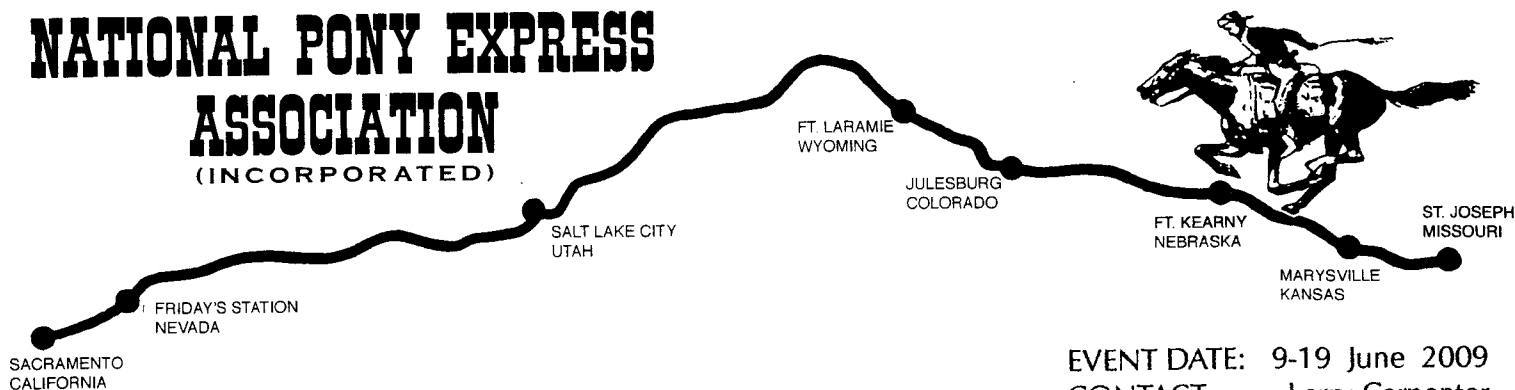


NATIONAL PONY EXPRESS ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED)



EVENT DATE: 9-19 June 2009
CONTACT: Larry Carpenter
(916) 332-8382

NEWS RELEASE #1

2009 PONY EXPRESS RE-RIDE

Horsemen will ride and carry mail again across the Historic Pony Express Trail in 2009. On Tuesday, June 9, a rider will leave St. Joseph, Missouri, and by proxy, deliver the mail on June 19 to Sacramento, California. The event will be sponsored by the National Pony Express Association, a non-profit trail association, headquartered in Pollock Pines, California.

The first rider will leave the Patee House, 1860 headquarters of the Pony Express in St. Joseph, on June 9th at 10:00 am. The last rider will ride into Pony Express Plaza in Old Sacramento, Friday, June 19th at 8:00 am. The route west will be across the Pony Express National Historic Trail, from Missouri, through Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and across California to Sacramento.

The Re-Ride will mark the 149th Anniversary of the founding of the Central Overland and California Pikes Peak Express Company. Founded by the Missouri freighting firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, the Pony Express aimed to prove the central route through Salt Lake and Placerville passable year-round and win a proposed federal mail contract.

The C.O.C.P.P.E.C. carried mail for 19 months and proved the route passable, but it did not win the contract. It did, however, create a history and legend of daring enterprise and bravery. It became a symbol of the Old West for generations, and is remembered in books, movies, and commemorative events like the NPEA Re-Ride. The trail is now part of the National Trail system, and is preserved and interpreted by the National Park Service through a Long Distance Trails Office in Salt Lake City.

Commemorative letters and personal mail will be carried in a mochila and relayed rider to rider. Over 550 riders and horses will be stationed at intervals to relay the mail to California. The Cachets honoring Pony Express history in Nebraska, and the personal mail stationary and envelopes can be purchased in advance for 1860 prices --- \$5.00.

Community groups are requested to add the event to their 2009 annual event calendars. To receive State Ride schedules, schedule a community welcome for the Pony Express rider, or to obtain a letter application, contact the National Pony Express Association, PO Box 236, Pollock Pines, CA 95726, or phone (916) 332-8382. The Pony Express Home Page, www.xphomestation.com has additional information.



PONY EXPRESS RIDE INFORMATION

2009 Pony Express Re-Ride National Schedule

State Presidents

Contact for State Schedules
and Local Information

Depart St. Joseph, Missouri
Tuesday, June 9, 10:00 AM (CDT)

Kansas/Nebraska Line (Steele City, NE)
Wednesday, June 10, 8:00 AM

Nebraska/Colorado Line (Julesburg, CO)
Thursday, June 11, 10:30 PM (MDT)

Colorado/Nebraska Line (Chappell, NE)
Friday, June 12, 2:00 AM

Nebraska/Wyoming Line (Henry, NE)
Friday, June 12, 2:00 PM

Wyoming/Utah Line (Evanston, WY)
Sunday, June 14, 8:00 PM

Utah/Nevada Line (Ibapah, UT)
Monday, June 15, 11:30 PM (PDT)

Nevada/California Line (Stateline, NV)
Thursday, June 18, 11:00 AM

Arrive Sacramento, California
Friday, June 19, 8:00 AM

California	Rich Tatman (916) 362-1902
Colorado	Gary Lancaster (308) 889-3397
Kansas	Lyle Ladner (785) 353-2432
Missouri	Gary Chilcote (816) 232-8206
Nebraska	Lyle Gronewold (308) 529-0804
Nevada	Steven Notterman (775) 425-3296
Utah	Pat Hearty (801) 280-1150
Wyoming	Carl Schultz (307) 875-2974
National President	Les Bennington (307) 436-2233

Web Pages

Pony Express Home Station
www.xphomestation.com

National Park Service
(for information on the Pony Express Trail)
www.nps.gov/poex/

(To request Pony Express brochure)
(801) 539-4095
email: ntsl_interpretation@nps.gov

Patee House/ St. Joseph
www.stjoseph.net/ponyexpress

Great Platte River Road Archway
www.archway.org

NPEA OATH

Riders will take this Oath:

"I, _____, do hereby swear, before the great and living God, that during my engagement as a member of the National Pony Express Association Re-Ride, I will under no circumstances use profane language, that I will drink no intoxicating liquors, that I will not quarrel or fight with any other member of the Association, and that in every respect, I will conduct myself honestly, be faithful to my duties and so direct my acts as to win the confidence of my associates. So help me God."