



LRRETA NEWS



Outgoing LRRETA President Carol Nichols, Treasurer Tim Beaty, 2016-2017 President Linda Moore and Tracy Matern. Thanks for "taking the lead," Linda!

LRRETA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message 2
 Meet the Ranger..... 3
 Outstanding Volunteer 3
 GreenFest 2016 4-7
 Projects Status 8-9

Monthly Trail Ride

1st Saturday of the Month
 Meet 9am at Isle du Bois,
 Lake Ray Roberts Park
 Call before you haul!
 Michelle Ellis
 214-491-7941

Monthly Work Day

1st Sunday of the Month noon-4
 Meet at Isle du Bois,
 Lake Ray Roberts Park
 Call Michelle Ellis 214-491-7941
 or Chuck Manning 940-390-9188
 to confirm plans.

Please join LRRETA, TETRA & CTETA

United, we are a powerful force
 for equestrian trails in Texas.
See page 10 for details.

**Your purchases can help
 fund our trails**



Visit <http://smile.amazon.com>
 and designate Greenbelt Alliance
 of Denton County as your charity.
 Every time you make a purchase,
 they donate .05% of the
 purchase price. It adds up!

President's Message



I think back over the past year, our organization has much of which to be proud! There is visible evidence of our hard work and many people to thank for their time and effort. Many of our grants are coming to fruition and close to completion.

Last March, we were able to purchase the round pen that was erected at Isle du Bois, at Little Blue Stem trail head. The round pen provides a safe area to warm up horses prior to moving down the trail. The other major portion of the STEP grant was overnight pens at the equestrian camping area at Little Blue Stem. Through the STEP grant and local LRRETA funds we were able to erect six sets of double pens with each stall being 12' x 12'. These pens provide a safe and secure area for our equines as we camp. We thank Allan Neubauer and his manufacturing company for his work on these. One of projects for 2017 is to finish putting the roofs on these pens when we have available funds.

Our biggest accomplishment is the installation of the "elevated walkway" under the Texas Parks and Wildlife Recreational Trail Grant of 2014. Many thanks go to Richard Rogers and the Greenbelt Alliance for their partnership and leadership on this project. Tim Beaty and Tracy Matern have spent countless hours bringing this project together under the wonderful leadership of Carol Nichols. The donation of match funds from Judy Odom and her organization Communities Foundation of Texas provided the "cash flow" necessary on a reimbursement grant. Thanks so much!

We have completed the five handicapped-accessible mounting ramps with generous donations of materials from Lowes - Denton; Ace Hardware - Pilot Point; and Home Depot - Denton. Our next project is to mark and install the new steel signage posts along the 26.5 mile trail. Please watch for opportunities to volunteer on a work crews as we need to finish this work no later than April 1st so we can file for reimbursement. We are also working with park personnel to remedy the two eroded areas that prevent the FM 428 to FM 455 trail from opening.

Our first Field Obstacle and Trail Obstacle Challenges were huge successes and brought the equestrians to the forefront of GreenFest and provided some needed funds for match in the grant. We had 43 participants

for the GreenFest Obstacle Challenge and 33 participants for the Trail Obstacles Challenge. We had many riders who were new to the challenges! Special thanks go out to Sam Noble and Traci Nelson for devising the wonderful courses and to Chuck Manning and Fred Rudsenske for parking all those trailers. We could not have done it without the Michelle Ellis, secretary for the event and Jeff Rupe who helped out in many ways! Stephanie Szabo provided valuable assistance with technical issues.

None of this would have been possible without our wonderful judges who took the time to become certified and judged the event (and gave up riding themselves). The judges were Vicki and Kirk Fraser, Carol Nichols, Sam Noble, Michelle Ellis, Holly Crancer, Diana Hobbs, Susan Bodenmiller, Tracy Matern(alternate) and Karen VanGetson (ETS Director of Operations). Safety riders included Lisa Weaver and Fred Rudsenske. We would also like to thank our photographers who donated their time to take pictures of the events, Kayla Monschke and Greg Chappell.

We are currently planning another ETS event for late Spring 2017 and we have scheduled at Texas Trail Challenge for Sept. 23-24, 2017. We hope to have another great turnout for these events!

In terms of upcoming events for 2017, we are forming three work crews to get the new signage posts in along the trail. If you are able to help with this please contact either Chuck Manning, Michelle Ellis or Linda Moore. There will be one crew that works during weekdays (Moore's) and two weekend crews. Remember "many hands make light work"! This must be done by March 1 so that we can complete the grant on time. The weekend work will be scheduled for the first Sunday of the month, noon to 4pm, weather permitting. Please watch Facebook for up-to-date information.

We are also considering resubmitting the grant that was not funded last year to TPWD. It would include such things as additional horse pens in the day use area, and an additional overnight pen at the handicapped camping spot, and erosion work on the trails. We have formed a committee to prepare and equestrian master plan to be a part of the Master Plan revision for 2018. We will continue to have our first Saturday trail rides and if you would like to lead one let us know on Facebook! Please encourage your friends to join LRRETA **Happy Trails for 2017!**

Welcome New Members!

Karen Stephens
Dominique Martin
Kistner Family

In Memoriam



Jeffrey Allen Glover

June 17, 1963 - September 16, 2016

Jeff passed peacefully in his sleep on September 16. He and his life partner, Jamie Erbes, shared a passion for trail riding and horses at their home in Pilot Point.

Jeff had been riding since he was 5 years old and loved trail riding. He was an active member of LRRETA where he shared his experience and time in support of trails through Texas State Parks.

Jamie and his faithful horse Apollo will deeply miss him.



We will all miss his bigger-than-life spirit and wry sense of humor.

Jamie has established the Jeffrey A. Glover Equestrian Trail Fund where Jeff's legacy and love of horseback riding will continue in support of development and maintenance of North Texas equestrian trails for the enjoyment of generations to come.

To donate online:

<http://www.JeffGloverTrailFund.com>

To donate by mail:

Jeffrey A. Glover Equestrian Trail Fund
CharitySmith Nonprofit Foundation
13100 Filly Lane
Truckee, CA 96161

Meet the Ranger



Mark Stewart

Mark has been with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for 16 years and Isle DuBois Park Manager for 13 years. He and his staff of 17 are responsible for "everything that happens at Isle du Bois." He says his favorite part of the job is watching visitors enjoy our beautiful park. He also expressed his respect and gratitude for LRRETA's continued support as well as our efforts to maintain and improve the trail system.

Be sure to say hi to Mark (and all our rangers) next time you're enjoying our beautiful Lake.

Outstanding Volunteer



Jeff Rupe

Jeff grew up in various farming communities working alongside his dad. He is no stranger to diesel mechanics, welding fences, building structures or stitching up livestock wounds. These skills and his generous heart have proven to be a valuable asset to LRRETA.

Among his many credits are: GreenFest - set up, acquiring generator light for judge's clinic on Friday night, tear down; Trail Challenge 10/16 - handyman, cook..

Work days - painting pens, building two of the four ramps, painting ramps, trimming trails, arranged for RTV donation.

Jeff, we truly appreciate you. Thanks for all you do.



GreenFest 2016 was held Saturday, September 24 from 10-4 at Elm Fork Park on the south side of Lake Ray Roberts Dam. In addition to regular GreenFest activities — archery, climbing, kayaking, vendors, and birds of prey and reptile exhibits — there was a bicycle rally, a run, and an Equine Obstacle Challenge.

Feedback from 2015 GreenFest attendees indicated people wanted to see more equines present. LRRETA, with the funding from our sponsor, Ameristall and the organization provided by Equine Trail Sports, put together the Field Obstacle Challenge and the Trail Obstacle Challenge. ETS did a great job with the events. Riders got to choose from 3 different levels of difficulty at each obstacle. There were 40+ riders for the Trail Challenge and 30+ riders participated in the Trail Challenge. ETS indicated that we had the most successful first time event (“launch”) anywhere! The expertise of Karen VanGetson was invaluable in making the first time event a success!

Due to the weather, the Trail Challenge, scheduled for the following morning, was postponed to October 16. And the new “elevated walkway” was one of the obstacles!

Eddie Rodriguez of True Horsemanship Seminars was the announcer for the Obstacle Challenge. Ribbons and prizes for both events were given at the Novice, Intermediate and Advanced levels, and participation ribbons were awarded for youth and seniors.



Linda Long and Britches



Susie Weisser and Neena

The event attracted lots of new faces! Linda Long riding Britches and Susie Weisser aboard her mule Neena were two of many participating in an event like this for the first time. Both said their biggest challenge was the bridge.

Plenty of riders shared the similar experience of having their equines fuss at obstacles they had faced before without issue, and performing beyond their expectations at obstacles they had never experienced. All agreed it was fun and a learning experience. Obstacles were designed by Sam Noble and Traci Nelson.

The Denton County Greenbelt Alliance sponsors the annual event which celebrates outdoor family fun. GreenFest ticket sales and sponsorships have helped LRRETA raise funds for its portion of the match money for the TPWD Recreational Trail Grant for the construction of the “elevated walkway” on the Greenbelt between FM455 and FM428 as well as other trail improvements.

**Many Thanks
to our Sponsor**



**And Thanks to our
Prize Donors**

Smith Brothers

Dennards

Gypsy Cowgirl

Muenster Milling Co.

Tracy Matern

Paige & Linda Moore

Sam Noble

Leah Fry

D&L Farm and Home

Black Mustang Ranch

We appreciate you!

**LRRETA Board Meetings
(Open to all members)**

1st Tuesday of the Month

Ernesto's

10279 FM 455 E. #100

Pilot Point, TX 76258

6:30pm.

**LRRETA Branded
Merchandise**

LRRETA has paid to have our logo digitized. Supply your own clothing items and member Robyin Pucci will do embroidery for \$8 per item, or you can order shirts from the Norman Roscoe catalog available online or from Linda Moore.

Items can be brought to our meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month at Ernesto's in Pilot Point at 6:30. Call Linda with questions or for more information (940) 206-9355.

EQUINE TRAIL SPORTS

Event Results

Field Obstacle Challenge

September 24, 2016

Advanced

- | | |
|----------------------|----------|
| 1. Linda Long | Britches |
| 2. Georgia Rhoudes | Scooby |
| 3. Diana Warner | Houston |
| 4. Margaret Rabbitt | Cinder |
| 5. Elizabeth Hanzel | Rain |
| 6. Adriana VanDooren | Stormy |

Intermediate

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Jean Podborny | Snugga |
| 2. Sylvia Harmon | Brandi |
| 3. Tracy Matern | Moonshine |
| 4. Laura MacDonald | Cin |
| 5. Susie Weisser | Neena |
| 6. Robyn Pucci | Boogie |

Novice

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Glee Hastings | Samson |
| 2. Isabelle Burnette | MG |
| 3. Aaron Hastings | Porky |
| 4. Elizabeth Thompson | Remington |
| 5. Pam Lamkin | Rickie |
| 6. Cynthia Miles | Abe |

Recognition

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Youngin' Award (7-12) Intermediate | |
| JR Revoir | Eeyore |
| Junior Award (13-17) Advanced | |
| Georgia Rhoudes | Scooby |
| Senior Award (60+) Advanced | |
| Diana Warner | Houston |
| Equine Youth Award (-4) Intermediate | |
| Jean Podborny | Snugga |
| Equine Senior Award (16+) Advanced | |
| Diana Warner | Houston |
| Newcomer Award Advanced | |
| Linda Long | Britches |

Trail Challenge

October 16, 2016

Advanced

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. Sylvia Harmon | Brandi |
| 2. Georgia Rhoudes | Scooby |
| 3. Tracy Matern | Moonshine |
| 4. Margaret Rabbitt | Cinder |
| 5. Carla Guhr | Jake |
| 6. James Morrison | Rein |

Intermediate

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Gayle Scott | Sailor |
| 2. Brigitte Caperton | Silly Dilly |
| 3. Jamie Erbes | Sierra |
| 4. Camilla Pearson | Dietz |
| 5. Carol Nichols | Annie |
| 6. Gaynel Burch | Teego |

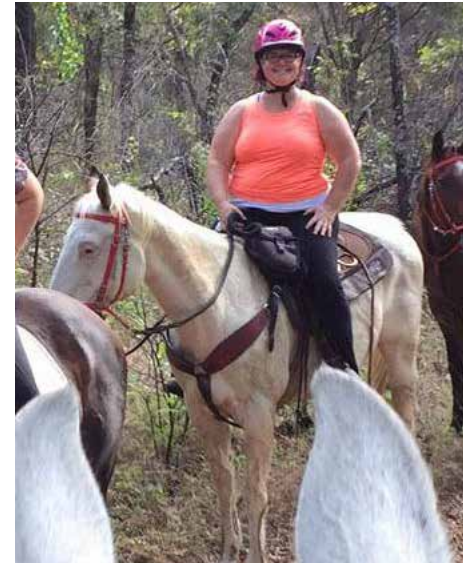
Novice

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| 1. Pam Lamkin | Rickie |
| 2. Susie Wiesser | Neena |
| 3. Kathryn White | Buck |
| 4. Jenny Dart | Cairo |
| 5. Noel Freeman | Twix |
| 6. Kerri Hancock | Hawkeye |

Recognition

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Youngin' Award (7-12) | |
| Junior Award (13-17) Advanced | |
| Georgia Rhoudes | Scooby |
| Senior Award (60+) Advanced | |
| Sylvia Harmon | Brandi |
| Equine Youth Award (-4) | |
| Equine Senior Award (16+) Advanced | |
| Sylvia Harmon | Brandi |
| Newcomer Award Advanced | |
| Carla Guhr | Jake |

Mindy Lewis & Hawk on the Trail Challenge



Our goal was to have fun and we were there for the experience, not complete the challenges perfectly.

As we approached the first challenge, the tunnel, I knew this would be a piece of cake since we had been through the tunnel before. Next were the logs; fun since we ride and jump over logs all the time. The last challenge on this leg was picking up a very long limb off a fence and maneuvering your horse around a sign (while carrying the limb) then back to the fence to lay down the limb. Although we completed it, we could have done it more efficiently.

Next challenge — backing up around the tree. Hawk prefers not to back up unless he wants to. We pulled up next to the tree, and I waited at least 15 seconds before I just turned him around and moved out of the way to let everyone else shame Hawk.

Last challenge — the new bridge! I thought Hawk would hesitate since this was new to him but he moved on to take a step and ... it was a quiet step. They put mats on the bridge, so no echoing from hooves hitting the woods. We moved across the bridge with such grace and then he saw the fresh grass, got all googly-eyed and stopped at the edge of the bridge so that he could eat. Needless to say that "pause" cost us some points, but I couldn't deny him a reward..

Additional Photos are available other than those you see here.

Two photographers covered the events for free! Kayla Monschke covered both the Field Obstacle Challenge and the Trail Challenge.

Kayla's pix from the Obstacle Challenge <http://tinyurl.com/zymchcl>

Kayla's pix from the Trail Challenge <http://tinyurl.com/hu36yvf>

If you wish to purchase any, email Kayla at kayla.monschke@gmail.com. Images are \$5 for a digital file and \$8 for a mailed 8x10. 20% of the proceeds from the prints to go to LRRETA.

The second photographer was Greg Chappell, who took photos of the Trail Challenge. <https://gmchappell.smugmug.com/Portfolio/Equestrian-Event/>

There are also photos posted on the LRRETA Facebook page.

Brigitte Caperton & Dilly on the Obstacle Challenge



I really didn't know what to expect from the Field Obstacle Challenge. I had a vague idea of obstacles, maybe a log to jump, a gate to open, some backing past logs ... sounded pretty tame. I was not prepared for the number nor the professional look of the obstacles, nor the challenge of keeping straight which set of maneuvers went with which level at any given obstacle! It was wonderfully challenging both for horse and rider.

I brought two young ladies with me and put them up on my Arab geldings. Neither the horses nor the riders really had any experience with obstacles they muddled their way through and had a great time.

I was riding Dilly, a little Quarter Horse gelding we had rescued from one of the kill lots in Oklahoma, and who to my knowledge, had never done anything like this. He was perplexed, confused, and a few times quite alarmed over all the strange things I asked of him, but remained very willing through the entire course.

I really had a blast, working a newbie horse through the course, helping him figure out what to do and meet the challenges. I definitely could tell that his skills and his confidence level grew thanks to that exposure. Thanks to LRRETA for putting it on, and a huge thank you to the volunteers who must have been even hotter and more miserable than I was! Special thanks for the smiles and kind words, they meant a lot to me.

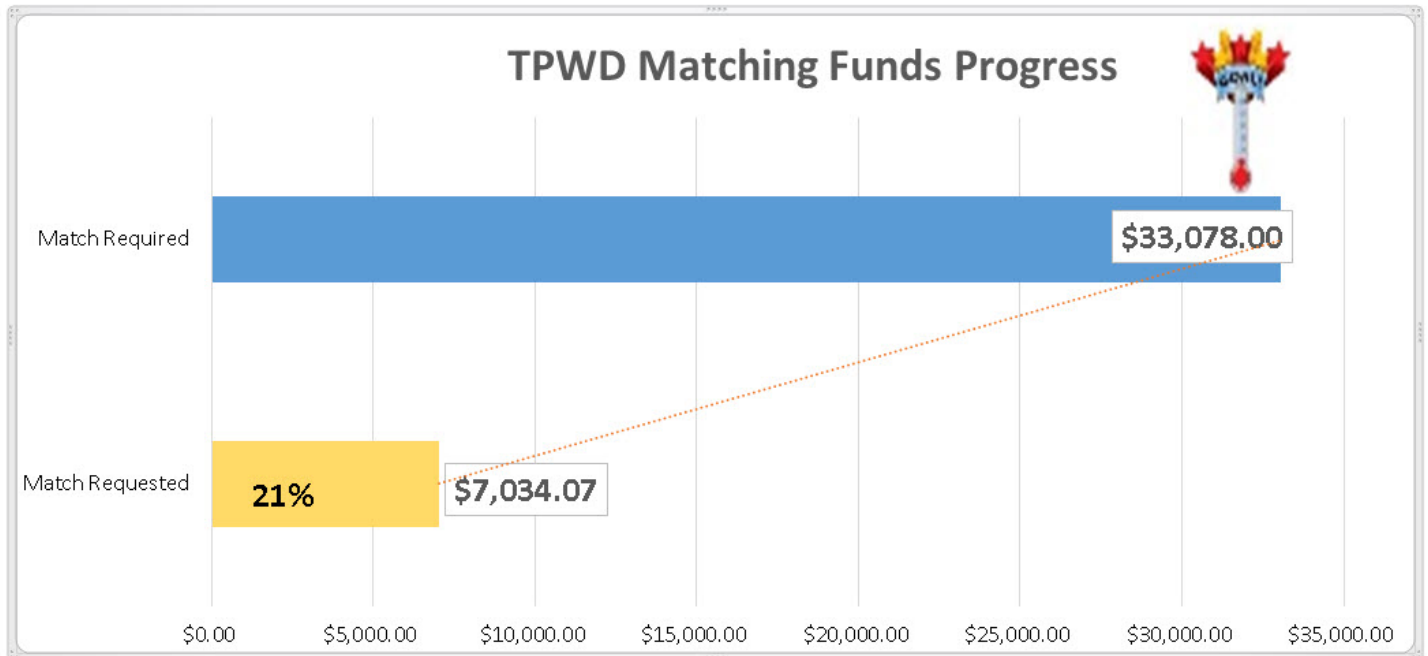






There is MUCH to be done on our beloved trails, but many hands make for light work. We NEED your volunteer hours to help us meet the grant match.

| Project | Location | Work to be Done | Complete Date |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| TPWD Grant 14013 | trailhead 428 | stain ramp | 14-Dec-16 |
| | trail 380 to 428 | set signage posts/stickers | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trail 428 to 455 | set signage posts/stickers | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trail 455 to Isle | set signage posts/stickers | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trail Isle to Jordan | set signage posts/stickers | 15-Feb-17 |
| | Jordan to Lost Lake | set signage posts/stickers | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trailhead Isle | stain ramp-2nd coat | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trailhead Jordan | stain ramp-2nd coat | 15-Feb-17 |
| Blair Kenley's | | build 5th ramp | 4-Dec-16 |
| | trail 455 to 428 | trim trail | 15-Feb-17 |
| | trail 455 to 428 | mow trail | 15-Feb-17 |
| Overnight Stalls | trailhead Isle du Bois | stain stall boards | 1-Apr-17 |
| | | paint pipe | 1-Apr-17 |
| | | caps on poles | |
| | | purchase c purlin & tubing | 1-Apr-17 |
| | | weld c purline & tubing | 1-Apr-17 |
| | | intall roofs caulk roof installed | |



TETRA Loan Benefits LRRETA

TETRA (Texas Equestrian Trail Riders Association) recently made a no-interest, loan to LRRETA for us to pay construction bills and then wait on the reimbursement check from TPWD, which frequently takes 4-5 weeks. This was a HUGE assist and we really appreciate Chuck Manning and TETRA for this phenomenal support!

LRRETA/TETRA Dual Members

Chuck Manning, TETRA Region 4 Director; Linda Moore; Carol Nichols; and Tracy Matern

We encourage LRRETA members to also join TETRA (see page 10)

Trail Maintenance Workday November 6th

A determined crew of nine volunteers took to the trail section south of the bridge (FM455 to FM428) with the help of two RTVs, one horse and a whole lot of loppers! One RTV was from the park's fleet and the other was a donation from Zimmerer Kubota of Denton. We are grateful for their help.



Solid progress was made through the dreaded thicket of Chinese Privet. Ranger Brad Barker worked earlier in the week with the tractor to clear many of the fallen logs that were in the way and even pushed down a tree that was suspended over the trail. We are ever thankful for this partnership with the rangers!

Thank you to everyone able to lend a hand and a few hours!

Covered Pens at Isle du Bois



Thanks to the STEP Grant sponsored by the AQHA and TSC (Tractor Supply), the overnight pens for the Blue-stem Equestrian Campsites are a reality! Each set consists of two 12'x12' pens.

Labor Day Geocaching Event



The Trail Rider and USRider® congratulate the winners of the Equicaching Event & Giveaway held over Labor Weekend 2016. The winners' names were randomly drawn from participants who signed up online and sent photos of the cache log.

Grand-prize winner is Donna DeYoung of Gainesville, TX; second-place winner is Janet Citron of Reading, PA; third-place winner is Linda Moore of Sanger, TX. Taking third, fourth and fifth places are Laurene Davis of Newcastle, CA; Michelle Maxwell Ellis of Crossroads, TX; and Debbie Camplone of West Chester, PA.

The Trail Rider and USRider would like to thank the event's generous sponsors:

The Bitless Bridle www.bitlessbridle.com

Outfitters Supply, Inc. <http://www.outfitterssupply.com>

Weaver Leather, LLC www.ridethebrand.com

Equine Network Store www.equinenetworkstore.com

Article reprinted from *The Trail Rider* January/February 2017

Last Mounting Ramp Completed December 4

Many thanks to the volunteers who made this happen!



Lake Ray Roberts Equestrian Trails Association (LRRETA) Patron Application Form

MEMBERSHIP and PATRONS - Membership in LRRETTA and Greenfest is complimentary. Supporters of the equestrian/hiking trail are PATRONS. Please support your trail by becoming a PATRON and attending the annual Greenfest events!

- Single Patron \$25 annual
- Household Patron (max 4 people) \$75 annual
- Lifetime single Patron \$250 (one time)
- Lifetime Household \$750 (one time)

Special Discount! \$40 (\$10 savings) If you join both LRRETA and CTETA!
Please indicate if you wish to join both groups or if you are already a member of CTETA.

FULL NAME* _____

BUSINESS NAME* (optional) _____

Address* _____ City* _____ ST* _____ ZIP* _____

Cell Phone* _____ Home phone (optional)* _____

Email* _____

Additional Patrons (fill in if checking Household Patron):

FULL NAME* _____

FULL NAME* _____

FULL NAME* _____

*PLEASE MAIL CHECK WITH PATRON DUES OR DONATIONS TO:
LRRETA, 2459 West Blackjack Road, Aubrey, TX 76227*

**LRRETA does not share Patron or Donor information*

Please also consider joining our sister trail groups:

Join Texas Equestrian Trail Riders Association (TETRA) <http://tetra.memberlodge.org/page-201911>

Join Cross Timbers Equestrian Trails Association (CTETA) <http://www.cteta.org/Form-Membership-2011.pdf>