



# 2017 NATRC National Convention

Come down South to Chattanooga, Tennessee to celebrate 56 years of superior competitive distance riding with the North American Trail Ride Conference. The focus for the weekend is two-fold: Friday is fun and fellowship, while Saturday will be a more serious day of focusing on the **“Mind, Body, and Soul” of the NATRC rider.**

## **Friday, February 17 - Fun!**

Morning: The day begins with stories written by Angie McGhee from her book *“The Lighter Side of Endurance Riding”*. The hilarious similarities between our two sports make for a great start to the day. After a short break, the six regions of NATRC will compete in Equine Jeopardy. Marty Findley and Debbie Jones will provide the entertainment and award the prizes.

12:30 - 4:30: Chattanooga Sightseeing Excursions - choose one of two - or just visit and socialize in the hotel.

*Lookout Mountain Trip*

Ride **“The Incline”** up Lookout Mountain  
Visit Point Park, National Military Park with guide  
Then **“Ruby Falls”** guided trip  
Cost: around \$60 including transportation

*Downtown Chattanooga*

Begin with the Aquarium (the central location), then choose to visit Ice on the Landing (seasonal), Hunter Museum of Art, walk along and across the Tennessee River on the famous Walnut Street Bridge to great shopping and restaurants on the North Shore.  
Cost for this trip (excluding the Aquarium tickets) is about \$20.

Evening: In the hotel join Jean Abernethy for *The Life and Times of the World’s Most Popular Cartoon Equine, Fergus, and his adventures* at his first NATRC ride. Then relax with Region 5 on the patio for refreshments and Old Time Mountain Music with The Trail Buddies.

## **Saturday, February 18 - Focus!**

Morning: Seminars

**“Through The Eyes Of An Equestrian”**, Becky Pearman of Smugmug Photography: Becky has been photographing equine events for over 20 years. Her experience shows through when we are fortunate enough to have her come to our NATRC competitions. As the official photographer for the World Equestrian Conference in France in 2014, she shares some of her tips and suggestions for taking photographs of our equine partners.

**“The Riding Doctor”**, Beth Glosten, MD author of **“The Riding Doctor”**: A prescription for healthy, balanced, beautiful riding, now and for years to come. The exercises and stretches presented will be valuable, but most impressive is what she stresses as Mental Focus. **“Come to the ride prepared to fulfill your role as your horse’s leader (benevolent alpha) prepared to commit positive and unwavering attention to the job at hand. It means that you recognize the importance of the practice-continuous awareness of our body position and your horse’s movements.”** We’ll have chairs, exercise balls, balance platforms and bands available for participation in hands-on demonstrations.

**“Wrapping Your Mind Around Trail Obstacles”**, Cheri Jeffcoat, Horsemanship Judge, 2010 President’s Cup, NATRC Past President : Cheri continues to instruct riders through clinics in Tennessee and Alabama following her move to Region 5 in 2016. In her topic, she shares the technique of controlling your mental and physical approach to performing trail obstacles (opportunities) during competition. She may give you some additional pointers to practice with your horse at home to create a smooth transition throughout the **“opportunity.”**

**“Don’t Lose Your Mind In A Crisis”**, Andrew Murray, Captain of the East Rome Fire Dept., NATRC Competitor and Board Member: Andrew also works for the City of Oak Ridge Fire Department Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. His topic could make the difference between saving your horse (and preventing permanent injury) or doing further damage in an emergency.

Afternoon (3:15): Video Presentation - **“The Legacy of NATRC”**, a showcase of the history of NATRC through video.

Evening: The National Awards Banquet and Ceremony highlighting all of the amazing accomplishments of our members and their equine partners, plus the Riding Warehouse Gift Certificates’ raffle drawing.

## **Sunday, February 19 - Region 5!**

Morning: Region 5 Awards Ceremony - a wonderful celebration of the accomplishments of those competing in Region 5.

**Visit [www.natrcnc.com](http://www.natrcnc.com) for Hotel Reservations AND Event Registration**