

**AERC Board Teleconference Minutes
12/7/2009**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m., Pacific Time, by President Connie Caudill. Also on the line for the call: Laura Hayes, Roger Taylor, Maryben Stover, Susan Kasemeyer, Patti Pizzo, Sandy Terp, Terry Woolley Howe, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Tom Noll, Joe Schoech, Jeff Trinkle, Diana Chapek, Susan Schomburg, Susan Keil, John Crandall, Randy Eiland, Roberta Harms, Mike Maul, Bruce Weary, Johnh Parke, Kim Fuess, Gail Williams, newly elected board members Susan Keith, Forrest Tancer, Lisa Schneider, and Executive Director Kathleen A. Henkel.

One absence was requested from this evening's meeting - Jan Stevens is out of cell range.

It was moved by Susan Kasemeyer and seconded by Laura Hayes to accept the minutes of the November 2, 2009 teleconference as written. Motion passed.

It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the committee report presented by the AERC International Committee, including minutes of their September 9, 2009 meeting.

AERC International presented 3 motions to the board from committee for acceptance of three new zone replacements: Jennifer Poling for the East Zone; Bill Stevens for the Mountain Zone; and Barb Thomas for the Pacific Zone. Motion passed.

Kathleen Henkel presented the membership report as follows:

Membership as of 12/2/08 - 1479; as of 12/1/09 - 1729. Membership as of 11/30/08 - 6884, as of 11/30/09 - 6208. Sanction fees as of 11/30/08 - \$5,930; as of 11/30/09 \$6,905. Total sanction fees paid for 2007/2008 - \$15,295; paid for 2008/2009: \$14,925. Rider fees paid for 2007/2008 - \$108,804, and paid for 2008/2009 by 11/30/09 - \$100,288. New members as of 12/2/08 - 62, and new members as of 12/1/09 - 55.

Laura Hayes advised the board the American Horse Council Welfare Committee, of which Laura is a member, drafted a welfare code of practice, previously forwarded to the board for review. The American Horse Council would like AERC to endorse this code. This is simply a broad, generic welfare code of practice, already endorsed by the AAEP, Quarter Horse Association and the racing association. The code of practice simply states we are putting the horse first. Motion from the Welfare of the Horse committee to endorse this practice as an organization. Motion passed.

Laura advised that in the future AERC may want to write their own welfare code of practice.

FEI is putting on hold their new drug rules and in the mean time, Dr. Jim Bryant DVM, a member of the AERC Veterinary Committee has advised he will write a letter to USEF advising of AERC's position pertaining to the proposed FEI drug rules. Randy Eiland will draft a letter and send it to the board for approval advising of AERC's position on this matter. The letter should eventually appear in the magazine to advise the membership of AERC's position, and also the letter should appear on the website.

Michael Campbell, Trails Committee chair, advised he discussed the Pierce Ranch trail grant with the Back Country Horsemen of American, a 501(C)(3), and they can accept the trail donation and in turn pass the trail grant to Pierce Ranch. Discussion ensued regarding private ranch donations.

Objections were raised by Tom Noll. Kathleen advised she contacted Attorney Chris Delfino and he advised this was not an acceptable practice.

This simply passes the issue to another 501(C)(3) to pay the money to a private entity. He advised at this point AERC should consider letting Pierce Ranch know it was AERC's desire to do something good for the

membership and for trails, however, after checking into the matter more closely, it was discovered AERC could not move forward with this matter.

AERC will pay the \$866.22 paid by the Ranch to date, and consider the matter closed. Susan Schomburg asked that the board pay the \$866.22, and send a letter to the Pierce Ranch owners and continue discussion at a later date.

Motion before the board regarding the Pierce Ranch trail grant - AERC send a check for \$866.22 from the trails reserve fund, to cover the expenses incurred to date by the owner of the Ranch along with a letter from AERC to the Ranch owner advising AERC cannot move forward with this project.

Motion passed with Tom Noll and Dianna Chapek opposed.

Susan Kasemeyer, Special Sanctioning Chair, advised she has one ride to present that requires special sanctioning, the Maumee Valley Pioneer ride, in the Midwest Region, June 2010, with Sue Keith as the ride manager - no one on the sanctioning committee had a problem with this new ride. Motion from committee passed.

Michael Campbell put forth a motion from committee pertaining to a trail grant for water supply for the Farmdale Reservoir in the amount of \$5,000 to the Arabian Horse Distance Riding Association of Illinois to extend a water line from the Army Corps of Engineers Maintenance Building at the Farmdale Reservoir 900 feet to the trailhead to provide water for horses and people. Funds to come from the trails grant reserve fund, funded by member donations.

Second trails grant is also for \$5,000, to the Knoxville Arabian Horse Association to build a pavillion at the Big South Fork National River and Recreations Area Bandy Creek Campground. The estimated total cost of this project is \$15,000 and this is a matching fund to improve the trailhead at the location of the Big South Fork ride.

The third grant, \$3,250, for the Goethe State Forest Trailhead Well, also a matching fund (total cost of the project is \$6,500) for a well at the Goethe trailhead to provide water for horses at endurance rides. This grant supports three existing rides with a fourth planned upon completion of the project.

Total for all 3 grants: \$13,250, with all three grants on public land..

All three grants passed, with Dianna Chapek opposing the Big South Fork grant and Sandy Terp opposing all three grants.

Motion from the Trails Committee presented by chair Michael Campbell regarding the revised trail grant application form. The revised form will assist in documenting trail master involvement. Motion passed with Tom Noll opposing.

Chair Campbell advised his final motion from committee indicates the desire of the trails committee to include information on the AERC website regarding trails grants that have been approved. A brief description of the grant will be placed online. This will allow the membership to access the history of trails grants so they can see how their donations are being used for trail improvement and will encourage development of ideas for trails grants projects in different areas. Motion passed.

Treasurer Roger Taylor advised he visited the AERC Office on December 1 and 2, 2009, and he and Suzi Souza again met with AERC's new accountant. A full financial report is planned for the magazine in March. AERC is still projecting a negative \$100,000 for the 2009 year. Full financial details will be presented to the Board at the convention regarding the 2009 year.

Roger will present the Board comparison budgets at the convention for ease in monitoring AERC's finances. A discussion of the 2010 working budget will take place at the convention.

Bruce Weary discussed the docudrama on endurance riders with Brian Boring. Information previously presented by Laura Hayes and Connie Caudill was discussed. Mr. Boring advised Bruce Weary he is in the process of pitching five shows to a network, showing the relationship between the rider and horse. Maryben Stover advised she has reservations about this project. John Crandall supports these events however feels AERC should move slowly and continue monitoring the film content. Insurance was discussed - the individuals handling the filming need to provide proof of insurance to AERC, listing AERC as an additional insured. Kathleen was directed to write a letter to Mr. Boring regarding insurance coverage while he films AERC sanctioned rides.

Kathleen advised in November she received a telephone call from Equisure, Inc. asking if Equisure can cover Ride and Tie rides with AERC's ride liability insurance. I advised Equisure AERC cannot cover another organization's rides. It will be necessary for any ride manager also holding a Ride and Tie ride to obtain separate insurance to cover the Ride and Tie event.

Michael Campbell advised he will bring a proposal to the Board at a future meeting pertaining to partner affiliates (other equestrian organization) teaming with AERC.

Susan Kasemeyer moved to adjourn and Roger Taylor seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m., Pacific Time.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kathleen A. Henkel
Executive Director, in absence of Secretary Jan Stevens**

Motions before the board:

AERC BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Motion Proposal**

Motion Name: Motion to Accept Replacement Zone Representative

Proposing Committee: AERC-I

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD): December __, 2009 or January __, 2010, BOD meeting

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy): New

Proposed Motion (use exact wording): AERC-I moves to have **Jennifer L. Poling** appointed as Zone Representative for the East Zone.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving). Ms. Cia Reis, the East Zone Representative, has submitted her resignation effective December 31, 2009, and, as a result, created a vacancy. Ms. Dinah Rojek, as the remaining East Zone Representative, recommended that Jennifer L. Poling be appointed to fill the vacant position. AERC-I unanimously accepted this recommendation on December 1, 2009.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate): None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: Fills vacant position necessary to the function of AERC-I

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget): Minimal impact. The announcement regarding this appointment to be incorporated into the AERC-I webpage and placed in the International column of Endurance News.

Committees consulted and/or affected: AERC-I, December 1, 2009, minutes

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Replacement zone representative will begin to take an active role in AERC-I as soon as approved by the AERC Board.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets): See Jennifer Poling's bio attached herewith.

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees) AERC-I, December 1, 2009, minutes

Jennifer L. Poling
Candidate for East Zone Rep
October 18, 2009

I am writing to express my interest in becoming the East Zone Representative for AERC. I began training for endurance competition in 2002 and completed my first ride in 2003. Since that time, endurance has become a major focus of my life. I have competed in rides at many different levels with my own horses and horses owned by others. I currently have five horses in training with the hope of being selected for the USA team in 2010. I manage a successful endurance ride each year located in Elkins, WV, in August and have learned so much more about our sport through this process. It is my intention to represent my zone in a professional and fair manner and to keep members informed of important developments within the AERC. I hope you will consider me a competent and energetic candidate for this position.

AERC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Motion Proposal

Motion Name: Motion to Accept Replacement Zone Representative

Proposing Committee: AERC-I

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD): December __, 2009 or January __, 2010, BOD meeting

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy): New

Proposed Motion (use exact wording): AERC-I moves to have Mr. **Bill Stevens** appointed as Zone Representative for the Mountain Zone.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving). Ms. Holly Ulyate, the Mountain Zone Representative, has submitted her resignation effective December 31, 2009, and, as a result, created a vacancy. Ms. Martha McMurray, as the remaining Mountain Zone Representative, recommended that Mr. **Bill Stevens** be appointed to fill the vacant position. AERC-I unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate): None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: Fills vacant position necessary to the function of AERC-I

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget): Minimal impact. The announcement regarding this appointment to be incorporated into the AERC-I webpage and placed in the International column of Endurance News.

Committees consulted and/or affected: AERC-I, December 1, 2009, minutes

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Replacement zone representative will begin to take an active role in AERC-I as soon as approved by the AERC Board.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets): None or see attached bio

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees) AERC-I, December 1, 2009, minutes

Bill Stevens

5 Fort Road

Ashland, MT 59003

(406) 784-2469

circlebarranch@rangeweb.net

AERC # 14115 (Member since 1995)

AERC International Member

USEF #4062899

AHA #593691

AERC Rider Mileage: 450 (11 starts/10 finishes) including the Big Horn 100

International Experience

11 Trips overseas crewing for US Team including 1998 World Endurance Championship – Dubai, 2000 World

Endurance Championship – France, 2002 World Equestrian Games – Spain, 2004 (2005) World Endurance

Championship – Dubai, 2005 Presidents Cup – Dubai, 2007 Young Riders Presidents Cup - Dubai

1999 Pan American Championship – Manitoba, Canada

☐ Assistant Chef d'Equipe Team Australia

☐ Owner and crew to Top Ten Finisher

2005 North American Championship

☐ Owner and crew

Organizing Committee of Fort Howes Endurance Rides

☐ AERC Ride 1997-2009

☐ Host to AERC National Championship 2005

☐ FEI Ride 2000-2009

☐ Host to AHA National Championship 2002 & 2007

Organizing Committee of Zone Team Endurance Championship (ZTEC) – 2007

☐ Organized and implemented FEI and AERC Team event

Loop Manager – Kentucky Cup/North American Endurance Team Challenge – 2009

Worked with Young Riders throughout the US and abroad – helping to establish a Young Rider program in the

US. Coached and crewed extensively for daughters, Heather and Jennifer, with Heather being ranked 12th in the

nation overall for the US team in 2007. Heather and Jennifer were also ranked 1 and 2 Young Riders in the US

that year as well. Helped to organize the first US Young Rider Team to travel to the UAE for the Young Riders

Presidents Cup in 2007, finishing 3 of the 4 US riders (17 total finishing out of 64 starters).

Owner and operator of Circle Bar Ranch – family owned ranch established in 1883. AAU wrestling coach and

referee, avid hunter, pilot, and flight instructor. Hosted numerous people at the ranch from far and wide – Great

Britain, France, Netherlands, Spain, UAE, Austria, and Australia – many (if not all) are endurance people I have

met. Our horses here at the ranch serve two purposes: first they are cattle horses and second they compete in endurance.

My intent, as one of the Mountain Zone Representatives for the AERC International Committee, would be to

help riders in this zone compete at the International Level (FEI). Included in this would be to first and foremost

promote Young Riders and to strive to bring in new riders into the fold of international riding. I've always felt

that we at Fort Howes have tried hard to ease tensions between AERC riders and those who are interested in the

FEI competitions – I would hope to bring my experience with this to the AERC International Committee

AERC BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Motion Proposal**

Motion Name: Motion to Accept Replacement Zone Representative

Proposing Committee: AERC-I

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD): December __, 2009 or January __, 2010, BOD meeting

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy): New

Proposed Motion (use exact wording): AERC-I moves to have Ms. **Barb Thomas** appointed as Zone Representative for the Pacific South Zone.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving). Ms. Carolyn Hock, the Pacific South Zone Representative, has submitted her resignation effective December 31, 2009, and, as a result, created a vacancy. Ms. Teresa Cross, as the remaining Pacific South Zone Representative, recommended that Ms. Barb Thomas be appointed to fill the vacant position. AERC-I unanimously accepted this recommendation.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate): None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: Fills vacant position necessary to the function of AERC-I

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget): Minimal impact. The announcement regarding this appointment to be incorporated into the AERC-I webpage and placed in the International column of Endurance News.

Committees consulted and/or affected: AERC-I, December 1, 2009, minutes

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Replacement zone representative will begin to take an active role in AERC-I as soon as approved by the AERC Board.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets): None

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees) AERC-I, December, 2009, minutes

Barb Thomas – Equestrian Bio

Barb's first horse was a pony in Panama which she rode every day on the "allowed trails" did gymkhana and jumped. Her love for trail riding started there exploring the edges of the jungles, riding through tiny towns, swimming her pony in the Curundu river, bombing down beaches over driftwood and into the ocean.

Returning to the U.S. Barb saved until she could buy her horse in high school. At that time, the sport of competitive trail riding was getting started and then, on the east coast, the Old Dominion Endurance Ride came into being in 1973-74. This was Barb's first involvement in the sport and she volunteered at the ride for several years before heading off to college where she continued trail riding. Once out, the Morab she bought as a baby became her first endurance/competitive trail horse. This horse was the example of a horse that was "not of endurance type" at some of the Old Dominion seminars. Loving a challenge, Barb trained and conditioned Whisper to complete the Old Dominion 50, several other 50 milers, then the Old Dominion 100 and several more 50s. In 1980, Barb the won the IAHA Purebred Arabian National Championship in 1981 on Rushcreek Ingrid. Barb also volunteered at rides, was the ride secretary and head vet secretary for the Old Dominion, served two terms on the Old Dominion Board of Directors and even flew back in 1998 after moving to California to manage the 50 mile ride for the OD 25th anniversary.

Following a hiatus from the sport, Barb returned to Endurance in 1993 and competed lightly until a back injury in 2006. Barb remains active in the sport, having managed the Malibu Endurance ride for several years, volunteering at many of the Pacific Southwest rides, attending conventions, and learning all the time. Barb's "volunteer miles" exceed her riding miles and in doing that, she has had the advantage of seeing many issues that those who ride don't get to see. She crewed for the Northeast team at the Pan Ams in Oregon in 1997, took the stewards course in 1998, and helped with FEI rides in the Pacific Southwest (Get er Done and 20 Mule Team).

Other horse-related activities include(ed) showing pony hunters, competitive trail riding, horse camping, and dressage. Barb is also a member of the board of the Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council which helps maintain the vast network of trails in the Santa Monica Mountains of Southern California, works for protection of existing trails, acquisition of future trails and advocates for trail use for all users.

AERC Board of Directors

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name

Mutual Support Contract Between AERC and Private Land Managers

Proposing Committee

Trails and Land Management Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

11-02-09

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)

New.

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

The AERC Board of Directors directs Executive Director Kathleen Henkel to obtain the services of an attorney to develop a generic contract form to be used to obtain long term access to land for AERC rides from private land managers. The cost of such legal services is not to exceed \$5,000 and is to be paid from the Trails Grant Fund. Such contracts may only be enacted with the approval of the AERC Board of Directors upon recommendation by the Trails and Land Management Committee.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

The Trails and Land Management Committee anticipates an increasing need for access to privately managed land for AERC competitive events. Long term contracts for access to privately managed land will maintain access to land for ride managers. These contracts are to be paid from the Trails Grants Fund and may include trail and trailhead improvements as part of the conditions of contract. The generic contract should be designed to protect AERC's non profit status by avoiding conditionless grants to private land managers. The contract should be developed in consultation with AERC legal counsel John Parke and Trails and Land Management Chair Michael Campbell.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

This project is funded from the Trails Grants fund at no greater than \$5,000 unless approved the AERC Board of Directors.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

Continued access to land for AERC competitive events.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

10-20 hours of Executive Director Kathleen Henkel

Committees consulted and/or affected

Trails and Land Management

Legal Counsel

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

At the convenience of the Executive Director but with all diligent speed.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)

None.

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

Trails and Land Management and Legal Counsel

AERC Board of Directors

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name

Trails Grant for Water Supply for Farmdale Reservoir

Proposing Committee

Trails and Land Management

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

12-07-09

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)

New.

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

The Trails and Land Management Committee moves approval of a \$5,000 Trails Grant to the Arabian Horse Distance Riding Association of Illinois to extend a water line from the Army Corps of Engineers Maintenance Building at the Farmdale Reservoir 900 feet to the trailhead to provide water for horses and people.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

The grant provides water for horses and humans at the trailhead of USACE land used for endurance rides.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

The funding for this project is from the Trails Grant fund and has no impact on the AERC operating budget.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

The project provides potable water at the location of an AERC ride (Endure for the Cure) held 3 days each summer (25, 50, & 100 mile rides) affecting 100-150 riders over each of the past 3 years. The area is also used by AHDRA members for training rides.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

minimal

Committees consulted and/or affected

Trails and Land Management Committee

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

Implementation upon approval of funding, no later than Spring 2010.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)

See attached proposal

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

Trails and Land Management Committee

Trail grant application form follows:

**American Endurance Ride Conference
Trail Grant Program • Application Form**

Proposed Project Name: Water Supply for Farmdale Reservoir

Location of Proposed Project: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Farmdale Reservoir

Physical Address: 819 W Bittersweet Rd, Washington, IL

GPS Coordinates (if available): Latitude: 40° 40 Min. 42 Sec.

Longitude: -89° 29 Min. 54 Sec.

City, State & County: Washington, Illinois (Tazewell County)

Requesting Organization: Arabian Horse Distance Riding Association (AHDRA)

Description and purpose of Requesting Organization:

The Arabian Horse Distance Riding Association (AHDRA) consists of over 100 members supporting the use of pure and part bred Arabian Horses in distance and competitive trail riding. It is an affiliate club of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA), based in AHA's Region 11. Historically the organization's roots and close affiliation has been with the regional Upper Midwest Endurance and Competitive Rides Association (UMECRA), although in recent years the organization has been striving to expand its membership to a national level.

Since its creation over 30 years ago, AHDRA has sponsored endurance and competitive trail rides sanctioned by AHA, UMECRA and AERC. Currently, the organization sponsors three rides each year: AHDRA I (called My Backyard Ride this year), AHDRA II: Endure for the Cure, and AHDRA III: Big River Ride.

List of contacts for requesting organization1:

Name: Christopher Power
Secretary/Treasurer, AHDRA
Address : 2317 2350th St.
City, State, Zip: McLean, IL 61754-9303
Phone: 217-648-2974
Email: power@dtnspeed.net

Name: Lori Windows
President, AHDRA
Address : 12327 1550 N. Avenue
City, State, Zip: Wyanet, IL 61379
Phone: 815-699-2318
Email: kickbuttshaman@cs.com

Name: Todd Ernenputsch
Natural Resource Specialist
Address : Department of the Army
Rock Island District, Corps of Engineers
Illinois Waterway Project Office
257 Grant Street
City, State, Zip: Peoria, Illinois 61603-3585
Phone: 309-397-0588; 309-676-4601, ext. 209
Email: Todd.D.Ernenputsch@usace.army.mil

Estimated total cost of project: \$6,000

Funds requested: \$5,000 **or Matching Funds requested:**

List of Matching share provided by requesting organization2:

Private donations of land:

- Private donations of cash:
- Private donations of labor, equipment, materials: \$500
- Other grants: \$500 anticipated (Friends of Farmdale, AHDRA, UMECRA)
- Other funds/resources:

Project Description:

Need: Water supply for horses and humans at the trail head of the Farmdale Reservoir. A well water source is available at the Army Corps of Engineers Maintenance Building, approximately 900 feet from the trail head on the opposite side of Bittersweet Road, a paved township road.

Funding is requested for water line trenching from the maintenance building to the trail head, including boring under Bittersweet Road. The project has been approved by the Army Corps of Engineers and discussed with the township road commissioner, who did not anticipate any problems with approval (paperwork pending). Estimated costs were obtained from Scott Weaver & Sons Trucking.

Limited alternative support available: The trails are on property owned and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a flood control project established under the 1942 Flood Control Act. As such, public funding for trail construction and maintenance or for other features common to a park, such as water, electrical access, toilets, trash collection, and pavilions or other structures, is not available. The Flood Control Act prohibits the construction of buildings on the property.

This flood control project, including the construction of a large dam, was completed in 1954, and encompasses 837 acres. As a flood prevention project, it is considered a dry reservoir. The reservoir is impacted by actual flooding only occasionally, allowing recreational access to the upland and lowland forests, prairies, and streams on the property. For example, although part of the acreage flooded in the spring of 2009, one of the wettest on record for the area, the elevated lands in the reservoir could still be accessed and used, and by early summer all of the area was accessible.

Although the Army Corps of Engineers maintains access roads and fire breaks in the forest and around the prairies, construction and maintenance of the multi-use trails has occurred through volunteer efforts of equestrians, mountain bikers and hikers.

Unique location and trail system: This property is uniquely located exceptionally close to the urban areas of East Peoria and Peoria, Illinois, with housing developments on its perimeter. The Army Corps of Engineers estimates the property receives over 100,000 visitors per year who enjoy the trails, views, and rich flora and fauna the property offers. Volunteer groups work hard to maintain the property and its trail system, and include "Friends of Farmdale", local residents who hike and ride the trails, the Peoria Mountain Bike Association, and AHDRA. With this diverse support and volunteer effort, the trails are truly multi-use, shared by equestrians, bikers and hikers.

Property use for endurance and distance riding: With 12 to 15 mile loops of equestrian trails with numerous accesses to the creeks and streams on the property, this property has been a favorite of trail riders. Since 2001 AHDRA has sponsored three days of AERC sanctioned rides on the property each summer, typically consisting of a 2-day 100, 50 mile endurance and 25 mile limited distance rides, as well as 25 mile competitive trail rides sanctioned by AHA and UMECRA. Over the past three years total ride entries have ranged from 100 to 150 (see: <http://www.endureforthecure.org/>). In addition, some years AHDRA has also sponsored its Spring or Fall ride at this location.

The property is typically restricted to day use, but through special arrangements and permits with the Army Corps of Engineers, camping is permitted near the trail head for these endurance rides, as well as for special mountain bike events. However, the lack of facilities presents exceptional challenges; Porta-potties/toilet facilities must be rented and brought in, as well as arrangements for trash removal. However, the most difficult and challenging aspect of utilizing this property for equestrian events is the need to haul in water for the horses at the camp, requiring the use of large trucks and water tanks to be brought in and frequently refilled during a summer multi-day event. Access to a water hydrant and a reliable water source would

greatly facilitate equestrian events at this location, and likely result in increased use of the property for additional endurance rides.

Additional benefits: As noted, the unique location of this property for endurance rides has facilitated exposure of this sport to a wider audience, with several spectators and new riders participating due to its convenient location. Media coverage of the sport has also been facilitated, allowing participants to explain the sport and its control by on-site veterinarians. In past years both television and newspaper media from the Peoria area have covered the endurance rides held on the property (see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CENufA2n0ic>).

Do you have an AERC certified Trail Master involved with any trail preservation at the project site?

No. However, we have had the benefit of a knowledgeable volunteer who served as an AmeriCorps worker on several trails in the Western United States. He has provided invaluable guidance and direction in trail maintenance and construction that minimizes erosion and enhances trail resilience.

In addition, the USACE property manager has been schooled by International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) in trail construction and sustainability. IMBA standards are strict in the construction of trails and trail maintenance. Through IMBA's and the land manager's knowledge the trails are maintained to protect them for future generations.

How many hours has your organization been involved with trail maintenance in the past year? Please describe.

Precise records have not been maintained, but we estimate that about ten AHDRA volunteers have invested over 150 hours this year. Previous years have included the construction of new trails, but this year the focus was necessarily on trail restoration and maintenance due to heavy rains and flooding at the site. Additional volunteer hours are invested by the Peoria Mountain Bike Association and the Friends of Farmdale.

Over the past nine years AHDRA members have worked on these trails. Work conducted under the USACE property manager include such things as re-routing trails to further minimize erosion, construction of new trails, and general trail and property maintenance. These activities have continue through changes in AHDRA leadership as well as ride managers for the endurance rides held at the site over the past nine years.

If you have no organized program with your land manager regarding trail preservation, would you be willing as a condition of the grant, to bring a Trail Master into your grant project team and begin to work on trail maintenance?

Certainly. AHDRA would welcome such expertise and assistance.

Is there currently an endurance ride being held at these trails? Please name the ride and length of time in existence.

As noted above, AHDRA has sponsored three days of AERC sanctioned rides on the property each summer for the past nine years. The ride typically consists of a 2-day 100, 50 mile endurance and 25 mile limited distance rides, as well as 25 mile competitive trail rides sanctioned by AHA and UMECRA. Over the past three years total ride entries have ranged from 100 to 150 (see: <http://www.endureforthecure.org/>). In addition, over the past years AHDRA has also sponsored its Spring or Fall ride at this location.

Current plans are to continue to conduct the same ride at the same location for upcoming years. It is anticipated that if a water supply is made available at the site, additional rides, including those sponsored by AHDRA, are likely to be scheduled at the site, since the cost of managing a ride at the site will become more reasonable.

Do you have a Memorandum of Understanding with your land manager allowing for current and future use of the trails for equestrians and endurance events? If yes, please attach. If no, please inquire with your land manager if they would be willing to review and approve as a condition of this grant.

There is currently not a Memorandum of Understanding with the land manager. The USACE staff member most directly responsible for the property is currently discussing this with his supervisor. It should be noted that this individual has been extremely supportive of endurance rides at the site, readily offering any support, assistance and technical advice he can throughout the year as well as during the ride events..

Estimated start date of your project¹¹

Start date is dependent on funding assurance, Illinois weather and contractor schedule availability. It is tentatively planned to begin the project no later than Spring 2010 and to complete the project within a few weeks.

Signature: _____ Date: October 20, 2009

Title: Christopher T. Power, AHDRA Secretary/Treasurer

AERC #: M33299

AERC Board of Directors

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name

Trails Grant for Big South Fork Base Camp Improvement

Proposing Committee

Trails and Land Management

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

12-07-09

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)

New.

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

The Trails and Land Management Committee moves the approval of a \$5,000 Trails Grant to the Knoxville Arabian Horse Association to build a pavilion at the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area Bandy Creek Campground.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

The estimated total cost of this project is \$15,000 and the Trails Grant is a matching fund to improve the trailhead at the location of the Big South Fork Endurance Ride. Matching funds and labor are already approved.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

The funds for this project are from the Trails Grant Fund and do not affect the AERC operating budget.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

Improves the trailhead at the Big South Fork Endurance Ride.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)
minimal

Committees consulted and/or affected
Trails and Land Management Committee

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)
Not provided—presumed upon approval of funding from AERC

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)
See grant application attached.

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)
Trails and Land Management Committee

Trail grant application follows:

American Endurance Ride Conference
Trail Grant Program
Application Form
Proposed Project Name: Big South Fork Base Camp Improvement
Location of Proposed Project:
Physical Address: Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area
Bandy Creek Campground
Bandy Loop Road - Appaloosa Fields
GPS Coordinates (if available):
City, State & County: Oneida, TN USA
Requesting Organization: Knoxville Arabian Horse Association
List of contacts for requesting organization!:
Name: Eric Rueter
Address: 11045 Friendsville Road
City, State, Zip: Lenoir City, TN
Phone: 865-986-5966
Email: Eric@RueterConsultingInc.com
Estimated total cost of project: \$15000
Funds requested:

or

Matching Funds requested: \$5000
List of Matching share provided by requesting organization2:
• **Private donations of land:**
• **Private donations of cash: \$5000**
• **Private donations of labor, equipment, materials:**
• **Other grants:**
• **Other funds/resources:**

Project Description: Build a pavilion for general use in the general use fields where the Big South Fork Endurance Ride has base camp.

1 Please list all responsible contacts for the project.

2 Only included matching amounts you are receiving as applies to this grant.

Description and purpose of Requesting Organization: The Knoxville Arabian Horse Association has been sponsoring the Big South Fork Endurance Ride since 2004.

TSiigtlnlea: tuR~7n~ge~r, Big S~ou~th Fork EnduranDceateR: id0e7-AUG-2009

Goethe Trail grant application follows:

The Goethe Trail, Inc.

American Endurance Ride Conference

Trail Grant Program • Application Form

Proposed Project Name: Well for new TH at Goethe State Forest on the Watermelon Pond Tract.

Location of Proposed Project: CR 337 Goethe State Forest

Physical Address: 9509 SW 282nd Street

GPS Coordinates (if available): City, State & County: Newberry, FL, Alachua County

Requesting Organization: The Goethe Trail, Inc.

List of contacts for requesting organization:

Name: Helen Koehler

Address: 1950 SE 111 Court

City, State, Zip: Morriston, FL 32668

Phone: 352.317.0273

Email: thegoethetrail@aol.com

Estimated total cost of project: \$6,500.00

Funds requested: \$3,250.00

List of Matching share provided by requesting organization:

Other funds/resources: \$3,250.00

Project Description: Goethe State Forest has 3 Endurance Rides, namely: The Goethe Challenge, Gator Run and FITS. The Goethe Challenge monies assist the DOF in its charge of multi-use management which includes recreation. Budget cuts have left the Division with limited resources. This well will not only provide water for our horses but will also supply water for fire suppression in this rural area. Our District has always been
Page 1

The Goethe Trail, Inc.

horse friendly and this is the 3rd well that has been donated by The Goethe Trail, Inc. with Endurance Ride Profits. This is an opportunity for AERC to partner with The Goethe Trail, Inc. in this worthy project. The site is part of a new acquisition that would support a new ride. This is a limited use commercial supply well. The project will also include a required concrete slab. We will also build a pumphouse around the well and install an overhead filler boom for the pumper trucks. There will be a wash rack for the horses. The DOF has already rocked the parking area and entrance road. There are pic-nic tables and fire grills. This is all new construction. There will be a plaque on the pumphouse acknowledging our donation.

Description and purpose of Requesting Organization: The all volunteer Corporation is dedicated to sustainable shared trails for wildlife viewing for hikers and horseback riders. The Goethe Trail, Inc is dedicated to preserving Florida's cultural heritage of the trail experience from the back of a horse, thus promoting nature-based equine tourism. The Goethe Trail, Inc. may donate funds or products, volunteer services; and plan educational seminars. The Goethe Challenge Endurance Ride is the annual fund raiser.

Signature: Helen Koehler

dedicated to nature-based equine tourism

www.thegoethetrail.com

Date: 10/23/2009

Title: President

AERC Board of Directors

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name

Addition to AERC website of funded Trails Grants

Proposing Committee

Trails and Land Management Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

12-07-09

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)

New.

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

The Trails and Land Management Committee moves the inclusion on the Trails portion of the AERC website a list of funded Trails Grants with brief descriptions of each.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

This will provide members access to the history of Trails Grants so they can see how their donations have been used and develop ideas for their own Trails Grants projects.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

None.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

Members will benefit by having access to details of the use of their donations for trail and trailhead development. The Trails and Land Management Committee expects that members will have direct knowledge of the responsible use of their donations for the benefit of AERC rides and ride sites. It is hoped that some members will be inspired to develop their own proposals.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

None.

Committees consulted and/or affected

Trails and Land Management Committee

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

Upon approval.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)

Not applicable.

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

Trails and Land Management Committee

AERC Board of Directors

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name

Trails Grant Application Form

Proposing Committee

Trails and Land Management Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)
12-07-09

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)
New.

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)
The Trails and Land Management Committee proposes changing the Trails Grant Application Form online.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)
The revised form proposed will give the Committee and Board of Directors more information about the proposal and related projects for better judgment in deciding whether or not to fund.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)
None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization
AERC membership can be better served by the Board of Directors and the Trails and Land Management Committee with additional information provided to those bodies about the projects proposed for funding through Trails Grants.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)
None

Committees consulted and/or affected
Trails and Land Management Committee

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)
Upon approval by the Board

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)
None

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)
Trails and Land Management Committee

Trail Grant Program application form:

American Endurance Ride Conference Trail Grant Program Application Form

Proposed Project Name:

Location of Proposed Project:
Physical Address:

GPS Coordinates (if available):
City, State & County:

Requesting Organization:

Description and purpose of Requesting Organization:

List of contacts for requesting organization[2]:

Name:

Address :

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Estimated total cost of project:

Funds requested:

or

Matching Funds requested:

List of Matching share provided by requesting organization[3]:

- Private donations of land:
- Private donations of cash:
- Private donations of labor, equipment, materials:
- Other grants:
- Other funds/resources:

Project Description:

To help document Trail Master involvement in AERC trail grants, please indicate if you have an AERC certified Trail Master involved with any trail preservation at the project site? *This is for our information only and is not a requirement unless the grant is for actual trail work.*

- Yes, there is an AERC Trail Master involved with this project!
Name of Trail Master _____
- No, not at this time.

How many hours has your organization been involved with trail maintenance in the past year? Please describe.

If you have no organized program with your land manager regarding trail preservation, would you be willing as a condition of the grant, to bring a Trail Master into your grant project team and begin to work on trail maintenance?

Is there currently an endurance ride being held at these trails? Please name the ride and length of time in existence.

Do you have a Memorandum of Understanding with your land manager allowing for current and future use of the trails for equestrians and endurance events? If yes, please attach. If no, please inquire with your land manager if they would be willing to review and approve as a condition of this grant.

Estimated start date of your project[\[4\]](#)

Signature:

Date:

Title:

AERC #

¹ Please list all responsible contacts for the project.

² Only included matching amounts you are receiving as applies to this grant.

³ AERC grant projects are to be completed within two years from approval date. Please plan accordingly.

[\[2\]](#) Please list all responsible contacts for the project.

[\[3\]](#) Only included matching amounts you are receiving as applies to this grant.

[\[4\]](#) AERC grant projects are to be completed within two years from approval date. One year extensions to complete the project will be automatically approved if requested in writing. Please plan accordingly.