

# RIDE & TIE



## NEWSLETTER

November 2009



PETERRAMSING.COM

Rachel Toor and Russ Kiernan on Pip: The Ride From Hell...Story on page 4

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Wranglers at Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival in San Francisco in October 2009 include Ride & Tiers: Heidi Clare Lambert on the fiddle, Warren Hellman on the banjo and guest singer, Don Betts.

We've made our now annual trek south to the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival. The trees have already turned color and the leaves have been driven to the ground with the rain. We've had snow on the mountains by our house. Our horses are all barefoot for the winter. It is time to start the annual plea for nominees for the Board of Directors. It is time for fresh ideas and new energy. There will be at least one person that is not running for reelection, that will be me. Come June there will be at least one new Board member and a new president of the Association.

Please contact me if you have any interest in being on the Board of Directors. I will gladly submit your name to the nomination committee. Warning! If we don't hear from any of you we will go out prodding and poking for nominees.

This is also the time to let me know or send in your sanctioning packet if you are planning on putting on a ride & tie next year. There is a change in the sanctioning for next year. Each race will have to use the Ride and Tie Association insurance. It will be a bargain.

We have a new sponsor, Healthy as a Horse. If you don't have your Christmas gifts for this year, be sure and check our sponsors. Sleeves, from Moeben, maybe a saddle from Specialized or Black Forest, and some new stirrups or tack from Healthy as a Horse or Action Tack, clothes from Cool Rider would all make great presents. Don't forget your horse would probably appreciate most anything from Platinum Plus. Be sure and tell these sponsors that you are with the Ride & Tie Association when you shop with them.

Don't forget to put June 19th on your calendar for next year's 40th Annual Ride & Tie Championship. This is going to be the BEST CHAMPIONSHIP EVER!

*Don Betts*

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# Chasing Ellen

by Lani Newcorn



Annie Betts

Ellen Rinde keeping her lead in 2006 at Cool Ride & Tie

Ellen has always had so many miles that we couldn't conceive of ever catching up with her, so we never tried. Instead we just concentrated on having fun, plugging away year after year, doing every ride and tie we could on our side of the world and going west when we could get away, racking up about 250 miles each year. We aren't fast, but we're lucky to have good horses and great ride & tie friends, and we spend a lot of time encouraging new people to join in the fun.

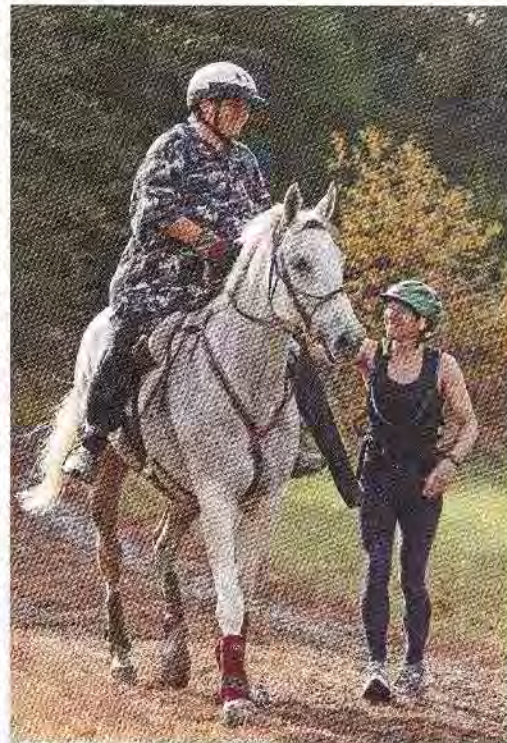
Kathy Broadbus has been my ride & tie partner for more than fifteen years. She's fast and I'm slow, but she knows I'll get there eventually, probably won't get lost, fall off the horse or do anything terribly stupid, so she sticks with me. When she's occupied somewhere else sometimes Mark Trader or Jenny Jones will run with me, but it takes a pretty special person to tote me down the trail, so it's almost always Kathy.

After three good races this spring, I realized we were within a couple hundred miles of Ellen Rinde's record of 3132 miles. After calculating all the remaining ride and ties over here, we realized we might be able to catch her if everything went right. Of course, that never happens. Jenny and I tried out two new horses in the Old Dominion ride & ties in July, with one successful 20 mile race and one bloopster the following day (we finally met a horse who wouldn't ride and tie. Dang, now we had to make up those 20 miles later in the year). Big South Fork in Tennessee in September has some of the best ride & ties anywhere, but they are held concurrently with a 100 mile AERC ride

that Kathy really wanted to do, so we did the 30 mile ride and tie on Friday and she rode the 100 miler on Saturday while I crewed. Dang, missing the 30 mile ride and tie on Saturday meant we had to make up those miles later.

The Chesapeake ride & ties in Maryland the following weekend had perfect weather, great footing and the horses were right on target, so Kathy and I clicked through 30 miles on Friday, 30 miles on Saturday, and 20 miles on Sunday, 130 miles down, only, uh, um, 80 to go, and two races left. Yikes. The good part for us is with all our races bunched up at the end of the year, by the time the results were posted, it would be too late for Ellen to see us coming. Heh heh. The bad part was that some of the wheels were starting to fall off, as they can do at the end of the season. While the horses were all raring to go, Kathy and I were somewhat staggering and limping around. Janice Heltbridle, the steadiest and fastest ride and tier on the planet, agreed to be my partner at the Fort Valley ride and ties, as my ace-in-the-hole giving me a boost over the top, while Kathy would crew and troubleshoot any problems that might arise.

Two weeks before Fort Valley my right knee finally gave up the ghost and decided it didn't want to play any more. Dagnabbit! This meant we had to use horses that would tolerate a full leg brace (uh, that eliminated Kathy's Biscuit and Tidbit, and Janice's Frisky and Jubba.) Kathy saved the day by producing some trekking poles, which made traveling up and down hills and through the rocks possible, but kept those horses out of contention as a cripple waving sticks just wasn't in their game plans. **CONTINUED PAGE 10**



Hugh MacDonald www.thewestfromhugh.com

Lani on Norman with partner, Janice Heltbridle, as they cross the finish line at Fort Valley Ride & Tie 2009.

# The Ride from Hell: My Experience at Cuneo Creek, 2009

by Russ Kiernan



Russ Kiernan still smiling at race start

The lure of Ride and Tie started for me in 1977 when I read about it in the sports page of the Chronicle. Even though I didn't know how to ride a horse, it sounded like something I could do. I was certainly trained for the grueling running involved in the race. So, a friend hooked me up with her boss, a local veterinarian, and he began taking me out on training rides. We did the race in 1978 and came in third with his horse, Corky, being judged best conditioned. Dr. Sherode Powers and I remained partners for eleven years and we usually placed in the top ten.

This year's Cuneo Creek was a completely different story. My regular partner was not able to do the race as his main horse had come up lame and his backup horses weren't ready. This should have been a good enough reason to skip the race, but after doing the race for thirty years with twenty-seven completions, common sense didn't enter the picture.

I decided to go to camp and find a partner and a horse. My wife and I drove to camp, put up our tent, and I began searching for my teammates. Most teams were already formed, of course,

but Don Betts said he had a horse and a partner, Rachael Toor, for me. This is when I should have asked a few more questions. My wife, Marilyn, asked Don about the horse. His encouraging response was, "He's crazy!" This was the missed clue that this was going to be a big mistake!

Race day came and I waited to mount Pip until just before the start. He was full of it and would not settle down. I had never started a Ride and Tie on the horse. I'm supposed to be the runner side of the partnership. I knew I was in for the Ride of my life when we blasted out at the start. This was OK, however, because it was uphill. We had an experienced horseman at one mile to do a "hand tie". It worked fine. I started running. My partner caught me in about ten minutes and we switched. She got off and I got on Pip. I rode four or five minutes and made a tie. Going uphill was great! After a few more exchanges and ties with some up and down sections, I realized Pip was really crazy and was more than I could handle. This first loop of the thirty-five mile course was seventeen miles. For me, I figured it was going to be the last day of my life.

After having this crazed beast run away with me three times and my flying off him for the fourth time on a downhill with a sharp turn, the horse continued down the hill full bore without me. I picked myself up and checked to see that everything still worked. Thank God I was wearing a helmet. I continued hobbling down the trail for a few miles. A hiker was coming up the trail and said a horse was waiting for me tied to a tree. I finally got to Pip and struggled to get on him. This is when I really started questioning my sanity.

We did make it down the rest of the hill and into the veterinary check. Rachael was there waiting. I ate and drank and headed out running on loop two. Rachael would be riding out. Loop two was about twelve miles, five up, five down, and a flat mile at the beginning and end. Pip was much more controllable now but I felt like a rag doll!

We had almost made it through loop two when Rachael took a wrong turn on the horse. I went into the vet check expecting to immediately ride out again, but no horse! How could this be? Well, things happen in Ride and Tie. Partners must exchange in the vet checks, so I had to wait for her. About a half hour later, in she came. Rachael went running out on loop three while I waited to vet out Pip. He was ready in ten or fifteen minutes and off we went onto loop three.

This Loop was similar to Loop two in that it was a long up, then down on switchbacks and across a creek and back two miles or so on easy, relatively flat trails. This went well, but I have never been so tired in my life. I had never ridden this far in all my other Ride and Ties. We crossed the creek nearing the finish, but it appears I still had another fall in me. I don't know why I fell off; the horse was fine, but off I went. I hadn't held onto the lead rope, but there was a competitor just ahead of me who grabbed Pip when I called to her. I got back on and rode on to the finish. I have to say, after six+ hours of hell, I was NEVER so happy to see a finish line!



Lucky Russ, after the race

# RACE RESULTS

## 3 SOUTH FORK RIDE & TIE

### Friday

Farazad Faryadi/Janice Heltibridle/ Bubba  
Joe Bellafato/Renee Bellafato/ Dandy  
K. Broaddus/L. Newcomb/ Red McIntosh

### Saturday

Janice Heltibridle/Beth Kempf/ Frisky  
A. Betzelberger/G. Betzelberger/ Starrquest  
Shelly Raddish/Richard Roberts/Rubio  
Joni Buttram/Karen Isaacs/ Jeb

### Sunday Short Course

Janice Heltibridle/Matthew Schmidt/Bubba  
Meta Sadlon/Rob Whaley/Se Zrets  
Gil Furk/Terri Rice/ Sully  
Beth Kempf/Jenny Kloft/Success  
Sara Bueft/Karen Reynolds/Moonlight Bay  
S. Hanson-Gould/E. Shouse/Fitz Civazy Farseer  
Alissa Parker/Susan Soloman/Pines Painted Pride

## MANZANITA RIDE & TIE

Rufus Schneider/Moses Vaughan/Koona  
Tom Gey/Melanie Weir/Findefar  
Gunilla Pratt/Mike Whelan/Stryde  
Jessica Jacobs/Liz Price/Justin  
Rick Noer/Sharlee Rushing/Fedex

### Short Course

Tara Jordan/Victoria Ordway/Chrissy  
ty Bowman/Dawn McCool/Ruby

## FORT VALLEY RIDE & TIE

### Friday

30 Miles 4:21 Janice Heltibridle/Lani Newcomb/Newman  
4:33 Friday  
5:10 Dave Venable/Rhonda Venable/Tanner

### 30 Miles

5:15 Carrie Barrett/Leslie Yates/Iron Will  
7:03 Pam Karner/Taryn Rathbone/Piper  
7:39 T. Anderson/J. Jones/Diamondback Rattler  
7:39 Saturday

### 8 Miles

DNF J. Heltibridle/L. Newcomb/Norm Van Meter  
1:26 Saturday Short Course  
1:26 Lauren Booker/Rhonda Venable/Tanner

## CHESAPEAKE FALL RIDE & TIE

### Friday

25 Miles 1:45 L. Newcomb/K. Broaddus/ Red McIntosh  
2:03 Janice Heltibridle/Jenny Jones/Frisky  
2:15 Saturday

### 25 Miles

2:51 Janice Heltibridle/Mark Trader/Sammy  
2:54 Lani Newcomb/Kathy Broaddus/Newman  
3:03 Patti Nash/Paula Wilhelm/Taz

### 15 Miles

2:24 Sunday  
2:42 Janice Heltibridle/Levi Hochstetler/Bubba  
3:29 Lani Newcomb/Kathy Broaddus/Red McIntosh  
3:55 Amy Krupka/Eric Garges/Teddy

### Short Course

2:24 Ruth Ann Kinnard/David Adam/Boxster  
2:42

### 50 Miles

11:00

### 30 Miles

5:16

5:29

5:57

6:06

### 30 Miles

6:47

### 12 Miles

2:19

### 30 Miles

5:26

DNF

### 30 Miles

5:10

5:14

5:58

### 20 miles

2:56

3:24

4:14

### 10 Miles

3:10

## Horse From Hell



Rachel riding the wild Pip bareback after running Santiam on foot.



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# THE SURE THING

BY LIZ PERKIN

I was excited to once again be running the Santiam Cascade Ride and Tie. Since I moved to Berlin, Germany last December, I haven't been able to ride that much, or go for what I would consider a real trail run. I had hoped to compete in Germany's sole annual ride and tie at Steckenroth, but things fell through, so the Santiam Ride and Tie would be my only chance to compete this year. And I was sure that this year would be different. I would partner with Rachel Toor and we could have our pick of three outstanding horses, courtesy of the Betts'. But I should explain my checkered history with this particular race to really set the scene.

My first attempt at Santiam (attempt being the operative word) was in 2007. I partnered with Rebecca Harig (her first ride and tie) on Annie Betts' horse, the adorable Punkin. Everything started out great; the morning air was cool and crisp, I was running well, the ties were going great and Punkin was chipper. I was running ahead and my partner was handing Punkin off to me in a flying tie when she caught up to me. About 5-6 miles in, I tied Punkin up for my partner and ran off. And kept running. "Man," I thought, "this tie is getting a little long." Then I started wondering if maybe my partner had taken the turn for the short course. I braced myself to run the remaining 13 miles to the vet check alone. For a while, I tried to keep up with Tim Rubin and Frank Lieberman on Gypsy, but they eventually pulled away. The footing on this course is somewhat miserable. Deep and thick, it's a cross between volcanic ash and fine sand. There are also a fair number of rather sharp rocks mixed in. I finally made it to the vet check, out of water, dusty, and tired. My partner eventually came through with Punkin—she had taken a wrong turn and it delayed her enough that she wasn't able to catch me after she got back on trail. Honestly, I can't say I was too sad when Punkin was pulled for lameness and I had to take the horse ambulance back to camp with him. I did; however, fer bad for my partner running all the way back.



2009 Santiam: Liz and Rachel on Pip. Short Course Team Carissa Summers and Deanna Olsen ahead and behind them.

Well, that was some bad luck, but no reason not to try again. So in 2008, I dragged my boyfriend along to sit on the sidelines while I partnered with Don Betts on Cinder. The race started off much like it had the year before for me and I was excited to have a good race this year. At the first water stop, an endurance rider told us that we were right behind "that other ride and tie team," which would be speedsters Ben Volk and Ira Hickman. I felt great and thought, "hey, we have the better horse, we could maybe win this thing." The next time I was on the ground, I was running strong, right behind an endurance rider. We turned off onto a road that provided excellent footing. I decided to make hay while the sun shined and picked my pace up a couple notches. But

then I started to feel uneasy. Even though probably 100 endurance horses had gone out ahead of us, I wasn't seeing any hoof prints. Or ribbons. Then the endurance rider came galloping back towards me. We were definitely off trail. Just like last year, I had been running ahead with Don handing off to me, so I asked the endurance rider to tell him what happened and ask him to tie Cinder for me. I don't think she ever caught him. He was assuming that I was just running fast, so he was riding fast to catch me. By the time he realized I had taken a wrong turn somewhere, it just didn't make sense for him to stop and tie, so he rode on to the vet check. When I didn't see Cinder in the next couple of miles, I figured that this is what happened. This time I was able to run with Deanna Olson and Carissa Summers on Mariah—who were running their first long course ride and tie—into the vet check. I found Cinder vetted and ready to go. We took off, and eventually caught Don. But it was getting hot in the eastern Oregon sun by this point, and the footing seemed worse all the time. We kept reassuring each other that we weren't that far away from the finish, and we eventually made it. I think I fell into a crouch as soon as we crossed the finish line. Don slid off Cinder and bent over. We both stayed like



Annie Betts Photo

Liz on Punkin at the start of the 2007 Santiam Ride & Tie

that for a long time. I think my boyfriend asked if I really thought this was a healthy thing to do. But I'm not entirely sure. I couldn't really hear him through my delirium. I felt a little redemption to find out the course was actually 36 miles, rather than the advertised 30.

This year would be great. Rachel and I are about the same height (short) and she is a good, fast runner and rider. Don and Annie had brought Rainy, Pip, and Cinder. Rachel had developed quite a soft spot for Pip and pushed hard to use him. I like the little guy myself. I was one of the first to ride him on trails and he had definitely been the calmest of all of Don and Annie's three youngsters at that time. But I was also familiar with this course and had heard the stories of Pip from the championship race. This would have been one hell of a race to take a young, very hot horse through. After much discussion, we settled on using Cinder in the ride and tie and then taking "the boys" out for a gallop after.



Liz, Santiam 2008

Driving to the race with Don and Annie, I thought the odds of Rachel and I winning were pretty good. I had just run a couple strong cross country races, and Rachel is an amazing trail runner. Then we got to the ride camp and found out that Rachel and I were the only ones signed up for the long course. So it was a sure thing, right? Don and Rachel were talking as though it was, but given my past with this race, I was uneasy. All three of us still had to get across the finish line. In most races, I would also consider this a given, but in this race, I just didn't know.

I slept better than I have ever slept the night before a race, something that made me a little nervous in and of itself. We didn't really plan the race out that much, but it turned out that Rachel would ride Cinder out and we would see how it went from there. Like the years before, the start was great. It seemed like both Rachel and I were happy running and Cinder was quite quick. She was even cantering without being asked, which is a little unusual for her, since you usually have to really push her to move out from her strong, fast working trot. About six or seven miles in, Cinder moved forward just as I mounted her, just like she always does. But she felt a little...stiff. For her first few strides, she walked and didn't really want to move out, but then she broke into a canter without much urging from me, and I quickly dismissed the whole thing. But the next time I rode her, it was unmistakable that something was off. She didn't want to go at all and my goal was just to catch Rachel and get her opinion about what to do. Rachel must have noticed something the last time she rode as well, as she turned around as soon as I rode up and asked, "does she seem off to you?" Took the words right out of my mouth. I quickly dismounted and trotted her out for Rachel to examine. Something was definitely off, but Rachel wasn't able to tell where the hurt was. So I watched as Rachel trotted her out, but I'm no good at telling where lameness is either. For a while, we took turns leading her and as Rachel was leading her, Cinder took a little misstep and showed me her hurt. "That's it, it's in her left fore," I said. But there was nothing to do. We were miles from both the ride camp and the vet check (we were roughly half-way between the two when we stopped riding). So Rachel was nice enough to volunteer to lead Cinder to the vet check while I ran ahead. So at least I got a few miles of good trail running in. When Rachel got in, the vets confirmed our hunch. Rachel wanted to run the rest of the course back to camp. She asked me if that was OK with me, looking like I might fight her for the pleasure. But I've run the full course, and running to the vet check was plenty of that terrible footing for me for one day. So she took the drink bottles (one with water, one with my homemade mix) and ran off while I rode with Cinder in the horse ambulance back to camp.

After getting Cinder settled back at camp, I sat around at the finish line with Annie and waited for Rachel to get in (the horse ambulance takes about an hour to get from the vet check to the ride camp, so Rachel had been running for about 2 hours already by the time I went over to the finish line). Before too long, we saw the lone runner coming in and stood **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**



Don: "I couldn't see colors for the last hour." Santiam 2008



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# Ride & Tie Youth

## Ride & Tie Horses

by Bethany Draeger

As I write this article, I'm sitting on a grassy field with my best friend enjoying the sun in our summer dresses bidding farewell to the warm weather. As the temperature drops day by day, it becomes clear that summer is officially over which makes me think of all the wonderful times I had this year. One of those times was on the 29th of October, when Cool hosted its annual "Coolest Ride and Tie and Run". The sun was warming up Cool very rapidly as the racers, both people and horses, arrived. The races began and continued on until mid-afternoon as the sun rose high. The racers all did a fantastic job and while most know about the people half of the team, the horses count as a very significant part of the race and therefore ought to be recognized.



Shanay and Madelyne Jordan

On the 13 mile course there was a very determined gelding that could be looked up to by all other horses. This 17 year old gelding Stashi, owned by Michelle Jay-Russell, has been racing in ride and ties for nine years and has competed in three full championships. He has also been a great mentor horse for new ride and tiers, prepping them for the challenging fun of the race. During the Cool race this past August, Stashi unfortunately pulled a shoe which ended up costing him the race, but it can be strongly argued that he did not lose. The sturdy gelding kept going, waited patiently while he was re-shoed, and finished the course strong- clearing the vet check with full marks. The determination of Stashi is a quality that not only horses should look to, but so should we in our everyday lives.

Another strong, little (literally) pony was Shanay. She was the third member of a father daughter team. The six year old Shetland has been doing ride and ties with her young team mate, Madlyne, and Madlyne's father, Bill Jordan, for two years and proudly took third in the 9 mile race. In Georgetown, as her first race, she took first which made it clear that she would be a formidable force in her races to come. Hopefully she will continue for years to come and she and her young partner will become regular members of the ride and tie association.

Another amazing athlete at the Cool race was a 24-year-old, BLM rescue, Mustang Arab. His name is Brio and his owner Jessica Jacobs swears he is telepathic due to his amazing talent in the ride and tie races. He does not need to be tied, but instead will simply wait loose for his next rider to catch up to him and jump on to be lead with nothing more than a rope halter. His love for ride and ties was clearly evident as he charged through the 22-mile race and continued on to complete the 9- mile directly after that. This 17½ hand beauty is a face we all look forward to meeting again.



Stashi, Michelle Jay and Sharon Wimberg

These are just a few of the many adorable, talented horses seen at the exciting festivities of the ride and ties. As you enjoy your next competition and say hello to the familiar and unfamiliar faces you see, make sure to stop by, preferably with a carrot or apple easily accessible, and greet the friendly four-legged team members of the ride and ties.



## THE SURE THING CONTINUED

up to cheer her on. If I remember correctly, Rachel's first words were, "Liz, your homemade drink is disgusting and it's waaay too salty!" It's probably true, though it seems to work really well for me. I've been too lazy to track down some Gatorade mix while living in Germany (it's not in the supermarket, I think you have to go to some specialty store to get it), so I developed my own sports drink from ingredients I had readily available at home: salt, honey (for energy), and a vitamin tablet that's kind of like the Emergen-C that you get in the USA (to make it more palatable, to me, at least). I sweat a lot and I sweat extremely salty, so I do make this whole mixture pretty salty. If I don't make it salty, I get sick to my stomach and throw up after long runs, so it does serve a purpose. However, if you don't sweat as much or as salty as I do, drinking this stuff would not be good for you. Fortunately for poor Rachel, a very nice endurance rider gave her a bottle of water. I think my special drink might have killed her otherwise.

But not all was lost. We did take Pip and Rainy out for a nice, long gallop. And Rachel did win her special division of ride and tie-run and get a Shiny Metal Object (of sorts) from very nice race directors, Anna Sampson and Mary Nunn. I'm not trying to discourage anyone from running this race, by the way. I'll probably do it again. After all, isn't a year between these races just the perfect amount of time to forget how painful they were and how much fun they can be? Just don't count on it being a sure thing to win. Even if you are the only team entered.

Liz Perkin has been competing in Ride and Tie since 2005. She is now working on her PhD in river ecology in Berlin, Germany, but plans to come back to the USA as often as possible to run Ride and Ties and harass Don and Annie and their horses.

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Annie Betts

Lani and Kathy Broaddus add more miles to their total at Chesapeake Ride & Tie 2006

### CHASING ELLEN *continued*

Kathy produced two of her foxhunters, Newman and Norman, who are used to anything and didn't notice when I accidentally whapped them upside the head or on the butt with my poles.

By Fort Valley weekend, luckily I was down to just a short knee brace, and the promised downpours held off for the first day. On Friday Newman scrambled through 50 miles of Virginia mountains while Janice ran like the wind, I staggered around trying to do my share, and Kathy and Janice's husband Bob and a cast of thousands crewed. Saturday morning I could barely crawl out of bed because my flabby arms were sore from helping tote me around -- they're usually just passengers. Janice bounded out of her trailer, Norman got dressed, and off we went for another 30 miles of mountains, with mud this time. The trekking poles really helped -- I only did one complete face plant, and I only whacked Janice a few times in the head when she helped me get on Norman. It was another great day, and by the end we had done 80 miles, giving me a total of 3142 miles, a bare ten more than Ellen. Woo hoo!! I can't believe that it would have taken her an entire village the way it did me. She probably did half those miles in Levis, too.

By next season I promise to be better at running. I couldn't possibly be any worse, and we have to set the mileage record way higher so it will take years for the next person to make it. I'm not sure how long my village will continue to support its idiot...

Lani Newcomb, a veterinarian in Virginia, is on our Board of Directors. She has been competing in Ride & Tie since 1993. Her first championship was in 1995 at Sun Valley, Idaho.

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# NOVEMBER? MYSTERY PHOTO

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



Both Photos are from the Bud Johns Collection

## SEPTEMBER MYSTERY PHOTO PUZZLE SOLVED!

The winner of our September Mystery Photo is Kent Mal aren't

I believe the photo is from the 1984 Park City, Utah World Championship Race. All eight horses in the shot (yes there are two more just coming up the knoll) are grays interestingly. I recognize the mine tailing dump at the base of the mountain. I think that this must be the start at Bonanza Flats on Guardsman's Way because the field was strewn out, and the horses are not on a road or trail. The switchback behind was also part of the course, but the riders would not have been so tightly bunched.

Looking at the picture, the rider on the far left is Ron Neerhing who teamed with Howard Ingle and finished 1, think in the top five. The rider three over from the left is Dan Backholden who teamed with Tom Christoff.

Guy Goddard and I were in 7th place at the top of Girl Scout hill with less than a mile to go when our horse broke its tie and headed down off the other side toward Haber City. It ended up dropping us to 12th. Oh well."

Bud Johns agrees: "It is Park City 1984. Ron Neerhing is at far left on Pilot (now a Utah state supreme court justice, Ron finished second with Howard Ingle to the Wadsworths), and the right foreground is Jim Larimer on Stormy. Behind Jim, in the helmets is Dr. Jerry Gillespie (#15) on Fad Sahar.

As to the horses all being the same color, don't you remember that 1984 was the year we color coordinated?"



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