Ride management was hesitant to explore putting on a “C” ride at Round Valley, as it would be challenging to develop a 10-mile ride and to enlist additional support personnel in order to provide a positive, fun experience.

However, a plan was developed, and we moved forward. Hardy Trail was selected as it was the only trail that offered a low to moderately challenging terrain with enough mileage. In order to accomplish this, the ride had to be an out-and-back format, but things always look different to both horse and rider when doing them in reverse. So, we went with it.

Several wonderful folks stepped up to help. Debbie Murphy volunteered to be the “judge”, Chris Barnhart offered to be a mentor/safety rider for the “C” rider group, and Jessie Simons came on board as the scribe for Debbie. Rider packets were made up by Debbie and Linda Thomason, a judges’ binder was created using out-of-date scorecards, an older set of bibs was washed and untangled, and we were off and running!

Many thanks also go to Robin Berwick for trailering her horse to Round Valley so Chris Barnhart could ride as the mentor/safety rider. Chris’ horse suffered an injury shortly before the event, and Robin graciously stepped in to help. Kudos also to Chris who mounted and rode off on a horse she’d never ridden before and set the example for all the new competitors. Quite the horsewoman!

Nine “C” riders entered. Most arrived Friday afternoon and benefited from watching the “A” and “B” riders check in. We were able to meet them socially over the Friday potluck dinner and answer questions regarding camping setup and the ride in general. Debbie was ambassador extraordinaire. She introduced herself to each of the “C” riders and was there 100% to answer questions and provide support. The reigning motto of the weekend was “there is no dumb question except the one that isn’t asked”. New riders were encouraged by the atmosphere of openness and less stress since the “judge” was a fellow rider. They were there to learn, to experience what competitive trail riding entailed, and to see if this was a sport they could enjoy and have fun participating in.

On Saturday afternoon after the ride, there were many smiling faces and positive comments. Having the opportunity to experience competitive trail riding in such a supportive environment allowed the “C” riders to push themselves a bit further than they normally might have, to try things on the trail that some had not tried before, and to feel more confident that they could return home and continue to train their horses to become safer and more dependable trail mounts.

Training a good trail horse encompasses aspects of all disciplines. The horse must learn to trust and listen to its human partner, to move off the rider’s leg, to stand still and safely allow the rider

(Continued on page 2)
to mount, and to be touched and worked with. The human partners must educate themselves and learn to be the leaders they expect their horses to believe they are. I participated in hunter jumper and dressage in the past, but felt that the working relationship between a good trail rider and a good trail horse was deeper than either of the other disciplines in which I rode. You spend many more hours together and learn to interpret each other’s body language in a unique way.

I’ve focused on the “C” ride volunteers, but the entire ride depends on the generosity of all volunteers. As with most rides, there is always the last-minute switching around of the volunteer positions due to illness, injuries, etc. Everyone graciously jumped in wherever needed. As part of the ride management team, I can tell you that we are always appreciative of the help received. So, if you can’t ride, there is a myriad of other spots that need filling at rides, and we always are grateful for our volunteers.

The Region 1 NATRC family welcomes all the new riders and hopes to see them again in 2019.

Welcome to Competitive Trail Riding!
From the Region 1 Board Chair...

I don’t know how it’s been where you are, but between the smoke and the rain (don’t get me wrong – I’m REALLY grateful for the rain), and the holidays, I haven’t had a chance to do much riding or to commune with my horse or my horse-crazy friends. And our first NATRC ride isn’t until MAY!

I’m the kind of person who needs something to look forward to, and my choice for this winter is . . . THE CONVENTION.

In 2019, though,

- AERC and NATRC are partnering and holding national conventions together.
- The speaker lineup is always incredible.
- Region 1 and Region 2 are having their awards breakfast together.
- There is a trade show that has so much irresistible stuff that my credit card is smoking before someone does an intervention and gets me out of there!

The national convention is a big enough deal that really impressive speakers are willing to make the trip. Each of the speakers is a specialist in some aspect of keeping the horse sound over long distances – a concern we definitely share with the AERC community. And having breakfast with Region 2 will allow me to meet some of their riders and hear about their rides – and if they sound good, well, it’s not THAT far to southern California. And we might even inspire some of their riders to join us at some of ours.

I don’t have to explain why the trade show is attractive, do I?

Finally, a real attraction for me is that I’ll be surrounded by lots of people who share my love of horses and trail riding. You know you’re in the right place when every conversation you overhear in the elevator piques your interest!

So.  Put it on your calendar:  March 7 – 9 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno. The registration form is on the NATRC National website and in Hoof Print. See you there!

Donna Stidolph

Old Timers – A Bit of History

The photo below was taken by Linda Thomason at the Fall Fiesta ride in October. The people in the photo represent a lot of history of NATRC in California. They are, left to right: Leroy Burnham, DVM, Nancy Kasovich, Ashley Dillard and Joe Dillard.

Leroy Burnham, DVM

As a senior veterinary student, Leroy was on classmate Bill Throgmorton’s team studying pulse and respiration values on horses competing on the Mt. Diablo Ride in 1962. Soon he was told, “Here’s how you judge a ride – now go do it.” He has been judging NATRC and endurance rides all over the country ever since.

Nancy Kasovich

Nancy rode her first NATRC ride in Mt. Diablo in the early 1960’s. She has been a highly respected horsemanship judge since she got her card in 1971. She is a respected horse trainer and for years has been the “Lady to See” when someone is looking for a good NATRC horse. She served on the R1 Board of Directors, on the National Board of Directors, and as NATRC President. She chaired the committee that developed the CP Division.

Ashley and Joe Dillard

Ashley rode the first ride in 1961, and Joe rode the second in 1962. They rarely miss competing in a ride.
NATIONAL CONVENTION 2019

NATRC is hosting the 2019 National Convention in partnership with AERC at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada. Watch www.natrc.org for updates. Make room reservations directly with the resort. For the best rates, our room block is under AERC’s online hotel passkey link. Please mention NATRC when making your reservations by telephone. Either way guarantees that NATRC obtains credit for the rooms booked. Rates for activities and meeting rooms depend on the number of rooms booked; your support is appreciated.

Friday Night Entertainment - Sponsored by NATRC
Country party with the Country Kickers. For the finest in classic and contemporary country music, Paul Perryman and the country band are unbeatable. With a repertoire that spans over 75 years and a song list that includes over 2000 songs covering bluegrass, country music, classic rock, western swing, and even adult contemporary, The Country Kickers is one of the most versatile, most sought after bands in Reno. You will remember an evening with this crowd pleasing, show stopping band for a very long time!

Fun for the whole family. Free airport shuttle. Free parking.
Enjoy a mini-vacation at the Grand Sierra Resort. Children 17 and under stay free in their parents’ or guardian’s room. Roll away beds available. Free Wi-Fi. Pets allowed in specific rooms (see hotel website for details). On site entertainment includes movie theatres, bowling, restaurants, health spa, shopping, galleries, exercise rooms, and of course, gaming. Nearby Truckee River and Recreation Trail.

NATRC Hospitality Suite
Open Thursday evening for picking up registration packets, during speaker breaks, after the Friday night entertainment, and after the Saturday awards dinner. Join friends for snacks, drinks and discussion of the day’s events. The “official” gathering place for NATRC attendees and their guests. Refreshment donations suggested. Silent Auction items on display.

Speakers
The speaker schedule will be posted as soon as it is final. Speaker fees:
Friday: Single: $45.00 - Additional Family Members: $25.00 each
After 2/22/19: $55 / $35
Saturday: Same as for Friday.
Each registree will receive a colored bracelet allowing entry to the speaker seminars. Separate colored bracelets will be issued for Friday and Saturday.

Awards
Saturday Evening: Dinner, awards, and Riding Warehouse gift cards raffle drawing.
Sunday Morning: Region 1 Awards Breakfast

Registration
Registration forms are available on our website and from the convention chair. Packets will be available Thursday evening in the hospitality suite and Friday and Saturday in the vendor hall.

Payment
Payment may be made by check or cash (on site only for cash). Please call if you have questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Contact the convention chair to volunteer. We need help with registration, shifts at the our booth in the vendor hall and other “jobs.” Pitch in. Help your convention succeed!

SILENT AUCTION ITEM DONATIONS NEEDED
These need not be equestrian related. Items such as wine, gift baskets, wood carvings, art work, and weekend escapes are great auction items. Don’t be shy. This is a major NATRC fundraiser. Contact the convention chair if you have questions.

Support NATRC and competitive trail riding
AND enjoy a fun and educational weekend.
CONVENTION SPEAKERS
Seminar Theme - Ride. Integrity. Determination. Education. Meet some of the speakers.

Yvette Nout-Lomas, DVM
Assistant Professor of Equine Internal Medicine, boarded by both the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Medicine.

Dr. Nout-Lomas’ clinical interests - horses with neurologic disorders and critically ill foals and horses. As part of a team at CSU providing specialty care to horses, her research goal is to improve diagnostic capabilities and treatment options for these horses. In particular her research is focused on gait assessment, comparative neuroscience, and spinal cord injury.

Margaret Brosnahan, DVM
Clinical interests: Neonatology, infectious diseases, cardiology, gastrointestinal diseases, exercise physiology and athletic performance, equine welfare.

Dr. Margaret Brosnahan works as an academic veterinarian allowing her to integrate the three things she truly enjoys doing: looking after the health and well-being of all horses from backyard pets to performance athletes, educating the veterinarians of the future, and conducting research in the areas of infectious diseases and immunology and to ensure the continual improvement of care for all equine patients.

Kenneth L. Marcella, DVM
Graduate of Dartmouth College and the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University. Was assistant professor of Comparative Medicine at the University of Virginia and part of the veterinary staff for the ’96 Olympic Games. Now in private practice.

Dr. Marcella places special emphasis on lameness and sports medicine in his practice. He teaches continuing education and hosts students at his practice. As an FEI vet for over 25 years, he is a veterinary selector with the US endurance team. He is one of the few FEI 4* rated endurance vets in the country and travels nationally and internationally working with athletes and their riders at the highest level of their sport.

Langdon Fielding, DVM
Graduate of Harvard University and the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Internship at Texas A&M. Board certified in the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation.

A life long equestrian, Dr. Fielding finished the Tevis at age 17 and again in 2010. He has over 30 research publications on topics from electrolyte and fluid therapy, emergency medicine, endurance horses, to neonatal foals, and co-edited Equine Fluid Therapy, the only text focused on fluid and electrolytes in horses.

Now pursuing an MBA at the University of Pennsylvania, his goal is to bring high quality vet medicine to as many horses as possible.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION
Please use one form per registrant

Name: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Street: __________________________ City: _________________ State: ___ Zip: _____________
Phone (home):______________________ Other: ____________________________

Discounts: Family – If registering as an additional family member please indicate the primary registrant’s name here to obtain the discount: ____________________________

Early Bird - Register by February 22 and save. See table below right.

Banquet Reservation Due on or before: 2/22/19
Registration Cancellation Fees: $15 fee before 2/22/19; $30 after 2/22/19. No Show/No Refund.

Convention Updates: See www.natrc.org

Friday night entertainment by “The Country Kickers”; free with speaker registration. $10.00 at the door.

Room Reservations - Make directly with: Grand Sierra Resort. Room block is under AERC. Don’t worry – we’ll find you!

Or
Contact the Grand Sierra Resort at 1-800-501-2651 and mention NATRC https://www.grandsierraresort.com

Convention Registration - Make checks payable to: NATRC 2 Mail checks and registration forms to: 2250 E Marks Ridge Rd Garfield, KY 40140
Junior Rider Rebate

Junior riders who are NATRC members by the second Sunday in November of a ride year and complete 3 or more rides in that same ride year are eligible to receive a rebate of $30 per completed ride for up to 3 rides. The deadline to apply is December 1. Please contact Linda Thomason, R1 Treasurer, for more details.

Laurie Knuutila

Please joins us for the Region 1 / Region 2 Awards Breakfast Sunday morning following the national convention.

9:00 am R1/R2 Breakfast and General Meeting

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, ham and Gruyere cheese croissant, fresh seasonal melon, broiled tomato, orange juice, assorted pastries, assorted jams and jellies, butter, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, or herbal tea. Register here. Price ($25) includes tax and tip.

General Meeting: Includes election of R1 BOD. For an absentee ballot, contact Stephanie Swain at stephswain@earthlink.net if unable to attend.

9:30 am Awards Presentation

11:30 am BOD Meetings. Feel free to attend.

Contact: Lory Walls, 619-895-0491, lorywalls6@gmail.com

NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE

Greetings from the heart of Region 1A, Fairbanks, Alaska! We are deep into our long, dark winter, but we’re past solstice and already the days are getting longer!

This is my last issue as Editor of this newsletter. I’ve asked the Region 1 Board of Directors to find a replacement for me. I’ve been doing this job for just about 10 years now, and I’ve enjoyed it! It’s been my way to give back to NATRC and the sport that I love from my remote location here in the Far North. But I feel that it’s time for new energy and ideas to be brought to the job. So look for some changes to your newsletter. And give your wholehearted support to the new editor by supplying ride stories and photos to be used in the newsletter.

I will be at the National Convention in Reno in March and I hope to get to see many of you there. I’m looking forward to a great time with all of the NATRC family!

I will be managing and acting as trail master for the Challenge of the North ride to be held here in Fairbanks in July, another way of giving back to the sport of CTR. And I’m also planning on participating in a new-to-me horse sport, Working Equitation. Add to that the fact that I have a young Half Arab colt to train, and my horse life will certainly be busy!

I’m looking forward to seeing everyone in March in Reno!

Laurie Knuutila
Marion Inez (Robie) Arnold

August 8, 1945 – June 15, 2018

Marion Inez (Robie) Arnold of Newcastle, CA, passed away peacefully in the early hours of Friday, June 15, 2018. Marion was a noted horsewoman and pioneer in the sport of endurance riding.

Marion was born on August 8, 1945 to John and Elizabeth (Kangas) Robie in Sacramento, CA. She is survived by her loving son, Wendell C. Arnold of Newark, CA, her beloved grandchildren Emma, Lilla, and Samuel Arnold, her devoted sisters Wendy Robie of Chicago, IL and Marcie Chester of Lithia, FL, her loving nephew Xo Larimer of Berkeley, CA, cousin Suann Stone of Tahoe, CA, and many lifelong friends.

Inspired by her grandfather, Wendell T. Robie, Marion learned to ride before she could walk. Arabian horses, trail riding and endurance riding became her life’s passions. In 1958, at the age of 12, Marion finished the (now) historic 100-Miles-One-Day Western States Trail Ride (colloquially called the Tevis Cup) that was founded by her grandfather. She would go on to finish the ride 10 more times, winning in 1969. Her eleventh and final completion was in 1994 with her son.

Shortly after her final Western States Trail Ride, she transitioned to NATRC where she rode and worked tirelessly. She will especially be remembered for an

Marion’s family is proud of her military service. But it was in promoting and celebrating riding and conserving the historic emigrant trails of the High Sierra mountains where she made her mark. Marion will be sorely missed by all who love the mountains and who know we love them best from atop a horse.

Robie Ride Map

Those who rode Marion’s ride out of Robie Park will never forget her maps. Because the usual ribbons didn’t seem to stay up very long, Marion’s map depicted every intersection and which way to go. Some said her maps were like a Chinese Take-Out Menu. But you know what? They worked!!

Marion's Ride Map

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Marion’s Ride Map

August 8, 1945 – June 15, 2018
## 2018 Region 1 Year-End Point Standings

### Open Division

#### Combined

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<tr>
<th>Pl</th>
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<th>Rider</th>
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<td>Must</td>
<td>Angie Meroshnekoff</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>330</td>
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#### Lightweight

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<td>Desert Reinbeau</td>
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#### Junior

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<td>Spantik Maj</td>
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#### Horse

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#### Lightweight

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### Competitive Pleasure Division

#### Combined

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<td>Robyn Berwick</td>
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<td>Kris Skoog</td>
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#### Rider

#### Adult

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#### Horse

#### Adult

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<td>Desert Whiskey</td>
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2018 Region 1 Year-End Point Standings

Novice Division

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<td>Maria Pilgrim</td>
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Rider

Heavyweight

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Junior

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<td>Chesney Kelly</td>
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Horse

Heavyweight

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Junior

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2019 NATRC Region 1 Ride Schedule (tentative)

http://www.natrcregion1.org/

April 13  NATRC Clinic
Sheila Christiansen
Valley Springs, CA
(209) 371-7248
shoofypets@gmail.com

May 4  Mt. Diablo
Ellen Pofcher
Clayton, CA
Sec: Jessie Simons
(925) 672-3733
mtnoaks@earthlink.net

May 18-19 Cowboy Camp
Chair: Jean Armer
Williams, CA
Sec: Linda Thomason
(510) 708-1439
linda.thomason0610@gmail.com

June 29-30 Eel River
Steve Meroshnekoff
Potter Valley, CA
Sec: Maria Pilgrim
(707) 743-9973
(707) 795-8163
iwabrewing@aol.com
wolves1961@sbcglobal.net

July 27-28 Challenge of the North
Laurie Knuutila
Fairbanks, AK
Sec: Marilyn Dowding
(907) 590-4080
(907) 888-7756
wildrosepht@yahoo.com
mdowding@yahoo.com

August 17-18 Jackson Forest Summer
Steve Meroshnekoff
Ft. Bragg, CA
Sec: Maria Pilgrim
(707) 743-9973
(707) 795-8163
iwabrewing@aol.com
wolves1961@sbcglobal.net

October 5  Lake Mendocino
Gene Boicelli
Ukiah, CA
Leisure Division Only
(925) 672-6491
(707) 391-3408
geneboicelli@gmail.com
awhitedog@aol.com

Oct. 12-13 Round Valley Regional Park
Gene Boicelli
Brentwood, CA
“A” O/CP; “B” N LIMIT 45
(925) 672-6491
(510) 708-1439
linda.thomason0610@gmail.com
Participation in NATRC rides has been declining. From just 2016 to 2017, the number of riders decreased by 20%. Paid memberships dropped by 1/3 from 2014 to 2017. Change is necessary if we want to survive.

A survey was conducted last winter to help identify issues that should be addressed. Barriers to participation included time and money, challenges of proper conditioning before competition, and complex rules.

To go forward, the help of a professional in organizational growth was enlisted. Margaret Reynolds’ presentation to the NBOD at their meeting in Albuquerque last February showed a graph of the typical progression of businesses growing, hitting a peak, and falling off. That’s where we are in NATRC. A business can do nothing, change things to slow the decline, or really change things so the curve goes upwards again.

A new core concept – inclusiveness – was identified. Goals included making it possible for every horse and rider to be able to participate in our rides at an appropriate level and in a fun, safe environment; having more opportunities to participate and more events within geographic areas; and helping riders accomplish their own goals through fun, safety, education, and competition. Inclusiveness would offer something for beginners as well as increasing challenges for the more experienced riders. Progress, not perfection, would be emphasized.

A core committee was appointed to develop specific recommendations that would hopefully change the direction of the curve for NATRC. The Development Committee has been guiding “Operation NATRC” this year. Several subcommittees including marketing, technology, financial, events, member benefits committee, and ride/roles/awards committee were approved at the July NBOD meeting. Through two face-to-face and many video-conferences, the core committee has led the subcommittees to research and evaluate problem areas and make recommendations for improvement.

Funds were approved to re-vamp the website and online ride registration system and to hire a marketing coordinator. More recommendations were approved by the national board in November. The membership structure was re-vamped (watch for more member benefits). A new website and ride registration system will be launched soon. An online library will be available. The Leisure Division, using approved lay judges, was approved.

Changes to the ride flow and to the structure of rides and awards are still pending. A new survey was distributed, and responses are being analyzed. At this time, the recommendation is to leave the Open Division competition as it is. The President’s Cup, based on number of points, would be discontinued, and a new award recognizing the combined high average of horse and rider would be implemented.

The Novice and CP Divisions would essentially be rolled into a Sport Division with classes based on experience and past achievements: Sport Pioneer would be for those with 250 or fewer lifetime horsemanship points; Sport Partner would be for those who have accrued 750 or fewer lifetime horsemanship points; Sport Performance would be aimed at those with over 750 lifetime horsemanship points. Juniors (ages 1-17) would be separate in each of these classes.

The National BOD met by video-conference on December 29. The consensus was that due to the significance of these changes and the importance of rider input, the development of the proposals to change the structure of rides and awards would continue through 2020. Implementation would be in 2021.

Coordinated efforts between ride management and judges will improve the flow of rides.

Your R1 BOD and National BOD needs your thoughts and opinions. Please contact us soon. Our information can be found here.

Respectfully,
Angie MeroshneKoff and Jamie Dieterich
NORTH AMERICAN TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE

MEMBERSHIP FORM – Renew, Join or Buy Items online at www.natrc.org or use this form.

Memberships run for a 12-month period from each individual’s joining date. We offer a Platinum Upgrade to our adult and family plans, which adds personal excess liability coverage with a $1,000,000 policy limit.

Continued for 2019 - FIRST YEAR FREE FOR BRAND NEW COMPETING MEMBERS!

PLANS

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CHECK PLAN DESIRED [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

◊ Adult(s) & children under age 18 as of Jan 1
◊◊ Eligible for ride awards only if non-member ride fee paid.
◊◊◊ May upgrade to competing member for year-end and mileage award eligibility before the end of the ride year.

NATRC Specialties (Optional)

__ Patch................................................... $5 ea
__ 10” Round NATRC Emblem Sticker....... $5 ea
__ 4” Round NATRC Emblem Sticker - free to new members $3 ea


To request a print copy, check here [ ].

PRINTED HOOF PRINT (Optional) Hoof Print delivered electronically. For a print copy, add $15 & check box: [ ].

$ TOTAL ENCLOSED ____________(Nebraska residents please add 5.5% on Specialty Items)

Please list first and last names, especially those with different last names, of all competing family members.

Name(s) _____________________________________________________________

Jr(s) Birthdates _____________________________________________________

Street _____________________________________________________________

City ______________________________________________________________

State, Zip _________________________________________________________

Phone (__________) _________________________________________________

Email _____________________________________________________________(We need your email for delivery of HOOF PRINT. Address stays within NATRC. Thanks! )

New member? Please share how you found out about NATRC:

****** Mail completed form and check to: NATRC, PO Box 969, Beatrice, NE 683310 ******

Join Us on Facebook!

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The Leadline
Sheila Christiansen
13040 Ivie Road
Herald, CA 95638