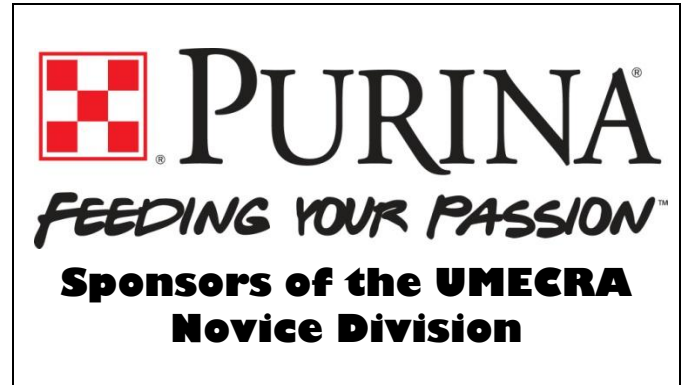


UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



Ready, Set, Go...! Start planning!

- 4/20- 21 Brighton Competitive Trails Spring – Howell, MI
- 4/27-28 Brushy Creek Distance – Fort Dodge, IA
- 5/4-5 MnDRA1, Orrock, MN
- 5/4-5 White River Spring, Hesperia, MI
- 5/4-4 Kettles & Bits, New Prospect, WI
- 5/11-12 Glacier Trails, Palmyra, WI
- 5/18-19 Run for the Border, St Croix Falls, WI
- 5/25-26 Grand Island, Rapid River, MI
- 6/1-2 Maplewood West, Pelican Rapids, MN
- 6/8-9 ApDRA, Palmyra, WI
- 6/8-9 White River Summer, Hesperia, MI
- 6/8 Double Eagle Dance, Elsberry, MO
- 6/14-16 SE MN, Forestville, MN
- 6/22-23 Hopkins Creek, Manton, MI
- 6/22-23 Dead Dog Creek, Kinmundy, IL
- 6/29-30 AHDRA1 – My Backyard, Wyanet, IL
- 7/5-6 Endless Valley, Spring Green, WI
- 7/6-7 AHAM, Augusta, MI
- 7/13-14 Mosquito Run, Rogers, MN
- 7/12-14 AHDRAII Endure for the Cure, Washington, IL
- 7/20-21 Grand Island North, Limestone, MI
- 7/20-21 AHDRA2.5 Zumbro Bottoms Boogie, Wabasha, MN
- 7/26-28 Wildcat, Palmyra, WI
- 8/4 Warm-up, Oscoda, MI
- 8/5-9 Shore to Shore, Lake Huron/Michigan, MI
- 8/10 Cool Down, Empire, MI
- 8/10-11 Louise Reidel Memorial, Arkdale, WI
- 8/17-18 Thistle Down Run, Frazee, MN
- 8/17-18 Rock River Charity, Utica, IL
- 8/24-25 Northern Highland, TBD in WI
- 8/31-9/2 White River Fall-Labor Day, Hesperia, MI
- 9/7-8 Charity Cup, Pillager, MN
- 9/7-8 Keweenaw, Lake Linden, MI
- 9/7-8 Lincoln Trail, Kinmundy, IL
- 9/14-15 Colorama Classic, Greenbush, WI
- 9/14-15 Tin Cup Springs, Luther, MI
- 9/21-22 Run for the Ridge, Fairfax, MN
- 9/28-29 Pine Marten Run, Nahma Junction, MI
- 10/5-6 Iron Creek Run, Kindred, ND
- 10/3-6 DRAWarama, Palmyra, WI
- 10/12-13 Iron Oak, Arkdale, WI
- 10/12-13 Oak Leaf Run, Hamilton, MI
- 10/19-20 Point Chaser, Wabasha, MN
- 10/24-27 AHA National, Chandlerville, IL



▲ Message from the Pres....

It seems everyone is excited for the beginning of the riding season. Some of us are slogging through snow, some slipping on ice, and others wading through puddles. Eventually the weather gets warmer as the days get longer and we'll spend more time on the backs of our horses than running the curry comb over their coats.

I want to acknowledge Jill Feller and all her helpers for putting on a great convention. Thanks to Jessi Zirbel for taking on the silent auction this year.

Please talk to and email concerns, ideas, and of course call out people who do good deeds to the board members and the newsletter editor. Our board members do a better job when they get a lot of input on issues - small and large.

I'll be the first - thanks Jeanne Crispin and Nicole Mauser - for the last few months of major work. It's quite a job to get the ride schedule worked out and up on the website in just a few weeks. Thanks to Peggy Pasillas for a great job on the newsletter month after month. And Robin Schadt once again was the tireless points keeper last year - and is about to take on a new season for us all. Do her a favor by making sure your UMECRA number is filled in on your ride entry form every time.

See you on the trail!

Theresa Meyer

Ride Managers – please let me know if I missed anything or entered it incorrectly!

A big shout out to EVERYONE who made the silent auction a good time & rousing success...over 150 items were available, and over \$3000 raised...thank t=you to those who donated, and hooraw to those who bid, and a heehaw to those who did both. Special thanks to my cochair Wes Elford & able assistant Katie Krueger...I couldn't have done it without you!

See you at Kettles & Bits! (I JUST got the second half of that one RIGHT NOW as I typed it. Gah. I'm SUCH a blonde...I understood the Kettle part based on geography....)

Jessi Zirkel

www.resolutefarmsracing.com

Insurance for Distance Clinics

Getting liability insurance for your mounted distance riding clinic is a possibility if UMECRA is the sponsor of the clinic. It works in this way – let's suppose MnDRA wants to hold a clinic. The ride flyers and all the ads must say Sponsored by UMECRA – Hosted by MnDRA. The host will pay all fees for this clinic - \$45 plus \$20 each for additional insured. Any money that is made at the clinic, if any, is retained by the hosting organization; only the cost of the insurance is paid to UMECRA. UMECRA membership forms should be available at the clinic for the attendees. Please contact Jill Feller at Jfeller@nconnect.net for details.

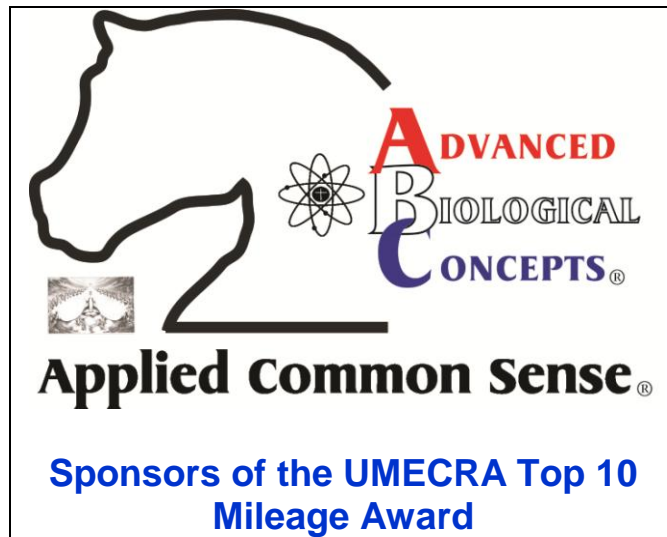
+++++ Your UMECRA Membership at Work!

From the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources:
January 31, 2013

Dear Jill,
Thank you and your organization for the generous donation of \$250.00 for the electrical project at the Zumbro Bottoms Equestrian Campground. It will definitely help in getting the project done. The initial cost estimates were lower than the quotes, so the additional dollars will help us get it done. I have attached a receipt for your records. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Harry R. Roberts – Park M

+++++



BOD MEETING

JANUARY 19, 2013

OCONOMOWOC, WI

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Present: Lynn Reichert, Elizabeth Laurie, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Olivia Rudolphi, Maxine Bernsdorf, Bonnie Mielke, Peggy Pasillas, Jill Feller, Theresa Meyer, Linda Mowrer, Tony Troyer, Jeanne Crispin, Wayne Gastfield, Joslyn Seefeldt, Dianne Schmidt, Marty Power

Guests: Wes Elford, Barb Kurti, Chris Power

Agenda items:

- Secretary minutes from November; Tony motioned, Maxine seconded; Approved
- Treasurer report for 2012; Tony motioned to approve, Linda seconded; Approved

1. Bylaws/Rules CHANGES

- Add under UMECRA general rules

4. Rider Requirements

L. Juniors riders are not allowed to compete on stallions in any division. Tony motioned to bring this discussion off the table; seconded by Wayne.

REVISED: Stallions must be ridden by a rider 18 years of age or older. Juniors in competitive must not ride stallions; Approved and will be sent to the annual meeting.

- Blind horse discussion

o General Rule:

☑ 3. Veterinarian Requirements

- Horse blind in both eyes are not allowed to participate. Tony motioned, Olivia seconded; Failed 5/6

- A discussion followed on this subject.

- Wes read the AERC veterinarian statement regarding blind horses.

- Marty moved: Dianne seconded to put a rule in the UMECRA RM/Vet Handbook that states:

- o A final decision allowed unsighted or a partially sighted equine to compete will be decided on a case by case basis by the control judge at each event. Riders of vision impaired equine should contact the ride manager prior to entry for approval.
- o Approved and goes to the annual meeting

- By-Law Changes (both moved to March meeting)
- o ** Board eligibility must be 18 years old and a member for 2 years.
- ☐ This was moved to March meeting until guidance from Art is received.
- o ARTICLE V: OFFICERS
Section 1. ELECTION. When a quorum of the delegates is present at the annual meeting, a simple majority of all UMECRA members from the previous year who are present at the convention are allowed to vote on the board of directors. shall elect a president, a vice president, and a secretary/treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the Board. Commencing at the January 2008 convention the President will be elected to a two year term. Commencing at the January 2007 convention the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer will be elected to a two year term. Said officers shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. (1-20-07)
- Tony motioned; Joslyn seconded to remove this from the agenda; Approved. This issue will be revisited and worded for the March meeting.

- Add division: SHORT COMPETITIVE DIVISION
To provide a division for those who choose not to ride or cannot ride 25 miles or more.
- 1. A UMECRA Short Competitive Ride cannot be longer than 15 miles. The ride must be part of the UMECRA sanctioning process. All fees apply.
- 2. Short Competitive rides must use the "window system" as follows: A short competitive rider may come in from 5 minutes before or up to 5 minutes after the exact scheduled time without losing points. One point per minute is lost for coming in before or after these limits, up to 55 minutes (a total of 55 points) without being disqualified.
- 3. The Short Competitive division must be a one horse/rider team.
- 4. Horse and rider combination is not eligible to place in any other UMECRA category.
- 5. Horse/rider team will use the same rules as competitive rides and including UMECRA general rules.
- 6. Short Competitive rides will have only one division. Juniors and seniors, no matter what weight division are one division for the purpose of awards and scoring for UMECRA.
- 7. Scoring for UMECRA awards will use the current system for High Point Awards. Awards will be given to Top 5 only.

- 8. Short Competitive riders must accumulate a minimum of 40 miles and at least 3 ride for Year End Top 5 Awards.
- 9. If a UMECRA sanctioned ride offers short competitive classes, all fees and rules shall be observed. Short Competitive rides are only eligible for year-end awards in the short competitive division or other awards where the criteria specifically states that short competitive rides shall count. Short Competitive mileage shall count for chevrons and horse mileage, but shall not be considered in determining eligibility for Restricted Mileage awards.
- ☐ Maxine moved to bring this topic off the table; Tony seconded.
- o Can an accomplished rider ride Short Comp for mileage only? There is nothing saying that any rider on any ride can't ride for mileage only.
- o How will this be an advantage to the organization? Will this bring in new members? Will the vets at a ride be able to handle more horses at a ride?
- o After discussion: vote was taken; Failed to pass; no further action taken.
- o Motion made by Bonnie; seconded by Dianne: to rescind Novice rule that was approved in 2012. Failed to pass; no further action taken.
- ☐ The revised rule is: A rider placing Top Five novice for three years is not eligible for further Novice Awards and may enter Novice rides for mileage only. Horse/A rider teams A rider not meeting this criteria may enter novice rides for mileage only.

- G. If ride management, ride veterinarians, or a rider feels that any personnel have been abused or harassed by a member, ride veterinarian, volunteer or non-member rider, they have the right to notify the Board within 3 days of the close of a ride, who will respond in the following order:
 - o Upon review, the Board will ask for comment from the alleged offending person and other people who might have witnessed the event; then if deemed warranted, the Board will privately warn that member, ride veterinarian, volunteer, or non-member rider part of the warning being that if the offense continues, the member person will may be publicly warned. If not satisfied, a formal protest can be filed within 7 days. If the conduct continues the Board can take whatever further action it deems, such as but not limited to: loss of membership, probation of ride(s), or loss of sanctioning. Tony motioned; seconded by Maxine; Jill motioned; Maxine seconded to table this to March.

 - Rider counseling for over-ridden horses
 - o Pulled for metabolic twice within a year; you cannot enter another ride the following year- FEI rules.
 - o Is this something that should be tackled by AERC?

- o Does UMECRA have a welfare rule? If not, we should have one.
- o Maxine suggestion was that Olivia leads a vet team to make a statement to be presented in March.
 - Trail fund requests (from trail fund)
- o Holly Egerer- request for donation for electricity in shelter at Zumbro's Bottom camp. Joslyn motioned and Linda Mowrer seconded; Approved to send \$250 for this request.
 - Promotion requests (from general fund)
- o MN request for funding for MN Expo; Linda Mowrer motioned and Wayne Gastfield seconded; Approve to send \$250 for this request.
- o IL Horse Fair request for funding for booth: Maxine Bernsdorf motioned and Lynn Reichert seconded ; Approved to send \$250 for this request.
 - AHA Championship ride will be held the last weekend in October: Tony would like UMECRA to donate \$400 toward a sponsorship for the ride. Tony motioned; Joslyn seconded. Dianne requested the amount to be \$250; denied. Approved for \$400 donation.
 - Insurance update/costs paid by rides
 - o Tony motioned; Linda seconded to keep insurance as it has been with UMECRA paying ½ of the daily \$45/day costs and rides paying all costs for additional insured (i.e. a 2 day ride with one additional insured would be \$45 x 2 + \$20; UMECRA would pay \$45 and the ride would pay \$45 + 20). Approved
 - o Jill will find out about using the UMECRA insurance for clinics.

☐ ANSWER FROM INSURANCE COMPANY: UMECRA insurance can be used for a ride clinic as long as UMECRA is the sponsoring organization of the clinic as the insurance is in the name of UMECRA.

 - Spring meeting date
 - o March 9 location TBD
 - Ride calendar was reviewed again
 - o UMECRA's ride season needs to be defined as what our ride year is. A ride is on the calendar for the first week in November. Is our ride season Dec-Nov or Jan-Dec?
 - o Tony motioned; Linda seconded to approve 2013 ride calendar. Approved and will go to annual meeting.
 - Self-nominating process for elections
 - o Move this discussion to the March meeting.
 - Membership committee report was presented by Marty and will be presented at the annual meeting.
 - Blue Ribbon Committee update
 - o Marty presented a document that will be discussed at the annual meeting.
 - Wayne motioned that there should be a 1 minute limit per motion at the annual meeting and only one chance to speak; seconded by Bonnie. Tony amended it to 2 minutes. Wayne accepted amendment; Bonnie did not. Failed. .
 - Joslyn motioned; Elizabeth seconded that each person gets 1 minute to speak, but have multiple

opportunities to discuss. Approved: Wayne will make this announcement at the beginning of the annual meeting and Wayne will be the time keeper.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Feller

**Annual Meeting
January 19, 2013
Oconomowoc, WI
Annual Convention**

Agenda items:

- Meeting called to order by President Theresa Meyer
- Roll call of delegates: 82 votes (78 delegates, 3 rider reps, 1 vet rep)
- Treasurer report for 2012- presented as Balance Sheet
 - o Tony Troyer moved, Linda Mower seconded to accept as presented: **Passed**
- Secretary's report from annual meeting 2012 was presented.
 - o Linda Mowrer moved, Wayne Gastfield seconded: **Passed**
- Approval of insurance costs proposal was presented.
 - o UMECRA will pay ½ of daily \$45/day costs plus \$20 for each additional insured.
 - o This was passed in the morning BOD meeting and does not need any further action.
- Approval of 2013 ride schedule
 - o Jeanne Crispin presented some changes from the schedule that was handed out at the meeting.
 - o Jeanne reminded everyone to send their ride flyers to her as soon as possible; PDF format is preferred.
 - o Wayne moved, Joslyn Seefeldt seconded to approve the ride schedule with the additional changes. **Passed.**
- Meeting Rules:
 - o Wayne moved, Bonnie seconded: For each topic, each person gets 1 minute on the topic; they can have more than one time to voice their point. **Passed.**
- Rules CHANGES – brought forward from November and morning BOD meeting
 - o **Edit under Competitive Drive – drivers:**
- **I. All drivers** ~~Multiples (pairs, tandems and teams)~~ will have 15 minutes to present their horses to the veterinarian for pulse and respiration at the vet checks ~~at end of the drive. (Single horses will have ten minutes to present their horse to the veterinarian.)~~

- Motion made by Tony Troyer; seconded by Linda Mowrer; **Passed**
- **Add under UMECRA general rules**
- Stallions shall not be ridden by a rider 18 years of age or older. Juniors in competitive must not ride stallions; Tony Troyer moved; Olivia Rudolphi seconded. Approved.
- 4. Rider Requirements
- K. Stallions must be double tied (two halters & two lead ropes tied to two distinct tie points) to trailer, hitching post, or high tie when not being ridden or handled. Stallions must be marked with a yellow ribbon on the bridle or forelock and tail at all times.
- Motion made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Barry Saylor.
- Elizabeth Laurie proposed an amendment; seconded by Elinore Tonsor to add “and 2 sources”
- Motion made by Olivia Rudolphi; seconded by Tony Troyer to the above rule with the two sources added; **Passed**
- **Add under UMECRA general rules**
- 4. Management Requirements
- J. All Rides offering limited distance and endurance events must be AERC sanctioned.
- Joslyn Seefeldt motioned; seconded by Wayne Gastfield; **Passed**
- **Add under**
COMPETITIVE RULES
- 2. Management Requirements
- H. There must be a minimum of one rest stop during each 25 miles or increments over 15 miles thereof. (For example a ride must be 40 miles or over in order to require two rest stops.) Horses may not travel more than 20 miles without a scheduled vet stop **if the ride is between 25 and 34 miles. A one day ride of 35 miles or more may have one loop that is a maximum of 25 miles.** All vet stops must be a minimum of 40 minutes long.
 - Motion made by Olivia Rudolphi; seconded by Tony Troyer; **Failed to pass**
- **Sanctioning Requirements:**
- 2. UMECRA Rules
- F. Once the schedule is finalized at the annual meeting, no new rides may be scheduled except with Board **and ride manager approval via electronic ballot with a majority of 2/3rds of the**

managers responding within ten (10) calendar days. (One vote per ride) Rides seeking approval by Board vote must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be proposed for an open date
- Be 501 miles or more from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com)
- If less than 501 miles from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com), have written approval of those ride manager(s)
- Motion by Olivia Rudolphi, seconded by Wayne Gastfield; **Passed**
- Amendment added “in ten days”
- 4. Rider Requirements (from the Blue Ribbon Committee)
 - K. Non-UMECRA members will be charged a \$5 non-member fee per ride entry to be paid to UMECRA. ((Current K moves to L))
 - Olivia Rudolphi motioned; Tony Troyer seconded; **Failed to pass**
- 3. Veterinarian Requirements
 - A final decision allowed unsighted or a partially sighted equine to compete will be decided on a case by case basis by the control judge at each event. Riders of vision impaired equine should contact the ride manager prior to entry for approval.
 - Olivia Rudolphi moved, Dianne Schmidt seconded; **Passed**
 - Bonnie Mielke motioned to call the question; Lynn Reichert seconded; **Passed**
 - BY LAWS CHANGES
 - **ARTICLE VIII**
 - Standing Committees (1/23/10)
 - Section 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. An Executive Committee of the Board will be made up of its President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.
 - Section 2. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FUND COMMITTEE.
 - A. A permanent committee is established to fully administer, maintain, guide and keep an international competition fund for fund-raising to assist in supporting UMECRA members who may be selected to participate in **compete in** or **ride** managers who

~~host~~ may be selected to participate in international endurance or competitive ride events sanctioned by the FEI.

- B. Committee members: The committee shall be made up of five persons as follows: a current UMECRA officer and four members at large to include a chairperson and three others. Preference shall also be given to appointing UMECRA members who are acting as Chef d'Equipe for time zone teams, generally the East or Central teams. The committee will be appointed by the UMECRA president.

- C. Committee responsibilities:
 1. To prepare guidelines for administration and dispersal of the fund, to be approved by the Board;
 2. To prepare plans for fund-raising, to be approved by the Board;
 3. To implement Board approved guidelines and plans; and
 4. To furnish an annual report to the Board and membership at the general meeting, to include; financial report, fundraising report, activity/use report.

- Olivia Rudolphi motioned; Tony Troyer seconded; **Passed**
- Update from the Blue Ribbon Committee
 - Marty Power and Julie Jackson Biegert gave a summary of the committee. The full report is available to all members on the UMECRA website.
 - Discussion focused on getting more rider involvement throughout the organization. An idea was presented to have 'state' representation based on the number of UMECRA members in each state. No further action was taken at this time regarding this topic.

Election of officers:

- Vice President; Nominated Linda Mowrer (declined) Becke Gram, Barb Kurti, **Tony Troyer**
- Secretary/Treasurer; **Jill Feller**
- IL Regional Director; **Sarah Mowrer**
- MI Regional Director; **Wayne Gastfield**
- (2) Director at Large;
- **Barb Kurti**, Bill Suskey, Darlene Molitor
- **Bill Suskey**, Darlene Molitor
- Motion made to adjourn the meeting. Jill Feller motioned; Linda Mowrer seconded.

Respectfully Submitted
Jill Feller
 UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

The Rider subcommittee proposal and membership committee report that was available at the meeting follows.

Rider Vote Proposal

The purpose of this proposal is to increase participation of all members of UMECRA, to broaden the knowledge base required to run the organization and to bring forward the input, ideas and skills of more UMECRA members. We have tried to develop a proposal that would create increased representation of riders (and geographic locations) without increasing the size of the BoD.

Here is the basic proposal:

- Create the role of Rider Delegate (not to be confused with Rider Representative).
- Each State would be allowed to elect one rider delegate for every ten UMECRA members, up to a maximum of ten. If there are less than ten members in a given State, no delegate would be allowed.
- Delegates would be voted in by state members via mail in ballot.
- Delegates would have to meet the following criteria:
 Rider Delegates must have been members for a minimum of one year and must have completed a minimum of four UMECRA rides in the previous season, to be comprised of any combination of CTR of 25 miles or more, Limited Distance or Endurance Rides.
- Rider Delegates will have voting privileges at the Annual meeting only.
- Given the 2012 membership numbers, this is what the number of "votes" would look like in comparison to Ride Manager votes:

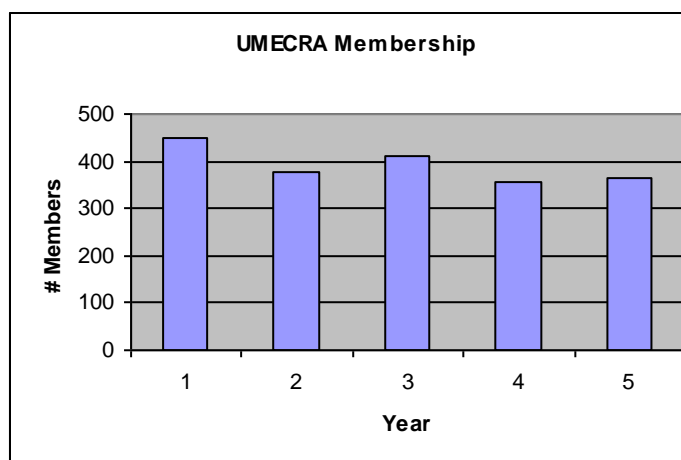
| | Number of UMECRA Members | Potential Number of Ride Delegates | # of UMECRA Ride Days/Ride Manager Votes |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Wisconsin | 106 | 10 | 23 |
| Minnesota | 100 | 10 | 20 |
| Illinois | 72 | 7 | 13 |
| Michigan | 52 | 5 | 32 |
| Iowa | 10 | 1 | 2 |
| Indiana | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Missouri | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| North Dakota | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Ohio | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| South Dakota | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 355 | 33 | 95 |

Membership & Novice Committee Report

January 19, 2013

Submitted by: Pam Cotton, Julie Jackson, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Bonnie Mielke, Angie Mikkelson, Linda Mower, Marty Power, Joslyn Seefeldt

| Membership by Year | # | |
|--------------------|-----|--|
| 2008 | 449 | |
| 2009 | 378 | |
| 2010 | 409 | |
| 2011 | 355 | |
| 2012 | 366 | |



In 2012 we:

- Continued to update and improve the **New Riders** page on the website by increasing the number of mentors listed on the website and adding “Getting to know...” to many of the mentor’s listed.
- Developed both a short and a long article on distance riding to be available for printing in newsletters and on websites.
- Offered the first the Mentor’s Award sponsored by AHDRA.

Looking ahead:

- Increase the number of Novice Clinics. Have novice clinics in various parts of the region. Encourage each regional organization to sponsor a novice clinic. Have UMECRA provide both financial and peoplepower for organizations offering novice clinics.
- Provide insurance coverage for both organizations and individuals who offer a novice clinic.

- Improve the number and quality of novice rides offered at rides.

Possible Marketing Potential for UMECRA Membership Growth

A couple of observations regarding UMECRA:

1. It is surprising how few members UMECRA has in some states, like Iowa, for example.
2. It’s been noted that years ago there used to be a lot more rides in different areas that now no longer exist, such as in Iowa and Central and Southern Illinois. Also, years ago there used to be so many juniors competing that it was difficult for a junior to place in the top ten!
3. There may be at least some interest by ride managers and riders in nearby states, such as Indiana and Missouri, to have rides sanctioned by UMECRA.
4. Some individuals have joined UMECRA simply because there was a ride in their area that didn’t require them to travel long distances at considerable expense simply to “try out” the sport.
5. For an organization to thrive, it must at least sustain, if not grow, its membership numbers.

Analyses:

Although some states have data on the number of horses, horse owners or riders, not all Midwest states do. The best available data found was the American Horse Council’s estimate that 2.2% of U.S. households own horses. Using that piece of information and applying it against available census data on the number of households in a state provides an estimated number of households that own horses as the maximum potential number of UMECRA membership households.

Now this isn’t exact, since the UMECRA membership numbers weren’t converted into household memberships, but to get a rough estimate of UMECRA’s penetration rate into the potential market for membership the number of UMECRA members was divided into the estimated number of potential households that own horses.

From that calculation, Minnesota was found to have the highest penetration rate. Every other state’s penetration rate was then divided into the Minnesota penetration rate to arrive at a potential growth factor if each state could achieve the same penetration rate enjoyed by Minnesota. Using that potential growth factor, the estimated potential increased number of

UMECRA memberships that could result if Minnesota's penetration rate could be achieved by each of the other states was calculated.

Then, the correlation between the number of ride days in a state and the number of UMECRA memberships was calculated and found to be fairly strong (.773). As correlation doesn't reveal causality, this relationship could be because states with more ride days recruit more UMECRA members, or the states with more UMECRA members have more potential ride managers and end up hosting more ride days.

Regardless, it seems there is considerable potential for UMECRA to sustain and even grow its membership numbers if it cares to embark on a planned marketing strategy targeted at specific states and areas within a state. Such a strategy could include several possible actions, such as the hosting of novice clinics in strategic locations, applying incentives for someone to host a UMECRA ride in strategic locations to attract both old and new riders as UMECRA members, and approaching existing ride managers in certain states with incentives to sanction their ride with UMECRA.

HALL OF FAME NOMINATION LETTER FOR MAXINE BERNSDORF:

I would like to nominate Maxine Bernsdorf for the UMECRA hall of fame. I feel Max has given so much to the Midwest group. She has mentored so many people and is always willing to help any one.

She is always at the races with a big smile. She may be unhappy with something, but you do not ever see her making a fuss and causing difficulties for people.

Max is a force to be reckoned with. I do not know anyone else who is her age and still rides every day of "Shore to Shore." At almost every ride, you can be sure that Max will be placing in the top five.

I have seen Max reach out to new people (which I was one of those) and make them feel welcome. I love to see her still "play". This year at the Halloween ride, Max was there in full costume, plus helping the youth create their costumes. I know she really supports our Junior riders.

Max is a good kind person, who deserves to be in the UMECRA hall of fame. She is one of a kind and is definitely the definition of "endurance". Besides that, she always has good food!!!

Thank you and I hope you will consider Max for this great award---I know it will mean the world to her.

Marge Dixon

A NOTE FROM MAX

2012 A really good year. WOW!

I set an achievable goal each ride season, usually "to compete the seven days of Shore to Shore". Andy has done that for the last three years. This year we won!

Goal achieved

I do not watch points. Usually, my friend Linda says "do you know" and I do not. When AHDRA points were posted I was told that I had top Arab & 1/2 Arab. I did say "I want that!" And we did.

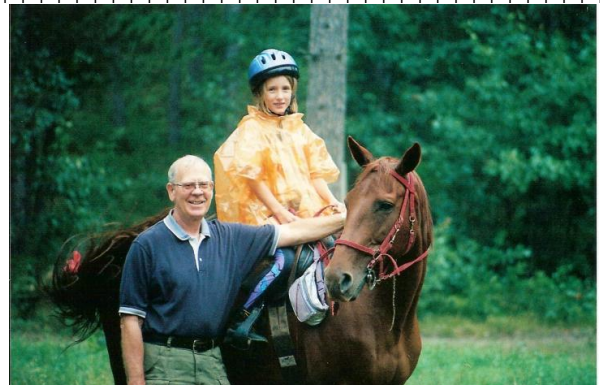
Goal achieved

Receiving Hall of Fame and Mentors Award at convention was a complete surprise. There is a saying, "A stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet." I have made wonderful friends, and I encourage you to reach out to new riders and make new friends too. Remember also that "Juniors are a Joy" to ride with and the future of UMECRA.

Way back when, I approached the BOD with the idea of a Hall of Fame to honor Louise. Since then, there have been some fantastic people who have achieved the award over the years and I am honored to have been chosen to join them.

My goal: *To continue to serve UMECRA*

I THANK YOU ALL!!!!!!!!!!



SWEET AS HONEY

Honey was five years old when we brought her. Diane had a horse named Lacy at the time and we decided that this was a sport that we could enjoy together. I immediately changed her name from

Honey Bee to Honey. I had ridden several twenty-five and thirty-five mile races with her and decide to ride a fifty-mile race. That was about the last race I rode (we took second). I didn't ride much after that, but Honey kept on going. Diane continued riding her in endurance races for years. Even against the suggestions that this big meaty horse was no good to use in this sport. In fact, we almost sold her one time because she just didn't seem to have what it took to be a good endurance horse. A close friend talked us out of it (Katie Byrnes). As the years and races progressed, so did Honey's ability. She's not the speed demon that some horses are, but has been strong and steady. The fact that she is still going after 4000 endurance miles, over 7400 overall is a testimony to this. I myself have been impressed with these accomplishments. Twice she has ridden the length of the Shore-to-Shore with Diane, twice with Rachael (my now 16 year old), and Whitney (12 year old) completing 125 miles across, and several times she has ridden multiple days. Two years in a row she rode over 800 miles. She has even completed a 100-mile endurance ride.

Now, as if this weren't enough reason to nominate a horse into the Hall of Fame, she has taken on new duties, training a new rider. Rachael started riding her in the sport almost two years ago; Honey and she are going strong. Rachael and Whitney, with Honey's help finished first in Great Lakes, and received Rookie of the year and the Merry Legs award, various years. Now, with any other horse I don't think that Rachael and Whitney could have done this. Honey watches and takes care of them and likewise. Honey knows her job and does it well.

Now babysitting and training new riders is not the only thing Honey is naturally good at. Honey and I have ridden with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department Mounted Division. So now, she not only takes care of my family, and me, she is also looking out for the well being of others.

I cannot say enough about Honey. If you had asked me if a horse could be a part of a family, years back, I would have laughed. Now I can't imagine our family without her. She has taught us all a lot about living and loving. Honey is a truly sweet horse.

Additions for 2012.. Honey is still continuing to ride. She has won the UMECRA Senior Horse award three years. Whitney hopes to get her to

8000 lifetime miles this next summer! Honey there is a retirement soon -we promise!

Convention Follow Up:

I would like to thank everyone who attended the convention on January 18-20th. It is not always easy to travel in the Midwest so I really appreciate the effort of everyone who came! For those who missed it, we had a great presentation about large animal rescue followed by a short demo on a life size horse model presented by Dr. Howard Ketover. We were served an excellent meal on Saturday night and had live entertainment afterwards.

A special thank you to all of the UMECRA and DRAW members who helped out! A special thanks to: Jon and Boots Wagner, Katie Bachhuber, Kathy Schauer, Wes Elford and Jessi Zirbel for your help!

Thank you to the UMECRA BOD members who are leaving our board: Marty Power, Lynn Reichert, Linda Mowrer. Welcome to our new BOD members: Barb Kurti, Sarah Mowrer and Bill Suskey

Thank you again for attending!

Jill Feller

Convention Manager

Metabolic Syndrome Dangerous for Pregnant Mares (AAEP 2012)

By Stacey Oke, DVM, MSc • Feb 05, 2013 •

Article #31307 www.thehorse.com

Equine metabolic syndrome--defined as obesity, insulin resistance, and high insulin levels circulating in the bloodstream--is a dangerous condition for any horse, but it puts pregnant mares in an especially precarious situation. Owners and veterinarians should address metabolic syndrome and related conditions (such as laminitis and insulin resistance) in these horses to minimize risk of fetal compromise and abortion.

"During pregnancy, metabolic syndrome is a normal occurrence because it helps redirect nutrients from the mare to the developing foal," explained Peter Morresey, BVSc, MACVs, Dipl. ACT, ACVIM, of Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital, in Lexington, Ky. Problems can arise, however, if the mare already has metabolic syndrome before she is in foal. He described managing such cases in a presentation at the 2012 American Association of Equine Practitioners' Convention, held Dec 1-5 in Anaheim Calif.

"In mares that have metabolic syndrome before they become pregnant, the condition can become

exacerbated," he explained Morresey. For example, mares with metabolic syndrome have alterations in insulin and lipid (good and bad fats) circulating in their bloodstream, can develop laminitis, and potentially abort the fetus.

Morresey went on to note that mares that have metabolic syndrome before becoming pregnant are generally less sensitive to the hormone insulin than their healthy counterparts, resulting in higher-than-normal blood glucose levels. To help normalize insulin dynamics during gestation, Morresey suggested owners take the following steps:

Feed these mares only hay or a hay substitute, remove grain and sweet feeds from their diets, and restrict their pasture access;

Consider exercising affected mares if laminitis is not a concern, to help control obesity; and

Discuss the use of metformin (an oral antidiabetic medication), L-thyroxine (a thyroid supplement), and/or pergolide (used to treat equine Cushing's disease) with your veterinarian, as these medications could benefit some horses.

"Laminitis in horses with metabolic syndrome is a major concern," Morresey advised. "Aggressive and early management of this condition (such as cryotherapy, which involves intensely cooling the horse's feet) is paramount to a successful case outcome," saving the mare.

In Morresey's opinion, "It is never too early to consult a farrier or podiatrist in the management of the laminitic insulin-resistant horse."

Veterinarians need to conduct additional research in mares with metabolic syndrome that are subsequently bred to determine the best ways to manage them throughout gestation and foaling.

Five Tips to Keep Horses Healthier this Winter
By University of Pennsylvania School of
Veterinary Medicine • Jan 20, 2013 • Article
#31225 www.thehorse.com

1. People sometimes joke about "bulking up for winter," but for horses that live outside, increasing calories is a very real need as it takes more calories to keep warm. A high-quality hay should be the foundation of any healthy diet, and increasing calories through increasing the hay ration rather than grain is a healthier option. Older horses that are unable to consume their calories from hay due to dental disease might need another calorie source such as corn oil. Please consult your veterinarian about dietary management during the cold winter months.

2. Your horse needs abundant, fresh water, even when it is cold outside. Check several times daily to make sure that his water source is not frozen. There are

numerous types of heating units to ensure that your horse has fresh, unfrozen water available at all times, made specifically for this purpose.

3. Keeping your horse in a warm, tightly shut barn is not necessarily a good thing, as a closed up barn increases your horse's exposure to airborne dust and allergens. A well-ventilated barn, even if it means a drop of a few degrees, will keep the air fresher, and healthier for your horse. If your horse has a non-infectious respiratory disease such as recurrent airway obstruction (commonly known as "heaves") or inflammatory airway disease, being inside the barn is a particularly unhealthy option since exposure to the high levels of particles in the air can trigger a flare-up of respiratory signs. In most cases like this, it's advisable to invest in a warm, weatherproof blanket and leave a horse with airway disease turned out with access to a run-in shed for shelter whenever possible.

4. Some of our horses that live outside year-round have their blanket on all winter. While blankets are sometimes necessary to keep your horse warm, they can sometimes hide problems lurking beneath. This can also be true of horses and ponies that are not blanketed but grow a very thick hair coat. Bring the horse in and remove the blanket at least once weekly so that you can check for any new lumps, bumps, or changes in body condition. Remember that a long hair coat can hide a lot, so be sure to touch your horse to get a better idea of his or her condition. A good grooming session will provide the opportunity to check the horse out thoroughly, and provide some valuable bonding time when the weather is not conducive to riding.

5. Keep in mind that blanket management can impact the growth of your horse's coat. Blanketing a horse will encourage less growth of the hair coat, so if you are going to blanket, be consistent.

TRAILER
Eyes

For Trailering For Foaling
For Barn Cam

**Instant Wireless
Monitoring System**

Easy setup
No tools required

Range up to 1200 ft.
Can be used everywhere

www.TrailerEyes.com

UMECRA



PERSEVERE

UPPER MIDWEST
ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDE
ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM
2013

CIRCLE ONE:

Single \$35 Family \$45 - hard copy newsletter and/or ride book

Single \$ 25 Family \$35- electronic newsletter and CD for ride book

*NOTE: to receive the reduced rate, you MUST receive the newsletter electronically AND receive a CD for the ride book. **If you have either the newsletter or ride book delivered via USPS you MUST pay the higher membership fees.***

Check one: **RENEWAL** _____ **NEW MEMBERSHP** _____

Please include all names of family members. Juniors are riders who are 16 and under as of December 15 or previous year; identify which names are junior riders. ***Please write clearly!***

PRINT CLEARLY

Date: _____ **UMECRA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER(S):** _____

Names: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (s): _____

Email: _____

If you do NOT want ANY newsletter sent to you- please check this box:

Please mail completed form along with **check made out to UMECRA** to:
Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer
N9280 County Road TW
Mayville, WI 53050

UMECRA Newsletter
c/o Peggy Pasillas
9928 Rich Valley Blvd
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077
www.umecra.com



Deadline for Next Newsletter:
5th of each month
Send news to:
UMECRAnews@gmail.com



PRESIDENT
Theresa Meyer
3028 181st Ave NW
Cedar MN 55011
763-753-5236
tmeyer@tpt.org

VICE PRESIDENT
Tony Troyer
867 N 45th Road
Earlville, IL 60518
815.539.7375
il4aerc@aol.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Jill Feller
N9280 Cty Hwy TW
Mayville, WI 53050
920-948-9502 (cell) or 920-387-5732
jfeller@nconnect.net

PAST PRESIDENT
Linda Mower
3992 E Mt Gilead Lane
Olney, IL 62450
618.839.3632

708.280.8241 robinschadt@aol.com

POINTS KEEPER
Robin Schadt
7342 W 115th Street
Worth, IL 60482

Page 12 of 12

REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ILLINOIS
Sarah Mower
526 S Fair
Olney, IL 62450
618.868.2999
dammitthunder@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN
Wayne Gastfield
723 N. Warner
Fremont, MI 49412
616-924-2605

MINNESOTA
Dianne Schmidt
319 Summerfield Dr NE
Eyota, MN 55934
507-282-7333

WISCONSIN
Joslyn Seefeldt
5738 E. Klug Rd
Milton, WI 53563
608-868-4070
joslynsfiberfarm@aol.com

AERC REGIONAL REPS
Connie Caudill – Ride
Sanctioning
812-967-5973
Sue Keith
812-949-1629
suekeith@insightbb.com

SANCTIONING
COORDINATOR
Jeanne Crispin
68 W Schapville Road
Scales Mound, IL 61075
815.845.2038
robertcrispin@netscape.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Peggy Pasillas
9928 Rich Valley Blvd
Inver Grove Hgts MN 55077
651-450-7959
peggy@pasillas.net
UMECRAnews@gmail.com

DIRECTORS AT LARGE
Barb Kurti
319 Quincy St SW
Grandville, MI 49418
616.896.6798
silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com
Bill Suskey
5605 W Pine Lane
Mequon, WI 53092
262.242.9402
hellsbellsfarm@gmail.com

VETERINARY REP
Olivia Rudulphi,
281 Ruby Road
Noble, IL 62868
618.752.7181
Wineglassfarm1@yahoo.com

WEBSITE EDITOR
Nicole Mauser- Storer
201 S Cameron Lane
Bartonville, IL 61607
309.697.5591
n.mauserstorer@huskers.unl.edu

RIDER REPS
Max Bernsdorf
N5630 Hwy 42
Kewauee, WI 54216
920-388-3128
miranch@hotmail.com

Elizabeth Laurie
15215 60th Street
Plymouth, MN 55446
612.559.1030
ealaurie@mac.com

Bonnie Mielke
562 W34264 Piper Rd
North Prairie WI 53153
262-392-9369
bonniemielke@hotmail.com

Robin Schadt
7342 W 115th St
Worth, IL 60482
708.280.8241
robinschadt@aol.com