

Region 6 Membership Update
September 20, 2022

1. It does not seem possible, but there are only two rides remaining for our 2022 ride season. It has been a fun year. I always enjoy the Big Hill ride, especially with their awesome water crossing! I can hardly wait for the Stephens Forest ride as that location has been on my “bucket list” for many years! Please support these last two rides of the season.

October 1-2	Big Hill (A, B, LeD)	Cherryvale, Kansas
October 22-23	Stephens Forest (A, B, LeD)	Lucas, Iowa

2. Join us for our next webinar in the “Let’s Ride” NATRC Seminar series presented by Kelly R. Vineyard, Ph.D., who is the Senior Nutritionist, Equine Technical Solutions for Land O’Lakes, Inc., Purina Animal Nutrition. This month’s topic is “**Feeding for Optimal Performance**”. It is a topic we all want to know more about as we care for our equine partners throughout the NATRC competitive season! The webinar is free to current NATRC members and will take place on **September 28th beginning at 7:00 p.m. central time**. Click here to register in advance for this webinar: [September Webinar Registration](#)
3. Our Region 6 convention will be held the weekend of March 24-26, 2023, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Omaha, NE. Our convention hotel is in the Old Market area, which is Omaha’s most historic, most entertaining neighborhood. We will be recognizing the achievements of our members during this exciting weekend. **We are looking for volunteers to help put together our convention workshops. If you would be willing to help with our convention program planning, please let me know.**
4. Have you purchased your 2022 NATRC Raffle tickets yet? There are more opportunities to win than in previous years. 1st prize is a beautiful 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 our remaining rides this year.
5. Our 2023 ride schedule is currently a work in progress. Please consider managing a ride 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.

Tentative 2023 Schedule

Branching Out Clinic and LeD Ride	Raymond, NE	TBD
Kanopolis Canyons	Marquette, KS	TBD
Big River Adventure	Lexington, MO	June 8-9
Mozingo Lake Clinic and LeD Ride	Maryville, MO	June 24-25
Pierce Creek Clinic and LeD Ride	Essex, IA	TBD
Jesse James Rideout	Smithville, MO	August 26-27
Indian Cave 50 th Anniversary Ride	Shubert, NE	Sept 16-17
Autumn Adventure at Big Hill	Cherryvale, KS	TBD
Stephens Forest	Lucas, IA	TBD

This is a very preliminary schedule as we are just getting started. It would be helpful if we could add two or three A rides to next year's schedule. Tally Ho will not be held in 2023 due to the unavailability of the ride location but will be returning in 2024. A Region 6 Benefit ride has not been identified yet.

6. You can now start your Christmas online shopping 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!
7. Speaking of shopping, 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 September 2022, NATRC has received a total of \$1,530.18. Every little bit helps, so thank you to those of you who have done this!
8. With the increase in the number of Leisure Division rides in our region, we could sure use more LeD judges in our region. If you have you completed a minimum of 750 miles in any division, 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.
9. Honorary and Appreciation Nominations for Region 6. Please submit your nominations for the 2022 ride year for the following National Recognition awards: Jim Menefee NATRC Lifetime Achievement, Workers Hall of Fame, National Appreciation, Regional Appreciation for National Recognition. Brainstorm with your fellow region members and prepare write-ups for deserving folks. Deadline is October 30th.
10. Diamond of the Year Nominations for Region 6. Please submit your nominations for Region 6's 2022 Diamond of the Year to Ruth by October 30th.
11. National and Region 6 NATRC Board member elections. If you are interested in serving as a board member (Regional and one National) representing our region, please let Ruth know by September 30th so that your name can be added to the ballot that will be sent out in October.

We need to fill the following board positions:

- 1 National Board of Director - 3-year term
- 1 Region 6 Missouri Representative – 2-year term
- 3 Region 6 At-Large positions – 2-year terms
- 1 Region 6 At-Large alternate – 2-year term

12. Stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media.
 - Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are currently 811 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:

- 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

I do not want our ride season to end. It does not seem possible that there are only two rides left on our schedule for this year. I am looking forward to both rides. Ride weekends are the best! Be sure to support both of these rides. Signing up as soon as possible is a huge help to our ride managers as they are finalizing plans.

The 2023 ride schedule is beginning to take shape. We have clinics being considered in three of our immediate four state area. I would sure like to see a clinic in Kansas next year so that we will have a clinic in all four states. As I mentioned last time, new ride locations are always welcomed and encouraged. We had seven A rides on this year's schedule. It will take some of our members to step up and manage a ride so that we can meet and hopefully exceed that number of rides. New ride locations add to the anticipation of the ride 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