



Special Interest Articles:

- Rider Profile: Teresa Fett
- UMECRA convention information
- Jack Lieser's Challenge

Individual Highlights:

Top ten quotes from UMECRA.	2
DNR horse trail info	3
MnDNR Banquet info	3
Crow Hassan email	3
MnDRA Dues form	4
Two-mile marker	6
MnDRA minutes	6

Tacking Up

Hi Everybody,

It's a new year and those resolutions are probably broken. Mine aren't; I resolved to eat and drink as much as I did last year, and so far, so good.

This is the last letter until April. I could use a little break, plus I'd like to do some research for some ideas I have for articles. Bev had a great idea about a new feature; a horse profile where we get to brag about our horses. If you would like to have your horse profiled, start thinking about what you want to say. I'll let Bev inaugurate the column and then when you see what it looks like, you can submit your stories about your horses.

I will also be sending a new version of the rider profile questions to a lucky group. (I really do pick by random) If you receive one, and don't want to be profiled, let me know and I'll take your name off the list of potential profiles.

I'd also like to hear about article suggestions. Those of you that send things in don't know how easy that makes it for me. I really appreciate the

help.

I will also solicit top ten ideas. If you can come up with themes, I can probably come up with lame jokes and when I get stumped, I have Sharon H to bail me out. I will also gladly put in guest top tens. Speaking of top tens, this month's were fun gathering. Actually, the top quote isn't printed here because this is a family newsletter. I might be able to be bribed at the convention, unless the person who made the quote bribes me more. Let's just say, next year you all should come because the Minnesota contingent knows how to party. We usually close the place down.

I had hoped to get straight info on the Crow Hassan situation, but I haven't been able to contact Mr. Vlaming. When I do, I'll send the info if it is different. Sorry for the page jumping on this article; I got caught up in a layout mess.

I want to thank you all for all of the kind words you have sent. This has been fun and only a couple times a chore. I felt best when things I said generated a healthy discussion, such as the helping out at rides discussion. So thanks for putting up with my ramblings. Finally, the family award is perhaps the coolest award we have won. The kids and I didn't know until the last minute. This sport has brought our family closer, and given us some great friends. Happy trails, all =:){}

U of M Horse Newsletter

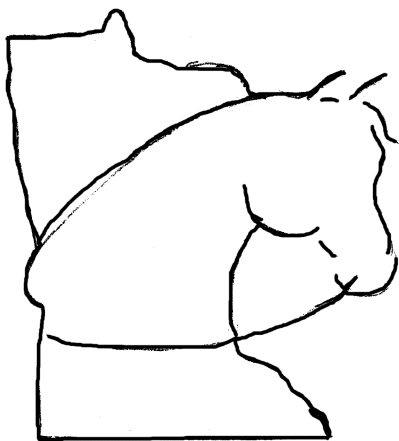
The U of M has a newsletter of it's own that is on-line. It usually has 3 – 4 practical how to articles. You can subscribe to it to have it emailed in PDF format to you. Here is the information they sent to Chip.

"If you have other horse friends or associates that would like to receive the newsletter, they can sign-up on the Horse Program Website at

www.extension.umn.edu/horse. You can also unsubscribe on the same website if you choose.

Also found there is a flier for the 2007 Regional Horse Owner Programs which includes a registration form if you choose to register by mail. On-line registration is also available at:

www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach. "



Rider Profile: Teresa Fett

Name and Family: Teresa Fett, husband Dale, two sons; Spencer 21 and Trevor 18.

Non-riding occupation: Die cast machine operator at Team Industries, Detroit Lakes, MN.

Who was your first horse? Tony, my first pony when I was 12 years old and I have owned at least one horse ever since.

Who do you currently ride?

LSC Mi Zonidoon (Mi) - 16 years old.

Sher Sam (Sam) - 13 years old.

What is your favorite moment on a horse? Just loping through the woods and trails feeling free with the wind in my face.

Why do you ride MnDRA? I enjoy the competition and they have the nearest rides from where I live.

Top Ten Quotes from UMECRA

10. Who closes down at ten?
I'm just coming alive
9. *It was a long drive*
8. *The meeting is going to last till eight at this rate*
7. *I'm almost a pro at everything*
6. *Hey, its over; what does it matter (made in response to comments arguing a vote after a vote was taken.)*
5. *It's all about the (p)soas (say it out loud, the p is silent)*
4. *Q. Is there a reason Midwest Mt. Quest has a question mark after it? A. Pause, "probably."*
3. *Stay with me, now. (President Rick controlling the meeting)*
2. *Our target audience is middle age women.*

and the number one printable quote from the UMECRA convention

every time I have sex-on-the-beach (rest was missed, darn it)



What advice do you have for rookies? When first starting, learn to ignore the negative comments you may hear and just concentrate on riding your best. Watch what others do and seek out those who not only do well, but are willing to answer your questions. Take care of your horse and enjoy the reason you came, to Ride, Ride, Ride!

What is your favorite ride?

No certain favorite as I just enjoy riding. Every ride seems to have its challenges whether terrain, parking, or weather. My father-in-law used to say, "It doesn't matter what the course is like, it is the same for everyone", so I take each one in stride and make the most of the situation.

DNR Horse Trail Pass Information

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will begin administering the new Horse Trail Pass on January 1.

Sales of the Horse Trail Pass will generate funds that will assist the DNR in addressing important horse trail needs on state trails and in state parks, state recreational areas and state forests (the pass does not include local or county parks/trails, only state areas). Funds will be used to acquire and develop trails and trail facilities, and to maintain and rehabilitate existing horse trails.

Anyone aged 16 and older who is riding, leading or driving a horse on state horse trails needs to have either a signed daily or annual Horse Trail Pass in their

possession. An annual Horse Trail Pass is \$20 (\$4 for daily pass). The annual pass is valid for the calendar year of purchase, (or the date of purchase) and ending December 31.

Horse Trail Passes are available on-line (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/horseback_riding/index.html), by phone (1-888-665-4236), or in person at ELS license agents around the State of MN. When you go to the ELS site, tell them they need to enter the code 027 to get the pass. Many do not seem to know this.

Ride managers may want to look into those small plastic map cases as award items to give riders a place to hold all of their horse passes.

Crow Hassan email

Thank you for your interest in Crow Hassan Park Reserve. There appears to be some miscommunication going on about the plans for Crow Hassan. The planning process for Crow Hassan Park Reserve will incorporate significant public involvement and no decisions on future recreation development within the park reserve have been pre-determined.

Listed below is the text of the email message I sent to Sundance Meadows on 11/27/2006 that started the email communications. I have been contacted by over 100 concerned horse riders over the last week and have logged each of their emails as input into the plan for consideration and as a contact list for when we begin the public dialogue for planning the future of the park reserve. I will add you email contact to this list.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Vlaming

Planning Manager

Continued on page 6

MnDRA Awards Banquet; A Feast of Fun

MNDRA AWARDS BANQUET

When: February 17th, 2007

Time: 3:30pm Executive board meeting and ride managers meeting.

4:00pm General meeting and election of officers

5:30pm Meal Awards Ceremony to follow.

Cost: \$18.00/per person

Location: Blue Heron Cold Spring

RSVP: No later then February 1st, 2007

To: Joan Thiel

16052 240th Street

Cold Spring, MN 56320

If you are unable to attend and are receiving an award, please arrange for some one to pick it up for you or make other arrangements.

-----PLEASE DETACH THIS PORTION AND RETURN TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS-----

Name _____

attending _____ Amount enclosed _____ (\$18.00 per person)

I will be attending but not purchasing a meal _____

I will not be able to attend and will have _____ pick up my award.

UMECRA Convention Notes

all, I'm reporting live from the convention floor. After fifteen minutes we have voted to accept the minutes and financial report.

31 – Membership committee report: proposal - Non-membership packets for new riders, mailings to the non-members to compete, \$100 per state that includes a UMECRA ride for advertising, informational brochures to be distributed at rides and free advertising for novice rides. Board passed earlier.

38 – Ride insurance – staying with the same company, who had the best bid. Proposed UMECRA pays 50% of the cost of competitive insurance. Motion passed.

52 – A form is presented to keep track of accidents at rides just for informational purposes. Lots of discussion on pros and cons.

2:05 – Move all board of director positions to two years. Motion carried and then a group asked for a recount. Passed 50+ to 16

2:13 – Rider reps terms are two years. Motion passed.

2:19 – Motion to change language involving when juniors, age 13 – 16, need to have a sponsor; 500 total miles in any of the three event types. Motion passed. Discussion continued.

2:29 – Tentative ride schedule. 2:53 ride schedule is on hold. 3:17 - Motion to approve. 3:19 – passed. The problem was WI had three big rides in a row. Wildcat moved up a week

2:54 – motion to remove “maximum” from driving rule. Rides can be more than 25 miles. Passed

2:55 – Eleanor Tonsor is ride sanctioning coordinator

- Sharon Hahn is newsletter editor
- rider reps: Patina Koehn, Sharon Hahn, Paula Rapp, Maxine Bernsdorf
- points keeper, Barb Gardner

3:08 – proposed motion of having a novice division with prizes. Motion passed.

3:19 – discussion to require rides that use handheld monitors in competitive to use a special score sheet. Motion failed.

Continued on page 5

Enjoy the Newsletter? Pay Your MnDRA Dues and Don't Miss an Issue

Name _____

Family____ (\$25.00) Single ____(\$15.00)

Address _____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

email (please print neatly) _____

Please make checks payable to MnDRA and mail membership renewal to:

**Sandra Noonan
16454 283rd Ave.
Paynesville, MN 56362-9412**

Jack Lieser's Great Wilderness Challenge

Early Bird Registration Discount:
Save \$100 by registering during the month of January!

The 2006 Wilderness Challenge was a tremendous success!
Join us for our next adventure...

Jack Lieser's Great Wilderness Challenge 2007; Grand Marais, MN; September 13th– September 16th, 2007;
Gunflint Trail, Superior National Forest, alongside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). A wilderness horsemanship clinic/vacation with a fun team competition.

The Great Wilderness Challenge is a 4-day, 3-night wilderness event. Daily, Jack (www.jacklieser.com) will work with you on skills building, and then you will have the opportunity to put your new skills into use during The Challenge.

"The Challenge" is a team point-to-point competition, along the lines of "The Amazing Race"; where teams must complete each task in order to advance. "Tasks" are fun and friendly, and weighted to fit for equestrians of varying skill levels. Teams will participate for all three days.

Each team consists of 4 horse & rider pairs and will be accompanied by a wilderness guide. You can sign up as a team, or as an individual, looking to be matched with a team. Come with family members and friends, or form a team representing your barn, sport, club or state. This will be so much fun!



Your days will be full. Plan to spend most of each day riding. (Both you and your horse should do a little conditioning prior to this event.) Horse and rider should be comfortable at a walk/trot outside of an arena.

This event will be held at Okontoe Wilderness Camp, a little ways up the Gunflint Trail (paved Hwy 12) from Grand Marais, near the border of Minnesota and Canada. It's beautiful up there, and the trails go on and on!

Your registration fee includes:
4 days of skills building clinics & instruction from Jack
3 nights camping/bunkhouse fees: you choose from a few camping options.

Delicious meals included, except one supper and one breakfast we will ride to a local lodge, hitch our horses, and order off their menu. Bring a little cash or your credit card for these fun events.)

Enrollment in 4 days of "The Great Wilderness Challenge" With Jack's guidance. Trail Guides, Taxes, Facility Fee, etc. included
Participation fees and camping fees for one horse per participant

The price for this event is \$525 if camping is your preference or \$545 if you would rather stay in a cozy bunkhouse.

Early Bird Registration Discount:
Save \$100 by registering during the month of January! (\$425 or \$445)

Space is limited to 16 participants. Enrollment is available on a first-come, first serve basis.

For more information, and registration forms,

Contact
clinics@wildernesshorseworks.com

Or Jennifer Fenwick 218-387-9105

www.jacklieser.com

Convention cont.



Dale contemplating a tough vote

3:35 – Board approved a \$15 gift certificate for 1st chevron winners to be used toward a UMECRA vest

3:40 – Election for officers. Lots of ads and info from organizations.

- 3:54 Sheryl Levins is President
- 4:02 Mary Mott is Vice President
- 4:03 Jill Feller is Secretary
- 4:04 Wayne Gatsfield is Mich. Rep.
- 4:18 Dr. Wes Elford vet rep.
- 4:20 Theresa Meyer director at large

4:21 – Bar's open, meeting's done.

6:00 – Dinner's served, chicken was great!

8:00 – Dean is teaching Darlene and Tanya how to play blackjack during casino night

10:30 – Minnesota starts to party while everyone else goes to bed.

PHONE:
(763) 753-5236

E-MAIL:
kameyer@ties2.net

snail mail:
Ken Meyer
3028 181st Ave
Cedar, MN 55011

Next newsletter
deadline:
April 5th, 2007

Crow Hassan cont.

Text of original message:

Please email me a list of horse owners who would like to be involved in the master plan update for Crow-Hassen Park Reserve. The plan update process will begin in January and public participation in the plan development will likely occur in mid-February or early March. I will use your list as one of our sources to request participation in the planning process. Feel free to share this email and my email address with your horse owner group.

Here is the basic process for updating the plan:

1. Internal review of visitor studies/surveys to identify issues and opportunities (January 2007)
2. Internal review of system-wide recreation needs and how Crow-Hassen best fits into the Three Rivers Park District system. (January 2007)

MnDRA Minutes

For the minutes from last year's meeting, see the second attachment on this email.

If you have items you would like added to the agenda, contact any board member either through mail or the following emails:

Darlene Molitor
valleycreekfarm@juno.com

Two-mile Marker

❖ 4Sale

2001 Exiss GN 3Horse Slant 6' short wall, very roomy

Partial LQ - Heat/Fridge/Stove Top/ Cabinets, Insulated.
Escape door first stall, drop down windows - rear tack.
Good tires/ brakes , well maintained

Suzy warren 651-257-9812
suzyrory@frontiernet.net

- ❖ The Country Fund is over \$150. Don't forget to use the password MnDRA when ordering those spring riding supplies.

Dale Lunde
RL96TA@aol.com

Sandy Noonan
msnoonan@mchsi.com

Holly Egerer
REgerer287@aol.com

Also requested are any suggestions for trail funds for a special trail or park. These are to be sent to the board to be discussed and voted on.

- ❖ **NOTE:** Theresa Meyer has mileage Chevrons for MnDRA members. Find her at the banquet or come to MnDRA I.
- ❖ Directions to the Blue Heron for the MnDRA banquet are Highway 23 to Cold Spring. The supper club is found at the intersection of CR 49 and Highway 23.
- ❖ We have a couple new rides next year, come to the banquet and find out what they are.

3. Internal review of the natural resources management plan for the reserve. This results in zoning of the reserve. Highly sensitive areas are zoned as sanctuaries and all recreation use is prohibited. The other management zones would allow for trails. (January/February 2007)

4. Meet with primary user groups to discuss possible improvements to the reserve. I see this as the opportunity to get horse riders together to talk about trail network design, parking lot improvements, group camp improvements, etc. and to also share ideas for the other potential uses in the park. With regard to horse trails, I would like to come away from this meeting with a fairly specific layout of the desired trail network. (February/March 2007)

5. Meet with local city staff to coordinate local trail planning and community planning with the park reserve, and to learn of any strong city positions on development within the park reserve (February/March 2007)

6. Draft master plan is reviewed by Three Rivers Park District Board of Commissioners and released for city & public review. (April 2007)

7. Plan is modified as appropriate to reflect public and city review, and finalized. (Likely June of 2007).