

Rider Rep Submissions

Max Bernsdorf. Thank you for allowing me to be your voice on the board of directors. With your vote I will continue to bring your concerns and questions forward.

Hi there! My name is Tracy Johnson and I am one of your current Rider Reps (since 2018) that is up for re-election. I have been a UMECRA member since 2012 when I started my career with a very successful novice season. I have since moved up to LD, Comp, and now Endurance distances. Being newer 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.

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 a while and love this activity. My experience in the endurance world has been mainly in Minnesota and Wisconsin with some rides outside the region. I have chaired and co-chaired the Minnesota Horse Expo Endurance booth for the last 6 years and have enjoyed sharing information about this wonderful riding experience. For the last two years I have also been part of the team working with the yearly awards .Bailey, my 25 yr old Morgan mare, and I placed in the top ten LD in UMECRA 2013, during that year Bailey was awarded BC 10 times, this last year I have been fortunate to bring another horse Rosie to the family and plan to continue to grow my experiences in the different offerings in this wonderful family. The knowledge shared in this sport and the care shown to our horses has been amazing. Representing the riders in UMECRA has been a privilege and allowed me to give back to the organization that which my horse-Bailey I have enjoyed being part of, I would love the opportunity to represent the riders in this organization . As your representative I would continue to have a caring common sense approach to bring to the board your concerns. Thank you, Jan

Hi fellow riders! I'm Jen Moore and I am self-nominating for UMECRA Rider Representative. I have been involved in distance riding since 2013 with my Standardbred Sidney Rain. This year we hit our first 1000-mile milestone and I feel like it is time for me to start giving back to a sport and group I love in a bigger capacity. I would be thrilled to be elected to serve as a Rider Representative for UMECRA and be a voice on the board for all riders. I have volunteered at many rides in various capacities over the years and this feels like a natural next step for me in giving back. If I'm elected, I will work hard to be a voice for all members of our group, and work even harder at making our group the best it can be. Here's to an amazing upcoming 2020 season! Thank you, Jen

Kristine Jubeck. I fell in love with distance riding about 3 years ago. Prior to that I did mainly dressage and trail riding, and I had a couple of years of eventing competition from about 2007-2011. In the 3 years since I discovered distance riding, I have conditioned and competed friends' horses, my own horse, and sponsored juniors. I have ridden Novice, LD and completed my first 50 this year! Before I caught the endurance bug, I had very little camping experience, let alone camping with my horse. I also did not own a trailer until May of this year. I have since hauled to several rides, and camped with my horse just for fun and family vacations. My husband and six-year-old son are not horse people, but they do love to camp. Honestly, I'm not sure we would have discovered our love of camping if it wasn't for this sport. So, as you can see, this sport has given me so much, and I would be thrilled to have the opportunity to give back by serving as your rider rep.

My name is Melissa Coolich. I wish to represent you as a Rider Representative for the 2020-2021 seasons.

I started riding endurance in Missouri in 2010 and became a UMECRA member when we moved to Wisconsin in 2014. I have enjoyed the opportunities available to UMECRA members and particularly appreciate local 75 and 100 mile rides. I have also completed rides from Ft Howes to Old Dominion and many states in between (plus Ontario). This year, Aurora and I learned to drive and we completed our

first distance drive at Big River. I also have experience with the Endurance, LD, Extreme Mustang Makeover, dressage, jumping, competitive trail and am active in an equestrian search and rescue group. Professionally, I am a PhD Engineer. My current job is to develop recyclable packaging solutions and grow young talent. I would like to see UMECRA membership grow through recruitment and retention efforts that support both young riders and adults. In the meantime, be safe, have fun, hug your animals and consider my bid for Wisconsin rider representative.

Hi, my name is Sarah Carlson and I would like to serve UMECRA as a rider representative. Hi, my name is Sarah Carlson and I would like to serve UMECRA as a rider representative. I participated in my first novice rides in 2016 and joined AERC, UMECRA, MNDRA and the Greenbeans program in 2017. I absolutely love this sport. This sport has given me the opportunity to learn so much more about my horses, make some wonderful new friends, and I've been fortunate to have some really amazing mentors. I've sort of become obsessed with endurance, and serving as a rider rep would be a way for me to support the sport that I love. During the last 3 seasons I've ridden LD, Endurance and this year I started a new horse in competitive. My ultimate goal is to compete in 100's. I've been an active leader in 4-H, my local United Way and work full time in the Human Resources field. My goals as your rider representative would be to provide the perspective of riders, and to engage in dialogue about the issues and decisions we are faced with and position UMECRA to continue to be a strong regional organization. Thanks for considering me for this position and I hope to see you out on the trail for many years to come!

Lynda Zimmerman Hello UMECRA Members, I would like to run for re-election as one of your Rider Reps. With only four Rider Reps on the Board of Directors and a couple important issues coming up for discussion and vote, I feel it's important to continue to be involved and represent your views, goals and interests.

I've been a UMECRA member for 10 years, and a Rider Rep. for the past two. I have participated in many Ride events, befriended many rider/members across the region. I live in west central Minnesota and support all the MnDRA rides but have also competed across the region (MI is on my agenda this year), as well as a few rides in SD, ND and WY, and in all ride, classes including Competitive, LD and Endurance, although predominantly LD.

In my years with AERC/UMECRA, I have completed over 3,500 competition miles with three Paso Finos and one Arabian, having earned the Competitive Rookie of the Year in 2010 with my PF mare, our first year of competition. One of my Paso geldings earned the national PFHA High Point Endurance Trail Award the three successive years (2015-2017), and my third Paso Fino also earned the national PFHA High Point in 2018, his first year of competition. I earned the AERC/PFHA breed (mileage) award in 2015, and we've been frequent, consistent, and successful competitors often earning top UMECRA and/or MnDRA year-end awards.

I also competed with an Arabian in 2013 and may start another one in 2020. I have great respect and admiration for the Arabian's natural physical abilities in this sport. My experience with Arabian and non-Arabian horses provides me with a diverse equine view, and I have presented at the MnDRA clinic for new endurance riders on, "Ride Your Own Ride: Competing with a Non-Arabian Horse."

Professionally, I teach an online college writing course and am a retired Academic Advisor (Nurse Practitioner program) from a MN state university. I am also the current president of the Mid America Paso Fino Association, have performed and presented at the MN Horse Expo several years and contribute to several distance riding Facebook groups for Paso Finos and other gaited breeds from coast to coast. This Fall, I became involved in the revised Master Plan for our local park (where Mosquito Run is held) to help design a bike path route that would not only preserve horse riding trails, but promote safety and trail etiquette education for all trail users. I was able to share many ideas from my trail riding experiences across the UMECRA region, and the park administration was receptive to those suggestions. They have asked me to continue with suggestions for their other horse trail parks. As an AERC affiliate, I feel we in UMECRA can benefit from more shared experiences and ideas across the

regions, as well as share border state riders with each other to the benefit of all. 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 in another term.
Live, laugh, love, ride! Lynda Zimmerman

Hi, my name is Kimberly Fosler. I am from Scales Mound Illinois, and I am running for a Rider Representative position. I have been a member of UMECRA since 2012, devoting my riding to my only gelding CJ. I have experience in CTR, LD, and Endurance rides. My traveling in endurance has mainly been in Illinois and Wisconsin, but have managed to travel to a Michigan ride and hopefully have a Minnesota ride planned for this next ride season. This past year I have been in charge of planning the 2020 UMECRA Convention in Stevens Point. Communication of our member's concerns to the board is important to continue to grow as a region. I believe I have the skills to present ideas and concerns to the board in an unbiased opinion. I would like to be a voice for the riders and help make new great things happen in UMECRA!