

# National Pony Express Association - Missouri

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Pony Express Association  
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<https://nationalponyexpress.org/>

### Pony Express Annual Re-Ride Concludes in St. Joseph on June 21

**Pollock Pines, CA – May 20, 2025 –** On **Saturday, June 21, 2025**, the historic **Pony Express Annual Re-Ride** concludes its remarkable journey across eight states as the **Kansas Division** hands off the mochila — the signature leather mail pouch — to the **Missouri Division** in **Elwood, Kansas**, just across the river from **St. Joseph, Missouri**, where the original Pony Express route ended in 1861.

Missouri riders will carry the mochila across the **St. Joseph Bridge**, retracing the final miles of this iconic mail route and delivering it ceremonially to the **Patee House Museum**, the national headquarters of the original Pony Express.

This moment marks the conclusion of the **1,800+ mile, 10-day, 24-hour-a-day** Re-Ride that began in **Sacramento, California**, on June 11.

### Missouri Route Highlights:

- **Elwood, Kansas (Handoff from Kansas Division)**  
*Saturday, June 21 | Approx. 7:00 PM CDT*  
At dawn on June 21, the Kansas Division will pass the mochila to the Missouri riders in a brief ceremonial exchange. Elwood served as a critical crossing point for early Pony Express riders entering Missouri from the west.
- **Patee House Museum, St. Joseph**  
*Saturday, June 21 | Approx. 7:30 PM CDT*  
The final stop of the Re-Ride. Originally the headquarters of the Central Overland California & Pikes Peak Express Company, **Patee House** is now a **National Historic Landmark**. Here, the commemorative letters carried across the trail are officially delivered. A brief closing ceremony will honor the riders, horses, volunteers, and communities who brought the re-ride to life.

### About the National Pony Express Association (NPEA):

The **NPEA** is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Pony Express. Through education, reenactments, and community events, the NPEA keeps the spirit of the Old West alive for generations to come.

### **About the Pony Express Annual Re-Ride**

The **Annual Re-Ride** is a living history event that celebrates the legacy of the **Pony Express**, which operated from **April 1860 to October 1861**. Though short-lived, the service became legendary for its daring riders, rugged terrain, and commitment to fast mail delivery across a developing nation. Spanning over **1,800 miles** across **eight states**, the **Pony Express Re-Ride** is a 24/7 non-stop relay involving hundreds of riders and horses. Commemorative letters are carried in a mochila, just as they were over 160 years ago. The re-ride is both a living history experience and a logistical achievement, preserving the spirit of the original Pony Express.

"This event bridges generations and geography," said Petra Keller, Corresponding Secretary, National Pony Express Association. "We ride to honor those fearless messengers of the past and to keep their memory alive for future generations."

### **Join the Finish Line Celebration**

The public is warmly invited to join the closing ceremony at the **Patee House Museum**, where riders will deliver the mochila and conclude the 2025 Re-Ride. Admission to the museum will be open during the event, offering a chance to explore exhibits, meet riders, and witness living history.

Follow the ride live via GPS tracking at <https://nationalponyexpress.org/re-ride/follow-the-ride/>. Spectators are welcome at various handoff points and historical landmarks.

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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