



SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

Trabuco Canyon, California

www.SaddlebackCanyonRiders.com

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



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 3

"United We Ride"

MARCH 2008

Year 2008 Board of Directors:

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

VICE PRESIDENT: Doug Slavin
949-295-1331, dgslavin@cox.net

SECRETARY: Karen Balthaser
949-709-2359, ladieeee@aol.com

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

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

SCRIBE/NEWSLETTER: Don Segien
949-589-3347, SDSegien@mac.com

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

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Jim Schicht
949-858-4744, rustyshoe7@cox.net

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Rick Balthaser
949-709-2359, RBalthaser@aol.com

ACTIVITIES/EVENTS COORDINATOR:
Fiona Nelson, fnelson1@hotmail.com

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT (MAU)

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

ASS'T HEAD COORDINATOR:
Jennifer Gillott
Jennifer.gillott@ingrammicro.com

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

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

RECORDS: Doug Slavin
949-295-1331, dgslavin@cox.net

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:
Dave Seroski

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

O'Neill Regional Park: Ron Slimm
949-973-7260, ron.slimm@rdmd.org

Workin' Together...

Well by now you all know we're real big on all of us workin' together...biggest reasons are because it's easier, it's more fun and the results are better! Well that's just how we're going to proceed with our website. Now it may sound kinda unimportant, but our website is our link to each of you and to each of our potential members and continuing supporters. It's really important to get updates to you quickly, post changes even quicker and announce plans and upcoming events with enough time for everyone to plan and be a part of our activities. One of the biggest problems with websites is they're often managed by one person and that can be a bottleneck. What we've decided to do is share that work but more importantly, share the opportunity to make our website something great. Now we are going to go easy on all the fancy web tools you probably have seen used by others as you cruise around the Internet, but we hope to bring you current information delivered the best way we can.

By working together what I mean is that your ETI Board will now work together on the website so you're going to get the deal from different points of view. And this is where each of you comes in...if you know of something you'd like to see or we should be doing on our website, please let us know. If you've got some really cool pictures, be sure and get them to us so we can get them posted on the website. How about some great horse pictures? Got some favorites? Well let's share them with everyone! So now's your chance - get those photos, those ideas and that wish list to us so we can make our website truly representative of our entire club. It's *your* website so let's all work together to create something that really represents all of us as the Saddleback Canyon Riders!

On another note, a big thanks to each of you for encouraging and making it easy for all us equestrian groups to work together. We're going to have a big emergency planning meeting coming up and we've invited a lot of folks from a lot of clubs, some equestrian, some others - again, workin' together. The benefits of us all working together come from all the effort we each put into it, and based on our success so far, we all have a lot of good things to believe in and look forward to...mostly just good riding but always ready for whatever hand we get dealt.

So, here's to workin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...

Rich Gomez,
President ETI 357

Table of Contents:

News Around the Canyon.....	2
Trail Boss Report.....	3
MAU Report.....	3
Horse Tales.....	4
Membership Report.....	4
Treasurer's Report.....	4
2008 Calendar.....	5

News Around the Canyon



Equine Evacuation Plan Report

The Equine Evacuation Plan has a new face; sort of. The plan is being amended and now includes the ETI/357 Mounted Assistance Unit's "Emergency Response Team" (ERT). Just what we need, bigger words and more acronyms. The opportunity to be a responder is no longer limited to MAU folks; but anyone in ETI who wants to get involved. We had our first training on January 26th which included an overview of the Incident Command System given by Bruce Newell from the Modjeska fire station, FRS radio communications by our own Dave Seroski, small and large animal rescue by SCART, and a presentation on volunteer stress management; also by a SCART member. We had a yummy lunch, donated by Jeff at Fresh Grill. That was very much appreciated, and along with some monetary donations, kept the cost down for this class. We also had not one, but two OCFA battalion chiefs there to support us. We have several new responders now, and what we did not learn during the real McCoy (the Santiago fires) we continue to learn and prepare for in these training sessions. We are currently preparing for a meeting with OCFA and OC Animal Control where we will present the amended plan. Watch for it on our website soon.

Debbie Kelly
Coordinator Emergency Response Team/MAU.

Spring Fling Pancake Breakfast March 15th

All the recent rain makes it hard to imagine how close we are to Spring! And you know what that means for ETI/357. *Pancakes and the Easter Bunny in Rancho Santa Margarita*. This event is the first fundraiser for 2008 and is historically a very good one. We have our usual core group of board members signed up to volunteer, but we could use more. We will meet at the park at 7:00 am and will be wrapped up before noon. So if you can cut a slice of your time out that day, let me know. We will even feed you our famous pancakes and sausage! More at the member's meeting.

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

Trail Boss? Me? Seems the only thing bossin' anything on any trail these last two months is the rain! Ah, the rain! It fills the streams and rivers with fresh runoff, crackling as it cascades over rocks and boulders. It is soaked up by our thirsty terra, giving us the lush green mountains and fields that so delight our view. The very air we breathe cleansed. New fresh breezes for a new fresh day! Our eyes aim skyward in search of the rainbow! All those clouds, every last one of them, have a silver lining! Yes! Rain! I want to sing out loud! I want to two-step in the puddles! Yes! I want to dance! I need a partner! I have one? That's fantastic! Where is... What the... Who the... Hey man, that's no...that's a....muckrake.

The one event that wasn't rained out was our Trail Maintenance for February. Now I could not attend this function. It was the same day as the U.S. Forestry Service training required for MAU, but I got people. And one of those people is Bekah Segien. Under her guidance and supervision a half dozen or so burly wranglers successfully executed the day's objective. Now again, not being there myself, I'm not all that clear on the specifics or the details of the agenda of the assignment for the project at the time it occurred. But I heard that the round pen got a little attention (and there is more to come for this) and a new trail to help us avoid some of the camper congestion, presented to us on horseback, created by well meaning, but absolutely "equiclueless" flatlanders. Bekah I want to thank you. Your passion and enthusiasm, not to mention your mastery of both macro and micro supervision is what makes this here 357 happen!

OK! So the next Trail Maintenance is in April. Also in April, the end of month ride will be a Poker Ride, lets start talking it up!



MAU REPORT

BY: DOUG SLAVIN

"I always believe in being prepared, even when I'm dressed in white tie and tails."

General George S. Patton, Jr. Quotation

As the end to the rainy season soon nears and brown drought stricken hillsides are quickly forgotten. We enjoy trails lined with tall grass and wildflowers.

Many may be in jeopardy of forgetting the recent benefits of training and preparation.

Not our MAU members who have coordinated a calendar of training opportunities. Recently, MAU members have attended a full day of training by the United States Forest Service and a full day seminar on Emergency Preparedness. Both of these training days met MAU training requirements.

Upcoming training sessions include:

- March 8th Emergency Horse Shoeing
- March 16th First Aid/CPR certification

A new Emergency Response Team component has been incorporated into MAU.

ERT members are required to maintain current CPR/First Aid certification, attend Trailer Loading and Horse Handling Competency training (annually), Disaster Response Preparedness training (annually), and attend radio communication training (annually).

Please continue to check the MAU calendar on the website and in the newsletter for training opportunities.

If you are interested in joining our Mounted Assistance Unit please contact Debi Geary at 949 291-0551, debig@cox.net or becoming an Emergency Response Team member contact Debbie Kelly at 949 459-7191, rileyboy1@cox.net.

Prepare, prepare, prepare.....



LOCAL VETS

Dr. Betty (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

Massive O'Neill Park Expansion Takes Place!

At work I have access to some pretty powerful research tools. We have computers connected to the World Wide Web. One research tool I use often is the General Offsite Overview Graphics and Listing Emulator. The name, although very descriptive for the device, is hard to remember. (Someday someone will come up with a clever acronym that's easy to remember.)

Anyhow, my exhaustive research details the history of O'Neill Park.

On July 23, 1769, Gaspar de Portola led an expedition into what is now Orange County and camped a few miles east of the San Juan Capistrano area. On July 24, the expedition headed inland to avoid the many streams and swamps in the area. They found a large plateau area and camped that night on its western edge by a canyon which the Franciscans named San Francisco Solano. This was on the eastern side of Trabuco Creek about three miles downstream from the present Trabuco Oaks. While camped here on July 24-25, one of the soldiers lost his "trabuco" or musket, a most valuable possession to any soldier. To mark this loss, the stream was named Trabuco. The name has been associated with the mesa, the canyon and the entire area ever since.

O'Neill Park is part of the old Rancho Trabuco. The first two square leagues were granted to Santiago Arguello in 1841 by Mexican Governor Alvarado. Arguello sold these lands to Juan Forester in 1843. Forester received an additional grant of three square leagues in 1846.

Forester sold the Rancho to F. L. S. Pioche before 1880. Various pioneers held title, but the ranch eventually became the property of James L. Flood and Jerome O'Neill. The two were owners of one of Forester's other ranchos, Santa Margarita y las Flores. Thus, it became part of the great O'Neill Ranch.

In 1948, the O'Neills donated 278 acres of canyon bottom land to the County of Orange for park purposes. The O'Neill family donated an additional 120 acres in 1963. In March of 1974, the county purchased 232 acres of land along the park's northern boundary. This acquisition prompted the purchase in 1975 of 30 acres along Live Oak Canyon Road for access onto the new property. On October 5, 1982, 935 acres, known as the Arroyo Trabuco, were dedicated to the County by the Rancho Mission Viejo Company. The Arroyo Trabuco area is now open to public use.

Today, the park encompasses 3,100 acres. Its topography and appearance varies greatly with canyon bottom land, oak woodlands, grassy meadows, and shrub covered hillsides and slopes. At an elevation of 1,000 feet above sea level, the park enjoys warm dry summers and mild winters.

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!!)

Linda Broker 10/07
Dianne Beckman 11/07
Linda Moy 11/07
Teresa Pearce 11/07
Sue Selff 11/07

Expired

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
Leslie Ingham 2/08
Esposito Family 2/08
Helen & Fred Bruns 2/08

Expiring

Chris Richardson 3/08

Welcome New Members!!

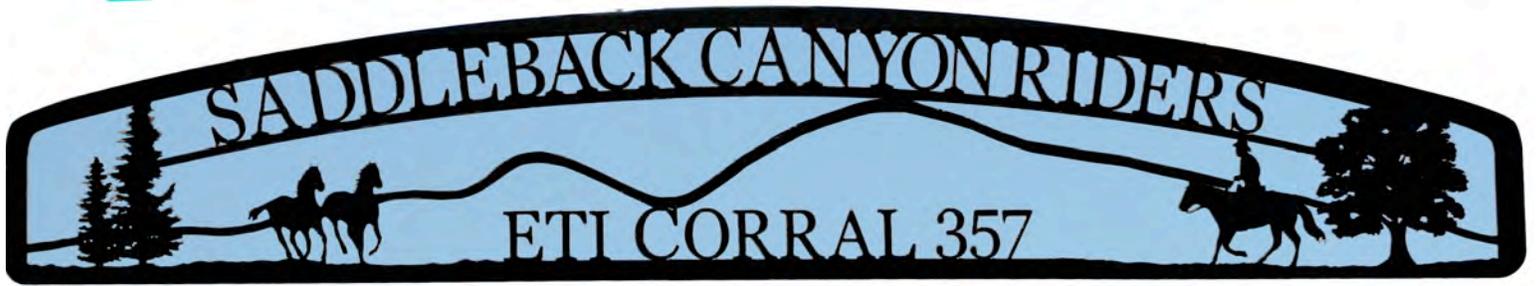
Lori McCammon
Ken & Jody Kott

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
Trabuco Canyon, California 92678