

December 2010

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



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.

The guidelines to be considered when nominated a horse for this honor are as follow:

1. A horse that has shown superior ability in it 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 go to Rider's Choice. Or you can just mail or email your nomination. This nomination will appear in the UMECRA Convention program, and may be the basis for attendees at the convention to making their selection. Nominations should be submitted to:

Theresa Meyer,
3028 181st Ave. NW,
Cedar, MN 55011
or email to tmeyer@tpt.org

The Deadline for nominations is **Sunday, January 9, 2011.**

Lost & Found at Point Chaser...

These Items were left at Point Chaser Ride:

- Brown leather braided short riding crop
- Rider card holder, burgandy with clear front
- Men's shower/shave kit-has an item inside with the name Todd
- 2 Horse sheets, woven anti-sweat both size 78, one is burgandy and green the other is burgandy and navy, they were left hanging in the trail head building.

2011 Annual Meeting and 2010 Awards Banquet - January 14 & 15 - Rochester MN!!

Rochester, MN, home of the largest clinic (Mayo Medical Center) in the world, is the site for the 2011 Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet. The meeting is scheduled for January 14 and 15, 2011, at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Rochester.

If you click this link, you will be directed to the Marriott website, with the promo code already loaded. All you need to do is adjust the dates, based on your length of stay. The group rate is only good from the 14-16th. If they come in earlier or stay later, the \$109 rate may not be available.

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/rstmc?groupCode=umeumea&app=resvlink&fromDate=1/14/11&toDate=1/20/11>

If you go to www.marriott.com you can enter the promo code ume cra to get the discounted rate.

We need vendors. The vendor fee is the cost of the banquet dinner on Saturday night and a donation for the casino night on Saturday. If you would like to bring your wares to the meeting, please send me an email: schmidt.dianne@mayo.edu to let me know you are coming. You are welcome to set up on Friday and take down late on Saturday. Your space will be right outside the door to the meeting and banquet area.

Angie Mikkelson is managing a tack swap. Please contact Angie angieorr@hotmail.com to volunteer time and/or tack. Peggy Pasillas (umecranews@gmail.com) is in charge of the Silent Auction. Please contact Peggy to donate to the Silent Auction.

If you have an hour or two to give to sit at the registration table, please get in touch with me Diane Schmidt at Schmidt.dianne@mayo.edu.

Saturday night will be "Casino Night" after awards. Do you know how to deal Blackjack and Poker? We need dealers for this event. Please let me know, if you could volunteer for an hour or two. Tables will be open from about 9:30 to 11:30.

A Banquet Reservation form will be in the December and January Newsletter.

Remember to pray for our troops.

Dianne Schmidt
UMECRA 2011 Annual Meeting Coordinator

Attention Ride Managers:

If you want insurance for your 2011 ride, please get the forms to Jill Feller no later than December 17, 2010. The costs for insurance are not yet determined, but are anticipated to be approximately the same as in 2010. To add a land owner to UMECRA's insurance policy and receive a Certificate of Insurance you will need to send the following:

Name of land owner (this could be a private land owner or a DNR name)
Address of landowner
Date of ride

Send this information to:

Jill Feller
N9280 County Road TW
Mayville, WI 53050
jfeller@nconnect.net

Time for 2011 UMECRA Elections and Appointments

Elections for 2011

Any member interested in these jobs should e-mail their application to President Rick Nelson at ricknelson@essex1.com

Up for election:

- V.P.
- Secretary/Treasurer
- IL. Director
- MI Director and two Directors at large.

Tell Us What You Think!

We want to make UMECRA conventions fun, informative, and events you look forward to. Take a quick 10-question survey online to share what you'd like to see more of and what you'd rather do without. The survey will be open until December 31, 2010. Results will be compiled and shared at the UMECRA convention January 14-15, 2011. Results will also be posted on the UMECRA website and in the February UMECRA newsletter.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPYWGWZ>

If you prefer to take the survey on real paper (hard copy), please contact Shelly.sentyrz@yahoo.com.

Reminder from Awards Committee...

Awards and chevrons are NOT mailed.....if you are not able to attend convention please make arrangements for someone to pick up your items. We thank you!

Silent Auction at the 2011 UMECRA Convention!

We are looking for donated items of all kinds for the silent auction in 2011. Do you have some extra tack you'd be willing to donate? How about a book, clothes, blanket or other novelty item? Other ideas – offer to crew for someone at a 100 mi ride, make dinner at a ride, maybe a good bottle of wine. Start cleaning out that tack room, trailer and put the items aside for the silent auction. Be creative – let your imagination go wild! Contact Peggy Pasillas or Lynn Reichert with donations – peggy@pasillas.net or call 651-450-7959 or 651-353-7959.

Anxious to find out your Point Standings?
Go to www.umecra.com for the most up to date information!



Sponsors of the UMECRA Novice Division

Happy Holidays!!



Time to Start Thinking About Rider Choice Awards! Here are the past winners....

- 1998 RAFFY'S DAINTY DEE (Louise Riedel)
- 1999 BERJO ZEEK (JoAnne Gernant)
- 2000 ENM EDDIE (Mary Lou Rounds)
- 2001 CHUB LAKE JACK DANIEL(Linda Jacobson)
- 2002 SADAT (Holly & Bob Egerer)
- 2003 TUTSYN +/- (Ellyn Rapp)
- 2004 GANDIE (Lori Windows)
- 2005 FOURMILES PALOUSE (Dawn Haas)
- 2006 LUCAS BASK (Wayne Gastfield)
- 2007 J DALMAAR SHARRI +/- (Charles Phillips)
- 2008 MATUKS LEGEND +/- (Rose Clark)
- 2009 SYNERATOR (Barb Kurti)

Interested in Hosting A UMECRA Convention?

- 2012 – Rockford, IL – UMECRA 40th Anniversary!
 - 2013 – Oconomowac, WI (proposed)
 - 2014 – Open
 - 2015 – Open – next out of corridor convention!
- Bring your proposals to the Spring 2011 Board of Directors meeting!

2011 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

- The 2011 UMECRA membership form is included in this newsletter. The form has four options for membership prices.
- Single/\$25- receive newsletter electronically and a CD for the ride book (see examples below)
 - Family/\$35- receive newsletter electronically and a CD for the ride book (see examples below)
 - Single/\$25- NO newsletter is received and a CD is received for the ride book (see examples below)
 - Family/\$35- NO newsletter is received and a CD is received for the ride book (see examples below)
 - Single/\$35- receive newsletter hardcopy and/or ride book hard copy (see examples below)
 - Family/\$45- receive newsletter hardcopy and/or ride book hard copy (see examples)

Please **PRINT** clearly on the forms to avoid any delays in receiving your newsletter and/or ride book.

Help Needed From Ride Managers!

Right after the annual meeting, the Membership Committee (Pam Cotton, Julie Jackson-Biegert, Angie Mikkelson, and Linda Mower) would like to send a letter to all non UMECRA members who participated in a Novice ride last year inviting them to join UMECRA in 2011. We will include a ride schedule for next year, a membership form, and a coupon for a \$10.00 discount if they join UMECRA by March 1, 2011.

To accomplish this, we need ride managers to provide us with the names and addresses of participants in your Novice rides. These can be sent to me via either email (power@dtnspeed.net) ...or sent through US mail to

Marty Power
2317 2350th Street
McLean, Illinois 61754

...or you can bring the entry forms from your novice rides to the UMECRA convention and you won't have to do any coping of names and addresses.

I know it will be work to dig out this information, but it will be a huge help to the organization.

And help us think of a better way to accomplish this in the future. What would be the most efficient way for ride managers to get the names and addresses of non UMECRA Novice riders to the membership chairperson?

Thanks for your help,
Marty Power

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD:
Sponsored by AHDRA and awarded to the UMECRA member who has shown outstanding service to the club and the sport of Distance Riding on a continual basis. The recipient is chosen by the executive board of AHDRA and is not announced until the annual UMECRA awards banquet. Nominations for the award can be directed to AHDRA president, Lori Windows at: Kickbuttshaman@cs.com

HIGH POINT AWARDS!!!

FINAL YEAR END VERSATILITY STANDINGS				
1	Christine	Wolferheim	Von Prince	113
2	Rachel	Meinders	MS Dasani	83
3	Robin	Schadt	RA IBN Maruf	74
4	Jen	Allen	Legacy	70
5	Carl	Dosmann	Sharri	66
6	Walter	Freiberg	Chazz	55
7	Deb	Searle	Premier	50
8	Kathy	Macki	Jubilee	25

FAMILY AWARD	
LastName	Sum Of Points
Meinders	736.40
Byard	546.80

Vi Bredl High Point Awards

SENIOR Yr End High Point Rider			
1	Lori	Windows	538
2	Bonnie	Mielke	516.4
3	Robin	Schadt	371
4	Linda	Jacobson	335.4
5	Maxine	Bernsdorf	315.2

JUNIOR Yr End High Point Rider			
1	Christine	Wolfersheim	362.8
2	Mike	Byard	249.8

2010 Senior Equine Award!

Congratulations to the winner of the 2010 Senior Equine award: Honey, ridden by Whitney Meinders. Honey racked up 510 miles and 208.4 points for a total score of 718.4.

Also putting in a good effort this year were:

Chub Lake Jack Daniel (415 miles + 143 points = 558)

Matuks Legend +/ (325 miles + 123 points = 448)

ELD Jetta Bee (185 miles + 58.8 points = 243.8)

Other nominated horses that competed this year were:

Calyphas Radiance, Miska Son Sharif, Monique Lafite, My Cameo Love, Rahkasa, RCF Comanche, and last year's winner, Synerator.

Remember to nominate your equines that will turn 20 or older during the 2011 by sending the nomination form and proof of age to Sharon Hahn, 22175 Cedar Dr. NW, Oak Grove, MN 55011. Previously nominated horses need not do so again (we assume your horse hasn't gotten any younger). However, if your previously nominated horse will no longer be competing, please let me know.

Horses' Behavior and Welfare Negatively Impacted by Low-Fiber Diets

by: Stacey Oke, DVM, MSc
November 16 2010, Article # 17255 The Horse.com

Despite the fact that horses evolved on a forage-based diet that is high in fiber and low in calories, some horse owners and trainers just can't resist feeding a low-fiber, calorie-dense diet.

"Horses are grazing animals," explains Katherine A. Houpt, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACVB, a professor emeritus of Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine. "When they are denied access

to pasture to partake in this natural activity, health and behavior issues arise, like the development of gastric ulcers and destruction of wood fences and stall walls."

To determine if horses' welfare, in addition to their health, was compromised when denied fiber, Houpt and co-author Jaime Elia assessed the "motivation for fiber" of eight mares fed two different diets, either orchard grass hay ad libitum or a complete pelleted feed, for three weeks. The horses were also trained to press a panel to obtain a food reward.

"We found that when horses were fed pellets, they worked harder to obtain a hay food reward than when they were fed hay," said Houpt.

In addition, the researchers also found that:

Horses fed hay spent 61.5% of their time (throughout a 24-hour period) eating, while horses fed pellets spent only 10% of their time eating, Horses fed pellets spent 58% of their time standing while horses fed hay spent 37% of their time standing, and Horses fed pellets spent 11.5% of their time sifting through the bedding of their stall looking for food whereas horses fed hay only spent 1.2% of their time practicing this "searching behavior." According to Houpt, "These findings clearly show that horses were motivated to work for hay when they were fed a pelleted diet, but not when they were fed a hay diet. That is, these horses showed a 'hunger for hay' when fed a pelleted diet."

The authors concluded that a reduction in dietary fiber has a major impact on the behavior and physiology of horses. They recommend feeding at least half a bale of first cutting hay per day, or offering free choice hay.

The study, "Motivation for hay: Effects of a pelleted diet on behavior and physiology of horses," is scheduled to be published in an upcoming edition of the journal *Physiology & Behavior*. The abstract is currently available on PubMed.

BOD MEETING

November 13, 2010

Ho Chunk, Wisconsin Dells

Agenda

Attendees: Wayne Gastfield, Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Mower, Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Shelly Sentyrz, Marty Powers, Julie Jackson-Biegert, Marge Dixon, Bonnie Mielke, Dianne Schmidt, Lynn Reichert,

Peggy Pasillas, Angie Mikkelson, Joslyn Seefeldt, Theresa Meyer

Guests: Linda Jacobson, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Sarah Mower, Barry Saylor, Jeanne Crispin
Meeting called to order by President Rick Nelson

- Secretary report: Wayne made motion to accept report from March meeting, Bonnie seconded; motion passed.

- Treasurer report: Report was presented by way of balance sheet and P&L. Linda Mower made motion; seconded by Wayne to accept reports as presented; motion passed.

Business:

Convention update – Dianne Schmidt

- Dianne presented a report on where rides, members and ride managers are located. Dianne made a motion that WI Dells be the midpoint of the corridor. The corridor would go east and west every other year from the midpoint. Would we also want to discuss going south and north? Dianne made a motion to make WI Dells the midpoint for the conventions with every other year going east or west. There was no second to the motion and the discussion was tabled until January.

- A discussion was held on why people attend or don't attend the convention. Should we send out a questionnaire to discuss ideas? A committee of Shelly, Theresa and Dianne will work on a survey; the survey will be sent out via Survey Monkey to members.

- Dianne passed out information about the 2011 convention. The speaker will be \$350 and be a sports med physician to hold a discussion on knees. AHDRA will be sponsoring the Friday night entertainment. The cost of the meal will be between \$25-\$30/person. There will be a tack swap also at the convention. The convention information is posted on the UMECRA website.

- Dianne is asking for \$500 for casino costs and \$350 for the speaker; Wayne made motion, Julie seconded. \$100 has been paid for the casino which leaves \$750 to come from the convention fund; leaving the convention fund in \$368.57. Motion passed.

- Illinois Expo: Tony asked for \$100 to sponsor a booth at the IL Expo. Tony and Joanne Gernant would work the booth. Dianne made motion, Wayne seconded to approve the \$100; Motion passed.

- Rider concerns- Maxine Bernsdorf: Max has four letters from riders:

- Tentative ride schedule should be published within 24 hours after it is approved by the BOD. A discussion was held on the liability of doing this; the schedule can be posted with a disclaimer as "TENTATIVE". Motion made by Maxine seconded

by Linda M to post the tentative schedule, with a disclaimer that the schedule is tentative schedule after the BOD meeting. The schedule will be posted on the website, but not within a 24-hour period of time.

- Novice rides should require a vet check in the middle so the ride is similar to a competitive ride. Suggestion is to do a 6-mile loop, come back to camp for a vet check, do another 6 mile loop. Bonnie suggested that the rides should be holding a clinic before the ride. Some of the vets suggested that no novice riders should be able to participate in the ride unless they have participated in a clinic. A clinic (even a short one) should be held before the ride. Opinions voiced were that not all ride managers have the time or help to host a novice clinic on each day of a ride. Some novice rides are run smoothly while others are not run well at all.

- Marge Dixon expressed her concern about her first novice ride- it was bad and no information was available to her. Julie made a motion to put a committee together to look at Novice rides and how we can improve them. Theresa Meyers seconded the motion. Joslyn will chair the committee, Marty, Julie, Nicole and Bonnie will be part of the committee. Motion passed.

- Lynn Reichert shared her novice ride experience as a ride manager. She asked some competitive riders who rode on Saturday to stay on Sunday and assisted the novice riders. There was an experienced rider with the small groups and it worked well. The experienced riders met the novice group when they came in and assisted them through the vet check.

- Theresa Meyers asked if any RM's have the novice riders call or email ahead. Some riders will call/email ahead some will not. It might help if the RM knew in advanced how many riders will come.

- Barry Saylor commented that he limited his Novice to a 10 mile ride. He stated that he has seen horses that did not look like they would make a longer ride.

- Limited Distance

- Restricted mileage is requested. Discussion was held on restricted mileage: Theresa: if we expand the LD division, our budget is still the same for awards. Angie: 264 entries in LD that were UMECRA members and 21 accumulated over 190 miles; 243 would qualify for restricted mileage awards. Some people can only make it to so many rides and would like the restricted mileage. Comments: why would we give an award for doing basically nothing? This is not an organization in which we 'sign up and get an

award'. Limited Distance less than 195 miles is like doing nothing.

- Motion made by Joslyn to offer Restricted Mileage for LD – same mileage as competitive (195 miles), seconded by Linda M. Motion passed. 8 passed; 3 opposed. GOES TO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY.
- Weight divisions for LD are requested. Max made a motion to have weight divisions in LD; light weight, heavy weight with weights the same as endurance. Joslyn seconded the motion. Discussion: this would make the RM do more work as submitting the points to AERC and UMECRA would now be different. Also, if UMECRA would follow AERC rules, we would now need to write new rules for LD weight division. Angie: 264 LD, 247 Comp riders 125 endurance riders; we have more LD riders than all other groups and they are the least recognized. Motion failed with a vote of 4/7.
- Ride Manager concerns- Rick Nelson
 - Karen Bahrman: Pine Marten RM does not feel that DRAWARMA should be allowed to continue as a multiday rid. She is protesting the presence of DRAWARAMA on the same weekend as Pine Marten. What is the mileage between the rides? 276 miles; the rule is 300 miles distance. Theresa: DRAW was on one weekend in fall and then moved due to the anchor weekends Memorial Day and Labor Day. The tentative schedule out a few years shows that both rides will conflict for a few more years. If DRAW moves one weekend, this protest will be a non-issue.
 - Sanctioning coordinator will contact both ride managers to discuss the issue. Shelly will explore the options of these rides and get back to the board within the next week.
- Donation to Southern Kettle Moraine Horseman's Park- Bonnie Mielke
 - Bonnie belongs to the Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Associate and since UMECRA has several rides there, Bonnie would like UMECRA to donate to this fund. \$400,000 is being donated by the state but they need more money. Motion made by Bonnie to give \$250 to this organization, seconded by Dianne; motion passed 16/1.
- Charging non UMECRA members more on ride entries- Bonnie Mielke
 - Bonnie said that she rides at rides outside of the area and at many rides there is an additional fee if you are not members. Bonnie made a motion to charge a \$5.00 fee per entry for non UMECRA members (novice riders are excluded) at rides; Marge seconded the motion. Motion vote was tied; broken by vote from President; motion failed.
- Attendance at fall & spring BOD meetings
 - Do we want to reimburse members of the BOD to drive to the spring and fall meetings? The mileage could be set at any rate that the board would want to set it at. Discussion was held as to the reason why people are on the board. Rick mentioned that he is on the board because he enjoys it. Angie voiced her opinion that a backup plan should be in place such as video or teleconferencing.
 - Would GO-TO-Meeting work? Everyone can go online or just use audio to call in for those who cannot make the meeting. No action was taken on this subject.
- Rule changes
 - Theresa walked through the proposed changes:
 - SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS
 - 5. REPORTING
 - UMECRA ride results, "per rider" reporting fees, and insurance fees must be sent to the secretary postmarked within 14 days, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty is not paid. If results, ride fees, and/or insurance payments are not received with 60 days of the ride date, loss of sanctioning for future rides, including rides in the same year will be forfeited.
 - Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior)
 - Theresa made a motion, seconded by Joslyn to accept the above change. There were two rides this past season in which the ride fees were not paid within a 60-day period. Riders were upset and wanted to know if the next ride by that ride manager would be sanctioned. Theresa feels that we have some responsibility to our riders to make sure there are results posted in a timely measure. Dianne- we should charge the \$50 and just pull the sanctioning for the following year and not pull the current year sanctioning.
 - Angie: by not posting the points, we are punishing the riders and not the ride manager. What if we posted the points and then pull them later? This could cause problems with riders if they were counting on those points and planning they year-end rides to allow them to place in the top ten.
 - Lynn Reichert: my concern the riders pay for the ride so they should not be punished.
 - Barry Saylor: would it be possible for have the points posted under a subheading so they are not counted in? This is a points keeper issue more than the Webmaster issue; it would involve a lot of extra work and would not solve the problem.

- □ Marge: why are these ride managers ride mangers if they do not want do the work involved with running a ride? This topic will be postponed until January; Theresa will rewrite the proposed rule and put it out on the BOD group email to review before the convention meeting.
- Motion made by Theresa that ride results, rider fees and ride insurance fees must be sent to sec/treasurer within 30 days (current rule is 14 days). Motion seconded by Marty.
- □ Bonnie: we should keep the timeline short so it is not forgotten.
- □ Theresa: in the past, the people who were doing awards had concerns with the last ride of the season. Is that still a concern? Yes it is.
- □ Motion failed.
- Motion made by Marty, seconded by Julie to move the 14 days to 21 days. Motion failed.
- Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Jill: J. Ride Managers must respond by November 30th as to the date(s) of their ride for the following year. If possible, the ride manager should respond by the time of the Fall Board of Directors meeting so that an initial ride calendar can be presented at that meeting. If no response has been received by the fall meeting, the Sanctioning Coordinator must make at least two attempts to contact the ride manager for the information. If no reply has been received by November 30th from the ride manager, then the board can choose to take the ride off of the calendar and may replace it with another ride
- Motion approved. GOES TO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY.
- COMPETITIVE RULES
 - 2. Management Requirements
 - H. There must be a minimum of one rest stop during each 25 miles or increments over 15 miles thereof. (For example a ride must be 40 miles or over in order to require two rest stops.) Horses may not travel more than 20 miles without a scheduled vet stop if the ride is between 25 and 34 miles. A one day ride of 35 miles or more may have one loop that is a maximum of 25 miles. All vet stops must be a minimum of 40 minutes long.
 - Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Dianne. Discussion: Marty has a concern going 25 miles without water. Motion failed: 4/6
- LCD projector discussion
 - With the cost of renting these LCD projectors (\$250 for the convention) UMECRA should look into purchasing one. Joslyn made a motion to purchase an LCD projector, bulbs and case at a cap of \$700. Linda seconded the motion; motion passed. Jill will look into purchasing the equipment.
- Outstanding Service award- Rick Nelson
 - This award has been sponsored by AHDRA in the past; they also want to pick the recipient of the award. Rick told the AHDRA president that UMECRA would need to select the award since it is a UMECRA award. Rick said that when he was president of AHDRA, he nominated Art Priesz for the first award but it was UMECRA who approved the nomination. There is no determination in the past how this was done. Maxine said that since she has been doing awards, AHDRA has picked the recipient for this award. Motion passed 6/4- AHDRA picks the recipient.
- 2011 Ride schedule- moving of ride dates, new rides, etc.
 - Shelly passed out the tentative 2011 schedule with some changes.
 - Marty moved to accept tentative schedule, Joslyn seconded. Approved.
- Rider's Choice award- who will be in charge of this?
 - Theresa has only one nomination – would someone like to do this? Sarah Mower will coordinate this event. She will contact the NL editor with her contact information.
- Membership committee- updates
 - Contacted the membership committee on how to improve membership. The committee wants to send a letter to novice riders to join UMECRA. For 2011, a form will be created with Marty's address to send form directly to her after each ride. Marty will contact the 2010 ride managers for the names and addresses of the novice riders.
 - Membership form- what about a discounted first year membership? \$10 off Marty made a motion and Joslyn seconded the motion: Novice riders will receive a coupon to receive \$10 off on a UMECRA membership for 2011 in their ride packets when they register for a ride. Motion passed. Marty will print the coupons.
- ICF committee- updates Peggy Garner was not at the meeting to provide updates.
- The silent auction at the convention will be managed by Peggy Pasillas
- Scholarship fund- Jill Feller
 - \$3070 is available for scholarships for the next year.
- Insurance- Jill Feller
 - Have not been informed of any changes for the next ride season but will provide more information at the convention meeting.
- Hall of Fame nominees: there was one nomination for Hall of Fame this year. The nomination was accepted

- Trail fund requested by Tony \$250 for trail work at Mathissen St. Park; Motion made by Wayne, seconded Julie. Motion passed.
- Appointment of: pointskeeper, webmaster, sanctioning coordinator and newsletter editor
 - Change the bylaws to match that in odd years all appointments will be replaced. Theresa will need to update the bylaws to reflect the change.
 - Introductions:
 - Jeanne Crispin was introduced as the tentative Sanctioning Coordinator. Appointed as SC.
 - Nicole Mauser-Storer is interested in the webmaster position. Appointed as webmaster.
 - Angie Mikkelson and Robyn Schandt both expressed an interest in pointskeeper. Robyn will be the new pointskeeper. A big thank you to Angie for her past experience.
 - Peggy Pasillas will remain as NL editor.
 - Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

Secretary/treasurer

LORI'S MUST SEE LIST....✓✓✓

There were 6 destinations left on my "Must See Before I Die" list, and with a landmark birthday coming up in November, I picked one of them as our annual pilgrimage. The top priorities of the trip were natural beauty, wildlife, and (surprise!!) horses. We decided on Patagonia, Argentina. And thus, the adventure began.

To me, planning a trip is just as exciting as actually taking the trip, much the same way I feel about conditioning/actual race season. I found a family run company called Patagonia Travel Adventures who helped me contact local lodging, car services, and domestic flights. I told them what we wanted to see and do, and I was very specific about one thing. One of the biggest reasons I chose the destination was for the riding. I wanted to ride with the gauchos and I didn't want to go on a livery string with 20 other people of questionable riding skills. And most importantly, I would not ride where the horses were not cared for properly and not treated with respect. Since I don't have much space, I will not go in to the incredible beauty of Patagonia or the exciting things we saw and did. But we did see whales, sea lions, elephant seals, penguins, guanacos, cavy, Patagonia Hare, and all types of birds. We walked on a glacier, heard the "train wreck" thunder as tons of ice splintered off of the side, and spent three nights in Ushuaia, the furthest south city in the world. But my

greatest surprise came when I realized that Elsa at Patagonia Travel Adventures actually listened to me. We spent three days at Estancia Alice near Calafate, Patagonia. This is a working sheep ranch that also houses guests. There I rode with the farm manager, Marcos. I figured he thought I was just a crazy ol' lady who thought she could ride because she had a pony as a kid, so I was pleased when I went to the stable for the first time and saw well-fed, well groomed horses with good looking feet and no saddle galls. A handsome, expressive, bay mare (imagine that) was waiting for me. The local horse is called Criollo, a tough, agile, hardy, intelligent, sensible breed descended from the original Spanish horses brought to South America. The saddle looks much like our rounded pommeled endurance saddle (no need for horns or lariats in sheep country) but a thick sheepskin pad is cinched over the top. This is how the gauchos ride; it is not just for the comfort of the tourists. The headstall was a hackamore type contraption.

We rode for several hours across pampas grass and a terrain that reminded me much of Montana or Wyoming, except we rode in the shadow of glaciers, ice bergs floated in the lakes, and condors and flamingos soared overhead. A scruffy dog accompanied us. She wasn't a Kelpie, the Australian imported sheep dog so vital to the estancias that support 5-50 thousand head of sheep. She served no purpose except as a pet, and Marcos told me he took her from a man who was kicking her. "I didn't kill the man," he told me in his elementary English, "But I took the dog." I was pretty sure I had found a soul mate. Later, he said, "I am 45, but when I ride like this – so free – I feel 20." I told him, "I am 60, but when I ride like this, I feel like I am 15!" He laughed and yelled something gaucho-like to his horse. I yelled back, and across the pampas we raced. My dear friend Bonnie Mielke always advises me to "ride like the wind." That day I tried, but Bonnie has no idea how fast the Patagonian winds blow.

I told Marcos about a book I read as a young girl. It was called TSCHIFFELY'S RIDE and was the true story of an Argentine who rode two Criollo horses, Mancha and Gato, from Buenos Aires to Washington D.S. in the mid 1920's. No one I have talked to since had ever heard of the book, but Marcos had. That night, he brought me a much beloved, much handled copy and proudly showed it to me. Before we left the estancia, I gave Marcos and others of the staff ride tee shirts from ApDRA, South East, Endure for the Cure, and Midwest Mountain Quest. To each I attached a blue ribbon, not really "re-gifting" 'cause I worked darn hard for those blues.

Our second horse stop was La Sofia Polo about 60 miles outside of Buenos Aires. The hosts there, Marcos and Silka Antin, are professional polo players, and Marcos is also a professional referee. The grounds has two regulation sized polo fields (4 hectares each! a hecter is 2.4 acres!) and Marcos trains and sells polo ponies. Here I was introduced to Pablo. He was ¾ Thoroughbred and ¼ Criollo. I spent the day getting used to him, riding the countryside that reminded me much of home with corn, soybeans, wheat, cattle and hogs. That evening after tea, I took my first polo lesson. There is waaaaaaaay too much to explain here, but I can only advise that if you ever get a chance to learn about polo, jump at it. By the time we left La Sofia Polo, I was cantering up and down the field, passing the ball back and forth to my teacher. Parting gifts to Marcos and his fellow team members were tee shirts from Draw-a-Rama. Parting gift to me was the memory of that most exquisite sound – my mallet hitting the polo ball square and clean.

We spent another day at La Sofia and headed home, back to my non-polo ponies and non-sheep herding dogs, my well-fed cats, and my navigable American computer keyboard. Tomorrow I head back to work, and I will take with me one amazing fact. In Argentina, there are 400!!! classifications for breed colors, some differing from province to province. Imagine having to deal with that when writing Health Papers and Coggins forms. The other fact I will keep in my heart. It matters not the color of one’s skin or the language they speak or their age or gender or financial status. When we share the love of horses, we are as one.

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				
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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)

Please send your ad to UMECRAnews@gmail.com. We can handle most common formats, such as Word, .pdf, or .jpg. The deadline for each issue is the last day of the previous month – newsletters are generally mailed by the 15th. Please send payment for your ad to:

Jill Feller, UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer
N9280 Cty Hwy TW
Mayville, WI 53050

Checks should be made payable to UMECRA.

2011 UMECRA ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET

January 14-16, 2010

Marriott Hotel
101 First Avenue SW
Rochester, MN
800-533-1655

Follow Mayo Clinic signs to downtown Rochester. Free parking is available 1 block south of the hotel in a city lot. The city does not charge for parking on the weekends.

Hotel reservations need to be made by January 3, 2011, to receive the discounted rate. You can make reservations at this link <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/rstmc?groupCode=umeumea&app=resvlink&fromDate=1/14/11&toDate=1/20/11>

Also, if you go to www.marriott.com you can enter the promo code **umeumea** to get the discounted rate.

Note: Attending the convention but not going to the banquet – there will be a \$20 attendance fee.

TENTATIVE Meeting Agenda

Friday, January 14 Noon *Pre-Ballroom* area open for Vendor set-up, Tack Sale drop off and Silent Auction drop off. *Pre-Ballroom*
3 pm Registration desk open *Pre-Ballroom*
5 pm Hors d-oeuvres compliments of AHDRA Ballroom
6:30 pm AHDRA Program and Awards *Ballroom*

Saturday, January 15

6 am Board of Directors Meeting *Ballroom 2*
7 am Registration Desk Open *Pre-Ballroom*
 9:30 am Are Your Knees Ready for the Ride Season?
Ballroom 1- Dr. Samantha Kobriger, Staff Physical Therapist, Mayo Clinic, Rochester

1 pm UMECRA ANNUAL MEETING *Ballroom 1*
5 pm Cocktail Hour *Pre-Ballroom*
6 pm MINNESOTA BUFFET - \$36.75
 Tossed field greens, assorted dressings; Fresh vegetable crudite; Fresh sliced fruit and berries; Farfalle pasta and vegetable salad; Ambrosia fruit salad; Broiled Salmon with cucumber-cilantro salsa Grilled Asian breast of chicken; Roast Sirloin of beef, Bordelaise; Herb roasted red potatoes; Sauteed fresh vegetables; Tiramisu torte; Chocolate bread pudding
CHILDRENS MENU
 Chicken Fingers, Fries, Fruit Cup -- \$11.30
7:30 pm Awards *Ballroom*
9:30 pm Casino *Ballroom 2*

Sunday, January 16

Sunday morning AHDRA Meeting *Ballroom*
 Dinner Buffet Menu

Please note that the Ballroom Rental Fee is included in the price of the meal; and there is no Convention Fee this year.

Please fill out the form below and return it to me by December 29 along with a check made out to UMECRA for your meal(s). Your check will be forwarded to Jill Feller.

There have been many people working on this year's convention, and we look forward to seeing you all in January.

Dianne Schmidt
 319 Summerfield Drive
 Eyota, MN 55934



The buffet is \$36.75 and the children's Menu is \$11.30	
ADULT NAMES	AMOUNT ENC
CHILDREN NAMES	

UMECRA

UPPER MIDWEST
ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDE
ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM



CIRCLE ONE:

- Single \$35 Family \$45 (hard copy newsletter and/or ride book for 2011)
- Single \$ 25 Family \$35 (electronic newsletter and CD for ride book for 2011)

NOTE: to receive the reduced rate membership, 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 MEMBERSHIP _____

Please include all names of family members. Juniors are riders who are 16 and under as of December 15 or previous year; identify which names are Junior riders. **Please PRINT clearly or you will not receive your newsletter and ride book!**

Date: _____ **PRINT CLEARLY** MEMBERSHIP YEAR: 20 _____

Names: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

The monthly Newsletter will be sent to you through email unless you have paid the higher membership fees.

Check this box if you do NOT want to receive a newsletter

The Spring 2011 ride book will be sent to you in CD format unless you have paid the higher membership fee.

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

CALLING ALL UMECRA MEMBERS...PAST AND PRESENT

As many of you know, UMECRA will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2012!!! In commemoration of this amazing event, we are putting together a video/photo presentation to be revealed at the 2012 convention. This presentation will feature photos, video clips, and recordings of past and present members and horses. In order for this to be possible, we need your help. Now that the weather is getting cooler, it's the perfect time to dig through that box of old and new pictures of rides, conventions, horses, and of camp side fun and submit them for the presentation. As a souvenir of the convention, this video will also be available for purchase, with all proceeds going towards UMECRA. So, dust off those pictures and send them in!! We can accept any form of photography or video including: hard/paper copies, cd/dvd, USB drives, JPEG images, video clips, etc. For all submissions, please include date, people pictured, location, and any comments pertaining to the certain event.

NOTE: If you have a photograph taken by a professional photographer, you MUST have an official release to print the picture from that photographer. We do have a release form if you need one.

So, you are saying that you don't have any pictures or video? I am also looking for handwritten/typed stories/memories of rides or the organization or just of what UMECRA has meant to you. Also, we need to spread the word to former riders and members to do the same and to start making plans to attend this grand event!

Deadline for submissions is August 15, 2011. Stay tuned to future newsletters on the progression of this project.

Please mail or email all submissions to:
Olivia Rudolphi
52 Pepperwood Ct
Glen Carbon, IL 62034
liv.rudolphi@gmail.com
314-660-6378

Doug Palme

For your convenience, if you are attending the 2011 convention in Minnesota, you may bring any submissions to Tony Troyer (the big red-headed cowboy with a big smile on his face).
Thank you and I hope to hear from all of you soon. - 2010 Convention Fund Raising Committee -

UMECRA Newsletter
c/o Peggy Pasillas
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Deadline for Next Newsletter:
5th of each month
Send news to:
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