

Region 6 Membership Update
November 11, 2022

1. Congratulations to our new regional and national board members! The results of our election are as follow.

Region 6 Missouri Director – 2 years 2023-2024
Rianna Deselich

Region 6 At-Large Directors – 2 years 2023-2024
Marilyn Marston, KS
Helen Smith, NE
Kristen Johansen, IA

Region 6 At-Large Director Alternate – 2 years 2023-2024
Christina Lyons, NE

NATRC National Board Director – 3 year term 2023-2025
Marla Stucky

Thank you to each of you for your willingness to serve our wonderful organization.

2. During the upcoming 2023 ride season, the heavyweight and lightweight classes will be combined into an Adult class. This will be on a temporary basis for the 2023 ride year and will revert to 2022 rules unless extended by the National Board of Directors next summer. This will allow for larger classes and increases the opportunity for our horses and riders to earn more points towards regional and national awards. (There will still be sweepstakes winners.)
3. Beginning with the 2023 ride season, 8-year-old riders will be eligible to compete. They must be able to care for their horse with minimal assistance. Riders 12 and under must ride with an adult sponsor or a junior sponsor, 13 or older with more than 250 NATRC miles, with a limit of two per sponsor. The sponsor must also be a registered participant in an appropriate division.
4. It is time to renew your NATRC membership! Renew by the deadlines below and you will be entered to win some fantastic prizes! One name will be drawn from those who have renewed by each cut off date. If your name is not drawn, it will remain in the pot for the remaining dates. The sooner you renew, the more chances you have to win a prize!

Drawing Deadlines:

Renew by December 1, 2022, and be entered to win a NATRC Logo Jacket from The Distance Depot.

Renew by December 15, 2022 and be entered to win a \$50 Riding Warehouse Gift Card.

Renew by January 1, 2023 and be entered to win a NATRC Logo item from Depot.

Renew here: www.natrc.org

5. Exciting news from EquiFest of Kansas. EquiFest 2023 will now be 3 full days plus one-half day. Doors will open on Thursday March 16th at 9:00 a.m. There will be 3 evening events including their traditional Ranch Rodeo Friday and Saturday nights. EquiFest will conclude on Sunday March 19th by 1:00 p.m. Sunday is FREE admission. I will be sending out a request in a few weeks for volunteers to work our Region 6 NATRC booth.
6. Updated Region 6 Worker Report Forms for Rides and Clinics, and National and Regional Volunteers for the 2022 ride year are attached to this update. Please complete these forms for all the positions you worked during the past year. **Submit your form(s) to Trish Cleveland by November 30th.** (You can submit the previous form from the start of the season too. This one is updated with only the rides we actually held and with a new completion due date.)
7. 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.**
8. Sacramento is calling! Make like a Pony Express rider and plan now to attend the national NATRC convention February 17-19 in Sacramento, CA hosted by Region 1. (Please note the updated convention date!) Besides the outstanding convention programming that is being planned, you can check out the city's history that is readily on display at places like Old Sacramento, near the waterfront. This historic district dates back to the mid-1800's and the California Gold Rush. Stay tuned for more convention and registration information soon.
9. Have you purchased your 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.
10. Our 2023 ride schedule is still a work in progress although it is starting to shape up. We have an excellent lineup of LeD rides planned. We do however we need your help! We really need to add at least two or three A rides. We need a ride manager if we want to do Stephens Forest again next year. Hopefully we can do the Kansas Flint Hills ride at Randolph State Park next year. This would probably be another LeD ride and would be a great Kansas location for a clinic.

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. A Region 6 Benefit ride has not been identified yet.

Tentative 2023 Schedule as of 11/11/22

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| Branching Out Clinic and LeD Ride | Raymond, NE | April 22-23 |
| White Rock Conservancy Clinic and LeD Ride | Coon Rapids, IA | May 6-7 |
| Kanopolis Canyons | Marquette, KS | May 20-21 |
| Big River Adventure LeD Ride | Lexington, MO | June 10-11 |
| Mozingo Lake Clinic and LeD Ride | Maryville, MO | June 24-25 |
| Pierce Creek Clinic and LeD Ride | Essex, IA | July 8-9 |
| OPEN | | July 22-23 |
| OPEN | | August 12-13 |
| 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 | Oct 7-8 |
| OPEN | | Oct 21-22 |

11. Riders needed! As we begin to look forward to the upcoming ride season, we all need to work to increase the number of open, novice, and competitive pleasure riders. Our clinics have been very helpful in increasing the number of LeD riders as those numbers continue to increase. I anticipate even more LeD riders next year. I also look for some of those who have been riding LeD to move up and ride novice next year. Our largest need is for those open, novice, and competitive pleasure riders.
12. 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.thedistancedepot.com/CustomizeITS/301.htm> Check back often as more items are introduced!
13. 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.
14. Stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media.
Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are currently 819 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.
15. 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!

16. Important Region 6 dates and upcoming events:

- 2022 Worker Report Forms due, November 30, 2022
- National Convention in Sacramento, CA February 17-19, 2023
- Horse Trail Riding Expo, Elkhorn, NE March 4-5, 2023
- EquiFest of Kansas March 16-19, 2023
- Region 6 Convention in Omaha, NE March 24-26, 2023

The 2022 ride season did not disappoint. I can remember driving back from our convention in Omaha the end of February with a tremendous amount of anticipation. I could hardly wait for the start of the ride season. Take that feeling and reverse it, then double it a time or two and that was how I was feeling on my way home from our last ride of the season at Stephens Forest. I did not want our ride season to end!

The Stephens Forest ride was one of my top ten rides ever. It was a ride location I had been wanting to go to for many years and it was everything thing I thought it would be and more! We were there at a beautiful time of the year with all the fall colors. Mary had everything organized and did an amazing job. The trails were in excellent shape. All the riders looked good in those orange helmet covers. The squirrel hunters kept us on our toes while we were riding the trails. Dwight made fantastic campfires each night. The comradery among all the riders and volunteers was first class. It just does not get much better than that.

I will be looking forward to the 2023 ride season with just as much if not more enthusiasm.

Keep pushing!

John Zeliff, R6 President
#NATRCregion6 #NATRCfamily