



August 2023

Mid-Season Recap

No-Frills April 14-15

No-Frills went off without a hitch.

On Friday we started 17 in the 55-mile ride with 14 completing; in the 30-mile ride we started 24 and 14 completed.

We had 3 Ride-N-Tie Teams; one in the 55-mile, one in the 20-mile, and one 10-mile team.

On Saturday we started 20 in the 55-mile ride with 16 completing; in the 30-mile ride we started 11 and 4 completed.

We had 8 Ride-N-Tie Teams and 2 Equathon teams; one two-person team and one Iron Person.

We started 2 teams in the 30-mile and finished both; we had 1 team in the 20-mile and they finished; and we started 5 teams in the 10-mile ride with all 5 teams finishing.

In the Equathon 10/10 (10-mile ride and 10-mile run) we had 2 teams; one team of one rider and one runner, and one team of a rider/runner (aka Iron Person) both completing.

Large Animal Rescue

Duane Martin arranged to have the Little Fork's Technical Large Animal Rescue Unit come to the Drag Rider Clinic at Tri-County Feed. They went through and explained about their extensive training and talked about several of their rescue calls. We then went outside and got to see the equipment they have on the Rescue Unit.

Trail work day

Back in April a group of volunteers went out to a section of the 100-mile trail used during the June ride and worked on a section that becomes VERY swampy after a good rain. With the help of Alex Uspenski, they moved several tons of rock to raise the trail then covered that with several yards of earth to create a high area to use as trail and a lower area for the water to drain off into. Thank you to the volunteers: Diane Connolly, Ann Mebane, Dawn Hillard, Dave Franklin, Ed Payne, Melody Jamieson, Sandra Powell, Pete Godwin, Janice and Bob Heltibridle.

Base Camp work days

In mid-May a group of volunteers met at base camp for a work day. They mowed grass, ran weed eaters, planted flowers, mowed grass, cleaned up the pump house, oh and did I mention - mowed grass! Another sub-group headed out to do more trail work and headed up the purple trail (part of the first loop used for the June ride) to put in some drainage dips and help divert water off trail wherever possible. The pedestrian bridge on a section of trail on the Shrinemont property was also repaired.

Then again on Memorial Day weekend, a crew got together to start prepping for the June ride. They put up the Vet Tent, put together rider packets and awards, did a little trail marking and got in some saddle time as well.

OD June Ride

I would really like to say that the OD June ride went off without a hitch BUT it was not to be! Diane got a call very early Friday morning from the Forest Service advising her of a Wild Fire burning in the area of Falls Ridge, you guessed it right in the middle of the section of trail used by the 55 milers and the 100 milers. In true Diane fashion, she said "Hold My Gin and Tonic," got hold of Pete Godwin and his motorcycle crew and sent them out early to unmark and remark the trail to go around the affected area. Crisis averted!

On Friday, we started 33 in the 55-mile ride with 23 completing; and 33 in the 25-mile ride with 27 completing; and 8 intro riders.

On Saturday, we started 14 in the 100-mile ride with 10 finishing as well as one Ride-N-Tie Team.

OD Webinars

The OD held several webinars this past spring.

How to maximize the off season, An OD experience for everyone

Checkout our other webinars

They can be found on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@OldDominionEnduranceRides/videos>

OD Board of Directors

We filled a vacancy on the board this summer, I'm happy to announce Tom Hutchinson was selected.

Young Riders Clinic

The OD and Gold Medal Farms Sponsored a Young Riders Clinic. Teri Carroll setup the clinic with the help of "Her Crew". We had 13 young ladies come out for a week of riding, human first aid, equine first aid, team building, and swimming the horses. It wasn't all work though, there was a water balloon fight and a rafting trip down the chilly North Fork of the Shenandoah River. A GOOD TIME was had by all. Thank you to Valerie Kanavy for the use of your farm and your house.

You can check them out on Facebook at "Young Riders Clinic 2023"

OD Ride-N-Tie Weekend

We had a good turnout for the Ride-N-Tie weekend. There were a number of new faces and many of the regular crew. On Saturday, we had four teams competing in the 20-mile night Ride-N-Tie and four Iron Person teams competing in the 12-mile ride/6-mile run Equathon. We also had three teams competing in the 12-mile and one Team do the 6-mile Ride-N-Tie. Janice Heltibridle and Ellen Hart riding Rush Creek Bobby finished first, fresh off their 100-mile finish at the OD June ride the month before.

Then Sunday morning, they were off again! This time with a total of nine teams: five 20-mile Ride-N-Tie, and four Equathon teams: one 12-mile ride/12-mile run, and three 12-mile ride/6-mile run. Woot! Woot! The second-place team were both NEW Ride-N-Tie members and JUNIORS to boot! One of the Ride-N-Tie teams who did the 12-mile Saturday night, upped their game and did the 20-mile distance on Sunday morning...and SURVIVED!

Falls Ridge Trail

Pictures were taken from intersection of Laurel Run Road up Falls Ridge for the first mile which was the only portion of trail that was bulldozed. That section of trail was in fantastic condition. Okay, still as steep, but the Forest Service included lots of dips in it to help get water off to keep it from eroding. The fire stayed to the southwest/didn't jump trail and didn't continue north along the rest of trail which is still as ROCKY as ever and could use some weed wacking in several overgrown areas (i.e. ferns and thistles) and trimming of low or encroaching branches.





2023 ODEEO Raffle Horse
Donated by Asgard Arabians
~ TAMMBOUR ~



Meet TAMMBOUR, the 2023 ODEEO Raffle Horse,
donated by Asgard Arabians!

TAMMBOUR is a 2021 gelding by Degagé out of Tamborin by Bandjo de Falgas. His powerful race pedigree features Sambist and Anchar on the top side, with Djelfor and Tamerlan on the bottom. He combines a friendly and highly trainable temperament with excellent gaits and spirited movement. He is pictured here in October 2022 at 14 months.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each, 3 for \$25, 5 for \$40, or 10 for \$75 and all money goes to the Old Dominion Equestrian Endurance Organization.

Send payment via PayPal to: phantomhorse13@hotmail.com (Dawn Engle Hilliard).

In the note section, please include the following:

- your full name
- your phone number
- your email address
- your home state



Copies of ticket stubs will be sent via email after processing. The drawing is October 21st, 2023 and you do not need to be present to win.

Hope to see you this Fall at Fort Valley

October 20th and 21st

!! Mark your Calander !!

December 2nd

at the Skyline Ranch Resort

“The 2023 OD Holiday party”

Watch for more information as we get closer.