



SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

Trabuco Canyon, California

www.SaddlebackCanyonRiders.com

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



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 (949) 533-7153
DSeroski@cox.net

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

Spring has sprung...

Well it sure enough is springtime around the canyon. Beautiful green hills, flowers everywhere, the horses are wantin' to go...oh yeah, and it's startin' to get warm...but hey, ETI is ready too! If you haven't looked at our calendar, be sure and check it out on the website because there's a lot of things coming up.

We've got a trail maintenance day on April 5th with SHARE (and lunch!) at O'Neill Regional Park, we've got a Trail Trials and Sensory Clinic coming up April 12-13 at O'Neill Regional Park, and we've got a Poker Ride on April 26! Man, we got no time to do our chores! But hey, they can wait and they'll be there...

Our MAU group has been *really* busy. With the Swallows' Day parade and equipment and training and our OC Fire Authority and Animal Control Services workshop coming up (don't worry, our Emergency Response Coordinator will give you an update in May) our MAU coordinators haven't stopped. MAU organized a great emergency horseshoeing clinic in March and they have some great things planned now that spring has sprung. We'd like to extend a special thanks to Duane Turner for conducting our emergency horseshoeing clinic...Duane's a great teacher and his love of horses comes out in every word he shares. He gave us all a great sense of what to think about and how to be prepared...oh yeah, and now we know we can go out and buy that really cool knife because like Duane says, "you MUST have a knife with you at all times." Come to the Members' Meeting on April 3rd at the Cantina and find out more about what's goin' on and what's comin' up. There's even talk about a mountain trip in the summer...it's never too early to start planning. Duane's an experienced backcountry packer and he knows the deal. He's willing to help us organize and plan for this backcountry trip...gotta love it!

(Continued on page 2)



Table of Contents:

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

News Around the Canyon

Pancake Breakfast By Debbie Kelly

The Easter Bunny came early this year, but 357 was ready! Our first fundraiser for the year was a huge success. The RSM Spring Fling was hoppin' and pancake's were flippin'. We sold 170 breakfasts and put some serious money into the coffers. We also just had fun. When we began serving pancakes in 2002 (or maybe 2003), first in Coto de Caza and later in Rancho Santa Margarita, I would make it a point of jotting down who was helping so I could give honorable mention in the news letter. Sometimes folks even received an email thank you. Well, times have changed and once we arrive at the event, all bets are off. In other words, I am slacking now but that does not mean I am not totally grateful to everyone who has a hand in this. If I begin mentioning names, I am bound to forget someone. So to all who helped, THANK YOU! I will however say that I could not have pulled this off this year without Bob and Spike. (There I go mentioning names). They basically co-chaired as I was (and still am) recovering from orthopedic surgery. Just know that I know who you are and am so thankful to have such a cohesive group of friends and neighbors to work and play with. Please watch for the ETI 12 step program for volunteer addiction. Coming soon. Kidding.

President's Message (continued)

There's also a couple of packers up in Montana who offer tips on how to prep for a safe and unforgettable backcountry adventure...thought I'd share them here (*courtesy Western Horseman*):

1. Pick a destination (we got that one done!)
2. Learn the rules (well, we're still workin' on that one...)
3. Hold your horses (all about free-rangin')
4. Get local knowledge (always fun)
5. Make an itinerary (oh man...)
6. Let the grass be your guide (here's where we rely on our experienced backcountry guide)
7. Estimate your stock needs (thinkin' about our horses)
8. Go with the right gear

This is also a real good time to check out all your tack and safety equipment. Make sure all your clips and snaps and screws and straps are in good shape. A little cleaning and conditioning to that latigo can go a long way to making it easier to saddle-up. Don't forget your trailer...or your buddy's trailer...got to make sure all those lights work, that the hitch and safety chain are easy enough to use, and that the trailer has all those things that come in handy. And now with Daylight Savings Time there's even time in the evening for a short ride to the park. As always, here's to workin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...

Rich Gomez,
President ETI 357

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

March, and now April are busy months for our club. In March MAU had hoof care training by my favorite Farrier; Duane Turner. He showed those in attendance how they can care for the precious feet (without good feet, no good horse) of their horse before an emergency. Add to that how we can successfully care for a lost or damaged shoe on the trail, this training was invaluable to both horse and owner. ETI/357 also hosted the annual Pancake Breakfast in RSM where we made over \$600.00. Not bad for a five hour gig. (Well, many more hours if you count in preparation). The following day, Sunday, MAU and members of the new Emergency Response Team met for CPR and First Aid certification. What a month. And at this writing, we are still yet to load up and head on down to our third year in a row participating in the Swallow's Day Parade. I am sure we will hear much about that next month. Oh, in between all of this several us squeezed in a four hour ride in the San Mateo Wilderness! The trails there are really diverse and pristine; they promise an awesome experience. Oh, and did I mention it's a great workout for your horse? The thirty-minute drive down Ortega Highway to the candy store is not bad on a weekend. If you wish a short drive to what feels like the middle of nowhere try the wilderness. There is trailer parking in the San Juan Loop parking area right across from the candy store. You can purchase an all day parking pass at the store, or even here at the Trabuco General Store. The cost is \$5.00 and well worth it.

Don't forget we have our bi-monthly trail maintenance on April 5th. We hope to partner with SHARE, an OC based mountain bike club also dedicated to trail preservation, as well as responsible biking and a host of other issues. More at the April member's meeting. We also have Sensory and Sensory Trail Trials in April, and, don't forget a Poker Ride as our next end of the month ride. So, mark your calendars and hold on to your reins. We are in for a ride.

MAU REPORT

BY: DOUG SLAVIN & JENNIFER GILLOTT

Lets have a heart-to-heart talk.....

Meet Michael Wade, CPR and Wilderness First Aid extraordinaire! The former EMT, Forensics Technician, American Heart Association instructor, and backcountry enthusiast, gave an eye opening training session to our Mounted Assistance Unit members and a few ETI members. Stressing real life First Aid and CPR scenarios, Mike's methods captivated the audience.

Did you know.....mouth to mouth is no longer part of the CPR method. CPR is now chest compression only! Remember the head needs to be tilted back to clear the air passage way. Turns out a shoe between the shoulder blades will do the trick - who knew? Bottom line, medical studies showed that the time spent doing mouth to mouth was found to be ineffective and more detrimental than compression only CPR. And the potential oral transmission of disease gave cause to this further change in approach.

Who needs band aids....super glue is a recommended method in closing wounds both on people and animals. Yes, you can use super glue to close a minor cut on your horse (after the wound has been flushed clean). Consensus among all attendees that it was the unique and fascinating First Aid "class" they had ever taken. Personally, I could have listened to him for another 4 hours!

Upcoming MAU Events Mark your calendar now:

Saturday, April 12th - Sensory Clinic at the O'Neill Regional Park Public Arena. This fun event is a great opportunity to bond with your horse while desensitizing him/her to the crazy world around us.

Follow it up with a Sensory Trail Trial on Sunday, April 13th. Test your knowledge and skill and that of your horses through a challenging course of equine obstacles.

Ride safe and hope to see you all there.



LOCAL VETS

Dr. Bettyey (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: JIM IACONO

Are They All That Warm and Fuzzy?

I still consider myself a “newcomer” to the horse world, having been introduced to the whole scene about 15 years ago, but knowing I have plenty to learn in the next 15 years.

I was extremely lucky in that our first two horses were “pushbutton”- 15 and 8 year old Arabian cousins who had extensive training and came to us with few (if any) quirks. I naively thought, “This is pretty easy”.

A few years back I observed my first Natural Horsemanship Class, and was amazed at the control the instructor pressed on any horse he selected for particular exercises. (“games”) It may have taken awhile with uncooperative subjects, but he continued until he received the desired response. There was one woman in the class whose horse kept acting up during the games, and she would get called out by the instructor. The woman always seemed to have an excuse for the horse.... “he was abused, and didn’t like being around logs”...or “it was my fault, I was telling him to do it this (the wrong) way”.... I thought to myself, “Well, I’ll never make up excuses for my horses. I’ll just make them do what I want.” In hindsight, I realize now that I was never forced to make up excuses for my first two horses (who, by then, were 26 and 19) because they were pretty much just old agreeable buddies.)

Well, that all changed when a few months later I bought my first young horse. I had always wanted a roan, ever since a day I remember some 20 years prior when the setting sun was shining just so on this horse in a Warner Springs field. It made her look beautifully platinum. Well that whole memory was reincarnated when I saw a little 2 year old Arabian at a friend’s ranch in Redlands. Though I didn’t need another horse (we had 3 at the time), the price was right, the color was what I had always wanted, and I felt I could sell her if I had to.

She was anything but “pushbutton”. She didn’t even know she had buttons, and whichever ones she did have, were always ready to “pop”. But she was “my little girl”, and I “knew” exactly why she did certain things and I was always quick to forgive. When my wife, Vicki, suggested we sell her, I would have none of it. She was just “teal”- not quite “green” but not far from it. I was certain she would get better. Vicki was convinced I was having an “affair” with her, always making sure she got treats before I went to bed every night, and not caring if she didn’t seem appreciative when she’d head butt me if I was later than expected. (See there I go making excuses... “I was late.”) I had become that woman at the clinic.

TREASURER’S REPORT

BY: ROBERT WILKS

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING February 29, 2008

Total Corral Funds on Hand at 2/29/08.....\$8,608.87
Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve... (\$869.56)
NET Funds on Hand in Checking, CD, Petty Cash
To Corral 357.....\$7,739.31

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY: SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (sorry, last newsletter!!)

Rocky Brown 12/07
Sharon Stancato 12/07
Lori McKenzie 12/07
Jen & Paul Godward 12/07
Lois Grote 12/07

Expired

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
Esposito Family 2/08
Chris Richardson 3/08

Expiring

Delma Johnson 4/08
Priscilla Sasek 4/08
Jeanette & Donavon Villegas 4/08
Dalynn Zampino 4/08
Rod Van Sickle 4/08
Sharon Tower 4/08

WELCOME New Members!!

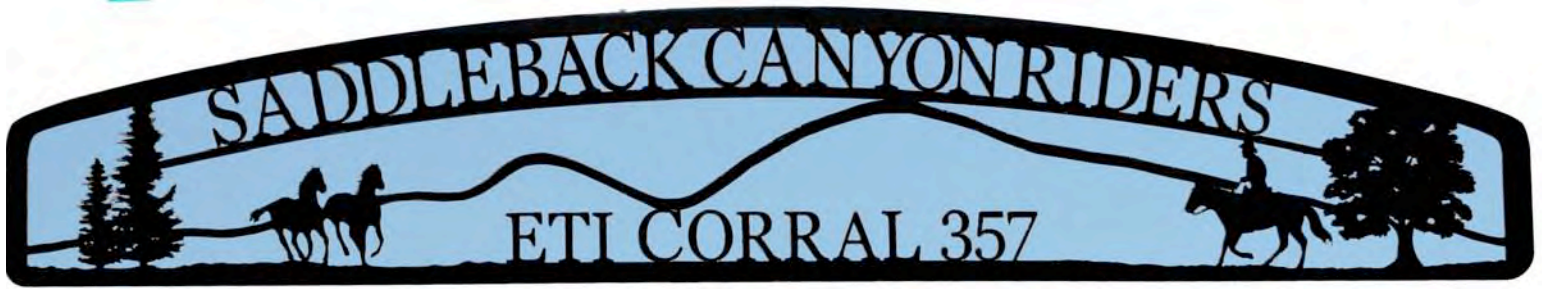
Gretchen & Kiersten Jones

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