# NATIONAL PONY EXPRESS ASSOCIATION



**2019 National Convention** 

2019/20 Deadlines

national ponyexpress.org

#### Letter from the President

Now that the 2019 re-ride is a part of history we can stop for just a minute and catch our breath. Then reality sets in and I realize we have more to do. This year we have a large sign project, 24 in Western Tooele County to the Nevada border, then continue on into Nevada to install 32 more signs. The signs were provided by the National Parks Service, helping to preserve historic trails. The posts and hardware provided by the County Tourism Board from both Tooele and White Pine County with help from the Bureau of Land Management and County Road Departments. Thanks to all who have and are still helping to complete this project.

Other news is that Bass Pro has turned over the monument at Sidney Nebraska to the National Pony Express Association. Along with the Sidney Tourism Board, we will be responsible for the up keep of the monument as well as maintaining the Flags. We are looking for ideas to help make this happen.

I was able to follow the re-ride again this year with Jack Davis. Along the trail I realized just how many friends I have made over the past 6 years and how I will miss seeing you and your family members from St. Joseph to Sacramento. It has been a great honor to serve you as the National President the past three years. I hope we can continue to keep the History of the Pony Express alive for many years to come. With the age of technology it makes it easy to tell our story about the Pony Express and hope it will continue to grow. With the response we are getting from the Veterans letter and exposure from the Reno Rodeo, I think we are getting our message out to a lot of people world wide. Thanks to everyone for all your hard work, it isn't just one person that makes it all happen it's dedication and commitment to the organization from all of you. From horse and rider to ground support, the re-ride was another great year under our belt (and saddle). I am amazed each year as the ride concludes just how well it went and how hard you all work to make it happen.

THANK YOU!!

Sincerely:

Dean Atkin, National Pony Express Association President



#### Pony Express helps Reno Rodeo Celebrate 100 Years

By Hellen Newman

Every year in June, Pony Express volunteer riders from many states conduct a historical re-ride from St Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California or reverse from Sacramento to Missouri. This year was particularly special because the Reno Rodeo, while celebrating their 100 Year Anniversary, asked the Pony Express riders to lead off their celebratory parade with mochilla exchanges down the Parade route. So, two days after the end of the re-ride, Pony Express riders gathered in Reno to participate. They not only came from Nevada but some braved the trip from as far away as Colorado and as close as our neighbor to the west, California, to help Reno Rodeo celebrate.

Starting at the end of the parade route, but before the official beginning of the parade, at approximately 2 block intervals, the Pony Express riders would stop and wow the crowd with their efficiency in taking the mochilla from one pony and dropping it onto another pony to continue the ride. This is not unlike the exchanges that take place out on the lonely trails that link St Joseph to Sacramento. The crowds gathered along the parade route applauded and cheered the ponies every step of the way, as though they were once again watching history unfold.

As the parade made its way through downtown Reno, the Rodeo queens, princesses and assorted drill teams came through with bright colors and precision, leaving behind pomp or circumstance and having just a very relaxed atmosphere. At the tail end of the horse display were the Pony Express riders, who, while in formation, showed themselves to be excellent horse men and women controlling their mounts even with the throngs of people gathering around and the sounds of the cheers.

With pride, they presented themselves admirably. Go Pony, Go!

History repeat itself? We can only hope.

More Info & Photos - https://www.facebook.com/Handpictusa/





photos by Hellen Newman



# The 2019 Re-ride included some airmail carriers. Enjoy these "flying photos" of all four off the ground!



Cindy Furse & Tesla - Utah photo by Jamie Marvidakis



Petra Keller & Red - Nevada photo by David Gray



Julie Sprague Krissy Bishop & Shiloh & Domino Nevada photo by Lauren Arends



Richie Hill - Nebraska photo by Mandi Hill



Petra Keller & Red & Sienna - Nevada photo by Darren Young



Jeff Hearty - Utah photo by David Gray

# Colorado Signage Update

From Cheryl Nein

Since September of 2017, the Colorado Division of NPEA has been actively pursuing new XP trail signage through the generosity and guidance of the National Parks/Trail Service. As of this past week, our work was rewarded. Signage was received and is now awaiting placement. We want to acknowledge not only the National Parks/Trail Service but also the cooperation of our County Commissioners for their unwavering support and battle of red tape. We hope with the assistance of Castle Rock Eagle Scouts and supervision of the Sedgwick County Road and Bridge crew, our new signage will be proudly in place by the NPEA 2019 Convention in Julesburg this coming September.



Kyle Brant, age 14

#### Colorado Re-Ride 2019

From Cheryl Nein

This year's 40th Anniversary of the NPEA Annual Re-ride was celebrated by Colorado riders in early morning sunlight. This was due to the mail being received 3.5 hours later than the tentative schedule. We made up 15 minutes of this deficit, due to the diligence of some our younger riders,

to be true to the "Pony" and ride with the wind! Our youngest member ran 4 miles of our 38-mile ride this year. What made his ride special for his first ride as an official member was clocking an average of 23 mph on his first two-mile run, and 26 mph on his second stretch – coming to a sliding stop, leaping off, throwing the mochila on the next riders mount to set off over the next hill! Not only in the movies .......... With an addition of a new member from Calhan, 175 miles from Julesburg, our crew felt we had a most successful re-ride through our route of the XP Trail. Our President, Linda Dolezal, traveled to Reno the very next week to participate in the XP portion of honoring Reno's 100thAnniversary of Rodeo. She was one of 4 states representing Pony Express for this event.

We were pleased to have NPEA President Dean Atkins and Jack Davis, NPEA Treasurer in attendance at our annual XP Re-Ride picnic at the Julesburg Welcome Center Wednesday evening

before our leg of the ride. President Dean swore in the Colorado Division riders. Fellowship of past and present riders was enjoyed. Several riders from the early 1980's were in attendance and shared their trial experiences. The Price family brought well documented scrapbooks from the early re-rides, which will also be on display at the National Convention.

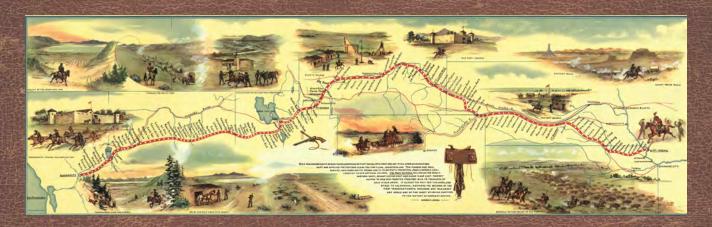


# Convention 2019 - Julesburg, Colorado

From Cheryl Nein

Our division is currently finalizing details for the upcoming NPEA 2019 Convention in Julesburg this September. Please get your registrations in ASAP and plan your trip to include and early arrival no later than Thursday afternoon on the 12th to be properly Welcomed! A parade in XP's honor will be held – "Parade of Champions – How the West was Won!" We are hoping to have a selection of historic wagon teams, buggies and other modes of transportation before the 1900's in attendance. Anyone who participated in the 1960 100th Anniversary of the XP ride or in the 1979, first XP annual re-ride, is invited to be a Grand Marshall of this parade. Looking forward to seeing you here in Sedgwick County for the 2019 NPEA Convention.

https://nationalponyexpress.org/wordpress/wp-content/up-loads/2019/05/XP-registration-2019-4.pdf



#### Feel the Speed

by Arleta Martin

As a member of the media team, it was exciting to see some of the real quick exchanges that took place during this year's re-ride. During the 10 day ride, we received numerous pictures and read lots of interesting stories about the ride as it headed west across the Pony Express Trail. This was our third year monitoring the ride in its entirety. We have garnered a good fan base who also follows the mail across the trail.

One of the fastest rides was done by a first year rider in Colorado. 14 year old Kyle, rode two, 2 mile stretches. His first 2 miles he rode a constant 23 miles an hour. He tried to outdo himself on his second leg, by riding 26 miles an hour for the first mile and the second mile at 20, on an older horse. Kyle leapt off his horse at a sliding stop and threw the mochila on the next horse. He performed like the riders did in 1860-61. Congratulations Kyle on a job well done. We look forward to watching you ride in the future.



Support National Pony Express by shopping at AmazonSmile. When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to the National Pony Express. Support us every time you shop. Smile.Amazon.com

#### Henry Kreiensieck History with the Pony Express

From Marcia Kreiensieck Cottrell

My family connection to the Hollenberg Pony Express Station at Hanover, Kansas began with my Great Grandfather Henry J. Kreiensieck as a young boy of 14 coming from Hannover. Germany and being indentured to Gerat Hollenberg for some years. He was given a section of land north of Hanover, Kansas by Mr. Hollenberg, which became the Kreiensieck Homestead. My Grandfather, Henry Jacob Kreiensieck was born on the family farm and lived there his entire life. The Pony Express asked my Grandpa if he wanted to ride in the 1960 Centennial Re-Ride of the Pony Express. He agreed to and received a Bible and revolver like the original riders carried. The Bible and revolver is still in the Kreiensieck Family. My Grandparents wrote each of their 10 grandchildren a letter that our Grandpa Henry Jacob Kreiensieck carried in his mochila and then was mailed back to us. I still have this letter and the envelope with the cancellation stamp on it. I am sure it is of no real monetary value other than sentimental value to me. When the Pony Express Association began the Annual Re-Rides, my Father, Ernest H. Kreiensieck was asked if he wanted to ride since his Father had ridden, and he agreed. He rode for 17 years and for the majority of that time he rode the same horse, "Rocky," who was the son of the horse, "Maudie," that my Grandpa rode. I also have the letter my Dad carried in his first Annual Re-Ride and again am sure it has no monetary value, only sentimental value to me.

The next and current generation of the extended Kreiensieck Family to ride is Ron Holle, a Great Great Nephew of my Grandpa, Henry Jacob Kreiensieck. He has ridden every year for the past 40 years and was able to ride during part of the time my Father, Ernest H. Kreiensieck rode and they rode out of the Hollenberg Pony Express Station area, generally either coming into or going out of the Hollenberg Station. Ron told me he intends to ride for 50 years in the Annual Re-Rides.

The Hollenberg Station as always been a source of pride to me, and as a child I still remember my Grandpa riding in the Centennial Re-Ride and being so excited. My entire school years were spent having our last day of school picnic on the grounds of the Hollenberg Station and being able to go inside the Station and see all of the memorabilia. I still enjoy visiting the Hollenberg Station and my two grandsons have also enjoyed visiting the Hollenberg Station.



Ernest Kreiensieck on Skeeter June 1986 Re-Ride



Ron Holle signing the Mochilla Marysville, Kansas



Reno Rodeo Parade

# My First Pony Express Ride

by Julie Sprague

I first learned of my connection to the Pony Express 3 years ago while visiting Jackson, Wyoming. My mother was born and raised in Wilson Wyoming which is just a few miles from Jackson. Mom wanted to visit a cemetery where "Uncle Nick" was buried, so off we went with myself being kind of disinterested. Imagine my surprise when we arrived at his grave and the head stone was of a pony express rider and he was listed as one of the original riders! My surprises were just beginning! I became very interested as my

whole life has really been centered around horses. I asked my Mom who this Nick Wilson was to our family; she replied well, he was your great great grandfather! Why my mom never mentioned this to me before is still a mystery.

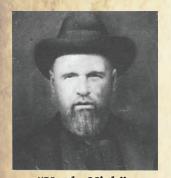
Since that day, I became interested in riding in the pony express re-ride. Nick Wilson not only rode in the pony express, but also drove the overland stage and brought the first pioneers over the Tetons. Wilson, Wyoming is named after him; he settled there and raised his family. He wrote a book ("The White Indian Boy") about his life, and there was even a movie filmed about him.

My busy life and career got in the way of me riding in the re-ride for a couple of years but not this year! I did some research, joined the National Pony Express and got into contact with Petra Keller. Petra helped me every step of the way, thank goodness!! She gave me all the information I needed and answered my endless amount of questions.



Julie at Nick's gravesite

My friend Krissy Bishop agreed to ride with me, she generally joins me on my horse trips, following me blindly lol! So I started my planning.....



"Uncle Nick"

I live in Las Vegas, Nevada so I did have some decisions to make as to which leg I would like to ride. 2019 is the 100th anniversary of the Reno rodeo so that was a deciding factor. I chose to do Fort Churchill/ Carson City leg. As the time approached, I was connected with my ride captain Anne and she informed me that Krissy and I would be able to ride the first leg out of Fort Churchill - what an honor!

Before packing up and heading to Fort Churchill, I decided to re-read my Grandfather's book; especially the section mentioning his time riding for the Pony Express. I cannot really put into words what I felt when I read that I would be riding the exact trail that he rode.

When I jumped on my horse with the mochilla that morning and raced down the trail, I don't think I have ever felt so proud! It was a very emotional time for me and my family; I feel so blessed to have been able to participate in this historical event!

I am hooked and will be back next year! GO PONY!



#### Pony Express Re-Ride Breakfast

by Faith Scheidemantle Pony Express Barn & Museum, Marysville, KS

The Pony Express re-ride is something many members of this small-town Kansas community excitedly

await. This event is more exciting when the riders pass through Marysville, KS during daylight hours. This year, as is tradition, we were waiting for the riders with a locally catered breakfast. The annual re-ride is a wonderful time for everyone to enjoy some biscuits and gravy before they

visit our original Pony Express home station. Pony Express Barn & Museum relies on admissions and donations, so fundraisers such as the Pony Express Re-Ride Breakfast play an important role in keeping our doors open. Our museum staff were pleased to have a good turn out during the event, and we are hopeful that future re-rides will bring even more visitors.

photos courtesy of Sarah and Paul Kessinger, the Marysville Advocate





#### Ride for the Heroes

by Stephanie Goulart

On June 29th The southeast Wyoming pony express carried 274 letters of appreciation and thanks written by 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students from around Wyoming, and delivered them to our Veterans at the Cheyenne VA Hospital. It Is an annual event now, and it has become a very special event for

the veterans and XP riders alike. This year we were joined by Cheyenne Frontier day's rodeo Miss Frontier Halley Jankovsky (who is also a member of the Southeast Wyoming Division) and her Lady in Waiting Bailey Bishop. They are a wonderful addition to our event and enjoyed helping the Pony Express thank our Veterans for their service.





# Toole County, Utah, Sign Project Completed

by Pat Hearty



The trail signing project for western Tooele County, Utah, has been completed. On the weekend of July 5 and 6, Utah Division members Art Johnson and Pat Hearty joined National President Dean Atkin on a trip to Utah's west desert to install the final twelve signs for Tooele County. In the two-day project, signs were placed between Callao, Utah, and the Nevada border just west of Ibapah. The night of July 5 was spent at Willow Springs Ranch, in the shadow of the historic Willow Springs Pony Express Station. On a previous work trip, on May 23, another dozen signs were installed between Lookout Pass and the site of the old Riverbed Station.

These signs, which stand about eight feet tall, mark the original route of the Pony Express. The signs were designed and produced by Aaron Mahr's National Park Service office in Santa Fe, NM, and placed according to a site plan developed by Madison Vandersee. Sign posts and hardware were provided by a Tooele County Tourism Tax grant, and labor for installation by members of the Utah Division, National Pony Express Association. We are proud to be a part of this cooperative effort.

Next up is a sign project in White Pine County, NV, starting soon.

# Re-ride Letter update:

by Melva Sanner

The letters made the trip by Pony and California canceled them with a special cancelation stamp, placed them in the US mail and they have arrived at their designation.

I have received several envelopes back that are an incorrect address. We are in the process of calling on the purchaser to see if we can get a correct address to send them too.

This year we sent out a postcard to all non-members that had ordered a letter last year directing them to our web page to access the letter application.

Personal letter sales were up this year at 102. I called on 10 applicants that had not sent their letter back to be included in the mochila. I still did not get letters back from 2 people. The commemorative letter sales were at 687. I had some excellent help from Connie Ladner and Sarah Bailey in preparing them to be placed in the mochila.

There were several letters carried at the Reno Rodeo event to be delivered to dignitaries of Nevada. There was an application for the 2020 letter linked to the Reno Rodeo web page and I have received 2 applications for 2020 letters already.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in September.

Melva Sanner Ride Letter Secretary

# NTIR Near Real-Time Mapping of the Pony Express Re-Ride

by Brian Deaton, Sarah Rivera National Park Service, National Intermountain Region

The National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) continues working with partners in innovative ways using various GIS technologies to engage and inform the public of the National Historic Trails. NTIR recently coordinated with the National Pony Express Association (NPEA) to redevelop the workflow and platform for displaying near real-time data for the Pony Express Re-Ride. This included utilizing data translation software, creating automated processes to post the locational data online, and creating an ESRI ArcGIS Online web app to display the re-ride data. The annual commemorative re-ride conducted by members of NPEA along the Pony Express National Historic Trail recreates the 18 operational months of the Pony Express between April 1860 and October 1861. Beginning on June 10, 2019 in St. Joseph, MO, riders traveled more than 1,800 miles from station to station traversing eight states while carrying a SPOT GPS tracking device within a mochila saddlebag to allow the public to follow riders along the trail until their final station in Sacramento, CA. For more information concerning the re-ride and NPEA, please visit: https://nationalponyexpress.org.

The Rider Locations can be viewed by the public on the 2019 Pony Express Annual Re-Ride Web Map/App here: https://nps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.htm-l?id=561cc0594efb434fb4a86b8a428fd732.

During the re-ride, the viewer updated the Rider Location approximately every 10 minutes. The web app allowed the public to follow the rider 24 hours a day as they made their long travel across the western United States. During the Pony Express Re-Ride, there were over 20,000 views of the web mapping application from June 10th to June 20th. There were over 3,000 views on the first day and approximately 2,000 views per day. The web mapping application proved a great success by tracking the progress of the Pony Express Re-Ride, approximating when riders would be arriving at stations, and creating a safer environment for the riders. Completion of this project is one of the examples of how NTIR collaborates and supports partners like NPEA with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) expertise to promote the Pony Express National Historic Trail.





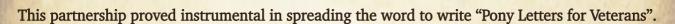
#### 100 Years Reno Rodeo

by Mell Petersen, Reno Rodeo & Petra Keller

The planning started in late 2018. XP teamed up with Reno Rodeo Member Mell Petersen, our liaison for all things Reno Rodeo.

This partnership facilitated numerous 100 Year events.

- 100 Stories Event
- · VAMDAL (Veterans and Military Day at the Legislature)
- · Reno Rodeo Members Dinner
- · Reno Rodeo Patriot Night Performance
- · Reno Rodeo Parade
- · Reno Rodeo Kids Day



XP Members from 4 member states (residing in 6 states) participated in the following Reno Rodeo events:

Patriot Night— the Pony Express performed a Mochila Exchange in the main Arena! Anne Martins and Cassidy LeGaux were assisted by Diane Garland, Cory Jares and Alex Jares in the arena. Sam DiMuzio and Jim Phelan helped the riders in the 'Alley' get ready"Pony Letters for Veterans" were carried in a special rodeo Mochila and the letters were presented to Brett Palmer, Nevada Veterans Coalition by Reno Rodeo President Mike Torvinen and NPEA President Dean Atkin.



Our Pony Outreach crew handed out brochures to s pectators as they were arriving to watch the Friday night performance (a sold out crowd over 10.000 strong)! Carrie Young, Doug Jares, Tammy Jares, Christina Jares, Sarah Jares, Braelynn Jares, Penelope Jares, Preston Jares, Judy Quinlan, Linda Dolezal, Krissy Bishop, Julie Sprague, Karla Cusick, Jill Andrews, Ed Lynch, Chris Lind Lynch, Jerusha Roberts, Penny Cochran and Kylie Cochran.



All told, the Pony Express carried 1300 letters from 3 countries and 14 states for this auspicious event. Thank you to all who sent a letter(s) for our veterans, we are working with the Veterans Coalition to coordinate events to reach our veterans. If you are interested in participating at these events, reach out to npearodeo@gmail.com.

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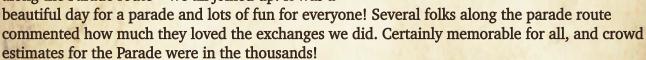


Reno Rodeo Parade- XP were asked to do mochila exchanges along the Parade route. A group of riders start from the end performing exchanges towards the oncoming Parade. The crowd really enjoyed the excitement. Penny Cochran, Janice Scandrett and Petra Keller led the way to clear the road ahead of the exchanges. Mell Petersen walked with us along the parade route and handed out Pony Express postcards to the kids along the route. All was well received. Thanks to Linda Dolezal, Judy

Quinlan, Kyle Cochran, Pam Simmons and Diane Garland for providing support along the parade route.

In addition to the crew starting at the end doing exchanges, we had Pony Express members carrying flags, they started with the Parade; Anne Martin, Karla Cusick, Cassidy LeGaux, Jim Phelan Krissy Bishop, Julie Sprague and Jill Andrews.

Once the two Pony Express groups meet along the Parade route – we all joined up. It was a



Kids Day with Reno Rodeo is an event to get our future riders intrigued and involved from the get go. We dressed them up as "official Pony Express Riders" and had their photo taken. All received a Pony Express Poster, post card and sticker. We even observed a few "adult" kids dressing up. Folks were also treated to a special slideshow from prior Re-Rides, and landmarks along the Pony Trail.



There were an estimated 1800 kids that attended kids day. Last but not least the Pony Express participated in Reno Rodeo Kids Day! Kids were able to dress up as Pony Express riders and have their photo taken. Everyone who dressed up received a Pony Express Poster, post card and sticker. Sam DiMuzio and Anne Martin had a steady stream of kids to dress up, Diane Garland and Jill Andrews

were busy getting the kids on the Barrel that the Saddle and Mochila were strapped to. We even observed a few adult kids dressing up. Petra Keller and her pup Siena were talking to families and getting folks to stop and talk pony. Mell Petersen was busy handing out the Pony Express Postcards for our future riders. Folks enjoyed seeing the slideshow from prior Re-rides of Riders and Landmarks along the Pony Trail. There were an estimated 1800 kids that attended kids day and many of them stopped by to dress up as a Pony Express Rider. Overall, an amazing partner-ship for the Pony Express and Reno Rodeo.

Thank you to all that participated in, and leading up to, the Reno Rodeo events. You all made this a huge success!

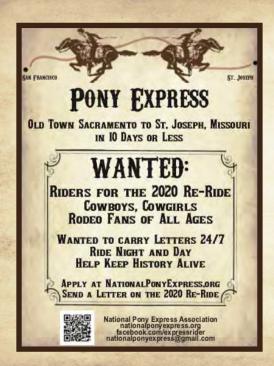
Go PONY! Mell & Petra











National Pony Express ad in the Reno Rodeo Day sheet

Distributed in over 20,000 rodeo programs during the Reno Rodeo

Thank you to Heather Payne for designing.

#### Students write Letters for Veterans

by Petra Keller

The Pony Letters for Veterans drive sure took some interesting twists and some wonderful opportunities. A friend of mine sent out an email letting her friends know about the upcoming events at the Rodeo and asked folks to write letters for Veterans. As things go, it went to a teacher who thought it would be great to learn more about the Pony Express and have her students write letters. Who knew this would lead to a request to speak to students. So on a beautiful day in May in Verdi, NV, Siena (my dog) and I dressed up in our uniforms and went to talk Pony. The Our Lady of the Snow School had a volunteer day at Reno Riding and Siena and I shared Pony History, Stories from the trail and information about the upcoming Reno Rodeo. Nearly 100 middle schoolers gathered in the amphitheater to learn about Pony Express from Siena and I. The students learned about Pony Express history and what it is like to ride in the annual Re-Ride. Their questions were mainly around the Re-Ride and what it was like to ride and how to participate in the Re-Ride. They learned about the Pony Letters for Veterans that would be carried during the Reno Rodeo 100 year celebration. The teacher later delivered nearly 100 letters for our veterans that will be delivered after the Rodeo to our veterans.





# Our Adventure Accompanying and Photographing the 2019 Pony Express Re-Ride from St. Joseph to Sacramento

by Sally and David Gray

Many of you will remember David hanging out our car's passenger window with a camera while Sally drove alongside the riders. Our adventure had its beginnings in 2009 when Sally had a particularly troublesome cancer. She read about a geocaching challenge to find certain Pony Express related geocaches in each of the states through which the original riders carried the mail. She read several books from our library detailing the history and locations of the trail and the stations. She could not rise to the challenge then, but she followed the progress of other geocachers on their website. She learned about the NPEA Re-Ride early this year and proposed to David a trip in which we would accompany it, and David would take photographs. Afterwards, we would visit cousins in California and Washington before returning to our home in Wichita, Kansas. All this before making our annual summer family trek to Maine!

The Re-Ride was intriguing for the history as well as photographic and geocaching possibilities, but this adventure far exceeded our expectations. We followed the Re-Ride each day until nightfall and then drove several hours to stay the night somewhere near where a rider was expected to arrive the next morning. Then we faced the challenge of finding that rider. Several times we were directed to the correct turn by hoof prints and fresh horse droppings!

David took 7,826 photos, which he has been very busy editing. A few of them appear in this article. When the editing is complete, many more will be posted on his gallery, and we will let you know how to request copies. Sally found her geocaches.

We were very impressed with the monuments, remains, and recreations of Pony Express stations and the additional history we learned. But what impressed us the most was the friend-liness and cooperative attitude of the present day riders. We were impressed by the family and even generational nature of the participation. We were amused by the neighborhood horses and llamas that paid such enthusiastic attention to the Re-Riders as we passed by, while the cows took no notice at all. We were impressed by the riderless horse ceremonies and how even the horses themselves seemed to understand the solemnity of each occasion. We were of course impressed day after day by how lovingly all the horses were handled. We were

impressed with how the clouds of dust raised by each galloping horse lingered as the horse sped past. We are happy to have many pictures to help keep the memory of this wonderful adventure from fading. Thank you, everyone!









photos courtesy of David and Sally Gray