AIRPORT EXPRESS
ENDURANCE RIDE

HOUSTON AIRPORTS PRESENTS

2012
IAH AIRPORT EXPRESS ENDURANCE RIDE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

BENEFITING SIRE
HOUSTON'S THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTERS

SANCTIONED BY AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE
SPONSORED BY TEXAS ENDURANCE RIDE ASSOCIATION

FIRST OF THE THREE RIDES IN THE TEXAS MORTL CHALLENGE SERIES

Hitch up your saddle and put on your boots to get ready to join us for the second annual "IAH Airport Express Endurance Ride" on February 4th and 5th, 2012, at George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) for a 25 and 50 mile ride on each day. In addition, a 10+ mile "Fun Ride" will be hosted for those that would like to find out more about the sport of Endurance, or just want get out to enjoy the beautiful airport trails.

Endurance riding is an athletic event for both horse and rider. The goal is to complete the marked trail within the time given as established by the American Endurance Ride Conference standards with a horse that is fit to continue from vet checkpoint to the next. All horses must pass a complete vet check before, during and after the ride.

Lastly, take time to learn more and become a member of an elite group that rides on the property of one the nation's busiest airport, commonly known as the "AIRPORT RANGERS". Amongst other airports nationwide, the Airport Rangers program is unique mainly because more than 400 citizens and airport supporters including off-duty law enforcement officers mount up on their horses to provide an extra layer of security as officially badged members of the airport team. With the increasing need to secure airport perimeter fence lines and surrounding property, Airport Rangers patrol along the perimeter of the 13,000 acres at George Bush Intercontinental Airport. In return for keeping an eye out for and reporting any suspicious activity in the area, Airport Rangers have a pristine location, including wooded trails to ride any time of the year.
A vital program to the Houston Airport System, the Airport Rangers have become a trusted group that provides the airport with extra eyes and ears in areas that most security patrols cannot easily access.

For additional information about the Airport Ranger program, visit: www.iahrangers.com or www.fly2houston.com

EVENT BENEFACTOR'S

This year's benefactor is SIRE, Houston's Therapeutic Equestrian Centers. SIRE is a non-profit therapeutic horseback riding program which uses the spirit and movement of the horse to benefit people with disabilities. SIRE has been active in the Houston area for the past 28 years and currently serves about 160 clients per week at sites in Hockley, Spring, and Ft. Bend County, Texas. Through the use of therapeutic horseback riding, benefits to the clients can include improved gross and fine motor skills, improved balance and posture and the building of self-esteem. SIRE is a premier accredited center with PATH International, Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International.

And lastly, this year marks a first for the IAH Airport Express Endurance Ride and the state of Texas. This year's event has been selected to be the first of three rides to commemorate April Mortl in the Texas Mortl Challenge Series. April Mortl was loved and respected by many as a wonderful wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend, and endurance rider. The Texas Mortl Challenge Series will be held in her memory each year. All proceeds and support will benefit Horsefeathers Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Edgewood, Texas. Please support the Texas Mortl Challenge Series and remember April by doing what she loved doing – riding. An entry form is listed further below.

EVENT LOCATION

The George Bush Intercontinental Airport is located in North Houston, TX. Camping will be at the North Trailhead located at 5100 FM 1960. There will be MAJOR signage on FM 1960 for the event site and horse parking. There is plenty of room for all sizes of rigs, camping and pens (bring your own pen). One parking area is a mix of gravel and cement base; two others are soft grassy pasture type. One area will allow continuous generator usage; the others will require them off at 10:30 PM. Port-O-Cans and horse water will be provided by the Houston Airport System. Please note: No Electric hook ups will be available for rigs.

Directions: From I-45 – take exit #66 (FM 1960) east for 5 miles. A marked turn will be on your right just past Farrell Rd.
From Highway 59 take the FM 1960 exit west for 6 miles. A marked turn will be on your left.

Pack it in – Pack it out applies as well all dogs must be restrained at all times. We ask to please abide by these rules. All guests are required to sign an AERC Insurance Liability waiver plus an Airport release form which is included below in this entry form.

SPECIAL NOTE

NEGATIVE COGGINS TEST WITHIN 12 MONTHS IS REQUIRED ON ALL EQUINES ENTERING THE EVENT SITE AT THE AIRPORT. YOU MAY MAIL THEM WITH YOUR ENTRY FORM, BUT ALSO PLEASE HAVE THEM READY WHEN ENTERING THE GATE. A CURRENT HEALTH CERTIFICATE IS SUGGESTED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE EQUINES.

TRAILS

The IAH Airport trail surface is mostly natural grass with some sand. It's mostly flat to gently rolling hills along with some beautifully covered wooded and open areas. Each flagged and signed trail will take you through wooded areas, clearings, and bayou crossings. Road crossings are minimal and will be monitored by the Houston Police Department and IAH Airport Public Safety. The Airport will provide water on trail. Rain or shine the ride continues, so if it rains there will be some good mud to ride through - PERFECT for barefoot horses!

AERC RULES

All AERC Rules apply. In addition, *approved safety helmets are required for all riders*. All riders must be at least 8 years or older and if under 16, each rider must be accompanied by a designated adult sponsor (21 years or older) for the duration of the ride. If Junior has 500 miles and is AERC approved to ride as a Senior, no sponsor is required.

There will be three (3) Vet checks out from base camp, about a 15 minute drive by car. Ride Management will provide transportation of crew supplies to vet check, if needed. *Please mark your crew supplies VET CK #1 or VET CK#2 or VET CK #3 to insure your crew supplies will be at the appropriate location.* The Control Veterinarian will set criteria for the ride. All Vet decisions are final.

RIDE MANAGEMENT STAFF

- Ride Manager: Darolyn Butler (713) 816-5558 or (281) 446-7232 or darolyn@swbell.net
- Asst. Co-Manager & Logistics: Jamie Lemon
- Asst. Co-Manager: Debbie Linebarger
- Secretary: Vicki Hudson
- Head Vet: Dr. Olin Balch
- Awards: Vicki Holzer & the Houston Airport System

If you have questions, please send an email to: ridehouston2012@yahoo.com

SCHEDULE FOR THE AIRPORT EXPRESS

FRIDAY – February 3rd

- Gates to the camping area will open at 9 am
- Registration – begins at high noon
- Pre-Ride Vet-In - 3:00 pm until dark
  - Note: Pre-Ride vet checks will not be conducted after sunset unless we have proper lighting.
  - Late arrivals will receive their pre-ride vet check in the morning prior to ride start in that case.
- SIRE Demonstration – 5:00 pm
- Dinner & Pre-Ride Meeting – 6:00 pm
  - Dinner is for the Riders & Crews on Friday and Saturday evenings.
- Food Vendor will be available @ 1st & 3rd Vet Check both ride days.
- New Riders Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Check your horses and mosey off to bed

SATURDAY – February 4th

- Check-in 15 min. prior to your start time to qualify for the ride
- 7:15 am for 50-milers—Start Time 7:30 am 50 Mile Cut Off – 7:30 pm
- 7:45 am for 25-milers---Start Time 8:00 am 25 Mile Cut Off – 2:00 pm

- Any time after 8:30 am for 10+ miles FUN RIDE. Check-in with official timer before you leave.
- Fun Riders Cut Off – 1 pm (For safety, it is necessary to clear the course as the 50/25 milers will be coming in on the same trail.)

- Registration for Sunday starts at 9:00 am
- Pre-Ride Vet-In - 3:00 pm until dark
  - Note: Pre-Ride vet checks will not be conducted after sunset unless we have proper lighting.
  - Late arrivals will receive their pre-ride vet check in the morning prior to ride start
- Dinner with musical entertainment - 6:00 pm
- New Riders Meeting – 7:30 pm
- Awards and Special recognitions – 8:00 pm

SUNDAY – February 5th

- Check in 15 min. prior to your start time to qualify for the ride.
- 7:15 am for 50-milers—Start Time 7:30 am 50 Mile Cut Off – 7:30 pm
- 7:45 am for 25-milers---Start Time 8:00 am 25 Mile Cut Off – 2:00 pm

- Any time after 8:30 am and before 10:30 am for 10+ miles FUN RIDE. Check-in with official timer before you leave.
- Fun Riders Cut Off – 1 pm (For safety, it is necessary to clear the course as the 50/25 milers will be coming in on the same trail.)
- Awards and Special Recognitions – Approximately 1 hour after all riders have finished

2012 IAH AIRPORT EXPRESS

50 & 25 MILE RIDE COMPETITIONS
&
10-MILE FUN RIDE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY FEB 4 & 5, 2012

Office Use only

Rider #_____

Check#_____

Amt. $_____

AERC#_____ Rider Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: Cell: _____ Home: _____ Email: _____

Weight Division (***circle***): Heavy (211+ lbs) Middle (186-210 lbs) Light (161-185 lbs) Feather (160 lbs or less)
No weight division for 25 or intro

Junior Name: _____
For Junior Rider (Under 16)
Sponsor's Name: _____ AERC#_____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Sat. Feb. 4th AERC# **H** _____ Horse Name:_____ Rider # _____
Horse Owner: _____ AERC # _____
(Circle) - 50-mile 25-mile Fun Ride

Sun. Feb 5th AERC# **H** _____ Horse Name:_____ Rider #_____
Horse Owner: _____ AERC # _____
(Circle) - 50-mile 25-mile Fun Ride

If you Pre-enter, your name will be put into a drawing for a FREE ENTRY FOR THIS RIDE (Drawings at ride meeting)

RIDE ENTRY FEES *(includes an Official Event T-shirt for each participant)*

50 Miles - $95 25 Miles - $80 Fun Ride - $35 *(No discounts on Fun Ride)* AERC Non-member Fee - $15

Saturday Feb. 4th	Sunday, Feb. 5th	
+_____	+_____	Ride Entry Fee (see fee schedule above)
+_____	+_____	$15 Non AERC Member Fee (does not apply to Fun Riders)
-_____	- _____	<$10> Discount for Junior rider (under age 16)
-_____	- _____	<$5> TERA discount TERA # _____
+ _____	+ _____	Donate to SIRE *(thank you)*

$ _____ Total Sat. + $ _____ Total Sun. = $_____ Total Fees

Payment method *(Circle)*: Check Cash Credit Card

Make checks payable to: SIRE
Mail to checks & entry forms: Vicki Hudson - 13002 Lakeside Terrace Drive, Houston, TX 77044

NEW THIS YEAR! We are accepting all major credit cards - VISA, Master Card & American Express for entry fees.
To pay by credit card, please call SIRE at (281) 356-7588 to process your payment and receive an authorization code as proof of payment. IMPORTANT – regardless if you pay by credit card, please mail your registration form to Vicki Hudson.

For internal office use only - SIRE Credit Card Authorization Code: _____

NEWS FLASH!

Pre-registered Entries will be eligible to win FREE RIDE ENTRY each day.

Name: _____

(This slip will be put in box for drawing.)

----------Tear Here----------

The following waivers must be signed by each participating rider

2012 IAH AIRPORT EXPRESS & ENDURANCE RIDE "AERC" RELEASE OF LEGAL LIABILITY

As a participant of the IAH Airport Express endurance ride, I agree to abide by the rules of AERC and the ride management. I understand that endurance riding involves being in remote areas for extended periods of time, far from communications, transportation, and medical facilities; that these areas have many natural and man-made hazards, which ride management cannot anticipate, identify, modify, or eliminate; that horses are excitable, difficult to control and unpredictable; and that accidents can happen to anyone at any time. I agree to take full responsibility for myself and the animal I am riding/handling. I will hold the ride management, all ride personnel, and all property owners over whose land the ride crosses blameless for any accident, injury or loss that might occur due to my participating in the ride, and free from all liability for such injury or loss.

Rider Signature_____
Date_____

Parent/Guardian of Junior Rider_____
Date_____

Horse Owner, if different from rider_____

HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM & GEORGE BUSH INTERCONTINENTAL AIRPORT RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, _____hereby request permission to enter upon the premises of George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston to participate in the 2012 IAH Airport Express Endurance Ride(s) ("Event") scheduled February 4th & 5th, 2012. I make this request with full knowledge and understanding that my participation in the Event will potentially involve serious risk of harm to me including, but not limited to, risks of accident, serious bodily injury, including death, broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, and property damage. I assume all these risks of harm to me, my horse, and all my other property.

FOR ANY AND ALL OF MY PARTICIPATION OF ANY KIND IN THE EVENT, I HEREBY AGREE TO RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CITY OF HOUSTON, THE HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM, AND GEORGE BUSH INTERCONTINENTAL AIRPORT/HOUSTON, TOGETHER WITH THEIR AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES (COLLECTIVELY "CITY") FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS AND DEMANDS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE, WHETHER ACCRUED OR UNACCRURED, THAT ARISE OR MAY ARISE AS THE RESULT OF MY DEATH, MY PHYSICAL OR MENTAL INJURY OR INCAPACITY, OR DAMAGE TO OR LOSS OF MY PERSONAL PROPERTY, REGARDLESS OF THE SOLE OR CONTRIBUTORY NEGLIGENCE OF THE CITY AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CITY IS IMMUNE FROM LIABILITY.

I agree to follow any rules established for the Event, including the rules in the American Endurance Ride Conference handbook, and to exercise reasonable care while participating in the Event. I understand that if I fail to follow the rules or if I fail to exercise reasonable care, I can be removed at any time from the Event, without recourse and refund.

By executing this Release and Waiver of Liability, I certify that I have read it in its entirety, understand all of its terms and have had any questions regarding its effect satisfactorily answered.

_____ Signature	_____ Printed Name
_____ Emergency Contact Name	_____ Emergency Contact Number
_____ Legal Guardian Signature (if under 18)	_____ Date

THE 2012 TEXAS MORTL CHALLENGE ENTRY FORM

Are you up for the "challenge"? Be a first in the 1st Annual *Mortl Challenge*! April Mortl was a wonderful wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend, and endurance rider. She is missed greatly by all who knew her. This challenge will be held in her memory each year and will benefit Horsefeathers Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Edgewood, Texas. Please support the Mortl Challenge and let's remember April by doing what she loved doing – riding.

THE CHALLENGE

Complete 3 designated rides, on the same horse, any distance (excluding intro Rides). You may switch distances during the challenge but must be on the same horse. Updates will be announced as the *Challenge* progresses!

THE RIDES

Airport Express - February 4 & 5, 2012

Old Glory - May 26 & 27, 2012

Ride the Storm - October 6 & 7, 2012

COST

Register before the first ride for $35.00. If you completed the Airport Express without pre-registering, you may sign up before Old Glory for $45.00. All pre-entries receive a long sleeve *Mortl Challenge* t-shirt.

PRIZES

A monogrammed hooded sweatshirt with your name, horse's name, distances you rode, and the *Mortl Challenge* logo. All riders who complete *The Challenge* will be contacted for sizing of the sweatshirt and monogram specifics. There will also be some fun items given away at each ride through a drawing of registered names.

The Mortl Challenge Entry Form

Rider's Name: _____ Horse's Name: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone #: _____

T-shirt size: S M L XL (Circle one)

Robin Howze: 214-244-5909 and Vickie Roden: 972-978-0072

Complete entry form and payment - mail to: Robin Howze 845 Wilson Road, Waxahachie, TX 75165.