



MnDRA News

MnDRA I Opens 2010 Ride Season

Sand Dune State Forest Hosts Opening Weekend



**Resting
up for the
big ride**

Howdy all,

I have just a short newsletter this month. As you hopefully saw on the test email, I am going to try a new format, but I need to tweak some things. If anyone is good at photoshop and wants to create a fancier MnDRA banner for me to use, go for it. With all the photographers we have, I'd like to have a photo of the month to put on the front. Send me your favorite shot. Also, some unlucky folks can expect to get profile requests. If you are tired of waiting and want to send a profile in, please do. It beats my begging for them. Remember to send a pic.

We had rain this week for the first time since late Feb. Plus we had only about 30 some inches of snow this year. It's dry. That means our ride, always a bit tough for a first ride due to the sand, will be just that much more challenging. Maybe we'll get lucky and get five to ten inches in the next two weeks. But, if we don't, we need to ride smart. The South side of the park is fine, and there is a

fair amount of road riding on that loop. A lot of the North side is also ok; the stretch around the lake is fine. However, there will be a couple stretches where we have to go through the sand. It is there we need to be careful. MnDRA always starts with three tough rides in quick succession and you want to be able to ride them all. Remember, even if you come in last, you will be only six points at the most out of first place in LD and twelve points in endurance. It probably will be less in endurance due to the different weight classes. So, slow down. For our ride, to finish is to win.

Also, it was great to see all the new volunteers last year and the number who are offering this year. There is one place where we as a group are still a little weak on and that is P&R. With our ride, what better place is there to start to learn how to do them? We should be able to hear those horses' hearts without the scopes and the only problem with respiration is can you count that

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high? Plus, the riders will be so exhausted they won't have enough energy to complain. If we get enough helpers, maybe I can ride on Sunday (hint, hint.)

Supper will be Sharon's famous tacos so plan your side dishes accordingly. Remember to just pull into any site that has our name on it and pay us for the camping.

In this issue, Theresa has a lot of info on MnDRA I, the awards group have a new award this year, and a few cautionary notes in the letters section. If you are on Facebook, Angie has started a MnDRA facebook group. Go join and hang out with all the cool kids. It will be a good way to ask questions or alert members of the group.

The profiles will start next month along with a joke of the month.

See you all in a couple weeks. Keep training.

=;{} Happy trails, all. Ken

VETTING IN



The state that is requiring a negative piraplasmosis test on horses from Wisconsin is Michigan. This is the one that we know about. Everyone is responsible for obtaining the requirements for their own state as to the destination and the origin. You need to contact your vet and he/she will contact the state of destination and tell you if you need to have a negative piraplasmosis test to write a Health Certificate for that atate of destination and from your state of origin. **YOUR VETERINARIAN NEEDS TO CALL THE STATE OF DESTINATION EACH TIME A HEALTH CERTIFICATE (CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION is what some states are calling them now) IS WRITTEN.** This is a must because requirements can change from one day to the next and from one hour to the next.

Your responsibility is to call far enough ahead so that if you need to have a blood test done separate from the coggins test then you will have enough time to have it done. There also may be a requirement that the test could only be good for 30 days. In wisconsin the blood can be sent directly to the National Disease Laboratory in Ames Iowa and the turn around time should be

one week. They will report the results to your vet via e-mail.

I cannot give you any more details than this because it is not something that I want to be liable for. Everyone needs to be responsible for their own situation. It is nice that we do know that there could be a requirement so that we can plan ahead. I cannot give you a list of states that require or don't require the test because that could change from day to day. So plan ahead and have your vet do the communicating if you need it.

Wes Elford DVM UMECRA Vet Rep

I got my jacket last week (March 19th) --- for Top 10 LW Competitive with Chewy. What a GREAT jacket! I LOVE it and am so thrilled to wear it! Please thank the awards committee for mailing it to me--a fun surprise! I'm looking forward to the 2010 season! :)

Karen Kersten

Hi All,
Just a heads up. Karl's brother had a safety meeting today. They haul heavy equipment. He said the DOT is targeting horse trailer/livestock trailers. Obviously it's profit motivated but here's what he told us. Anything 10,000 pounds or over has to have a fire extinguisher in the truck, not the trailer (if you have living quarters you should have one in there also) so you have access to it if there is a problem with the trailer. They are also checking for those road triangles that you see semi's put out when they pull over. This was all news to us. The

triangles can be purchased at Harbor Freight (Wausau and Appleton, Meno Falls I think too) but not sure what they run.

The 10,000 is **loaded** trailer weight. I do know we weighed our rig a couple years ago and it was right at 10,000 when on our way out to camp. 2 horse all aluminum goose with extended shell. We don't have factory finish in the LQ but do have some furniture in there. That was no water and only about 3 bales of hay. For campers we travel pretty light.

They are not warning but issuing tickets. Save yourselves the headaches. Make sure your plates are current and get this stuff on board. The loaded weight is for the entire **rig**, not just the trailer.

Please pass this on so our horsey friends don't incur added expenses in an already expensive hobby

Doug Humphrey

I hope everyone has been able to get outside to enjoy the early warm weather. It is nice not freezing on those first training runs.

Just a reminder to purchase your MN Trail pass before the season starts. Good luck to everyone this year, be safe on the trails, and enjoy the ride.

Lynn



New MnDRA Ride Award

There is a **NEW** award for entering **each of the five MnDRA-sponsored rides** - If you enter an event at each of the five MnDRA-sponsored rides, you will be eligible for a fun sweatshirt. **All you need to do is pay your entry fee - your ride counts whether you complete the event or not.** The five MnDRA-sponsored rides are: MnDRA I, Run for the Border, Maplewood, Mosquito Run and Thistledown Run.

MnDRA I Update



MnDRA I 2009

MnDRA I commences on Friday April 30th with the Horse Camp opening at Sand Dunes State Forest near Orrock.

Our family has been to the south side a lot, and just went to the north side for the first time this year on Saturday, April 10. I probably don't have to state the obvious, but I will so no one is surprised, THE SAND IS VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY DEEP. It is very, very, very dusty! Especially on the trails that they've turned over for firebreak. Everyone hope and pray for about 4 to 5 inches of rain between now and April 29th! Or this will be a tough, tough ride.

Ken and I will "pre-purchase" most of the campsites again on Friday morning. So feel free to pull in to a site that has our name on it. You will pay your camping fee when you pay your other ride fees. Please **do not** pay at the DNR box, it just makes one of the rangers and I stand around and scratch our heads for 15 minutes on Sunday, to figure out if it's one of us distance riders or not who has paid the fees in that box.

The large area in the middle is reserved for MnDRA riders. Most of the sites around the campground can take two rigs, and some can take three, so plan to double up.

For those of you doing the AHA portion of MnDRA I (those owning Sweepstakes

horses and nominating them for the points program for this year) please remember to **bring your horse's registration number and your competition (AHA membership) card.**

AHA Endurance is on Saturday. Competitive is on Sunday. Here is a link for an additional release form that must be signed as well. I will have hard copy forms available at ride camp. http://www.arabianhorses.org/competitions/competition%20forms/aha_waiver.pdf

Also the ticks are out at Sand Dunes. Remember to pack your insect spray in the trailer and/or apply a product like Spot-on a week before the ride!

Also I've got timers, folks doing my meal on Saturday, and a dinner for our vets on Friday night. I think I've got P&R folks and scribes for Saturday. But I can still use P&R folks for Sunday. It's not tough, training is free and easy. Plus it's good to practice on your own horse, so you know what is normal for them. If it stays warm, and doesn't rain, those heart beats and breaths will be easy to count! Everyone at this ride is in first or last place, depending on how you look at it, and I promise all of our competitors will be gracious to all our volunteers!

We also need folks to take out novice riders on Sunday morning. As of now I have two groups. Sharon has volunteered, but I'd like at least two more folks, with hopes of having three groups.

Finally, pre-registrations are always welcome.

Thanks and see you on April 30th!

Theresa

Ride Calendar

May 1st - 2nd, 2010

MnDRA I, Sand Dunes State Forest

Theresa Meyer, 763 753-5236

Tmeyer@tpt.org

May 14 - 16th 2010

Run For the Border,

Gov. Knowles State Forest

Darlene Molitor, 320 597-2147

Valleycreekfarm@clearwire.net

June 5-6th, 2010

Maplewood, Maplewood State Park

Char Tuhy, 701 396-4703

Chart@loretel.net

June 18th - 20th, 2010

SE Minnesota, Forestville State Park

Dianne Schmidt, 507 545-9937

Schmidt.diane@mayo.edu

June 26th - 27th, 2010

Zumbro Bottoms, Zumbro Bottoms

Barry Saylor, 507 765-2711

Bsaylor1947@gmail.com

July 9th - 11th, 2010

Mosquito Run, Crow Hassan Park

Lynn Reichert, 320 597-3312

Lynnreichert@msn.com

DON'T FORGET YOUR TRAIL PASS

Don't forget to purchase your Minnesota State Horse trail pass!

Go to any Holiday store or other vendor who sells hunting and fishing licenses or go to

<https://www4.wildlifelicense.com/mn/>

Contributors

HENRY GRUBER

Pictures extraordinaire

See more at MnDRA.com

WANTED

TRAINERS

for The Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation's

3rd Annual Trainer's Challenge

*** Application Deadline & \$25 Entry Fee Due 04-27-2010 ***

Horses will be assigned to their trainer on 05-01-2010

(Groups Encouraged * Great Exposure for Trainers * Great Cause)

Event Takes Place August 14th, 2010

@ The U of MN Leatherdale Center

Judges: Judy Jensen, Bob Johnson & Tracy Porter

*** For more information and to download an application please go to
our website @ www.mnhoovedanimalrescue.org

REWARD

\$5,000.00

total awarded

- \$3,000 First Place
- \$1,000 Second Place
- \$200 per class (5 classes)...

...Helping a formerly unwanted horse find a good home...PRICELESS.