



**May  
2013**

**Volume 20  
Issue 5**



**Rick's 'Ramblin's  
Teaching Manners-(the Cowboy Way)**

By Rick Balthaser

(I can relate to this- maybe you can find it amusing)!

Now this story somehow missed being in any of my books, even though it is truly a classic. I was once riding a double stand in a Western movie that became pretty popular. One of the stars had a bunch of their own money in the production which was running way over budget and just as far behind in the schedule. In my tradition of changing the names to protect the guilty and the fact that he was in no way a cowboy, I'll call him Duchess.

The further behind production and over budget the move became; the grouchier he was getting. Even though he had a gopher to attend his every whim he started just pointing at people on the crew and telling them to go do something for him or to bring him something. They would all complain behind his back, but not say anything to his face. I kept giving them a bad time for not standing up to him and they kept telling me "Your turn is coming", which it did.

On the morning of question a bunch of us were waiting for things to happen when Duchess came up and told me "Go get me a bagel!" I looked at him as seriously as I could and asked "What's a bagel?" After he described it I said, "Oh, it's like a stale doughnut!" and proceeded to walk off in the opposite direction of where they kept the food (which was in back of the cabin we were standing in front of).

**"WHERE THE)\*&(!ARE YOU GOING!?!?!?" "THEY AREN'T THAT WAY!"**

I proceeded to walk off in another (wrong) direction and he gave me directions...I proceeded to walk off in yet another wrong direction and he became ballistic!

**"WHERE IN THE &)(((\*&!!!!ARE YOU GOING???? JUST HOW F&\*\$#\$#!)!!ING STUPID ARE YOU????"**

I turned around and just grinned at him. He turned redder than a light in front of a house of ill-repute and got his own bagel. The rest of the riding doubles united til' he was around the corner before they started laughing, but they were rolling on the ground doing it. After that he quit telling people what to do and he even began asking his gopher politely!

(Credit-True stories about Cowboy life guaranteed to make you laugh from Bob Kinford & the 2lazy4u Livestock & Literary Company):

## May Trail Boss Report

by Terry Roberts

As we are now in spring and approach summer we look forward to more opportunities to ride our horses and some of the days will involve traveling with our horses or "Trailer".

I think it is important to address "Trailer" in this issue to remind all of us to take the necessary time to do a safety check on our trailers before each trip and annually on major items listed below.

We do so much for our horse's health throughout the year and this can be one of the most important things we can do but it is often overlooked.

I will list some items below you may want to look at. I also wanted to offer a resource for your trailer and hitch service, see the copy of the business card for "Dave's Muffler and Hitch."

I was involved in trailer manufacturing and have used this company since 1990 for myself and many clients. They are a reliable and honest shop located in Corona; you could take a trailer to this shop for service and head off to Norco for a few hours of Equine bargain shopping while your trailer gets work done.

The owner is John and he has offered a special discount to all ETI members- just mention ETI and or my name. Things to look for on your trailer and tow vehicle.

### Tow Vehicle.

1. Brake control device, does your vehicle have one? If not and your trailer has electric brakes it needs one. Period.
2. Is the tow vehicle suspension up to the job? If not maybe air bags would make a difference. Or the installation of a Load Distribution system.
3. Hitch Receiver: most hitches are bolted to the truck frame, they need to be checked even the Gooseneck hitches. Bumper mounted balls are not safe.
4. Ball Mount: the hitch ball is mounted on this and is usually attached with a large locking nut and washer that

needs to be properly torqued. The washer can only be taken on and off a few times.

5. Electrical plug receiver: check for corrosion and function.

### Trailers.

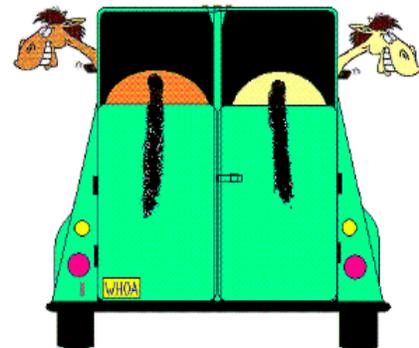
1. Coupler: does the locking device function correctly? Does it have load leveler system? Do you know how to set it up?
2. Safety chains: are there two and are they the correct length? Do you have proper chain fasteners? Do you know how to correctly attach these chains? Yes there is a correct amount of slack required.
3. Electric brake system battery: is it still installed? Does it still hold a charge?
4. Electric brakes breakaway activation cable: NOTE this system is activated in the event the trailer becomes disconnected from the tow vehicle and is designed to activate the trailer brakes in an effort to bring the trailer to a safe stop. Do not ignore this system.
5. Electrical plug: these plugs get corrosion and need to be checked out.
6. Tongue jack: Is it good in working order, not bent, good handle.
7. Tire inflation: Is it correct? Do you have a **spare tire or two**? Often by the time you realize you have a flat the tire, the one next to it can go flat due to overload.
8. Tools to change tires.
9. Trailer lights, turn, brake and running lights.
10. Door latches and hinges.
11. Floor: If the trailer is older, you need to check the flooring. Many trailer floors are made of wood and subject to rot over time due to moisture.
12. Is the trailer mounted to the tow vehicle hitch set up at the correct height?
13. Wheel Bearings: When were they last serviced?

So as you can see there is a lot more to trailering than just hooking up and going. We need to be confident in our equipment to ensure a safe trip.

Your Trail and "Trailer" Boss- Terry Roberts



Dave's Muffler (951) 737-7768





**TREASURER'S OFFICE...by Vicki Iacono**

**ETI - CORRAL 357**

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING**

March 31, 2013

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$11,592.56

**DEPOSITS:**

Deposits Made After Closing: March \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 11,592.56

**EXPENSES:**

<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck #</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
958	ETI	membership	\$112.00	963	D Kelly	postage	\$57.10
967	V Iacono	bd dinner	\$ 30.00	968	V Iacono	shirts emb	\$48.00
971	M Levitts	trailerling	\$ 50.00				

Total expenses paid in – March 2013 (\$297.10)

**UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD**

<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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Total Outstanding Checks March 31-2013 - i.e. Spending: (\$ 0.00)

Funds on hand in checking as of 3-31-2013 \$11,592.56

Petty Cash on Hand as of 3-31-2013 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 3-31-2013 \$11992.56

**SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS:**

**Less Reserves:**

1.ERT as of 3-31-2013 (\$ 779.89)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (\$ 779.89)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 \$ 11,212.67



***My Ride with Wylene by Kristen Holden***

It all started with a ride down Live Oak Trail and the mishaps that took place (thanks to a dog) that both Debbie and I realized that we might just be in need of a refresher clinic on building the confidence between our horses and ourselves...thus Wylene Wilson-Davis stepped in just in the nick of time.

As we saddled up in anticipation, we had the opportunity to watch Wylene work with an unbroken horse. She exuded confidence and experience that when Debbie and I looked at each other, we knew we were in for an exciting ride. As we gathered in the arena one of the first things Wylene asked was whether any of us had issues that we would like to resolve. I immediately raised my hand and shouted out that I have been unable to tie my horse...others with the same issues followed suit. Wylene replied, "Oh that's an easy fix!" Skeptically I nodded. Later in the day, she showed us how to tie the horse with an O-ring rope and within minutes, my problem was solved. I couldn't believe it! How simple it was when you know the right solution.

One of the key components in Wylene's method is asking your horse to respond in a gentle way. If they don't, then you elevate the request. Through her guidance, Debbie and I learned to ask our horses to stop by "Running a hand up the mane and the other down the rein." Now all I have to do is press my knuckles lightly into Mocha's mane and he stops on a dime. Both Debbie and I were in awe how simple the process was. Again, when you understand what motivates a horse as Wylene does, asking them to perform can be a relatively easy task.

By the end of the two days, Debbie and I were able to do rollbacks, jump a tire fence while doing rollbacks, ask our horses to do complete lead changes, play kickball, chase a spraying water truck, and run across a field of dried bamboo sticks. Add to that a race which included blindfolding our horses and getting them to run to blindfolding ourselves and racing around a cone. The weekend was an extreme success. My confidence in myself as a rider has elevated Mocha's confidence in me as his

leader. Our rides in O'Neill Park are so much better since the clinic.

I can't recommend highly enough that taking a clinic with someone as knowledgeable and confident as Wylene is the way to go. I look forward to practicing what I've learned, working on increasing my confidence and just getting out there and "Ride!"





**Confidence Building Clinic  
April 6&7, 2013  
Redlands, Ca**

(Thanks to ETI member Morey Levitt for hauling us)

## Tell me something good!!!!

By Karen Hopkins-Balthaser



Last month I shared great advice that fellow equestrians had given me that helped me be a better, more confident rider. I then asked what I could do to stop my horse from kicking. Dave Seroski came up with this great advice. It does come down to letting my horse know he can trust me to keep him safe...but this is HOW I can let him know that...

Karen,  
Here is what I have come up with. In Parelli, he teaches that every horse has a personal bubble. All of them are protective of that bubble and at different levels and at different times. If your horse is kicking out at other horses he has a bigger bubble and is very defensive of it. He knows that if another horse gets in there he is going to get nipped or bit. So here comes the hoof as a protective measure...nothing unusual. BUT you as his person can protect his bubble and make him closer to you for doing it. You can feel when he starts to tense up, so make sure what ever is bugging him goes away. When someone starts to ride up on from behind, shoo them away by simply waving a small coiled rope back and forth over your horses rump to shoo the aggressing horse back. Same for either side. Very quickly he will know that when you are on his back he is safe from unwanted bites



and nips. You are his protector. He will take great comfort in this as well.

You must first play the friendly game with your horse. This is the first of the 7 games and the easiest. Just touch and pet him all over. If he has a spot that he will not let you touch...Good! Work up to that spot petting and touching, when he starts to stiffen or show signs of resistance, back off right then, till he relaxes. Stop, and then start over getting a little closer to that spot each time. Soon you will be scratching or petting the spot with no resistance at all. Next mount up have a 2 1/2 to 3 foot rope about 5/8 inch wide with you.(It should have a little weight to it and be floppy) Try your shoeing motion very gently on each side and behind you. Careful not to whack him. If he is resistant to this...friendly game time. Start very slowly, maybe just once. then stop. Let him catch his breath and calm. Repeat. Remember now you are "in" his bubble. So gentle, gentle, gentle.

Soon he will realize your new found skill.

Next up? The test ride. Have someone start to ride up on you, start shoeing at the accepted rate when you notice him starting to tense. The aggressing horse will back right off when he sees you shoeing because you caught him coming in for the nip.(or so your horse will think)

Dave  
Thanks Dave!!!

Who has some great horse related advice to share, or a question you would like someone to address? You could tell about a great product you have found, or your favorite tack store. Please Email me at [Ladieeee@AOL.com](mailto:Ladieeee@AOL.com) I am looking for a better name for this column...something about horse sense...giving your two cents...maybe someone could help me with that?



**Getting Help on the Trail by Dave Seroski**  
**Communications Coordinator**

I really had to ponder the need for a heavy radio to be carried on the trail with a cell phone and here's what I came up with.

What works?

Well you already own a functioning device; you know how to use it and it can be tracked to your location using 2 cell phone sites (the police do it all the time), so if the cell phone is charged and you turn it off, it will be ready when you need it.

There is way more repeater sites for the cell phone than the heavy radio and someone has to be on the radio repeater to hear your call. With the cell phone you can call anyone and 911 answers every time.

The radio is good if you want a large number of people to hear you all at the same time.

So here is my conclusion: When you go into the wild take your charged cell phone & turn it off. Let someone know where you are going. If you get into trouble, turn it on and first text a few people about your situation (a text will almost always get out even if you have no bars).

Then make the voice call. Even if you are unsure of where you are, the cell sites will crisscross and give 911 operators the GPS coordinates. Then turn it off, even if you have to take the battery out. Turn it off to save your battery. Try a recall in 15 min to half an hour and repeat as often as you think necessary. BUT always turn it off because you're really going to need it towards the end of help arriving.

Dave

Another option is a personal GPS device. They can find you just about anywhere and even come in a bracelet style.

Another option is a personal GPS device. They can find you just about anywhere and even come in a bracelet style.



**Announcing the S911 Lola Personal Tracking Device!**

At Pinpoint, we strive to bring you our best-of-class tracking solutions for your every need. We're excited to unveil the S911 Lola, a brand-new waterproof device with two-way voice capabilities; made with personal security for guests, personnel, lone workers or executives in mind. Ultra small in size ( 5.4 x 4.0 x 1.6 cm / 2.1 x 1.5 x 0.6 inches ) the Lola can be worn on a lanyard, in a pocket or in a waist holster. The device can detect and immediately alert when the user experiences a fall or presses the SOS button.





### **What is ETI?**

Equestrian Trails, Incorporated is a family oriented riding club established as a nonprofit corporation in 1944

with the Charter to be "Dedicated to the Acquisition and Preservation of Trails, Good Horsemanship, and Equine Legislation."

With its combined membership, ETI has successfully worked to keep our trails open and add more equestrian facilities. The more members we have backing equine legislation and trail preservation, the more likely the State, County and City Officials will be to comply with our needs.

### **Who are the Saddleback Canyon Riders?**

The Saddleback Canyon Riders are ETI Corral 357. Established in 1991, we are one of the largest ETI corrals in

California with members from South Orange County and points beyond. We are a family-friendly equestrian

group based in Trabuco Canyon at the foot of the majestic Saddleback Mountains. Our Corral is committed to

supporting and helping maintain O'Neill Regional Park and other local riding trails.

ETI Corral 357

PO Box 1026

Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678