



SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

Trabuco Canyon, California

www.SaddlebackCanyonRiders.com

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



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 2

"United We Ride"

FEBRUARY 2008

Year 2008 Board of Directors:

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SECRETARY: Karen Hopkins
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949-291-0551, debig@cox.net

ASS'T HEAD COORDINATOR:
Jennifer Gillott
EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR:
Debbie Kelly
949-459-7191, rileyboy1@cox.net

SECRETARY: Patti Gomez
949-888-1604, pattiangomez@aol.com

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:
Dave Seroski

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

Boy are you in good hands...

Well I gotta say you've gotta all be proud of your new ETI Board! What a great bunch of folks focused on getting YOU involved in the things YOU want to do. And the energy and spirit of helping out, pitching in and getting involved – a big congratulations to our two newest board members (remember they're not voted upon, but appointed by the board at the January meeting), and a big thanks to all our new MAU Coordinators:

- Rick Balthaser – **Sergeant-At-Arms**
- Fiona Nelson – **Activities/Events Coordinator**
- **MAU Head Coordinator** – Debi Geary
- **MAU Assistant Head Coordinator** – Jennifer Gillott
- **MAU Secretary** – Patti Gomez
- **MAU Records** – Doug Slavin
- **Emergency Response Team Coordinator** – Debbie Kelly
- **Emergency Response Team Communications** – Dave Seroski

Like I said...y'all are in good hands.

And the best thing was developing YOUR 2008 events and activities calendar. I've been to a few board meetings and never has the calendar been completed so quickly and with so much input from each of YOU. Thanks to each of you for your comments and suggestions at the Members' Meeting when we asked about what things YOU want to see on the calendar. Man did we get a lot of "easy and fun" ideas. You'll be seeing the calendar both in the newsletter and online so you can make your plans and join in the fun!

We're even making plans for our fall charity ride so be thinking about your favorite charity...we'll be asking for your choices soon. This board is a planning board so you'll know well in advance what the board is thinking, the activities they have planned, and how they're doing their best to represent you. And the MAU Coordinators have come up with some solid guidelines for everyone to follow to make participation an easy deal.

All good stuff...looks like we're off to a great start in '08!

Rich Gomez,
President ETI 357

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News Around the Canyon

Our MAU in Action



Slow Those Idiots Down!

Everyone is concerned about safety on **Live Oak Canyon Road** and now the **CHP** has asked concerned residents to send a letter to the **CHP** Captain to express your concerns. Include your name (and address if you want).

Officer Goodwin says this is the most effective way for us to be heard. Each letter should be individual and different, not form letters duplicated. Send letters to:

Captain Sandra Houston
32951 Camino Capistrano
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
(949) 487-4000

To report incidents, call (949) 559-7888

On-Line Newsletter Available

If you'd like to opt out of the "get-it-in-the-mail," download and print your own copy, and save the club some money, send me an email at sdsegien@mac.com. Include the words "pigs don't fly" in the subject line.

Thanks,
Don Segien

CORRAL CORNER

TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY: JEFF KELLY

Some say we save the best for last. Well, that could be said for the December 2007 month end ride. More is not always better and with only three of us cowboys heading out for the ride I'd say way had quite an adventure. With a small group such as we were, we maneuvered our way to Rancho Santa Margarita and found ourselves behind the RSM Ford dealership; overlooking the Arroyo. We then proceeded to cross Santa Margarita Parkway heading southwest into the upper Arroyo. Our intention was to drop into the lower Arroyo and return to the park via the Arroyo. Well, since men don't ask for directions we decided it would be best to find our way back the same way we came. But that would require us to pass right by the ARCO station on Santa Margarita Parkway and Empressa and by this time we decided it was time for some fresh, hot brew. So as I waited outside with the horses, our new Member at Large, cowboy Jim Schict went inside and ordered us up some hot joe. There's an old saying in RSM; "Where the west begins again". Well, us Trabuco cowboys are pleased to bring our "old west" to the flatlands. Like our former Commander in Chief Ronald Reagan once said "There's nothing like the outside of a horse for the inside of a man". When we share that sentiment with old friends or new ones, the feeling is only intensified. It was a great ride and we have twelve more scheduled for 2008. Check out our calendar, you will see that some month end rides will be combined with other events such as the Swallow's Day Parade and our Annual Charity Ride. We also have a couple of Poker Rides sharing the stage. So mark your calendars for the last Saturday of the month. These rides always present an opportunity to ride with other ETI folks that you may not otherwise saddle up with. We also have trail maintenance days scheduled for the even months in 2008. My personal thanks to our scribe Don Segien for leading the first trail work day on February 9th. MAU will be attending our annual US Forest Service training on that date. So be sure to hook up with Don and help keep those trails we all love and enjoy in pristine shape. More about that at the February member's meeting.

MAU REPORT

BY: DOUG SLAVIN

Called to Action! A heavy wet winter storm hit the Saddleback Mountains in the first week of January. Dumping more rain than the Canyons had received in a couple years. Volunteers and residents of the burn areas prepared and braced for the worst.

Mud and debris slides filled Modjeska Canyon.

Sunday, January 6th, County of Orange Animal Control, called upon the services of our ETI 357 MAU team or should we say our 'Mud Assistance Unit'.

A large debris and mud slide had rumbled down the mountainside into Modjeska Canyon, wiping out Jess Morrison's stables. Horses and boarders were now waist deep in mud. Our MAU members, Debbie and Jeff Kelly, Patti and Rich Gomez, Jennifer Gillott and I promptly responded to assist in the equine evacuation efforts.

With vehicles in 4wd, we were able to rescue seven horses and deliver them safely to the Orange County Fairgrounds. Our quick response was greatly appreciated by Animal Control and Modjeska residents.

Lesson learned...we can plan and prepare however Mother Nature has the last word!



LOCAL VETS

Dr. Bettye (714) 665-2211	Dr. Posnikoff (949) 472-0501
Dr. Chris Garloff (714) 777-3942	Dr. Julie Ryan (949) 559-5905
Dr. Stew Hales (714) 691-6368	Dr. Mark Secor (949) 661-2225
Dr. Meinert (714) 665-2211	Dr. Mike Williams (909) 734-0084
Dr. Kirk Pollard (714) 777-3942	Dr. Eckstrom (909) 632-3322



FARRIERS

Chris Ryan (949) 713-6647	Ricky Root (949) 458-3726
Ed Brazeal (714) 649-2376	Duane Turner (949) 981-0128
Jesse Coker (949) 456-9680	Carlos Sifuentes (949) 636-4867
Steve Willis (909) 393-8888	Matt Love (714) 334-5404

HORSE TALES

BY: DON SEGIEN

WHY I OWN A BIG TRUCK.

For years I was quite satisfied with my little red Toyota pickup truck. I bought it used from a friend and it's never let me down. It was a little beat up when I bought it and has gotten more so as the years went by. The bad news is it's usually the ugliest car in the lot. The good news...I don't have to baby it.

A couple years ago I decided to replace my ten-year-old truck, ---we call it the wheelbarrow---with a two or three year old version. The more I thought about it, the more I wanted one. "Heck...I work hard, I deserve it. Why should I have to drive to work in a wheelbarrow?"

So Sheila and I go to the Toyota dealer to see what they've got. Not many used ones on the lot so we start eyeing the new ones. Having some time to kill, we were pleased when the salesman offered to show us a Tundra. Nice truck---leather seats, wood dash, tinted glass, big screen TV---rancho deluxe. I told the salesman I was interested in the smaller Tacoma.

The Tacoma---which is a very nice truck---seemed rather plain and small compared to the Tundra but far more practical. (Gas isn't getting any cheaper you know.) I bumped my head while getting in and felt a little squished in cab.

The dealer sensed my disappointment and ushered me back to the Tundra section. As we walked down rows of fine looking trucks he began making comparisons to the F-150. "Pay load blah blah blah F-150, Wheel base blah blah blah F-150, blah blah blah blah F-150." He spent so much time talking about the F-150 we decided to look at Fords.

My daughter, Cheryl, found a great deal on a low-mileage used F-250 on the Internet. After talking to some neighbors about trucks, it became clear that F-150s aren't as well suited for towing as F-250s or F350s. "Transmission blah blah blah, torque blah blah, wheelbase blah blah blah." Besides all the technical reasons, some of the most well respected men in the canyon drive F-250s.

Sheila and I took the truck for a test drive and decided to get it. And I must say, I have no regrets. It's a great truck. Besides the power and comfort, it helps me do my part for the environment. (The faster that big V10 drinks up the gas, the sooner people will have to develop alternative fuels.)

So, there you have it. I wanted to upgrade my little truck with another little truck and ended up with a big ol' F-250. By the way, If you're driving through Live Oak Canyon weekdays between 7:45 and 8:00 in the morning, keep an eye out for me. I'm the guy driving to work in the little red wheelbarrow.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY: ROBERT WILKS

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING December 31, 2007

Total Corral Funds on Hand at 12/31/07.....\$8,160.21

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve... (\$869.56)

NET Funds on Hand in Checking, CD, Petty Cash
To Corral 357.....\$7,290.65

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY: SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (sorry, last newsletter!!)

Jody Sidebotham 9/07

Maureen Rivers & Michael Kirchberg 9/07

Expired

Linda Broker 10/07

Dianne Beckman 11/07

Linda Moy 11/07

Teresa Pearce 11/07

Sue Selff 11/07

Rocky Brown 12/07

Sharon Stancato 12/07

Lori McKenzie 12/07

Jen & Paul Godward 12/07

Lois Grote 12/07

Elizabeth Zarkos 1/08

Tom Ordway 1/08

Anita Rasmussen 1/08

Eric & Adam Walters 1/08

Mickey Weldon 1/08

Jim & Robyn Walters 1/08

Expiring

Leslie Ingham 2/08

Esposito Family 2/08

Helen & Fred Bruns 2/08

Welcome New Members!!

Fiona Nelson

Patti Williams

Cheryl Segien

Brynne van Putten

2008 YEAR AT A GLANCE

ETI 357 EVENTS CALENDAR

	MEETINGS	TRAIL MAINT	TRAINING	EVENT	EVENT
JANUARY	1/3 Member mtg 1/5 MAU mtg 1/10 Board mtg		1/26 Emergency Response Preparedness Training 8:30am	1/27 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00am	
FEBRUARY	2/7 Member mtg 2/14 MAU mtg 2/14 Board mtg	2/9 O'Neill Pk	2/9 US Forest Service Annual Training	2/23 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00 am	
MARCH	3/6 Member mtg 3/8 MAU mtg-am 3/13 Board mtg		3/8 Em Horse Shoeing/MAU meeting	3/15 SAMLARC Spring Fling (ETI fundraiser)	3/29 Swallows Day Parade (=Month End Ride)
APRIL	4/3 Member mtg 4/10 Board mtg	4/5 O'Neill Pk	4/12-13 Sensory Training & Trail Trials	4/12-13 Sensory Training & Trail Trials	4/26 Month End/MAU & Poker Ride 10:00 am
MAY	5/1 Member mtg 5/8 Board mtg		5/10 Horse Handling & Trailer Loading MAU meeting	5/10 Microchip clinic at arena	5/17 PLAYDAY 5/31 Month End/MAU Ride
JUNE	6/5 Member mtg 6/12 MAU mtg 6/12 Board mtg	6/7 O'Neill Pk		6/7 MAU "Away" ride 7/4 Ride in Parade July 11-13 ETI /MAU Campout 7/18 Full Moon Ride	6/21 PLAYDAY -KIDS 6/28 Month End/MAU ride 9am
JULY	7/3 No mtg 7/10 Board mtg				7/26 Month End/MAU Ride 9:00am
AUGUST	8/7 Member mtg 8/14 MAU mtg 8/14 Board mtg	8/9 O'Neill Pk	"Possible Sierra Pack Trip"	8/8 Great Rancho Campout (fundraiser)	8/30 Month End/MAU & Poker Ride 9:00am
SEPTEMBER	9/4 Member mtg 9/11 Board mtg 9/13 MAU mtg-am			9/27 Month End/MAU Ride (Charity pre-ride)	
OCTOBER	10/2 Member mtg 10/9 MAU mtg 10/9 Board mtg	10/4 O'Neill Pk		10/25 Annual Charity Ride	
NOVEMBER	11/6 Member mtg 11/8 MAU mtg-am 11/13 Board mtg			11/15 PLAYDAY	11/29 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00 am
DECEMBER	12/11 Board mtg			12/13 Christmas Party	12/27 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00 am

For updates and details check our website: www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com



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



Equestrian Trails Inc., Corral 357
PO Box 1026
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