



Hoofprints of the

Region Five Trail Riders

Association, Inc.

Virginia Highlands CTR:
a gathering of new
and old family
(see stories pp. 12, 13)



Virginia Highlands CTR Photos
by Becky Pearman Photography



Photo by Kathy Nicholl

Vet Judge & Secretary
Heather Colby &
Janice Bennett

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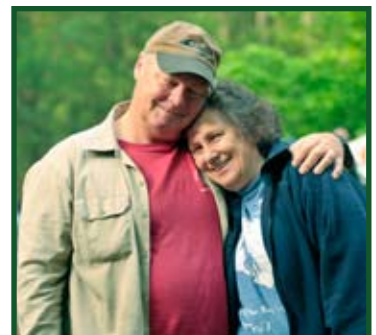
Horsemanship Judge & Secretary
Connie Driskell & Shirley Sobol



Region Five is one of six regions
comprising the *North American
Trail Ride Conference*



Safeties: Marshall & Garrie Bates
and granddaughter Carrie



The "What Me Worry?" Kids: Trail Master
John Denton & Ride Manager Judith Shrum

President's Message

from Gary Clayton

Hopefully by the time this Newsletter goes out, the EHV-1 (Equine Herpes Virus) outbreak which originated in Ogden, Utah, will have run its course, and we can all turn out for the remaining rides this year, without fear of our horses becoming contaminated.

EHV-1 and EHV-4 are two (of at least four) herpes viruses that commonly cause respiratory disease, although EHV-1 can also cause neurological disease. Transmission occurs when infected and uninfected horses come in either direct (nose to nose) or indirect (through contaminated buckets, clothing, blankets, etc.) contact with nasal discharges of infected horses. Also, the virus can travel in the air for short distances.

R5 has not been affected (hopefully members keep their horse's Flu/Rhino inoculations current), but other Regions were not as fortunate. There were some rides in the western U.S. that were cancelled or postponed as a result of the EHV-1 outbreak, while other rides had very low turnout for the same reason. With any luck those Regions will soon be able to resume their regular ride schedules without fear of contamination.

It is time to start thinking about Region 5's upcoming elections. The BOD encourages everyone to look over the candidates for the R5 BOD and select those that you believe will best represent our region. Tammy Lineback has overseen the nominating process. Each board member elected will serve a two-year term, starting January 2012. We have a very good slate of candidates, so please vote using the ballot on page 5 of this newsletter

I know that fuel cost is still on everyone's mind, as it is on mine. While the cost of fuel has come down some, it is still expensive. Hopefully it will continue to drop to a point where riders won't have to take such a big hit in their pocketbook just driving to and from our CTR's.

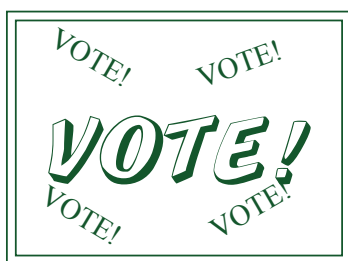
I'm looking forward to seeing everyone out on the trail.



Region Five Board Members

PRESIDENT Gary Clayton 12/11 6774 W Old Hayneville Rd Hope Hull, AL 36043 334-281-5509 gclay24251@charter.net	VICE PRESIDENT Wayne Tolbert 12/11 9598 Antioch Church Rd W Lenoir City, TN 37772 865-986-3333 vtolbert@usit.net
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Next RFTRA Board Meeting: July 30, 2011
Contact Gary Clayton for details



Editor's Letter

from Kathy Nicholl

I hope you like the recent photo of me in the Jefferson National Forest. I am, figuratively-speaking, "back in the saddle again," really enjoying a weekend with my Region 5 family! I was asked to be Rules Interpreter for the Virginia Highlands CTR, so husband Jim and I loaded up Misty and Chance, rode a few of the trails and worked our butts off doing our volunteer jobs. We had a blast!



And I got to finally meet photographer Becky Pearman, who has taken many beautiful photos at the Uwharrie ride. However, she lives in Ivanhoe, VA, nearest town to the Iron Mountain Horse Camp, home base for the Virginia Highlands ride. She snapped this "on the job" picture (looks like a real hard job, doesn't it? – Hah!) and took the cover and other photos in this issue. Becky has been so nice to me, but always through e-mails, so it wasn't much of a surprise to find out how nice she also is in person.

I also took advantage of a moment at ride briefing to announce that so far, I had *no* stories for this issue of the newsletter. I had also emailed the same message to the R5 BOD. Still, I was overwhelmed with the response I got. Stories just started rolling in! Very good stories too. But you might notice how many of the stories bring up the common theme of "family," specifically how we all get to feeling that fellow members of NATRC are kin, even though not biological ones. There really is a deep bond, or kinship, between horse people, particularly those participating in the same type of horse sport. But distance riding adds another dimension because you spend so much time on trails, camping, and enjoying a whole weekend with other riders. We might not be alike

Region Five Trail Riders Association, Inc. Newsletter — Published Quarterly	
Publication Deadline	For Issue
Dec 15	Jan/Feb/Mar (Winter)
Mar 15	Apr/May/June (Spring)
June 15	July/Aug/Sept (Summer)
Sept 15	Oct/Nov/Dec (Fall)

Please send pictures and stories to:

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 Cullowhee, NC 28723
 (828) 293-5835
k.nicholl@frontier.com ←---NEW Email!
 ←-----NEW Email!

politically, religiously, or even ethnically, but we all care about keeping our horses and our friends safe. So enjoy the stories, and see if you too think Region 5 is a really terrific "family."

I'd like to put in a "plug" for future newsletter stories. I usually get three common responses when I ask for a story: when is your deadline, how many words, and/or "I can't write." In fact, if I had a dollar for each of those things I've been asked or told, I could have paid my fuel costs both to and from the VA Highlands CTR!

But here are all the answers! The newsletter is not a school essay project; while I prefer shortness, I have no maximum or minimum word count. In fact, although I do edit for length, grammar, and spelling, I don't count words. As for my deadline, please check the bottom left corner of this page for the table I publish in every issue. Voila—my deadlines! They are the same all year, every year. Finally, of course you *can* write! You send e-mails, text messages, maybe have grocery or "to-do" lists, pay by check or credit card, don't you? What you probably mean is that you don't think you write well, or you don't like to write. Well, I have an ace in the hole in my husband Jim! He is a retired English professor, a professional writer and editor, and he does a super job "polishing" stories. While I do preliminary editing, everything I do I learned from Jim. After my edit, he catches all the things I missed. I think R5 may well be the only region with a professional copy editor, and it's a great reason for you to stop worrying about writing a story for the newsletter. Even though no grades are actually assigned, I think everything printed in this newsletter deserves an A Plus! Jim and I work for you and with you!

Because of the many stories in this issue, I don't know how much space I'll have to mention the 17 sponsors that NATRC has signed up for 2011. Their sponsorships have been a wonderful help to our national organization, so be sure and check each one out at www.natrc.org. There are so many useful products, I'm sure you can find whatever you need for you or your horse.

***** Important Membership Note *****

Please let R5's Membership Chair know when your address, phone, or email address changes. Contact Sallie Kudra in any of the following ways:

E-mail: kudra@clemsion.edu
 Phone: 864-972-9125
 Home: Sallie Kudra
 220 Byrlie Way
 Seneca, SC 29678-5005



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www.southeasternequestriantrails.com
or Sandy Pegram 205 663-2309

OPTIONS FOR NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

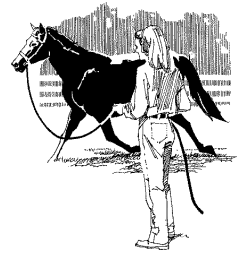
Remember that **you** can help reduce costs and allow **greener** alternatives by choosing to receive the Region 5 newsletter electronically rather than in traditional print. The electronic version is a PDF file, which will be e-mailed to members who choose this option. **BONUS:**

The electronic version has color!
Contact Sallie Kudra at her snail mail/
email address:
220 Byrlie Way
Seneca, SC 29678-5005
kudra@clemsion.edu



JUNIOR RIDERS

Don't forget the
2011 Junior Rider
Assistance Program



Every Junior Rider who is or becomes a member of Region Five NATRC (by October 1, 2011) may be reimbursed up to \$50 for every ride started in any Class (other than Distance Only) in any Division in Region Five in 2011. You must apply for reimbursement no later than December 15, 2011.

Full details are in the Spring (April/May/June 2011) newsletter which may be viewed online at: www.natrc5.org or contact:

Connie Driskell at 828-684-5650
csdintrig@charter.net

A Message from Kim Cowart

Each region in NATRC has 2 National Directors to represent the interests of not only their respective regions but also the sport as a whole. Each director must commit to serving a 3-year term and attend 3 National Board of Directors meetings per year, along with 3 Regional Board Meetings. One NBOD meeting is held at the National Convention, one in July, and one in November. Expenses to attend NBOD meetings are reimbursed. Region 5 has one National director term expiring this year, and while the serving director wants to run again, we encourage any other interested members to run for this position. Ballots will come out later this year, but anyone interested in pursuing this opportunity, please contact me at kcneverrestranch@gmail.com. I will provide you with more information at that time. Thank you.

*National Director
Region 5, NATRC*

New Membership Directory Information

from Sallie Kudra

A new 2010-2011 Region Five Directory is now available as a PDF file. It is 3 columns per page on 8 pages (4 if you can duplex print) of 8-1/2" by 11" paper.

If you would like a copy, preferably by email (or snail mail if that is the only option), please contact me at:

kudra@clemsion.edu

You may also reach me at:
Sallie Kudra
220 Byrlie Way
Seneca, SC 29678-5005

BALLOT FOR 2012 REGION FIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jan. 2012 — Dec. 2013

Please **vote for 4 candidates**. If you have a family membership, please vote twice (use the spaces after the candidates' names for the second set of votes). Directors whose terms are expiring are: Cindy Keen, Tammy Lineback, Cathe McKinnon, Wayne Tolbert, and Alternate Lori Rand

<input type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Hartness	(<input type="checkbox"/>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathe McKinnon	(<input type="checkbox"/>)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Keen	(<input type="checkbox"/>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lori Rand	(<input type="checkbox"/>)
<input type="checkbox"/> Patty Lucas	(<input type="checkbox"/>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Paula Riley	(<input type="checkbox"/>)

Please sign your name so we will know who has/has not voted:

NAME: _____ MEMB. TYPE?: _____

E-Mail your ballot to broughton57@hotmail.com —OR— Mail your ballot to:

Regina Broughton
201 Sleepy Hollow Road
Bristol, TN 37620

If you have any questions, call Regina Broughton (Secretary) at 423-968-2303

DEADLINE: Oct. 1, 2011 (Bio sketches (below) are provided to help you know the candidates.)



Marilyn Hartness is a member of Region 5 from the community of Monroe, N.C., where she lives with her husband and volunteer worker, John. They have traveled to Region 5 CTR's in Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, and in the N.C. mountains. She has been a member of NATRC since 1994. During this time, she has ridden three different horses in numerous competitive rides. Marilyn is a full time professor at Wingate University in the Art Department. She teaches Art History and Ceramics. Her love of horses has been steadfast throughout her life, and she continues to create horse imagery in her art. Marilyn reflects many NATRC ride experiences in her book, *Brave the Day*. The book is about horses and personal healing.

Cindy Keen lives in Dublin, GA and has been on the NATRC Region 5 Board for the past 2 years. I am currently the Fundraising Chairman for our region. I have been an NATRC member since 1993, joining with my 10-year-old daughter Courtney, then a Junior Rider. What a joy it was to have ridden with her then and to still have her riding CTR with me now that she is 30! There are two things that I am passionate about in NATRC: one is the Junior Riding Program, and second is fundraising for Region 5. Juniors are our future and we all need to encourage and bring along young riders. I have been doing this and will continue to do so. Additionally, I run the Region 5 store and take sale and promotional items to all the rides. The sale of these items helps to underwrite some of the region's expenses. I try to provide items of quality and usefulness (especially for the horse). I ran the National Convention store and sales were very good. For the second

year, I am Ride Manager for the Benefit Ride in Dawson Forest. I encourage all to participate in this ride since all proceeds benefit our region. I would very much like for you to consider me as a board member for another term.

Patty Lucas lives in Hoover, Al. with her husband of 31 years, Roger and son Heath (23), who is in college in Birmingham. I have been a member of NATRC since 2007. I enjoy league tennis and yoga when I am not out riding my SSH/TWH mare named "Sunny Georgia." I work part time as a surgical/recovery room nurse in Plastic Surgery. I would love to serve on the board in any capacity needed.

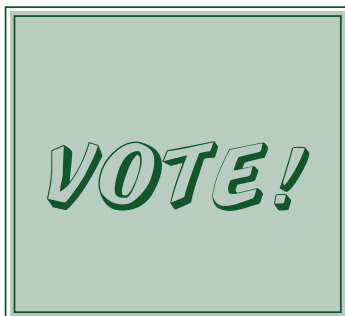
Cathe McKinnon was introduced to NATRC in the early 1980's and competed at Dawson Forest, Sumter Forest, Horse Creek Valley, Clemson, Winston Seven Oaks, Turkey Mountain/Belmont Estates, and Chattooga River. After the demands of her work gave her less time to compete, she began volunteering to ride safety and did so at Dawson Forest, Sumter Forest, Hutchings Mountain, Talledega Forest, and Pigeon Mountain. Since retiring and moving back to her home in Carrollton, GA, in 2007, she has renewed her involvement with NATRC, making an effort to be as involved as possible in many different volunteer capacities—safety rider, P&R worker, P&R coordinator, check in assistant, timer, go-fer, etc. For many years Cathe has been an "unofficial ambassador" for the sport, encouraging horse enthusiasts she has met to consider volunteering or competing in NATRC rides in order to



experience all that partnering with your horse can offer. She has always valued NATRC's commitment to fostering a true partnership between horse and rider, commitment to education, commitment to safety and sportsmanship, commitment to family and to youth, and commitment to trail development and preservation. Cathe would be delighted to serve on the Region 5 NATRC Board of Directors—offering her talents and abilities as needed.

Lori Rand may be a new face to many. I have actually been involved in NATRC since 1990, so I go back a ways with the history. I have seen many changes in NATRC through the years, and a variety of philosophies in both who we should be as an organization and how we partner with our horses. My involvement both as a rider in all three divisions, and as a previous board member years ago has shaped and reshaped much of my thinking through the years, teaching me much that has improved my life and my relationship with my horse. As I value NATRC so much, I take great pride in my daughter Emily now joining me on trail and enjoying the same benefits. This history is why I would like to once again be on the board. It is important to me that this organization be guided to continue to nurture both the riders and their relationships with their horses through both competition and the teaching experiences that we have to offer. Every trip out with your horse is a learning opportunity, and as a board member I would like to speak on behalf of my fellow riders in continuing to promote the aspects of this organization that best serve those needs. I appreciate your consideration.

Paula Riley while new to Region 5, I'm a long-standing, lifetime member of NATRC, having done my first ride in 1983. For the past 20 years, I have been actively involved in NATRC as a competitor, in ride management (Ride Manager, Secretary, Trail Master, Safety Coordinator, etc), as member of the R4 Board of Directors (as both President and Vice-President), and an alternate director on the National BOD. During all this, my focus has always been on helping make the sport I love so much successful. Toward that end, I would be honored to represent you, my new Regional family, on the Region 5 Board of Directors. Thanks in advance for your support.



***** **SUMMER SALE** *****

from Cindy Keen

NATRC logo and 50th Anniversary (1961-2011) golf towels are regularly \$10
NOW on sale for \$8 each.

NATRC logo 18 oz. insulated tumblers are regularly \$15
NOW on sale for \$12 each.

Get 'em before they're gone! Contact me at:
Cindy Keen

cindytk@hotmail.com OR 1620 Bellevue Rd
Dublin, GA 31021
478/272-5097



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THINKING ABOUT MOVING UP TO THE OPEN DIVISION?

Now is your chance to have your base entry fee reimbursed by Region 5 for your first Open ride!

To qualify:

- You must be a Region 5 NATRC member
- You must start the ride (be timed-out)
- You must be in competition, not DO (distance only)
- You must inform management at registration that this is your first Open ride

Contact Connie Driskell (Region Five Treasurer) for reimbursement form:

csdintrig@charter.net

Ride Results

Spanish Trail

3/12-13/2011 Region Five-FL

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 38

Chairpersons: Wendy Allen, Medora Mullins

Judges: Patrick Regier DVM, Kim Cowart

Novice Sweepstakes: Alena Rae/Rogers, Andrea-98

Open Sweepstakes: Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne-99

Open Heavyweight

1/1 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne

2/3 Royal Serendipity/Silver, Terry

3/2 Red Bird's Ransom W./Clayton, Gary

Open Lightweight

1/3 Nakota Bey/Buttrey, Marlene

2/1 Just a Little More/Williams, Lori Lee

3/5 Swiss Mocha/Riley, Paula

4/2 Khapital/Jones, Debbie T.

5/ Loco Motion/Baldwin, Sara

6/4 Tommys Impressev Ace/Broughton, Regina

/6 Pretty Parific/Morgan, Susan Danamyte/Diaguila, Esther

Open Junior

1/1 Allan's Desert Rose/Goza, William

Novice Heavyweight

1/5 Ledo Sabre Rose/Atkins, Lucy

2/2 What Alotta Chrome/Rogers, John

3/1 OH Bogustus/Chapman, David

4/4 Living Proof CH/Moore, Vickie

5/3 Arrow's Saltwater Taffy/Scott, Lisa

6/6 Dixie 5/Tyler, Shannon

Novice Lightweight

1/6 Alena Rae/Rogers, Andrea

2/2 Allure n Cream/Riley, Leigh

3/4 Thunder 8/Dennis, Karen

4/1 Bree/Sims, Jordan

5/3 Kings Lasting Legacy/Petelle, Patricia

6/5 Sunny Georgia/Lucas, Patty

Raisin the Roof/Daniels, Michelle

Novice Junior

1/2 Flash of Lightening/Moulis, Jameson

2/1 Koda/Botts, Retta

Competitive Pleasure

1/5 Jonah/Jelks, Deborah

2/2 Gypsie Dancer L.R./Chapman, Carolyn

3/3 OH Captain Call/Buttrey, Philip

4/ Jake 4/VanEysbergen, Elsa

5 Heart's Desire/West-Pegram, Sandy

6/1 My Noble Ambition/Rand, Lori

/4 Delight's Amber Beauty/Keen, Cindy

/6 That's My George/Rand, Emily

My Special T/Pankhurst, Teri

Mahzouz/Corwin, Linda

P Ibn Ionah/Bryson, Rebecca

Uwharrie Forest A

3/26-27/11 Region Five-NC

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 15

Chairperson: Paula Riley

Judges: Stephanie Ostrowski DVM, Richard Stone

Novice Sweepstakes: Kings Lasting

Legacy/Petelle, Patricia-99

Open Sweepstakes: Just a Little More/

Williams, Lori Lee-100

Open Heavyweight

1/1 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne

Open Lightweight

1/4 Just a Little More/Williams, Lori Lee

2/5 Loco Motion/Baldwin, Sara

3/1 Prime Sensation WH/Jeffcoat, Cheri

4/3 Nakota Bey/Buttrey, Marlene

5/2 Tommys Impressev Ace/Broughton, Regina

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 Captian Kune/Talbert, Ben

Novice Lightweight

1/1 Kings Lasting Legacy/Petelle, Patricia

2/4 Lexus Golden Tie/Dukes, Mary

3/2 Fanci's Sharzam/Kingshill, Susan

4/3 MX Silver Hills/DeRosa, Charmaine

Novice Junior

1/1 Flash of Lightening/Moulis, Jameson

Competitive Pleasure

1/2 Delight's Amber Beauty/Keen, Cindy

2/1 Marnos Terra Cotta/Kudra, Sallie

3/3 Oak Knoll Holly/Nathan, Julie

Uwharrie Forest B

3/26/11 Region Five-NC

B-N/CP Total Riders: 14

Chairperson: Paula Riley

Judges: Stephanie Ostrowski DVM, Richard Stone

Novice Sweepstakes: Jabez/Hage, Chloe-99

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 Maarsadda/Wood, Laurie

2/2 Samurai/Hamilton, Laurie

Novice Lightweight

1/1 Nakita/Ingram, Mary

2/3 Buddy 15/Thomas, Karen

3/2 Hallie 2/Wray, Cynthia

4/4 Igknight/Thomas, Katherine

Novice Junior

1/1 Jabez/Hage, Chloe

2/3 Nyk/Lundeen, Sarah

3/2 Jerico/Redford, Meggi

Competitive Pleasure

1/4 Scarlet 2/Wertz, Jennifer

2/5 Johnny 3/Cherry, Diane

3/1 CMF Hallel/Hartness, Marilyn

4/3 DIA Icon/Mount, Janell

5/2 Naomi 2/Land, Carol

Springtime at the Biltmore A

4/9-10/11 Region Five-NC

A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 19

Chairperson: Morgan Ortiz

Judges: Michael Bridges DVM, Bill Sherfese

Novice Sweepstakes: Choctaw Kana/Bender, Marjorie-95

Open Sweepstakes: Prime Sensation WH/Jeffcoat, Cheri-98

Open Heavyweight

1/1 Marnos Terra Cotta/Kudra, Sallie

2/2 Red Bird's Ransom W./Clayton, Gary

Open Lightweight

1/1 Prime Sensation WH/Jeffcoat, Cheri

2/2 Khapital/Jones, Debbie T.

3/5 Just a Little More/Williams, Lori Lee

4/3 Swiss Mocha/Riley, Paula

5/4 Tommys Impressev Ace/Broughton, Regina

Open Junior

1/1 Jetstream/Hillman, Isabel

Novice Heavyweight

1/1 KitKat/Arcelle, Jeanne

Novice Lightweight

1/2 Choctaw Kana/Bender, Marjorie

2/4 MX Silver Hills/DeRosa, Charmaine

3/1 Kings Lasting Legacy/Petelle, Patricia

4/3 Alena Rae/Rogers, Andrea

Competitive Pleasure

1/2 Pride's Second Girl/Curtis, Karen

2/1 Dakota's Dark Knight/Hardin, Kathy

3/3 DIA Icon/Mount, Janell

4/5 Oak Knoll Holly/Nathan, Julie

P Roxy Ash Moro/Perrin, Anne



Springtime at the Biltmore B

4/9/11 Region Five-NC
B-N Total Riders: 6
Chairperson: Morgan Ortiz
Judges: Michael Bridges DVM, Bill Sherfese
Novice Sweepstakes: Love's Kaleidoscope/Young, Madeline

Novice Heavyweight
1/1 Maarsadda/Wood, Laurie
P Samurai/Hamilton, Laurie
P Carolina Redrockandi/Rogers, John

Novice Lightweight
1/1 Love's Kaleidoscope/Young, Madeline
2/2 Fanci's Sharzam/Kingshill, Susan
3/3 Mr. Honey/Flint, Jeri

VA Highlands A

5/21-22/2011 Region Five-VA
A-O/N/CP Total Riders: 23
Chairperson: Judith Shrum
Judges: Heather Colby DVM, Connie Driskell
Novice Sweepstakes: Kings Lasting Legacy/Petelle, Patricia-93
Open Sweepstakes: Nakota Bey/Buttrey, Marlene-96

Open Heavyweight
1/1 Windstorm Sienna/Tolbert, Wayne

Open Lightweight
1/2 Nakota Bey/Buttrey, Marlene
2/4 FYF Inzane/Sluys, Nancy
3/5 Just a Little More/Williams, Lori lee
4/3 Swiss Mocha/Riley, Paula
5/1 Tommys Impressev Ace/Broughton, Regina

Novice Heavyweight
1/1 Mary Jane/Ault, Carol

Novice Lightweight
1/1 Kings Lasting Legacy/Petelle, Patricia
2/2 Lexus Golden Tie L/Dukes, Mary
3/4 Alena Rae/Rogers, Andrea
4/3 Jenny/Lowery, Amber
5/5 Abe 2/Blevins, Megan
6/ Paco 2/Powell, Ferd
/6 Jettie/Russell, Sarah

Novice Junior

- 1/1 Koda/Botts, Retta
- P Flash of Lightening/Moulis, Jameson



- Competitive Pleasure
- 1/1 Delight's Amber Beauty/Keen, Cindy
- 2/ Easy on the Bourbon/Morgan, Rosemary
- 3/2 Oak Knoll Holly/Nathan, Julie
- 4/4 OH Captain Call/Buttrey, Philip
- 5/3 JR's Tenn Rock/Woodall, Courtney
- 6/5 Quintessential/Downing, Whitney
- /6 Mister Smarty Bar T/Ford, Gail

VA Highlands B

5/21/2011 Region Five-VA
B-N/CP Total Riders: 8
Chairperson: Judith Shrum
Judges: Heather Colby DVM, Connie Driskell
Novice Sweepstakes: Cisco/Barnett, Lynn-95

Novice Heavyweight
1/3 Cisco/Barnett, Lynn
2/1 Maarsadda/Wood, Laurie
3/2 Abraham Lincoln MD/Henson, Wendy

Novice Junior
1/1 Pebbles/Kosa, Victoria

Competitive Pleasure
1/2 DIA Icon/Mount, Janell
2/1 CMF Hallel/Hartness, Marilyn

Competitive Pleasure DO
Foxie/Greene, Nancy
RA Mystic Deed/Findley, Martha

Meet Amanda Rand

Who doesn't love a good picture of themselves with their horses?

Hi, my name is Amanda Rand, and I have started taking photos of everyone at the trail rides while my Mom Lori and sister Emily compete. You may see some of my work printed in the newsletters this year. I also post the photos on my website in the hopes of earning a little money to go into my college fund. If you see me out on the trail, give me your best smile. I hope you will enjoy your photos. They are a great way to share your memories.

If you would like to see photos from Spanish Trail, the Nimblewill ride clinic, or future rides, go to equineloco.com, Enjoy!



SPANISH TRAIL XXV PHOTOS



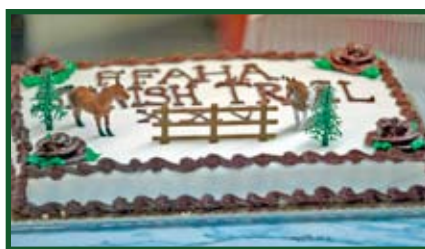
BY AMANDA RAND



SPANISH TRAIL XXV PHOTOS

by S. Renee' Mayne

www.angryfilly.net



The Hills of Uwharrie

“There will be hills,” I was warned. *by Jameson Moulis*
And I replied, “That’s alright. I’ve ridden up hills before!” But I found out that “hills” was a big exaggeration.

I had seldom taken advantage of the single hill at Meadowchase Farms (where I board) that presented a grade severe enough to not be mistaken for a fire ant mound. This hill was located on a trail I didn’t often travel, presented an angle of no more than 45 degrees at its most extreme, and rose steadily for only about 30 yards. I would have been wise to walk up and down this hill a few times a day, but I didn’t have that kind of patience. I was much more interested in galloping around the nearby soybean and sunflower fields.

The morning following our arrival for the March 26-27 Uwharrie Forest CTR held at 4B Farms in Troy, North Carolina, I wished I had trekked up my Georgia hill just a few more times. I also wished I had a blindfold and something to settle my stomach. The elevation changes were dizzying from the perspective of someone who lives in the flat costal plains of central Georgia. The twists, turns, ups, and downs of my 30-minute pre-vet-in ride had managed to make me nauseous. My horse “Baby Girl” enjoyed running up and down the steep, tedious inclines, helping my nausea very little.

Later that night, riders were briefed on their trail maps,



Photo by Becky Pearman

and told what to expect on Saturday. I had been warned about Horsemanship Judge Richard Stone’s incredible ability to camouflage himself so that he appeared to be in several places at once. A 20-mile equitation class would be the perfect excuse for my blonde boss lady, Cindy Keen, to nag me about everything I did wrong. Vet Judge Stephanie Ostrowski was also being very thorough. She had already sniffed out fill in my horse’s legs and had a card marked full of old injuries. There were also words of caution thrown in about snakes and bears. Still a little frazzled from my short morning excursion, I became convinced that this ride was going to do its best to kill me.

The Saturday morning exit from camp was just as expected. My horse attempted to jig out from under me for the first few miles. The terrain functioned as a system of natural speed bumps, quickly diminishing Baby Girl’s excess energy. After she had settled down and we found a quiet pocket to ride in, I could appreciate the beauty of the Uwharries. The trails wrapped around the mountains, bringing us up slowly through misty forests and leading us to dozens of shallow, rock-strewn creek crossings. Occasionally we were faced with exciting scrambles, which took us up rocky, almost vertical, hillsides. These weren’t nearly as exhausting as the gradual 1,000 foot elevation changes. We plodded up these long stretches of slowly rising trail until we reached the top of the world. Here we allowed the horses to catch a breath. When I looked through the



trees, I saw the horizon as a chain of beautiful hazy-blue mountains.

Saturday went by in a blur, and soon I found myself crossing the two-mile marker on Sunday. I was sorry my ride was coming to an end. After surviving all of Saturday, I was no longer worried about falling off a cliff or overexerting my horse. Baby Girl had done very well for only her second ride of the year. All her P & R's were low, and the obstacles seemed tailor-made to play to her strengths. I was sure my horse card would be lovely, but I had no idea how my horsemanship card would turn out. I hadn't seen Richard all weekend, and knew I surely had not ridden perfectly for 40 miles.

At awards that evening, I graciously received my ribbons and cards. I was proud of Baby Girl, who was awarded a 96. The only things counted off were for fill in the back legs and one instance of slow gut sounds. I went to her stall shortly after to congratulate her. She was irritable and tired, so I left a few apple slices in her bucket. Judging by her sour expression, the best reward would be to leave her in the stall and let her sleep.

To my surprise, my horsemanship card didn't look too bad either. I had received a perfect 100. In fact, the only downside to this *amazing* ride was how difficult it was to brag about double blues—I was the only 2-day Novice Junior rider!



Patricia Patelle



Janell Mount

UNHARRIE
PHOTOS
by Becky
Pearman



Katherine
Thomas

Springtime at Biltmore

Springtime at Biltmore 2011 was *by Regina Broughton* held on the beautiful weekend of April 9 and 10 at the breathtaking Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina. STOP! This ride story isn't so much about its famous and spectacular location. This story isn't about the details of the obstacles and the mechanics of a Region Five NATRC CTR. This is a story about FAMILY.

On Friday, April 8, 2010, I was driving, with Tango in the horse trailer behind me, to the Biltmore Estate, when I received a phone call from my sister, Stephanie. She told me that my Aunt Vivian, my only remaining maternal aunt and my mother's only remaining sibling, had died in a Chicago hospital early that morning at the age of 90. Her husband, my Uncle Claude, was probably the coolest uncle a girl could ever have. Aunt Vivian and Uncle Claude had four children, two boys and two girls. When we were little we always used to go to our cousins' football games and to the 4th of July fireworks with them. And when I got married, I wore the wedding dress of Aunt Vivian's daughter Claudia. Aunt Vivian and her family used to come out to our farm every year to help freeze hundreds of quarts of sweet corn, to help put up many quarts of green beans and tomatoes, and to butcher and freeze chickens. She was fourteen years older than my mother, so she always seemed like a second grandmother to me. And, now, as I drove to the Biltmore Estate with my horse on a



Ben Talbert



Sara Baldwin

UNHARRIE
PHOTOS
by Becky
Pearman

Carol Land, Chloe Hage, Meggi Redford,
Sarah Lundeen



lovely Friday in April, I realized she was gone.

I debated whether I should go home and immediately make a trip to Illinois, or wait until the funeral plans were announced. Since I was almost to Asheville already, I decided to go there, prepared to leave if my family needed me over the weekend. Looking back on my decision today, I have to chuckle at the irony of my mother's Christmas gift to me—a plaque that says, "To Ride or Not to Ride? What a Stupid Question!"

I arrived at the Biltmore Equestrian Center's camping field, set up my trailer, registered for the ride, and checked in my horse. As I chatted with my NATRC friends, they were all sympathetic about the loss of my aunt. Saturday morning I got a phone call from my mom. She said that Aunt Vivian's funeral would be on Sunday and the burial would be on Monday. There was no way I could get home and drive to Illinois in time to attend the funeral—the arrangements were made much more quickly than I had expected. I decided to complete the ride and to hurry home after I got off the trail on Sunday, so that I could make the drive for the burial on Monday.

It was with a heavy heart that I rode on Saturday morning. The frustration was doubled when my riding partner, Wayne Tolbert, had to pull because his Morgan mare, Windstorm Sienna, had an accident at her trailer overnight and was lame on Saturday morning. Thank goodness for fellow NATRC family members, Lori Lee Williams and Debbie Jones, who welcomed me to tag along with them on the trails. We had a beautiful ride on Saturday and another great ride on Sunday. My horse moved well and felt great! We always have a blast riding at the Biltmore Estate.

And speaking of FAMILY, the Biltmore ride would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of Connie Driskell and her family. Now THIS is a true NATRC family! Connie has been putting on the current Biltmore ride since 2000, taking it over from Region Five member Julie Nathan. Connie told me that she managed a couple of other Biltmore rides in '81 and '82 and then a couple in the mid 90's. Then, she put on the Blue Ridge Mountains Ride up at Mt. Mitchell from '84 thru '89 or '90.

Connie's brother, Bucky Starnes, managed the Cataloochee ride for 15 to 20 years. It started out as the Maggie Valley 50 and progressed to the Cataloochee 100.

Connie's sister, Shirley Sobol, managed the Virginia Highlands ride for about 4 years in the 80's, when Virginia Taylor was starting up that ride. After Garrie and Marshall Bates got involved in NATRC, they took over the VA Highlands ride after Virginia Taylor's death. It was called the Virginia Taylor Memorial ride for a number of years. (Shirley's daughter Morgan Ortiz represents the next generation of this family effort.)

Connie and her family members have also been avid competitors. She joined NATRC in 1974 and rode her first CTR in 1976 at Biltmore. Then she rode the Biltmore 100 (not an NATRC ride) twice, in 1979 and 1980. Shirley Sobol's first ride was the Berry College Moonlight ride in 1979 or 1980. Bucky Starnes' first ride was the 1982 Carolina Trails CTR in SC. And, the rest is history!

Now, with her family's help, Connie manages 2 rides per year at the Biltmore Estate—a spring ride in April and a fall ride in October. She is also trying to re-establish the AA ride (3 day—100 miles). Region 5 used to have 3 AA rides including Virginia Highlands, Hutchings Mountain and Cataloochee.

Connie told me that, "Family—both my human and my equine family—are the heart of this ride."

And I couldn't agree more.

Nimblewill Clinic

Photo by Amanda Rand



Ten years ago, NATRC was as much a staple in my life as food and water. They say life is what happens when you are making plans, and life definitely had different plans than I did. With grandchildren arriving, family responsibilities,

and long travel commutes related to my job, I no longer could spend the time conditioning my horses. What made things worse was that my horses were aging, and I wasn't riding them enough to keep them in condition.

Fast forward to today. My life has changed, and my love for trail riding has returned. But I have a 27-year-old horse and a 17-year-old horse that can no longer do long distances. So I purchased a new, young horse named Art, but he had never been on trails! He had only been green broke and ridden in an arena. I actually took him to the clinic to get him trained so that I could sell him. But, to my surprise, I fell in love with Art at such a deep level; I couldn't bear to part with him, and decided to keep him.

The clinic was great. Art had never been exposed to creeks and obstacles, or being tied to a trailer, and he did all of those things beautifully. The exposure that the clinic gave him has given me confidence in him. I have been riding at least 4 times a week, and we have now even successfully accomplished crossing the Etowah River at Dawson Forest a total of four times!

After returning to an NATRC event, I realized just how much I had missed the camaraderie of my friends, and how much I love trail riding with my favorite horse.

Art and I will be riding into the sunset daily.



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NIMBLEWILL CLINIC PHOTOS
by Amanda Rand



My Dream Horse

Mary Jane and Her First NATRC Ride

Photo by Becky Pearman



Mary Jane is just *by Carol Ault* now beginning her journey under saddle. She is a 10-year-old grade mare, the daughter of my most favorite horse, Grace. At 22 years old, Grace is now retired to a quiet life in the fields, which made me decide to get Mary Jane going. She spent a month with my trainer Bobby Howell (who is also my farrier). I took her to a couple of Joyce Lewis'

Safe Horse Training clinics, and felt she was coming along great. No problems at all, except that I did notice each time I loaded her on my trailer, it was a little more difficult, even though she still got on. I just thought she needed more time to adjust. I even took her to the beach, and she loved it! Although she sometimes gets a little spooked on the trail, she is coming along, and I truly feel she is my Dream Horse.

I entered Mary Jane in the VA Highlands CTR, because she seemed ready for the next step. Even though the ride was on the weekend of May 21-22, I arranged to meet Regina Broughton at Iron Mountain Horse Camp on Wednesday, May 18. Regina had agreed to pre-ride with us, to help me decide whether Mary Jane was ready for just the 1-day ride or for the 2-day one. With many thanks to Regina and her horse Tango for mentoring us on rides Wednesday and Thursday, I felt confident that Mary Jane could handle the 2-day CTR.

With Regina and Tango watching, Mary Jane vetted in with only one problem—she kicked out at the Vet judge, Heather Colby, and immediately lost 3 points. (Note to everyone: make sure your horse does not kick out at someone who tries to pick up a hoof! If she had made contact, we would have been disqualified.) She did the same thing at vet out, so another 3 points gone.

The first day we rode with Janell Mount and Laurie Wood (both 1-day riders). We all took turns in different positions. Everyone worked together well, and Mary Jane seems to get along fine with different horses. The trails were beautiful, with flowers everywhere, lots of rhododendron. The terrain was varied: lots of hills, with some flat land for moving out, and good water available.

The second day I had a wonderful time riding with Philip Buttrey. Mary Jane did great with Philip's Spotted Saddle Horse. We had such a good time enjoying the scenery that we messed up our timing somewhat. When we got to the second P&R, we realized that (1) we were way behind and (2) that Mary Jane had thrown a shoe (another first for her). But many thanks to Phillip for lending me an

Easy Boot for her. (Additional note: always carry an Easy Boot; I certainly will from now on.)

We had 5 miles to go and decided in order to make it in on time, we had to pick up the pace. Luckily for us, the terrain was made for moving out. We trotted/gaited or cantered all the way. Mary Jane was like the Duracell bunny, she just kept on going. (From Wednesday to Sunday afternoon, we had done about 65 miles.) We made it to camp with just 2 minutes to spare. Wow, we were so excited!

Mary Jane checked out sound, although she had some fill. But all in all I was very pleased with her first NATRC ride. I felt ready to brag on my Dream Horse. But after awards were over and it came time to load up and go home, Mary Jane took my bragging rights away.

Since I needed to work on Monday (having been away since Wednesday), I packed up quickly and went to load Mary Jane. She refused to get on the trailer! Numerous experienced people tried unsuccessfully to get her on my trailer. I became very upset and tearful. A big storm was fast approaching, and since it was getting late, I decided I had to put Mary Jane back in a stall and wait until morning. I want to sincerely thank my Region 5 NATRC family—everyone in camp consoled me, then fed me dinner, and tucked me safely into bed. They were truly helpful and caring, and I felt the love.

The next morning, after trying (and failing) again, I decided I did not want to make this experience worse for her or me. So I called my trainer, who was 4 hours away, to come and load her, and I would take her back to him for another month. Bobby got there at 2:00 p.m. and I was amazed at how he worked with her. He was very calm and relaxed, but firm. I'm sure Mary Jane remembered her training with him and trusted him right away. Within 30 minutes Mary Jane was jumping in and backing out of the trailer many times on command.

Bobby had a long lunge rope, and a whip that he used more as an extension of his arm, as a barrier, i.e., to say, "No, not that way" if she moved in the wrong direction. Basically Bobby used the sending method. He took her over to the creeks and other areas away from the trailer. He would send her to look/walk/touch different things. He did not lunge her, but would just look at something and tell her to go there. Then he took her to the trailer and sent her on. If she just put her head or a foot in, he immediately took pressure off her. Then he would send her again. It only took about 5 minutes, and she was on the trailer.

So I was a day late getting home, a few more dollars short, and Mary Jane is now doing some more training with Bobby. I have learned that even though I hate ground work (it's boring and I'd rather be in the saddle), ground work is the foundation of trust, and I need to get Mary Jane to trust me the way she trusted Bobby. I plan to take lessons

with Bobby once a week to learn how to build a trusting relationship with Mary Jane. So we will be doing ground work one hour every weekday, and ride on the weekends.

And I still believe, with all my heart, that Mary Jane is my Dream Horse.

Small Miracles at VA Highlands CTR

Small miracles: We *by Ginny Tolbert & Judith Shrum* experience them every day. We had our share of them at the Virginia Highlands CTR, May 21-22, 2011. First, getting to the ride—Cindy Keen's parents drove to the Georgia/Alabama line to pick up the ride equipment from Gary Clayton. Permits were applied for in November 2010, but were not ready to be picked up until Wayne and Ginny Tolbert did so as they drove into camp. Trails were marked: Judith and John Denton had fun figuring out the route and mileage—tough work but someone has to do it, right? Mileage was checked with 4 GPS devices, Garrie Bates' maps, Iron Mountain maps, and Nancy Sluys.

Weather miracles: Rain fell for two weeks prior to the ride; a terrible thunderstorm and heat wave followed the ride. But for those two days in May, the skies smiled on us with 70 to 80 degree days. The mountain showed itself off, with purple rhododendrons 12 feet tall, punctuated with orange flame azaleas nearly as tall, and the 5-foot mountain laurels in white and red winked at us in profusion. There was plenty of water on the trail, and humidity was low.

Campground miracles: Sheila and Danny Odom welcomed us with biscuits for staff and volunteers early in the morning. The camp was beautifully groomed, with hot and cold horse and people showers, bathhouse, tack shop, electric campsites and large comfy stalls. The crew at the horse camp, Brenda, Barry, Tom and Lennie, worked hard. When we ran short on rooms for judges, a complete stranger offered her home to us. After Saturday's ride, the brakes went out on my truck. Wayne Tolbert let me borrow his truck for Sunday, and Sheila Odom, owner of Iron Mountain Horse Camp, found a mechanic 8 miles away who fixed the truck on Monday.

During the ride, more miracles: Terry Riley waited eagerly each day for John Denton to carry her to the P&R car. Lori Williams and Marlene Buttrey, while trying to make their time limits, showed courtesy, allowing pleasure riders to water their horses. First time riders Ferd Powell, Sarah Russell, and Megan Blevins all took time penalties by walking into camp on Sunday to protect one of their overheated horses. Lost gloves and Easy Boots were picked up by safety riders, but thank goodness no injuries had to be picked up! We forgot Marshall Ballew in camp on Sunday, but



he waited for us to come back to get him so he could be the ever-valuable spotter for riders. Becky Pearman “caught us in the act” with great photos! Heather Colby and Janice Bennett were the vet judge team while Connie Driskell and Shirley Sobol made the horsemanship team. Both judges kept us learning and laughing. Safety riders kept us safe: Garrie and Marshall Bates and their granddaughter Carrie, Leonard Barnett, Cindy King, Judy Bennett, and Audrey Salisbury. P&R Coordinators John Hartness and Jim Nicholl trained several new teams: Morgan and Sanford Price-OBrien, Josh (Carrie’s boyfriend), Randy Wood, Ken Morgan, Christina Penas, Jameson Moulis, and Ginny Feltner. Some folks did double duty: Ginny Feltner got some terrific awards for us; Sanford and Ginny also kept things moving smoothly. And then there was Ginny Tolbert, Ride Secretary, Timer, and general counsel! Kathy Nicholl as Rules Interpreter kept us all on track. Randy Wood, the bear man, provided lots of yummy bear stew, and free ball caps to keep the sun off.

Miracles after the ride: Iron Mountain Horse Camp staff members helped take down ribbons as did other local riders, John and Judith, and Becky & John Pearman. Many small miracles also occurred for many NATRC riders on the way home. Laurie and Randy Wood called back to camp on Sunday for Janell Mount’s cell phone number so they could be sure that the horse trailer on the side of the road was not her needing help. (They turned around and went back to check!) Marty Findley, who stayed Sunday to help, was taking Rhetta Botts home early so she could study for finals. Nancy Green who was following her saw smoke coming from Marty’s right brake. No place to stop until Ft. Chiswell. Wheel was totally locked. A kind trucker took a hammer to the wheel after it finally cooled, and Marty and Nancy headed South after passing Rhetta off to the Tolberts to hasten her trip home just in case anything else went wrong. On down the road, Nancy turned on her flashers and pulled over with a blown rear trailer tire. Marty’s cell phone was dead so she unknowingly went on her way. Wayne changed the tire, having had lots of prior experience, and Nancy was back on the road. Another kind trucker stopped behind Marty at the TN welcome center and told her of Nancy’s problems. Cell phone recharged, Marty and Nancy met and went further south. When a big storm came up, they stopped to close horse windows and discovered another blown tire for Nancy. Marty loaned her spare tire and both made home safely. This is the clue to

all trailer folks to check the manufacture date on your trailer tires. It’s not the tread but the age that tells you when to replace tires. Remember the talk on trailer safety at Convention? It was an “Ah, ha” moment. Friends helped Gail and Mike Ford with their ripped awning Sunday in

camp and Cindy Keen with her awning. Whitney Downing also received help with her dining tent after the storm descended upon camp.

Do you see a wonderful pattern in all the small miracles? NATRC riders are so caring on the trail, in camp, and on the road, and they inspire the best in others as well. NATRC Region 5 is truly a caring family, no matter the situation or need. Thanks to everyone for all you do to make our rides work well, our time together great, and our travel safer. What a great group. See you at the next ride.

VIRGINIA
HIGHLANDS
PHOTOS
by Becky
Pearman

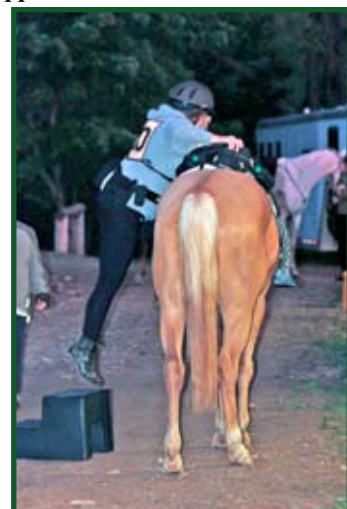


Marty Findley

“Come-on, we’re supposed to use available terrain!”



Lynn Barnett



Wendy Henson at morning mount



Marlene Buttrey “L” Sidepasses



Wayne Tolbert



Region Five 2011 Remaining Ride Schedule

September 3-4	Region Five Benefit Ride Cindy Keen, 1620 Bellevue Rd., Dublin, GA 31021 Email: cindytk@hotmail.com	Dawsonville, GA	A-O,N,CP; B-N 478-290-3868 478-272-5097
September 10-11	Ride The Edge Virginia Tolbert, 9598 Antioch Ch. Rd. W. Lenoir City, TN 37772 Email: vtolbert@usit.net	Allardt, TN	A-O,N,CP; B-N 865-986-3333 865-363-7563
September 24-25	Heart of Dixie Linda Clayton, 6774 W Old Haynesville Rd., Hope Hull, AL 36043 Email: lindaclay@aol.com	Troy, AL	A&B-O,N,CP 334-281-5509 334-567-6766
October 8-9	Autumn @ Biltmore Connie Driskell, 524 Mills Gap Road, Arden, NC 28704 Email: csdintrig@charter.net		AA-O;A-O,N,CP;B-N 828-684-5650
October 15	Kings Mountain CTR Clinic Mary K. Britt, P O Box 725, Hazelwood, NC 28738 Email: marywildfillie@aol.com	Blacksburg, SC	828-456-7554
October 22-23	Honey Creek CTR at Big South Fork Gary Williams, 4569 Rugby Pk., Allardt, TN 38504 Email: Gary@fiveoclockfarm.com	Allardt, TN	A-O,N,CP; B-N 678-994-1923
November 5-6	Kings Mountain Mary K. Britt, P O Box 725, Hazelwood, NC 28738 Email: marywildfillie@aol.com	Blacksburg, SC	A-O,N,CP 828-456-7554

CLINIC

AA=3 DAY RIDE A=2 DAY RIDE B=1 DAY RIDE

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Ride schedule is subject to change, so be sure to contact the Ride Manager for specific ride information.

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Helpful Hints

The following hints were sent in by Mary Britt, who picked them up from a gaited horse list.

Broken gear on the trail: If you need to repair a broken head stall or a rivet comes loose, use a couple of strands of your horse's tail to tie it together. It's very strong and will get you back to camp.

If your horse rolls in the mud while wearing his fly mask and gets it muddy, just use your stiffest grooming brush to brush it off when dry.

When hauling water in a bucket for your horse, especially if you have to put it in the back of a pickup without a lid, put an ordinary plastic garbage bag in the bucket first. Fill with water, twist the top of the bag closed, and tie a knot. There will be no spills, no splashing, and you can reuse the garbage bag for something else.

Use Noxzema to keep gnats, mayflies, and mosquitoes out of your horse's ears. Presuming that the ears aren't clipped, just put a small dollop on your hand and rub it on the top of your horse's ears.

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Photo by Kristen Klein Nicholl



Curious Misty