The Latest From Donner Summit
Site of the 1998 Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship

There is still plenty of snow. Curt Riffles joke about Easyboot cross-country ski's for horses is looking more realistic all the time. I would like everyone to do some kind of rain dance (but be sure to make it a warm rain.)

I’ve driven around the mountains on a snowmobile looking for the thinner areas of snow. I still recommend training on lots of hills.

On the plus side, the camping is going to be some of the best ever. We have 35-40 acres for our use. It is in a very raw condition at the moment, so I will need volunteers for work parties in June to develop 100 camping spots. We hope to impact the land as little as possible so the plan is to move the rocks and brush and make a ēspotō rather than a regular camping site. As a reward for volunteering, one camping spot of the workers choice will be reserved for that worker for every four spots a worker helps build.

We also have a few miles of trail to build. These workers will also be rewarded with a reserved camp spot. Plus they will get the first look at some very technical trail.

The ‘volunteer work days’ will be:
June 7th – Sunday  
(the day after Pat Browning’s Ride and Tie) so if you are in the area, it’s only a one hour drive up the hill to Donner Summit.
June 13th – Saturday  
June 14th – Sunday  
June 21st – Sunday  
(The day after the Harmony Ridge Ride and Tie.) From there it is only 1/2 hour drive to Donner Summit.
June 27th – Saturday  
June 28th – Sunday  

Be sure to bring gloves, safety goggles, shovels, rakes, pry bars, picks, axes, chainsaws, and every other tool you have ever used.

Please call and put your name on the list along with how many people in your work party and which days you plan to work. Leave a message if I do not answer.

I expect a lot of help from the Cool Rats. We need lots of help to make this a great event.

Jon Root
(530) 268-2298

1998 Championship Posters are now available
If you know of a few bulletin boards begging for an awesome full color advertisement for the 1998 Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship let us know and we will mail you a few.
R&T Association
(530) 268-8474

sketch of the 1998 Championship buckles
SEENKING PHOTOS FOR THE RIDE & TIE WEB PAGE
www.rideandtie.org

If you are a current member and would like to have your horse posted in The Ride & Tie Gallery section please send a colored photo (it will be returned to you), a short bio (100 words or less), and your horse's R&T ID number to:

Robert Eichstaedt
Webmaster
67-A California Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Please no sales here, although we will have a sales section in the future.

Thanks from The Lucky U
Dave Andreotti

I want to express my feelings of appreciation for the special treatment I received at the 97 Bloomfield Boogie Ride & Tie.

Jon Root, race director, made it possible for me to compete. He permitted me to pre-ride the course, and even provided his own horse, Balou. Everyone that attended this "award filled" event was most considerate, especially my partner, Francis-John Gailson, who knew he would have to do most of the running. We finished exactly the position our team was seeded. What a great event, put on by a quality person - Jon Root.

Dave Andreotti had suffered a stroke and is still fighting his way back to a full recovery. He has inspired all with his determination and unwillingness to quit in spite of the physical challenges he is forced to contend with.

MENTORING- THE LIFEBLOOD OF THE SPORT

I have so much to say and I haven't even participated in my first R&T yet! I am a long distance runner, and started taking riding lessons about four months ago, with no idea that I'd ever be putting these two together. About three weeks ago, there was an announcement for a ride & tie practice in the local newspaper. So I called, I went, I'm hooked!! (or should I say tied.)

Curt Riffle ran the announcement in the paper and organized the practice. The first time out, I just spent a little time getting comfortable on the horse. Although Curt and I traded off running and riding we did not do any tying. The second time out, yesterday, (Curt had scheduled another practice)... I did it... we rode and Tied... I was scared to death to mount the horse (Raji) with nobody around, considering the fact that he was moving, of course, before I even could get my right leg over him. (Curt was hidden around the corner making sure I didn't take a header or miss the horse.) Then came tying... did I do it right? Is Raji going to get away? Is he going to choke on my lousy tie? Can I really leave him here standing all by himself? (Raji gave me a look that I just know said, "Get moving, I'm fine.")

Ten miles of ride & tie, I lived, Raji lived, Curt lived! Although it's amazing Curt didn't have an anxiety attack with a beginner on Raji... and Raji always has to be out in front!

I cannot thank Curt enough for the introduction, his patience and for sharing Raji with me. My husband thinks I've gone loony, because I walk around the house smiling, stating my new mantra. "Ride & Tie, Ride & Tie, Ride & Tie!

Now I just need more practice, and human and horse partners.
Thanks, Cheryl

P.S. No need for "First Year" membership rate for "checking out the sport" - this sport is for me!

BALLOT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two seats on the Board of Directors are up for grabs. Now is your chance to make a difference in our sport. Please vote for the two candidates of your choice or write your own name in. Your ideas are important to everyone.

☐ MARY TISCONRIA
☐ JIM STEERE

WRITE IN Please mail ballot to The Ride and Tie Association
Clearance Sale!
Support the Ride and Tie Association and get a t-shirt! Send in your donations for remaining t-shirts and sweatshirts from last year’s Championship as well as Association t-shirts, sweatshirts, bumper stickers and water bottles. Suggested prices are listed below, but send what you can afford. THE 1997 CHAMPIONSHIP MERCHANDISE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT ANY OF THE UPCOMING EVENTS SO GET THEM WHILE YOU CAN! Since there is limited size selection, state your second size choice, too.

1997 Championship merchandise
(with suggested prices)
LS T-shirt: $5 or 2 for $8
(s,m,l,xd)
SS T-shirt: $3 or 2 for $5
(s,m,l,xl)
Sweatshirts: $7 or 2 for $12
(m,l,xd)

Association Merchandise
Water Bottles: $3 or 2 for $5
Bumper Stickers: $2 or 3 for $5

Send or FAX your orders and payments to:
Ride and Tie Merchandise
469 Casita Way
Los Altos, CA 94022
FAX: 650-949-3778

Clearly state which item, how many, size and amount enclosed.
Shipping is free! Remember to include your telephone number and ship-to address. Checks only! Make payable to The Ride and Tie Association. Thanks for your donations (and helping clean out the storage trailer!)

WANTED:
A FEW GOOD RAT'S
This is the third consecutive year that The Ride and Tie Association will be sponsoring the 'Dusty Corners' vet check at the Tevis 100 mile endurance ride and you are invited to pitch in. It's a lot of fun hangin' with the gang and cheering on other RAT's that are competing in the event.
Please contact Judy Haulman (530) 367-2820 for time and directions.

1998 NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS
The following have become new or renewed members since publication of our previous (Jan-Feb) newsletter. You are a "current" member if you have renewed your membership or have become a new association member since October 1, 1997.

Heidi Agler   Peggy Jern   Kathie Perry
Julie Anthony Marv Johnson Jodie Petersen, D.V.M.
Vincent Balch Donna Rea Jones Leslie Phillips
Bill Barbons, D.V.M. Dyke Kauffmann Diane Pokrajac
Steve Becker Marcee Keller Elaine Ruprecht
Greg Brown Val Le Bel Rufus Schneider
Kathy Devon Gail Lynch Julie Schreiber
Roger Duke Mike Lynch Sheri Sedam
Cheryl Donnich Eveyln Marshall John Shilling
Beth Gingold Patrick McDonald Marcy Shone
Gail Gubser Joe McKean Bob Spoor
Tom Guerra Linda Moran Jeff Townsend
Dawn Harstock Linda Moneil Gary Webb
Jim Howard Debra Oberle Dutch Widler
David Howe Thomas Pastalka Becky Widler
Stacy James-Ryan Christie Pastalka Jeff Windhausen

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Lon Clearwaters
Leah Mirsch
Bradley & Clark Davis
Warren Hellman
Wayne & Robin Hinrichs
Mike & Cynthia Jepsen
Lud & Barbara McCrady
John Osterweil

HERE'S YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD!
If you have become a new member or renewed your membership since the previous newsletter your 1998 membership card would be attached here.
We want to make your 1998 race season as carefree and rewarding as we possibly can. Help us help you. Renew!

Need to borrow, lease or buy a GOOD HORSE?
Contact:
Sherode Powers, D.V.M.
(541) 548-5204
RACE RESULTS

Mustang Classic
25 Miles
1. Tom Johnson  Warren Hellman  Samurai  2:34
2. David Foster  Vinch Balch  Frank  2:37
3. Chris Turney  Robert Riley  Budweiser  2:39
4. Michael Gaulson  Michelle Andreotti  Grab  2:39+
5. Skip Lightfoot  Curt Raffle  Corky  2:48
6. Laurie Reibelang  Rufus Schwar  Razz  2:50
7. John Osterweis  Tom Schrock  Joe #2  2:51
8. Gary Webb  Cindy Foster  Gaffy  2:51+
9. Dave Andreotti  Joe McKee  Scooter  2:52
10. Dennis Rinde  Ellen McCravy  Rapi  2:58
11. David Foster Jr.  Tiffany Brownell  Pj  2:59
12. Lon Clearwaters  Becky Widjer  Miami Spice  2:59+
13. Robert Eschsteedt  Gabrielle Mann  Savana  3:03
15. Frank Lieberman  Paul Allen  Running Bear  3:09
16. Tony Brickett  Jeff Windeshausen  Super Delite  3:09
17. Dale Roush  Michelle Roush  Zeb  3:27
18. Leah Forquer  Julia Schronch  Mietzmar  3:46
19. Traci Falcone  Deb Manson  Dandy Design  3:55
20. Susan Simon  Dawn Hartsock  Stargazer  4:31
DNF Steve Shaw  Jeff Townsend  Clove
DNF George Hall  Shelot Hatfield  Bodie
DNF Tom Christoff  Heinl Agler  Tango

Best Conditioned Horse - Samurai - Owned by Warren Hellman

No Frills Ride & Tie
50 Miles
1. Kathy Broadus  Lani Newcomb  Rana  9:24

25 Miles
1. Peter Klopfer  Martha Klopfer  RR El Cid  4:19
2. Rich Robbins  Doris Kulp  Fargo  5:33
DNF Tom Sites  Jean Lichtenberger  Timber

Carrillo Cheese Challenge
November 15, 1997

We had a great race at Rancho Carrillo! The race was very well organized and everything went smoothly.

Lon and Jim were pushed all the way by the girl’s team, Rufus and Dianne. The guys beat the girls by a minute. We heard Dianne telling Rufus to move her butt and run faster at the finish line.

Vincent helped Penny take her horse Keoki through his first ride and tie, they did very well.

Gary and Arlene ran with David Jr., and his girlfriend Tiffany. Novice Tiffany looked like she knew what she was doing after about 7 miles so Gary said let’s dust the kids! They found out those kids are tougher than they look!

Robin and her horse Casino ran very well in spite of a nasty spill on the pavement a couple days earlier.

Jonathan and Tara raced to a great top ten finish, despite adding a few extra miles to the course.

After the race everyone enjoyed nice hot showers before pigging out on tons of really great food.

Robin did an amazing job of finding sponsors, and everyone walked off with a bag full of awards. There were easyboots, easy-ride stirrups, tons of cliff shots, horse vitamins and goodie bags, and of course there was cheese, and much more.

Thanks Robin and Steve for a great race and a fun weekend!

Cahuilla Heights
26 Miles
1. David Foster  Vince Balch  Frank  2:59
2. Dave Van Wicklin  Cindy Foster  Gia BALL  3:14
3. Thom Guerra  Rufus Schwar  Justin  3:21
4. David Foster Jr.  Tiffany Brownell  Pj  3:43
6. Arlene Foster  Robby Tustain  Linda  3:47
8. Jonathon Jordan  Tara Hinojosa  Quake  4:20
9. Michael Bustillos  Mary Lou Lackey  Happy  4:42

5 Miles
1. Sydney Vale  Bryce Vale  Pendragon  1:28
2. Linda De remot  Sally Howard  Psycho

Best Conditioned Horse - Justin - Owned by Rufus Schneider

Mountainside
25 Miles
1. Tom Johnson  Warren Hellman  Samurai  2:46
2. Dave Foster  Vince Balch  Frank  2:58
3. Dave Andreotti  Chris Turney  Grab  3:02
4. Dutch Widjer  Becky Widjer  Don  3:03
5. Gary Webb  Cindy Foster  Gaffy  3:09
6. Arlene Foster  Evelyn Marshall  Linda  3:17
7. Tony Brickett  Jeff Windeshausen  Super Delite  3:19
8. Gabrielle Mann  Alain Karmitz  Savana  3:36
9. Joe McKee  Karleen Mann  Scooter  3:39
10. Ted Ruepmann  Suzanne Andreotti  Cimmeron  3:39+
11. Frank Lieberman  Steve Anderson  Frank  3:48

10 Miles
1. Leslie Phillips  Donna Rea Jones  Pride  1:28
2. Jon Shilling  Kathy Devon  Sultan Star  1:36
3. Mike Stewart  Tara Stewart  Echo  1:39

Best Conditioned Horse - Don - Owned By Becky Widjer
left us and maintained a half mile lead ahead of everyone the whole race. David said Vince no one is in sight. Vince said let's hammer them and make a statement!

Cindy and Dave Van Wicklin fought with Rufus and Thom the whole way. Rufus ran and rode like there was no tomorrow. Brother Thom did his best. (why else would he be puking at the vet check?).

David Jr. where are you? He broke down on his motorcycle on the way to the start. Poor Tiffany started without him on the horse, tied and ran for 55 minutes before she caught her. He was only 25 minutes late. From last place they managed to catch and pass 5 teams.

Jane and first timer Evelyn rode on Scamp, who did 100 miles the week before. Scamp is one tough pony! The girls worked hard the whole way and fought with Arlene and Robyn on loop three and four. It seemed as though they changed their strategy on the last three miles and took the lead.

Jim, first timer and Bob, the old timer had a great run and ride on Fancy Belle. Penny (the dog) ran the whole course, one tough puppy!

Jonathan and Tara had a good ride on Quake. Jonathan really liked the course because it looped back to camp, vet check, and finish.

Michael and Mary Lou worked hard, while Happy took good care of himself.

The winner of the short course was Bryce and his mother, he was our youngest finisher. He said he would definitely be back.

Best Conditioned horse was Justin owned and ridden by Rufus. Reserve B.C. went to Scamp.

Efficient, accurate, friendly, competent, are just a few words that describe vet, Barney Fleming and vet secretary, Linda at our race.

Thank you for coming, we really enjoyed the stories, company, friendship, and the Ride and Tie family!!

Ride & Tie Safety Tips By Ellen McCrory

Humans seem to have a biological need for risk. As people attempt to eliminate all the risks associated with daily survival, they turn around and seek danger in the way they drive their cars, in the crimes they commit or the sports they pursue. An element of risk is certainly one of the attractions of a sport like ride & tie. As individuals, we may love the thrill of riding a fast horse in the stampede of a ride & tie start. Collectively, however, we have a legal and moral responsibility to mitigate the risks as much as practical for the safety of all ride & tie participants, human and especially equine.

As a regular feature for our ride & tie publications, I will write a "Ride & Tie Safety Tips" column. While there are numerous people as or more qualified to address this issue, my one unique qualification is that I like to write and am willing to invest the time to write a regular column. I'll base the column on my own experiences and observations, things that have or haven't worked for me, near misses I've had and disasters I've seen.

Some people may find me overly cautious. Let me give you a little of my personal and professional background so you have a better understanding of my prospective. I've been a life long horse owner. I've been an endurance rider for 24 years. I've been involved in ride & tie as a horse owner, crew, contestant and ride manager. I've done over 75 ride & ties with 27 different partners and 29 different horses. In my job, I deal daily with safety issues in a high risk industry (logging, lumber manufacturing, trucking).

My upbringing also colors my attitude toward safety. In my family, self-reliance was strongly encouraged; people who did foolish things and expected someone else to rescue them didn't earn much respect. I do a lot of things many people consider quite daring - mountain-eering, operating a chainsaw, ocean kayaking or travelling overseas alone - but have managed to stay out of serious trouble so far. I believe it's possible to do inherently dangerous activities in a safe way just as it's possible to do relatively safe activities in a very reckless manner. I feel a particularly strong sense of responsibility toward the horses we compete on. From observation, I believe horses generally love the sport because it's just as exciting for them as it is for us. However, we owe them extra attention to their health and safety because they don't think too clearly for themselves when they're excited. It may be acceptable to come home from a race sick or injured yourself but it's not acceptable for your mount to be sick or injured after a race. I'm probably considered an overly conservative rider but I've seen enough sick, injured or dying horses to know that no race is worth that risk to me. One of the pivotal experiences of my youth was tending a horse with a shattered patellar for several hours while its owner, a renowned endurance rider, hiked out to call a vet to come into the state park where a group of us had been on a training ride to euthanize the injured animal.

I've been fortunate to have never been seriously injured in a horse-related accident nor have I seriously injured a horse in my custody. I realize, however, that there is always the potential for injury to either myself or my horse, especially on races. It's my responsibility to minimize the risk of injury while still having fun.
June 6  
**Browning's Challenge**  
Grass Valley, CA  
Pat & Nita Browning  
21266 Pleasant Valley Rd.  
North San Juan, CA 95960  
(916) 272-8912  
22 Miles

June 20  
**Harmony Ridge**  
Nevada City, CA  
California Sports Mktg.  
P.O. Box 20113  
San Jose, CA 95160  
(408) 997-3581  
24 Miles

July 11  
**Easyboot Ride & Tie Championship**  
Donner Ski Ranch  
Soda Springs, CA  
The Ride and Tie Association  
11734 Wolf Rd.  
Grass Valley, CA 95949  
(530) 268-8474  
36 Miles

July 25  
**Pacific Crest**  
Ashland, OR  
Ann Swartz  
805 E. Vilas  
Central Point, OR 97502  
(541) 535-6509  
10/30 Miles

August 15  
**Swanton Pacific**  
Santa Cruz, CA  
Ellen McCrory  
318 Swanton Rd.  
Davenport, CA 95017  
(408) 423-6089  
100 Miles

August 22  
**Champagne**  
Santa Cruz, CA  
Steve Shaw  
155 Baltusrol Dr.  
Aptos, CA 95003  
(408) 685-3436  
30 Miles

September 6  
**A Brief Nevada Ride & Tie**  
Gardnerville, NV  
Gary Ceragioli  
230 Shake Hill Dr.  
Markleeville, CA 96120  
(530) 694-2972  
30 Miles

September 12  
**Bloomfield Boogie**  
Grass Valley, CA  
Jon Root  
P.O. Box 2883  
Grass Valley, CA 95945  
(530) 268-2298  
13/26 Miles

October 3  
**Cool Ride & Tie**  
Cool, CA  
Suzanne Remillard  
1971 American River Tr.  
Cool, CA 95614  
(916) 823-0973  
11/22 Miles

October 21 & 22  
**Cowboy Country**  
Hemet, CA  
Arleene Foster  
38230 Lorenzo Ln.  
Hemet, CA 92544  
(909) 767-1237  
25 Miles & 2 Day 50

October 31  
**Cuyamaca**  
San Diego, CA  
Arleene Foster  
38230 Lorenzo Ln.  
Hemet, CA 92544  
(909) 767-1237  
24 Miles

**Other Events**  
May 31 - Applegate-Lassen  
5 Day Ride & Tie  
N.W. Nevada/CA, Ellen McCravy,  
318 Swanton Rd. Davenport, CA 95017  
(408) 423-6089, 250 Miles

**October 17 - 16th Almaden Triathlon**  
Run/ Bike/ Ride  
San Jose, CA  
California Sports Mktg. P.O. Box 20113  
San Jose, CA 95160 (408) 997-3581
RACE ENTRY

THIS IS A SANCTIONED EVENT FOR LIABILITY REASONS ALL COMPETITORS Must BE A MEMBER OF THE RIDE & TIE ASSOCIATION.

Participant Disclaimer

As a participant of the Easyboot Rode & Tie Championship in Donner Summit, CA on July 11, 1998, I agree to abide by all stated rules or by subject to disqualification. I also agree to treat other competitors and all others with respect and to respect the rights of other competitors and all others on the trail. I also agree to do my part to maintain the spirit of the event and to help make this an enjoyable event for all.

I understand that this event's trail will be 36 miles in length and over extremely rugged terrain. I also understand that this and all Rode & Tie events require participants to be in remote areas for extended periods of time from communications, transportation, veterinary, rescue or emergency medical facilities, that these areas may have numerous natural hazards and man-made hazards which event management cannot anticipate, identify, modify or eliminate, that horses can be unpredictable, difficult to control and unpredictable, and that accidents can happen to anyone at any time. I agree to take FULL RESPONSIBILITY for myself and the animal that I am riding.

To my knowledge, I have no disability or impairment that might cause me harm when participating in such a race. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless The Easyboot Rode & Tie Championship, The Ride and Tie Association, the Race Directors, Sugar Bowl Corporation, Boreal Ridge Corporation, Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, Donner Ski Ranch, Inc., and all representatives, directors, and all property owners whose land the race crosses, from any liability for claims, demands, costs for or arising out of my participation in the 1998 Easyboot Rode & Tie Championship, whether caused by my negligence or otherwise.

I understand that any money earned by me as a competitor in the 1998 Easyboot Rode & Tie Championship is taxable income and must be declared on individual State and Federal tax returns, even if I designate my winnings to another person. The Ride and Tie Association is required to report any payment of $600 or more to the Internal Revenue Service.

I confirm that all the information and signatures on the 1998 Easyboot Rode & Tie Championship entry form are true and accurate. I also understand that all statements made above are effective for any pre-race practice on or near the designated trail or for any pre-race activities related to the event.

Signature and date lines for each of the following:

PARTICIPANT #1

PARTICIPANT #2

PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)

HORSE OWNER IF NOT A PARTICIPANT

TEAM ENTRY FEE $200
TOTAL RACE ENTRY FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 25, 1998 TO AVOID LATE ENTRY FEE. NON-STARTING TEAMS RETURNED LATE ENTRY FEE $20 ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS TWO INCLUDED WITH ENTRY ADULT $15, UNDER 12 $7 1998 R&T ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP NEW MEMBERS COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP FORM ON REVERSE SIDE 100% OF PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SUB-TOTAL FOUNDING & LIFETIME MEMBER DISCOUNT SUPPORTING MEMBER DISCOUNT TOTAL MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: THE RIDE AND TIE ASSOCIATION SEND COMPLETED ENTRY AND FULL PAYMENT TO: LEAH MIRSCH 4 CINCHING RD., ROLLING HILLS, CA 90274