



# AERC Convention 2023

**February 24 & 25, 2023**

**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront • Jacksonville, Florida**

We're thrilled to be back in Florida for the 2023 AERC convention! The host hotel is a perfect venue for an action-packed two days of all things endurance. Hope you will join in the fun on February 24 & 25, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront.

There will be in-person shopping with the always-fabulous trade show, and seminars to appeal to both your scientific and sentimental sides. The 2023 convention will feature both new and favorite returning speakers. Friday afternoon we'll honor the regional award winners, followed by a dance party on Friday night with a live band. The convention will culminate in the national awards banquet on Saturday night.

**[Easy online registration with this link!](#)**

Sign up by February 10 to receive the lowest seminar prices and to reserve your banquet tickets.

Reserve your hotel room by February 4 to receive the AERC group discount. Call to reserve: 904-588-1234 (mention G-AER1) or make your [reservation online](#). See [AERC.org/Convention](#) for more information about hotel dates and rates.

Thanks! Hope to see you there! Kathleen, Troy and Kyra



**American Endurance Ride Conference**

866-271-2372 • AERC.org • office@aerc.org • P.O. Box 6027, Auburn, CA 95604

# 2023 Convention Seminars

*Tentative Schedule • Subject to change*

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront • Jacksonville, Florida

**Friday, February 24, 2023**

## **8:00-9:30 am: Kyla and Natalie Law**

Meet Kyla Law, the junior who rode Flash the Pony through Tevis, and her mom Natalie, and see the documentary about their Tevis adventures. You'll hear about Claire Eckard's book, "Race Against Time," that tells their story.

## **10:30-11:45 am: Rachel Mottet, MS, PhD**

Body condition scores will be the focus of this talk by equine nutritionist Dr. Mottet of Legacy Equine Nutrition. You'll learn why endurance horses should be at a BCS of 4-6 versus being too skinny with no reserve in a tank, or too obese and risk musculoskeletal issues.

## **1:00-2:00 pm: Melissa Ribley, DVM**

Hall of Fame member, equine veterinarian and high-mileage rider Melissa Ribley will be presenting two seminars at the convention. This one will be focused on safe transport of your equine — learn all you can to help keep your equine safe and healthy whether your haul is a couple hours or several days.

## **3:00-4:00 pm: Kenneth L. Marcella, DVM, AAT**

Dr. Marcella will expand on his excellent December *Endurance News* article on post-exercise leg care in endurance horses. Information from this seminar will be put to use every time you enter an AERC ride.

**Saturday, February 25, 2023**

## **8:30-9:45 am: Jeanette (Jay) Mero, DVM**

"Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome – Where We Have Been, and What We Know Now" is the title of Dr. Mero's seminar. This topic hasn't been covered at convention for a while, and there is much new to learn. Dr. Mero, chair of AERC's Veterinary Committee, is a frequent convention speaker as well as a top-notch rider.

## **10:30-11:30 am: Meg Sleeper, VMD, DACVIM**

Clinical Professor and Cardiology Service Chief at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Sleeper knows equine hearts. She'll be sharing the latest information that you can use to help your horse achieve at the highest level possible, whether that's completing a 50 or riding to top ten.

## **2:00-2:45 pm: Melissa Ribley, DVM**

This seminar will cover moving up to 100s. No need to be wary — with a solid training plan, there may very well be a 100 in your future. (Hard no? You'll still learn plenty if you're making the leap from 25s to 50s, or 50s to 75s.)

## **3:00-4:00 pm: Susan Garlinghouse, DVM**

Always a convention favorite, Dr. Garlinghouse's seminar topic is "Calcium Metabolism: Basic Bones." Although a seemingly minor player amongst electrolytes, calcium derangements can have a major impact on performance and health. Here's what to know about the paradoxical relationships of why, when and how how to avoid calcium-related problems.

**But wait . . . there's more!**

## **Shopping opportunities**

### **Vendors galore at the trade show!**

One of the main highlights of the convention is seeing the latest in endurance and related gear, presented by a wide variety of vendors. We've built in plenty of time in between sessions so you can peruse each booth and visit and shop, so you can deck yourself and your horse out in grand style this season!

### **The Tack Swap!**

A favorite of convention attendees, this is a great way to scoop up bargain gear and sell items you no longer need. Each sale benefits AERC, as 10% or \$1, whichever is greater, goes to the organization. Bring your endurance-related items to convention, set your price, and be sure to spend your earnings at the trade show!

### **Friday night dance**

The Friday night dance is just for fun and all ages are welcome. HiredGuns, a Florida-based band offers the best of classic country, new country, southern rock, and originals. The Hiredguns show tends to lean towards the outlaw country sound!

### **National & Regional Raffles**

Your raffle tickets can be put towards the nine regional raffles and the mega-fabulous national raffle — tickets are \$1 each. Buy plenty and you'll have a chance to win great prizes and even AERC ride entries!

## **Award Ceremonies**

### **Regional Awards**

We'll all be whooping and hollering for regional award winners on Friday evening at this fun, casual ceremony. (And the cheering gets REALLY loud when there are junior riders announced!) Come for this exuberant exhibition of endurance celebration after the seminars close on Friday night and before the dance party begins.

### **National Awards**

The convention culminates with the national awards banquet on Saturday evening. All national award winners, both endurance and limited distance, are recognized and high-mileage equines and riders are honored. There are breed association awards and, of course, the highlight of the evening is the bestowing of top honors including Pard'ners Award and the Hall of Fame honors.

### **SERA Awards**

The Southeast Endurance Riders Association will be holding their annual awards program 8:00 am to 11:00 am Saturday morning.

## **Just for Juniors and Young Riders**

Sign up for the Friday get-together for all riders under 22! The JR/YR Committee has a fun session just for you, beginning at 11:00 a.m. There will be a panel discussion with guest speakers and "graduated" junior riders, lunch pizza party, a movie and door prizes, all for \$10. Sign up on the registration form and we'll see you on February 24!

## **About the hotel: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**



The Hyatt Regency Jacksonville is centrally located in Jacksonville. Enjoy recreational amenities such as an outdoor pool and a 24-hour fitness center. Make yourself at home in one of the 951 guestrooms featuring docking stations and flat-screen televisions. Complimentary wired and wireless Internet access.

Enjoy American cuisine at Market, one of the hotel's three restaurants, or stay in and take advantage of the 24-hour room service. Snacks are available at the coffee shop/cafe.

Link to:

[Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront AERC reservations](#)

**See you in Jacksonville! Questions? Call 866-271-2372**



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**Three ways to register:** **Mail:** AERC, P.O. Box 6027  
Auburn, CA 95604

**Online (easy & safe):**  
[Click for Link!](#)

**Phone:**  
866-271-2372

**Early registration guarantees seating at Speaker Seminars and ticket availability for the National Awards Banquet.**

Cancellations received after February 13, 2023, will be assessed \$10. **Absolutely no refunds for no-shows!** On-site registration/packet pick-up: Thursday evening 4:00-7:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. at the AERC Registration Desk.

## 1. Registration Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ AERC# \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Registration Fees

<u>Speaker Seminars - FRIDAY</u>	Quantity	Fee	Amount
Single	(    )	\$60	\$ _____
Additional Family Members	(    )	\$45	\$ _____
 <u>Speaker Seminars - SATURDAY</u>			
Single	(    )	\$60	\$ _____
Additional Family Members	(    )	\$45	\$ _____
 <u>Other Activities</u>			
National Awards Banquet	(    )	\$65 per person .....	\$ _____
AERC Raffle Tickets	(    )	\$1 each .....	\$ _____
Friday Night Dance/Concert	(    )	\$15 each.....	\$ _____
Junior/Young Rider Session	(    )	\$10 each – list name(s) below .....	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>			\$ _____

## 3. Method of Payment

Check (check # \_\_\_\_\_)       VISA       Mastercard

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (as it appears on your credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

Scan and return by email: [executivedirector@aerc.org](mailto:executivedirector@aerc.org)

To register by phone, call 866-271-2372 by noon on 2/10/23