

Championship Challenge Team

by Curt Riffle

Since we have only been able to attract about 70-80 teams to the Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship (ERTC) in the past several years, the entry fees have not covered all the expenses necessary to provide a fun, safe and memorable event. Our generous sponsors and member donations over the past several years have provided the necessary incremental funding. In fact, a few very generous and dedicated members have been financially keeping the Championship and our sport alive by making up this cash shortfall year after year.

Unfortunately, our cash sponsors will not be able to provide the same level of support this year. Rather than just

ask these same few dedicated members to make up the difference, the Board has decided on three courses of action. First, inspect the budget for any unnecessary expenses. Second, increase the entry fee (first increase in over five years). Finally, extend a challenge to the membership to help make up the difference.

Just for fun and knowing the power of teamwork, I decided to create the concept of the Championship Challenge Team. Members who make a special contribution to this year's Championship will become members of the Team. We will list members of the Team (only names, not amounts) in the Championship Race Program to acknowledge their generosity and team spirit. To increase

the incentive to join the Championship Challenge Team even more, three of our generous members have agreed to match the Team's total contribution.

Are we up to the challenge? The Association needs help for the 1999 Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship and it is time more of us helped with this premier event. Make checks out to The Ride & Tie Association and include a note stating the donation is for the Championship Challenge Team. Send them to Leah Mirsch, 4 Cinchring, Rolling Hills, CA 90274. If you have any questions about the Championship Challenge Team, call me at 650-949-0620. Thank you!

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President's Message

by Mary Tiscornia

Hello, everyone.

A quick note to say that MaryAnn is doing a great job with this year's Championship. We should have a great event. Steve Shaw and I will have a report on the trail after we pre-ride it for the May 22 clinic that we're holding at the race site and will write a description of it in the June Newsletter, so you know what to expect. In the meantime, if there is anything you'd like to discuss, please feel free to contact me. Also, please get your entries in early and be sure to read the Race Directors report.

Until next time, safe training and take good care of your partners!

Mary Tiscornia

Phone (415) 868-0771; Fax (415) 868-2563

E-mail escalles@pacbell.net

STALL SPACES FOR RENT AT CHAMPIONSHIP

Rock Creek Ranch has horse stalls available for rent at this year's Championship race site. The stalls are conveniently located across the road from base camp. The stalls will rent for \$20 per night (which includes alfalfa hay) and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If you are interested in keeping your horse(s) at the Ranch contact Leah Mirsch at 310-541-8641 prior to June 30 for reservations. Leah will also be in camp beginning July 6 and can assist you then.

WANTED: A FEW GOOD RATS

This is the fourth consecutive year that the **Ride & Tie Association will be sponsoring the Dusty Corners Vet Check** at the **Tevis 100-mile** endurance ride (scheduled for July 24, 1999) and you are invited to pitch in. At 46 miles into the race, the stop offers riders a chance to rest their horses, get a drink, and gather themselves for the canyons ahead.

It's lots of fun hangin' with the gang, filling water bottles, hauling pulled horses and riders to Foresthill, cutting up watermelon, and cheering on all the riders, which include other RATs who are competing in the event. Volunteer now! For more information call Judy Haulman at the R&T Association office, (530) 367-2525.

DESPERATELY SEEKING RIDE & TIE WEBMASTER

Duties: Maintain existing website, updating information as needed/provided; build new pages as directed by Association; maintain links and monitor content of linked sites; serve as recipient of site-forwarded email (sort and re-forward as required; work with administrative director and editor to maintain graphic and thematic continuity and an attractive, informative and functional web presence; keep up to date on WWW technical advances; implement such as called for, including (possibly) a list server, submission forms for entries and membership, usage logs, etc.; report to the board on website operations.

Qualifications: Applicants should: have built and maintained at least one multi-page website, including layout, graphics, text, and basic HTML; have good design sense and, if possible, a graphic arts background; understand and enjoy Ride & Tie as either participant or spectator; appreciate the development and communications possibilities of the WWW; be willing to donate labor.

Start date: No later than July 10, 1999.

Contact: The Association at www.rideandtie.org



NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Nancy Kerns

ASSOCIATION BOARD:

Dave Andreotti
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Robin Klaus
Ellen McCrary
Jon Osterweis
Jon Root
Steve Shaw
Dr. Jim Steere
Mary Tiscornia

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Kent McLaren	Kathy Thompson
Skip Lightfoot	

The Ride & Tie News is published by
The Ride & Tie Association
PO Box 697, Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2525
www.rideandtie.org

Notes from the 1999 Championship Director

by Mary Ann Buxton

Dear Ride & Tie Family,
By now your taxes are done and you are making plans for this year's Championship race! You have been running and riding hard, your partner is keeping his/her word about joining you in your training, and things are looking good, right? You received your February Newsletter with the entry form, and you put it in a prominent place so you'll remember to send it in time for the reduced rate, right? You reviewed the list of accommodations and have called for reservations, right? Right!

Well, if you're like me, you have excellent intentions for all of the above, but you may have done just one or two of the above. Set your own priorities, but I encourage you to make those reservations ASAP! I have one more addition to the list of accommodations:

- Rocky Point Resort (541) 356-2287. Nine miles west of the race site, there are four cabins; 1 bedroom (sleeps 4) \$75; 2 bedroom (sleeps 6) \$95. Motel rooms are \$55.

The other accommodations are:

- Running Y Ranch and Resort (800) 244-6015 or (888) 850-0275. The hotel is currently booked due to a golf tournament, but it's worth getting on the waiting list, as I am told rooms will open up. Identify yourself as part of the Ride & Tie for special rate of \$60 on availability. There are also condos for rent: \$200/night for 2 bedrooms and \$250/night for 3 bedrooms.

- Shilo Suites Hotel (800) 222-2244 or (541) 885-7980. Special rate of \$89 for 2 queen beds or \$99 for a king bed.

- Econolodge (800) 446-6900 or (541) 884-7735. Special rate of \$38/night or \$190/week for room with 2 beds.

- Red Lion Inn (800) 773-5466 or (541) 882-8864. Regular rates \$74-\$99.

- Best Western Olympic Inn (800) 528-1234 or (541) 882-9665; regular rate of \$61.

Many of you know and admire Lew Hollander, a worthy contestant. Lew is also a Champion Triathlete and will not be participating in this year's Easyboot R&T since he will be at the World Triathlon Championship in Sweden. For at least the second time, Lew has generously offered to pay the entry fee for a needy team. We are very grateful to Lew for his generous support of Ride & Tie! If you would like to be the recipient of this generosity, please send a brief letter explaining the circumstances along with your entry form to Leah Mirsch. Leah must receive this by June 1, 1999.

Have you seen the beautiful poster Barbara Ravizza designed for the Championship? It is yet another collector's piece and we gratefully acknowledge her contribution! We need your help in placing the posters in prominent places. If you can help, please contact me. Phone (415-456-9391); fax (415-454-1419); email (mabuxton@cwix.com). Give me your name and address and let me know how many posters you can put up.

The clinic that was planned for April 23 at the Rock Creek Ranch (17 miles northwest of Klamath Falls on Highway 140) has been postponed until May 22, due to weather considerations. We encourage any locals who are interested in Ride & Tie to join us. Mary Tiscornia and Steve Shaw will demonstrate technique and discuss strategies, and we'll review a loop of the course – about 10 miles.

We are actively looking for donations for awards for the Championship. Laura Christofk is doing an excellent job in contacting potential suppliers for award donation, as you can see in the listing of sponsors elsewhere in the publication, but we still have award categories open. The more donations we receive, the better the awards and the more categories we can acknowledge! If you can donate something or have a suggestion, please

give it to me by mid April, as all donations need to be confirmed by May 1. We are so very appreciative of the generosity of our sponsors.

This year we are offering an order form for merchandise so that those of you who said you missed out on some of your merchandise choices can make sure you get what you want! Please send the order form to me ASAP to make certain you get what you want. If we have missed a category you really, really want, send me your request right away! We'll try hard to offer the most popular merchandise.

Reminder: February's Newsletter contained an Individual Press Release Form and a copy of the press release. Please fill the IPRF out, copy it and the press release and send to your local newspapers! Do it today! Please make a copy and send with your entry form to Leah Mirsch.

Attention those of you who are not racing this year: We need volunteers! Please contact Jan Kelley, of the Running Y Ranch (541-850-5585) to sign up for a specific job.

I have started a Ride & Tie email list. If you didn't receive my first email, please send me your email address and I'll add you to the list!

Happy training,
Mary Ann Buxton,
Easyboot 1999 Championship Ride
& Tie Race Director
Phone: (415) 456-9391
Fax: (415) 454-1419
Email: mabuxton@cwix.com

1998 Annual Report of the R & T Association

Income Statement (January 1-December 31, 1998)

Income	Amount	% Total	Expenses	Amount	% Total
Donations	\$10,255	19	1998 ERTC	\$27,970	73
Entry Fees	\$13,300	24	Newsletter	\$2,502	8
Membership Dues	\$11,425	21	Insurance	\$1,485	4
Merchandise Sales	\$5,933	11	Administrative*	\$4,912	13
Sponsorship	\$10,250	19	Annual Awards Banquet	\$0	0
ERTC Banquet	\$1,506	3	Awards (Pro-AM/Annual)	\$1,027	3
Annual Awards Banquet	\$0	0	Publicity	\$253	1
Insurance	\$1,300	2	AERC Convention	\$80	0
Interest	\$341	1	Computer Software	\$341	1
Total Income	\$54,310	100	Total Expenses	\$38,570	100
			Operating Surplus	\$15,740	
			*See Expense Details Below		

Endowment Fund Activity

Endowment Fund Donations	\$500	Endowment Fund Earnings	\$1831
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Balance Sheet (12/31/1998)

Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
Cash in Bank	\$41,822	Accounts Payable	\$0
Total Current Assets	\$41,822	Total Current Liabilities	\$0
Endowment Fund	\$21,508	Capital	
		Cash (General Account)	\$7,888
		Cash (Race Account)	\$33,934
		Endowment Fund	\$21,508
		Total Capital	\$63,330
Total Assets	\$63,330	Total Liabilities/Capital	\$63,330

Detailed Expenses

Administrative		Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship (ERTC)	
Administrative Director	\$910	Awards	\$10,524
Telephone	\$756	Banquet	\$3,145
Postage	\$309	Publicity/Poster	\$2,555
Printing/Copies	\$69	Merchandise for Resale	\$4,377
Office Supplies	\$105	Personnel (Vets, etc)	\$3,000
Misc(Bank Fees, Taxes,etc. *)	\$2,763	Restrooms/Rubbish	\$945
Total	\$4,912	Trail Work/Permits	\$1,585
		Drug Fees	\$210
		Ambulance/Aid	\$0
		Printing/Copies	\$389
		Postage/Shipping	\$293
		Telephone	\$419
		Office Supplies	\$91
		Misc	\$437
		Total	\$27,970

* Includes \$2,500 entry to Dave Nicholson's "2001 Race Across U.S."

1999 Race Schedule

APRIL 17

Mountainside Ride & Tie
Redding, CA; 15/25 miles
Mike Lynch
8069 Doodle Bug Lane
Shingletown, CA 96088
(916) 474-3439

MAY 1

Quicksilver Ride & Tie (Pro-Am)
San Jose, CA; 11/23 miles
Curt Riffle
469 Casita Way
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 949-0620

MAY 9

Prineville Ride & Tie
Prineville, OR; 8/25 miles
Darla Westlake
37701 Summer Creek Road
Dexter, OR 97431
(541) 747-9109

MAY 15

Big Creek Ride & Tie
Santa Cruz, CA; 30 miles
Ellen McCrary
318 Swanton Road
Davenport, CA 95017
(831) 423-6089

MAY 29

Nevada State Championship Ride & Tie
Gardnerville, NV; 14/35 miles
Gary Ceragioli
230 Shake Hill Drive
Markleville, CA 96120
(530) 694-2972

JUNE 12

Browning's Challenge
Grass Valley, CA; 22 miles
Pat & Nita Browning
21266 Pleasant Valley
North San Juan, CA 95960
(530) 272-8912

JULY 10

29th Annual Ride & Tie
Championship
Klamath Falls, OR; 38 miles
Judy Haulman
PO Box 697
Forest Hill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2525

AUGUST 7

Champagne Ride & Tie
Santa Cruz, CA; 30 miles
Steve Shaw
155 Baltusrol Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
(408) 685-3436

AUGUST 28

Headwaters of the Rogue Ride & Tie
Ashland, OR; 10/30 miles
Ann Swartz, DVM
3053 Deer Trail Lane
Medford, OR 97501
(541) 535-6509

AUGUST 28

Swanton Pacific 100 Ride & Tie
Santa Cruz, CA; 100 miles
Ellen McCrary
318 Swanton Road
Davenport, CA 95017
(831) 423-6089

SEPTEMBER 4

A Brief Nevada Ride & Tie
Gardnerville, NV; 25 miles
Gary Ceragioli
230 Shake Hill Drive
Markleville, CA 96120
(530) 694-2972

SEPTEMBER 5

Rockbridge Ride & Tie
Rockbridge, VA; 25/50 miles
Jean Lichtenberger
1788 Seven Fountains Road
Fort Valley, VA 22652
(540) 933-6991

SEPTEMBER 18

Bloomfield Boogie Ride & Tie
Grass Valley, CA; 11/25 miles
Donna Jones
11017 Iron Clad Road
Rough and Ready, CA 95975
(530) 432-1371

OCTOBER 2

Cool Ride & Tie
Auburn, CA; 11/22 miles
Suzanne Remillard
1971 American River Trail
Cool, CA 95614
(530) 823-0973

OCTOBER 16

Carrillo Cheese Ride & Tie
Ortego Canyon, CA; 22 miles
Robyn Tustison
7522 Slater Avenue, # 101
Huntington Beach, CA 92647
(949) 728-0723

OCTOBER 30

Cuyamaca Ride & Tie (Pro-Am)
San Diego, CA; 24 miles
Arleene Foster
38230 Lorenzo Lane
Hemet, CA 92544
(909) 767-1237

OCTOBER 31

Fort Valley Ride & Tie
Hume, VA; 25/50 miles
Jean Lichtenberger
1788 Seven Fountains Road
Fort Valley, VA 22652
(540) 933-6991

NOVEMBER 13

Cowboy Country Ride & Tie
Hemet, CA; 25/50 miles
Arleene Foster
38230 Lorenzo Lane
Hemet, CA 92544
(909) 767-1237

OTHER EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

OCTOBER (pending interest level)
Almaden Triathlon
Dan Barger, (408) 997-3581

**Do you need a ride to the
Championship?**

OR,

**Do you have room in your
car for a person, or room in
your trailer for a horse?**

**Call the Ride & Tie
Association Office so we
can fix you up with a ride
or riding partner!**

(530) 367-2525

Reports From Afield

Cahuilla Heights 25 Mile Ride & Tie by Arlene Foster

Race Through the Boulders seemed like a better name for Cahuilla Heights Ride and Tie. Huge rocks lined the single track trails that climbed up to a scenic view. The course was very technical, with sharp turns, steep downhill, rock faces to scramble over. The race consisted of two loops that circle back to camp, making it a great spectator course, as well as easy vetting.

Friday's spaghetti dinner over a hot bonfire encouraged a lot of story telling.

What a great group of people! Morning came. Vetting in was Dr. John McConnell DVM. Fast, efficient, and accurate are a few words to describe John. After a continental breakfast we gathered for our race meeting, and were off to a noisy start.

Winners Scott, Garrett, and General, flew as if the course were flat and straight. Some impressive running and riding! Rufus, Stacey, and Justin were just as impressive, unbelievable would be more like it. The next group of Ride

and Tier's had a blast jockeying positions, teasing, and laughing till the last loop, then it turned into work. The hills were so tough walking was better than crawling. What a relief at the top you could see camp and it was all down hill.

Everyone was amazed at how well they did with little to no training. It wasn't until the next day that they paid for it with stiff muscles.

Thanks for coming to our race. We couldn't have done it without you!

Recent Results

Cahuilla Heights Ride & Tie, Hemet CA March 6, 1999 - 25 Miles

1 -- Garrett Ford/Scott Devlin	Caproz Five Star	2:47
2 -- Rufus Schneider/Stacey Jett	Justin	2:56
3 -- Gary Webb/Cindy Webb	Allegra	3:31
4 -- Bob Edwards/Frank Lieberman	Fancy Belle	3:33
5 -- Mike Hearst/Linnea Hearst	Ed	3:42
6 -- Jonathon Jordan/Tara Hinojosa	Quake	3:44
7 -- Tiffany Foster/Steve Tustison	Linda	3:56
8 -- John Ganahl/Marilyn Ganahl	Ggaffon	3:58
9 -- Arlene Foster/Jane McGrath	Fire Mt. Scamp	4:05
10 -- Steven Anderson	Rainbow	5:48
11 -- David Foster Sr./David Foster Jr.	Kozad	DNF
12 -- Pat Helly/Dale Bonney	P.J.	DNF

Best Conditioned Horse

Justin

Mustang Ride & Tie, San Jose, CA March 3, 1999- 25 Miles

1 -- Chris Turney/Becky Widler	Budwiser	2:37
2 -- Mark Richman/Warren Hellma	Sam	2:40
3 -- Laurie Ribeling/John Steinmet	Razz	2:41
4 -- Skip Lightfoot/Curt Riffle	Rajzik	2:52
5 -- Tom Christofk/Tony Brickel	Super Delite	2:57
6 -- Robert Eichstaedt/Fran Burkell	Silver Fox	3:05
7 -- Michael Rapposell/Linda R.	Mystique	3:09
8 -- John Osterwise/Tom Schreck	Victor	3:11
9 -- Bob Edwards/Frank Lieberman	Fancy Belle	3:12
9 -- Paul Robinson/Les Nightingill	Tazz	3:13
11 -- Jim Brown/Brian Schick	Negask	3:14
12 -- Lorrie Barger/Penn Kane	McCoy	3:31
13 -- Jennifer Rader/Cheryl Domnitc	Raja	4:15
14 -- Sheila Scroggins/Vanessa S.	Mi Rio Grande	4:26
15 -- Bill Logan/Diane Logan	Duke	5:20

YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD!

If you have become a new member or renewed your membership since the previous newsletter your membership card would be attached

HERE.

We want to make your 1999 race season as carefree and rewarding as we possibly can. Help us help you. Renew!



Congratulations

to all parties involved with the acquisition of SPORTACK by EASYCARE, INC.

Both businesses have been great friends of ride & tiers, and generous sponsors of the Ride & Tie Championship. We're glad to have continued access to quality tack and equipment from knowledgeable endurance aficionados.



Reports from Afield

Rogue RATs Challenge: Headwaters of the Rogue . . . Best Scenery Award by Annette Parsons

Okay gang...we're out here! We are the Rogue RATs, and here in southern Oregon, we put on the most scenic Ride & Tie of the season! But then, we're not biased or anything.

So how come more of you RATs haven't been seen in these parts? It's your loss! Our Pacific Crest Ride and Tie will be in its fourth year in 1999...oh, but now we're calling it "**Headwaters of the Rogue**" because we've changed the location.

A Brief History

Way back in 1996, Dr. Ann Swartz, a veterinarian from the Ashland area, began the tradition of a Ride & Tie in southern Oregon by holding a 10-mile R&T fun race the day after the Pacific Crest Endurance Ride in July of that year. The base camp was about 30 minutes east of Ashland, located in a horse camp in a beautiful meadow called Lily Glen, and the spectacular views of Mt. McGloughlin from along the trail caused more than a few of us to trip as we ran.

Me and my husband, Jim Clover, were newcomers to the area and were delighted to have an event close to our new home. We had become spoiled down in the Sierras with all those Ride & Tie races so close by! We were so delighted, in fact, that we offered our help to Ann for an event the following year. And so it began. Silly us!

In July 1997 we (Rogue RATs) hosted the first sanctioned Pacific Crest Ride & Tie. That year the endurance ride that was also supposed to occur that weekend got canceled so we had to hustle all the camp and trail details ourselves. We managed it (barely!) and were pleased with a turnout of five teams in the 30 miler and eight teams in the 10 miler. The weather was perfect, the course was beautiful and not too tough, the camp was wonderful, and everyone had a great time! We had great support from local businesses, and I don't think there was a single participant who left without an award of some kind! Lew Hollander and Doug Madsen won it that year on

Miss P (also BC!), followed by Ted Ruprecht and Elaine Howard Ruprecht on Rapscaillon. Jim Clover and first-time ride & tier, Marilyn Wallendy were close behind on Bones.

Fourth team in was Steve Andersen and Debbie Hansen-Bernard on Sunny. And last but not least was yours truly and Michele Jay on Saki. (Michele's first ride & tie was the Bloomfield Boogie in 1995, which she completed with Jim. Michele also completed the Fort Bragg Championship in 1997 with Sheryl Soto, another of our Ride & Tie inductees.)

The eight teams who completed the 10-mile course that year ranged in age from eight years to over 60! Most of them were newcomers to Ride & Tie and we hope they will be back for more! They were troopers. Many of them became lost in the big meadow...I humbly apologized, and blamed it on the cows that ate the flagging. My only consolation I could offer was that my partner too got lost! (That was also my excuse for finishing last!)

1998 brought us back to the Lily Glen horse camp in July for the second sanctioned Pacific Crest Ride and Tie. We added some new sections of trail, and some of the local endurance riders were invaluable with help along the lake trail. For those of you who have not ridden it, it is truly a beautiful stretch of trail, the result of a pro-active local Rogue Riders endurance club and cooperative BLM recreation staff. This loop left camp and headed to the Pacific Crest Trail for a few miles, after which the rugged but spectacular lake trail led finishers back to camp.

We had a smaller but no less enthusiastic turnout of participants in '98, and once again Lew, Doug, and Miss P finished first. This time Jim re-drafted a former ride & tier from way back, Robert Hoogendyks; they finished second on Bones, and Bones received BC. Ted Ruprecht and Marlene Allen were third on Rapscaillon. My partner this time was another novice, former neighbor Debi Wagner from down in the Sierra. I failed her, as I had to drop out after 10 miles

due to foot problems...seems I am always making excuses, huh? It's fixed now, though, so Mountainside, here we come! Four teams entered the 10-mile novice race, this time ranging in age from 6 years to over 60! Once again, no one went away without an award of some kind and a great time was had by all!

This Year's Race

1999 brings us to a new location...even more gorgeous, if you can imagine! We are holding the ride & tie in conjunction with the Headwaters of the Rogue endurance ride on August 28, on some of THE most beautiful trails in the northwest. Base camp is along the edges of the spectacular Hammaker Meadow, located on the Rogue River National Forest off Highway 230 northwest of Crater Lake.

The ride & tie will take place along 30 miles of the 50-mile endurance course. The Forest Service has done an outstanding job of constructing and maintaining an extensive system of scenic trails. You'll traverse the Mine-haha Creek loop, the Muir Creek trail, and Buck Canyon. Most of this course will be dirt trail, the terrain is moderately challenging, and water is plentiful. The weather should be perfect. Generally it is sunny and warm but not hot, as the elevation there is around 4000 feet. You will definitely wish you had your camera if you don't bring it!

So come on up to southern Oregon and Ride & Tie with us! After you get a taste for this country when you come up to Klamath Falls for the Championship in July, you will wonder why you haven't come up more often! Help us make our 3rd Annual Headwaters of the Rogue (formerly Pacific Crest) Ride & Tie the biggest and best ever!

For entries and information contact: Dr. Ann Swartz, 3053 Deer Trail Lane, Medford, OR 97501; (541) 535-6509 or Annette Parsons, 1831 Slagle Creek Rd., Grants Pass, OR 97527; (541) 846-6656; aparsons@terragon.com.