

# UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



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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.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

A quick shout out to everyone wishing you and yours Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!

As you prepare for the holidays and all that the New Year may bring, don't forget to renew your UMECRA membership and to get your reservations in for our annual convention. The folks in Michigan have been busy planning the convention and have put together some interesting speakers for us. Dates for this year's convention are January 18th – 20th. Additional details for registration and meals can be found on the UMECRA website as well as in another section of this edition of the newsletter.

Ride Managers and Delegates to our Annual Meeting should also read through the proposed bylaw change attached to the newsletter so that they can be prepared to discuss and vote on the proposed change at the meeting. Any questions about the proposal, or any other concerns prior to the meeting, can be addressed to any of the members of the Board of Directors. I'd also like to remind our Ride Managers to get their ride information to our Sanctioning Coordinator, Joslyn Seefeldt, as soon as possible if they haven't already done so. Getting the information to Jos in a timely fashion helps her to put together not only our tentative ride schedule, which everyone eagerly awaits, but allows her to provide you with all of the materials and information you will need to have a successful ride.

I certainly hope you all have a very Merry Christmas/Holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone at our Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet.

**Jon Wagner**  
**UMECRA President**

## Advertising in the UMECRA Newsletter

Rates depend on the size of your ad and how many times you wish to run it:

Ad Rates for Newsletter	1 time	2-3 times	4-8 times	9-10 times	the year
Classified 10 lines * \$.60 extra per line	\$6.00				
Business Cards	\$8.50	\$6.80 ea.	\$5.95 ea.	\$5.50 ea.	\$51.00
Quarter Page	\$20.00	\$16.00 ea.	\$14.00 ea.	\$13.00 ea.	\$120.00
Half Page	\$25.00	\$20.00 ea.	\$17.50 ea.	\$16.25 ea.	\$150.00
Full Page	\$45.00	\$36.00 ea.	\$31.50 ea.	\$29.25 ea.	\$270.00
*Line = (65 Characters per line including spaces)					



## Technology in Endurance

There was a discussion of a time issue at the AHA National CTR event on Facebook. I don't wish to go into the issue of who was right and who was wrong, but it revolved around a rider's clock not agreeing with the timer's clock and the rider not making their window for placing.

In our age of technology, we all seem to put unfounded trust in it. I taught water quality testing techniques in a college level class. While I had most of the latest equipment to get results of water quality electronically, I always taught students how to do the tests manually. I referred to all of our sensors as voodoo boxes. When

asked why, I always told the students that unless you calibrated the equipment with a standard just before the field test, you had no idea if it was right. It was not unusual for groups to get widely varying results on the same sample using the sensors.

In our sport, the big three technology voodoo boxes are the heart monitor, the GPS, and the satellite clock. I have been volunteering to take pulses for almost two decades at rides. I use a good stethoscope. I have had a number of riders watching their heart monitor displays as I take pulse, saying the pulse out loud. It is very rare they are ever right. They are higher as often as they are lower than the actual pulse. Usually, within five - ten seconds of a horse entering the pulse lane, the pulse is steady; that is why I pause before I start taking the pulse and why I give the time they entered the lane if they are down.

I once did an informal GPS check at our ride, asking riders to measure a loop and tell me their distance. No two people had the same distance and it varied by a couple miles. Finally, in my class room, I had three identical satellite clocks for timing labs. None of them had the same time, but we just needed the second hand so it didn't matter.

My reason for writing is to offer advice both for riders and ride managers. At every ride, there should be a designated official clock that is visible to everyone and clearly measures seconds. I would suggest this clock is at the timer's table. It is important for every rider and volunteer pulse taker to sync their clocks to that official time. It was pointed out in the Facebook discussion that you cannot change a satellite clock such as a cell phone. Therefore, every rider should buy a decent watch that you can set. Usually a twenty dollar watch will keep accurate time to the second over the course of a ride. This should save you any conflicts with time on a ride.

I would also suggest you use your heart monitor realizing that it usually is displaying the average pulse from the previous thirty seconds. If you really want to know if your horse is down, a \$40-60 stethoscope is a great investment. Not only do you know the pulse rate, but you can hear if the rhythm is regular or irregular, rising, or slowing, and if there are any issues with the beat: triple beats, skipped beats, etc. Equally important, you now have a tool to listen to your horse's gut sounds. As a horse person, that alone is a reason everyone should have a decent stethoscope. It should be one of the first things you check when your horse 'just isn't itself'. If

your hearing is bad, buy a top-of-the-line scope; you'll be able to hear with that.

Finally, use your GPS to primarily gauge miles traveled on the trail. Remember that they are often off due to leaf cover, hills, turns and even where you are carrying the GPS on your tack. This is also true of distance measuring apps on your phone. If the ride manager hands out maps, use those instead to figure out where you are and how far you have to go. Ride managers should make every effort to have accurate, to-scale maps if they handing out maps. In terms of mileage of the trail, trust the ride manager. They really do try to get the mileage right. They are very careful not to have the trail be long. However, we need to remember that unless you are going to run a surveying wheel the length of the course, there is going to be some error. Also, at some venues, the trails available might make it hard to get the mileage exact.

So, use the technology to enhance your riding experience, but rely on it at your own peril. In our sport, old school is maybe better on race day.

*Ken Meyer*

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## Ride Managers

**Contact Bruce Birr and notify him who will be representing your ride at the annual convention in January. You must let him know prior to convention.**

**Bruce Birr**

**1633N W. Kendall Road  
Manistique, MI 49854**

**Email: [bbirr@centurytel.net](mailto:bbirr@centurytel.net)**

**Phone: 906.286.1991**

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### What is Gate into a Hold?

According to the AERC rider handbook, most control checks are run as "gates" into a hold. This means that your hold time begins as soon as your horse is "down" to the pulse requirement; in other words, as soon as he passes the "gate."

If you are a visual person like I am, picture a gate, which magically springs open to the hold (rest period) when you get the required pulse. The pulse taker will write the pulse on your card, the time the required pulse was met, and your out time. The time between when the pulse was met and the out time is your "hold." Gate (required pulse) into a hold (rest.)

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## 2018 DRAFT Definitions for Bylaws Appendix

### Proposal for Bylaw Definitions Appendix B

There was a proposal last year to have definitions added to the UMECRA bylaws. After Board of Directors review this last March, the convention delegates will vote on adding these to the UMECRA bylaws as an appendix. Here are the proposed definitions that will be added:

**DELEGATES:** those members with voting rights (Ride Managers of record, Officers and Board Members of the Corporation and Alternate/Proxy Delegates). Rider only members are not considered as Delegates and as such have no voting rights other than the election of Rider Representatives.

**RIDE MANAGER:** Person(s) listed or amended to the sanctioning form for the immediate preceding year/season who have actively participated in the management and organization of an endurance/competitive trail ride.

**OFFICIAL VOTING DELEGATE:** Each ride's manager(s) as listed on their sanctioning form – one ride manager delegate per day. The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives of the corporation shall serve and be accredited as voting delegates of the corporation.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

**OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION:** President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:** ex officio Board and Executive Committee member that is entitled to be an official voting delegate if s/he so chooses to sit on the Board.

**RIDER REPRESENTATIVE:** A 2+ year UMECRA rider member at least 18 years of age who has been elected to serve the on the Board of Directors by individual and family members. They are also delegates to the annual and special meeting(s). Ride managers are not eligible to be elected as Rider Representatives. Although a ride manager may ride in UMECRA events they cannot be elected to this position. A total of four Rider Representatives are be elected.

**VETERINARIAN REPRESENTATIVE:** endurance or competitive ride veterinarian, (licensed/certified) who is a UMECRA member and elected by the delegates at annual meeting to serve on the Board of Directors. The Veterinarian Representative is also a delegate to the annual and special meeting(s).

**AUTHORIZED ALTERNATE VOTING DELEGATE (Proxy)**

UMECRA member who has been selected by a ride manager of record to represent an endurance/competitive trail ride during annual or special meeting(s). The corporate Secretary shall receive notice and record prior to the meeting, the names of the authorized alternate voting delegate(s) [also referred to as proxies]. Authorized alternate voting delegates shall not be eligible for election for the purpose of this section.

**RIDER ONLY MEMBERS:** Individual and family members not associated with the official management of any ride or serving on the Board of Directors. They are referred to as Rider Only members and are not entitled to vote on any interests of the Corporation with the exception of the election of Rider Representatives.

**ONE PERSON-ONE VOTE:** Although one person may serve in a combination of the positions listed above, s/he may exercise only one vote as either an Official Voting Delegate or as a Rider Only member.

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### BOD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 10, 2018

LODI, WI

**Call to Order:** 10:30 a.m. Central time

- Attendance/roll call President Jon Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:30 am CST. Also, present were board members Peggy Pasillis, Lynda Zimmerman, Jan Sasena, Sarah Maass, Theresa Meyer, Tony Troyer, Tracy Johnson, Dr. Wes Elford, Maxine Bernsdorf, Bruce Birr (10:32), Laurie Henschel (10:37), and Bill Suskey (10:53). Also in attendance were Linda Jacobson, Kim Fosler, Jim Andriakos, and Roberta Harms (11:11).

#### **Approval of Minutes**

March 10, 2018 BoD minutes were approved in April and posted in UMECRA Newsletter – no corrections/additions were necessary.

#### **EBOD/Auxiliary Reports**

**Treasurer's Report** Bruce presented his reports (Profit & Loss, and Balance Sheet/attached). The board approved upon motion of Dr. Wes and second by Maxine. Bruce stated that all fees had been paid but for the ride fees from one ride and insurance fees from one other. He had been in touch with the managers of both rides and expected those payments within a few days.

**Secretary's Report** Bruce stated that no new trail grant requests had been received by mail, but that Linda Jacobson had one to submit. At this time Linda presented the application for the Coon Rock Horse and Hunt Club. The board approved this request upon motion of Dr. Wes and second by Sarah.

**Presidents Report** Jon stated facts about the scholarship fund, how money is added to it, and the deadline for scholarship applications. He also stated that

he had sent a letter to the RM's of AHAM thanking them for fulfilling their probationary obligations of 2018.

**Veterinarian's Report** Dr. Elford had sent information on pulse criteria and heat index to all before the meeting. A discussion took place concerning endurance ride schedules and the philosophy of holds (they should be used to control competitiveness of the rider and for the safety/welfare of the horse). Dr. Elford stated that in his opinion, the primary goal of holds during a ride was to give the horse a break – both physically and mentally. Additional discussion focused on pulse parameters – should we be using 60bpm more as per Dr. Fehr's statistics? This in turn led to additional discussion on breed and conformation types with regard to pulse and respiration recovery.

**Sanctioning Coordinator** Through Jon, Joslyn reported that not many rides had yet submitted their sanctioning requests. Jon will have Jos send out another email blast to solicit those. Jon stated that the Kettles & Bits ride was being dropped. Theresa stated that it is likely that there will be a new ride in Northwestern MN, Bill stated that since our guidelines state that MapQuest be used to determine distance between rides, and since MapQuest was struggling financially and may disappear in the near future, that we change the language to read that a web-based mapping tool is used. No formal action taken.

### **Committee Reports**

**Strategic Planning/Promotions** The committee (Tony, Theresa, Laurie, and Bill) stated their actions, and requested the ability to partner with a company that could offer UMECRA logo items for sale, with either the organization or the purchaser receiving 10%. After discussion, the board approved a motion by Theresa and second by Tony for this to proceed with the purchaser getting a 10% discount, but that items offered not be those types that are given for awards by UMECRA.

**Convention Report** Bruce stated the status of the 2019 convention in Gladstone, MI. Tracy and Kim shared the prep done so far to settle on a WI site for the 2020 convention. The board agreed to recognize Kim, Tracy and their volunteers as the convention organizers for the 2020 convention scheduled to be held in Wisconsin.

[At this point, a break was taken from 12:03-12:17 pm to distribute lunch.]

**Awards Report** Janette stated that the committee (herself, Sherry Aune, Jean Allen, and in an advisory role, Maxine) had obtained about ½ of the awards, and was continuing.

**Membership Report** Jon reported the membership figures that Bruce had given him (390 total members, of which 58 are family memberships, 8 Junior memberships, and 6 Ride Manager only memberships). He also stated that the printed member directory had cost \$658. After

discussion, consensus was to publish an interim membership directory update in odd years which would correct errors in the printed directory, as well as new members who had joined since the printed directory was published. The goal will be to print a new directory every two years.

### **Old Business**

- ICF Review and Annual Meeting Report (Bill)  
Bill gave a brief report and will prepare to do the same at the Annual Meeting.

- Bylaw Definitions – addendum to the bylaws – review and discuss motion procedure (Jon) Jon discussed and reviewed motion procedure at the annual meeting to smooth and speed up things. This procedure will be motioned by Peggy and seconded by Lynda. Proposal will be posted in the UMECRA newsletter for members to review.

- Article IV, Sec.5 Bylaw change proposal – review and discuss motion procedure (Jon)

This proposal will be motioned by Tony and seconded by Wes. This proposal will also be published in the newsletter for members to review prior to the Annual meeting.

- 100 Mile Horse Program After discussion, Jon will re-write the form to make it fit the award (current form is incorrect). The Board would also like to see all awards advertised or highlighted via the newsletter early in the ride season as a reminder to members about the awards that are available and the qualifications necessary to receive a specific award.

- Ties/Changes to General Rule 5 – C and Endurance rule 12 (move 5 – C to Comp rules w/revisions and rewrite End. Rule 12) (Theresa, Tony, Dr. Elford) After discussion, Theresa will re-write the language regarding ties, and provide examples. Approved examples will be forwarded to the Annual meeting for membership voting.

- Gate and Go Holds – Endurance rule 9 (Theresa)  
After discussion, the board voted 7-3 to pass a motion made by Bill and second by Theresa, to strike Endurance rule 9B. {"Horses passing the P/R parameters shall remain at the check area for the time specified, but a minimum of 20 minutes".}

- Out of Region Rides – Pros/Cons/Options  
After some discussion, consensus was to continue discussion on the Yahoo group.

- Address any concerns about the new Comp sheet (Dr. Elford) Dr. Elford inquired about any concerns regarding the new Comp sheet – silhouettes of horses have been corrected and it was noted that a “pre-trot out” score area was needed on the sheet. Dr. Elford stated that he would change the sheet in conjunction with Nicole. A brief discussion was held about the use of the extra boxes for manners and their use. Examples were shared that indicated the boxes have encouraged some

vets to use them. There were no other concerns about the use of the sheets.

- Address Inconsistencies in judging Comp (Dr. Elford) The BoD discussed the inconsistencies in judging Comp rides throughout the UMECRA region such as:

- a. Trot methods – in hand or lunging
- b. Pain, heat, filling – pick up legs or just run hand over
- c. P/R race or judged Comp performance – use of all scoring areas Discussion led to no action, though it was suggested that a Facebook page be created for veterinarians to discuss issues. Sarah has agreed to work on this. A meeting of vets at convention was also discussed and encouraged if possible. An email from Dr. Rae about some of these judging items was also shared by Bruce.

**New Business**

- Points Keeper and Website Coordinator Volunteers/Appointments (Jon) Robin and Nicole have agreed to continue in these roles.
- Wisc. /Ill. Horse Council Memberships (Jon) After brief discussion, Maxine motioned and Peggy seconded that we join the Horse Councils of the 4 primary states – WI, IL, MN, and MI. Motion passed.
- Jr’s changing Sponsors mid-ride (Jon/Tracy) A review of current AERC and UMECRA rules pertaining to this topic were discussed, no action taken.
- Versatility/100 Mile horse nominations (Tracy/Jon) After discussion, the board passed a motion made by Tony and seconded by Theresa to make the nomination period open through October 1 each year. This change will need to be noted in the awards description.
- New members joining in Sept/Oct./full membership (Robin/Jon) Discussion led to a motion by Laurie and second by Lynda that new memberships received in September, October, November are valid both for the current year and the following ride season. Motion passed.
- Damage at a ride/liability (Tracy/Tony) Item withdrawn for discussion.
- Developing a set of Guidelines/Options for RM’s in the event of trail sabotage (Lynda ) Issue was discussed, but no action taken. Ride managers should be as fair as possible in how they resolve these issues and aware of both AERC’s and UMECRA’s rules/guidelines covering such instances. EX: AERC 1.3.1/UMECRA 2 A-D
- What recourse does a rider have when they disagree with Vet’s decision to pull/disqualify their horse for undetermined lameness issues? (Lynda) Brief discussion with no action taken.
- 1000 Mile Horse Program (Tracy) Jon asked for this to be put on the Yahoo group for discussion and board consensus agreed.

- Waiving Novice Leader Fees (Tracy) Brief discussion with no action taken.
  - New Membership Form (Joslyn/Jon) Bill will create a new membership form for the website, which will be more intuitive for people to use.
  - Heat Index Proposal (Dr.Elford) Dr. Elford brought forth info and thoughts on this topic. Consensus was to continue board discussion on the topic at future board meetings and thru the boards Yahoo e-mail account.
  - LD Points Proposal (Roberta/Jon) Roberta shared some thoughts on changing the way LD points are accrued. The board is interested in the concept and asked Roberta to provide additional information. She has agreed to meet with the board again at the January BoD meeting.
  - 2019 Elections – VP, Sec./Treas., Ill. and Mich. Regional Directors and the 2 Directors – At – Large (Jon) Peggy will announce these positions in the remaining newsletters prior to the Annual Meeting. Jon asked if current position holders were willing to serve again, and all that were present said yes. Jon will contact Lisa for her feedback on that. He also suggested that each person send a short bio to Peggy for the newsletter.
  - **Hall of Fame/Shinning Light** The board received three nominations for the Hall of Fame. Although there were no nominations for the Shinning Light Award by the time of the meeting, Theresa was expecting to hear from someone soon and would pass that information on to the board if and when she received it. The board adjourned at 3:58 upon motion of Tony and second by Theresa, to move to Executive Session for discussion of the Hall of Fame nominations. The board reconvened at 4:23 p.m. Announcements There were none.
- Adjournment** Tony moved, and all seconded adjournment at 4:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Bruce A. Birr

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**Proposed rule changes for 2019**

Proposed rule changes that will be voted during the January 2019 meeting. The first one is not really a change, but clarifying the rule concerning ties for placings between endurance and competitive. Current wording: UMECRA General Rule 5. Awards  
A. Awards shall be given in two weight divisions and a junior division through six places. (Exception: Limited Distance Endurance Rides) Everyone finishing within the maximum time, to be determined by ride management, shall receive a completion award.

B. If a rider fails to complete the ride in the allotted time, management may at their discretion give the rider a completion award, but that rider will not be placed in the standings. He will receive credit toward his mileage record.

C. Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, etc.)

UMECRA endurance rule 12 says this:

**12. Ties:** In the case of ties, the points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of people who tied.

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 \*\*The proposal is to remove UMECRA general rule 5. Awards C.

And change the endurance rule to:

**12. Ties:** Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, etc.) Points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of people who tied. *(i.e. if two riders tie for first place in a 50 mile event, the points awarded 22+20=42. 42/2=21 points will be awarded to each first place rider.)*

Add to competitive rules

2. Management requirements

H. Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, etc.) ***Points to be awarded will be that of the placing. (i.e. if two riders tie for first place in a 25 mile ride, the points awarded, 11 will be given to each first place rider. No rider would get second place points.)***

The wording above IS the current practice. The language has been changed slightly to make sure it is clear in both sections. FYI, there should be no ties in Limited Distance as the pulse box is to be used and it is virtually impossible to tie.

The other rule change is elimination of an UMECRA endurance rule:

**9. The "gate into a hold" type check is mandatory at all vet checks.**

A. A rider entering a vet check must present his horse for p/rs at any time within 30 minutes

~~B. Horses passing the P/R parameters shall remain at the check area for the time specified, but a minimum of 20 minutes.~~

The elimination of the B section above would allow for "gate and go" holds: a hold where once the horse reaches the pulse criteria and other parameters required by the ride vets, the horse is allowed to continue the ride. This type of hold is used in the western US on some longer distance endurance rides.

**UMECRA  
Profit & Loss**  
January through November 2018

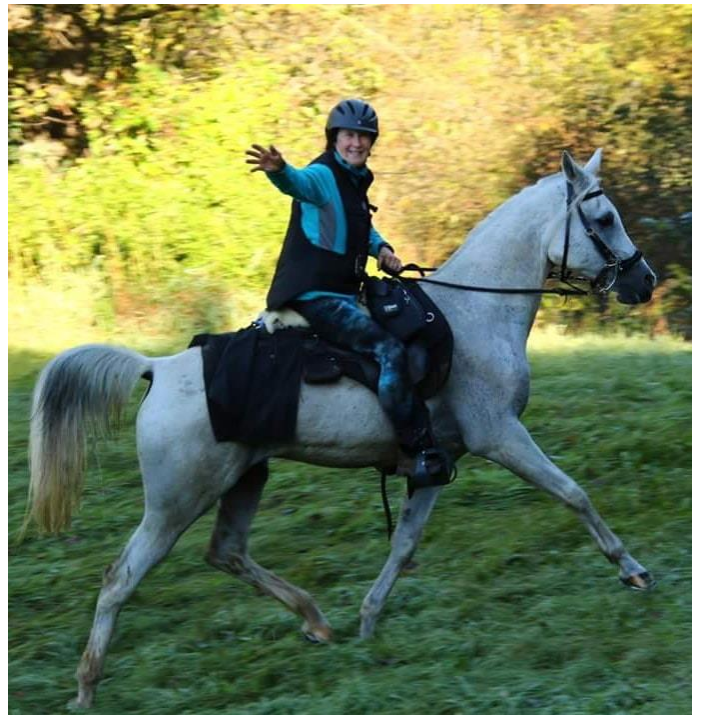
	Jan - Nov 18
<b>Income</b>	
1000-mile Horse	500.00
Convention fees	4,772.00
Donations Received	1,300.00
Interest Income	19.79
Membership Dues	7,240.00
Newsletter income	26.00
Ride book income	20.00
Ride Fees	5,891.50
Ride insurance income	2,066.00
Ride Sanction Fees	1,045.00
Silent Auction	2,835.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,715.29</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>25,715.29</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Advertising & Promotion	1,100.00
Bank Service Fees	4.00
BoD Expenses	449.15
Completion 1st Ride T-shirts	257.70
Convention Expenses	6,685.64
Membership Directory	658.56
Newsletter	1,199.80
Office Supplies	105.63
Postage	6.70
Printing	1,316.93
Ride Book	838.15
Ride Insurance Expenses	4,654.00
Ride Manager/Vet Book Expenses	197.65
Scholarship Fund Donation	554.25

**UMECRA  
Profit & Loss**  
January through November 2018

	Jan - Nov 18
Trail Grants	1,500.00
Website Expenses	33.97
Year-End Awards	5,999.41
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>25,561.54</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>153.75</b>

**UMECRA**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of November 30, 2018

	Nov 30, 18
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
MFCU-00 (Convention Fund)	6,549.79
MFCU-64 (ICF Fund)	6,804.53
MFCU-65 (Trail Fund)	3,549.52
MFCU Checking (UMECRA)	
AWARDS	6,000.00
MFCU Checking (UMECRA) - Ot...	16,907.89
<b>Total MFCU Checking (UMECRA)</b>	22,907.89
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	39,811.73
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	39,811.73
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>39,811.73</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Bal Equity	16,860.34
Retained Earnings	22,797.64
Net Income	153.75
<b>Total Equity</b>	39,811.73
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>39,811.73</b>



**Remembering 2018 – why we ride!**



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**UMECRA Elections for 2019.**

The following positions will be open for nominations and be voted on at the 2019 Annual meeting – current officers listed in (.). If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please submit a short paragraph to [UMECRAnews@gmail.com](mailto:UMECRAnews@gmail.com) with your summary.

- **Vice President** (Tony Troyer)  
**Nominated – Tony Troyer**
- **Secretary/Treasurer** (Bruce Birr)  
**Nominated – Bruce Birr:** My name is Bruce Birr, and I have been involved in the sport of distance riding since doing my first ride in 1972. Although I no longer ride (and haven't to any extent in a long time), I still stay involved because I love the sport of distance riding and want to see it flourish. I am retired from the research branch of the USDA Forest Service (44 years), and am now the part-time District Manager for our local county Conservation District. I have a good head for numbers (with rare exceptions!) and treasurer of several organizations, as well as being the current Secretary-Treasurer for UMECRA. I am volunteering to fulfill that role for another term.
- **Illinois Regional Director** (Nicole Mauser-Storer)
- **Michigan Regional Director** (Lisa Germann)
- **Director at Large** (Peggy Pasillas)  
**Nominated – Peggy Pasillas:** Hi – I'm Peggy Pasillas – I've been involved in Distance Riding since 2007 and believe that if I'm going to be competing, I need to support the sport we all love. I have hosted clinics, co-manage a ride and write the UMECRA newsletter. I would be very happy to continue to support UMECRA as your Director at Large and am volunteering for another term.
- **Director at Large** (Bill Suskey)  
**Nominated – Bill Suskey**

**Additional appointments for 2019:**

- **Points Keeper** (Robin Schadt)
- **Website Coordinator** (Nicole Mauser-Storer)
- **Newsletter Editor** (Peggy Pasillas)

Please send your letter of nomination and qualifications to UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer Bruce Birr at [bbirr@centurytel.net](mailto:bbirr@centurytel.net).

This is a non-voting position. The position is 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 are interested.

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**Riders Choice Nominations Sought!**

It is time to make your nominations for this year's Riders 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. The guidelines to be considered when nominating 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 reason, 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. You can mail your nomination to:

Bruce Birr,  
1633 N. W. Kendall Road,  
Manistique, Mi 49854

or e-mail it to him at: [bbirr@centurytel.net](mailto:bbirr@centurytel.net)

The deadline for submissions is Friday, January 18th!



# UMECRA Convention – January 18-19!!

Friday – Jan 18	4pm	Registration Opens
	Evening	AHDRA activities
Saturday – Jan 19	7am	Board Meeting
	9:30am	If the Saddle Fits They Will Like to Wear It; Assessing - Endurance Saddle Fit at a Distance Ride" Dr. Jane Manfred – bio below
	11am	Nutrition Principles and Feeding the Performance Horse Lynette Miller, Purina Animal Nutrition –bio below
	12:30pm	Lunch (Meal ticket required) \$15 per person: 4 Assorted Sliced Deli Meats, 3 Cheeses, 3 Assorted Breads, 4 Cold Salads: Greens + 3 Deli-Style, 4 Toppers: Lettuce, Onions, Tomatoes, Pickles, Mayo, 3 Spreaders: Miracle Whip & Mustard
	2pm	UMECRA General Meeting
	5pm	Downtime
	6:15pm	Bidding on Silent Auction Begins
	6:30pm	Dinner (meal ticket required) \$26, Children 4-12 are \$12 each. Buffet with the following items: Roast top sirloin w/ mushroom bordelaise, herb roasted chicken, broiled tilapia au gratin, butter & cream whipped Yukon Gold potatoes, green bean almondine, tossed salad w/ dressings, variety of other salads, house-baked breads & butter, coffee, tea, soft drinks, assorted dessert bars.
	7:30pm	Awards

Jane Manfredi, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVS-LA, DACVSMR (Equine) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation at Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She graduated from the Atlantic Veterinary College (Prince Edward Island, Canada), followed by an internship at Mississippi State University. She then spent time in a private mixed large animal private practice in Northern California and at two Chicago Thoroughbred race tracks before completing a large animal surgical residency and Master's degree at the University of Minnesota. She completed a PhD at Michigan State in Comparative Medicine and Integrative Biology before joining the faculty. At Michigan State, she teaches anatomy and equine sports medicine and rehabilitation, and received Teacher of the Year from the CVM Class of 2021. As a FEI level dressage rider, her research interests include treatments for osteoarthritis, rehabilitation of the performance horse, saddle and bridle fit, rider biomechanics, and the pathophysiology of metabolic syndrome

Lynette Miller started in the feed business early in life at her father's feed dealership in northern Illinois. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, majoring in Animal Science, from the University of Illinois. Lynette worked at a top Purina dealership near Champaign, IL while in college. Early in her career she gained valuable experience through various roles in the agriculture industry as well as a District Sales Manager for Kent Feeds.

For over 10 years Lynette was employed at Insight FS, a Division of Growmark, Inc., in southern Wisconsin. She was a key member of their Feed Department, providing feed sales and ration balancing to all species, especially equine and beef cattle. Later in her tenure there, she also accepted the role as the Branch Manager of their Ixonia site with multiple responsibilities for the feed mill and grain elevator location.

Lynette accepted a Sales Specialist role with the Upper Midwest Lifestyle Feeds Division of Purina Animal Nutrition in December of 2016. Her responsibilities keep her close to her passion in equine and companion animals. She values the research and development of Purina Animal Nutrition and is proud to assist Animal caretakers in designing the best feeding programs for the animals and their situations.

Lynette, her husband Pat and their loyal canine, Haley live near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Lynette is a competitive barrel racer with her horses Rudy and Beau, who also reside on their property. Pat and Lynette also enjoy traveling especially to explore various trailriding destinations.

Location: Terrace Bay Hotel, 7146 P Road, Gladstone, MI 49837. Call the hotel for reservations at: (906) 786-7554. A block of rooms is reserved for the nights of January 18 and 19 under the name UMECRA. Rooms are available both lake-side and street-side. Cost is \$84 per night plus taxes..

The silent auction is being headed by Diane Meinders, email and phone if you have questions [dmeinders@optiodata.com](mailto:dmeinders@optiodata.com) and 616.706.6478. Remember to bring your donated items and checkbooks/cash!

We need volunteers to help man the registration booth Friday evening and Saturday. Please contact Kathy Macki if you can help with this. She can be reached by email at [k\\_macki@yahoo.com](mailto:k_macki@yahoo.com)

**Deadline for registration is Dec 26<sup>th</sup>**, but discounted rate rooms are first come/first serve so get your reservations in early! No pets are allowed, the hotel is non-smoking. Continental breakfast is available from 7 to 11am. The Freshwater Tavern is the on-site dinner restaurant and is open from 5pm – 9pm only.

Meals must be reserved no later than January 11! Lunch and banquet choices, along with registration fees should be mailed with payment.

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## Convention Registration

Name	Lunch (\$15/person)	Dinner Adult (\$26)	Dinner Child (\$12)
<b>Sub Total</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>			

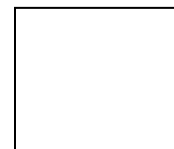
.Mail registration form to:  
 Bruce Birr  
 1633N W. Kendall Road  
 Manistique, MI 49854  
 Email: [bbirr@centurytel.net](mailto:bbirr@centurytel.net)  
 Phone: 906.286.1991

## REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS

In accordance with the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the following bylaw change will be considered at the general membership meeting to be held in January 2019

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw Changes (words inserted/added are <u>underlined</u> ; words removed are <del>struck out</del> )	Rational for Change
<b>ARTICLE IV, Section 5, President, sub section (d)</b>	<b>ARTICLE IV, Section 5, President, sub section (d)</b>	.
<p>To be eligible to be elected, a nominee for President: must be present and a Delegate to the meeting at which the election is held, must be;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A current UMECRA Ride Manager or former UMECRA Ride Manager;</li> <li>2) Who has been a UMECRA Ride Manager during at least three (3) seasons in the past five (5) seasons, or who has been a Delegate in the preceding two (2) years.</li> </ol>	<p>To be eligible to be elected, a nominee for President: <del>must be present and a Delegate to the meeting at which the election is held,</del> must be;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A current UMECRA Ride Manager or former UMECRA Ride Manager;</li> <li>2) Who has been a UMECRA Ride Manager during at least three (3) seasons in the past five (5) seasons, or who has been a Delegate in the preceding two (2) years.</li> </ol>	<p>Current bylaw language requires nominees for the office of President to be physically present at a meeting to be considered for election to said office.</p> <p>This stipulation does not allow for any extenuating circumstances that may potentially prohibit attendance at the meeting (IE: bad weather, emergencies, etc.) There is currently a Special Rule of Order that also requires all other nominees for offices of the Board of Directors to be present at the meeting when elections are held. However, as a Special Rule of Order, this rule can be suspended by a two-thirds majority vote of the assembly for probable extenuating circumstances.</p> <p>Approval of the proposed change to Article IV, Section 5, sub paragraph (d), would allow the election of nominees to the office of President under this same Special Rule of Order in extenuating circumstances with a two-thirds majority vote to suspend the rule.</p>

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Deadline for Next Newsletter:  
5<sup>th</sup> of each month  
Send news to:  
[UMECRAnews@gmail.com](mailto:UMECRAnews@gmail.com)



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