

TRAIL MARKERS

Official Newsletter of the
Texas Endurance Riders Association

Volume 6, Issue 3

Summer, 2007

TERA RIDE MANAGERS CLINIC - 2007

Saturday, August 18

10:00 am - 4:00 pm (Join us at 9:00 am for coffee and donuts)

Parrie Haynes Ranch, Equestrian Center

201 Gann Branch Rd.

Killeen, TX 76549

254-554-3970

For Directions: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/phr/directions.phtml

To get to the Equestrian Center from the general directions: After you turn onto Maxdale Rd., you will go straight past the main entrance to Parrie Haynes. Keep going straight about 3 miles. Turn left to the Equestrian Center. There will be a sign. Please join us on Saturday, August 18, 2007, at Parrie Haynes Ranch to learn everything you ever wanted to know about being a TERA Ride Manager. This event is guaranteed to be fun and informative. We will provide coffee and donuts in the morning. At lunch, TERA will provide a lunch meal. TERA will also pay your camping fee, so feel free to bring your horse and trailer and camp overnight on Saturday night. You can ride the trails at Parrie Haynes Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

Please RSVP no later than July 10 with Ann Goolsby at eagooolsby@aol.com or 214-244-5483 (cell) 940-964-2655 (home). We need an accurate count of attendees in order to reserve the correct number of camping sites. Electric hook-ups and water are available.

TERA Fall Meeting Rescheduled!!

Due to flood conditions that, unfortunately, required the cancellation of both Old Glory and the Spring TERA membership meeting, the Board has decided to hold that membership meeting on August 18, in conjunction with the Ride Manager's Clinic, above. The membership meeting will be held after the clinic. You can come ride for the day and make the meeting! Please make plans to join us for one or both events! More information will be available on the website as well as our yahoo group, Texas_Endurance_Riders (link provided on the website).

TERA Year End Awards Program

All award recipients must be TERA members in good standing for the year for which the awards are being given. Awards are figured based on TERA sponsored rides only. Limited Distance and Endurance miles are calculated as separate mileages.

Overall High Mileage Rider is based on the mileage completed by one rider riding any number of equines.

Overall High Mileage Horse is based on the mileage completed by one equine with any number of riders.

The following awards are based on the mileage completed by one rider riding one equine:

Limited Distance High Mileage High Mileage Featherweight High Mileage Lightweight High Mileage Middleweight High Mileage Heavyweight High Mileage Junior

High Mileage Husband/Wife award is given to the couple with the most combined mileage ridden.

High Mileage Family award is based on the total miles ridden by two or more family members.

The following awards do not have to be given every year. These recipients are chosen by the Board of Directors and Officers

People

1994 – Linda & Bo Parrish
1995 – Darolyn Butler / Pat French
1996 – Ann Pfeiffer
1998 – Sylvia & David Fant

based on the following criteria:

Rookie Rider of the Year

New to the sport, may be endurance and/or limited distance; number of completions; positive attitude; seeking knowledge of the sport; overall contribution to the sport; and improvement/progression.

Volunteer of the Year

Support at TERA rides; contribution to TERA, riders, and equines; number of rides attended; positive feedback from riders, managers and other volunteers; support/promotion of the sport. Rider or non-rider.

Veterinarian of the Year

Contribution to TERA, TERA members and equines; number of TERA rides vetted; positive feedback from riders, managers, animals and volunteers, support/promotion of the sport; seeking knowledge and improvement in skills related to the sport, encouragement/education to riders, participants, one-time spectacular contribution (saving animal/human life, etc.)

Ride Manager of the Year

Safe, well-marked trail; superior organization—camp, registration, P/R and vet checks, availability of professional emergency personnel and equipment,

Equines:

1994 – “Uno” - owned by Darolyn Butler
1995 – “Spider” - owned by Jenny Simpson
1996 – Kash – owned by Bobbie Barber

general flow of things, etc; level of commitment—extra events, unique prizes, more than one ride, attendance at ride manager clinics; adequate vet staff—number of vets per riders, introduction & preparation of new vets; overall—sizable ride, new riders, and positive feedback.

Horse and Rider of the Year

TERA member & equine, but not limited to TERA events only, spectacular achievement, may be any distance; embodies spirit of AERC “To Finish Is To Win!” in relationship of mount and rider—concern of horse foremost; competitive but fair & honest.

Hall of Fame Person

Longterm contribution to sport; best exemplifies “To Finish Is To Win!”. Person must also have been officer, director, ride manager, regular volunteer, regular vet, etc. – someone who has given to the sport and TERA; does not have to be a rider.

Hall of Fame Equine

Cumulative lifetime achievement. Perhaps has overcome adversity and continued on. The horse people remember and talk about.

Trail Markers is published quarterly.
Deadline for the next issue is **September 1.**

Wanna be published?
Get it in!

Trail Etiquette: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Donna L. Nicholson

The year of 2007 has become a time of hustle and bustle, time constraints, economic stressors, mean demeanors, road rage, non-sportsmanship like conduct, rude behaviors and many other stressors of unknown proportions. These are behaviors that most of us find distasteful and often shake our head thinking, "How could a human being act like that?" Now, I don't mean to say there are not wonderful individuals out there that make our plight in life most rewarding. My hat goes off to you that demonstrate good etiquette, but those of who don't bring me to write this article.

Before, I go over some of these unpleasant behaviors that have been graciously been brought to my attention, let's review some very basic endurance/ trail etiquette. I'm sure there are many more you could come up with, but these are a few:

1. When on trail and someone asks to pass, wait until it is safe for everyone, move to the side and allow the rider to pass.
2. Keep at least one horse length behind the horse in front of you. Do not run up on someone.
3. Honor all ribbons placed on horses tails: Red- kicking horse, Yellow- stallion, Green-New Rider
4. When a horse and rider are at a drinking spot, do not leave or pass without asking your fellow rider if you may do so.
5. If someone is off their horse, slow down and ask if you can be of assistance.
6. When camping, be mindful of your neighbors and their horses.
7. Do not gallop up on horses, especially if it is a new rider or young horse.
8. Be watchful of other riders and if they are having problems with their horse, try to help.

Now that we have addressed how we *should* act, I want to relate some examples that are rude and crude, and have been cited to me by other riders. If you see yourself in these descriptions, I would suggest some change and improvements. First, there are some riders that have become trail hogs. They (two or more) block the trail and will not allow other riders to pass, even after they have asked politely for the trail. What is that about? Does getting one or two placements ahead mean that much to you? Remember our motto, "To Finish is To Win."

What about the rider that who almost runs over you and your horse with no consideration for a first time rider or someone on an inexperienced horse? The horse is jumping all around making the horse difficult to control and making the rider nervous which already adds to the situation of a possible wreck.

Here it is 90+ degrees and you are at a ride and trying to get your horse to drink and a rider goes by, initiating the instinct to go with the herd and your horse won't drink again. Consequently you get pulled at the next vet check for metabolic reasons. Don't we all want to complete with our horses in good shape?

Another incident most recently told to me was that a crew and crew truck were parked at a turn and the approaching rider could not see the ribbons for the turn. Consequently, the rider went past the turn one mile before she realized she was not on correct trail. When she turned around and went back the crew and truck were still there and didn't offer to say a word! How rude can that be? Come to find out they weren't even riding the same distance!

What about your inconsiderate neighbor who runs their generator most of the day and most of the night? The generator is so loud you can hardly hear yourself think and your poor horse is stressed and cannot relax due to the noise. You may think "well the non generator person move somewhere else", but as fate would have it the generator was not running when you set up camp, and who wants to pull up camp and move? Yes, we all understand you paid good money for that generator, but cool your trailer down and turn it off, if you need that much power stay at home!

My impression is that we all passionate about this sport, our horses, and a lot of us use these weekends as a time to rejuvenate, spend time with friends, see beautiful trails, enjoy the quiet and most of all spend time with our beloved horses. Let's all try to enjoy our sport, and treat each other with respect, and leave all that other ugly behavior somewhere else.

2007 TERA & Central Region Ride Calendar

June 9 — Ride 'Em Cowboys 25/50

Lake Carl Blackwell, Stillwater, OK
Alexis Jones 918-809-9527
8110 W 480, Pryor, OK 74361

July 28—Mid-Summer Night's Madness 25/50

Clayton, OK
Katrina Mosshammer 405-590-3425
ammosshammer@hotmail.com
10941 Cherokee Way, Lexington, OK 73051

Sept 01—Unicorn Hunt I 25/50/100

Davy Crockett National Forest
David J. Fant 936-655-4048
sfant@possumwalkfarms.com
3901 North Possum Walk Road, Kennard, TX 75847

Sept 02—Unicorn Hunt II 25/50

Davy Crockett National Forest
David J. Fant 936-655-4048
sfant@possumwalkfarms.com
3901 North Possum Walk Road, Kennard, TX 75847

Sept 15—Movin On Up 50

Okmulgee Game Management
Area Louise Burton
firedancefarms@prodigy.net
5220 Honey Creek Rd, Okmulgee, OK 74447

Sept 22—Llano Estacado Challenge I 25/50

Lake Merideth Rec Area, North of Amarillo TX
Doug Blashill
d.blashill@worldnet.att.net
8580 Haines St., Amarillo, TX 79118

Sept 23— Llano Estacado Challenge II 25/50

Lake Merideth Rec Area, North of Amarillo TX
Doug Blashill
d.blashill@worldnet.att.net
8580 Haines St., Amarillo, TX 79118

Oct 6—Indian Territory Elevator Ride 25/50

Blue Creek Campground, Lake Oologah, OK
Susan Young 918-683-0539
glenn218@yahoo.com
2311 Dayton St, Muskogee, OK 74403

Oct 19— LNB 25/50

Davy Crockett National Forest, Kennard, TX
Bo Parish
lindapparab@valornet.com
2222 County Rd 4625, Kennard, TX 75847

Oct 20 — Armadillo 25/50/100

Davy Crockett National Forest, Kennard, TX
Bo Parish
lindapparab@valornet.com
2222 County Rd 4625, Kennard, TX 75847

Nov 3 — Bell Cow Boogie 30/50

Bell Cow Lake, Chandler, OK
Carol B. Barker 405-258-5383
rideatbellcow@yahoo.com

Nov 10 — Road Warrior I 50

SW of Canton, TX
Edie Booth 903-848-9425
PO Box 224, Canton, TX 75103

Nov 11 — Road Warrior II 30/50

SW of Canton, TX
Edie Booth 903-848-9425
PO Box 224, Canton, TX 75103

Nov 23 — Eagle Ranch Final Fling I 25/50

Eagle Ranch, Collins, MO
Winnie Clutter 573-377-2585
21612 Hwy FF, Stover, MO 65078

Nov 24 — Eagle Ranch Final Fling II 25/50

Eagle Ranch, Collins, MO
Winnie Clutter 573-377-2585
21612 Hwy FF, Stover, MO 65078

Nov 23 — Lone Star I 25/50

Hill Country State Natural Area, Bandera, TX
Debbie Allen 281-431-2993
adiamond2@ev1.net
7821 County Road 383, Rosharon, TX 77583

Nov 24 — Lone Star II 25/50

Hill Country State Natural Area, Bandera, TX
Debbie Allen 281-431-2993
adiamond2@ev1.net
7821 County Road 383, Rosharon, TX 77583

www.texasenduranceriders.org

www.aerccentralregion.org

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