

## Jennifer Noblin & Marindah



### 2016 AERC Decade Team



**Rider's name:** Jennifer Noblin

**Horse's name:** Marindah

**Year of First Endurance Ride (first year in the decade):** 2005

**Region:** Central

**Current rider lifetime mileage?** 8450

Endurance: 7795

Limited Distance: 665

**Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her?** I was looking for a foal when I lost my only breeding. I found the baby I wanted, but seller said I had to take the aging mother too. A retired race horse and brood mare, the foal was the last of four babies. Marindah, was the mare, broke her hind leg 2 days later kicking a solid gate post instead of another horse across the fence.

**What is your horse's breeding?** Polish with a little Russian, way back.

**Sex:** Mare

**DOB:** 1991

**Horse height:** 15 hands

**Approximate weight:** 980lbs

**Color:** Grey (white)

**Why did you decide to purchase this horse?** I wanted the foal, I had to take both.

**Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse?** Yes

**How many different horses have you ridden in this sport?** 6

**Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities?** Occasional parade or trail ride.

**How many years have you been involved with endurance? With horses in general?** 20 years in endurance, 59 years with horses in general.

**What got you interested in endurance riding? What was it that kept you interested?** An endurance clinic with a short ride through the woods was the way I liked to ride (similar to a fast hack in England). A love of riding, the smell of different terrains, a feeling of accomplishment (to finish is winning) the friendships made. Having horses love what they do and staying healthy.

**How old was your horse when first started in endurance?** 15

**How many rides did you do your first three ride seasons?** 32

**What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.)** 25s with all my endurance horses.

**How long until you top tenned or raced (if you did)?** On third 25 mile ride placed 5th.

**How much time off do you give between ride seasons?** A month

**If you have done 100s, how much time off do you give after doing one?** 4-6 weeks

**If you have done multadays, how much time off do you give after doing one?** 3 weeks

**Do you use any special type of tack or shoeing with your horse?** Natural balance shoes. English saddles, or treeless, depending on the horse ridden.

**What kind of problems have you overcome with your horse?** Broken rear leg, then a tendon torn at the bone on the other rear leg.

**Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse.** Hog Scrabble, 2008. a beautiful day, reasonable terrain, and the first time I ever let Marindah show me her true speed, it scared me half to death, but it was SO exciting.

**What was your most humbling experience?** On my second 25 in 1996 at the vet check, Gail Conway said it was grade 1 lameness, I asked what he would do if it was his horse, he replied that he would pull, so I did. I respect our vets advise, and feel guilt if my horse gets hurt.

**What lessons have you learned along the way that you feel are the most important?** To walk or canter in sand, depending on depth. Let the horse tell you when it needs something, bond with it enough to know.

**What advice would you give to new riders?** Bond with your horse, listen to advise of experienced riders, some of it may not work on your horse but some will. All horses are different, each one has different needs and wants.

**Looking back, what do you feel you did right?** Let the horse rest when needed and add extra time, especially after any injury.

**What would you do differently?** I don't really know. Trying to recognize a problem like Cushings and starting the right treatments immediately before laminitis or other problems appear.

**What was your highest goal for your horse, and did you achieve it?** Yes, achieved. Longevity, Marindah is now 26 and still strong and healthy. My second decade horse.

**Describe your horse's personality? How is it like or unlike yours?** Marindah is very bossy (as am I), hates other horses, but will get in my living quarters if I asked her to. She lets her feelings be known, as do I.

**What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most (50s, 100s, multiday, etc.)?** 100s, but don't have a horse ready for one right now.

**In what ways has endurance riding made a positive influence in your life?** Involvement with other people, I had become reclusive.

**Is there anything special about your nutrition program you attribute to your success?** Keep it simple; digestive issues should be avoided. Keep food moist at feeding, Beet pulp, oats and a complementary supplement.

**Are there any major changes you've made to your nutrition program (i.e., changed from one hay to another, added something special) that you feel made a noticeable improvement or solved a problem?** Cushings with one horse, medication and sugar restriction. Fats, joint supplements and extra salt in all horses meals.

**What kind of supplements (if any) do you use?** Macro and micro nutrients

**Do you give any kind of joint products?** Yes, Corta Flx, HA.

**Describe your electrolyte protocol.** A balanced electrolyte with and addition of calcium and branched chain amino acids.

**How do you choose which rides to attend?** Depending on which horse will cope with the trail better. One will work rock easier than another, as she won't do well in sand. Hills are fine for all my horses

**Do you go to many rides outside of your region?** No so much any more, Getting older and still working, there are time constraints with the travel. I also worry about aging horses being in the trailer too long.

**Name three people involved in the sport of endurance that you look up to, and why.** Paulette Brehob, Jim Mathess, Amanda Fant. All three truly put their horses first and are committed to the sport.

**Did you have a mentor or first trail partner? Tell us about him/her/them.** In the beginning of adventures with endurance, I rode mostly alone but conditioned every weekend with Lucy Estabrook, we had a lot of differences in our riding, she loved rocks, I didn't, she like consistent trotting speed, I liked to walk, trot and canter. But we worked it out and had a good ride every time.

**In choosing your next horse, what would you look for?** Good big feet. Broad chest, deep shoulder and a rear end with power. Mostly being a mare, needing a home will do it, if it will look me in the face and be curious.