I do not remember the exact number of Region 6 members but it is somewhere over 130 members. Let's just say if we had just 100 members send in \$10 each that would generate \$1,000 for our region. If those same 100 send in the cost of a ride deposit instead that would benefit our region by \$3,000.

Since I have given everyone this challenge, I will step up and match the first \$250 that Region 6 receives as donations, dollar for dollar. Who will match the next \$250?

Let's have some fun with this and see how much we can generate for Region 6!

2. This weekend is the Autumn Adventure at Big Hill ride located at Big Hill Lake near Cherryvale, Kansas. Based upon our membership's input, we were able to keep this ride weekend on our schedule with this new location. I would like to thank Kristen Schmalzried for stepping up to manage this ride, Mary Licata for being the ride secretary, and Pricilla Lindsey for being our Trail Master. Thank you also to all the volunteers and riders who will be there.
3. 2022 Ride Schedule – Contact Mary Fettes, our new Region 6 Ride Coordinator, with any possible new ride locations or if you want to manage a ride. If you are a current ride manager, make sure Mary knows your intentions for 2022 and then secure a date for your ride with her. Mary would like to spread out the rides and have at least one ride per month from April through October.

The following rides are tentatively scheduled for 2022.

April 9-10, 2022	Tally Ho	Leavenworth, Kansas
May 21-22, 2022	Mozingo Lake Clinic and LeD Ride	Maryville, Missouri
August 28-29, 2022	Jesse James Rideout	Smithville, Missouri

We are currently looking for a location to have a Clinic and LeD ride in Iowa next year. It would be great to see our region have four clinics next year. One each in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. After that it would be a wonderful goal to have ten A rides. Everyone enjoys a full ride schedule. Regardless of whether we have ten A rides or six as we ended up this year. We need riders to fill these rides. Clinics will help with this, but we will need all of us to help get new riders involved to make this happen. I have no doubt we can do it.

4. The NATRC 60th Anniversary Store is back! Items previously offered are available again and we have added some new items based on your feedback. Get your limited edition NATRC 60th Anniversary Gear today! All proceeds benefit NATRC. Last day to order is Sunday, October 31, 2021. Click on the following link to get to the NATRC store and order your items - <https://www.customink.com/fundraising/natrc>
5. Region 6 still has a large inventory of T-shirts. We will be selling them at the next two rides for only \$5 each! Be sure to stock up. These are very nice T-shirts with our Region 6 logo.
6. We have new Region 6 fans for sale! These collapsible fans are perfect to carry with you on your ride to help cool your horse off at those P&R's. Fans are \$5 each and have our Region 6 logo on them along with their own carrying pouch.
7. This morning you will see picture number 576 on our Region 6 Instagram @natrc6 account. There have been some classic pictures! Be sure to follow us on Instagram if you have not already.
8. If you purchase items on Amazon, be sure to sign up for the Smile program and support NATRC. 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. As of August 2021, NATRC has received \$1,178,33 and most recently an additional \$98.93 was received as of September 16th. Every little bit helps, so thank you to those of you who have done this!
9. Trail Meister is one of our NATRC Partners. They are the official NATRC trail directory. Each of our remaining Region 6 rides are posted on their webpage. trailmeister.com/events You will also find many useful articles, tips, reviews, horse trails, and videos on their webpage. Have you checked out their section that demonstrates useful horsemanship knots yet?
10. Have you been remembering to read the latest *Hoof Print* on our natrc.org webpage? From the NATRC homepage go to Resources and then select Hoof Print from the drop-down menu. Download it now onto all your devices so that you will have it with you while you are out camping with your horse!
11. NATRC is looking for articles to include in a special 60th Anniversary *Hoof Print*. Each region has been asked to share some good stories from back in the early days of NATRC. You may submit your article to me, and I would be more than happy to forward it. The deadline for stories is December 1st. Region 6 has some great stories to share so get them sent in as soon as possible. If you have some pictures to go with your story that is even better!
12. Be a part of the special 60th Anniversary Hoof Print. Purchase an ad space to honor a great horse, a great mentor, a dear friend, to say what the sport has meant to you, or to celebrate the joy of riding your favorite trails. You come up with the idea and our own Bev Roberts can do the

design work for you. Ad options are: ¼ page = \$40; ½ page = \$75; and a full-page ad = \$100. Payment to be made by October 31st. Design will be completed by November 30th. Contact Elaine Swiss (elaineswiss@gmail.com) for details and submissions.

13. EquiFest of Kansas recently announced that Chris Cox will be returning once again as one of the featured clinicians. This year's EquiFest will be the 25th anniversary of this popular horse expo and will take place in Salina, KS the weekend of March 18-20, 2022. Our region will once again be participating with a NATRC booth. Put this event on your calendar. We will be looking for members to help work our booth.
14. Stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media.
 - Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6!
 - Follow us on Facebook with our Region 6 NATRC Riders group and our Region 6, North American Trail Ride Conference page.
 - Follow us on Twitter @natrc_6!
 - Subscribe to our NATRC (North American Trail Ride Conference) YouTube channel.
15. 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 effortless way to stay current with Region 6!
16. Important Region 6 Dates:
 - Autumn Adventure at Big Hill CTR will be held October 16-17 at Cherryvale, KS
 - Hoofbeats in the Hills CTR will be held October 30-31 at Paola, KS
 - Region 6 Worker Point Forms due by November 15th
 - NATRC National Convention will be held February 25-27, 2022, in Omaha, NE
 - The 25th EquiFest of Kansas will be held March 18-20, 2022, in Salina, KS

I continue to be so impressed and appreciative of all our riders and volunteers. We are so fortunate to have so many members that truly care about our region and about NATRC. The most recent example is how we had members step up to save a ride weekend by moving a ride to a new location. Two more recent examples took place at the 48th Indian Cave ride. First of all, having the longest continuous ride at the same location in the country speaks volumes about our region just by itself. However, at this year's ride I observed two very special moments. Without naming names, the first moment was when the individual who started the Indian Cave ride and has been a part of all 48 Indian Cave rides, started talking about the 50th anniversary ride that is still two years away and became emotional in the process. The second moment was following the awards presentation when all the riders and volunteers overwhelmingly thanked this year's Indian Cave ride manager for everything she did, leaving her speechless and emotional.

These are just the most recent examples that I have witnessed. There are many more examples out there in our region. We are truly fortunate to be a part of this organization.

Finish the ride season strong! #NATRCregion6 #NATRCfamily
John Zeliff, R6 President