

Hoopprints of

REGION 5



Region 5 Board of Directors 2020

Bill Moore – President

Sherry Garnes – Vice President

Marsha Howard – Secretary

Gary Clayton

Cindy Keen

Patty Lucas

Paula Riley

Andrea Rogers

Alternates: Sandy Pegram, Victoria Whitehead

National Board Members:

Esther Diaguila

Kris Gray

Alternate: Sallie Kudra

Let us hear from you...

Any information, questions, photos you would like to see in the next Hoofprints of Region 5; write us something on what you've been doing to make the most of the pandemic with your horse!

Send correspondence to:
lindaclay@aol.com

Don't forget to check the NATRC Region 5 website and facebook page for updates as we prepare for the next ride season!

Dear Region 5 Family,

As you all know, the focus of NATRC is safety, safety for all involved with and that support our great sport and organization. After much thought and consideration of everyone's safety and COVID-19 guidelines, it was decided that we should not have any competitive rides for the remainder of 2020 (this includes the remainder of the 2020 season and Christmas in the Pines 2020, which is for the 2021 season). We are constantly reviewing the situation and will keep you posted on plans for calendar year 2021.

We encourage you to join in on the fun with the Virtual Mileage and Obstacle Challenges and the monthly Webinars. Stay tuned, as more activities are in the works.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,
Region 5 Board of Directors

No Rides for Region 5?

I'm sure many of you have seen the NATRC notices that other regions are holding rides, and you may wonder how they can do that and we cannot. Without going too deeply into the varied reasons why our ride managers have opted for what they believe to be the safest, best approach for our riders and volunteers, our venues do not lend themselves to conducting rides right now. While rides in other regions are primarily held on private property where pandemic related precautions do not apply, our rides are on government regulated lands (state or federal) where numbers of visitors, users are severely limited. Those numbers are simply too small to allow for a successful ride. For example, Coldwater limits campers in the facility to 10 and there is no indication that that allowance will change in time to plan and execute a successful Christmas in the Pines this year. Everyone in Region 5 wants to get "back together", but we can't do that until we can have permission to use the facilities and it is safe for us to gather together. Keep safe!

Bill Moore



A Message from the President

Well, 2020 has certainly presented a situation that none of us imagined! Many of you have, no doubt, had an extremely difficult year so far, both personally and in your respective business/work matters. Unfortunately, the end does not appear in sight. As you have difficulties, don't forget that your NATRC family is concerned about each of you, and we want to know how you're doing.

Our "business" has not been spared the ravages of Covid 19. While we were able to complete our first three rides and the Mini-Convention, the remainder of the year is and will be a loss as ride managers follow the courageous, prudent course of cancelling rides rather than put you/us at risk. National has conducted both the Webinar and the Obstacle Challenge activities to try to help everyone get through this time, and both of those programs have been well received. As a quick note about National, the NATRC Treasurer decided to step down and the National Board elected our Kris Gray to fill the vacancy. That gives Region 5 a seat on the Executive Committee. We're delighted by Kris' matriculation to this position and appreciate her professional talent that will now be devoted to that important function.

At our recent Board Meeting your Board of Directors spent the majority of the time addressing issues raised for the Region by the loss of this year's rides and how to assure a successful re-birth of our activities when it is safe to do so. The Board will be contacting all "Front of the Line" pass purchasers and all Penny purchasers to address relief from your making contributions without enjoying the associated benefits. Another immediate loss is that we will not have a traditional Mini-Convention in early 2021 as we won't have a ride filled 2020 to celebrate. It is impossible to forecast how the 2021 ride year will go forward, but it seems clear that the earliest rides are in jeopardy. Overall, we are in a good position with respect to ride managers and do not envision a sharp fall off of ride availability once we're "good to go"; but, we just don't know when that can start.

Lack of certainty does not preclude some wishful planning. For now, we're planning on a Grand Re-Opening with the Benefit Ride at Mingo Trails in March. We'll use that event to attend to some mini-convention like matters and a short business meeting. More importantly, we'll have that event as an opportunity to finally get back together and enjoy each other's company!!! That gives you plenty of time to get you and your horse back in condition. While our current membership does not appear to have been affected by the pandemic, there is always the possibility that a period of NATRC inactivity may let some folks drift away. Hoping against that but planning on addressing it, what we do once we get back in action will be important. All of the things that you have done for years in building R5 will need to be resumed. In addition to traditional rides and clinics, the Leisure Division offers an expanded "recruiting" area both for rides and for Leisure Division Clinics.

As always, the most important tool we have is and will be each of you. Each of you talking up our sport and inconveniencing yourself to bring a "newbie" to events. The public service announcements related to the pandemic really do also apply to us: "We're all in this together" and we'll get through it together.

Bill Moore
President, NATRC Region 5

NATRC WEBINAR SERIES 2020



Endurance and Trail Riding Supplies



Meeting Highlights -

July 11, 2020 National Board Meeting

Submitted by Esther Diaguila

Membership numbers are down. All the regions have cancelled rides and R6 has also cancelled all fall rides. R6 has been hit not only with COVID but also with Vesticular Stomatitis.

Virtual Challenges: 113 people have signed up for the virtual obstacle challenges and approximately 80 have signed up for the mileage. Region 6 leads on the number of participants for the mileage challenge. NATRC has earned over \$7,000.00 with the virtual challenges.

Kris Gray has taken over the Treasurer's role and also the place that occupies on the Executive Committee. The Treasurer's report was approved by the NBOD.

The following Rules were approved:

- Reverting membership renewal back to January 1 of each year
- Forcing members to move from the Novice Division will now be determined by points instead of placings (instead of 5 firsts, it is now 250 points). If a participant places nationally, they will not have to move up, but can continue in Novice until the 250 point threshold.
- An experienced class will be added to LeD
- The 2 mile point has been changed to forward point of motion
- Leniency of time penalties
- LeD sourcing of judges (an approved list of LeD judges)
- LeD stabling
- LeD placings changed from 10 to 6
- Along with other criteria, members must have started at least one out of region ride in order to be eligible for the President's Cup
- Recognize high point novice at the national level
- Recognize high point CP team at the national level

Judging requirements to maintain judges' cards are suspended for the 2020 ride season and will resume with the 2021 ride season.

Webinars can be viewed by members only on the event date posted for each. Afterwards, a link to the webinar is available on the national page for anyone to view. Go to the national page, click on "Resources", then "Online Library". This will bring up a PDF with links to the various webinars. (Note: when I went to try it out, the link is not live. I had to copy and paste, but could watch the webinar in that way. I did not have to log in.)

**NORTH AMERICAN
TRAIL RIDE CONFERENCE**



The JOY of Virtual Challenges

Who knew 2020 would be such a topsy-turvy year? Certainly not the National Board of Directors for NATRC. When rides started to cancel, the NB OD put their heads together and came up with an idea to help members stay in touch, keep riding and challenge themselves and their horses, all while learning and having fun. Thus was born the virtual challenges.

A panel of five judges was selected to judge, each judge taking one challenge in each set. One of the challenges I had the privilege of judging was putting on a raincoat while mounted. For the most part, riders were straight forward with this challenge. But one rider demonstrated there was more than one way to interpret instructions. As her husband used the hose to simulate “rain”, she pulled the folded up jacket out of the saddle bag and proceeded to place it on top of her helmet, still folded. Technically, she completed the task as no instruction was given on HOW to put the raincoat on! This same rider, on a different horse, and with her husband again using the hose to simulate rain, pulled out an umbrella and opened it. When that didn’t work, away went the umbrella and out came a raincoat. I was impressed with how her horse handled the spray of water. He was a rock star!

What are these judges looking for? The basics are light and balanced in the saddle, clear cues asking the horse to perform and compliance from your horse. But your judges also appreciate creativity in determining how you want to display your horse’s performance. Use your imagination! Have fun and don’t be afraid to be unique. These challenges are often worded so they are open to interpretation. Stop, think about the challenge, bounce an idea or two around, experiment! You and your horse just might learn more than you expected.

Your judges are always available should you have any questions regarding the challenges or the scoring, or what they may be looking for in a particular exercise. I hope riders have had as much fun with these

Check out the results of the 2020 Virtual Challenges [here](#).



Time to Vote!

Whether it is within the region or nationally, the leadership of Region 5 is here to lend an ear to your voice.

Please take a moment to read the bios and vote!

Gary Clayton

I have been involved with NATRC for over 20 years. With NATRC, I have had the opportunity of participating in rides all over the country and have seen our Region grow and change while maintaining the unique principles of our beginnings. Over the years, I was elected to the National Board of Directors for 8 years, serving as Vice President, 1 year and 2 years as President. In Region 5, I had the honor of serving as President for 8 years. I am a current member of the Board and would like the opportunity to continue serving Region 5. I would appreciate your vote! Thank you.

Sandy Pegram

As a long-time NATRC competitor, I appreciate the value of this sport. Over the years, I've ridden 5 different horses and realize how this sport improves horse AND rider. Our Region demonstrates the value of team work put forth by so many folks and allows for lasting friendships.

During my time with NATRC, I have ridden over 2,200 competitive miles and have held numerous volunteer positions. These jobs have allowed me to learn a great deal about the internal direction, responsibility, and time consumption of our organization. During this year, I have been a Secretary for the new Leisure Ride, a Leisure Rider, and Secretary for a Leisure Clinic we held in June. My application as a Leisure Division Ride Judge has been submitted.

As an Alternate to the Board for the past 2 years, I have seen and appreciate the hard and ongoing work done by our Board. Our Board members work year round to make us a better organization and to provide direction in so many small (and large) details to make us a first class organization. As a "retiree", I believe I have the time, energy and commitment to be an effective Board Member.

I would appreciate your vote.

Marsha Howard

I began riding as a child growing up in Colorado and did 4H, barrel racing and AQHA shows. I was introduced to NATRC and endurance riding as a young teenager growing up in Colorado when my father decided we would compete in a few rides as a distraction from the show ring. We both learned vast amounts about horsemanship and it was a valuable bonding time for us both. I stepped away from horses for a few decades while raising a family. When I started riding again NATRC seemed like a great place to explore. The motivation to improve horsemanship and the friendships developed sealed my dedication to the sport. I joined the NATRC Region 5 board several years ago and am currently serving as the secretary. I think we have a sport that allows development of strong values and skills. I hope some of my business skills, experience and passion for the sport can continue to be of value to the sport as we all begin to re engage in riding and competition. NATRC is truly a family!

Paula Riley

Having done my first ride back in 1983, I'm a long-standing, life-time member of NATRC. For the past 25 years, I have been actively involved in NATRC as a competitor, in ride management (Ride Manager, Secretary, Trailmaster, Safety Coordinator, etc), as member of the regional Boards of Directors (serving previously as both President, Vice-President and general member), and an alternate member of the National BOD. My focus has always been on helping make the sport I love more successful. I value the benefit of a variety of viewpoints, and am a firm believer that all of us are smarter than one (or a few). Toward that end, I would be honored to share the challenges and successes our sport is currently having, get your ideas to help make improvement, and represent you on the Region 5 Board of Directors. Thanks in advance for your support.

Andrea Rogers

I have experience as a Competitor, Ride Manager, Regional Board member and National Committee chair. I will draw on this experience as we move past the current year and rebuild our sport. There will be challenges and changes, but working together we will be successful. My goal is to keep the membership informed and involved throughout this process. With your support, I look forward to a third term on the Region 5 BOD.

Victoria Whitehead

I have been riding and training horses for more than twenty years. In 2018 with the support of my Region 5 family, I recently won the President's Cup with my horse By the "Grace" of God. At my first NATRC competition, I knew instantly that I wanted to be a part of this group. A group that thinks of the horse first and puts camaraderie over competition. As a current board member, serving as an alternate, I feel it is important to speak up for each of you, to be your voice and make your wishes known to the regional and national boards because this can only benefit our entire equine family and encourage growth in our beloved sport.

National Board

Esther Diaguila

For the past three years, I have had the privilege to represent region 5 at the national level. I am asking you to allow me to continue in this service for another three years. I have been involved with NATRC since 2003. During that time, I have ridden novice, competitive pleasure and open, worked as secretary for judges and rides, been Rules Interpreter, managed my own ride, have been the trail master for my ride and have won numerous regional and national awards, including the President's Cup. I would appreciate your support for my continued service.

For any member who has not voted, please see the attached ballot. Votes must be received by September 30, 2020!

REGION 5 BALLOT

Ballot for Board of Directors - - two (2) year term.

A single membership votes for 4 members to fill 4 slots. If you have a family membership, please vote twice on one ballot or send in two ballots. Each **person** can vote for 4 members on Region 5 Board Ballot

Directors whose terms expire December 2020 are: Gary Clayton, Marsha Howard, Paula Riley, Andrea Rogers, Victoria Whitehead

National Board: Esther Diaguila (3 year term) (vote for 1 person)

Nominees for Region 5 Board are:

Gary Clayton _____ Paula Riley _____

Marsha Howard _____ Andrea Rogers _____

Sandy Pegram _____ Victoria Whitehead _____

Other (write in) _____ (Fill in name)

National Board (3 year term) – Single membership 1 vote; family membership 2 votes

National Board: Esther Diaguila _____

National (write in) _____ (Fill in Name)

Please print your name(s) below and your membership type.

NAME: _____ Membership type: _____

SECOND NAME IF FAMILY BALLOT: _____

Ballots may be emailed to Linda Clayton, lindaclay@aol.com or mailed to Linda Clayton, PO Box 313, Hope Hull, AL 36043

DEADLINE FOR VOTING – September 30, 2020

PLEASE VOTE