

**ETI
357**

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357**



SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

South Orange County, California

www.SaddlebackCanyonRiders.com

P.O. BOX 1026, TRABUCO CANYON, CALIFORNIA 92678

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 9

"United We Ride"

SEPTEMBER 2007

Year 2007 Board of Directors:

PRESIDENT: Rich Gomez
949-888-1604, rtgomez@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Mickey Weldon
714-308-6226, mickey4cars@hotmail.com

SECRETARY: Karen Hopkins
949-709-2359, ladiieee@aol.com

TREASURER: Bob Wilks
949-589-9144, robert-a-wilks@cox.net

MEMBERSHIP: Sheila Segien
949-589-3347, bearfoot60@cox.net

SCRIBE/NEWSLETTER: Lori McKenzie
949-858-3747, lorimckenzie3@yahoo.com

TRAIL BOSS: Jeff Kelly
949-459-7191, rileyboy1@cox.net

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Doug Slavin
949-295-1331, dgslavin@cox.net

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Tristan Novotny
949-713-7252
canyonconstruction1@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER: Open

Year 2007 Services:

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT (MAU)

COORDINATOR: Debbie Kelly
949-459-7191, rileyboy1@cox.net

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:
Jeanette Villegas
714-649-3480, jeanette.villegas@sun.com

HORSE COORDINATOR: Debi Geary
949-291-0551, debig@cox.net

PEOPLE COORDINATOR: Patti Gomez
949-888-1604, pattianngomez@aol.com

Trails-4-All: Jim Meyer
714-734-8188, info@trails4all.org

O'Neill Regional Park: Ron Slimm
949-923-2260, ron.slimm@rdmd.ocgov.com

There's No Rain - Just Fire Watch by Corral 357 President Rich Gomez

Well I know we're all about done with this heat and drought – unfortunately, we don't get to pick when it ends so be careful out there. Ridin's one thing, workin' in the sun's another but one careless act will have us all movin' quick. I mentioned "good horsemanship" in my message from last month and I know you've all been thinking about what that means to you. I think one thing it means is givin' back as in givin' back to the community. You should all be proud of what our ETI/MAU club has been able to put together – the Trabuco Canyon Fire Evacuation Plan. Now while the plan is not yet officially adopted by the OCFA it's well on its way, and it *is* the official plan for our canyon. ETI Corral 357 was mentioned at the August fire authority meeting in Silverado to discuss fire danger, planning and evacuation. Our club has made a significant contribution to this very important plan and we'll be talking more about how each of you can become involved at our next members' meeting.

For now, I'm going to include a few highlights of the evacuation plan. We're all in this together so talk to your neighbors – pass out some of our evacuation flyers (which we'll have at the next members' meeting) and encourage everyone to know what to do and stay calm. Here are some tips from our fire plan:

Mandatory Evacuation: (Fire is *minutes* away)

1. Halter and **walk horses** on a lead-line to the O'Neill Park arena and login at kiosk
2. **No trailers** can be used for evacuation
3. **One-out** only; once you evacuate you will not be allowed to return
4. **Do NOT** turn horses loose
5. Leave corrals **unlocked**
6. When you evacuate, **leave doors unlocked and a light on** – even in the daytime
7. Check stove, iron and coffee pot

Voluntary Evacuation: (Fire is *hours* away)

- Evacuate all residents and animals in vehicles and trailers
- Horses can be taken to the Orange County Fairgrounds – Gate 5.
- **NOTE:** All horses will be vaccinated; consent is implied and mandatory.
- Listen for evacuation instructions on **KSBR radio FM88.5**, via e-mail, the website or fire information number (*all shown on the flyer*)
- Do not turn horses loose
- Leave corrals unlocked
- Leave doors unlocked and a light on for firefighters

The conditions in all our canyons are unnerving so please be careful and be aware. In the words of a wonderful neighbor from Modjeska Canyon, "**Don't start the fire, don't block the road.**"

September Members' Meeting Thursday, September 6th, 2007

Rose Canyon Cantina

Dinner/Social Hour: 7:00-7:30pm

Members' Meeting: 7:30-9:00

September Board Meeting Thursday, September 13th, 2007

7:00 pm

Location:

Wilks' Residence

Please RSVP 949-589-9144

All members are welcome!

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HORSE TALES



“George and Bob’s Wild Adventure”

By Bob Wilks

It was my first and only trip so far into the Bob Marshal Wilderness, a mountain wilderness range of thousands of acres. We were there to hunt for big bull Elk and White tail deer. This trip is when I met a quarter horse named “George”. What a great guy George turned out to be, and how lucky was I to have him ride me into the Big Bob, along with my three hunting buddies, Dan, Tom and Fritz. It was mid September and only a three week window to hunt in the Bob, due to its elevation and the sometimes fierce early winters that blow south from Canada. Montana fish and game had adjusted the hunting season by shortening the time and moving it forward. Not quite the mating rut, but close enough to find some big bulls and bucks and still be back in town before the snow fly’s hard.

George was in the pasture in Whitefish Montana, spending time with the other horses when Spike and I walked down to the barn with Fritz to call them in for feeding. Fritz stopped to load up a bucket with grain and then went to the fence and hollered “Here Horse!!” over and over a few times, then began shaking the bucket, and shortly we were face to face with four fine looking horses of differing colors and makes. George a red quarter gelding, a good looking Fox trotter mare, another red quarter horse and one black Arab. Turned out the Arab was not fit to ride, so we were short one mount. Fritz however had a neighbor willing to loan us his quarter gelding and so shortly we were all mounted for a hunting experience of our lifetimes.

After a get acquainted ride on George that afternoon, with Spike and Fritz also mounted, we spent the next day packing our gear in pan yards to load onto the outfitter’s mules hired by us to load our gear into and out of the wilderness. We pulled a four horse over the Rocky Mountains up to the foot of the Big Bob, where we made camp. Early morning, we packed the mules mounted up and headed up the mountain, me and George with the others, head to tail, and the mules in advance. It was a five hour ride, mainly across the face of steep ridges with several shale slide crossings and a panoramic view across the river to the opposing mountain where snow white alpine sheep were grazing. Then up and over the top and down into a high long lush meadow, where our hunt camp was set up, George and the others resting on picket line. After the short rest, Fritz goaded us into the saddle for a scouting ride down the long meadow, and there we went, me on George, Dan on the loaner, Fritz on his red gelding and Tom on the Fox trotter mare.

We were out of camp about half an hour on a flat but narrow trail, when a commotion came from Tom’s way, and looking back we all saw him sitting in the midst of the trail holding his ribs and swearing at the fox trotter. She had bucked him for no apparent reason, and Tom being easy in the saddle had come right off. We thought his ribs might be broken, but he was o.k. just bruised and sore, but that was not all. When we were back in camp, and untacking I noticed a cinch sore rubbed hard into George’s left armpit. Fritz gave me a verbal lashing over causing it, but we treated it right away hoping for a fast fix.

Next morning, we took to the hunt afoot, horses staying in camp nice as you please. I went half way up the south ridge headed east and found a White tail buck. Across the valley, Tom called in a really big Elk bull, with his bugling skills. I field dressed the little buck, and hoisted him over a stout pine limb to deal with later, and went to help Tom with his bull. It took all 4 of us until about noon to quarter and pack that bull. Later that afternoon, while back in camp, we decided to take the horses up the valley to bring in the buck. George still getting over his cinch rub was not going. So, I selected the Fox trotter mare to take me up. I was ready first so I climbed up into her saddle, and was adjusting things, when she commenced to buck me pretty hard. She bucked hard enough to toss me out of the saddle and I next thing I knew, I was on the ground with three fellows standing over me, trying to wake me up. Turned out that ME and George waited in camp that afternoon while the others got the buck.



CORRAL CORNER

TRAIL BOSS REPORT by Jeff Kelly

About two hours ago I sat down to a dinner. Ten seconds into that dinner, a knock at the door. My bestest favorite neighbor, Shelly to inform us "Horse Down!" We all piled into Tristan's pickup, and picked up a few hands along the way to the creek bed just downstream from the bridge before Holy Jim. It was such a quick response from the equine community. A good dozen or more people showed ready to do what ever was needed to be done to redeem this horse. Thanks to all of you! Special thanks to the ferrier that got the Arab on it's feet. Thanks to Station 18 and County Animal Control for being there. Just their sudden arrival seemed to help encourage the steed to his feet. And how 'bout that traffic at the bridge for that moment. Canyon Jam!

So, to the point. The charity ride is in October, so, in that month, October, the first Saturday, October 6, we will have a trail maintenance party, OK? Details to be announced.

The September Month End Ride will be Saturday, the 29th. We will begin earlier, at 8:00am; meet at the arena. This ride will take us to the Charity Ride destination of McFadden Ranch. It is a "pre-ride" and is a great opportunity for folks to introduce their horse to the trail or for those that will be working the Charity Ride. Any questions call Jeff Kelly at 858-7363.

MAU REPORT by Debbie Kelly

Our MAU Coordinator is off doing a documentary on John Wayne.

RSM BBQ Update

For those of you who have been with ETI357 for some time, then you won't have trouble recalling our club's famous "Bronco Burger" booth. For the rest of you, indulge me a bit and let me reminisce and tell you all about it.

I really don't know who built the booth; you'd have to ask another ETI historian about that, but I sure do remember all many professional Rodeos in Rancho Santa Margarita where we set up and flipped burgers for three days. Just the smell of them cooking brought cowboys, cowgirls, and city folks alike to our booth. The booth was big enough to hold several kitchen preps, cooks, and servers. It had an old west façade with a high serving counter that just took you back in time. I kind of kept expecting John Wayne to stroll up, lean that large body of his against it and say "Howdy Maa'm; can I get a whisky"? I would have had to send him to another booth for that, but it was a great fantasy.

It was a fun, energetic fundraiser for 357 and there was rarely a shortage of volunteers. The club retired the Bronco Burger booth at the last Rodeo; in 2001. Without the open land in RSM, it could no longer be host to a professional Rodeo. We don't have that booth any longer; but we still serve up Bronco Burgers in Rancho Santa Margarita every year.

In August we had what I think was our largest food fundraiser since the Rodeo days. We served close to four hundred burgers and hot dogs to folks "camping out" at Trabuco Mesa Park for RSM's annual Great Family Campout. I think it was a huge success. No shortage of volunteers there either. Special thanks to Lori McKenzie, Bob and Spike Wilks, and Jeff for all the pre-event work. Thanks so much to all the rest of you that took time out on a Friday and came down to help. It takes a collaborative effort to pull this off, in just about three hours, and every hand helps. If you were not able to participate (or even if you were), don't fret. We have another BBQ fundraiser on September 30th, this time at a local church. Lori McKenzie will be heading that up and I know from experience, she will need lots of help. More about that at the September member's meeting.



LOCAL VETS

Dr. Bettey (714) 665-2211
Dr. Chris Garloff (714) 777-3942
Dr. Stew Hales (714) 691-6368
Dr. Meinert (714) 665-2211
Dr. Kirk Pollard (714) 777-3942

Dr. Posnikoff (949) 472-0501
Dr. Julie Ryan (949) 559-5905
Dr. Mark Secor (949) 661-2225
Dr. Mike Williams (909) 734-0084
Dr. Eckstrom (909) 632-3322



FARRIERS

Chris Ryan (949) 713-6647
Ed Brazeal (714) 649-2376
Jesse Coker (949) 456-9680
Steve Willis (909) 393-8888

Ricky Root (949) 458-3726
Duane Turner (949) 981-0128
Carlos Sifuentes (949) 636-4867
Matt Love (714) 334-5404

More Horse Tales

Cassina the Great by Bob Wilks

It was July 4th, just after the June Gloom weather changes from fog and misty mornings that stretch into mid-afternoon, cooling the days and evenings to a comfortable mid-70's enjoyed by man and horse alike. Those cool days now only memories, as el Sol exerted its mighty heat rays over our world, and temperatures rose into the mid and high 80 degree range. Weather was not in the forefront this day because it was an extraordinary holiday weekend, celebrating the birth of our great nation, and achievements of our club members at Saddleback Canyon Riders, E.T.I. Corral 357. We had worked all spring and early summer to clear the Vista trail from overgrown brush and weeds and to cut a switch back trail up the vista ridge to the highest top of tallest peak in O'Neill regional park.

Clift Cawood, the Park's Senior Ranger was so happy with his liaison with E.T.I., that he actually agreed our club could have a B.B.Q. at the top of Vista Trail on the evening of July 4th. It must have been around 1994 or '95 when we pulled off this once in a lifetime event, to view the "fireworks" around the Orange County area from the vista, and enjoy freshly cooked hamburgers and hotdogs with all what goes along, and "cool drinks" too (if you get my drift).

This particular evening will stick in my memory for a long time because of Cassina, our Polish Arab mare and the grit she exhibited that night. The holiday fell on a weekend that year, and Spike and I were somehow in the thick of planning and executing the event. Don Carr, Marianne Brawley, Jeff and Anne Dickman, Ray and Cynthia Wilhelm, Jim Myers & Daughter, Laura Kiester (then president) with her husband Buzz, and Spike and I all shared the B.B.Q. - It was planned that no more than 2 vehicles (both 4 wheel drive) would ascend the westerly approach to the top, carrying the B.B.Q., drinks, the food stuff and miscellaneous items, including a few good western music tunes, for our collective enjoyment, and the others would arrive mounted. This was a evening of celebration for the accomplishments of our newly started club, and our feelings were running high.

For reasons I don't recall just now, Spike was not in the vehicles, but rather would ride her mare Cassina from our casa in the canyon to the top of Vista, and join the other riders or "catch up". Of course this was not to be, for a reason or another, so Spike and Cassina headed out together, just the two of them, to join the celebration. They never caught up with the other mounted riders, but Spike was in charge all the way, and Cassina heeded her directions. Spike sent Cassina up the west side of Vista, along the steep roadway cut that is made to service the cell tower, a challenge in daylight, and double tough at night. Inevitably, Cassina stumbled in the dark, and fell hard to the ground, sending Spike into the dirt on a dusty bounce. They were both weary and hurting from this mishap, but to Cassina's credit, she did not quit on Spike, and she went on up that steep ridge to the high top. Her reward was a long rest while we enjoyed the sights of the fireworks, and when time came for the mounted group to ride home, Cassina was up to her usual self. Cassina and Spike arrived home without another problem, and we think that tough old mare "slept in" the next morning. She was a good friend to Spike and a friend of mine too.

KEEP THOSE HORSE TAILS COMING, FOLKS!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Sheila Segien

ARE YOU CURRENT?

Contact Sheila Segien
(949) 589-3347 bearfoot60@cox.net

Very Expired (sorry, last newsletter!!)

Annette McLaughlin 5/07, Evelyn & Samantha Ortega 5/07, John & Karen Rochefort 5/07, Angel Amos 5/07

Expired

Greg Hahn 6/07, Kim & Eric Munk 6/07, Amy Belt 6/07, Dennis Gorski 7/07, Pam Hutchins 8/07

Expiring

Jody Sidebotham 9/07, James & Vicki Iacono 9/07, Brenda Kalb 9/07, Maureen Rivers & Michael Kirshberg 9/07

SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

7pm Thursday, September 6th

Rose Canyon Cantina

President of ETI National

Barbara-Maxwell Ryan

A Note from Your Scribe

by Lori McKenzie

This September 11th marks the 6th anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center which claimed more than 3000 lives and changed the way all of us think about life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In memory of the victims of 9/11 and in honor of those who are fighting and dying for our way of life, please take a moment to reflect on and be thankful for the freedom we enjoy in the United States of America.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Bob Wilks

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING
July 31, 2007

Total Corral Funds on Hand at 07/31/07.....\$11,121.31

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve... (\$1,404.70)

NET Funds on Hand in Checking, CD, Petty Cash

To Corral 357.....\$9,716.61



HORSE PLAYDAY

Sept. 22, 2007

O'Neill Park Equestrian Arena

Registration at 8:00 am

Events begin at 9:00 am

5 Fun Events!

Events are \$5.00 per ETI member

\$6.00 per non-ETI member

Contact: Debi Geary at 949-291-0551

We will also be serving a scrumptious lunch
and beverages at noon for a \$5.00 fee.

Horse camping available. Park office: 949-923-2260

Lunch and park fees not included.



The Saddleback Canyon Riders would like to congratulate ETI Corral 357 member and former president Jeff Kermode on his appointment as the new Chief of Police for the city of Tehachapi, California!

CORRAL 357 EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2007

Thursday, September 6, 2007

MEMBER'S MEETING

Location: Rose Canyon Cantina

Dinner/Social Hour: 7:00 – 7:30 pm
Member's Meeting: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

All welcome!

Contact: Contact: Rich Gomez
949-888-1604
rtgomez@aol.com

Thursday, September 13, 2007

MAU MEETING 6:15 pm
BOARD MEETING 7:00 pm

Location: The Wilks' Residence

All members are welcome! Please RSVP

Contact: Debbie Kelly at
949-459-7191 for MAU Meeting
and Spike Wilks at 949-589-9144
for Board Meeting

Saturday, September 22, 2007

HORSE PLAY DAY

Location: O'Neill Park Equestrian Arena

Registration begins at 8:00 am
Events begin at 9:00 am

Volunteers Needed!

Contact: Debi Geary at 949-291-0551

Saturday, September 29, 2007

MONTH END RIDE

Location: O'Neill Park Arena

Arrive early to sign waivers
9:00 am

Contact: Jeff Kelly
949-351-5791, rileyboy1@cox.net

All welcome!

\$5.00 single event fee for non-members.

Sunday, September 30, 2007

BBQ FUNDRAISER

Location: St. Timothy's Catholic Church
29102 Crown Valley Pkwy, Laguna Niguel, CA

Setup begins at 10:00 am
Lunch begins at 12:00 am

Volunteers Needed!

Contact: Lori McKenzie 949-858-3747

American Horse Products
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new location!

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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 the largest ETI corral in California with over 100 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 Mountain. Our Corral has "adopted" O'Neill Regional Park and we are committed to building and maintaining the Harmon Equestrian area. In recent years Corral 357 has built and/or gathered funds for the arena renovation, the round pen, the kiosk and the hitching posts. Our Annual Charity Ride held every Fall here in O'Neill Park has resulted in more than \$10,000 of charitable contributions.



Equestrian Trails Inc., Corral 357
PO Box 1026
Trabuco Canyon, California 92678