

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



Letter from the Prez....

Greetings!
I hope everyone is in the midst of a wonderful holiday season! We have a wonderful convention planned for Rockford, Illinois on January 26, 27 and 28. If you haven't yet made reservations I hope you do so. Information is in other parts of this newsletter! I still remember the Dr. Susan Garlinghouse speech she gave at UMECRA convention many years ago, and her wealth and depth of knowledge has only increased. I will see you there!

Secondly, I will not be running for President this January. My wonderful husband Ken retired from teaching last summer, I am looking for new employment. Plus we are likely going to move from the Twin Cities area to the Caledonia, MN/Waukon, IA region in six months to a year. There are a couple of people in that area doing endurance, but there needs to be more as it is an awesome area to condition horses. Lots of hills and miles of gravel roads to ride. That means getting our home ready to sell (30 years of stuff), and building or remodeling a home on the border IA/MN. Additionally we'll be starting two new horses in distance riding in 2018.

The president's job can take quite a bit of time on occasion. I feel I won't be able to dedicate the time that is needed when it is necessary.

Luckily, I will remain on the board of directors as Past President after the January annual meeting and continue on the executive board, as per the bylaws of UMECRA. And I look forward to maintaining my service to all of you and advocating for the ride managers, riders, vets, volunteers, and equines of our sport. Thanks for all your assistance, comments and feedback and blessings to you all,

Theresa Meyer
UMECRA President

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Family Members - Email Address Alert!
UMECRA is already preparing for the Rider Representative Election this winter. Last January the board experimented with a couple of email electronic voting programs. One was clearly a winner.

Almost every single member provides us with an email address. This is wonderful because when the time comes they will get a link to an electronic ballot. Family members get two votes. The electronic ballot can **not** be sent to the same email two times.

Family members - if you want to receive your two votes for rider rep this winter - please provide us with your name, at least one other family member's name and the two email addresses you would like to use. Please do it right now so you don't forget.

Send this information to:
Theresa Meyer
thmeyer753@gmail.com

Thanks!

Looking for new places to ride in your area and beyond?
Check out <http://trailmeister.com/>
Lots of information there on trails and all things trails! Search by city, state, even zip codes! You can even add trails that you know about.

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2018 Online Member Verification

In an attempt to make everyone's life less complicated, UMECRA is going to try making the paper member card a thing of the past. We all have too many things in our wallet already, right? Here is how it will work this year: you will send in your UMECRA membership form for 2018 with the membership fee to Bruce Birr, Secretary/Treasurer. Within three week's time you will get an email from **umecrapoints@gmail.com** stating that you should check the website at <http://umecra.com/ridernumbers.php> to verify that you are a 2018 UMECRA member. Please give us a "good" email that you use, so that we can communicate with you efficiently.

If your name doesn't appear when you check the website, to please email Bruce Birr and Nicole Mauser-Storer for verification, but not until 3 weeks after your membership is submitted.

Your UMECRA member number does not change from year to year, so keep your current card in your wallet if you want. If you are forgetful about your number take a "screen shot" of your name and number on the <http://umecra.com/ridernumbers.php> page with your smart phone. Store it in your picture gallery or other folder so that you can recall it when filling out your forms. If you are a paper person take a screenshot on your tablet or computer of the webpage with your number and print out a copy to carry in your folder of ride forms, glove box, or purse.

If you have no email address, we can still mail you a card. And we want your feedback on this process. We want it to work and are open to suggestions, please contact UMECRA board members and rider representatives with feedback.

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Board Appointed Position - Nominations Sought

Each year two board appointed positions are renewed or new volunteers are appointed at the November Board of Directors meeting. This year the newsletter and sanctioning coordinator positions will be considered.

Newsletter Editor(s) will edit, author and publish at least 10 newsletters per year both electronic and by hard copy. It is important to have good computer skills for this

positions. Previous newsletter publishing experience is a plus. You do not have to be a writer, but formatting and editing skills are necessary and an aptitude for hitting deadlines is a valuable quality. Please send your letter nomination and qualifications to UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer Bruce Birr at bbirr@centurytel.net.

Congratulations to Joslyn Seefeldt – Our new Sanctioning Coordinator as voted on in the November BOD meeting.

Generally, these positions are advisory and administrative Board positions, and are non-voting. These positions are also subject to the requirements of the traditional duties and standards of responsibility expected of these positions within UMECRA, subject to the authority of the UMECRA Board and as related needs arise within their areas of responsibility. In addition appointees will have to sign UMECRA Code of Conduct. Please contact a board member if you have questions about this process.

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2018 UMECRA Convention Agenda and Meal Reservation January 26-28, 2018 Rockford, IL Hilton Garden Inn

Friday

- 2 PM Registration Opens
- 4:30 PM - Dr Garlinghouse - Nutrition Solutions for Performance Problems
- 6 PM AHDRA Meet and Greet
- 7 PM AHDRA Awards
- After Awards – 8 PM (roughly) – Dr Garlinghouse - How to Feed the better bucket

Saturday

- 6 AM – UMECRA Board Meeting
- 9 AM – Dr Garlinghouse - Ten Things you can do better
- BOX LUNCH from hotel (no outside food allowed in)
- 11 AM – Dr Garlinghouse - Beating the Metabolic Pull
- 1 PM - 4 PM – UMECRA Annual Meeting
- 5:30 - Cocktails
- 6:30 Dinner
- 7 PM – Young Riders World Championships Presentation
- 7:30 PM – Awards followed by Social time

Sunday

AHDRA Annual Meeting

2018 UMECRA CONVENTION MENU

LUNCH

Box Lunch (*Select one*) All sandwiches served with a bag of chips, cookie and bottle of water
Turkey & Swiss Smoked Turkey, swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato and a pickle on wheatberry bread (\$17)

Ham and Salami Genoa Salami, ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and a pickle on wheatberry bread (\$17)

Vegetable Wrap Seasonal grilled vegetables tossed in roasted garlic and balsamic vinegar with lettuce and tomato wrapped in a southwest tomato wrap (\$20)

DINNER

ENTREES (*Select one*) All entrees are served with rolls and butter, house salad and Green Bean Almondine.

Pasta Bella Penne Pasta tossed with grilled vegetables, tomatoes and white beans (\$22)

Chicken Cordon Bleu Chicken breast stuffed with ham and provolone cheese (\$28)

Stuffed Pork Loin Medallions of sliced pork tenderloin with a pan dripping gravy and apple-cranberry stuffing (\$32)

Child's Plate (12 years and under) Chicken Strips, French fries, fruit cup and milk or juice (\$18)

Questions or other dietary needs? Email Nicole Mauser-Storer (n.mauserstorer@huskers.unl.edu)

See registration form at the end of the newsletter!



Riders Choice Nominations Sought!

It is time to make your nominations for this year's Rider's Choice Award.

This award originated in 1981, and has been presented annually at the UMECRA Convention and Awards banquet following a vote of those present at the convention. This year's Rider Choice is sponsored by John Sturm. The guidelines to be considered when nominated a horse for this honor are as follow:

1. A horse that has shown superior ability in its division
2. A horse that has been a consistent competitor
3. A horse that has shown its ability to overcome setbacks
4. Any horse, for any reasons, the nominator admires and feels is a superior representative of the "Distance Horse."

When submitting your nomination, please include a description of the horse's accomplishments and the reasons why you are nominating the horse.

There is a form on the UMECRA website under the Awards tab, then scroll down all the way to the bottom of the page to Rider's Choice. Or you can just mail or email your nomination to: Jen Allen, 17066 1700 N Ave., Princeton, IL 61356, or email: sydney1410@yahoo.com Deadline for Submissions is Friday, January 12!



Board Offices Up for Election in January!

President (must be a ride manager with 3 of last 5 years, or have been a rider rep or vet rep for the last 2 years.)

Veterinary Representative (must be a DVM and UMECRA member)

Minnesota Director (must be a ride manager from Minnesota)

Wisconsin Director (must be a ride manager from Wisconsin)

Rider Representative (Nominations due to umecranews@gmail.com and Bruce Birr, Secretary/Treasurer, bbirr@centurytel.com by DECEMBER 1st)
(Rider Representatives can not be a current ride manager.)

For any of these positions, you can write about yourself and include an article for the newsletter.

Rider Rep articles due by December 1st. Electronic ballot emailed in early January.

Other board position write-ups due by January 1st if you want them in the newsletter. Nominations can come from convention floor as well as in advance. Early nominations please send to: umecranews@gmail.com and Bruce Birr, Secretary/Treasurer, bbirr@centurytel.com



For Sale: 1990 Chaparel Horse Trailer – steel, wood floor, blue, 3 horse straight load across, midtack, 12 ft LQ, insulated and lined, some furniture, lots of lights and 12v jacks. Hydraulic jack, hay rack, very good tires. \$3000. See at The Corral. Call 920-699-8048



2018 -2019 Rider Reps Candidates Tracy Johnson

My name is Tracy Johnson, and with the encouragement of several other members, I am self-nominating myself as a Rider Rep for the 2018 and 2019 ride seasons. I have been a UMECRA member for 5 years starting with a successful novice season in 2012. I have since moved up to LD, Comp, and now Endurance distances. And even though my 2017 Rookie Endurance season did not turn out as planned, I am looking forward to a fresh start in 2018. Being new to distance riding I have the advantage of bringing an unbiased perspective to the organization and by voting for me, you will get a young, fresh and energetic voice in this sport.

Maxine Bernsdorf

Another UMECRA ride season has come to its end. It has been a wild ride!

This is the first year you will be voting electronically for Rider Reps. Your Vote is important and we look forward to hearing from you.

My name is MAX. I am a 30 year member and competitor in UMECRA. I have served several years as your rider rep, awards coordinator and as a mentor to both Junior and adult riders.

I am available at rides and/or via email to listen to your comments and concerns and present them to the Board of Directors.

My job? To be the voice of the rider. Your vote is appreciated. Thank you.

Laura Savatsky

Laura Savatski from Rubicon, WI has been competing in the region for about 12 years. Laura and her daughter Leah ride their three horses Milo, Montana and Murphy. Murphy just celebrated his 2000 mile marker as a competitive horse all with no pulls or failures to vet in (yay Murphy!!). Laura started both of her horses and introduced them to the sport gradually through the novice division, competitive, and LD. Laura's main interests are keeping things safe, fair and fun. She is a scientist and works in business development and agreement negotiation for a living and is a

trained facilitator. "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle" a quote widely attributed to Plato but is sometimes credited to Philo of Alexandris, Ian MacLaren or John Watson. They're all dead, so they can't win the fight over attribution. But, I think they would all agree that living with compassion is incredibly valuable.

Linda Zimmerman

Hello UMECRA Members,

As a UMECRA member for 8 years, I wish to represent your rider views to the UMECRA Board of Directors. I have participated in many Ride events, befriended many rider/members across the region and would like the opportunity to support the organization more fully.

In my years with AERC/UMECRA, I have completed over 3,000 competition miles with three Paso Finos and one Arabian, having earned the Competitive Rookie of the Year in 2010 with my mare, our first year of competition. One of my Paso geldings earned the national PFHA High Point Endurance Trail Award the past three years (2015-2017) and the AERC/PFHA breed award, all with LD miles. My mare finished in the Reserve Champion position two of those same years, and both took their turns in the top gaited horse standings with FOSH. My third Paso Fino is just beginning his endurance career. We've been frequent, consistent, and successful competitors often earning top UMECRA and/or MnDRA year-end awards.

I live in west central Minnesota and support all the MnDRA rides but have competed across the region, as well as a few rides in SD, ND and WY, and in all ride classes including Competitive, LD and Endurance, although predominantly LD. I've started new horses in and led Novice groups, sponsored Junior riders, scribed for vets and taken P/Rs in the pulse lanes. I also competed with an Arabian in 2013, acquiring great respect and admiration for the breed's natural physical abilities in this sport. My experience with Arabian and non-Arabian horses provides me with a diverse equine view.

Professionally, I teach an online college writing course and am a retired Academic Advisor from a MN state university. I am also the current president of the Mid America Paso Fino Association, mentor a group of Paso Fino riders interested in distance riding competition and contribute to several distance riding Facebook

groups for Paso Finos and other gaited breeds from coast to coast. With my regional participation, horse care knowledge, sport experience, and broad base of member friendships, I offer a balanced perspective that will serve the needs, goals, and interests of many riders and benefit the organization, as well as our beloved equine partners. I adore my horses, love the sport, and hope you will support my opportunity to represent you to the Board of Directors. Live, laugh, love, ride!
Lynda Zimmerman

Jan Sasena

Hello my name is Jan Sasena; My roots are from England where I grew up, and riding has been in my life for as long as I can remember. I have been riding in the Endurance world for 5-6years and have loved this sport. My experience in the endurance world has been mainly in Minnesota and Wisconsin with a few rides outside the region. I have chaired and co-chaired the Minnesota Horse Expo Endurance booth for the last 5 years and have enjoyed sharing information about this wonderful riding experience. Bailey, my 23 yr old Morgan mare, and I placed in the top ten LD in UMECRA 2013, during that year Bailey was awarded BC 10 times. The knowledge shared in this sport and the care shown to our horses has been amazing., Representing the riders in Minnesota for UMECRA has been a privilege and allowed me to give back to the organization that which my horse-Bailey and I have enjoyed being part of, I would love the opportunity to continue to represent the riders in this organization. As your representative I would have a caring common sense approach.
Thank you,
Jan

Kimberly Fosler

Hi, I'm Kimberly Fosler and I am running for a 2018-2019 Rider Representative position. I have been a member of Umeccra since 2012, when my gelding CJ and I started our endurance careers by competing successfully in the novice division. We have now competed in our 2nd consecutive season of endurance, which included finishing our first 75 mile ride. Being fairly new to the sport of endurance, I believe that I can keep an open mind when asked to present information to the board. And

because I am a business owner, I have good communication skills and work well with others, which I feel both qualities are important to have as a Rider Rep. I want to help Umeccra find ways to intrigue new riders to join our sport, sustain current members and encourage young rider membership.



Candidates for President:

My name is Jon Wagner and I would like the opportunity to be the next President of UMECRA. For that to happen, I need your vote, and in an effort to convince you to vote for me, I'd like to take a moment to share a little bit about myself and what I believe I have to offer UMECRA.

My involvement in distance riding began back in 2007 when I attended my first ride as a support/crew member for my wife, Boots, who was competing in her third or fourth distance ride. While I thought I was just being the good husband by supporting her, I got caught up the excitement of this crazy sport. The adrenaline rush of competing, the sense of accomplishment, the connections made between rider and horse were too much for me. Topping it all off, the people associated with the sport were amazing. The help and sharing was incredible. No wonder I got sucked in. I was hooked and decided I wanted to be part of this "horse family" for a long time.

So, who am I? I am a life long resident of Wisconsin and have been married to Boots for over 45 years. We have two grown sons and five grandchildren. One of them, Madison, is finishing her first full season of riding Limited Distance. Boots and I operated a beef cow/calf operation while working professionally as educators for nearly 30 years.

I have two Masters Degrees; one in Counseling and another in Educational Leadership. During my professional career, I have had a number of leadership roles working as an educator, coach, School Counselor and District Administrator. Both my personal life and professional experiences have allowed me to work successfully with small and large groups of people of various backgrounds, ages, and expectations. As a District Administrator, I was responsible for the financial, management, and educational success of a K-8 school district. As a "horse person," I have been around horses most of my life, riding and driving everything

UMECRA 1000 MILE HORSES FOR 2017
Horses Achieving A 1000 Mile Milestone

Owner	HORSE NAME	Year	Prior	2017 Total	GRND TOTAL
Bernsdorf, Maxine	CH SHAMM BASHIRE	2017	4811	455	5266
Andrarakos, Jim	CR COSMIC ECLIPSE	2017	790	280	1070
Windows, Lori	ELLA N FIRES JANE DOE	2017	4713	585	5298
Zimmerman, Lynda	HDR PETROLERO DE NEVADO	2017	908	160	1068
Hoff, Sally	JOHN HENRY	2017	960	100	1060
Schadt, Robin	KAYHEART	2017	995	250	1245
Kurti, Barb	KULTA	2017	765	330	1095
Pasilias, Peggy	NEVER A FANTAHCEE	2017	982	25	1007
Barbo, Candy	REGAL TASK	2017	3945	115	4060
Harnick, Linda	RTM FIRST IN LINE	2017	4545	870	5415
Mauser-Storer, Nicole	SOSA PLAYBOY AT SONSET (BRISTOL)	2017	798	245	1043
Soukup, Kathi	TSF TIME	2017	1890	200	2090

from Shetland ponies to Percherons. Since becoming a member of UMECRA, I have competed in Competitive Trail, Limited Distance, and Endurance. I have participated in rides in Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin. My ride management experiences include managing/co-managing DRAWarama, Colorama, Northern Highland, and Kettles N Bits. As a result, I have a good understanding of our sport as both rider and manager. To reinforce my involvement and understanding, I currently serve as the Wisconsin Delegate on the UMECRA Board of Directors, and am a State Trails Advocate for AERC.

As a Board member, I have been active in all aspects of the organization, particularly our by-laws, rules, trail advocacy and junior riders. I have attended every meeting of the Board for the past six years and take my responsibilities seriously, being sure I am knowledgeable about issues and providing input on Board decisions. I have read, and continue to re-read when necessary, the minutes of past Board meetings because I believe it is important to understand how and why decisions of the past have helped to shape our organization. Those observations, along with insights and concerns of our current members must be considered when making decisions about the future of UMECRA.

I believe UMECRA, while continuing to pursue its general objectives and goals, needs to specifically look at three things to secure its future. The first is our growth as an organization. We must continue to seek ways to increase membership and enhance the sport of endurance riding in general. The second is trail advocacy. Without trails, we are lost. We need to be proactive in our protection and maintenance of existing trails on both private and public lands, and acquisition or establishment of new trails. And, finally, we need to work on all of these things collaboratively, together as one voice representing the benefits and uniqueness of horse ownership and distance riding. I believe I have the skills to successfully fulfill the role of President of UMECRA.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and for your consideration in voting for me at the annual meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you at convention.

Sincerely,
 Jon Wagner jwagner288@wi.rr.com



Minutes from UMECRA BoD Conference Call on August 29, 2017

The “meeting” was called to order by President Theresa Meyers at ~7:35 pm, CDT. Also in attendance were Nicole Mauser-Storer, Bruce Birr, Tony Troyer, Dr. Wes Elford, Jon Wagner, Darlene Molitor, Jan Sasena, Lisa Germann, and Maxine Bernsdorf.

The first topic that Theresa brought up was to ask if anyone had any questions of Bruce on the Treasury. Tony asked if ride fees were coming in regularly and if deposits were being made regularly. Bruce replied that for the most part ride fees were coming in properly, and that he made deposits at least weekly when receipts supported that. Being no more questions of Bruce, Theresa moved on to the next topic – Electronic Member Cards.

Discussion ensued: Wes asked to have that explained a bit as to what it was and how it would work. Theresa described what she had previously emailed to the board. Max asked if it would be printable for those who wanted a hard copy, and Theresa replied that it would be so. Wes asked for clarification on what the procedure would be and it was stated that nothing would be printed unless the member wanted/needed that. The resulting ‘card’ could be printed, or taken a picture of for saving on a smart phone. Tony stated that there had to be a way for some members (maybe 10%) who could or would not be able to log onto the website for their member card, and it was discussed that there would be a way for the member to state that on their member form so that a paper member card could be mailed to them. Lisa agreed that a paper option is needed. Jan stated that a facebook poll should maybe be done to gauge interest in such a system. After much more discussion, Darlene stated that we just go ahead and go that route (at least on a one year trial basis) and see what kind of feedback we got – that it wouldn’t pay to offer folks too many choices in the matter. Tony stated that monies should continue to go to the Treasurer, and then made a motion (which Bruce seconded) to proceed. Before he could support it, and while he was not opposed to an electronic member card, he wanted to see what the process/procedure was first. Bruce suggested a committee to draft such a procedural document. Max mentioned that the Board needed to establish a definitive start and end date to the ride year, and it was agreed that this was a necessary action for the Board, but was not relevant to this topic. Bruce asked if this had to get settled before our November Board meeting, and it was felt it could probably wait, but would be good to settle and get voted on before then as it would likely require a change in the membership form which could be wanting to be included in the November newsletter. Tony and Bruce withdrew their motion, and Theresa then chose members for said committee – Nicole, Bruce, and herself (since no one else stepped forward).

Theresa then moved on to the topic of Member Coordinator. Jon suggested that we get the member card issue settled. Wes suggested that Theresa draft a SOP for that position for consideration by the Board. Bruce supported Jon’s idea as it may help define what leftover tasks are needed for the ‘new’ position, and that maybe what was needed was a person to welcome new members with offering information. Theresa mentioned she envisioned a person perhaps from each state to address new members from that state. She also stated that since we weren’t going to wrap up this issue tonight, that we wait a month for the Member Card committee to draft and present a process/procedure draft to the Board.

The last topic presented was for a report on the upcoming Convention. Nicole and Tony briefed the Board on the plans for the speaker, and that input was needed on how many topics our guest speaker could/would cover. There was apparent interest to have as many topics be presented as possible by “Dr. Susan”, and they thought the idea of having the hotel provide box lunches would be pursued (and the Board agreed) so as to avoid ‘downtime’ for a lunch break --- though this was not firmly decided. General consensus from the Board was to have as 3 or 4 90-minute topics presented (apparently topic talks could be ~60 or ~90 minutes each.)

Tony moved and Darlene seconded to adjourn, and this passed unanimously at 8:35 pm CDT.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Bruce A. Birr, Sec/Treas

UMECRA Board Meeting UNAPPROVED Minutes – November 11, 2017

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Theresa Meyer. Also in attendance were board members Peggy Pasillas, Janette Sasena, Bill Suskey, Jon Wagner, Maxine Bernsdorf, Tony Troyer, Bonnie Mielke, Darlene Molitor, Dr. Wes Elford, Joslyn Seefeldt, Bruce Birr, and Nicole Mauser-Storer (10:28a). Guests present were Roberta Harms, Linda Jacobson, and Eleanor Tonsor (10:21a – 1:14p).

2. **Review and approval of minutes from March, and Conference Call meeting in August** March, and August conference call board meetings minutes were approved upon motions and seconds as follows: March – Maxine/Peggy, August – Peggy/Tony. August minutes need yet to be published in the December newsletter.

3. **Treasurer's Report** Bruce handed out a Profit & Loss report for the year to date, and gave a verbal balance sheet report, which is to be published in the December newsletter. The report (PDF attached) was approved by motion of Wes and second by Max.

4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Standard Operating Procedures** SOP's still lacking were rider rep, director at large (Bill will write), points-keeper, website, and newsletter (Peggy will write). A committee of Wes, Jon, and Max was formed to obtain and pull all SOP's together into a cohesive document.
 - b. **2018 Sanctioning received to date** Joslyn presented a list of rides, of which 14 have requested sanctioning for 2018 so far.

Competitive score sheet The latest draft of the 'electronic format' of the sheet was presented along with a report from Wes on the committee's work. Discussion resulted in a few changes. The result was approval to take to the members at the convention by motion of Tony and second by Bruce.
 - c. **Rule change proposals** Many potential rule changes were discussed, as follows (All motions and seconds were in order to bring the proposal to the point of it being a motion that could be debated and ultimately voted on):
 1. A proposal to waive UMECRA rider fees for riders from "non-UMECRA" states at UMECRA rides was made by Joslyn and seconded by Jon. [Rationale: It could mean more riders from non-primary UMECRA states, and/or cost savings to the primary states rides.] After discussion, this was unanimously defeated.
 2. A proposal to change the minimum age of a sponsor of a Junior in endurance, from 21 to 18, was made and seconded respectively by Bill and Max. [Rationale: This would agree with AERC's requirements, and because 18 is voting age.] This was approved by the board.
 3. A proposal to more clearly define the ride year and age for which one qualifies for being a Junior in endurance was made by Peggy and second by Bonnie to have the 14 – A wording to read as follows: "A junior is a rider who was under the age of 16 as of December 1st". This motion was passed. [Rationale: Agrees more with

AERC wording and ride year, and satisfactorily agrees with UMECRA's ride season/year.]

4. A proposal was made by Peggy and second by Bonnie to amend the Competitive Rules, section 2, Management Requirements, item C to read as follows: *"There shall also be a Junior Division. A junior is a rider who was under the age of 18 as of December 1st. Juniors generally must ride in the junior division (unless they and their parent/legal guardian have advised the UMECRA secretary/treasurer and the UMECRA points keeper in writing of their intent to ride as seniors before their first ride of that season.) Placing and completion awards should be furnished."* A sub-motion and second were made by Bill and Jon respectively for removing some of the language missing from the above result, as well as a sub-motion for additional strike language made by Tony and second by Bonnie, and both sub-motions passed. The overall motion passed unanimously.
 5. In reference to the above Competitive-2-C, it was moved by Tony and second by Peggy to amend sub-item 2 (and approved motion/second of Jon/Max to add the words "...and points keeper...", and a failure to approve the motion/second of Bonnie/Jos to strike the words "limited distance and/or endurance" from the list of acceptable ride types to account for the 500 miles) to ultimately read as follows: *"Riders in the Junior Division shall be accompanied by a sponsor 18 years of age or older. EXCEPTION: If they are between 14 and 18 and it can be validated by the UMECRA points keeper that they have completed at least 500 miles in competitive, limited distance and/or endurance and have notified the secretary/treasurer of their intention to ride as a senior and have this letter on file with UMECRA by which a parent/legal guardian consents to the request for unsponsored status. A copy of this letter should also accompany the junior to each ride."* This resulting motion passed.
 6. Again in reference to the above section Competitive-2-C, a motion by Bruce and second by Jon was approved to amend the language of sub-item 1 to read *"All riders under 18 years of age are required to wear helmets."*
 7. Regarding a section of rules under Endurance dealing with a 'gate into a hold' (sub-item 9), a motion was made to strike sub-item 9B, was made by Peggy and second by Joslyn. [Rationale: riders shouldn't have to wait a minimum of 20 minutes at a vet check if it is early in the ride and extremely hot weather is happening or forecast.] The motion was defeated.
 8. Regarding defining 'event duration', there was discussion but no motion. (This was referring to General Rules, 3. Veterinary Requirements A. Horses must be under veterinary supervision throughout the duration of the event.) The board's consensus being "duration of event" for this situation is defined as from vet-in to an hour after the finish.
 9. A motion was made by Tony and second by Joslyn to delete UMECRA General Rules, rule N, regarding the paying of ride fees and posting of ride results.
- d. Convention update – IL ('18)** Convention dates are January 26-28, 2018 at the Rockford, IL Hilton Garden Inn.

- e. **Convention update – MI ('19)** There was a very brief update about a possible convention activity similar to a murder mystery dinner, and the board thought that sounded fun and worth pursuing.

5. New Business

- a. **Use of PayPal and/or other for fee collection by UMECRA** Bill presented some info and costs on using some these, but aside from further investigation, no action was taken. Bill is to submit a written summary for the December Newsletter so members understand that electronic payment options for small groups are very complicated.
- b. **Timeline for Rider Rep vote** Three nominations received to date (Maxine Bernsdorf, Tracy Johnson, and Laura Savatsky). The nominations will appear in the December newsletter, and the board approved electronic only voting and only January 2-15.
- c. **Membership notification (e-cards or other; Set Procedure)** Nicole and Bruce will work out the details of this, but member cards will generally only be mailed to those who do not provide an email address on their membership application. It might also be presented to members via US Postal Service ride book mailing on the address label.
- d. **Name Newsletter Editor and Sanctioning Coordinator** Joslyn has accepted the job of Sanctioning Coordinator, and she was approved by motion/second of Tony/Peggy. Peggy wants to step down as Newsletter Editor, but with no one stepping forward yet to take on that job, she was approved to continue by motion/second of Tony/Jan.
- e. **Increasing membership (Joslyn)** Joslyn brought forth some ideas that she and Eleanor discussed and will work towards member recruitment. Elinor and Joslyn will bring back more concrete steps and suggestions within roughly a month so a conference call can be scheduled in mid-December among the board to consider which plans to pursue.
- f. **Bylaw glossary for delegates, alternate delegates, proxy, etc.** Theresa and Jon offered to work on this before our January meeting.
- g. **Insurance – new vendor; How did it go?** Slight discussion, and Joslyn and Bruce agreed that she would forward him insurance needs after the November 30 deadline, and he would proceed to get quotes.
- h. **Trail grant awards review** Bruce mentioned that two applications had been received (but he didn't bring them with him). A grant in the amount of \$300 was approved for Coon Valley (motion/second of Bill/Max), and South Kettle Moraine group was approved as well for \$300 upon motion/second of Janette/Joslyn.
- i. **Streamline Endurance and LD rules in Rulebook** This topic was postponed.
- j. **Webpage revisions – points, entry form, member form more prominent, etc.?** Discussion was had, but no specific actions taken.
- k. **Hall of Fame and Shining Light awards, if needed** No nominations received yet. Tony will check with Jen Allen to see if she will coordinate the Rider Choice Award nominations and ballots at the banquet.
- l. **Other?** Several things were brought up:

1. It was stated that future board meetings should have some agenda time for strategizing on issues
2. Bruce presented a modified membership application form and asked for permission for the organization to use it. The new form has a place for "office use only", which would make it easier for him to keep track of memberships, payments, deposits, etc. The board agreed to the use of the new form.
3. Bruce asked for input on an uncertain item from the March meeting (info given) and asked for and received some guidance on how much detail the board wanted in the minutes.

6. Next meeting, and Adjournment
meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm CST.

Upon motion of Tony and second by Jon, the

Respectfully,
/s/ Bruce A. Birr, Sec-Treas.

UMECRA5:00 PM
12/16/17Balance Sheet
Accrual Basis As of November 30, 2017

Nov 30, 17

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
MFCU-00 (Convention Fund)	6,143.60
MFCU-64 (ICF Fund)	8,297.35
MFCU-65 (Trail Fund)	3,746.56
MFCU Checking (UMECRA)	20,618.19
Total Checking/Savings	38,805.70
Total Current Assets	38,805.70
TOTAL ASSETS	38,805.70
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	16,860.34
Retained Earnings	19,830.88
Net Income	2,114.48
Total Equity	38,805.70
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	38,805.70

UMECRA4:57 PM
12/16/17 Profit & Loss
Accrual Basis January through November 2017
Jan - Nov 17

Income

100-Mile program	25.00
1000-mile Horse	570.00
Advertising ads	20.00
Convention	5,460.11
Convention fees	838.80
Donations Received	80.15
Erroneous Deposits	40.00
Interest Income	17.01
Membership Dues	7,734.50
Misc Income	15.00
Ride Fees	5,348.50
Ride insurance income	1,897.30
Ride Sanction Fees	1,025.00
Silent Auction	1,599.00
Unknown-As-Yet	332.50
Total Income	25,002.87

Gross Profit 25,002.87

Expense

Advertising - promoting UMECRA	902.72
Bank Service Fees	24.89
BoD Expenses	50.00
BOD reimbursement	41.96
Completion t-shirts	335.62
Convention Expenses	7,151.43
Donation Expense	300.00
Erroneous Deposits Repaired	40.00
ICF Grants	1,500.00

Ho Ho Ho!
Merry
Christmas
and Happy
Holidays
from your
UMECRA
Board of
Directors!

Memberships to join	76.00
Miscellaneous	133.20
Newsletter	1,369.92
Office	435.95
Postage	392.71
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-58.93
Ride Book	1,978.64
Ride Forms	213.31
Ride Insurance Expenses	4,466.80
Ride Manager/Vet Book Expenses	138.11
Trail Grants	1,200.00
Website Expenses	131.40
Year-End Awards	2,064.66
Total Expense	22,888.39
Net Income	2,114.48



Page 1



Review of Proposed Changes to Bylaws

In accordance with the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the following bylaw changes will be considered at the general membership meeting to be held in January 2018.

Current Bylaw	Bylaw Changes (words inserted/added are <u>underlined</u> ; Words removed are struck out)	Rationale
<p>ARTICLE III SECTION 3. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETINGS A quorum is determined based upon the presence in person at an Annual or Special Meeting of official voting delegates representing twenty (20) of the immediately preceding year/season's sanctioned endurance/competitive trail ride events as recorded by the Secretary, plus the President or Vice President, and at least one (1) Rider Representative. After a meeting is duly commenced, the absence of a quorum in the meeting room/hall at any meeting may result in adjournment from time to time at the discretion of the President or the Vice President. However, unless the meeting has been so adjourned, the delegates present at a duly called or held meeting may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. The President, or in their absence, the Vice President, or in their absence any person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all Annual or Special Meetings.</p>	<p>SECTION 3. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETINGS A quorum is determined based upon the presence in person at an Annual or Special Meeting of official voting delegates representing <u>forty percent</u> twenty (20) of the immediately preceding year/season's sanctioned endurance/competitive trail ride events as recorded by the Secretary, plus the President or Vice President, and at least one (1) Rider Representative. After a meeting is duly commenced, the absence of a quorum in the meeting room/hall at any meeting may result in adjournment from time to time at the discretion of the President or the Vice President. However, unless the meeting has been so adjourned, the delegates present at a duly called or held meeting may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. The President, or in their absence, the Vice President, or in their absence any person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all Annual or Special Meetings.</p>	<p>Shortly after approval of the current bylaw language, a concern was brought to the Board of Directors attention that the requirement of having 20 individual rides represented to reach a quorum may be problematic. If the number of rides held on a yearly basis should change abruptly, we could be faced with either an under representation, (a large increase in the number of rides), or find it difficult to reach a quorum (a reduced number of rides). By stating a percentage (%) of the rides held, the quorum number automatically adjusts with any changes in the number of rides held annually.</p>
<p>Current Bylaw</p>	<p>Bylaw Changes (words inserted/added are <u>underlined</u>; Words removed are struck out)</p>	<p>Rationale</p>
<p>ARTICLE III SECTION 5. DELEGATES. Each endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season, by one of its ride managers as listed on its sanctioning form shall submit the</p>	<p>SECTION 5 DELEGATES. Each endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season, by one of its ride managers as listed on its sanctioning form shall submit the names of its official voting</p>	

names of its official voting delegates or its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) [also referred to as proxies] to be recorded by the corporate Secretary prior to any meeting of the members.

*(The underlined language that follows was committed/referred to the Bylaw Committee by motion with approval by the membership for review and/or rewriting.)

. Official voting delegates must have actively participated in the management of the endurance/competitive trail ride and be listed on the sanctioning application. Ride managers of cancelled rides, who have paid their sanctioning fees before the ride has been cancelled and where the cancellation occurred for good cause shown, shall retain voting rights for the next Annual Meeting

delegates or its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) [also referred to as proxies] to be recorded by the corporate Secretary prior to any meeting of the members.

**(The language that follows is the Bylaw Committees recommended replacement for the language that was referred to the committee during the 2017 Annual Meeting.)

Ride managers as listed on their sanctioning form, or as amended, must have actively participated in the management of the sanctioned event. Ride managers of cancelled rides, who have paid their sanctioning fees before the ride has been cancelled and where the cancelation occurred for good cause shown, shall retain voting rights for the next Annual Meeting.



For Office Use Only:

Date Rec'd _____
Chk # or Cash (\$) _____
Amount \$ _____
DB entered? _____
Date deposited _____

UMECRA



PERSEVERE

IIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership year: _____

CIRCLE ONE:

- Single \$ 35 Family* \$45 - hard copy newsletter and/or ride book
- Single \$ 25 Family* \$35 - electronic newsletter and CD for ride book
- Single Junior - \$10 – Electronic newsletter

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

If you do NOT want a CD or Ridebook sent to you- please check this box:

If you do NOT want your name and contact info in the membership book, check this box:

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 _____

***Family memberships shall consist of one or more related, or coupled as significant other, adults, and/or children of such adults who are less than 18 years of age, all of whom reside in the same household.**

Please include all names of eligible family members.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and LEGIBLY!

Date: _____

AERC MEMBER NUMBER(s) (if applicable): _____

AERC HORSE NUMBER(s) (if applicable): _____

UMECRA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER(S): _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

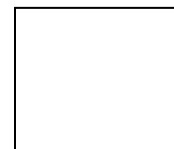
City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (s): _____

Email: _____

Please mail completed form along with check made out to UMECRA to:
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Send news to:
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