

March 2019



UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION

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.

It looks like it may be another tough start to the conditioning season this year. Between all of the ice and snow, it may be awhile before most of us will have an opportunity to ride/condition safely. Hopefully, Spring will arrive with some decent temps soon to help us all thaw out. While we wait for better weather and opportunities to ride, I'd like to encourage people to make sure your UMECRA membership is paid and current before the ride season actually begins. It is also a good time to make sure all of our equine partners have their numbers and have been nominated for any of the categories and/or awards they will be competing for this year. Our Web-Master, Nicole Mauser-Storer, has made it quite convenient to check the status of all this by simply navigating through the UMECRA web-site. If you haven't already checked it out, the 2019 ride schedule with all of the individual ride flyers has also been posted to the web-site. Thanks to all of the Ride Managers and our Sanctioning Coordinator, Joslyn Seefeldt, for working together to provide all of the info we as riders need to plan our individual ride seasons. The UMECRA Board of Directors will be meeting March 30th at the Quality Inn and Suites located in Lodi, Wi. Members are encouraged to attend the meeting if possible, or to send any questions or ideas to the Board prior to the meeting. Simply contact any Executive Board member, Regional Representative or Rider Representative with your thoughts and they will bring them to the meeting for discussion. Names, address/e-mails of individual board members can be found on the UMECRA web-site or in the membership directory. We appreciate your insights and look forward to hearing from you. Stay safe, and let's hope things warm-up soon so that we can begin conditioning/riding in earnest.

Jon Wagner

UMECRA President



UMECRA Rider's Choice award 2018
 RTM First in Line (Sis) w/ partner Linda Hamrick

Guidelines to be considered when nominating and voting for a horse for this honor:

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

RTM First in Line (Sis) epitomizes the meaning of the Rider's Choice Award. After two years of LD rides and nine years of endurance rides, Sis has proven herself to be a strong willed and determined competitor. Sis is all business at endurance rides and she loves her job.

RTM First in Line (Sis) has overcome several obstacles in her life. Since she was handled minimally until the age of two, it took a long time to gain her trust. Throughout her endurance career, Sis has struggled with issues that could have derailed her love of running down the trail. Early hock issues, glucose resistance/tying up, and a jaw/chewing injury were some of the issues Sis faced.

I will admit, that I almost threw in the towel a couple of times. However, the next several years proved that RTM First In Line was a talented and determined competitor, able to overcome a myriad of setbacks in her life. During 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018, Sis has been a strong and consistent endurance partner with a 97% completion rate.

2018 has been a very successful year for Sis. She completed 580 miles on her way to becoming an AERC 5,000 Mile Horse this year. RTM First in Line (Sis) has placed at or near the top of the year-end standings in AERC, UMECRA, AHDRA, and GLDRA most years of her endurance career. Last year, Sis won the Charles Phillips Versatility Award (showing her love of competitive trail riding in the pouring rain ☺). She has won the national AHA High Point Endurance Horse year-end award six times and placed in the national AERC War Mare competition many times.

RTM First in Line has completed 5,395 endurance miles, 575 LD miles, and 85 competitive trail miles during her career. I am so thankful that Sis is strong, capable, and willing to be my partner in this sport that I love. I'm looking forward to many more seasons of competition and hope for the two of us to earn the AERC Decade Team Award in 2019.



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Shining Light Award!

Picture this: A young blonde woman blazing through the pine woods of Michigan on her way to glory on a distance ride, stirrup to stirrup with her beau. This is our heroine! She later went to vet school, married, raised a family and became a driving force in Michigan and UMECRA distance riding.

In the early '80's, our heroine actually started vetting rides before she graduated from vet school. She would vet on Saturday and ride competitive on Sunday – LD hadn't been invented then! She began her career near East Lansing, but moved to the UP, actually not far from here, in 1996. She has been a mainstay of UP, but also lower Michigan, vetting ever since. And who wouldn't want to be vetted by our heroine with her bright smile, kind words and superior knowledge of what goes on in the inside and outside of a distance horse?

On weekends, when our heroine isn't vetting a ride, she is actively involved in Pony Club, including going to far parts of our country.

Rae Birr is an icon in the distance riding community, specifically in Michigan where there is nothing she can't do from vetting a ride to helping manage a seven day event, but also in UMECRA and AERC.

Rae Birr is the 2019 Shining Light!



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)					

Hey UMECRA! Anyone out there interested in taking over the newsletter? We are still looking for a new newsletter editor. Responsibilities include producing 10-11 newsletters per year and helping with organization wide emails on occasion. If you are interested, please contact UMECRA President Jon Wagner (jwagner288@wi.rr.com) or current newsletter editor Peggy Pasillas (UMECRAnews@gmail.com)



Clinics!!

Clinics are a great way to introduce new people to our sport! This year there are 2 clinics and 2 Mock Rides being offered within the UMECRA family! Please share these with anyone you know who is interested in learning more about the sport!

April 7th – Wisconsin – Introduction to Distance Riding. J&J Stables 6723 State Road 81, Platteville, Wisconsin 53818. Contact Tracy Johnson at 608.209.2516 or on Facebook at DRAW Clinic 2019 for more information!

April 20th – Minnesota - Morning Session – Introduction to Distance Riding – What you need to know to get started. (9am – 12), Break out sessions after lunch on multiple topics. Afternoon Session – So you want to do 50's and beyond! (1:30pm – 4:30pm). For more information contact: Peggy Pasillas email: peggy@pasillas.net or 651.353.7959 or check it out on Facebook at 2019 MN Distance Riding Clinic.

April 28th – Wisconsin - Coon Rock Mock Distance Ride
 Sunday, April 28– 10:00 Riders' Meeting – then hit the trails. 6180 Erdman Road, Arena, WI
 Ride Management: Linda Jacobson 608.592.3575 jdisawesome@lycos.com
 Carol Wagner 262.844.4115 jwagner288@wi.rr.com

May 10-12th - Minnesota. This will be a hands-on opportunity to experience a ride and the whole camping experience. Designed to provide information and experience to novices in both Novice and Intro style rides. For more information contact: Peggy Pasillas email: peggy@pasillas.net or 651.353.7959.

Time to Start Planning Your Ride Season!

2019 Ride Date	Ride Name	Location	State	RM Last Name	RM Email
4/13-14	Brighton Competitive Trails Spring	Howell	MI	Lisa Germann	lgermann08@comcast.net
5/10 - 5/12	Novice Clinic	Rogers	MN	Peggy Pasillas	peggy@pasillas.net
5/4-5	MnDRA I	Hinckley	MN	Theresa Meyer	thmeyer753@gmail.com
5/4-5	White River Spring	Hesperia	MI	Kari Hanes	montaleearabians@gmail.com
5/10-12	Glacier Trails	Palmyra	WI	Ramona Radtke	ward.elizm@gmail.com
5-18-19	Border Battle Boogie	Cushing	WI	Deb Moe	borderbattle@mndra.com
5/25-26	Grand Island	Rapid River	MI	Kathy Macki	k_macki@yahoo.com
6/1-2	AHDRA's Endure Ride	Chandlerville	IL	Nicole Mauser-Storer	n.mauserstorer@huskers.unl.edu
6/1-2	Maplewood West	Pelican Rapids	MN	Sarah Peltier	peltier.sa@gmail.com
6/8-9	White River Summer	Hesperia	MI	Kari Hanes	montaleearabians@gmail.com
6/8-9	ApDRA	Palmyra	WI	Dawn Haas	jehaas@centurytel.net
6/15-16	SE Minn	Preston	MN	Diane Schmidt	diannerusty01@gmail.com
6/22-23	Grand Island North	Limestone	MI	Karen Bahrman	kbarhman@gmail.com
6/29-30	Dead Dog Creek	Kinmundy	IL	Linda Mowrer	ridedeaddog@hotmail.com
7/5-6	Endless Valley	Arena	WI	Linda Jacobson	jdisawesome@lycos.com
7/13-14	AHAM-Hopkins Creek	Manton	MI	Gene Dake	dedake6196@gmail.com
7/13-14	Mosquito Run	Rogers	MN	Peggy Pasillas	peggy@pasillas.net

7/20-21	AHDRA I - My Backyard	Brimfield	IL	Sarah Mowrer	ridedeaddog@hotmail.com
7/20-21	Pine Marten	Wetmore	MI	Karen Bahrman	kbahrman@gmail.com
7/26-28	Bonecrusher	Palmyra	WI	Amber Erickson	endurochiro3@gmail.com
7/27-28	Northern Lightz Run	Twin Valley	MN	Diane Schermerhorn	dasher09@gmail.com
8/3-9	Shore-to-Shore	L. Huron to L. Michigan	MI	Bruce Birr	bbirr@centurytel.net
8/10-11	Louise Reidel Memorial	Arkdale	WI	Elinor Tonsor	helinoretonsor@earthlink.net
8/17-18	Rock River Charity	Franklin Grove	IL	Tony Troyer	il4aerc@aol.com
8/17-18	Run for the Cactus	Granite Falls	MN	Sarah Maass	sarahmaass@hotmail.com
8/24-25	Northern Highland	Conover	WI	Laurie Henschel	ridgeviewwalkers@frontiernet.net
8/31-9/2	White River Fall-Labor Day	Hesperia	MI	Kari Hanes	montaleearabians@gmail.com
9/7-8	Charity Cup	Pillager	MN	Darlene Molitor	valleycreek1@gmail.com
9/7-8	Keweenaw	Marquette	MI	Karen Jarvi	kjarvi0914@gmail.com
9/7-8	Lincoln Trail	Kinmundy	IL	Ruth Stewart	rrstewart2002@yahoo.com
9/14-15	Colorama Classic	New Prospect	WI	Pam Cotton	hellsbellsfarm@gmail.com
9/21-22	Run for the Ridge	Granite Falls	MN	Sarah Maass	sarahmaass@hotmail.com
9/28-29	Metro Park Express	Milford	MI	Mindy Nagy	melindasmeyers@gmail.com
10/4-6	DRAW Festivus	Palmyra	WI	Sherry Aune	aunesherry@hotmail.com
10/12-13	Iron Oak	Arkdale	WI	Ruth Casserly	casserlytimruth@gmail.com
10/12-13	Oak Leaf Run	Hamilton	MI	Barb Kurti	silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com
10/18-19	Point Chaser	Theilman	MN	Holly Egerer	regerer287@aol.com
10/26-27	AHDRA III - Big River	Keiths burg	IL	Jim Andriakos	cgswwimcoach@yahoo.com

Spring BOD Meeting – Saturday, March 30th. Lodi WI – Country Inn & Suites. Meeting starts at 9:30.

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



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