

2005 Ride



TREGO MT. - 2005 RIDE - EDGEWOOD, N.M.

HORSE - RIBBONS PRIDE: OWNERS - OV. + EVELYN
MCCURRY BROS
MCCURRY'S T.V.H. RANCH, TREGO MT. 57961

RIDER - BERNICE ENOE 406-202-4778

MASCOT - CLAIRE DOG

DEPARTURE DATE: MAY 16TH ARRIVAL DATE - AUG 7TH

ADA MILES - 2000 - 5 FREEWAYS - 13 NATIONAL FOREST,

STATES: MONTANA, IDAHO, WYOMING, COLORADO, NEW MEXICO.

3 SETS OF HORSE SHOES - 4 SETS OF DOG BOOTS

2 PAIR OF PEOPLE SHOES - LOST NO HORSE SHOES -

BROKE NO REINS! - NO ONE HURT!!

July 13th - we were richly rewarded after a very long days ride of relentless wind, heat + no water - w/ cool shade the sweet smell of sage + a chorus of frogs!!

To All Those who fed us, Put us up -

Shared stories - prayers -

Thankyou, Thankyou, Thankyou - Bernice Enoe - 254 - TREGO, MT.

E-MAIL - WALKER 22 @ MONTANA.COM.

Oct. 13 - 2005

Trego adventurer back home from trip

By CONSTANCE SEE
Of the Tobacco Valley NEWS

On May 16, Bernice Ende of Trego left Montana riding atop Pride, a borrowed Tennessee walking horse with her dog Clare by their side, traveling over 2,000 miles along forest roads to her sister's home in Edgewood, just outside of Albuquerque, N.M. Ende finished her trek in August and returned to the McCurry Ranch in Trego, where it all began, Sept. 26.

Looking back over the four-month odyssey, Ende came to the conclusion her greatest challenge wasn't dehydration, hunger, weather, topography, physical strength or wild animals; rather, it was battling her own fears when they rose to the surface.

Considering the duration and obstacles of their ride, Ende chose to maintain a light load, traveling with only enough food to last three days. Shelter and water remained persistent concerns, particularly in the last half of their adventure in the desert areas of Wyoming and New Mexico.

"We rode most days without water," Ende said. "And from Rock Springs on it was hot, dry miles."

The hot roads wore down Pride's horseshoes, brought blisters to Ende's feet and Clare's



Constance See/Tobacco Valley NEWS

BERNICE ENDE returns to Trego, handing over Pride, the Tennessee Walking Horse that carried her 2,000 miles to New Mexico, back to his owner, her employer and friend, D.V. McCurry at his ranch in Trego. Bernice's dog Clare made the trip as well.

feet. Several times she resorted to taping Clare's feet with duct tape to protect them. They were traveling unknown territory where every day brought surprises, new scenery and new risks.

"There were times when I would be overcome with fear," Ende said. "I'd think, I don't know what I'm doing here," Ende said. "Maybe I'm pushing the limits here, this is too hard on the horse or too hard on the dog. I thought of calling it quits, but Mack told me to take it one day at a time and I had to keep reminding myself of that."

O.V. "Mack" McCurry and his wife Evelyn are the owners of the sorrel Ende rode on her journey. Every few days Ende would use her cell phone to make contact with the McCurry Ranch, to keep them updated on her accomplishments and challenges.

"I came from Montana and the Tetons where there was water everywhere, then all of a sudden it hit me, psychologically, I was afraid I wouldn't find water," Ende said. "After three or four days in the desert, I hit the wall. I called Mack and said, 'I can't go any

further.' Then I came to a ranch that took me in."

Don and Janet Irwin live at their daughter's ranch, near Green River, Wyo. Janet said her neighbor, Michelle Sherwood, met Bernice on the road and directed her to their house. Janet answered the knock on her front door the night Bernice arrived.

"It surprised me," Janet said. "I didn't expect to see a woman standing there, especially with a horse and a dog. We told her, yes, she could stay for the night. It was quite an experience."

According to Janet, her husband Don spent many years as a cowboy. He recognized Pride's need for rest as well as Bernice's need to recharge. He suggested Bernice stay on for five days so she, her dog and the horse could recuperate. Once rested, the troop traveled 14 miles south to the Green River Fairgrounds where they stopped again, before continuing on to Colorado and New Mexico.

In addition to dehydration and blisters, the desert also provided a risk of lightning strikes. On

several occasions, Ende could see storms heading towards her. The flat, desert land left little cover, and she and her horse would often be the tallest objects around, providing a target for lightning bolts.

As she entered the Carson National Forest in Northern New Mexico about 7 p.m., a large storm approached out of the southwest. She estimated it would hit them within the hour.

"All of a sudden, the road we were on was crossed with a giant fence with lots of locks, gates and a 'no trespassing' sign," Ende said. "I walked back and forth wondering what I should do. I took the fence apart, trespassed then put it back together."

She hadn't traveled far when a truck came down the road. The driver was a friend of the ranch owner and pointed out she was heading in the wrong direction. He directed her to follow a fence line away from the road, but it wasn't safe in unfamiliar territory at night with the storm approaching. She followed the driver to his camp.

"It rained hard and lightning

hit one time so close, it knocked all of us off our feet," Ende said. "Everywhere I passed I could see single trees that had been struck, but Pride got to stay in a corral and Clare and I stayed with his family in their cabin."

Along her journey, Ende took great pleasure in the scenery, the people she met and the wildlife. She spotted antelope, mule deer, rattlesnakes, porcupines, raccoons, mountain goats, moose, big horn sheep, white tail deer, black bear and most often, moose.

"Overall, it was a humbling experience," Ende said. "It makes you realize what our forebearers had to go through to settle here. They were hardy men and women."

Returning to Trego with more than 300 names, phone numbers and addresses of new friends she met along the way, Ende is hopeful to take another long-distance ride again next year, this time to attend a family member's wedding in Minnesota next spring.

"I haven't asked Mack and Evelyn yet," Ende said. "But I was really lucky my first time to ride a great horse like Pride."

2006-2007 Ride

Greetings from the Lady Long Ride

We arrived in Trege, Montana - Home - on September 21st, 2007! after a colorful ride along Hwy 93 from Kalispell. After 16 months, 5000 miles thru winter, spring, summer, fall. From the open Plains of Nebraska to the desert of Arizona. North along the Sierra Nevada. Into the Cascades over to the Pacific Ocean and finally east across Mt. St Helens, Yakima land, the Palouse hills. Across the Rocky Mountain range into the Kootenai National Forest - we are home.

I have said many times before that I've returned with a far greater appreciation for our country than when I left. Yes, perhaps I did see the best of America, the heart of America. Our small towns, rural communities, homes and families that reflected goodness and generosity. Our country is not perfect - by no means. All I am saying is what I saw. People like

you and me. People who cared deeply about family, friends, community. People who were good neighbors, friendly offering help when help was needed.



Why do I ride these long rides? Many reasons I suppose. Some private, some personal. I do believe the Long Ride is a legacy to our country. It represents a quality of time, space and freedom the human heart will forever seek. I simply carry on the Tradition. The Tradition of the Long Ride.

If I could I would line you all up and walk down that line of friends, look into your eyes and offer a sincere Thankyou, smile and hug. I would let you know once again how much your kindness meant to me. For you see I could not ride these Long Rides with out your help. From the bottom of my heart. —

Thankyou
Bernie Ende

www.endoftheride.com

Spencer Gibson Leavittown, Mt.	Carol + Jim Hammond (sister) Las Vegas, N.M.	AL + Bronzette Beauchamp Tiptonville, TN
Bill Straw Forsyth, Mt.	Gary + Sharon Melanoy Prescott, AZ.	Terry + Cheryl Dink Astoria, OR.
Kathryn + Daw (sister) Wilson Waconia, MN.	Leslie and Terry Adler Cerrillos, N.M.	Bob + May Ziesmer Naselle, WA.
Hank + Marstel Schriener Red Cloud, Nebraska	Lee + Lori Scholes Rancho Magdalena N.M.	The Gwinn Family Warina Nation Toppenish, WA.
The Ganadonegio Family Navajo Nation Alamo, N.M.	Arizona Bill Phoenix, AZ.	The Evans Family Triple Farms Mohave Valley, AZ.
The Town of Crown AZ. King	Kathy Bancroft P.O. Lone Pine, CA. Paiute-Shoshone Nation	The Town of Lone Pine, CA. The Town of Moswater, N.M.



Bernice Ende
box 284
Trego, MT. 59934

-----MAY 2006 TO SEPTEMBER 2007-----A 5000 MILE RIDE-----
 To the hundreds of spirits that climbed into my saddle and rode with us,
 you are part of the story.
 To the curious and interested who stopped along the road offering food
 water and yes stories! you are part of the story.
 To the hundreds of school children with excited hands shooting skyward
 with questions. To those offering your homes, backyards, barns-a warm,
 and dry place to rest. You are part of the story.
 To those who provided safe passage across busy roads and barren
 deserts, sending us off with your blessings. To my sponsors who believed
 me capable of such a ride. To the Indian Nations that allowed me to cross
 their lands. To the many farriers, postal workers, librarians and our
 National Forest Service and Park employees, You are all part of the Story.
 To my dear and noble horse Honor, to my faithful dog Claire. My heart is
 filled with gratitude, my heart is filled with appreciation. From the Lady
 Long Rider to each of you---Many, Many thanks, I could not have done it
 without you. Until next year, Happy Trails, Bernice Ende

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Bernice Ende
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Trego, MT. 59934

2006-2007 Ride - 5000 miles (summary)
 Departing May 5th, 2006
 Returning home to Trego, MT October 2007

Bernice Ende
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Trego, MT 59934

Route: From East Glacier, MT to Wincoia, MN;
 to Las Vegas, NM to Tucson, AZ;
 over to the Pacific Crest Trail, then north to
 the mouth of the Columbia River, Naselle, WA,
 and home to Trego, MT.

Address to:

Packs: Outfitters Supply of Columbia Falls, MT:
www.outfittersupply.com
Saddle: Tucker Saddlery: www.tuckersaddles.com
Saddle Pad: by Professional's Choice: www.profchoic.com

THE THREE OF US: Of course the star of the show is Honor, an eight
 year old thoroughbred mare who's heart and willingness are as great as
 her thoroughbred spirit; Mascot and fearless leader, six year old Claire
 Dog, a rare, one of a kind, Montana breed of unknown origin; and myself
 Bernice, who follows the road for no other reason than the love and longing
 for the ride.

"I know that I ride these rides with hundreds and hundreds of other kindred
 spirits who would have, or always wished for, or would love to, but were
 never able to. They share their joy and generous support that encourages
 me to share back with them, remarkable journeys as a woman with horse
 and dog." Bernice Ende

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