

Region 6 Membership Update

January 8, 2023

1. **Region 6 needs more members to step up and become ride managers!** Please give serious consideration to managing a ride this year. It is an excellent way for you to give back to our favorite sport. You will find being a ride manager challenging but very rewarding.

To learn more about what is involved with managing a ride, **NATRC is having a webinar on January 25th at 6:30 p.m. CST titled “The Ride Management Cookie: One Bite At A Time”**. Region 6 member and NATRC’s executive director, Sarah Smith, will give a lively, fun presentation on tackling ride management. We know it can seem overwhelming to manage a NATRC event. But Sarah’s tips will break it down into bite-sized parts that will help you enjoy the process without getting indigestion along the way!

This webinar is the first of NATRC’s 2023 “Let’s Ride” series of webinars. There is no cost to attend these webinars, but you must be a current NATRC member. You need to register in advance, after which you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. [Click here to register.](#)

This webinar will last about an hour and will be held via Zoom. You will have plenty of chances to ask questions.

We are always looking for new ride and clinic locations to go along with our past locations. **We really need to add to our ride schedule this year.** Work with [Mary Fettes](#), our Region 6 ride coordinator, to secure a ride date(s) for this year.

2. It is time to renew your NATRC membership if you have not already done so. We have an exciting year coming up. [Click here to renew.](#)
3. 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 the 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 days for volunteers to work our Region 6 NATRC booth.
4. 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 also have some excellent workshops planned that you will not want to miss. Look for a convention flyer and registration information later this month.
5. Region 6 convention and award sponsorship information will also be arriving to your email inbox soon. Please consider sponsoring one or more awards for this year’s convention.
6. The 2023 NATRC rule book is now on the NATRC webpage. [Download it here to all your devices.](#)
7. There will not be a Nebraska Trail Ride Conference this year as was previously planned. It is my understanding that the facility where this event has always been held was recently sold and as a result it is not available. Hopefully, a new location can be found in 2024 for this excellent event.

8. The NATRC Winter Hoof Print is now online! It is full of lots of useful information. Be sure to download it to all your devices. [Click here to download it today!](#)
9. The NATRC Virtual Mileage Challenge returns for 2023! Join the fun by signing up today. Top Trail will once again be hosting this challenge. All your rider miles during 2023 will count, including both training and conditioning miles! For more information and to sign up [click here](#).
10. If you purchase items on Amazon, be sure to sign up for their Smile program and support NATRC. It is very simple to do. Go to smile.amazon.com and designate the North American Trail Ride Conference, Inc. as your charity of choice. When you do, .5% of your eligible purchases go to NATRC. NATRC recently received an additional \$77.89 which makes a grand total of \$1,608.07 received. Every little bit helps, so thank you to those of you who have done this!
11. The 2024 NATRC rule change proposals are now on the NATRC webpage. [Click here](#) to review these proposals. Please be sure to visit with either Marla Stucky or myself regarding these proposals so that we know how we should vote to represent our region. The NATRC board will vote on these proposals during their July meeting.
12. Horses, Hills, and Golden Trails! The 2023 NATRC National Convention will be held February 17-18 in Sacramento, CA and hosted by Region 1, where it all began! Our convention hotel is the Wyndham Sacramento located at 5321 Date Ave. There is an outstanding lineup of keynote speakers. This convention will not disappoint! [Click here to learn more and to register](#).
13. 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 18th, 2023, during the national NATRC convention in Sacramento, California. You do not need to be present to win.
14. Below is the current tentative 2023 ride schedule. We have an excellent lineup of LeD rides planned. However, **we still need your help!** We really should add at least two and preferably three or four A rides. We need ride managers if we want to go back to Stephens Forest, Big River, and Big Hill. It is always fun to add new ride locations as well. A Region 6 Benefit ride has not been identified at this time. It is great that we have four clinics scheduled! There is still room to add a clinic in Kansas. I added a few "open" dates below, but these can easily be moved as needed.

Tentative 2023 Schedule as of 1/8/23

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 (O/N/CP/LeD)	Marquette, KS	May 20-21
OPEN		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 (O/N/CP/LeD)	Smithville, MO	August 26-27
Indian Cave 50 th Anniv Ride (O/N/CP/LeD)	Shubert, NE	Sept 16-17
Autumn Adventure at Big Hill (O/N/CP/LeD)	Cherryvale, KS	Oct 7-8
OPEN		Oct 21-22

15. As always, stay up to date with Region 6 by following us on social media!
Follow us on Instagram @natrcr6! There are currently 856 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.
16. 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!
17. Important Region 6 dates and upcoming events:
 - National Convention in Sacramento, CA February 17-19, 2023
 - EquiFest of Kansas March 16-19, 2023
 - Region 6 Convention in Omaha, NE March 24-26, 2023

The nights are getting shorter! It will not be long before we will all be busy getting those conditioning rides in as we prepare for the upcoming ride season! Between now and then we have some excellent professional development opportunities available to all of us. It all starts with our national convention in Sacramento. This looks to be a fantastic event with many informative presentations. Bring the family, make it a mini vacation, and enjoy some great NATRC programming along with the California weather!

Our Region 6 convention will have even more quality presentations. In addition, as a bonus, there will be a “hands-on” workshop where all of us will come away with our own horse wound care kit that we will each build. Besides the workshops and presentations, arrangements are being made to visit local attractions. The Old Market area in Omaha where our hotel is, will not disappoint. We can even do the ghost tour again! Thank you to the Nebraska Endurance and Competitive Trail Ride Association (NECTRA) for hosting our convention and putting this opportunity together for us. Saturday evening’s banquet and awards presentation will be one of the highlights of the convention. I guarantee you will come away from convention ready to saddle up and to get our ride season underway! Please make it a priority to attend this year’s Region 6 convention!

See you at convention!

John Zeliff, R6 President
#NATRCregion6 #NATRCfamily