

EVENT DATE: 7-17 June 2023 CONTACT; Larry Carpenter 916-332-8382

**NEWS RELEASE** 

CALIFORNIA

## 2023 PONY EXPRESS RE-RIDE

The Pony Express will carry mail east from Sacramento to the eastern settlements again in June. A Re-run of the historic mail service will be done June 7-17, 2023, by the National Pony Express Association.

Personal Mail and Commemorative Letters will be carried in a mochila by horse and rider Relays from the Sacramento River to the Missouri River. The first Rider will depart Old Sacramento, California, June 7th at 2:00: PM, and the last Rider will arrive at the Patee House in St Joseph, Missouri, June 17th at 7:00 PM.

The route will be across the Pony Express National Historic Trail, a component of the National Trails System. From California, the mail will travel 1966 miles across California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, to Missouri.

600 Riders from the NPEA's 8 State Divisions will ride in Relays of 1-5 miles each, 24 hours a day until delivery in St Joseph. They ill take the Pony Express Oath and receive a Bible prior to riding with the mochila (a leather square with cantinas in each corner holding the mail.).

The Re-ride is a 10-day, 24 hour a day event honoring the Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Company. It carried letters and telegrams from April 1860 to November 1861 to prove the Central Route through Salt Lake passable year-round in and effort to win a proposed Federal mail contract.

The Commemorative Letters in this year's mochila will be a Vignette of Pony Express History In California. The Cachet can be purchased at 1860 prices--- \$5.00. Letter Applications can be obtained by downloading them from the NPEA'.s Website.

Updates and information can be found at "nationalponyexpress.org," and during the Ride on "facebook.com/express rider/." A GPS Unit in the mochila will transmit real-time location of the mail, and be found at "national ponyexpress.org/annual re-ride/follow the ride/. A Telephone Hotline (855-809-8589) with recorded reports will be available courtesy of Churchill Communications. Additional information from the National Pony Express Association, PO Box 236, Pollock Pines CA 95726, OR (916) 332-8382.

XP May 2023