

## National Board of Directors Meeting Summary, Denver, CO February 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER by Kim Cowart, 8 a.m., February 21, 2013.

ROLL CALL. Dieterich, Meroshnekoff, Walls, DeMattei, Sims, Peters, Winterrowd, Swiss, Cowart, Clayton, Lindsey and Rinne present. Laurie DiNatale, Executive Administrator, and Patsy Conner, Sanction Chair and Judges Committee Co-Chair, present. Guests: Erin Glassman, Kathryn Lewandowsky, Laurie Knuutila, Jonni Jewell, Judy Mason and Sharon Roper.

MINUTES. November 10, 2012. Call for corrections. **Walls moved to accept minutes, Lindsey seconded. Motion approved.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Cowart had sent emails to the BOD before the meeting outlining his test for issues and whether they are worthwhile pursuing. From Email:

I have a "question test" for myself, and encourage you to use it also. When considering any proposal to "change" something---whether a rule, wording, or a whole new tactic for preserving NATRC, I ask myself the following:

- 1). Does this change **fundamentally alter** the nature of our sport and/or diminish our well thought out mission and philosophy? If the answer is yes, then I would encourage us to try harder for another solution.
- 2). If the answer to number 1 is *no*, then I ask "**why be reluctant to discuss it?**". "**why not give it a try?**". If this could help NATRC then how can we possibly lose by correcting a problem or trying a new direction *as long as we are preserving the integrity our sport?* This is, after all, our job.
- 3). Am I maintaining my focus on the big picture of NATRC's future?

Cowart has studied Roberts Rules regarding the President's actions on a BOD of our size. He feels it is permissible for him to discuss and vote on issues, and intends to do so.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT. DiNatale is in the middle of renewal process and will give firm membership numbers in July.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT. Swiss reviewed her report. 2012 was a very good year financially. This is the result of some tough decisions made by the BOD in recent years. Our revenue is up. Expenses are down. The *Hoof Print* expenses have been reduced by 60%. NATRC had a profit of \$1,672 in 2012.

BY-LAWS & RULES. Lory Walls See Rules Report.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. Dieterich. Two new items have been added to the P&P.

PROTEST. Clayton. No current Protests.

PLANNED GIVING. Cowart and Swiss. There are two separate components of campaign. Capital Campaign and Planned Giving. There are many valuable areas that could be funded. But we need specific programs with executable plans under time frames. Planned Giving is raising awareness for pre-planning gifts to NATRC. These can be in lieu of flowers at a person's death, or through more elaborate estate planning.

RIDE SANCTION. Patsy Conner. Ride chairs need to put the name of ride and date on the liability waivers. Those forms are posted on the website and are interactive.

CLINIC SANCTION. Linda Clayton. Report filed.

MANAGEMENT. Jean Green. Report filed. Sanction Guidelines have been updated. The timing section of the Management Manual will also be updated with clarifications. An article on managing rides in extreme weather conditions will be in the next HoofPrint.

INSURANCE. DiNatale. No rate increases for 2013. Some discussion on worker age limits. Worker/volunteer accident insurance does have an age limit of 75. After 75, benefits are on a sliding scale. Suggestion of a FAQ section on website regarding insurance. There is a summary of benefits on the Equisure Insurance application.

SAFETY. Swiss for Gould. RI for the Horsemasters ride felt that the Drug Testing instructions should have safety procedures included. Swiss will ask Jerry Weil about including those. LA Purchase had an accident, with report filed.

MARKETING/ PUBLICITY. Bev Roberts. Report sent. Roberts will help anyone who would like to write an article for submission to their local media or breed association. Each month Roberts is sending Enews with previous month's ride results and one for upcoming rides.

WEBSITE. Roberts continues to update and maintain the website.

NATIONAL AWARDS PRESENTATION. Winterrowd and DeMattei will work with DiNatale and DeMattei to develop a job description and procedures.

SOCIAL MEDIA. Rinne. Started NATRC Facebook Group page. Group pages are useful for sharing. Pages are controlled by individuals or regions. Rinne will also open a Twitter account.

RULES INTERPRETER. Peters. Three RI reports received. Discussion on how many penalty points Horsemanship Judge can take for being late. Dieterich stated that they can take as many as they feel are appropriate. Vets must take one point per minute, but Horsemanship Judges have latitude on number of points to take. Judges and ride managers need to have

some latitude in extenuating circumstances where good sportsmanship is displayed. Dieterich felt that riders also need to realize that they can be penalized for being late, even if they were showing good sportsmanship. RIs need to know how important their position is. The RI is an agent of NATRC, not the ride. The RI report helps Sanction Chair with sanctioning decisions. Often the RI report is the only documentation of how the ride was conducted.

**BUSINESS MODELS AND MEASUREMENTS.** Swiss. Spreadsheet shows decrease in members. Average number of riders is 35 per ride. **Motion by Walls, seconded by Clayton, to adopt the budget for 2013. Motion approved.**

**SPONSORSHIPS.** Swiss will keep sponsorships at \$10,000 for the 2013 budget. Jim Ward is helping with sponsorships and has helped to arrange for a sponsorship from a portable corral company. Specialized Saddles will be sponsoring a President's Cup saddle.

**RAFFLE.** Swiss. Raffles have helped our bottom line.

Guest:

**REGION 1A RIDER AND DRUG FEES.** Region 1A has paid reduced rider and drug fees since 2001 in an effort to encourage participation. With the increase of the other regions fees, Laurie Knuutila stated that Region 1A agrees that fees should be raised to \$5 (from \$3) for members, and \$8 (from \$6) for non-members. **Motion by Walls, seconded by Winterrowd, to approve increased rider fees for Region 1A of \$5 for member, and \$8 for non-member. Motion approved.**

**MEDIA ADVISORY.** Dieterich Chair. Swiss gave report. There are 5 people on the committee. Laurie Knuutila is willing to take on more of the content responsibilities. **Motion by Swiss, seconded by Walls, to award the 2013 HoofPrint Editor contract to Laurie Knuutila. Motion approved.**

**RIDERS AND JUNIORS.** Peters. Meroshnekoff will work to get more Juniors involved. Most would like to see more incentives and discounts for Juniors.

**FOUNDATION.** Foundation will meet following this meeting.

**DRUG TESTING.** Jerry Weil, DVM. No report.

**VETERINARY DRUG COMMITTEE.** Michael Peralez, DVM. No report. No changes in drug appendices from 2012.

**TRAIL ADVOCACY & GRANTS.** Erin Glassman. She has received no Trail Grant applications for this meeting. She sent letter in support of Coast to Crest Trail. This trail could provide possibilities for ride sites and volunteer work. Glassman wrote letter to KS State Parks, Wildlife and Tourism, pointing out the economic benefits of NATRC rides on state property. Glassman attended the 2012 SETC (now NETC) trails conference. She will try to attend both the American Trails Symposium and the NETC this year. She will be taking the Trail Masters course. AERC is willing to partner with NATRC to offer the course to our members. Glassman would like each region to designate a Trail Advocacy Committee member.

**EDUCATION.** Dieterich. Judges Forum recently sent. Dieterich is working on many projects.

**MEMBERSHIP.** Jerry Sims. Sims has solicited a group of people to be recruiters for NATRC. Sims proposed that each region gain 13 new members this year, and retain all present members. Sims has created a flyer for recruitment that can be posted in Vet Offices and Feed and Tack Stores.

**JUDGES.** M. Peralez/P. Conner.

**Vet Judges.** Conner reviewed Apprentice and Provisional Vet Judges. Carrie Porter, DVM is Provisional. Valerie Bixler, DVM is an Apprentice. Sharon Dehart, DVM is an Apprentice. Natalie Morris, DVM is an Apprentice.

**Horsemanship Judges.** Becky Rogers has been advanced to Provisional. Patti Hicks and Sarah Rinne have applied. Discussion on the mentoring process. Rider response form is now on the website. The Judges Committee felt that circling at check-out is very important since we follow AAEP Guidelines for grading soundness. Susie Witter had requested a year off from Judging, and she would now like to be reinstated. **Motion by Lindsey, seconded by Peters, to reinstate Susie Witter as a Horsemanship Judge. Motion approved.**

Judges Committee Chairs have recommended the following for the 2013 Judges Committee.

**Veterinarians:** Mike Peralez, DVM, Mike Bridges, DVM, Donna Johnson, DVM and Carter Hounsel, DVM, if he agrees to serve. **Horsemanship:** Patsy Conner, Nancy Kasovich, Kathy Shanor, and Priscilla Lindsey.

**Riders:** Angie Meroshnekoff, Jonni Jewell, Louise Vasquez, and Kim Weil. Jamie Dieterich, Chair of Education Committee, and Kim Cowart, as President, would also sit on the Committee. **Motion by Peters, seconded by Winterrowd, to approve the Judges Committee as recommended. Motion approved.**

**HALL OF FAME.** Jackie Coleman. No report.

**STUDENT LOAN/SCHOLARSHIPS.** DeMattei. We have approximately \$87,000 in the account. If only interest is used as a scholarship, there is approximately \$550 available. Swiss stated that BOD has the latitude to award more.

**BREED & ORGANIZATION LIAISONS.**

**A.H.A.** Bob Insko. No report.

**BREED LIAISON.** Lindsey. We have nine ad exchanges. Missouri Foxtrotter Newsletter Editor has requested an article.

Lindsey co-authored an article with Kate Kearby on the reasons why you should do a NATRC ride.

HONORARY & APPRECIATION. Ruth Mesimer. Sent report.

ANNUAL POINTS/NATRC DATA/ NATIONAL RECOGNITION. Gloria Becker/Cheri Jeffcoat/Laurie DiNatale. DiNatale reported that all points and mileages have been calculated, and all awards have been ordered and received.

WEBINAR. No report. Cowart has asked Sallie Kudra if she will Chair committee.

CONVENTION 2013. Region 3. All preparations are in place for convention.

CONVENTION 2014. Region 4. Location will likely be Oklahoma City, OK. Lee Ann Dreadfulwater will Chair. February 20-23.

Jim Ward gave presentation on 2013 raffle. The 2013 Raffle will be six Ranch Vacations, one Ranch Vacation in each of the six regions. There will be six drawings. 1st one gets choice of ranch they want, 2nd gets the next choice and so on. The only one not getting a choice of ranches is the 6th place winner. Tickets will be \$30 each, 4 for \$100, with only 1000 sold. Each Region will receive 100 tickets to be sold, and will receive 5% of sales if they sell all 100.

#### REGIONAL REPORTS

- R1. Dieterich. March 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Convention. Six rides on the schedule.
- R2. Walls. Two of the three "AZ Triple Crown" rides have been held. High Point Horse from all three rides will be awarded a cooler and an entry to one of the rides the following year. Holding a raffle at rides, at \$1 per ticket for an entry to next ride. Region has 100% Club. One ride in region will share trails with AERC ride.
- R3. Peters. Seven rides and three clinics on the schedule. Region will participate in the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo. They are combining with the Mountain Region Endurance Riders (MRER) to put on a distance riding presentation. Sims is making a member recruitment effort. Region is looking for ways to make it easier to put on a ride.
- R4. Swiss. The Regional convention theme was, "The Heart of NATRC". Convention included a Junior's Clinic, and a presentation by a member who had done the Machu Picchu trip. Thirteen rides on schedule.
- R5. Clayton. Eleven Rides on the schedule. Spanish Trail in two weeks. Region is initiating travelling trophies. Region had booth at the AL Horse Council meeting. Region has a 100% Club. Mary Britt and Sallie Kudra have worked hard to recruit and retain members.
- R6. Lindsey. The Region is pleased to have Sarah Rinne as new Director. Eight rides and two to four clinics, on the schedule. This will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year for Indian Cave. Region is pleased to have new members from South Dakota. The three KS rides will be hosting the Kansas Challenge. High Point competitor from the three rides will receive a refund of the entry fees for all three rides. Region will have a booth at Equifest. Region has travelling trophies.

Shared BOD amount \$298.30.

#### Old Business:

1. RMS Status. Linda Clayton reported that Janis Baldwin s working hard to update system. Peter Yovich, of Region 4, is also working on the system.
2. Flexible thinking. Cowart. We may be able to do things in more efficient and practical ways. Lindsey stated that R6 has decided to do more B rides with some back to back on the same weekend. Peters wondered if, because our name contains the word "competitive", does that scare some people off?
3. General Meetings at National Convention. There will be a General Membership Meeting at this convention.
4. Electronic Scorecards. Swiss explained that a test of the scorecard was done at the 2011 Robbers Route ride with good results. DeMattei offered to work on the scorecard and make the present one match ours.

#### New Business:

President's Cup award package. Cowart. Presently this includes a blanket, buckle, ribbon and trophy. This year it will also include a saddle. Cowart would like to work towards a saddle always being included.

Meeting locations. July 12-13, and November 8-9. Consensus to hold those meetings in Denver

**Motion by Swiss, seconded by Lindsey, to adjourn. Motion approved.**

Full minutes on file at NATRC Office. Available upon request.