March 6, 2022

- 1. Thank you to all the Region 6 members who helped make this year's national convention such a success. Everything went very smoothly. The speakers and presentations were wonderful. The online silent auction was very successful. The awards banquet was great. It was so nice to see everyone. I appreciate the great turn out of our region 6 membership. We have an outstanding group who knows how to do things right! Kudos to Region 6! Sunday morning's Region 6 awards presentation was extremely inspirational.
- 2. During the national convention, RFD-TV and the Cowboy Channel stopped by and conducted some member interviews. These were shown on RFD-TV's Market Day Report program and on the Western Horse Roundup show on the Cowboy Channel. To view this NATRC feature go to https://vimeo.com/683356403
- 3. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to work our Region 6 booth at this year's EquiFest of Kansas in Salina, the weekend of March 18-20, 2022. We are so fortunate to have so many members willing to step up and help spread the word about our favorite sport. This year EquiFest will be celebrating their 25th anniversary. If you plan to attend, be sure to stop by our booth in Heritage Hall.
- 4. Friendly reminder: If you have not renewed your NATRC dues for the 2022 ride season, please do so as soon as possible.
- 5. We are up to 79 members participating in the 2022 NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge! If you are not signed up, please do so. It is a lot of fun. Region 6 has a lot of competition this year with the other regions really stepping up. We are going to have to really rack up the miles now that the warmer weather is starting up. Sign up today! To register go to the Top Trails NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge page. Rules and procedures are detailed there.

Follow this link to see the current Regional Rider Leaderboard: https://www.toptrailhorse.com/groups/natrc-top-trail-challenge/regional-leaderboard/

- 6. Reserve your rider vest number for the 2022 ride year by contacting Trish Cleveland. The cost is \$15 per year, and this allows you to keep the same rider number this season.
- 7. On Sunday morning, prior to our Region 6 awards, we held a general membership meeting. During this meeting we approved the expenditure of \$400 for Facebook advertising for our Region 6 rides this season. Kristen S. will head this up for us again this year. Rather than spend up to \$50 per ride she is going to group some of our rides together and utilize a more targeted way to promote our rides. Anytime you see on Facebook, an advertisement for any of our Region 6 rides, please like and share.
- 8. We also voted, at the general membership meeting, to have our Region 6 convention in Omaha at the same location of this year's national convention. Save the date of March 24-26 for our 2023 Region 6 Convention. There was a lot of enthusiasm for this, and many excellent ideas were shared. We already have a great outline for next year's convention including some handson events. Stay tuned!

- 9. The Region 6 Board of Directors is looking for a new state representative from Nebraska to finish out the term of Brenda M. who is moving out of region. If you are interested in serving our Region in this position, please let me know as soon as possible.
- 10. Updated Tentative 2022 Ride Schedule The changes from last month are no LeD at Tally Ho and a LeD ride at Randolph State Park in Olsburg, KS is being planned for a date TBA. Please sign up as early as possible. The rides in bold are the ones that are currently open in RMS for you to sign up to ride. When riders sign up early it is a huge help to management.

April 9-10 April 30-May 1 May 21-22 June 11-12 June 25-26 July 9-10 July 23-24 August 27-28 Sept. 10-11 Sept. 17-18 October 1-2 October 22-23	Tally Ho (A, B) Branching Out (Clinic and LeD Ride) Kanopolis Lake (A, B, & LeD Ride) PonyXpress (A, B, & LeD Ride) Mozingo Lake (Clinic and LeD Ride) Pierce Creek (Clinic and LeD Ride) Big River (A, B, & LeD Ride) Jesse James Rideout (A, B, & LeD Ride) Whiterock Conservancy Clinic Indian Cave (LeD Ride) Big Hill (A, B, LeD Ride) Stephens Forest (A, B, LeD)	Leavenworth, Kansas Raymond, Nebraska Marquette, Kansas Fairbury, Nebraska Maryville, Missouri Essex, Iowa Lexington, Missouri Smithville, Missouri Coon Rapids, Iowa Shubert, Nebraska Cherryvale, Kansas Lucas, Iowa
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TBA	Randolph State Park (LeD)	Olsburg, KS

11. Stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media.

Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are now 702 Region 6 pictures! By the way, how many Region 6 members can fit in a telephone booth? Check out our Instagram to find out!

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.

- 12. Have you made our Region 6 webpage (<u>natrcr6.org</u>) 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!
- 13. Important Region 6 Dates and upcoming events:
 - Sign up for the NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge now.
 - Nebraska Trails Expo March 12-13 at Chance Ridge Event Center in Elkhorn, NE
 - The 25th EquiFest of Kansas March 18-20, 2022, in Salina, KS
 - Iowa Horse Fair March 25-27 at the State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, IA
 - Ozark Spring Roundup March 25-27 in Springfield, MO
 - Tally Ho NATRC ride at Leavenworth, KS April 9-10
 - Branching Out Clinic and LeD Ride at Raymond, NE April 30-May 1

I am really looking forward to our upcoming ride season. We have a great ride schedule planned with new locations. Be sure to thank and support all our ride managers. We have some new ride managers this year of which we are very appreciative.

It is a huge help for all ride managers if everyone signs up for rides as early as possible. Bring a friend with you to our rides. Encourage others to check us out and find out what we are all about. Get the word out in your community about our rides and clinics. We have four planned this year! Support all the LeD only rides by riding in them, even if you are currently riding novice, CP, and/or open at the other rides.

I mentioned earlier about how inspirational our Region 6 awards presentation was. There were some very special moments that took place that morning, including some very emotional recognitions. At times there was not a dry eye in the banquet room. It made me even more proud to be a part of our Region 6 family!

I cannot wait to de-winterize my living quarters trailer!

Get those conditioning rides in! John Zeliff, R6 President

#NATRCregion6 #NATRCfamily