

Ride & Tie

The Newsletter

August 2000



The picture of 1000 words: Skip, Raj & Tom winning

followed shortly by his partner, Skip Lightfoot, the man who lived and breathed Ride & Tie, Mr Enthusiasm of Ride & Tie and the man who was always "up there".... always to "do well", but had never before stood in the Championship winners circle. (Tom and Skip paired at Browning's Challenge and won over 6 teams, but had not originally planned to team up at the Championship.)

With this pair of hard running men came the horse, Rajzik, always a strong horse, but a winner? YES.... he had just proven that. Curt Riffle tells us of the horse: "Raj (Rajzik) is a 16 year old grey and a full Arab believe it or not. Skip paid \$100 for him about 10 years ago when his owner was going to give up on him. He had a severe suspensory tear (3 places) five seasons ago and missed two seasons during recovery. U of C Davis said he would never be 100% again and probably never competitive! He is just a shy, sweetheart horse who has a great big heart for ride & tie. I was happier for Raj winning first than for us placing seventh!"

Congratulations to Skip, Tom and Raj for a race well run.... a challenge well met.

Up to the Challenge

By Judy Haulman

There are teams that always finish "up there", there are persons who always "do well", but they never manage to hit the finish line first. On June 24, 2000, at the World Championship Ride & Tie in Davenport, CA., that team and that person got their chance.

Odds were that the team of Jim Howard and Dennis Rinde would win it, but then Tom Johnson and Skip Lightfoot could win it. Not to rule out Con Wadsworth with Chrostoph Schork, Chris Turney with Rick Anderson (the newest Ride & Tie running sensation), Gino Pomilia with Erik Stenson and very strong women's teams of Laurie Riebeling with Becky Widler and Mary Tiscornia with Rachel Toor. It could be anybody's day.

Through the twists and turns of the Coastal hills, through the ups and downs of the P&R's of the horses in the vet checks, the top teams stayed very tight and traded places throughout the morning. It seemed safe to say that the order of completion was set as the teams left out of the 2nd vet check...but we all know that ANYTHING can happen out on the trail. People started to gather out at the finish line, talking among themselves of what "could", what "might". A sense of suspense and anticipation held them in it's grip.

Then it happened, Tom Johnson, always a sure bet due to his extraordinary running ability and held in the hearts of the Ride & Tie community for his shy smile and easy going personality, came first to the finish line. Tom was



Tom Johnson and Skip Lightfoot show 1st Place smiles



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www.rideandtie.org

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to P.O. Box 697, Foresthill, CA 95631

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E Mail address _____

- I am a Rider
- I am a Runner
- I need a teammate and a horse
- I have a horse, but need a teammate
- I have a horse to loan or lease

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

(check your choice of membership)

- Lifetime member (\$500)** Pay no more annual membership fees. Eligible for special savings as offered.
- Competitor Member (\$50)** Provides access to the membership database which can link up teammates with horse, riders and runners.
- Competitor Family Membership (\$75)** Immediate family residing at one address. Please list all names to be included.
- New Member-1st Year (\$20)** Offered at a reduced rate for those checking out the sport. Equivalent to a competitor membership.
- New Family Membership (\$35)** Immediate family residing at one address. Please list all names to be included.
- Supporter (\$100 or more)** Same benefits as a competitor member. Also eligible for special savings as offered.
- Friend of the Ride & Tie (\$20)** Not an actual competitor but would like to show their support for ride & tie. Included in all Association mailings.

All categories of membership will receive Ride & Tie News bimonthly, The Ride & Tie Journal annually, information and applications for the annual World Championship Ride & Tie, advocacy for growth and competition in all aspects of the sport, inclusion and eligibility for the national point system and assurance of the continuance of the sport of Ride & Tie. As a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, these membership contributions are tax deductible.

HORSE REGISTRATION FORM (ONE HORSE PER FORM)

REGISTERED NAME OF HORSE _____

NAME (NICK NAME) As you wish it to appear in future race results _____

GELDING MARE STALLION BREED _____

OWNER (IF DIFFERENT FROM

ABOVE) Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Hello Everyone,

Well we have another Championship under our belt, buckle that is. While our numbers were down, in part from the unpreventable conflict with Western States, the race went very well. I want to especially thank MaryAnn Buxton, our race director, for her job well done even while making her move to Arizona. Big Creek Lumber Company and the McCrary family especially Ellen and Dennis, without whom we would not have had a site or course. Also many thanks to the vets, Bill Bentham, Robert Steere, and Jamie Kerr; the vet secretaries, D'Ann Steere and Judy Tiechman; vet area co-ordinator Lon Clearwaters; Judy Haulman and her timing crew Leah Mirsch and Melissa Kerns from Mountain Monograms in Oregon; the award girls Marilyn Whitney and Cindy O'Toole; merchandise sales and finish line Marilyn Kiernan; water truck duties Butch Huff and George Hall; registration, Leah Mirsch; the program and website Laura Christofk; publicity; Linden Berry; the poster and map Dexter Dopperrphul; results, Jo Maisterra; drag rider and generator hook up Marsha Smith and Tom Johnson; clean up, Nita Browning; our MC, Curt Riffel; the radio and emergency people; our Board of Directors; all of the race participants; the many other volunteers; and last but not least our sponsors and benefactors. It takes a lot to put this race on and I want to say once again to everyone that helped, THANK YOU!

I'd like to encourage you all to support the other races through the season and to bring a new face to next years race.

"Until we meet again"

Happy Trails
Mary Tiscornia

The Carusso Scholarship

from Curt Riffle

Lewis Ruprecht was the first winner of the Carusso Scholarship. This scholarship entitles Lewis to a prepaid entry to the 2001 Ride & Tie Championship. The Carusso Scholarship is awarded to the youngest finisher of the Championship under the age of 21.

I started the Carusso Scholarship to honor a beautiful young horse we lost at Lightfoot Stables this Spring. Carusso had the makings of a champion not only in physical ability but in intellect and heart. Anyone who had known Carusso had to look away when they heard he had to be put down.

I wanted to honor Carusso by demonstrating how much our equine teammates mean to the ride & tie family. I also wanted to help more young people participate in our rather expensive sport. Hopefully I will be able to continue the Carusso Scholarship each year and help find the next generation of ride and tiers.

Congratulations, Lewis! You deserve to be the first winner of the Carusso Scholarship!

vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote

ELECTION TIME

SEE BACK PAGES FOR DETAILS

vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote vote

RIDE & TIE RACE SCHEDULE 2000

August 19, 2000

Hartland Riding Club
Plainfield, NH
10, 20 miles
Naomi Goodwin
603-469-3512

August 19, 2000

Horsethief Canyon
Descanso, CA
13, 26 miles
Rufus Schneider
619-445-2060

August 27, 2000

Headwaters of the Rogue
-Sunday-
Crater Lake, OR
10, 30 miles
Annette Parsons
541-846-6656

September 2, 2000

Rockbridge
Ft Valley, VA
12, 25, 50 miles
Jean Lichtenberger
540-933-6991

September 9, 2000

Big South Fork
Knoxville, TN
25, 50 miles

September 10, 2000

10 miles
Joanne Grimes
865-693-4308

October 7, 2000

Cuyamaca Pro-Am
Cuyamaca State Park
24, 32 miles
Arleene Foster
909-767-1237

October 27, 2000

-Friday-
Ft Valley
Ft Valley, VA
12, 25, 50 miles
Jean Lichtenberger
540-933-6991

MORE PLACES TO GO

September 15-17, 2000

Draft Horse Classic
Fairgrounds
Grass Valley, CA
530-273-6217

September 30, 2000

West Coast Distance
Riding & Trail Horse Sale
Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
530-547-4579



Don showing his "stuff" with Becky, Laurie catching up on foot

A VERY GOOD MAN

Written by Judy Haulman as told by Becky Widler

He was abandoned by his owner at a boarding stable.....he was well cared for, but the bill had not been paid in months. As Becky Widler looked at the 4 year old, grey, arab gelding, she liked what she saw; good confirmation and boldness. Becky handed over a check and a leadrope was placed in her hand. "His name is DON...and now he's yours."

Don proved to be headstrong, but once he settled in, he gave it his all. Becky only came off twice in the early years with Don. She tries to explain: "He sorta rears, lunges forward and twists like a bull. There's no staying!"

Becky found herself dealing with a natural athlete. After a few years under saddle, it became almost easy to get Don into condition. His attitude was good, a trail ride was OK, but in competition he was all business. This year, after 6 years together, there were long rides early in the year, then shorter, faster rides in the hills to keep the horse conditioned.

Becky and Don teamed with Laurie Riebeling to do the 30 mile Big Creek Ride & Tie May 20th. They blasted through the course in 3:59.....and WON! So the team planned for the 37 mile Ride & Tie Championship in Davenport. And they planned well.... finishing 4th in 3:53:15 (39 seconds behind 3rd). Gino Pomilia, Erik Stenson and Joe Wee placed fifth behind the girls. Gino was overheard saying "We could SEE the women's team, but we just could not CATCH them.

When asked how the horse was during that race, Becky's first words were: "OH, he's a very good man. His recoveries were amazing and he never 'bonked' on the hills. He's a slow uphill horse, kinda tip-toes up, but upon reaching the crest he was off again at full throttle."

That evening Don was awarded the coveted Best Condition award. The top 5 contenders were all present. Horse's names were called out for 5th, 4th, a tie for 3rd and 2nd....leaving Becky and Don standing there as #1. Anyone there will never forget Becky's screams of surprise and delight....she also was jumping up and down with each scream and Don was throwing it into reverse as fast as he could to get away from his seemingly crazed owner, which gave everyone a good laugh.

Congratulations to Becky and Don. May many more good competitions and Best Conditions await you.

NOTES from some who missed the 2000 Championship:

"It was hard to miss the Championship. One of my best college friends got married the same day in Boulder Colorado. Ride & Tie is a big part of my life but good friends are more of a priority. See you next year."

Garrett Ford

New Zealand 2000 Ironman March 4, 2000: "My race started out to be a perfect day with a good swim 1:17 and 4 min transition and under 2 hours on the first 60k of the bike ride and I was thinking a PR around 13 hours. For a 70 year old, that was good. I was having the race of my life as I reached for a power bar in my back pocket and it slipped so I grabbed for it and WHAM BAM I was on the ground. I hit so hard I broke two ribs, and had numerous lesser wounds. I managed after a long time to remount and ride another 100k to the transition and still have a 7:09 bike split, but when I went to dismount, I fell on the ground. After getting my bag and changing, I walked the whole marathon in 7 hours and 59 minutes, finishing in 16:34. Once home, the orthopedic surgeon and I determined by x-rays and a nuclear bone scan that I not only broke the ribs, but I also broke my pelvis in two places. This was not good, as I needed to start training for Ironman Germany since I did not qualify at New Zealand for Ironman Hawaii as planned. Some days things just do not work out, but then there is always tomorrow.

Sorry Sid."

Lew Hollander

"This will be my first NO SHOW at the championships since Dogtown in '81. My training has been zero and my horse (or should I say YOUR horse, Judy) has not been getting any conditioning either. Moving onto our new property with 4 acres has kept us real busy this spring. Building fences, working on the barn, mowing pastures, dragging the arena....You get the point. Lots of work but we're very excited about being able to have our horses live with us again. Once we get a little more settled, I'm gettin' back in the saddle again. Please give our regards to ALL THE R&T FAMILY."

Paul Robinson

Susan Simon

"With a small vineyard and going to my son's swim meets the conditioning just didn't happen. I could probably make it, but it would not be fair to the horse, you know what I mean?"

Paul Rink

2000 Championship Ride And Tie - Race Results

Pl. #	Trn	Fin. Time	Hr.	Min.	Sec.	Total	Runner #1	Last	Comp	Runner #2	Last	Comp	First	Last	Comp	Name	Horse	Main	Gndr	Spcl	Award
1	117	3	36	36			TOM	JOHNSON	11	SKIP	LIGHTFOOT	13				RAJ		M	MM		WINNER, 1st MM, 1st Masters MM
2	129	3	41	23			CHRIS	TURNEY	17	RICK	ANDERSON	2				BUDWEISER		O	MM		2nd MM
3	1	3	52	36			JIM	HOWARD	18	DENNIS	RINDE	8				FREEDOMFERMEE		M	MM		3rd MM, 2nd Masters MM
4	121	3	53	15			LAURIE	RIEBELING	6	BECKY	WIDLER	3				DON		O	WW		1st WW
5	4	4	0	51			ERIK	STENSON	9	GINO	POMILIA	18				JOE WEE		O	MM		2nd WW, 1st Masters WW
6	5	4	6	56			MARY	TISCORNIA	28	RACHEL	TOOR	4				ALBI		M	WW		3rd Masters MM
7	122	4	11	11			CURT	RIFFLE	11	DAVE	RIFFLE	10				COURT DECISION		M	MM		1st Century
8	6	4	14	22			WARREN	HELLMAN	14	JEFF	TOWNSEND	5				SAM		C	MM		1st Easyboot
9	132	4	15	32			CON	WADSWORTH	17	CHRISTOPH	SCHORK	7				FANCY BELLE		O	MM		
10	118	4	19	10			JOHN	OSTERWEIS	14	SID	SULLIVAN	4				VICTOR		O	MM		
11	103	4	24	39			RUSS	KIERNAN	20	JIM	BROWN	7				NL STARFIRE		C10	MM		1st Century+10
12	9	4	25	16			ELAIN	RUPRECHT	9	TOM	GEY	9				HAT TRICK		O	MW		1st MW
13	109	4	28	11			MICHELE	SHAW	5	LINDA	RAPPOSELLI	2				COUGAR'S CLOWN		O	WW		3rd WW
14	8	4	38	28			GODFREY	SULLIVAN	6	DAVE	VAN WICKLIN	5				ASJAHS GIFT		M	MM		
15	106	4	56	6			MERRY	LAW	3	ROBIN	DAVIS	1				FLAME		PA	WW		1st Pro-Am
16	120	4	58	15			ROBERT	RIBLEY	4	MELISSA	RIBLEY	4				REEBOK		O	MW		2nd MW
17	102	4	56	42			JEROME	BEAUCHAMP	1	ROBERT	BEAUCHAMP	1				TANGO		PA	MM		2nd Pro-Am
18	125	5	14	32			TED	RUPRECHT	19	CAROL	RUPRECHT	1				FIN DE FAR		C10	MW		2nd Century+10, 3rd MW
19	101	5	14	41			TERRI	ANDERSON	2	SONYA	WOOD	2				MEMORIAL BAY		O	WW		
20	114	5	19	20			BYRON	GRANT	15	DANA	TRYDE	4				ZAC		O	MW		
21	113	5	21	50			CINDY	BROWN	1	BRENDA	SPEED	1				NEGASK		PA	WW		3rd Pro-Am
22	111	5	22	24			DAVE	ANDREOTTI	17	JEREMY	MAX	1				GRAB		PA	MM		4th Pro-Am
23	110	5	24	51			STEVEN	ANDERSON	3	FRANK	LIEBERMAN	4				RADER		C	MM		2nd Century
24	130	5	37	14			PAT	BROWNING	24	RUFUS	SCHNEIDER	4				ZEB		O	MW		
25	133	5	38	18			BOB	EDWARDS	6	JIM	DEMPSEY	3				PALOMUS RAINBOW		C10	MM		3rd Century+10
26	112	5	38	40			KATHY	BROADDUS	6	LANI	NEWCOMB	6				MASTER MOTION		O	WW		
27	116	5	39	3			VICKIE	HORNBECKE	8	ANNE	AGANON	1				CYGNUS		PA	WW		5th Pro-Am
28	104	5	52	37			ROBIN	KLAUS	6	DAVID	TARPINIAN	7				RAFIQUE		O	MM		
29	131	6	4	27			STEVE	WEBB	1	JANET	WEBB	1				CHILI		PA	MW		6th Pro-Am
30	123	6	16	48			ELLEN	RINDE	14	LIZ	CAREY	5				GENERAL GERANIUM		M	WW		
31	126	6	17	11			JIM	STEERE	8	THOM	STEERE	4				WESOB		C10	MM		
32	128	6	32	58			LESLIE	YATES	9	LORRIE	STRINGFIELD	1				ECHO		PA	MW		7th Pro-Am
33	105	7	30	11			DIANE	LOGAN	1	BILL	LOGAN	1				DUKE		M	MW		
34	115	7	46	28			GEORGE	HALL	18	DON	BETTS	12				GAVILAN		C	MM		3rd Century
35	124	8	45	29			LOUIS	RUPRECHT	1	JOAN	RUPRECHT	21				MAGIC NISABA		J	MW		1st Junior
DNF	107						GABRIELLE	MANN	4	STEVE	BECKER	2				SAVANNAH		O	MW		
DNF	108						DON	ROTH	8	JESSICA	DRAYER	0				DEAMON		PA	MW		

2000 REUNION SHORT COURSE

Fin.	Trn	Pl. #	Finish Time	Hr.	Min.	Sec.	Total	Runner #1	Last	Comp	Runner #2	Last	Comp	Horse	Name	Main	Gndr	Spcl	Award
1	184	1	50	0			6600.00	MIKE	TRACY		SCOTT	TRACY		MIDNIGHT LIGHTNING		N	MM		
2	183	1	58	18			7098.00	KENT	MCLAREN	10	COURTNEY	MCLAREN	0	POGO		N	MM		
3	185	2	18	34			8314.00	HEATHER	LIGHTFOOT	0	MARY	BEAUCHAMP	0	SCOOTER		N	WW		
4	182	2	39	48			9588.00	PAMELA	JENSEN	0	FRANK	WITBECK	0	HR SINATRA		MW			
5	180	2	45	3			9903.00	AGNES	HUFF	0	ALEKSEY	HUFF	0	SCOTT'S BILEXJO		J	WW		
6	181	2	45	20			9920.00	BUTCH	HUFF	9	SUSAN	HUFF	9	FLYBY		J	WW		

On the Road with Rachel & Mary

by Rachel Toor

When she learned that I would be spending the summer in California, my Ride and Tie partner, Mary Tiscornia (hereafter referred to, for simplicity, as the Queen of Ride and Tie) asked if I wanted to go with her to Oregon for the Headwaters of the Rogue R & T. Sounded good to me.

Mary and I left her ranch on Friday morning, drove for a number of hours, and then heard a funny sound. She drove off the freeway into a gas station. We looked at the tires, there was a huge hunk missing from one of the trailer tires. Gone. The two gas station guys were also just about to be gone. "We'll be back", they said, driving away. The Queen pushed up her sleeves and changed the tire. I fetched tools, looked decorative, and generally gazed on in awe.

On Saturday there were 25, 50 and 75 mile endurance rides. Queen Mary and I enlisted Jim Clover as a guide and went to check out potential future Championship sites. We drove around breathtakingly beautiful Crater Lake while being treated to a fascinating lecture on tick borne illnesses by Jim. He, meanwhile, got to see, up close and personal, the Mary and Rachel Show, where we discuss the problems of the world (starting with the hunters and gatherers) and argue intensely, though without animus, about nature versus nurture, race, culture, and biology.

As the race approached I heard that we would have some tough competition. People started to talk about the team that was likely to beat

us: A young speedy guy and one of the toughest competitors around - someone who had finished a multitude of Ironman triathlons. Then they told me this guy was 70 years old. "Oh, no problem", I said. "Wrong", they said. "You don't know Lew Hollander".

It was a wonderfully low-key affair. The start time was determined by consensus at the ride meeting. Just before we started, the race director looked down at her saddle and said, "OOPS, I don't have any water. Can someone fill my water bottles?" The vet was responsible for giving us to cue to begin. "What do I say", she asked? "How about go", said someone. "GO", she said.

We went. I learned in the first 9 or 10 miles that Peter Klopfer isn't the only really tough 70 year old around. And Lew's partner, Eric, an Adidas sponsored orienteering guy, was indeed speedy. But we managed to pull away, left them in copious amounts of dust on a fabulously beautiful trail. It was mostly single track, rolling without killer hills, and in the shade of beautiful Oregon timber. Turning one corner, I came galloping along on Albi right up to a deer hunter, his arm pulled back, aiming at US. It was the first day of bow season. Soon after that I went off the trail. So we did have one teeny tiny little glitch, but I wouldn't say that we really got lost. Lew and Eric, however, said they got lost.

There were a number of creek crossings, and one big honking river crossing. We'd heard about this before the race and I negotiated with Mary to have her be the one to swim it. Great and tough partner that she is, she readily agreed (I'm a delicate flower from the South, after all). Of

course, who gets there first, on foot? I looked at the river, looked up stream and down trying to find the easiest crossing, wondered how long I could stand around waiting, and then they appeared, my partners! Mary said the water was so cold her feet were like numb sticks for the next mile or so. She's a great partner, the Queen.

We finished first. When I told Annette Parsons that the only reason I ever run is to get SMOs (Shiny Metal Objects: they needn't be shiny or metal but have to have the name of the race on them). She advised me that we'd better win: There was only an SMO for first place. The rest of the awards were merchandise. So we got our SMOs, and Albi got Best Condition.

Lew and Eric came in next, followed by Jim Brown and his partner, a rugby player named Cary who looked like the Marlboro Man. He'd crewed for Jim at the Championship and decided that this wackiness looked like fun. I think he had fun, though he looked pretty darn tired after the race. Jim's wife, Cindy, had won the 75 miler the day before, and Best Condition, and then she crewed for the entire R & T. The Browns also donated an entry to the 8 mile R & T to try to get some of the endurance riders interested in our sport. Just three minutes behind Jim and the Marlboro Man came Jim Clover and his partner Jerome Beauchamp. The rest of the field crossed the finish line in an appropriately low-key way, and then we had our awards ceremony. In addition to the one SMO, there were great awards, including lots of bottles of local wine.

I tell you, it's great to race with the Queen.

Headwater of the Rogue	30 miles	8/27/00
1 Mary Tiscornia/Rachel Toor	Albi	3:30
2 Lew Hollander/Eric Wischart	Mis P	4:02
3 Jim Brown/Cary Bertolone	Negask	4:21
4 Jim Clover/Jerome Beauchamp	Bones	4:24
5 Jim Dort/Mark Worley	Fox	5:00
6 Tim & Melissa Kerns	Shadow	5:50
7 Annette Parsons/Michele Jay	Ari Saki	5:31
8 Debbie Hansen-Bernard/Jinny Brown	Sunny22 years old!	6:02
8 mile completion		
Carol Crawford/Tina Grow	Pell Mell	

5th Annual Swanton Pacific Ride & Tie

- Ellen M. Rinde

The good thing about being a worrier is that you always come over-prepared. The bad thing is that there are enough potential pitfalls, real and imagined, in a 100-mile ride & tie to cause you lots of sleepless nights leading up to the event. To that, add the forecast for unusually hot weather and the self-imposed pressure of trying to finish a fifth consecutive year with the same team (same two people, same horse, same *GREAT* crew). Fortunately, it gets a lot easier once 5:00 AM rolls around and you get moving. Then it's just a matter of putting one foot in front of the other and following the pink and white flagging until you get to the finish line.

Three teams, all with solid experience, started the 5th Annual Swanton Pacific Ride & Tie. Five of the starters were women and 4 were from Virginia (so where are all the guys ???). Dennis and Ellen Rinde were attempting their 5th consecutive finish of the 100-miler. Kathy Broaddus and Lani Newcomb were back for their 4th year. Jean Heishman returned for her 2nd year, this time teamed up with her twin sister, Janice Haug, also an

experienced endurance rider, ultra runner and ride & tie contestant.

The three horses were equally experienced. Team Rinde was using Scotty, a 4-time finisher of the 100-mile ride & tie as well as numerous other endurance rides and ride & ties. Now 17 years old, Scotty had had a minor injury and a couple of minor metabolic imbalances earlier in the summer which made him a bit of a question mark despite his experience. Broaddus/Newcomb were entered on Lightfoot Endurance Group's Corky, a top ride & tie competitor for several years. Robert and Melissa Ribley provided Haug/Heishman with Reebok, a very experience endurance competitor with ride & tie experience as well.

After heavy fog in the morning in past years, this year's event started under clear skies. By the 5:15 AM, it was already T-shirt weather. Dennis Rinde was heard saying very uncharacteristic things like "slow down", "be careful" and "don't go so fast". Following their successful strategy from last year, the two woman/woman teams traveled together, Kathy paired up with Jean (who are training partners back home), Lani with Janice and Corky with Reebok. All three teams were within 10 minutes of each other for the first 55 miles.

The "go slow" strategy paid off for Team Rinde. Dennis had an awesome running day and Scotty turned his best 100-mile ride & tie performance yet so

the team broke 20 hours for their first time, finishing in 19:52.

Unfortunately, nobody had read the fine print on Corky's contract. If they had, they would have known that he considers himself a serious ride & tie horse. He believes that you go fast and don't waste time anywhere along the way; you start no earlier than 7AM and finish no later than 12 noon; anything over 4 hours is overtime. He was lean and fit and very professional, not causal and slightly pudgy like his two competitors (who obviously put a high priority on food). This 100-mile stuff didn't fit Corky's contract at all well. Professionalism aside, not eating for 67 miles didn't work too well for Corky. Although he passed the Cascade Ranch vet check, Kathy and Lani knew the trail well enough to know better than to try to drag a tired, demoralized horse through the hills for another 33 miles, especially someone else's tired, demoralized horse. As disappointed as they were not to finish their favorite ride & tie of the year, they opted to use their good veterinary judgement and give Corky the night off.

That left Jean, Janice and Reebok on their own for the rest of the evening. They made good progress however. At 2:45 AM, Jean made her 2nd Swanton Pacific finish and Janice her first. Reebok also received the best condition award.

Lani keeps saying this ride & tie is *THE BEST* and that more people should try it because it's so much *FUN*. Where else can you get 20+ hours of fun ???

Swanton Pacific		100 miles	8/12/00
Dennis Rinde/Ellen Rinde	Scots Bilexijo		19:52
Janice Haug/Jean Heishman	Reebok		21:45
Kathy Broaddus/Lani Newcomb	Court Decision		dnf

Questionnaire Results

Number of questionnaires returned: 49

Priorities for the Board (in priority order):

1. Increase sanction race participation
2. Increase Championship participation
3. Increase number of youth participating in the sport
4. Increase number of pro-am and novice participants

How to accomplish these priorities (in priority order):

1. More sanctioned races
2. Decrease Championship fee (average suggested: \$125)
3. Decrease cost of Assoc. membership (suggested: \$28)
4. More newsletters

35 out of 49 (70%) have access to the internet and email

Reasons for not attending the 2000 Championship (priority):

1. Injury
2. Too busy
3. Too far away
4. Too expensive

Interesting comments:

1. More leverage with AERC organization and events
2. More publicity (ads, articles)
3. More current web site information (race results)
4. More awareness for participants not finishing in the top 3

REMINDER: RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2001

The 2000 Ride & Tie Championship Race

From the Ground Up..... A Crew's Eye View

What on earth was that red, blaze-faced flash that came into our vet check oh-so fast! And, right behind, the grey flash appears. Thus starts the fun-filled day for the ride and tie crews! Let me say right now and with all sincerity that I am in awe of all ride and tie people -- the human and equine participants alike. Beautiful (Arabian!) horses, and the best attitudes you'll find, from a diverse crowd of folks. I'm hooked, and this is one reason why I took vacation time to crew for the Lucky U Racing Team at this year's World Championship's. Another reason is my good pal Chris Turney and his fine horse, Budweiser. Thanks, boys.

This is a merciful sport, starting-wise. Eight a.m. That's almost considered sleeping in, and it's not dark when you start! As crews, we pretty much don't have to do anything but dib a spot at the vet check (thank you Ellen for not making us schlepp to another site!) and wait for our racers to come in. My orders were to "help anyone who needs it," this remark from Chris, saying that he and his team-mate, Rick Anderson, had their hand-tie "handled." Moreover, I don't think he trusted me, even with an hour head start, to beat he and Rick to said tie! So I helped Jim and Cindy Brown. Cindy was expressing some concern at her 15-year-old daughter, Jennifer, holding two horses. Sensing the opportunity to "help anyone who needs it", I piped up with, "I'll be glad to help with either of these wonderful horses." After all, I had provided the glitter, and I was tickled with the way these two fine grey geldings were turned out for the event . . . You can take the girl from the horse show, but you can't take all the horse show from the girl!

Being a human hitching post proved to be yet another wonderful ride and tie adventure. We hiked 3/4 mile up a hill, saw first hand the don't-lock-this-under-penalty-of-death gate, unlocked for our safety, and proceeded to a turn-out on the trail. There were about 15 of us all totaled, children being warned to "stay behind the rushes." I was stunned because (1) I had no idea what "rushes" actually looked like, and, sure enough -- there

they were. And (2) what protection they were to provide the children taking refuge behind them (like a drop-drill in the 1950's). And I guess (3) WHY DO THEY NEED PROTECTION? I began to fret. Laura Christofk was warning us about kicking horses -- "Does anyone have a kicker?" "A biter?"

Before long, we hear the whoops and shouts of the beginning of the 2000 Ride and Tie Championship Race, and HERE THEY COME! Chris and Buddy were the second horse by, and, momentarily forgetting that he thought he and his partner had wisely chosen a more experienced hand-tie person, almost stopped Buddy and got off. However, he quickly came to his senses and went on. Marsha Smith was hand/bush tying for Tom Johnson and Skip Lightfoot. It was a fast race, and what fun from that vantage point! Unlike aid stations at Western States, we were in and we were out.

Back to home base, where after a little more than an hour, a boy ran up shouting, "The first two horses are brown!" Assuming he meant chestnut, our crew, headed by the more-than-competent Nancy Andreotti, got ready for our first customer. Sure enough, here comes Chris and Buddy. Chris vanished at a run, and Buddy did what he does best . . . cruised over to us and stood absolutely calmly while we fussed over him.

Two crew spots over, Tom Johnson had already come in on Raj, leaped off and had sailed out of the vet station. When you think of someone who was born to run, Tom Johnson should come to mind. (If you know what I mean, and I think you do!)

The vet check soon became the hotbed of activity that makes crewing so much fun. Work, but fun. Personally, I learned that lugging two buckets of water is a lot easier on your back than wrangling with one. Who says old dogs can't learn new tricks.. Having Nancy as a leader made the job so much more efficient. She's done this before, and it shows. One of their horses, "Grab," seems to vet himself. He comes in, relaxes, takes the attention he's getting as though it were his due, takes a deep breath, and pretty

By Cathy Rohm

much says, "Okay. I'm ready. Let's go." These animals are so wonderful!

After Chris and Buddy left on the third loop, it was time to wander to the finish, where, coming in first, was Tom Johnson! But -- where was his horse? Here comes a grey around the corner . . . no, it's another team coming in on their second loop. Finally, after what I'm sure felt like a month to Tom, here comes his teammates, and they crossed the finish line first in 3:36:36 And 5 minutes later, I see that familiar blazed-face of a red horse pounding into the finish line! Buddy with Chris and Rick take second place!



CHRIS WITH RICK ON BUDDY

It was a fun, fun time! I think if the general populace knew just how exciting crewing for a ride and tie could be, y'all could charge us! As with any "race," and not being a front-runner myself, I took special interest in those teams coming in 5th, 6th, etc! Every team was ecstatic to finish . . . there's always camaraderie in any team sport, but you toss a horse into the mix, and it just adds a little more edge . . . so, when all three cross the line, it seems even more special, and perhaps, astonishing.

Thanks, Lucky U Racing Team for allowing me to help, and thanks to the McCrary-Rindes for making this course so crew-friendly . There's so much "behind the scenes" work that goes into a championship event of any kind, and this could not have been a better-planned, better-run course. Until next year!!

CANDIDATES FOR RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION BOARD

= IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER =

Lani Newcomb, DVM, Herndon, VA

So, the real question is, what can we do for the R&T Association over here? Can we make a difference? If we can in fact be helpful put my name in the pot. Although we've been doing R&T's since 1983 and putting them on since 1989, I still feel very new to the sport, and indebted to the heavy-hitters over in California who have made this sport possible.

I've been President of the Old Dominion Endurance Rides, Inc and have been on the Board for 8 years or so, so I know my Robert's Rules and when to keep my mouth shut. Sometimes. So there you go.

Gino Pomilia, Novato, CA

Would not just "sit" on the Board. After competing a quarter of a century he has strong ideas of where the Championship race needs to go if it is to survive. He has a list and wants to help make changes for the good.

Ted Ruprecht, Trinidad, CA

If elected to the Board, I will bring competition and management experience (19 completions, 2 Championship Managements) and technical skills as an economist. Declining membership and championship entries and burning-out leaders are signs of serious trouble for the sport and the Association. New ideas, perspectives and energy are what I can contribute.

Pat & Nita Browning, N San Juan, CA

We are interested in becoming Ride & Tie Association Board members for several reasons. As former members, we missed only 2 meetings in 4 years and we feel it is important to attend those meetings. We have some "old" and some new ideas on how to build membership in the organization. We feel support for all the races (no matter how small) is as important as the Championship. Bring up the attendance at the smaller rides and it will spill over to the Championship Ride. We love this sport!

Lon Clearwaters & Leah Mirsch, Rolling Hills, CA – Incumbents

Actively involved in Ride & Tie since 1980, Founding Members of The Ride & Tie Association, Board members since its inception in 1992, Treasurer since 1995. As concerned, dedicated and energetic members we have contributed to the day-to-day running of the Association and the staging of the annual Championship race, including providing legal counsel, bookkeeping, tax preparation and many efforts at each Championship. Although we have been involved for many years we welcome new ideas that will help the sport. Our main concerns for the future of the Association include:

1. Increasing the numbers of participants in the sport.
2. Managing costs.
3. Providing a successful Championship Race each year. One that is challenging for the elite among us, "do-able" for the rest of us, reasonably priced and fun for everyone.

Curt Riffle, Los Altos, CA

Ride & tie is an important part of my life. I would like to rejoin the Board and focus on:

1. Increasing the number of participants in sanctioned races
2. Attracting new people to our sport, especially youth
3. Increasing the value the Association brings to the sport

Tom Christoff, Grass Valley, CA

A priority would be to consider the needs of the membership, especially in selecting the Championship date and site.

Cheryl Domnitch, San Jose, CA

I discovered Ride & Tie in March, 1998 and was hooked after my first practice. I have been a trail runner for 17 years. I started riding in January 1998 with English lessons, after some very limited riding as a child. In my short time as a member of the organization, I have participated in nine Ride & Ties, including one Championship.

I do not own a horse and this has limited my participation in more R & Ts. I believe as a non-horse owner, I can contribute a different perspective to the organization. I believe the Board should focus on increasing participation in already established events by attracting and maintaining new members. One idea for attracting new members could include the concept of establishing riding clinics, specifically focusing on R & T, for potential new members with limited horse experience.

In the last three R & T seasons, I have observed a decline in race participation and the cancellation of events. As a new Ride and Tier and as a potential Board Member I want to see this sport continue and grow well into the future. I believe that I can contribute strongly in making that goal successful.

Sid Sullivan, Boise, ID

I am interested in the Board position. Given the fact that I will travel as far as I do to race 4 or 5 times a year shows some commitment to the sport. I am sure that this commitment will extend to other areas of the sport as well. My background in racing can provide some insight to the sport as we try to draw others.

Robert Ribley, Grass Valley, CA

I would like to be on the board because I believe I could benefit the Ride & Tie Association through my experience in endurance riding and ride management. I have an interest in Ride & Tie as a competitor but am not so competitive that this would sway my decision on important matters.

I did my first Ride & Tie in Foresthill in about 1988. Since then I have competed in 5 World Championships and several other smaller ride & ties. I consider myself an "accomplished finisher" of ride & ties but not a competitive racer.

I serve on two committees with the American Endurance Ride Conference. One being the Heated Protest and Grievance Committee and the other being the Competitions Committee.

I have nearly 20,000 competitive miles in the AERC. I started endurance riding in 1977. My first experience with managing a ride was in 1977 with the San Antonio Endurance Ride. Since then I have competed in endurance rides across the country, riding many different horses and mules. I am married to a veterinarian who is very active with endurance riding and also competes in ride & tie. She works many endurance rides a year and ride & ties also.

I do, however, have my downsides. I am not a good speller. I am more a person of action than words. I will always side and believe the horse, not the rider.

I do feel I have many ideas on expanding the sport of ride & tie and increasing interest in this exciting sport. Please consider me for a position on the board for the Ride & Tie Association.

CANDIDATES FOR RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION BOARD

PLEASE CHOOSE 4

Lani Newcomb, DVM

Curt Riffle

Gino Pomilia

Tom Christofk

Ted Ruprecht

Cheryl Domnitch

Pat/Nita Browning

Sid Sullivan

Lon Clearwaters/Leah Mirsch

Robert Ribley

VOTE NOW....THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO "HAVE A SAY"

Please take 5 minutes and give the new Board of Directors your feedback and ideas:

1. Please choose three from the following priorities for the Board. Rank your selections with 1 as most important, 2 as next important and 3 as least important.

- Increase the number of Championship participants
- Increase the number of participants at sanctioned races
- Increase the number of sanctioned races
- Decrease the price of the Association membership fee (suggested fee? _____)
- Decrease the entry fee of the Championship (suggested fee? _____)
- Increase the number of novice and amateur participants
- Increase the focus on attracting more young people into the sport
- Send Association newsletters more frequently
- Other? _____

2. Y or N; I have access to email _____ What is your email address? _____

3. Y or N; I have access to the internet _____

4. If you did not attend the Championship this year, why not (check all that apply)?

- Too expensive
- Too far away
- Could not find a partner or a horse
- Too busy to prepare myself and/or my horse
- Something else planned for that day
- Didn't know about it in time
- Other? _____

5. Is there anything else you think the Association should be doing for ride & tie?