
MnDRA NEWS

Are you bringing your horses into the house this week?

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You can pay your membership at the winter meeting.

Wanted: Endurance News

As you do your winter cleaning, keep your old Endurance News for our booth at the MN Horse Expo. You can bring them to the winter meeting



Howdy Everybody,

Cold vs ice. I know what I prefer. After getting a couple inches of snow finally, I can walk outside again instead of shuffling along on the ice. Another reason I like the cold is when you empty the horse manure trailer by hand, it's like shoveling golf balls. Easy peasy.

We have a lot of info in this newsletter. The survey results, winter meeting info, membership forms, UMECRA meeting summary, mock ride news and requests, and a logo vote off. So, stoke up the fire and settle in.

Ken

Winter Meeting Info

Our annual meeting is going to be at Captain's on Long Lake. **Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2019**

The schedule follows:

- 2:00 pm Board meeting
- 2:00 pm MnDRA Ride Managers Meeting / Logo voting begins
- 3:00 pm General Meeting
- 4:30 pm National rides presentations
- 6:00 pm Dinner / Logo voting closes
- 7:00 Awards and completion prize potluck

We decided to try something new this year; we are going to have a potluck completion prize drawing. Now we are stretching it by calling it a completion, you just have to be there, or a prize, it may be a prize you want to regift. We are asking you to bring a prize that you would like to give to someone else. The money from the auction last year will also be used to buy some prizes. We will put everything on a table and

then draw names to determine what order people will choose their prize.

We are hoping for everyone to bring something so everyone will leave with something fun. You can bring something you received once at a ride and loved, or something you received at a ride that you thought was hilarious. It can be something nice or it could be a white elephant. Don't spend much if anything. It is very acceptable to clean your closet or tack room. Have fun. Make it a contest to either bring something so desirable that it is taken first or something so weird that it is still on the table at the end.

I will send out the agenda for the meeting next month. We have not had many topics brought up, so it should be an uneventful meeting. If you have anything you wish discussed, please email me.

Click on this link for a link to the google map for the venue. [Captains on the Lake](#)

Rider Survey

The rider survey reaffirmed some things we suspected and affirmed some things we hoped were true. We had 56 responses which is close to 50% of membership.

In terms of what influences what rides we attend, distance was the most important with over 75% listing it 4 or above. 150 -200 miles seems to be the tipping point for most folks.

The types of rides and the distances offered were next important; being important for more than 65% of you.

The last significant factor was the ease of getting a camping site. What type of site and other amenities don't matter.

Happily, the ride manager and vets have virtually no impact. Sadly, your BRFF doesn't matter either. Also, the potluck main dish and the cost of the ride has very little influence.

The weather report does impact some of you and the idea of a no-frills ride doesn't bother most but you also think it should be cheaper.

Finally, 75% of the respondents plan to do five or more rides. I will be sending the total results to the ride managers to help them make some decisions on their rides.

UMECRA Convention Notes

2:08 meeting called to order. Informal meeting style going to be tried. Ride roll call.

61 delegates 2/3rds is 44 (Math is questionable or my hearing is). Voting procedure is explained.

2:22 Minutes approved

2:22 sec report Memberships up by 41. Approved

2:24 insurance. No changes in cost anticipated. Board discussed increasing insurance. Certificates will get out earlier.

2:26 audit explained. Look at a set of randomly chosen checks to view receipts. Sampled 20% of checks. Only a couple receipts not on hand. These will be provided by spring meeting. I was one of the auditors and two of the checks that the receipts were missing on I know were written to the people. Finances approved

2:30 ride schedule moved to approve, passed. There are some changes. Official schedule will be on line when flyers are in. Be patient, please.

2:39 The UMECRA logo will be put on some items that will be for sale someday soon. They are going to stay away from jackets. We still have to earn those by placing in the top ten.

2:40 The horses are facing the right way on the new comp sheet.

2:41 ICF update: there is over \$6800 in fund. No dispersant this year. Money from the silent auction that used to be used for the fund is going to scholarships instead. If the fund drops to it's minimum, then that portion of the silent auction will go back to the fund. This was voted on last year.

2:43 Bylaw change - add an appendix that defines terms. Need 2/3 vote Passed

2:45 Bylaw change - Make it so a person can be nominated for president if s/he is not at the meeting. Passed.

2:49 rule change - clarifies ties and points for endurance races. Motion made and approved

2:52 rule change - clarifies comp ties and points. Passed

3:05 They are trying to explain junior sponsorship and when you can transfer juniors. It was stressed that there needs to be a problem causing the sponsor to not be able to continue for a transfer to happen on the trail. You can't just change because the junior is driving you crazy. You

are asked to wait until the next rider comes by and ask if they will take the junior into the next check. At that point, another sponsor sheet needs to be filled out.

This discussion got a little crazy. People were throwing out all sorts of scenarios . We finally moved on.

3:15 Some ride stats were presented

3:16 electrons:

VP - Tony Troyer nominated and elected

Sec/Treas - Bruce Birr nominated and elected

Illinois - Nicole Mauser-Storer nominated and elected

Mich - Sondra Wright nominated and elected

At large - Peggy Pasillas nominated, Barb Gardner nominated, Bill Suskey nominated

Peggy and Bill elected

General announcements. Next year we are at Stevens Point, WI

3:42 Motion to adjourn made

Adjourned! Three hours to dinner. This might be an interesting evening. A lot of time to party.

The venue was wonderful. The entertainment fun. The speakers discussed saddle fit and more nutrition suggestions.



MnDRA logo contest

We have fourteen submissions for a new MnDRA Logo. We would like to narrow the choices down to three before the winter meeting and then we will vote for the final logo at the meeting. To narrow it them down, I have created another google survey where you can see the logos and vote for your favorite three. The survey will ask for email addresses to ensure each member is only voting once.

As you vote, think about how well does it represent our organization, how it will look on items, and can it be embroidered?

I will send out the link in an email later this week. We need to check one final thing first. So be one the lookout for the email.

Thanks to the submitters and Janet Sarver for organizing this.

MnDRA Membership Form

Name _____

Family _____ (\$25.00) Single _____ (\$15.00)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email (PRINT NEATLY) _____

Phone _____

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

Sandra Fett
35976 Co. Hwy 4
Frazee, MN 56544

MN Distance Clinic

Save the date: Sat., April 20th, 2019

Host: Peggy Pasillas

Where: Peggy's barn

What: An informational clinic for beginning riders and experienced riders wishing to do different distances. The morning is tentatively more for intro riders and the afternoon for the different disciplines. More info will be coming as we get nearer to the date.

The MnDRA Board decided to back financially an over-night mock ride to be held for clinic attendees in an effort to have more time to mentor interested beginners. The date for this is tentatively the weekend between MnDRA I and Border at Crow Hassan Park. Peggy would welcome anyone who wishes to help with the camping and leading groups. It may be a good time to condition your horse. You can contact Peggy at peggy@pasillas.net if you can help.

