



Texas Trail Challenge Club Newsletter

September / October 2026

I don't care how you show up, just show up!

Originally written by Victoria Fedden and edited by Nancy Williams and Kate Love

I don't care if your trailer is a mess. I will move the tack off the couch, sit down. I don't care about your big, non-bubble respecting horse. I will accept his begging for a cookie. It's also fine that you don't have any food in your cooler since I ate before I came. I like your instant coffee and your Nature Valley granola bars.

I don't care if you go out on the trail looking like that or if you bought your tack at a yard sale or if every single piece of clothing you own came from Goodwill. Likewise, if you shop exclusively at Teskey's or South Texas Tack, I can handle that too. We will both survive if you have a hole in your jeans, a weird mole, a hideous and regretful tattoo, and if you've recently gained fifteen pounds and none of it is in your boobs.

I don't care what you eat or don't eat or if it is organic or if it isn't. I don't care how you feed your horse or if you sleep with them. If they are on pasture, in a stall, or some combination of the two. I won't judge if sometimes you are so tired that you give your horse a mash and make yourself a margarita. I have been there too, and you know what? All of us have!

If your horse is fussy and throws a royal fit when we are at a TTCC or trail riding, I don't care. We all have bad days and, of course, I will slap your head when you start to make excuses. Cause I do care. I don't care if you have a dead-end job or if you haven't yet found your passion. It doesn't matter if you go to yoga twice a day or church once every three or four years and only to make your grandmother happy. I do that too.

One day you will finish your novel or start your business, and I will be there clapping and grinning and shouting with joy at your success even if we are ninety-seven by the time you get there. You can cry on my shoulder. Tell me about



Slumber party at Rocky Road, February 18, 2017

what an ass your spouse has been and how your mother won't stop tearing into you about every little thing and how sometimes you wish you could just get on your horse and start riding and leave everything behind. For a little while, I have had these fantasies too. Mine involve a dark, cool pool of water, with no mosquitoes, a meadow for grazing and a warm sun.

It is okay that you can't cook, and that you haven't thrown me a fancy dinner party

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18 - Judges Training
September 19 - Fall Rider's Clinic,
Both at Vicki Van Steyn's, Valley Mills

September 26 & 27 - Wyatt Ranch
Wanderer, Glen Rose

October 10 - Fundraiser Day Ride
Parrie Haynes, Killeen

October 24 & 25 - Hoot N Hollar,
McCown Valley, Lake Whitney

November 11 & 12 - Salute to the
Troops, C Bar, Valley Mills

with homemade tablescapes that you saw on Pinterest. We can get takeout. There is this amazing, cheap little Thai place on the corner. You'll love it.

I don't think you are a loser because you made a stupid mistake and lost your job and now you fry chicken for a living. I'm proud that you went back to school and followed your heart to finally get a degree in what you love instead of what your dad loved. Who cares if you're thirty-nine when you graduate? None of these matter, if we are friends, that's all I care about.

Are you kind? I care that you are kind. Do you mean well even when things don't always work out? I care about that. I care that you are loving, that you are friendly to little kids and servers in restaurants. I need you to be nice to animals and that you don't hurt with your hands or your words. I care that when you mess up, you admit it and that you can apologize sincerely, because of course, everyone makes a poor choice occasionally. We all make mistakes.

The ability to recognize our wrongs; what you learn from them is more important than being perfect. Your politics aren't important and your religion doesn't matter to me, but I care that your words and actions are kind. I care that you can tolerate people who are different. I care about empathy and compassion.

I care that amid the noise and clutter of our messy lives, that in the moments we find to connect, there is meaning, there are smiles even through the tears, that we part feeling just a little stronger, a little more hopeful. That we are better off because of our friendship, that we are not alone, that we support and cheer each other on. That is more important than anything else.

It is time to register and send payment for the fall clinic and rides, so ride managers can plan for the number of riders.

September 19th, the Fall Rider's Clinic will be held at Vicki Van Steyn's stables. Vicki hosted the Spring Rider's Clinic in March. The thirty-three participants in that clinic were amazed at the plethora of obstacles and appreciative of the chance to try them with the help of experienced clinicians. The clinic ended with the team competition with the winning clinician (coach) and teams earning bragging rights! We hope to have the same level of participation and are looking forward to working on horsemanship, confidence building, and gait transitions. Get registered to join us!



Texas Trail Challenge Club Fall Riders Clinic

September 19, 2026
Valley Mills, TX

Our mission at the Texas Trail Challenge Club is to promote **safety** and **education** while building a better **bond** with our horses.

What to Expect:

- Full day of riding & learning 9-4
- One on ones with clinicians
- Multiple clinicians
- 3 acres of obstacles

Need To Know Details:

- Primitive Camping available on site
- Hookups within a 30 minute haul
- Lunch (sandwich fixings) will be offered for \$7/person
- Must be a member to participate (Become a member TODAY! \$30/year OR \$10/day)
- There will also be a tack swap!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out:
Kelly Beard 325-868-4532
OR
Visit our Website:
texastrailchallenge.com

Cost:
\$60 per participant

Limited to 40 riders





SPOTLIGHT ON SPONSORS

**Dr. R. Harry Anderson, PhD,
Total Feeds Equine Nutrition
Weatherford, Texas**

**Donnie Eaton & Carin Bauer, Bugs Unlimited,
Pests, Termites, Mosquitos & Weed Control
Belton, Texas**

**Frank and Jackie Bonner
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Fairfield, Texas**

**Scott Butcher Photography
Images from the Arena of Light
Weatherford, Texas**

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**Susie & Robert Jernigan
Crazy 8 Ranch, Goldsboro, Texas
Proud Supporters of TTCC**

**Barbara Knight– Knight's Cottage
Cottage, Corral, Arena & Hook-ups
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**Dwight and Sara McMillan
Barnett Farm est. 1857, Valley Mills, Texas
Proud Supporters of TTCC**

**James and Teresa Corgill
Happy Heart Stables
Pipe Creek, Texas**

**Jim Miller & Kim Gehring
Killeen, Texas
Proud Supporters of TTCC**

**John and Deborah Moody
Moody's Live Oak Creek Ranch Quarter
Horses
Valley Mills, Texas**

**Cheryl Sofaly
Killeen, Texas
Proud Supporter of TTCC**

**Juli Steele, Heart of Texas Hedgehogs &
Mobile Notary Services, Quality Pet
Hedgehogs from our family to yours
Lorena, Texas**

**Kerri April
Kerri April Horsemanship
Fredericksburg, Texas**

We are so very grateful to our sponsors, your support makes our club possible!

ComicCon Fundraiser in Killeen



Another great fundraiser was held during ComicCon at the Huntington Bank Center (formerly Cadence Bank) on August 1st and 2nd. THANK YOU, Carin Bauer-Eaton, Jackie Bonner, Marta Covington, Vicki



Van Steyn, Juli Steele, Tiffany Janke, Rhonda Fryer, Bill and Annette Thurlow, Priscilla Butcher, Diana Eades, Sharon Price, and Donnie Eaton. Rhonda Fryer took great photos of the event. Volunteers were able to obtain a hook-up and a stall without charge. ***The next opportunity to raise money for the club is Labor Day weekend during the Central Texas Fair, September 3rd through 6th, from 5:00 to 10:00 pm.***

It is a wonderful training opportunity for you and your horse. If there are enough volunteers, this



Photos by Rhonda Fryer

weekend could raise about \$2500 for the club! If you are interested in working, please message Carin Bauer-Eaton at 254-681-2186. If you have not been available to participate in the parking lot fundraisers and you would like to help, then consider mailing a check to Bill Thurlow – Club Treasurer.



Wyatt Ranch Wanderer by Annette Thurlow

September 26 & 27

Bill and I are looking forward to our third ride at Wyatt Ranch. It has varied terrain with rocky climbs to overlooks with marvelous views, but there are also shaded dirt trails with places to move out. There will be an opportunity for a bathroom break about halfway through the ride. We will cross the river each day as we head out on trail. As your senior judge, celebrating the 250th anniversary of our country, all the obstacles will be themed around the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Think Boston Tea Party and the ride of Paul Revere. I can't give too much away but hopefully you will find the obstacles challenging as well as entertaining and educational. Saturday evening's meal will be Mexican food catered by



TEXAS TRAIL CHALLENGE CLUB
WYATT WANDERER September 26 & 27, 2026
WYATT THREE RIVERS RANCH
GLEN ROSE, TX

COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE CONSISTING OF:
• 10 JUDGED OBSTACLES
• 7-9 MILES OF MARKED TRAIL TO FOLLOW
• GREAT CAMRADERIE
• FEEDBACK FROM JUDGES & HELPFUL HINTS

Call if you have any questions!
Annette Thurlow: 817-939-9503



COME RIDE WITH US & SEE WHAT WE
ARE ALL ABOUT!
www.texastrailchallengeclub.com

the ranch manager Cevin Wyatt. All camping is primitive and there is a waitlist for the pens. Register on the website and send in your payment so we can plan for the number of riders. As Uncle Sam would say, "We want YOU!"



Texas Trail Challenge Club
Hoot N Hollar
October 24 & 25, 2026
Whitney, TX

COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE CONSISTING OF:

- 10 JUDGED OBSTACLES
- 7-9 MILES OF MARKED TRAIL TO FOLLOW
- GREAT CAMRADERIE
- FEEDBACK FROM JUDGES & HELPFUL HINTS
- Saturday Night Costume Contest!!

If you have any questions, please reach out!
Sylvia Perry: 254-744-1405
Vicki VanSteyn: 916-276-7515



COME RIDE WITH US & SEE
WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT!
www.texasrailchallengeclub.com



Hoot N Hollar by Sylvia Perry

October 24 & 25

I have been working hard to make this new ride fun and exciting. With Vicki Van Steyn as my Co-Manager, we have got quite a few surprises waiting for you. I will enclose a map of the Equestrian Loop at McCown Valley Equestrian Park, so when you pay your fees, you can see where your site will be located.

There will be costume classes for people, horses, and dogs at the ride. So think long and strong about dressing up for this Halloween Event! This contest will be Saturday evening after our meeting and prizes will be given to the winners. Wear your costume to the Awards meeting and see if we can guess who you are!!

Don't forget to bring a side dish or dessert for the meal Saturday night. The ride managers will be furnishing smoked pork roast as the main dish.

Also, your ride will be interesting too. Our senior judge has been working hard to make this enjoyable and interesting for you AND your horse. Our judges as well as our volunteers will be wearing orange vests to make sure they stay safe on the trail, since this is during bow season in Texas.

Bring your favorite horse, and your best friend to introduce them to the fun we have at Texas Trail Challenge Club. Anyone who brings a new member to ride or a person to volunteer will receive a little gift for doing so.

As you can see, Vicki and I are into giving, laughing, and having an overall good time on this ride. I can't tell all our secrets, but I know you will be surprised when you get to camp and when you are on the trail!

See you at Hoot N Hollar!!!

Getting to Know You, Tom Blackmon and Marilyn Dardenne Blackmon

It was the 3rd of June, a rainy, sultry summer day in 2022 when Tom and Marilyn got married at their preacher's house in Aledo. Both Tom and Marilyn had been widowed. They had known each other for about a year when they got married, but as they say, WYKYK (especially in this season of life), so they stepped into life together trusting God for their future. Both were package deals and came with a

gelding and a dog, long marriages that ended in caring for a sick spouse, large and complex families, and a lifetime of memories.

Tom had just retired after 39 years of managing the Fort Worth Horseshoe Club, where they met when Marilyn moved Ranger there in 2021. She would have boarded her horse there much sooner, but when she first inquired at the FWHSC, she had a reactive Arab, and funniest thing...there was no room at the inn. Tom kept telling her to "call back next month," hoping she and her Arab would go away. But Marilyn had a major wreck on said Arab in 2019 and ended up returning him to his previous owner. Six months later, Kate Love told Marilyn's good friend Becky Rogers about Ranger. Marilyn went to meet him at Lissa Rabon's place, where Ranger was decompressing from a stint as a game ranch horse. Ranger was the first horse Marilyn rode after her leg mended, and even though she kept looking and test rode a few other horses, she kept thinking about that handsome red roan, and she brought him home early in 2020. In May 2021, Marilyn thought she'd give the Horseshoe Club one more try. "What kind of horse do you have again?" Tom asked her when she called. And when Marilyn replied, "A quarter horse", a place opened up for Ranger, and that's all we'll say about that! During her year at the Horseshoe Club, Marilyn got to see what a good, kind, and hard-working man Tom is. She had bought a small acreage in Weatherford that she was renovating so that she could keep Ranger on her own property. Retirement for Tom meant moving out of his family home where he had lived since he was a child. So, the couple decided to get married and create a home for each other, complete with garden, greenhouse, chickens, and a never-ending list of projects and chores. Marilyn is still working as an educator, and neither of them know how Tom, who is always working on something, ever had time for a job.



Tom as a youngster

Tom grew up at the Fort Worth Horseshoe Club; his father managed it before he did and handed the reins to Tom upon retirement. Tom, his brothers and sisters were all deeply involved in the horse world, showing palominos, racing horses, and for Tom, cutting. Tom and his two brothers all made their living with horses. Tom and his late wife, Linden, both competed in cutting. Edd, who Tom rides on our trail rides, was a cutter and so was his dam, Jazzy. Tom has had Edd since he was foaled. Edd is very happy to be retired from the pressures of the show arena, and he loves to be on the trail with Tom. He has major separation anxiety and still has some athletic moves if

he can't find his brother, Ranger. Marilyn recently rode Edd when Ranger was nearby but not close enough for comfort for Edd, so she got a feel for what a great seat Tom has on a horse. While Tom's father grew up on an Oklahoma farm, Marilyn's father grew up riding horses at the City Stable in New York City. Their fathers and mothers were born just a few days apart, as were Tom and Marilyn. Both of their fathers passed their love of horses on to at least a few of their children. "We have pictures of our fathers on their first day of school. Tom's dad is in his overalls and a little cap. My dad is in his knickers and Buster Brown collar... I love the contrast, and I also love how similar their values were," Marilyn said. Both men went on to serve their country during World War II and successfully raise large families.



Tom & Linden at cutting horse show

Tom's mother died suddenly when he was only 10, and his father never remarried. He raised his six children and was a father figure to lots of other stable kids, too.

Marilyn's father made a career out of the Air Force, and at every station the family moved to, he made sure there was a barn and stable, and the family always had horses. Her first horse was a Shetland pony named Frisky.



Salute to the Troops, photo by Rhonda Fryer

She remembers well the barn and property they rode on when the family lived at Bergstrom AFB in Austin and wonders exactly where that was! Marilyn rode English style and did some competitive jumping as a teen, but once she had children, she only got to ride occasionally. When her son, Cory, died in 2018 right on the heels of her husband's passing, her friend Becky



Marilyn with her twins, Thomas and Sarah, and the best Arab ever Sambo

showed up with a saddle and a horse to borrow for a month. What a gift! So, Marilyn dusted off nearly 40 years and got back in the saddle. At a ride in the Grasslands, Marilyn ran into Lissa again, who recommended she "come out and learn with us" at TTCC. Marilyn credits the many good friends she has made at TTCC with teaching her so much about horsemanship, horses, and herself. The trail rides have been a great way for Tom and Marilyn to spend quality time together. Tom had wanted to camp and trail ride when he retired, so TTCC proved a great opportunity to do both. Tom has enjoyed learning a very different style of riding than reining. Both also enjoy riding NATRC as well as heading out on the trail just for fun. Their big adventure for the summer was to take the horses to New Mexico for three weeks in July. Tom has one son, Kyle, who has no interest in horses, but he does like cars and computers. Marilyn and her late husband, Richard, raised four children. Two of Marilyn's sons, Tommy and Cory, have beat her to heaven. Her remaining son, Rick, married his sweetheart, Tara, in Colorado in August. Her daughter, Sarah, lives in Navasota. Marilyn has six grandchildren and the youngest one will be 18 this summer. She says to all grandmothers out there to enjoy those grands because they will be "Grand Adults" before you know it.



Filly ridden by Mary Marczak, lost Chicago screw from bridle.

Tending to your Tack and Trailer by Jean Wilson

Although it is September and fall is approaching, temperatures are still frequently 100 degrees or more. Believe it or not, your horse will appreciate your pulling out his winter blanket! Now is a good time to inspect, mend, and clean winter blankets and saddle pads as well as other tack because these items dry so quickly in the hot weather. In addition, many riders are taking a break from riding during the hottest days and so there is time to clean, oil, and repair leather equipment as well, hopefully in an air-conditioned room. Don't forget to check

metal hardware—Chicago screws are notorious for coming loose and a dab of nail polish can help that. Bits and curb chains can become worn as well. As

you are going through your tack, consider donating items you no longer use but that are in good shape to the TTCC raffle (contact Susie Jernigan 817-776-7714) or to your favorite equine therapy center. Clean out your saddle bags as well, I actually had some wine in mine (forgotten baggie with grapes). Make sure you

have a few repair items, i.e. Chicago screws, leather strings, zip ties, or baling twine, which all can be useful in an emergency.

It might be a good time to clean out your trailer too and replenish supplies. Make sure your jack and everything you need to change a tire is available and working properly. Check your first aid kit, hitch, wiring, and tires. Remember that tires have a four-digit code indicating the week and the year they were manufactured imprinted on the tire. A tire that looks good on the outside might still need to be replaced because of age. Proper inflation pressure, again printed on the tire, is **very important** and should be checked every time you are heading out. Tires that are over or under inflated wear out quickly. Don't forget to check the spare as well, some people carry two spares. Trailer wheel bearings should be adjusted and lubricated once a year, more frequently for those who pull their trailer often. The jack also needs to be greased and all moving parts in the hitch lubricated with WD-40. Test your trailer brakes when your trailer is empty to make sure they are working. Pull out your mats for a thorough cleaning and examine your trailer floor.

Then move into the LQ to test your generator, AC and heat, water pump, hot water heater, and refrigerator. Don't forget the CO2, propane gas, and smoke detectors. Make sure you have your flashlights. Stock your trailer with extra batteries and fuses. Check your trailer inside and out for mud dauber and wasp nests. When the busy fall riding season begins you will be glad everything is in good shape!



This spare tire was mounted on the trailer, not even touching the ground when it "blew"....requiring the stop at Discount Tire

Recognizing Heat Stress in Horses

What is Heat Stress?
Heat stress occurs when a horse's body produces more heat than it can dissipate. When heat and humidity overwhelm the body's cooling system, it can quickly progress to heat stroke, a life-threatening emergency.

Signs of Heat Stress

- Elevated Temperature**
Normal: 99.5°F-101.5°F (37.2°C-38.3°C)
Above 105°F (40.5°C) is an emergency
- Elevated Resting Heart Rate**
Normal: 28-40 beats per minute
Above 60 bpm is concerning
- Weakness & Lethargy**
- Excessive Sweating**
Advanced cases may show reduced or no sweating
- Sunken Eyes & Dehydration**
- Elevated Respiration Rate**
Normal: 8-16 breaths per minute
Above 20-30 bpm is abnormal
- Delayed Capillary Refill**
Normal: gum color returns to normal <2 sec
Slower refill is a concern

Common Risk Factors

- High Heat Index**
Heat and humidity make it harder for your horse to cool down
- Intense Exercise**
Hard work generates more body heat
- Long Trailer Rides**
Traffic, sun, and limited airflow increase body heat
- Not Acclimated**
Sudden exposure to hot climate or increase in work raises the risk
- Other Risks**
Obesity, age, health conditions, or certain medications

Steps to Cool Your Horse: SHADE

- 1 STOP**
Dismount and head towards shade. Remove as much tack as possible.
- 2 HYDRATE**
Provide access to cool water for drinking.
- 3 APPLY**
Use cooling techniques such as fans and hosing down your horse.
- 4 DROP**
Keep cooling until your horse's vital signs return to normal.
- 5 ENGAGE**
Contact your veterinarian immediately for guidance.

The heat index provides a better measure of heat stress risk than temperature alone. Check Mad Barn's Equine Heat Index Tool before exercising your horse, and if conditions are high or you're unsure, it's always safest to skip the ride.

MAD BARN

Scott Butcher, President:



-Save the date! **OCTOBER 10, PARRIE HAYNES** A special fundraiser day ride is planned-watch your email and Facebook! Don't miss out on the fun and frivolity!

-Elections: Details will be sent first week of September to all active members.

BLUEBONNET – Volunteers Needed

October 3, 2026 we will be hosting a booth at the Bluebonnet Horse Expo and Rescue Horse Training Challenge in Taylor, TX. What a great opportunity to share with others what TTCC is about. In order to make this happen, we need some volunteers to run the booth. You will be indoors. One table and 2 chairs are provided. You will be able to see all the other vendors and the goings on! The event is from 9am to 6pm. If we can get 2 members to stay the entire time, and other members to come in for a couple of hours here and there, that would be ideal.

Please reach out to Membership Director, Juli Steele to sign up. JuliSteele@gmail.com 562-455-6184 or via Facebook messenger

Bluebonnet Horse Expo and Rescue Horse Training Challenge



Clinics and Demos by Equine Professionals * Used tack for sale
Saddle auction * Horses for Adoption
Stick Horse Show * Vendors
Bluebonnet Rescue Horse Training Challenge Competition

Williamson County Expo Center
5350 Bill Pickett Trail, Taylor, TX

OCTOBER 3, 2026

Free Parking | \$10 per person entry
www.bluebonnethorseexpo.com

Due to insurance requirements, only Service and Guidance dogs as defined by the ADA Title II and Title III will be allowed at the event.

Texas Trail Challenge Club Board of Directors Minutes May 2026

8:06 Meeting called to order. All directors and treasurer present.

April Minutes approved

Director Reports

Ride Management: Ride calendar for 2027 currently has 6 rides penciled in.

Judge Director: Director Beard plans a Fall Ride Clinic for Sept 19 th. Discussion for Judges

training and possible fundraiser ride in conjunction with Fall Clinic. Director Boore and Director Beard will discuss before further presentation.

Membership Director: Nothing to report

Treasurer: Treasurer Thurlow reported \$10,887.00 is current balance. Treasurer Thurlow discussed income of club is under half of years '24 and '25. Low number of participation and lack of fundraisers. President Butcher discussed upcoming fundraiser for parking during graduation that Carin Bauer is heading up would help with projected expenses. Further needed is more fundraisers (raffle) and sponsors.

Committee Reports:

Bylaws discussed. President Butcher will have a sheet discussing changes drafted up to present to members along with updated bylaws. Further discussion tabled at this time. BOD will meet on May 26, 2026 at 8pm to discuss and vote on bylaws. Then will be sent to general membership.

Upcoming Events

Fall rider clinic Sept 19th

Closed Actions:

None at this time

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

None at this time

New Business

1. Discussion on Club Newsletter. Currently going to 270 plus on mailing list. Will have 2 separate mailing lists, one for Newsletter and one for Newsletter to include minutes. Newsletter with minutes will only go to paid members.
2. Treasurer Thurlow is collecting data from general membership on club. Information is still being compiled at this time.
3. President Butcher is putting together another survey to membership to request written response on club functions.
4. President Butcher will contact CBAR to check on dates of Sept 20 th, to see if open for possible fundraiser ride (in conjunction with Fall Clinic and Judges training).

Meeting adjourned 9:17

**Texas Trail Challenge Club
Board of Directors Minutes
June 8 2026**

8:05 PM Call to order by Chair—Review Robert's rules protocols. Brief overview of agenda.
Director reports/General discussion

The meeting focused on discussing the club's financial situation and planning for upcoming events. Bill reported that the club's balance is around \$10,800 but noted significant revenue decreases due to lower ride participation and membership fees, with only 7 rides scheduled compared to 9 last year. The discussion centered on how to adjust year-end celebration expenses while maintaining the importance of the event to members, with suggestions to cut costs on ribbons, awards, and potentially the club's meal contribution. The group explored ideas for fundraising, including a potential 50-50 raffle and vignette auctions similar to successful past events. They also discussed potential dates for the January celebration, with January 23rd or 30th being preferred options, and considered organizing a separate fun ride fundraiser in October at Parrie Haynes.

Closed Actions: All

None at this time, please report updates.

Unfinished Business/Action and General Orders:

Action Items discuss, drive to closure or path forward. Tabled Motions disposition.

New /Updated Actions:

Bill -Contact Ann Farris to reserve January 30th (or 23rd if not available) for the Celebration event.

Bill- Get with Marilyn to review the year-end awards budget and spending.

Juli - Reach out to Tiffany to set up the ballot process as previously discussed.

Kelly - Arrange the obstacles and theme for the potential fundraiser ride at Parrie Haynes.

Scott- Send Juli the cover email text (3-4 sentences) for the ballot by the end of August.

Scott - Call Ona to check availability of Pe Haynes for a fundraiser ride on October 10th.

Send out an email to the board with the update on Parrie Haynes availability.

LeeAnn - Provide the board with a count of the conchos (mileage awards) and an estimate of when more will be needed.

Adjourn: 9:00 PM

Scott Butcher (on behalf LeeAnn Boore)

**Texas Trail Challenge Club
Board of Directors Minutes
July 29 2026**

8:10 PM Call to order by Chair—Review Robert's rules protocols. Brief overview of agenda.

Director reports/General discussion:

The board addressed judging process improvements, financial planning for Celebration, a fall fundraiser at Parrie Haynes, and upcoming board elections. A new judge code organization system was completed by Teresa Corgill, a complaint resolution chain of

command was established, and election communications were assigned to Juli for a September 1st rollout.

Closed Actions/ General consent decisions and actions:

Treasurer sent graphic to board showing financial trends for current and past 2 years.

- Judging complaint chain of command: Rider → obstacle judge → senior judge → judge director (final authority); board is not involved in

judging disputes. Score adjustments: Not to be made at the ride itself; any resolution handled internally, similar to a personnel matter.

- August board meeting: Cancelled; next meeting in September.

- Election announcement: Target date September 1st; Juli to manage the ballot process using Tiffany's prior forms as reference.

- Ribbons (blank rosettes): Retained for use at junior rides, clinics, and the October fundraiser — no new orders needed.

Business/Actions and General Orders:

1) Standing Action - documents and file storage; archiving; working docs, SOPS for different procedures.

New business

New Motions, New actions

- Scott: Contact Ona (Parrie Haynes) in the morning re: October 10th availability and cost.

- Scott: Notify Tiffany that Juli is missing from the ride secretary options on sanction forms.

- Scott: Publish open board positions and election timeline by September 1st.

- Scott: Locate the club ride printer (last known with Jackie Bonner / 7IL); coordinate handoff to Juli.

- Bill: Send revenue vs. spending graphs to the full board by September.

- Juli: Manage election ballot using Tiffany's prior forms; draft announcement with deadlines for board review before distribution.

- Juli/Leanne: Scout Parrie Haynes trail for October fundraiser.

- Juli: Look for a Facebook admin candidate who will defer to the board

-Adjourned 9:07 PM

Scott Butcher (on behalf Leeann Boore)

[*DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER / DECEMBER NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 1ST*](#)