

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### 2021 PONY EXPRESS RE-RIDE

After a year of Covid Quarantine--- the National Pony Express returns to ride the Pony Express Trail June 16-26.

Personal Mail and Commemorative Letters will be carried by rider and horse relays 1966 miles from the Sacramento River to the Missouri River. The first rider departs Pony Express Plaza, 2<sup>nd</sup> and J Streets, Old Sacramento, California, at 2:00 PM (PDT) June 16<sup>th</sup>. The last rider will ride up to the Patee House, 12<sup>th</sup> & Penn Streets, in St Joseph, Missouri, June 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, (CDT).

The Route will be over the Pony Express National Historic Trail, a component of the National Trail System, administered by the National Park Service. Starting in California, it crosses Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, and Kansas, to Missouri.

The Re-ride is a 10-day, 24 hour a day event honoring the Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Company founded by Russell, Majors, and Waddell, a Missouri freighting firm. It carried letters and telegrams from April 1860 to November 1861, to prove the Central Route through Salt Lake and Placerville, passable year-round and win a proposed mail contract.

600 Riders will take the Pony Express Oath and receive a Bible, in the custom of Russell, Majors, and Waddell, the Founders. Riding in relays of 1-5 miles, they will transport a mochila (a leather square with four pockets) filled with Commemorative Letters.

The Commemorative Letter will be a Vignette of Pony Express History. The Cachets can be purchased In advance for \$5.00--- 1860 prices. Letter Applications can be obtained by downloading from the NPEA'S website.

Information and updates can be found on the NPEA"s website "nationalponyexpress.org," and during the Ride on Facebook.com/expressrider/. A GPS unit on the mochila will transmit real-time location of the mochila/mail, and will be found on "national pony express.org/annual-reride/follow the ride/. A telephone hotline (855-809-8589) with recorded reports of Rider locations will be available June 17-20, courtesy of Churchill Communications. Additional information from National Pony Express Association, PO BOX 236, Pollock Pines, CA 95726, OR (916) 332-8382.

XP MAY 2021

#### PONY EXPRESS RIDE INFORMATION

# 2021 Pony Express Re-Ride

# State Presidents

## National Schedule

Contact for State Schedules

Depart Old Sacramento, California Wednesday, June 16, 2:00 PM PDT California Carolyn Gilmore

California/Nevada Line (Woodfords)

Thursday, June 17, 1:00 PM PDT

Nevada Gene Ockert C775-296-0149

Nevada/Utah Line (Ibapah) Sunday, June 20, 1:00/2:00 AM MDT Utah Jami Marvidakin 801-828-5177

Salt Lake City, Utah

Wyoming

Les Bennington

C530-409-8676

Sunday June 20, 10:00 PM (MDT)

307-436-9569

Utah/Wyoming Line (Evanston) Monday, June 21, 6:30 AM (MDT) Colorado

Linda Dolezal

C970-520-7028

Wyoming/ Nebraska Line (Lyman, NE) Wednesday, June 23, 2:30 PM (MDT)

Nebraska

Cathy Stevens

308-529-7007

Nebraska/Colorado Line (Chappel) Thursday, June 24, 2:30 AM (MDT) Kansas

Lyle Ladner

C785-799-5538

Colorado/Nebraska Line (South of Big Springs)

Thursday, June 24, 6:00 AM (MDT)

Missouri

Gary Chilcote

C816-232-8206

Nebraska/Kansas Line (Tri-County Marker)

Friday, June 25, 10:00 PM (CDT)

**WEB PAGE** 

Kansas/Missouri Line

Saturday, June 26, 7:00 PM (CDT)

www.nationalponyexpress.org

Arrive St Joseph, Missouri (Patee House) Saturday, June 26, 7:30 PM (CDT)

www.nps.gov/poex/