

Region 6 Membership Update
July 24, 2022

1. Tickets are on sale now for the 2022 NATRC Raffle and your chance to win! There are more opportunities to win than in previous years. Those of you who were at the PonyXpress ride had the opportunity to see the actual 1st prize, a NATRC Afghan Blanket. 2nd prize is a NATRC jacket from Distance Depot. There will be twenty-five 3rd place winners of two \$10 Riding Warehouse Gift Cards. There is a limited number of tickets being sold. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased from Marla Stucky or myself. The drawing will be held February 25th, 2023, during the national NATRC convention in Sacramento, California. You do not need to be present to win. Marla and I will have tickets for you to purchase at all our remaining rides this year.
2. It was a tough call, but the right one to make this past week when our Big River Ride was rescheduled due to the extreme heat and humidity. Please be sure to support this ride as well as all our remaining rides. Our ride managers work hard on our behalf. Signing up as early as you can for every ride is a huge help to them.
3. It is time to start planning our 2023 ride season schedule. Please consider being a ride manager next year. This is an excellent way for you to give back to our favorite sport. You will find being a ride manager challenging but rewarding as well. We are always looking for new ride and clinic locations to go along with our past locations. Work with Mary Fettes, our Region 6 ride coordinator, to secure a ride date(s) for next year.
4. The summer issue of the *Hoof Print* is out! Check out Region 6 member Cheryl Bohling's excellent article titled "Tips Over the Anvil"! Way to go Cheryl! Be sure to download the *Hoof Print* to all your devices today and take it with you to your next NATRC ride! (and everywhere else you go) You will find it at natrc.org under resources and then on the drop-down menu click on *Hoof Print*.
5. You can now shop online for some new NATRC swag! Thanks to an enhanced sponsorship with long time sponsor Distance Depot, you are now able to order customized NATRC logo gear. NATRC receives a portion of the proceeds from each NATRC logo embroidered item you purchase. The current selection of available items can be found at https://www.thedistance depot.com/CustomizeIT_s/301.htm Check back often as more items are introduced! Thank you, Distance Depot!
6. During the July 16th meeting of the national board of directors, the board voted on the 2023 rule proposals. You can find them on our NATRC webpage under Resources, then under Rules, and then click on Rule Changes/Proposals. The results of the voting are as follows: Proposal 1 – Ride season date adjustment (Passed), Proposal 2 – Combine weight classes for 1 year and then reevaluate (Passed), Proposal 3 – Improve consistency/clarity of eligibility for Novice and Leisure Adult (Passed), Proposal 4a – Lower age of all junior competitors to 8 (Passed) thus 4b was not needed, Proposal 5 – Junior competitor supervision requirements (Passed), and Proposal 6 – Sanction language (Passed). Thank you to all the Region 6 members who shared their thoughts on these proposals.
7. You can still join the fun by signing up for this year's NATRC virtual mileage challenge. This year's challenge lasts until the end of December, so you have several months of great riding ahead. To register go to the [Top Trails NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge](#) page. Not only is this a lot of fun, but it is a great motivator as well!

8. The 2022 NATRC Summer Virtual Obstacle Challenge Set 2 is ready for you to enter! The theme is appropriately called “HAND-ling the Heat”. This set will have you and your horse working together to complete tasks in hand! No need to saddle up in the summer heat to accomplish this set. Join the fun by signing up today. Go to natrc.org/virtual-obstacle-challenge-summer-2021 for more information and go to natrc.submit.com to register.
9. We have an immediate need in our region for more Leisure Division judges as our number of LeD rides and riders continue to increase. We currently only have two LeD judges in our region, and we cannot expect them to carry this entire load. If you have you completed a minimum of 750 miles in any division, we need you to strongly consider becoming a LeD judge. The other requirements are to have been a horsemanship judge’s secretary, a thorough understanding of the Leisure Division Judge’s and Management Manuals, pass a written exam, and participate in an official training seminar. If you are willing to help, please let me know.
10. If you are a Facebook user, be sure to like and share any of our Region 6 events and ride posts. It is an easy way for us to reach a larger audience with our ride and organizational information.
11. Updated 2022 Ride Schedule – Remember to sign up as early as possible for all rides. This is a huge help to our ride managers.

August 27-28	Jesse James Rideout (A, B, & LeD Ride)	Smithville, Missouri
Sept. 3-4	Big River (A, B, & LeD Ride)	Lexington, Missouri
Sept. 17-18	Indian Cave (LeD Ride)	Shubert, Nebraska
October 1-2	Big Hill (A, B, LeD Ride)	Cherryvale, Kansas
October 22-23	Stephens Forest (A, B, LeD)	Lucas, Iowa

12. Stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media.
 Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are currently 788 Region 6 pictures!
 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.
13. Make our Region 6 webpage (natrcr6.org) your startup page for your internet browser. 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!
14. Important Region 6 dates and upcoming events:
 - Sign up for the NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge now
 - Sign up for set 2 of the NATRC Virtual Obstacle Challenge now
 - Jesse James Rideout, Smithville, MO August 27-28, 2022
 - Big River Adventure, Lexington, MO September 3-4, 2022
 - Indian Cave, Shubert, NE September 17-18, 2022
 - Autumn Adventure at Big Hill, Cherryvale, KS October 1-2, 2022
 - Stephens Forest Fall Fiesta, Lucas, IA October 22-23, 2022
 - National Convention in Sacramento, CA February 24-26, 2023
 - Horse Trail Riding Expo, Elkhorn, NE March 4-5, 2023
 - EquiFest of Kansas March 17-19, 2023
 - Region 6 Convention in Omaha, NE March 24-26, 2023

It does not seem possible that our ride season is just past the halfway point already. It has really gone fast. We have a fantastic lineup of rides remaining for this ride season, including two new ride locations! It has been several year's since we have held a ride at Stephens Forest so for many of us this is a totally new location, and the Big River Adventure is a new and exciting ride location for everyone.

It is time to start putting together our 2023 ride schedule. It would be fantastic next year to have a clinic in each of the four states where we are currently conducting rides. Based on some recent Facebook discussions, there is some NATRC interest in Minnesota that we need to build upon so let's do a clinic and LeD ride there to generate even more interest. New A ride locations are always encouraged. If we can add one or two new ride locations each year it really adds to the anticipation of the ride schedule. We had seven A rides on this year's schedule. Let's bump that number up to ten for 2023 as we build upon the successes of this year.

Keep pushing!

John Zeliff, R6 President
#NATRCregion6 #NATRCfamily