

# RIDE & TIE



## NEWSLETTER

March 2008



## *Return to Taylorsville*

Third time's a charm? We're fourteen years older and fourteen years wiser and the time has come to meet the challenge of Mount Jura once again. The 38th Annual World Championship Ride & Tie will be held on June 21st, 2008. The trails are being planned and prepared by Dennis Miller, Chuck Stalley and Joe Tomaselli, who set the course in 1991 and 1994. There will be improvements but the 2008 course will give you the same breathtaking views and exhilarating challenges. Race director, Dennis Miller, new to Ride & Tie, has completed Tevis several times and has managed many AERC Endurance rides. He's excited about giving us the best Championship ever.

The Taylorsville area has much to offer. Hiking, fishing, swimming, boating and lovely scenery. The small town of Taylorsville is just down the street from the Rodeo Grounds and County Park where we'll be camping. The golf course is a short drive on the other side of town. Larger communities such as Greenville and Quincy are short scenic drives. Recreational areas such as Lake Almanor are nearby. See you there!



# Message from the President

Spring is coming! I hope your winter has been wonderful. We still have a small patch of snow in our lower pasture. Most of the snow has been gone for a week. If you have had the winter off, do be careful starting riding again. The horses may be a little goofier than usual, the trails slippery, and the trees over the trails a few inches lower than last year. Just last week Ted Ruprecht found out about the slippery trails when the horse he was riding slipped and ended up on top him. He's a little bruised and ouchy, but knowing Ted I'm sure he will recover.

By now, if your membership is current, you should have received your 2008 Ride & Tie Handbook mailed on January 31st. If you are a Lifetime or Founding member you should have received your permanent membership cards. They were mailed February 19th. If you should have received either of these items and did not email [contact@rideandtie.org](mailto:contact@rideandtie.org).

There is a Ride & Tie discussion group on Yahoo. The html for the web site is: [http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/Ride\\_and\\_Tie/](http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/Ride_and_Tie/). If you don't want to type all that just write me at [rideandtiedon@aol.com](mailto:rideandtiedon@aol.com). ( Hmm! Is that really much shorter?) I will send you an invitation to join. The purpose obviously is to discuss Ride & Tie. Topics may include equipment, ride & tie techniques, races, traveling with horses, searching for partners or horses, conditioning for horses and humans, or anything else about Ride & Tie. We need people with questions as well as answers.

Keep watching the race schedule at [www.RideandTie.org](http://www.RideandTie.org). Rufus is hoping to come up with an additional Spring race for Southern California. It will be posted there as soon as it is finalized. Also within the next few weeks we will initiate our Ride & Tie Email list where we hope to let people know what is going on in Ride & Tie, what events are coming soon and what is new. There are currently over 350 email addresses on the list. If you know anything that should be listed there let me know.

The World Ride & Tie Championship is only three and a half months away on June 21st. Since there are no early Ride & Ties on the schedule, you might consider an early AERC ride to get you and your horse in shape. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in the coming racing season.

*Don Both*

## OOOPS!

### CORRECTIONS TO THE 2008 RIDE & TIE HANDBOOK

Cool Ride & Tie Flyer date correction: Date should be September 6.

Ride & Tie Championship Race Director Phone Number should be (530) 281-6631 and email address is [Championship@rideandtie.org](mailto:Championship@rideandtie.org).

Heart of the Hills R&T and Hog Scramble R&T Phone Numbers should be (936)581-0492.

# PLATINUM

P E R F O R M A N C E<sup>®</sup>

*Your Source for Preventive,  
Therapeutic and Sports Nutrition*



## A Different Kind of Treasure Trail

by Kate Kane-Joyce

It was a perfectly lovely September morning at the Chesapeake Ride and Tie in Fair Hill, Maryland. Sunday dawned bright and a little warm and the leaves were beginning to take on hues of gold and orange. My partner, Janice, and I were having another great ride, merrily chatting after our latest exchange when suddenly the grand mood was violently interrupted.

Kathy Broaddus appeared on the trail ahead, decked in a neon-yellow jacket and (so help me) channeling the Gorgon, Medusa! Anytime I see Kathy during a Ride and Tie, my heart stops just a little. She is a fierce competitor who will mow your two-legged carcass down. Knowing that she is somewhere on the trail is motivation enough to keep my feet churning, no matter how tired or sore. But here she was before us, apparently speaking in tongues! From what we were able to decipher, my team (as well as most of the Eastern R&T'ers that day) had added 5 miles to our trail by following the wrong markers. We thought we were miles ahead, but our mistake had left us long behind!

We couldn't ride our horse, "Bubba" into the ground to fix our mistake, but when Kathy told us we could still turn this around, I knew that I wanted to do. Earnestly, Kathy said, "you can catch them", and it struck a cord in me.

Every team is a little different, with its' unique strengths. Janice and her horses have always brought speed and endurance to our team. Janice is a seasoned ultra runner, my



Photos by Genie Stewart-Spears  
(618)658-5507geniess@accessus.net

mentor and team captain. To see her lightly dancing along our rocky trails conjures images of lambs bounding through grassy fields in May. No foolin'; she's just that good. I don't have the miles that Janice has, I started Ride and Tie a few years ago, filling the role of good rider and decent hiker to compliment my partner's foot speed. But when you hang with good people long enough, they rub off on you and so I began a metamorphosis from gym rat to runner. In that moment, with Kathy pawing and snorting before me, I knew that this would be my test, that as a runner, it was time for me to truly pull my weight. I left Bubba in the skilled hands of crew-chief, Bob, at the half-way point. I knew we had just caught up with the leaders and I wanted to see what I had in the tank. I set my jaw, and headed out.

I don't meditate in the traditional sense. It just doesn't ring true to me to sit quietly and be introspective. My personal introspection comes as a by-product of physical activity. I've worked out many conundrums in the time spent cleaning stalls, lifting dumbbells or logging miles on the treadmill and city streets. Something about the cocktail of exercise-induced endorphins and sweat works out the snarls of personal conflicts and puts simple answers in my vision.

I turned my thoughts back to a conversation I had with a friend who called me, "hard-headed". Now, I was very sorry to hear his tone because clearly he did not feel that this was one of my better qualities. Until then, I had always taken a quiet pride in my tenacity. It had not occurred to me that this might drive someone away. It seemed negative to me, too then, this "hard-headedness" and I regretted the way it had affected our relationship. I wondered why I had not been more yielding, or something. Sigh.

I had been running over some of Fair Hill's lush open fields and now was coming to a tree line. The race led us through an area unofficially named "Middle Earth" for its' old-growth deciduous forest and gnarled, viney trees. My eyes indulged in this feast and my lungs filled with fresh, clean air, smelling of loamy soil and sweet decomposing leaves. The earth sprang back against my feet and for awhile I thought of nothing more than the sunlight through the trees, the wild things in the undergrowth and watching for the occasional yellow and black ribbon.

As the woods grew denser, the light began to dim and the little shadow stirred again the regret in my heart. It is my nature to be stubborn; the Irish would say, "There's



nothing to be done of it". The trail began to climb up now and with no way to know how close the other teams were, I pumped my legs and emerged from under the canopy of leaves.

More open field, grassy and bare of shade lay ahead of me and the sun was now high. I had ditched my hydro-pack at the half and wished I had something wet to drink. No matter; I'd just use this to push me on faster. There'd be Gatorade and everything I could want waiting at the finish and there was only one way to get to it. Without a soul to be seen, in the middle of civilization, I was here, removed by the race, marooned, and the only one coming to my rescue was me. Dig, dig, dig.

As the sun beat down on my helmet, and I heard the rhythmic "shushing" of grass underfoot, I drifted again to thoughts of my friend. What was so wrong with a stubborn will, anyway? How thin and muddled is the line between hard-headedness and determination? Maybe the difference is in the eye of the beholder. Ahead of me, the ground rose again and I tore into the looming hill. My train of thought was abruptly derailed by the mantra of my heart and lungs, "DIG, DIG, DIG".

Another few miles and the open fields yielded once again to forest. My spirit lifted as I chased the black and yellow streamers into the cool darkness. I felt a bit like Alice, following her White Rabbit down his hole to Wonderland.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



JUNIOR

RIDE & TIE

## Ride & Tie Strong

by Melissa Queen



PHOTO BY LISA QUEEN

Well it's that time of year again; when our New Year's Resolutions begin to gather dust, students settle into the second half of the school year, the horses lather up in a grimy coat of mud, and our minds turn to Ride and Tie... Ah... Those summer days of shorts and trails, and slicked-out horses tacked up and ready to go. Meeting friends in smiling reunions; the camaraderie of a post-race meal. One step, one hoof beat, altogether the rhythm of the trail.

Now is also the time of recruiting. The seniors at my high school are slowly becoming inflicted with the inevitable 'Senioritis' (common symptoms include late assignments, lack of enthusiasm for class, random bouts of giddiness. Most severe in the Spring; graduation is the only known treatment. See your local school counselor for more information.), but for Juniors (myself included) this is the time of College visits... A barrage of emails arrive from around the country, all claiming that their college is the perfect fit; representatives visit the school passing out tantalizing offers; college fairs abound with pictures

of beautiful campuses spring up like weeds. And to top it off the school starts putting up recruiting posters for the spring sports... What is a poor overwhelmed and overworked high school student to do?! What is there to do, but join the recruiting ranks!

It's that time of year, when people glimpse the arrival of summer and are ready to be excited about something- and it's our job to get them excited about Ride and Tie. The cross-country runners at my school try to keep running during the spring and summer, and nothing is more motivating than an event to look forward too. Track runners often look for something a little different (after all, who can run around in circles forever?), and the adventurous team players are always game for something new. Who knows, perhaps that tennis player you sit next to in Math- or the colleague that likes to bike- is ready for a challenge.

In any case, if the system of college recruiting should be taken as an example, all we need to do is say it loud and say it often. Word of mouth is great, but a poster or email to your school or local sports and running clubs is effective too. I'm excited to bring some of my cross-country teammates out to this season of Ride and Tie- and plan to keep recruiting. Don't be afraid to ask Juniors! Chances are, they are just as adventurous as their older counterparts. And if they do balk at the distance, just pull out the article on the Trocha girls... Those kids are amazing!

So, taking a page out of the U.S Army advertising campaign, brag about your latest event, and spread the word that There's Strong, and then there's Ride and Tie Strong.

If you know of any Juniors interested in Ride and Tie, please give them my email! If they're in the North West, chances are I'll see them at a race, and would love to team with, or find a team for them. (paintedclassic@gmail.com).



## My Ride & Tie Comeback--Sort Of

by Annette Parsons

The 2007 Headwaters of the Rogue Ride and Tie, held August 25 near Crater Lake, Oregon was, for me, a very special one. While I have hosted the Headwaters of the Rogue Ride and Tie seven years, and the Pacific Crest Ride and Tie for several years before that, this one meant the most to me I think. I have to thank Don and Annie Betts and Carol Ruprecht for their enthusiastic and unequivocal support and encouragement to keep putting the race on, and my husband and long-time ride and tie partner, Jim Clover, for convincing me to do it. Here's the scoop....

An 8-mile ride and tie may not seem like a big deal to a lot of us "old timers" who have seen our share of championships and ride and ties over the years. It did not seem like a big deal to me 18 months or so ago. After all, I did my first ride and tie back in 1983 when Eureka, California was home to the largest field of entries ever...some 220 teams competed that year! I was hooked, and since then have competed in 14 championships and many smaller races throughout California, Nevada, and Oregon. I even met my husband through a mutual ride and tie friend, Joan Ruprecht. Joan was responsible for both Jim and me becoming confirmed ride and tie addicts, not to mention falling in love and getting married.

Ride and Tie has been a huge part of our lives together, especially once we found our equine partner of a lifetime, Bones, in 1991. Over the years, the three of us traveled around the western states riding and tying our way to a whole lot of healthy family fun and many ride and tie friends. Ride and Tie gave me motivation to keep fit and active. I even took a month and "ride and tied" the Pacific Crest Trail across Oregon in 2003 with Bones, my cousin, Nezzie, and my little pack mule, Dixie.

Things began to decline for me in January 2006 when our beloved Bones died suddenly. He was only 19, and had competed very well in the 2005 championship in Libby, Montana the previous July. Three months later my dad was very ill and we thought we were going to lose him. These extremely stressful life events along with a couple of other factors set the stage to tip my immune system over the edge. My genetic predisposition for an autoimmune disorder was triggered, and

WHAM! I had excruciating pain in my knees, hips, elbows, shoulders, neck. I could not even get out of bed or get dressed without help from Jim, let alone do daily things we all take for granted like feeding and grooming the horses, tacking up, etc. Hitch up the trailer or mount a horse?? I could barely walk. This was an extremely frightening, frustrating, and depressing time for me. I did not know if I was slated to a future in a wheel chair within months, or just what I had ahead of me. The thought of ever doing another ride and tie or pack trip was out of question. I could not even sleep well because of the pain, and my energy level was zilch. I have never been a depressive person, but I learned what it feels like to be really depressed, and I did not like it at all.

I lost my appetite and about 25 pounds over the next 6 months or so. Those of you who know me know that that is a lot, and much of that was muscle mass, not just fat. I became a weakling, a far cry from the strong, healthy, active person I had been just months earlier.

Over the next year I learned more than I ever wanted to know about things like rheumatoid

arthritis, inflammation, lupus, anti-rheumatic drugs, homeopathic remedies, holistic health approaches, you name it. I learned that once triggered, these disorders are generally lifelong. The best I could hope for was remission, and hope I do!

I have never been a big fan of drugs, and the doctors had me on many. Some helped, some did not. Steroids helped immediately and were like a miracle, but I could not remain on the high dose

necessary to feel good again without risking devastating long-term effects. Some of the anti-rheumatic drugs take many months to kick in, but finally after about six months I was able to begin to wean myself from the steroids. I also worked with a naturopathic physician during this time and made some diet changes designed to help reduce inflammation in the body. I began sleeping better and my energy level improved. Gradually, through a combination of conventional pharmaceuticals and naturopathic approaches, I have begun to get my life back. I have not had a really bad flare since December 2007. I saw a gradual improvement in my movement, flexibility, strength, and energy. I still have a lot



Jim Clover and Annette Parsons at Headwaters Ride & Tie

more pain than before the onset, and am still taking far more drugs than I wish, but I am better than I was! I am getting some of my strength back, as I am able to do more now. I still feel like a weakling compared to my former self, but it has gotten better.

So given all of this, it was against my inclination that I put on the 2006 Headwaters of the Rogue Ride and Tie. But at the urging of the Betts', and with

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**



## SOLO, MY MUSTANG STORY

by Lisa Queen

It was my first true "Horse Camping Trip" with my longtime friend, Carolee. Carolee had grown up in a family that took frequent Horse trips, the hardcore "ride in with your gear camping." This trip was the "pull up the Horse trailer and make camp" kind of trip. I was so looking forward to this experience and I knew I was in good hands with a very experienced rider and camper who knew the region well.

We headed into the Oregon Ochoco National Forest, an unbelievably beautiful spot. (Bandit Springs Race) Why the Ochoco's? WILD HORSES. Carolee had recently explored the area and had the privilege of being part of the Ochoco NF Herd Count.



I remember telling friends and work colleagues of my upcoming trip. Telling them of my excitement to see the wild horses... "You won't see any horses" was the common retort. Carolee kept reassuring me that we would indeed see the horses.

We arrived in the late afternoon, set up camp and the high line for the horses. Just as we were finishing our

dinner at dusk, we heard the high shrill whinnying of a very young horse.... Across in the distance, coming at a full gallop was a young colt. He came right into our camp and headed straight to our two horses who were high line tied, enjoying their dinner. Opie was not impressed and put on her best dragon face, barring teeth and all, trying to scare away the colt.... BJ - Carolee's gelding -behaved much more the gentleman, just a bit bewildered as to where this little guy came from.

As for me - out came the camera.... Snap, snap, snap crazy! This guy might run away at any moment- after all he was a wild horse.

Soon after his arrival, a truck arrived down the dirt road with the following explanation for the colt's arrival into our camp: a group of campers had stumbled upon this colt in a distressed state and discovered that he was hovering near his deceased mare, who had died giving birth to her new year's foal, a few days prior. This had all occurred very near a highway so there was the fear that he would be in danger. He was chased down towards the meadow where we were camping.

As the evening progressed, the colt, apparently exhausted, proceeded to lie down right in the middle of BJ's pile of hay. We surmised that he must be between 9-11 months old. His sad predicament made us wonder what he had been through these past couple nights. Carnivores had apparently attacked the mare's carcass already. He seemed absolutely relieved to have the protection of other horses. He went into such a deep sleep that Carolee and I were able to crawl forward and stroke him, rubbing his

rough baby coat. Of course in typical "girl" fashion we started thinking of names for him and settled on Solo. We crawled into our own beds wondering what the morning would bring.

Much to our surprise the little guy was still lying virtually under BJ in the morning. BJ had his line stretched tight, having apparently tried hard to keep away from Solo, a funny site. BJ gave us a look as if to say "Hey guys, a little help over here". When we approached, Solo would only move just out of our reach. I untied the horses to take them to the river to water and he casually followed along, having a long drink himself.

Carolee felt she could probably find his herd so we decided to saddle up and try our luck. As we headed out, mounted on our horses, Solo got real distressed again. So much so that he started rearing up in front of BJ, seeming as if he wanted us to stop. He soon settled down, just trotting along side us. It didn't take us long to find his herd. Carolee recognized the stallion and his mares. She was real excited to recognize horses from her herd count experience and then realized that she must have also counted Solo and his mare at that time. Upon seeing the herd, Solo trotted around us and then stood statue-still right in front of Opie and me. The stallion quickly got his herd moving away from us, Solo then took off towards them at a gallop. The stallion promptly turned his attention towards Solo and barred his teeth in aggression to chase Solo away. Quite the chase ensued until Solo was chased out of sight into the woods. In some degree of sadness, we resigned ourselves to the thought that we had done our job and reintroduced him back to his herd. It was completely

**CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN**



# 2008 RIDE & TIE SCHEDULE

For More Detailed Information see the 2008 Handbook or contact Race Directors

- MARCH 9 HEART OF THE HILLS RIDE & TIE.** Boerne, Texas, 8 and 25 miles, Ross Carrie, (936) 581-0492  
carrie@ravenenvironmental.com
- MARCH 22 CHESAPEAKE SPRING RIDE & TIE,** Fair Hill, MD, Cate Peloquin, 132 Salonica Place, Bel Air, MD  
21014 (410)420-7678, cpenguin57@aol.com
- APRIL 12 NO FRILLS RIDE & TIE** Star Tannery, VA 12, 30 and 50 Mile courses. Kate Geier (703)868-5283  
geierkm@verizon.net
- APRIL 26 FOXCATCHER RIDE & TIE,** Fairhill, MD, 25 and 50 Mile courses, Diane Trefry (410)755-6855  
unicornfarm@hughes.net
- MAY 11 HOG SCRAMBLE RIDE & TIE** Huntsville, TX 9, 20 and 35 miles, Ross Carrie (936)581-0492  
carrie@ravenenvironmental.com
- MAY 17 MOUNT ADAMS RIDE & TIE** Trout Lake, WA 12 and 25 Miles, Steph Irving PO Box 200, Trout  
Lake, WA 98650, (509)395-2065 sirving@gorge.net
- MAY 17 QUICKSILVER RIDE & TIE** San Jose, CA 30, 15 and 6 mile courses Steve Anderson 639 Meadow  
Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95051 (408)306-1786 steve.anderson1@juno.com
- MAY 24-25 MICHAUX MADNESS RIDE & TIE,** Mont Alto, PA, 25 miles, Skip Kemmerer 12908 Brandenburg  
Hollow Rd Myersville, MD 21773 (301)293-2949 skippykemmerer1@aol.com.
- JUNE 21 38TH ANNUAL RIDE & TIE CHAMPIONSHIP,** Taylorsville, CA 32 Miles and Short Course,  
Dennis Miller (530)281-6631, Ride & Tie Association PO Box 2436, Sequim, WA 98382  
championship@rideandtie.org
- JULY 6-12 FORT STANTON RIDE & TIE,** Capitan, NM 35 Miles Roger Taylor 500 Camino Del Bosque,  
Albuquerque, NM 87114 (505)897-4985 roger\_sue@prodigy.net
- JULY 19 BANDIT SPRINGS RIDE & TIE,** Ochoco National Forest OR, 30-100 Mile Elevator, Janelle Wilde  
584 Romie Howard Road, Yoncalla, OR 97499 (541)849-2460, mfarm@centurytel.net
- AUGUST 9 SANTIAM CASCADE RIDE & TIE** Sisters, OR 30 Miles Anna Sampson (503) 829-6002 16501  
South Butte Creek, Mollala, OR 97038 sampson@molalla.net
- AUGUST 16 SWANTON PACIFIC RIDE & TIE** Davenport, CA 75/100 Miles Ellen Rinde 206 Swanton View  
Road, Davenport, CA 95017 (831)432-6089 (evenings)
- AUGUST 23 HEADWATERS OF THE ROGUE RIDE & TIE,** 3, 16 and 25 Miles, Annette Parsons 1831 Slagle  
Creek Road, Grants Pass, OR 97527 (541)846-6656 aparsons@apbb.net
- SEPTEMBER 5-7 BIG SOUTH FORK RIDE & TIE** Onieda-Jamestown, TN Joanne Mitchell, 1570 Sunnyside Road,  
Sweetwater, TN 37922 (423)337-6194 jfgmhorse@bellsouth.net
- SEPTEMBER 6 COOLEST RIDE & TIE,** Cool, CA, 4, 9, 13, or 22 Mile Courses, Frank Lieberman 1810 Windy Ct.  
Cool, CA 95614 (530)886-0890 coolgalinda@sbcglobal.net
- SEPTEMBER 21 CALIFORNOS TEJON FANDANGO RIDE & TIE,** Tejon Ranch, CA. Marge and Vern Biehl,  
46000 Kings Canyon Rd. Lancaster, CA 93536 (661)724-1060, californios100@aol.com
- SEPTEMBER 20-22 CHESAPEAKE FALL RIDE & TIE,** Fair Hill, MD, 20, 30 and 50 mile courses, Cate Peloquin, 1328  
Salonica Place, Bel Air, MD 21014 (410)420-7678, cpenguin57@aol.com
- OCTOBER 18 FOOTHILLS OF THE CASCADES RIDE & TIE** Molalla, OR 25 Miles, Mary Nunn 16501 South  
Butte Creek, Mollala, OR 97038 (503)829-5321 flyingn@molalla.net
- OCTOBER 18-19 HIGH DESERT RIDE & TIE,** Silver Springs, NV, 30 mile course, Nancy Upham (775)224-6565
- OCTOBER 25-26 FORT VALLEY RIDE & TIE,** Fort Valley, VA 15, 30 and 50 Miles . Susan Trader (540)882-9721  
susntrader@aol.com
- DECEMBER 20 RIDER RANCH RIDE & TIE** Roll, AZ 15 and 25 Mile courses Laline Jensen (619) 867-9243  
Lalinejensen@msn.com



## RIDE & TIE COMBACK CONTINUED

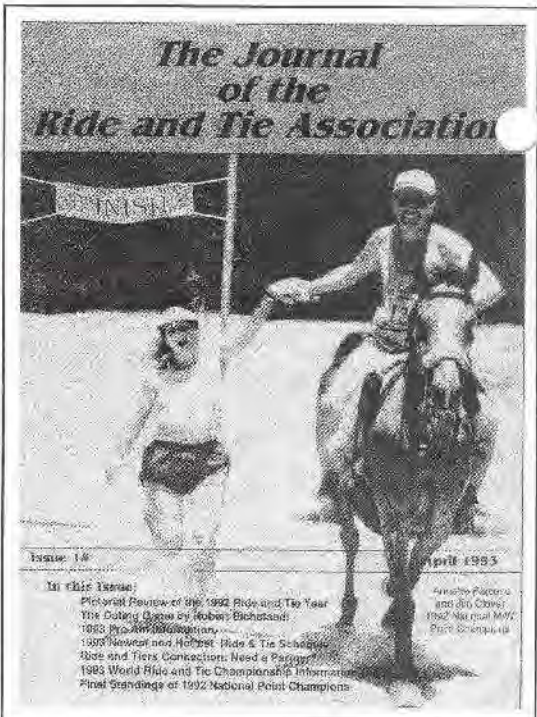
encouragement from Carol Ruprecht who promised to fly all the way from Southern California with her husband, Tom Gey, to compete, how could I say "no"? Those folks made a huge effort at getting some teams to show up, and we ended up with a total of eight teams that year. Not a lot, but enough to make it fun and almost worth the time and effort! I could not compete, still hurting too much, and I was exhausted, but I had a great time seeing the racers having so much fun. So, once again, with urging and encouragement and promises of teams from the Betts-Ruprecht gang, I decided to put it on again in 2007. I was not planning on competing because, although I am waaay better than I was a year ago, I was still not feeling quite ride and tieable. Plus, I had only a borrowed horse with me at ride camp that I had used to help mark trail, and she had never done a ride and tie. We had not worked at finding a partner for Jim this year, because he was nursing a torn achilles tendon and had not been able to run for nearly a month. I had fantasized about doing the 8 mile course with Jim and my borrowed mare Rosie, but knew it was folly and fantasy. Jim arrived in camp Friday afternoon to help me with last minute details as teams began to arrive. By late Friday evening, we had seven teams signed up! I was again hoping for more, but the teams who were there had traveled long distances to get there and were really enthusiastic so it was hard to be downbeat. The Betts trailered 10 hours from Sequim, WA. Carol and Tom flew up from southern California. Lisa Preston made a 10 hour train trek from Sequim. Frank Lieberman and Steve Anderson trailered from Cool, CA, and brought with them a ride and tie and endurance legend, Bob Edwards, who is now 81, recovered from his stroke last December, and looking for a ride and tie partner! Talk about inspiration! Other ride and tie legends, Ted and Joan Ruprecht trailered from Trinidad, CA. Ben Volk trailered from Pasco, WA, and fellow Oregonians Tim Rubin, Melissa Queen, and Josh Steffan and his wonderful family drove or trailered to be there and compete. How could I not be excited??

It was close to dusk and we were about to turn in, when I commented to Jim that I was sorry that he and I could not just take Rosie and do the race. He said "Why don't we?" I stammered a bit, after all, he was injured, I have joint pain, and Rosie had never done a ride and tie. I said "You can't, you're injured, you'll hurt your leg". Jim

responded that it was only eight miles, he could handle it. I said "You've never even ridden Rosie!" He did not seem to think that was a problem at all (this is typical of those afflicted with ride and tie fever....all caution about riding an unfamiliar horse is tossed to the wind). I knew then that he was having a flare of ride and tie fever, and dang it, if I wasn't catching it!

So what the heck! I said "We'd better get her vetted in then!" So I grabbed a brush, gave Rosie a quick once-over and headed to the vet line. She passed just fine, she got her number, and we were officially entered in our own race!

The simple act of climbing out of the cabover bed in the camper has become a test of endurance for me, so race morning, adding the tasks of tacking up and organizing the start was a challenge. But the weather was perfect, and we started all 8 teams down the trail, with Jim and Rosie and me bringing up the rear. We were giving Rosie her first tie lessons as we covered the first mile or two, and never saw any of the other teams after that. Rosie took it all in stride, figuring we were crazy but going along with the game good-naturedly. I think she really got into it on the Minehaha trail thru the big trees, as she flew around those trail curves! I think all the teams had a great time, judging from the feedback I received at our little awards potluck after the race. I know that Jim and I sure did! We certainly did not set any speed records, I did hurt a lot, but it felt so good to be doing a ride and tie again, and



Covergirl Annette Parsons with husband Jim Clover

to me it was a REALLY big deal! I think it as sort of a "comeback moment", and hope I will be able to do some more, at least short courses, in the future! And I am grateful to all the folks who came all that way to compete at Headwaters, and to Don, Annie, and Carol for their encouragement, and to Jim for giving me the support and courage to try it!

**Annette Parsons has been active in Ride & Tie for seventeen years. She has 975 career ride & tie miles, and has completed 13 championships. Annette is currently the chairperson of the nominating committee for the Ride and Tie Board of Directors.**

WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNTRY CARE PROGRAM



Shop at the Country Supply website:

[www.countrysupply.com](http://www.countrysupply.com)

and they will donate a percentage of your purchases! Simply enter our Care Code when you complete your order.



Our Care Code: **rideandtie**



# Unanimous Decision on November's Mystery Photo



November's Mystery Photo

Congratulations to those brave souls who ventured a guess about our November's Mystery Photo! They were all in agreement and so MUST be right! Thanks for your guesses. Now how about this issue's mystery?

**Cindi Brown:** Mystery photo was the Ride and Tie championship at Castle Rock (The Swanton 100 site in Santa Cruz). Not sure of the year, 1997, 98 or 99 maybe. Jim Brown on Rocky (NL Starfire) and me, Cindy Brown on Negask. Both of these horses are now retired in Georgetown and both did several Ride and Tie Championships. We took Rocky out of retirement last year and he again did the Ride and Tie championship coming in 5th place. Negask did 6 Ride and Tie Championships always completing and loving his job. I have this same mystery photo in a frame in my trailer, it is one of my favorites!

**Merry Ben Stover:** I think the grey horse with the man on it may be Corky. I am sure #117 is Skip Lightfoot. My guess would be Castlerock/Swanton.

**Steve Shaw:** I believe that it is at Big Creek and what a great treat to see Bud Johns against the trees. I also see Jim and Cindy Brown on the first horses and Becky Spenser on the third horse. There is Skip Lightfoot and Jeff Townsend on foot. I wonder who Jeff did the race with in those days? It must be an early championship or Levi at Davenport as Skip looks pretty tough!

**George Hall:** As far as the mystery photo: Big Creek country. I'd say 2000 because Jim Brown is wearing the same hat as in the 2007 R&T November newsletter cover. Even I can't make something last too much longer than that. Obviously, Skip Lightfoot is #117. Is that Brian Purcell with #6 on his shirt? That sort of looks like Gabriella Mann with the visor, riding the grey. And of course Bud Johns in the background. Thanks, Bud.

## TREASURE TRAIL CONTINUED

le and Tie-er is never alone. Even in the solitude of a loop, run long without seeing your partner or pony, one is on the other's mind, wondering where she is, how she is feeling, or hoping she knows you are alright, not lost, just really, really into your race. So you keep looking and keep moving. Now that I had run this far solo, I wasn't going to take a chance of getting passed by watching and waiting for Janice and Bubba. When I am out front, it's my job to keep us there.

I kept my rhythm. Devoid of grace, but not style, I trotted along the paved road and with each step brought the finish line closer. Call it what you will: hard-headedness, determination, strength of vision, I recognized it then, in the very threads of my being. It is this quality that carries me through the hard times of life and has led me to my greatest personal moments. What a silly thing, to ever look upon that with regret!

### Supplement:

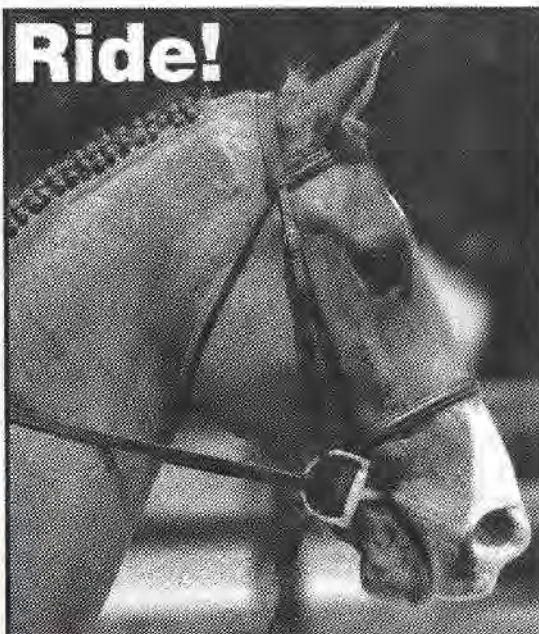
In late October, we finished up R&T season in the East with a mountain-climbing weekend in Fort Valley, VA. Janice and I capped off the year by finishing our first 50 Mile R&T as a team. Once again, there was Kathy Broadus, waiting for us! But this time she was at the finish, and those eyes that could turn mere mortals to stone were a softer blue and sparkling in a warm grin.

The gifts of Ride and Tie are unexpected. You cannot enter a race bent to seek any one feeling or experience, because you surely will miss it. But those rare gems we find on the dusty trail will never lose their glow, for those who have eyes to see.

**Kate Kane-Joyce is an Equestrian Strength and Conditioning Coach living in Staunton, VA. Kate has been a Ride and Tie-er with partner Janice Heltibridle since 2003.**

**OUR STATISTICIAN, Steve Anderson, is looking for race results from the Colorado Rocky Mountain Ride & Ties in the 1980s. Please email him with the information. steveanderson1@juno.com**

# Ride!



Great articles • Huge distribution  
Stallion Showcase • Horses for sale

1.800.267.8373

www.ridepublishing.com



## SOLO - CONTINUED

natural for the stallion to chase him away. At this point it would be up to Solo to find a bachelor band.

We headed off on our day's ride. Carolee's Dad had joined us that morning with his horse and within a half-hour, I hear him say "Uh-oh - look over your shoulder, Solo at left flank..." Sure enough, Solo had fallen in line behind us.

Solo proceeded to stay in our camp and follow us on our rides for the next three days, despite all our attempts to send him away. It was an amazing experience. But we were getting anxious about our departure and what it might mean for Solo. I started saying things like "maybe he will just get in the trailer". Carolee would remind me that stealing a mustang was a felony...

Well the morning of our departure arrived.... The little guy started getting agitated as camp was disassembled and was not impressed when the horses were loaded up. He just ran frantically between the two horse trailers - whinnying. Too sad. I had my window down as we pulled out and he just ran along at my window. We stopped, still on the dirt road, afraid he would run in front of us... I jumped out and crouched down and Solo came right up to me and nuzzled the top of my head, gently pulling my hair. Needless to say I cried... Carolee's dad thought Solo would stop before we hit the main road so encouraged us to carry on. Not so - Solo proceeded to gallop along for a short stretch along the paved road! I was absolutely panicked, worried about a terrible accident. But he did then turn sharply off the road and up into the forest. We then decided to head straight for the Forestry Dept Offices in Prineville.

After explaining our story to a woman at the office, we were promptly told that he would be considered a hazard to himself and others and would need to be captured. We were then asked if we would be interested in adopting him.... Of course! After all we believed he had already adopted us!

To make a long story short.... We turned around- got saddled up and rode around calling his name and found Solo in no time. He came running towards us whinnying, just magical! He seemed to just look at us like "what was that all about?" We helped get him loaded up in a trailer within an hour the next morning. The little guy could have run off at any moment into hundreds of acres of wilderness but he just stuck in there with us and finally followed Opie up into the trailer.

Solo was taken to the official Burns Mustang Adoption Facility and later picked up and adopted by Carolee. A dream come true for Carolee.

Carolee would proceed to spend the next year building on her relationship with Solo. Her quiet nature allowed Solo to learn trust. I saw him just follow her into her horse trailer one day, something I have seen even the most domesticated horse struggle with.

Melissa, my 16-year-old daughter and Ride & Tie Junior Editor, had the privilege of working with Solo at our place last summer. She took Solo through all his first ground-training experiences. This horse is just remarkable; his unrelenting trust is

a beautiful thing. Melissa brought him to the point where Carolee was able to come out with BJ and we all went on a nice ride with Carolee leading Solo from on top of BJ. He just followed the lead beautifully. I would later meet Dan Rash at our place for Solo's first trim (he will remain barefoot). I was a little anxious as to how it would go for I had had very little to do with Solo. No need for worry, Dan was very impressed with how well Solo stood for the trim. No issues at all.

Melissa looks forward to this summer, planning to build on her accomplishments from last summer.

Well - it was an experience of a lifetime. I went back to work just beaming. "Not only did we see the mustangs, we brought one home!"

PS... Melissa's eyes still roll when I say to someone..."did I tell you my Mustang story?"

Lisa Queen's first Ride & Tie was in 2005 at Foothills of the Cascades. Since then, she and her daughter, Melissa, have competed in most of the ride & ties in the Pacific Northwest. Lisa's first championship was last year's at Humboldt Redwoods.



Solo Discussing the Possibility of Adoption

Lisa Queen Photo



# Founding Members

Lon Clearwaters, Clark & Bradley Davis, Warren Hellman, Wayne, Robin & Allison Hinrichs, Mike & Cynthia Jepsen, Bud & Fran Johns, Aileen Johnson, Lud & Barbara McCrary, Leah Mirsch, John Osterweis, Kirsten Peterson, Steve Shaw, Jim & D'Ann Steere, Eric Thompson, Lars Thompson, Mary Tiscornia, Ralph & Peggy Wadsworth, Brian Zuniga, and Levi Strauss

# Lifetime Members

Chris, Linda & Steve Anderson, Nancy Beacon, Lee Betak, Don & Andrea Bells, Marge & Vern Bichi, Kathy Broadbus, Pat & Nita Browning, Liz Carey, Ruthann Conklin, Doyle Eggers, Jack Garnett, Thomas & Carol Ruprecht Gey, Guy Goddard, Barrie Grant, Byron Grant, Debbie Hansen-Bernard, Dawn Hartsock, Janice Heltibridge, Tom Highland, Carl Hill, Lew & Hanne Hollander, Jim, Sara & Elaine Ruprecht Howard, Tom Johnson, Jonathan Jordan, Jan Kahdeman, Cunilla Kent, Peter & Martha Klopfer, Skip Lightfoot, Mo, Nori & Whitney Livermore, Gabrielle Mann, Kent McLaren, Lani Newcomb, Jaret Owens, Anita Parra, Annette Parsons, Calvin Paulette, Brian Purcell, Barbara Ravizza, Chet Relyca, Mark Richtman, Curt Riffe, Emmett Ross, Tom Rotkis, Dale Roush, Ted, Joan & Louis Ruprecht, Kirsten Seyferth, Lari Shea, Marcia Smith, John & Helen Stacy, Godfrey & Suzanne Sullivan, Judith Teichman, Kathy Thompson, Jeff Townsend, Alina Vale, Sydney, Don & Bryce Vale, Jean Whitman, Laurie Wilson, and Leslie Yates.



# Supracor®

Technology You Can Get Comfortable With®

# RIDE & TIE MENTORS

## ARIZONA and NEW MEXICO:

Beth Brinkley, (520)384-2548  
cactusclanz@hotmail.com

## CALIFORNIA:

AUBURN: Cheryl Dornitch,  
cdp26@aol.com (530)973-5668

FRESNO: Don Strong,  
dstrong@cleanshomer.com (555)862-4937

MALIBU: Kirsten Seyferth, scatris@hotmail.com

MONTEREY/SANTA CRUZ: Dawn Hartsock,  
grover1939@aol.com

ONTARIO: Dawn McCool,  
for\_rescue@yahoo.com, (909)596-8026

ORANGE COUNTY: Ruprecht & Gey  
cruprecht@rideandtie.org, (949)263-1772

Central: Melanie Weir,  
melanew@socialroom.com, (714)321-3593

South: Amanda Wood,  
awood4@cox.net, (949)388-1060

REDDING: Karen Deaver,  
kdeaver@siltsd.net, (530)875-8570

SAN DIEGO: Rufus Schneider, (619)445-2060

SAN JOSE: Steve Anderson,  
steve.anderson1@juno.com, 408 249-2780

IDAHO: Sid Sullivan, sids@cableone.net

LOUISIANA: Karen Wolfshamer,  
wolfshamer@cox.net, (225)757-2615

OREGON: Annette Parsons & Jim Glover,  
aparsons@aobo.net

TENNESSEE: Joanne Mitchell, (865)693-4308  
jfmorse@bellsouth.net

UTAH: Dave & Debbie Wagner,  
ddwags@redrock.net, (435)658-3055

VIRGINIA: Lani Newcomb, give2bute@aol.com

## WASHINGTON:

Western Washington:  
Lisa Preston, lpreston@hotmail.com

Eastern Washington:  
Jaret Dornd, joutback@man.com  
Rachel Toor, rachelttoor@earthlink.net

If you would like to be a mentor for your area,  
contact Don Betts at RideAndTieDon@aol.com

# RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Endowment Chair: John Osterweis john@osterweis.com

Media Relations: Carol Ruprecht cruprecht@rideandtie.org

Statistics: Steve Anderson steve.anderson1@juno.com

Newsletter Editor: Annie Betts Annie12345@aol.com

146 Janssen Farm Rd, Sequim, WA 98382 (360)681-5218

Juniors Editor: Melissa Queen PaintedClassic@gmail.com

7680 NW Ridgewood, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541)758-8054

Ride & Tie Office: Lisa Preston Contact@rideandtie.org

Ride and Tie Association PO Box 2436 Sequim, WA 98382

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Betts, President RideAndTieDon@aol.com

Rufus Schneider, Vice President (619)445-1060

Ted Ruprecht, Treasurer jrurprecht@suddenlink.net

Dawn Hartsock, Secretary Grover1959@aol.com

Steve Anderson Steve.anderson1@juno.com

Pat and Nita Browning frenchcorral@yahoo.com

Lani Newcomb Give2bute@aol.com

Don Strong dons@deanshomer.com

# MEMBERS EMERITUS

Steve Shaw sshaw@pacbell.net

Jim Steere, DVM steeres@comcast.net

Mary Tiscornia M11580@aol.com



# THE RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2436  
Sequim, WA, 98382  
www.rideandtie.org

Mysterious Photo from the Archives



Who? Where? When? Email me with your guesses! Annie12345@aol.com

## The Ride and Tie Association Membership Form

Send completed form and payment to:  
The Ride and Tie Association-PO Box 2436, Sequim, WA 98382

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Check One)

Lifetime Member (\$500) No more annual membership fees. Eligible for special savings as offered.

Supporter (\$100 or more) Same benefits as Competitor Member. Also available for special savings as offered.

Competitor Member (\$25) Any competitor must be a current member to compete in sanctioned Ride & Tie events.

Friend of Ride & Tie (\$20) Not an actual competitor but would like to show their support for Ride & Tie.

Competitor Family (\$40) Immediate family residing at one address. List all names to be included.

Membership year is from January 1-December 31. All categories of membership will receive Ride & Tie Newsletter, information and applications for the Ride & Tie Championship, 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. The Ride and Tie Association is a 501 (C)(3) non profit organization.