

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



“Always find opportunities to make someone smile, and to offer random acts of kindness in everyday life.” – Roy T Bennett

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Do you have old newsletters?

Do you have a box, drawer, 3-ring binder with old UMECRA newsletters? I'm in search of old newsletters, 2003 and earlier. If you have some, please contact:

Theresa Meyer thmeyer753@gmail.com

Looking for final point standings? Go to UMECRA.com to see the 2024 year end awards.

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Convention is for everyone!

It doesn't matter if you are getting an award or not – convention is a great place to catch up with your ride friends and meet new people! We have an amazing speaker – check out her bio - so you have the opportunity to learn new things too. Did I mention the silent auction? So many creative, fun and useful items to bid on!

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New Technology Committee.

The UMECRA BoD is creating a Technology Committee and we're

looking for UMECRA members who would like to join this team. Ideally, you'd be a self-described techy geek interested in helping us with a few upcoming projects including website, data automation, and other fun things that might make things easier for the organization, its ride managers, and its members. Ideally, we're looking to meet once/month via zoom. If you're interested, please reach out to Deb Moe at debralmoe@gmail.com.

Treasurer Position Update During the recent April BoD meeting, we appointed an interim treasurer, Janet Cram, to replace Deb Moe. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, Janet is no longer able to continue. Therefore, Deb will resume as Treasurer. Please mail checks to:

Deb Moe - Treasurer
2632 County Road G
Emerald, WI 54013. With the recent upgrade to Quickbooks online, several enhancements will be implemented to cut down on the manual entry of data. Additionally, Janet will continue to assist Deb with certain bookkeeping tasks. Thank you for your patience during these transitions. Clinic Insurance
If you are considering putting on a clinic in 2025 and would like UMECRA insurance, the Board has approved a 100% subsidy of your insurance costs if

the request for insurance is received by January 30th, 2025. If you apply after that date, UMECRA will contribute \$22.50 toward the costs which are \$45/day for the event and \$20 for each additional insured required. Please email Deb (debralmoe@gmail.com) for instructions on how to apply for Clinic Insurance. Ride Manager

Resources: <https://payumecra.com/ridemanager>

Thank you to the ride managers who adopted using the Ride Manager Resources page on the payumecra.com website to retrieve the insurance certificates and insurance fees. In addition to insurance information, you can find links to submit your ride flyer, submit your Annual Meeting Delegate information, links to the sanctioning rules and handbook, a ride manager checklist and more. We plan to continue to use this tool. If you encounter issues using it, please reach out to Deb Moe for assistance.

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The Rule Box

Per UMECRA Rules:
SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS
2. UMECRA RULES

D. Ride managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator at least seven (7) days before the annual meeting; otherwise, they will receive the same mileage as the previous year. Corrections and/or adjustments can be made during the annual meeting before voting to approve the schedule. (2017) E. The names of official delegates to the annual meeting must be submitted in writing or orally to the UMECRA Secretary prior to the meeting (cut-off date to be announced).

(2017)(2020) F. Once the schedule is finalized at the annual meeting, no new rides may be scheduled except with Board and ride manager approval via electronic ballot with a majority of 2/3rds of the managers responding within ten (10) calendar days. (One vote per ride). Rides seeking approval by Board vote must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) Be proposed for an open date
- 2) Be 501 miles or more from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com)
- 3) If less than 501 miles from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com), have written approval of those ride manager(s)

G. Changes to a scheduled ride must be submitted to the Sanctioning Coordinator for Board approval 60 days in advance of the ride start date or to the Executive Board for their approval or as early as possible in emergency situations. Sanctioning votes by the Board can be taken via email. Members without email will be contacted by the UMECRA President.

H. New rides will be given priority in order of application. The \$10 surcharge for new rides will be in effect.

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Elections!

Are you interested in serving on the UMECRA Board of Directors? The board meets three times a year in person (November/January/April) and is active on group email throughout the year. The following positions are up for election in January 2025. Each of these positions would serve two years.

2025 Open Positions

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Illinois Director at Large (must be a ride manager in Illinois)
- Michigan Director at Large (must be a ride manager in Michigan)
- Director at Large
- Director at Large

If you are interested in any of the open positions, please write up a description of

yourself and why you want to serve. Nominations can come from the convention floor or can be submitted in advance by email to the UMECRA Secretary, Janet Sarver at jsarver662@gmail.com. Deadline is January 10, 2025.

Voting Delegates Needed

2024 Ride Managers – each sanctioned ride must have voting delegates declared before the UMECRA annual meeting on January 18, 2025. Please provide the names to Janet Sarver, UMECRA Secretary, at jsarver662@gmail.com by Jan 10th, 2025.

Awards Nominations are open!

UMECRA Senior Equine Award - This award honors the equine 20 years of age and older that accrues the highest number of points plus miles during the season.

- The equine may compete in multiple divisions (endurance, limited distance, competitive, novice, driving) and with any number of riders.
- The equine must complete at least 4 rides to be eligible.
- Owners must nominate their equine by sending the form (found on the UMECRA.com award page) to Points Keeper Amber Davis at Ajdavis.aussies@gmail.com. The form must be accompanied by proof of age (registration papers or vet letter or other evidence for unregistered animals).
- There is no fee to nominate and the nomination carries over from year to year.

UMECRA Riders Choice Award

This award is presented annually at the UMECRA Convention by attending members. The guidelines to be considered when nominating and voting for a horse for this honor are:

- A horse with superior ability in its division
- A horse that has been a consistent competitor
- A horse that has shown its ability to overcome setbacks
- A horse the nominator feels is a superior representative of the "Distance Horse"

Please send a write up and a photo of a horse you want to nominate to the UMECRA Secretary, Janet Sarver at

jsarver662@gmail.com. The due date for nominations is January 10, 2025.

Hey Ride Managers – time to start thinking about your voting delegates! You will need to use the link below to submit your rides voting delegates at the convention in January. Here's a direct link that'll drop folks right to that spot on the page:

<https://payumecra.com/ridemangers#delegates>



**Happy
Holidays
from your
UMECRA
Board!**

UMECRA Convention

2025 Convention – January 17-19, 2025

Holiday Inn & Suites Madison West, 1109
Fourier Dr, Madison, WI 53717

Be sure to use the Booking Code "UMECRA" to count towards the total room count - if the total is not reached UMECRA is responsible for room costs and this can be avoided by using the code when booking your room.

2025 Convention Awards Banquet - Registration is Open. Deadline to register is January 7, 2024

Please go to payumecra.com/fees to register. When the form launches, answer *No* to the first question "Are you paying for your membership?".

For any issues submitting the form, please reach out to Deb Moe. For questions regarding the convention itself or banquet meals, please reach out to Kim Fosler.

Banquet Choices*

All meals (except kids meals) include a mixed green salad and rolls with butter.

- **Sirloin Steak (\$33).** 8 oz USDA grade sirloin steak, quartered seasoned potatoes, green beans.
- **Baked Parmesan Chicken (\$29).** Chicken breast quartered with a parmesan seasoned blend, quartered seasoned potatoes, green beans.
- **Veggie Stir Fry (\$27).** Gluten Free/Vegan/Vegetarian. Stir fried vegetables array served over a bed of rice.
- **Kids Meal (\$19).** Chicken tenders & fries served with a fruit cup and milk.
- **No Meal Attendee (\$10).** Anyone not purchasing a meal who attends the morning seminar and/or afternoon meeting will be assessed \$10 to help cover room & audio rental fees.

* We are not able to refund meals purchased if you are not able to attend.

CONVENTION SPEAKER:

JESSICA VAN BUSKIRK, OSTEOPATH

Jessica is an Equine Osteopath EDO based out of Stavely, AB. She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan, attaining her Bachelors of Science in Agriculture in 2016, and from there pursued her education in Equine Osteopathy. She graduated from the Vluggen Institute of Equine Osteopathy and Education in Garwood, TX in 2019.

Jessica has had a passion for horses from a very young age, and always wanted to work in the animal health and wellness field. As an Equine Osteopath EDO, her goal with each horse is to restore balance and homeostasis in the body by drawing from the horse's own reserves and addressing the mobility of all structures in the body. Equine Osteopathy is a manual therapy that involves a whole horse approach and searching for the root problem.

She thoroughly enjoys working alongside Dr. Fancy and her staff as she believes it truly takes a team effort to help horses live and perform to their highest potential. Jessica is currently working on attaining her Canine Osteopathy Diploma and is always looking to expand her knowledge in the field.

When Jessica is not busy helping horses, she enjoys riding and barrel racing, as well as spending time with her family.

Definition of Equine Osteopathy: a drug-free, manual therapy that aims to improve the mobility and function of the horse's musculoskeletal system. It is a holistic approach that involves an understanding of the problem and its causes.

Don't forget to bring something for the silent auction! Gift baskets, handmade items, crew for someone at a ride – get creative! This is a fund raiser for UMECRA trail and scholarship funds!

UMECRA Newsletter
 c/o Peggy Pasillas
 9928 Rich Valley Blvd
 Inver Grove Hgts, MN 55077
www.UMECRA.com

Deadline for Next Newsletter:
 10th of each month
 Send news to:
UMECRAnews@gmail.com



President – Robin Schadt 7342 W 115th St Worth, IL 60482 708.280.8241 robinschadt@aol.com	Regional Director at Large IL Nicole Mauser-Storer 201 S Cameron Lane Bartonville, IL 61607 618.8686.2999 n.mauserstorer@outlook.com	Sanctioning Coordinator Theresa Meyer 3028 181st Ave NW Cedar, MN 55011 612.804.4593 tmeyer753@gmail.com	Website Editor Nicole Mauser-Storer 201 S Cameron Lane Bartonville, IL 61607 309-258-9234 n.mauserstorer@outlook.com
Vice President – Peggy Pasillas 9928 Rich Valley Blvd Inver Grove Hgts, MN 55077 651.353.7959 peggy@pasillas.net	Regional Director at Large MI Karen Jarvie 23748 Highway Loc Rd Calumet, MI 49913 906.370.2950 Kjarvi0914@gmail.com	Newsletter Editor Peggy Pasillas 9928 Rich Valley Blvd Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077 651.353.7959 peggy@pasillas.net UMECRAnews@gmail.com	Rider Representative Sherry Aune W4099 Palmer Rd. Lake Geneva, WI 53147 262-215-2035 aunesherry@hotmail.com
Secretary – Janet Sarver 5670 Foxboro Lane Wyoming, MN 55092 651.270.0961 jsarver662@gmail.com	Regional Director at Large MN Sarah Maass 6063 State Hwy 4 Fairfax, MN 55332 505.340.7859 Sarhmaass@hotmail.com	Director at Large Emily Schupp 3170 180th Street Muscatine, IA 52761 563-320-7999 Emilyschupp46@yahoo.com	Rider Representative Crystal Esquada 48312 190 th St Madelia, MN 56062 507-382-3019 sillystella@hotmail.com
Points Keeper Amber Davis 1587 Hwy G 76 Knoxville, IA 50138 641.218.9553 Ajdavis.aussies@gmail.com	Regional Director at Large WI Barb Gardner N3758 Dehring Road Oakfield, WI 53065 920.291.5641 barb@doublebarallc.com	Director at Large Theresa Meyer 3028 181st Ave NW Cedar, MN 55011 612.804.4593 tmeyer753@gmail.com	Rider Representative Debby Wiesbecker 821 Franklin Ave Winthrop Harbor, IL 708.421.0730 debbyaw21@comcast.net
Treasurer – Janet Cram PO Box 553 Fairfax, MN 55332 605.690.0634 janet@twocentsaccounting.com	AERC Regional Reps Connie Caudill – Ride Sanctioning 812.967.5973 Maureen Fehrs	Veterinary Representative Alana McNutt, DVM 897 Store Mill Rd Tipton, IA 52772 mcnuttdvm@gmail.com	Rider Representative Kim Fosler 7898 N Carr Road Scales Mound, IL 60175 815.266.8336 kimberlyfosler@gmail.com