

TRAIL NEWS

WEBSITE: WWW.LRRETA.COM



OUR #1 PROJECT FOR 2014

Building a Bridge – with Greenbelt Alliance
Pictured is the Old Alton Bridge in Denton
See Page 3

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JANUARY 2014

Special thanks to our
new 2013-2014 Board
and Committee
Chairs!

Up Coming



January

Jan 11 ~ Ride at Isle du Bois, 10 am *

Jan 21 ~ Board and Committee meeting!
Time and Location to be determined

February

Feb 1 ~ Recreational Trails Grant is due!

Feb 8 ~ Ride at Isle du Bois, 10 am *

March

Mar 8 ~ Ride at Isle du Bois, 10 am *

* these rides need someone to be "trail boss"
Contact Carol Nichols at
carolntexas@aol.com or call 214-507-9751
to volunteer!

May 13 ~ Annual Meeting at 6:30pm

Location: Rancho De La Roca
2459 Blackjack Rd W.
Aubrey, TX 76227

See the website at
www.lrreta.com for more to come!

President's Message

I love a trail ride! The best way to preserve and enhance our trails is to "saddle up" and form a Posse like LRRETA, please join us using our new website: www.lrreta.com

Since our first organizational meeting in August 2013, we have covered lots of ground. We elected officers, formed a board of directors, created several committees, launched our website, created a Facebook page, and partnered with the Back Country Horsemen of America.

Special thanks to Monica Millan-Barbera for creating our website and Katherine Kirkpatrick Stone and Michelle Ellis for our Facebook page...we had over 240 fans in the first month!

We are in hot pursuit of a bridge to cross the infamous "washout" of 2010 on the Trinity River banks. Thank you Tim Beaty for your leadership on our bridge. And thanks to our Grant Writers, Tracy Matern and Linda Moore who are on the hunt for funds! We need your help to keep the trails along the Trinity River open for horseback riding. Please support our



Carol Nichols and Lisa Sheffer riding south of Lantana Lodge

efforts to preserve your trails by joining LRRETA and donating to the bridge.

We are blessed to have the best "all weather trails" in Texas. Despite the ice storm and rain, the trails from Isle du Bois are in great riding condition

due to the sandy loam soil. The armadillos, cardinals and deer are out -- come ride!

Carol Nichols
President

I was watching the Rose Bowl Parade - and was inspired by "I Love a Parade" ... so I wrote this to share with my trail riding friends and to wish you a Happy New Year!

I LOVE A TRAIL RIDE!

I love a trail ride, the tramping of hooves...
I love every beat, I hear in the woods.

The soft breath of my steed...
Ears pricked and alert,
The swish of her tail and plume of trail dirt...

I love a trail ride, when I hear the bird chirps,

I just want to ride and cheer from my stirrups!

That rat a tat tat, of steel shoes on red stone...
That soft thunder lope on Texas sandy loam ...

The sight of an eagle will give me a thrill,
Surrounded by nature's glory...
'Just can't get my fill.

Armadillo, cardinal, a few stealthy deer...
'Can't wait for my rides in the coming New Year!

Carol Nichols

More about the bridge project

Due to a flood in 2010, a washout area was created and is a public safety hazard. Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) closed the trail between FM 455 and FM 428, and it has remained closed since the flood. TPWD, the City of Denton, Lake Ray Roberts Equestrian Trail Association (LRRETA), Greenbelt Alliance, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the US Army Corps of Engineers have considered several plans to reopen the trail. The spring of 2013, the parties agreed the best plan was to place a bridge across a narrow (60 foot) portion of the ravine just downstream of the washout. The estimated cost for this bridge is between \$50,000 and \$120,000 depending on whether a bridge is donated or purchased. Public budgets for capital projects like the bridge are currently

limited due to state-level funding cutbacks at TPWD. The Greenbelt Alliance and LRRETA are leading the efforts to raise private funds from businesses and individuals in the North Texas region to help fund the bridge. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is assisting as a leading sponsor by working with the USACE to gain permits and approvals for the bridge placement and construction. The City of Denton is also assisting as a lead sponsor. The Ray Roberts Lake/Lake Lewisville Greenbelt Corridor is a 20-mile multi-use trail system that begins at the Ray Roberts Dam and ends at the headwaters of Lake Lewisville. This unique trail corridor meanders along the heavily wooded banks of the Elm Fork Branch of the Trinity River. Equestrians, hikers and bikers can

access the trail at one of three trailheads, located at FM 455, FM 428 and Highway 380.

Partners with LRRETA

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA

Over 13,000 members;
Committed to the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness

www.backcountryhorse.com

FRIENDS OF THE GREENBELT

www.friendsofthegreenbelt.org

Please send news worthy information and/or pictures to email: nonihorserider@gmail.com
Be sure to include names of people and animals in all photos, thanks.



Snow on the trail!

Found a great map of our area at:
www.everytrail.com/guide/greenbelt-corridor-in-ray-roberts-lake-state-park/map#poi-overview

TRAIL PICTURES, RIDING ALONG THE LAKE



Riding under the bridge at ... Make finding the under pass your 2014 goal!!



The moon over the lake



Annie Up sees two deer!



Lynda Parker and Royce Schafer on the trial out of Isle du Bois