

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



Thank You from Dr Dean! UMECRA Friends,

I concede! You win! I didn't think there was a situation that could render me totally speechless but you found it. The picture and award at the convention really did it. To explain; the picture painted of me and "Danny Boy" was taken when I was 11 yrs old. My father had been killed in a freaky farm accident the summer before and I was struggling. My grandfather (and kindred spirit in loving horses) took me to a horse sale in Winger, MN the summer I turned 11 and bought me a pretty Morgan cross colt. He paid \$75.00 and being unapologetically Irish, suggested we call him "Danny Boy". We were inseparable for the next 10 years. So;

1. I have not lost the use of my vocal cords. (Sorry!)
2. I would not have been able to say anything intelligible if I had tried to speak.
3. This is, for me, the most cherished award I have ever won.
4. From the bottom of my heart (yes Ken Meyer, I have one), Thank you very, very much!

Love you all!
Dr Dean



UMECRA MEMBERS:

The ride books/CDs will be sent out in late March or early April. Only UMECRA members who have paid for a 2011 membership will receive a ride book/CD. Please be sure to renew your membership before the ride books are mailed. Thank you.

Interested in FEI? AERC Has Made Some Changes!

AERC International has made a big change to the East Zone (this includes the entire NE region, parts of the MW region and most of the SE region).

The East time zone will be split in half, so many more riders will have the opportunity to ride in the international events but in order to be qualified for this year's North American event in September, new international riders will need to immediately start the process of getting themselves and horses eligible to participate in the FEI events.

Whether you want to ride international or not is your decision but for those who aspire to ride these types of events, now is the time to get prepared. Valerie Kanavy has written a step-by-step process that will make understanding it much easier. If this interests you at all please take the time to read the following that was written by Valerie.

Connie Caudill
AERC President

North American Team Challenge

Have you thought "someday" you might like to be part of a team and try riding International? It's never been easier than now.

The EAST time zone has now been split into North and South. This means that 24 riders from the East time zone will be allowed to compete and be part of a team at the North American Team Challenge in September, 2011. This is a whole new opportunity for our riders to show just how good we are. And, believe me we can do it!

I have been competing in International riding for many years. I know it can be intimidating but it doesn't have to be. My success is not because I have better horses but it's

because International riding requires long term planning – something I’ve learned to be good at.

Below I will list the steps necessary to have your horse ready and eligible to COMPETE at the NORTH AMERICAN TEAM CHALLENGE. Time is of the essence, but the steps below are not only doable – and you will even have a safety net for unexpected challenges. I will be glad to answer any questions, please email me:

vkanavy@shentel.net

1. **FLU SHOTS:** All horses must have a two-series flu shot which must be documented by your veterinarian. These two shots must be within a 90 day period no less than 21 days apart and completed at least 7 days prior to your first FEI ride. You must then give a flu booster (documented) every 6 months.

The first FEI ride Piney Pig is January 28-29. So give your first shot now ASAP and then the second shot 22+ days later but before January 20. For those of you who have already given your two-shot series make sure you have followed up with the 6 month booster.

2. **COGGINS:** Horses do not need a passport for an FEI one star ride (50 miles) but must have an identifying Coggins paper so when you draw the 2011 Coggins make sure markings and whorls are noted.

3. **FEES AND MEMBERSHIPS:** These must be paid before your first FEI ride.

- a) AERC
- b) AERC International - \$10
- c) USEF - \$55
- d) Rider Ranking list - \$50
- e) USEF annual horse registration - \$75 (will be applied to lifetime recording fee if you passport horse)
- f) FEI rider fee - \$15
- g) FEI horse fee - \$15

4. **COMPETING AT FEI ONE STAR LEVEL:** Horses are required to finish three AERC rides of 50 miles or two 50-mile rides and two 25-mile rides at a speed no greater than 10 mph before they can enter their first FEI one star (most of your horses already have this requirement – check AERC records).

5. **ALL HORSES AND RIDERS MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE FEI TWO STAR (75 MILE DIVISION) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE NORTH AMERICAN TEAM CHALLENGE.** Horses WILL need a passport to enter the two star (75 mile) ride. **PLAN ON 6 WEEKS TO GET THE FEI PASSPORT.**

- a) Lifetime recorded - \$200 (deduct \$75 annual registration fee so \$125)
- b) Passport fee - \$300

6. **RIDERS:** Riders will be selected to compete based on points they have earned on the rider ranking list. Points are earned by riders and can be attained different horses. Points are earned at FEI rides. Points are based on distance, placing and time

UMECRA Morning BOD Meeting

January 15, 2011

6:00 am

Rochester, MN

Call meeting to order at 6:00 am by President Rick Nelson. Present at the meeting: Nicole Mauser-Storer, Dianne Schmidt, Lynn Reichert, Max Bernsdorf, Robin Schadt, Julie Biegert- Jackson, Linda Mower, Bonnie Mielke, Jeanne Crispin, Theresa Meyer, Wayne Gastfield, Shelly Sentyrz, Peggy Garner, Marty Power, Wes Elford, Peggy Pasillas, Rick Nelson, Jill Feller.

Guests present: Elinore Tonsor, Tony Troyer, Mona Radtke, Dr. Robert Beecher and Chris Power
Secretary’s report: correction needed on the Novice division section of the November BOD meeting.

- 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. Correction: this should read: Riders, who rode Novice in 2010, will receive a coupon to receive \$10 off on a 2011 UMECRA membership. Novice riders in 2011 will not receive this coupon in their packets. Marty Power made motion to accept the minutes with the above correction, Maxine Bernsdorf seconded motion; motion passed.

Treasurer’s report: The Treasurer’s report was presented in the form of a balance sheet dated 12/31/10 and 1/8/11. Wayne Gastfield made a motion, Peggy Garner seconded to accept treasurers report as presented: motion passed.

Old Business:

- A. Brought forward from Fall BOD meeting:
 - A. 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. This proposal was discussed in the November meeting and was tabled until January. Theresa made some changes and represented the proposal. After some discussion, some more changes were made. Wes Elford made motion; Linda Mowrer seconded; motion passed to take following proposal to the General meeting.

5. REPORTING

A. 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. The UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer shall report to the UMECRA Board on rides with outstanding bills 21 days past the ride date. If results, ride fees, and/or insurance payments are not received within 30 days of the ride date, sanctioning for future rides, including rides in the same year may be forfeited, as determined by the UMECRA Board.

Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior)

B. Bylaws

ARTICLE III (By-law changes need a 2/3 vote to be approved)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 7. SECRETARY/TREASURER. The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all sessions of the Board of Directors and of all meetings of the members and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book kept for that purpose; and shall perform like duties for the standing committees when required. S/he shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or President, under whose supervision s/he shall be. S/he shall keep in safe custody the seal of the corporation, if any, and when authorized by the Board, affix the same to any instrument requiring it. S/he shall have the custody of the corporate funds and securities and shall keep full and accurate account of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the corporation and shall deposit all monies, and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the corporation, in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors. S/he shall disburse the funds of the corporation as may be ordered by the Board, taking the proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the President and Directors, at the regular meetings of the board, or whenever they may require it, an account of all her/his transactions as Secretary/Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. S/he shall give the corporation a bond if required by a majority of the Board of Directors, in such amount as they may determine, and with one or more sureties satisfactory to the Board, for the faithful performance of the duties of her/his office, and for the restoration to the corporation in case of her/his death, resignation, retirement or removal from office, of all books, papers, vouchers, money and other property, of whatever kind in her/his possession or under her/his control belonging to the corporation. Costs of such a bond shall be borne by the corporation. Due to its requirements and nature the position of Secretary-Treasurer may be filled by either a current Delegate or a current UMECRA Member with a minimum of three (3) years as a UMECRA Ride Manager.

Motion made by Wes Elford to accept this change: seconded by Marty Power; motion passed- will be presented at General meeting.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Section 5. OTHER POSITIONS An Executive Committee of the Board will nominate (a) proposed volunteer Newsletter Editor(s) for a two-year term, commencing in 1997. The Executive Committee will also nominate a proposed volunteer Sanctioning Director and a separate Points-Keeper for a two-year term commencing in 2004. The executive committee will appoint a volunteer webmaster for a two year term commencing January 2006. Commencing in 2012, the Sanctioning Coordinator and the Newsletter editor will be appointed to a two year term, these appointments will be made on even numbered years. Commencing in 2013 the Points Keeper and the Webmaster will be appointed to a two year term made in odd numbered years. The above shall be subject to an approval vote by a majority of the Board. The Newsletter Editor(s), Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Director and Webmaster shall be invited to attend all Board or committee meetings. Duties of these positions are as follow, but are not limited to:

Motion was made by Theresa Meyer, seconded by Julie Biegert-Jackson to accept this bylaw change; motion passed. Motion will be presented at annual meeting.

C. UMECRA & AERC- rules and changes

A rider wrote the UMECRA rules committee expressing concern about the inconsistency of rules being followed between states. There is a rule that UMECRA has that addresses this. The RM would need to get BOD approval to change the rules. The rule change must be approved by the BOD and then posted by the ride secretary at the ride. Rule change must be posted at least 12-hours before the ride to all riders to see.

Point of information from the rules committee:

GENERAL RULES – (Apply to both endurance and competitive rides)

Management Requirements

H. A ride committee may make variations to rules if changes are approved by the UMECRA Board of Directors. Any deviation from UMECRA Rules shall be advertised in an approved manner and posted at the ride secretary’s area.

And from AERC – their change wording.....

AERC - 6.2.1 The minimum criteria for the post-finish-line control check are as follows. The head control judge of any ride may adopt more stringent criteria, including the final pulse rate criteria, as part of the setting of the judging parameters under Rule 2.1.6.1.

Additionally, the ride manager may reduce the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion to not less than 30 minutes after an equine crosses the finish line. The ride manager shall preliminarily indicate the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion on the AERC ride sanction application. The ride manager may after consultation with the head control judge subsequently change the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate

criterion from the time indicated on the ride sanction application.

The AERC encourages each ride manager to set the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion, whether 30 minutes or an hour or some time in between, which the ride manager and head control judge believe to best suit the particular circumstances of the ride and protect the equines entered. Notice of any change in the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion and notice of any other more stringent criteria for the post-finish line control check must be provided to competitors by written notice posted in a conspicuous location at the ride camp at least 12 hours prior to the start of the ride and shall also be presented by the ride manager or head control judge at any pre-ride briefing or meeting.

6.2.1.1- AERC- 60 minutes for post ride check.

Riders may present their horse meeting criteria within the hour at their choosing. The inconsistency of this rule was communicated to AERC; AERC contacted the vet committee and Wes had to make some calls to investigate this issue. The RM needs to be sure that the vets at the ride follow the rules. A RM needs to approach the vet to discuss issues if the vet is not following the rules.

At a ride, a rider was prevented from presenting for completion because he/she was going to present for BC- the vet said he/she could not present until he/she was ready to present for BC. This is a violation of the AERC rule.

This is a point of education- no changes are needed.

AERC allows you to change the 60-minute final vet check- this must be posted also. AERC would like to know if you are using the 30-minute rule.

Competitive rides- in MI- there are no cards being used. The timer keeps track of time in and out.

Rulebook clarifications (there are presented to remind RM's they exist and are to be followed)

Competitive Rule

4. Veterinary requirements – judging competitive horses

B.2.b) There will be a minimum of two pulse and respiration readings scored during the day's ride, except for novice rides and competitive drives of 15 miles or less which may have one.

Addition to novice rules – point of clarification.

2) Novice rides must use the “window system” as follows: A novice rider may come in from 5 minutes before or up to 5 minutes after the exact scheduled time without losing points. One point per minute is lost for coming in before or after these limits, up to 55 minutes (a total of 55 points) without being disqualified.

Addition to competitive drive rules – point of clarification – general drive rules.

Competitive drives must use the “window system “ as follows: A driver may come in from 5 minutes before or up to 5 minutes after the exact scheduled time without losing points. One point per minute is lost for coming in before or after these limits, up to 55 minutes (a total of 55 points) without being disqualified.

Notice to members – riders & ride managers

New Business:

A. Insurance update: Jill has submitted the 2011 insurance application and information to our insurance company. There has been no price communicated at this time however UMECRA does not anticipate any cost increases. Jill Feller made a motion, Dianne Schmidt seconded motion to keep the insurance costs for UMECRA rides the same as in past years. UMECRA will pay ½ of the cost of each ride day's insurance and the rides are responsible for paying 100% of all additional insured costs. Motion passed.

B. ICF committee update

The new ICF committee was established in Spring of 2010 with Peggy Garner as the chair person. Tony Troyer presented some guidelines for the new committee. These guidelines include qualifications of riders and criteria to receive funds. The following guidelines were presented: ICF Guide Lines

- Guidelines will help to prevent favoritism when funds are asked for.
- Furnish a report to the BOD each year: with fund raising activity, money spent, etc.
- Must be a UMECRA member in good standing. What does good standing mean? Means- paid membership- will need to have ridden in UMECRA for the past 18-months.
- Must have a Pass Port on the horse.
- Request for funds are for 3* and 4* rides only. (3* rides are 100 mile rides and 4* rides are International rides...i.e. Pam American Games, World Games etc.)
- A Plan of Competition must be sent to the committee by Feb 1 of the year that funds are requested. Will there be a form sent to the requester with these questions?
- Plan must include what your intent is (which level or games) & your horse's current qualifications.
- Years riding in UMECRA and number of rides that you have attended in the past 18 months. Could this be a ride manager instead of a rider?
- There will be a min balance of \$1,500 in this account at all times.
- The Max pay out for any year will be \$2,500, with only \$500 granted to any one rider within that calendar year.
- For years in which more than 5 request are made from the ICF there will be a lottery held on a predetermined date at March BOD meeting. There will be 7 names drawn. The first 5 will be granted funds and the 6 & 7th names will be alternates. Could this create problems and/or hard feelings?
- If not qualified for 3* or 4* rides at the time of your request funds will not be granted until after said FEI qualifications are completed.
- If rider fails to be qualified within reasonable allotted time, the next rider chosen in the lottery will be granted the request.
- If the funds balance falls below the allocated amount of \$500 per request the amount of the money will be evenly divided to maintain the balance of the minimum of \$1,500. (example If the ICF has only a balance of

\$1,875 in the account each of the five request would be allotted \$75) [this is if I did my math correctly]

- Those requesting fund will have to ride a min of one ride and a maximum of 5 rides to receive the full \$500 (Payout's Per ride : 1 ride = \$100, 2 rides = \$200, 3 rides = \$300, 4 rides = \$400, and 5 rides = \$500 max per rider member) [this will require those that are outside the UMECRA area from only riding one ride and getting fully funded as in the past.. i.e. a rider member from TX or MO and only would ride one ride within UMECRA they can still receive funds, but not on the same level as one that is active within UMECRA rides.]
- All the names of those that requested funds will be in a report to the BOD with the 5 names (plus 2 alternate names) that have won in the lottery. The BOD must approve and the checks will be mailed out from Sec/Treas.

The FUND RAISING:

The auction will only bring in around \$125 for every \$1,000. This isn't much money... What I would like to do is sell 50/50 tickets on Fri & Sat nights of the convention. Maybe this could be one of the things our UMECRA FEI riders could help us out in doing? We could also get a basket of "stuff" and auction it off at the convention Sat evening...this could be a silent or a up front auction and covered or kept uncovered. Another auction item that would be good is a saddle bag auction...put items in a saddle bag (they get the saddle bags and its contents) no one can see what is inside the saddle bags...This has grown into a big fund raiser for a club down here; they put a bunch of cash and other small items in it like gift cert's.

Discussion was held on what 'member in good standing', how lottery process will work and other general discussions. UMECRA does have a current member asking for funds from the ICF fund. How should this request be handled?

These guidelines are a BOD decision. Marty Power: this makes good sense but needs some word changes. Guidelines will be cleaned up and sent out to the BOD for final approval. Once approved, the guidelines will be posted on the Website along with an application.

Make the qualifications so a minimum of 5 UMECRA rides are needed.

Peggy Garner made a motion to approve the conceptual idea of these guideline; Maxine Bernsdorf seconded the motion: motion passed.

How will fund raising be handled?

ICF committee needs to be revamped: Peggy Garner will be leaving us on the board as Past President and head of ICF committee. Need to form a committee to work together to get this finished.

Tony Troyer was appointed committee chair, Wes Elford, Julie Biegert-Jackson, and Lynn Reichert will remain on the committee. Tony will contact Julie Roe to see if she wants to stay on the committee also.

C. 2011 Ride Schedule:

Shelly Sentyrz (Sanctioning Coordinator- SC) presented some changes to the 2011 ride schedule. Because

of the way the calendar falls two rides fall on the same date that would normally fall on a different day.

MNDRA 1- want the first weekend in May: White River and Glacier Trails both fall this weekend also. Wayne has always had the first full weekend in May which is usually not Mother's Day; in 2011 the first weekend in May is Mother's Day. See Appendix A for more changes for 2011.

The current sanctioning guidelines state that if a ride is 500+ miles away from another ride on the same weekend, the SC does not need to contact the RM of the established ride.

DRAWARAMA and Pine Marten- are too close but they were both on the same weekend before the updated guidelines were established.

- Elinore presented some history for this situation as she was the SC at the time DRAWARMA was approved. DRAW had borrowed weekend from Mona; DRAW asked for the weekend for one year and since then they have said it was their weekend. The original ride opposite Pine Marten was at Prairie du Chien and the distance between rides was greater but when the ride moved to DRAW and the southern Kettles, the ride mileage moved closer.

Dead Dog Creek is moving because the trail is no longer open to Linda in May.

B. Shelly's idea to fix the ride schedule and prevent the doubling up of rides in future years: if we used the holidays, Memorial Day and Labor Day we will continue this issue. If we only use ONE of the holidays there will be years when weekends when a ride should be held that will not exist. (May of 2011 is a perfect example of this. Normally both White River Spring and MNDRA I fall on the first weekend in May; this year the first weekend in May is April 30 and May 1st which is not a full weekend in May. Both rides will move to the first weekend in May which is Mother's Day weekend and Glacier Trails). I propose we approve the schedule as is written for 2011, and then we take the calendar and apply the new rules with the oldest ride taking precedence for each weekend. If there are two or more rides on a weekend that are too close under the new rules; only the oldest existing ride would keep that weekend and other rides need to change dates or get permission from the existing RM to continue. Elinore stated that when she was SC she stated the calendar was out for 5-years- why didn't the RM's call each other in advance when they knew the May 2011 weekend would be an issue? MNDRA I, White River Spring and Glacier Trails RM's all had the opportunity to see this issue and discuss it before this meeting; none of the RM's called any of the others. Both MNDRA I and White River Spring RM's are fine with the three rides on this weekend in 2011: Glacier Trails RM is not.

Shelly would like to take this proposal to the RM at the annual meeting. The motion: The ride calendar for 2011 should remain as it is scheduled and then the SC and the BOD will go through the ride calendar before the spring 2011 BOD meeting and apply the new rules of 500 miles for each weekend. The oldest ride will be grandfathered into that weekend and the other rides will be requested to move unless the existing RM gives permission

for the other ride to exist. Wes Elford made a motion, Marty Power seconded. Motion passed.

Dianne Schmidt made a motion to accept the 2011 ride schedule as presented, seconded by Theresa Meyer; motion passed.

- D. Shelly results are compiled from the survey 86 people replied to the survey
Conclusions included:
- more time to visit with people
 - meet newer people and not have so many cliques
 - value of speakers - horse and people health are the most interesting
 - more efficient meetings- avoid arguing and disagreements

E. Eagle Library

The Eagle Library is putting on a community showcase and have approached Bonnie Mielke is she would like a booth to disseminate information on distance riding. The event is scheduled for March 26th. Bonnie is unable to man the booth but Dawn Haas has volunteered to work in it. Bonnie is requesting \$30 to pay for the reservation of the booth for this event. Motion made by Maxine Bernsdorf, seconded in by Peggy Garner to pay for the booth; motion passed.

F. MNDRA

Dianne Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Theresa Meyer to give \$250 for MNDRA to host a booth at the MN Horse Expo; motion passed.

G. Past- President position

Peggy Gardner is leaving as Past President due to her move out of the area. Linda Mower will move into the Past-President position and a new IL Director will be elected at the meeting today.

H. IL Horse Fair

Motion was made by Marty Power, seconded by Peggy Garner to pay \$250 for a demonstration at the IL Horse fair; motion passed. Mowers normally do the presentation but are unable to do it this year. Tony Troyer will be running the booth in 2011.

I. Novice Division and Membership Committee updates

Update on Novice committee

- Marty Power had asked for Novice rider information from 2010 rides. She has not gotten a good response.
- Theresa Meyer communicated that she spoke to Art (UMECRA's legal counsel) about novice riders. His suggestion is to hold a clinic in each state in the spring and advertise it well. During the clinic the Novice rules and a thorough overview of distance riding should be explained. Wisconsin holds an annual clinic; DRAW and ApDRA alternate years holding the clinic. Some of the other states do not hold an annual clinic.
- There will be handouts to all of the RM's to assist with the Novice riders; these handouts will be given in the ride manger's packets. These handouts were developed by the Novice and Membership committees.

Update on Mentor program

- This program is not used as well as it could be. Most riders may not know this is an option. Marty will put signup sheets out on each table during the annual meeting to see if more riders will sign up.

UMECRA discount for Novice riders; If this is well received for the 2010 Novice riders, it may be expanded into future years.

CHANGES for NOVICE

- Discussion: Some riders pull in to camp and unload a horse that may not have any conditioning done and they may ride too fast for the horse's condition. A chart of ride times was presented by Theresa Meyer to be used for Novice rides. This chart of time would put the maximum speed of the Novice ride at 5.5 mph. Theresa made a motion to accept these times and have them added into the Novice rules; seconded by Peggy Garner. A discussion followed saying that riding too slow during a Novice ride could give a false sense of the sport to new riders. Max Bernsdorf state: I have taken out many Novice rides; you usually go the speed of your slowest rider. You need to be aware of the riders and take care of issues if they develop. UMECRA/Novice rides should follow the Competitive rules already established by UMECRA. Motion failed.

Novice rides maximum at the end of the ride will be up to 55 minutes late before getting disqualified. The 25 minute disqualification rule developed by accident since the ride is 1/2 of a normal ride. Since the Novice rides follow the competitive rules the 55 minute rule needs to be followed. This is not a rule change but a clarification. This will be posted in both the Novice and the Driving rules.

Marty Power copied off the condensed Novice rules to be included in the RM's ride packets.

J. Convention Corridor

Dianne gave a presentation at the fall meeting about the geographic area of UMECRA. The midpoint is WI Dells but if we include the Dakotas in the ride area, the midpoint moves to Lacrosse, WI. Wes wanted more information on this as he missed the fall meeting and the presentation. Dr. Beecher commented that we should consider holding the convention in July at a ride site; we would probably have a large attendance. No action was taken on this subject.

K. Rider letter

Maxine Bernsdorf presented a letter from rider would like more awards for the LD riders. Since there is no weight division in LD, the rider would like to see some mileage awards given out for the next five riders under the award winner. A discussion followed. If you go down to riders under the top -ten, some of the miles are pretty insignificant to give awards to. No motion was give to this topic; no action was taken.

Motion made by Wayne Gastfield, seconded by Peggy Garner to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

APPENDIX A

Proposed Changes for 2011 UMECRA Ride Schedule
01/09/2011

Note: Several rides have dropped/added distances. See individual ride listings for changes.

Note: Several Ride Managers have expressed concern that their venues might be flooded this spring/summer. The Sanctioning Coordinator and Webmaster will work closely with Ride Managers to communicate site changes to membership.

- 1) MnDRA I has moved for one year to the first full weekend of May to avoid falling on the MN Horse Expo weekend. White River Spring is the first full weekend of May, this year May 7-8.
- 2) Iron Oak will be a Saturday-only ride this year, as Sunday is Easter.
- 3) AHDRA I – My Backyard – has moved to May 14-15 this year. It will find a more permanent home beginning next year, when it adopts the last weekend of April (YTBD).
- 4) Prairie Smoke and Dead Dog Creek have moved to the last week of June (25-26).
- 5) AHDRA I.5 - Zumbro Bottoms – has moved to the third week of July (23-24).
- 6) The Fort Mead Remount Pioneer ride in Sturgis, SD has been added the last weekend of July (29-31).
- 7) Oak Leaf Run has moved to the third week of October and changed to a 3-day ride (21-23).

Comments from Ride Managers regarding proposed schedule changes:

- Mona Radtke objects to MnDRA I and White River Spring being held May 7-8, as Glacier Trails is historically this date – Mother’s Day weekend – and is likely the second oldest ride on the schedule.
- Dennis Byard has requested Dead Dog Creek not be moved to the last week of June, the date of his Hopkins Creek ride.
- Kerry Gear requested her Fort Mead Remount Pioneer ride be newly sanctioned by UMECRA.
- Karen Bahrman has requested the DRAWarama ride be disallowed from the first weekend of October, the date of her Pine Marten Run ride.

2011 Election Results

Election Results for 2011

- V.P. – Theresa Meyer
- Secretary/Treasurer – Jill Feller
- IL. Director – Tony Troyer
- MI Director – Wayne Gaston
- Directors at large – Marty Powers, Lynn Reichert

Interested in Hosting A UMECRA Convention?

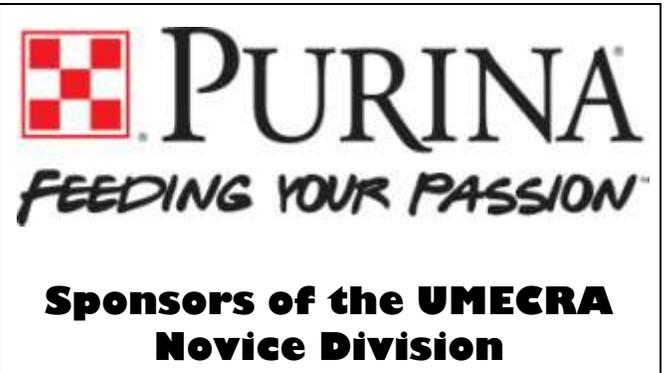
2012 – Rockford, IL – UMECRA 40th Anniversary!
2013 – Oconomowac, WI (proposed)
2014 – Open
2015 – Open – next out of corridor convention!
Bring your proposals to the Spring 2011 Board of Directors meeting!

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.



RIDERS CHOICE AWARD!!!

There were 7 exceptional horses nominated for Rider's Choice this year. And anyone at the convention would agree, picking a horse to place an X next two after reading the nominations was very difficult.

The nominees this year were:

- Von Prince Aka "Idgit" nominated by Rick Nelson,
- Chariotsofire NVF nominated by Holly Kemmis ,
- JA Bannarr nominated by Lori Windows
- EV Count Valentino nominated Roberta Harms,
- Barnabas nominated by Mary Fitch
- Lazers Legacy nominated by Laurie Brown
- SH Prince Soloman nominated by Jeanne Aslaksona

Lazer's Statistics:

9 Seasons

3,280 Total Miles

2,375 Endurance Miles

40 completions of 42 starts, 21 1st place finishes and 19

Best Conditions

6 100 Mile Events

905 Competitive Miles

It is an honor for me to nominate Lazers Legacy for 2010's Rider's Choice Award because he embodies a true distance competitor – athletic ability, dedication, and perseverance. To tell even a portion of Lazer's story correctly, you would need to hear from three riders – Darlene Molitor, Emily Stover, and me, Laurie Brown.

Darlene Molitor, who purchased Lazer having been trained in dressage, will tell you:

I am honored to have a horse that is being nominated for the Rider's Choice Award. When Lazer was a young horse never in my wildest dreams would I have thought it would have been him. Through the years, over and over he has not only proven to me but to others as well that he can do whatever it is that we ask of him.

My Farrier will tell the story of the day he Lazer arrived at our farm and how he knew from how Lazer was built and the look in his eye that I would buy him. Others will tell the story of how later on that day Lazer cracked some of my ribs and got me on the phone calling some of his previous trainers to try to find out what made Lazer so angry. It truly became a partnership of negotiation and as time went on I would see the anger less often.

Lazer also has a soft side that is easy to become attached to and mostly we will see it on the ground. He is a great horse to crew for because he is so much fun. At one of the 100's I was doing on Lazer I told the girls to let him eat whatever he wanted while I went to eat lunch myself. A few minutes later I came back to find him eating a peanut butter sandwich! They said it was what he wanted.

Over the years not only has he proven that he would be a good horse for me but for others as well. Emily Stover has ridden him successfully in Competitive rides. Laurie Brown had a very successful Endurance season on him in

2010. Elizabeth Klocker will take him trail riding on his break time between rides.

Lazer is by no means done running. But the way I see it whatever we get from here forward is icing on the cake. He came to me when I needed a horse most and has carried me through some tough times. Of that I am truly grateful.

It was fun for me this October when I was not competing myself to watch Laurie as she finished to 2-day 100 come cantering over the finish line with him the way he has with me so many times before. With the biggest smile you can imagine, Laurie said to me "not once did I have to ask him to go".

Thank you for your vote for Lazers Legacy for the Riders Choice Award.

Emily Stover rode Lazer for her first competitive seasons ever and she states:

For me, riding Lazer is always an adventure. I will never forget one of the first times I rode him. We were on a gravel road at home and decided to canter. I remember it feeling like we were not going very fast, but when I looked back I saw I was leaving the other riders in the dust! It was amazing to me at how effortlessly and powerfully he moved. I will say, having crewed for some of the Endurance rides that Darlene and Lazer competed in, I was a little intimidated when I began riding Lazer in some Competitive rides, because I knew how he could run and how he loved to win. However, through the seasons that I competed with Lazer I learned how versatile he really was. He had the passion and drive to win an Endurance ride, as well as the determination and focus to win a Competitive ride. I can truly say that I learned how to compete from Lazer. If I ever found myself worrying about riding on muddy, slippery, or difficult trails, it always seemed as though Lazer would say to me, "just stay up there, I've got this." With no other horse that I've competed on since Lazer have I been able to achieve consistent 8-1 pulse and respiration scores. He made 1st place and high point seem easy. I will forever admire who Lazer is as competitor and part of my life. He got me through some difficult times, and he has been there with me for some incredibly fun times. He taught me to strive for the best, believe in myself, and enjoy life for all it is. I am honored to be a part of his Legacy.

And for me, Laurie Brown, to get the opportunity to ride Lazer this year, my first Endurance season:

I have to admit I was excited and at the same time nervous, having heard of his 3:56 Charity Cup 50, among so many other 4 hour 50s. I have always admired Lazer's strength and speed, arriving at camp after a long loop and I am truly lucky to have had the opportunity to have him as my ride partner. Whether it is hours alone together competing or GeoCaching with friends, Lazer is always teaching me if I am listening. Lessons like never give up, even if you've been kicked in the knee by your buddy... Lessons like sometimes think more and sometimes think less, depending on the situation. Above all, be safe and have fun. And Lazer has given me Rookie of the Year in a season that would have meant not riding at all! What a gift! To me, that's Lazer's Legacy... his athleticism in diverse events

with unique riders, his tenacity in stress, his patience in teaching, his willingness to give...

Nominator's Name: Laurie Brown
Nominator's Phone: 320-309-8728
Nominator's Email: horses@charter.net

I wanted to extend a very heartfelt thank you to all of the UMECRA members that voted for Lazer for the Rider's Choice Award. When Laurie first mentioned it to me that she would like to nominate him it nearly made me cry and when they called me that he had won it did make me cry. My only regret is that I was not able to attend the banquet myself.

Again thank you all for voting for Lazers Legacy. It was an honor to have him win this award. My hope is that I will get to see many of you on the trail this summer.

Sincerely,

Darlene Molitor



39TH ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET

January 14-16, 2011

Marriott Hotel, Rochester, MN

Thank you to Robin Schadt and Deb Searle for helping me organize the Registration Table; and to Angie Mikkelson for putting the program booklet together.

Those attending this year's annual meeting were not disappointed. The meeting started on Friday evening with a competitive ride complete with stick horses and completion awards donated by ABC.

Angie Mikkelson chaired the tack swap; and was ably assisted during the weekend by Walt Frieberg. Over \$1000 worth of items were swapped and donated. Ten percent of the gross was donated to the UMECRA Convention Fund.

Peggy Pasillas chaired a very successful Silent Auction resulting in a gross income of \$2,648. This

is the first year that 50% of the income is donated to trails.

Lynn Reichert was instrumental in recruiting some great vendors; including Silvers Equestrian Outfitters, Dynamite Horse Products, a Massage Therapist and handcrafted items for you, your home and pets.

Dr. Samantha Kobriger's talk was entitled, "Are Your Knees Ready for the Ride Season?" Sam had the attendees out of their seats doing stretching exercises.

Dr. Dean Peterson was the recipient of the "UMECRA Hall of Fame" award this year.

The Minnesota Buffet on Saturday night was easily the best meal our group has ever been served at this event. Kudos to the Marriott's chef.

After awards there was a short break while the auction closed and "Las Vegas Tonight" was set up.

There truly was something for everyone at this convention. One-hundred and twenty-eight UMECRA people registered at the convention. This was the best attended meeting in five years.

Several of our members thanked me for having the meeting in the downtown area. They liked having walking access to the downtown shops.

Elizabeth Laurie volunteered to be the "Convention Photographer." Most of the pictures are posted on our website. Take a look at all the smiling faces ☐

The whole of Minnesota worked very hard this past year putting this meeting together. God bless you all!

Dianne Schmidt



2010 Senior Equine Award!

The winner of the 2010 UMECRA Senior Equine Award is **Honey**, owned 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.

Sharon Hahn

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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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)					

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.

** Empty Saddles **

Condolences to UMECRA member Barb Kurti on the recent loss of her mother (Carla Hamilton) who passed away on Dec 18th while traveling from Michigan to Florida. Services were held on Jan 21, 2011 on their 55th wedding anniversary.

Kathy Yates has passed away. As many people knew, she had been living with cancer these past several years and fighting the good fight. A few months ago it took a bad turn and this time she just couldn't hang on.

She had hoped all along that she would just be able to ride once more. "Buddy" her big, grey Arabian, came back to give her that ride, the morning of January 26th, 2011.

UMECRA SENIOR EQUINE AWARD

Time to nominate your equines that will turn 20 or older during the 2011 season - it's FREE! 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.

Description:

This annual award is given to the senior equine with the highest score (UMECRA points + UMECRA miles) in any combination of divisions (Endurance, LD, Competitive, Novice, and Driving) and with any number of riders. A senior equine is defined as one that is 20+ years of age prior to the end of the current ride season.

How to Qualify:

- The equine must complete at least 4 rides to be eligible.
- Compete the Senior Equine Nomination Form and send it to Sharon Hahn as indicated below.
- Equine must be nominated prior to the last ride of that year.

There is no nomination fee.

You are only required to nominate each equine once in their lifetime.

A nomination must include proof that the equine is/will be 20+ yrs of age prior to end of the current ride season (copy of registration papers for registered animals. Unregistered animals may submit vet letter, breeder letter, old competition records, or any other reasonable proof of age.)

Send equine's name, any nickname s/he competes under, your name, and proof of age to:

Sharon Hahn, 22175 Cedar Dr. NW, Oak Grove, MN 55011 email: sharon.hahn@usa.com

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 Trober (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 -

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



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