

Corral News

August 2008

Volume 14, Issue 8



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

SUMMER IS HERE!

Summer's here, the ridin's been good and we got a lot of ridin' to do! Whether it's a moonlight ride like we had in July or a trip to the Sierra wilderness like we have planned for August, there's plenty to do with your four-legged buddy and all of us amigos. And that's what it's all about. Ridin' together, bein' together and getting' out there. Hey speaking of getting' together, don't forget our very special August Members' Meeting that we've been talking about...it's going to be hosted by American Horse Products at their new store in San Juan Capistrano! Diane and Jim Carter have been kind enough to invite our Club (and that means each one of you) to meet at their shop for a great evening of dinner and thanks! Thanks for what you ask? Well according to Diane, "...thanks for all the Club and each of the members has done to help out, and thanks for bein' a group folks can count on whenever someone needs a helping hand." I've gotta say, when we planned this some time ago, I was sure pleased to hear Diane say this, and I was mighty proud of our Club... and that's because of each of you. (Continued on page 2)



ETI 357 in the 2008 Trabuco Canyon July 4th Parade

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

We'll be talking about all the gear that's available for you and your horse as well as what you will need if you're joining us on our August wilderness campout and ride. I know it will be a great meeting and you won't want to miss it! Now, since dinner is provided, it would be great if we could get a **Cowboy-RSVP** from you. That just means if you're plannin' on headin' that way, please let Karen, our secretary, know by August 4th. You can contact Karen at: ladiieee@aol.com or if it's easier, just let any Board member know and we'll get that information to Karen. Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting! Until then, here's to all of you workin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...

IMPORTANT DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY

Trail Maintenance Saturday, August 2nd 9:00 AM O'Neill Park Nature Center
Members Meeting Thursday August 7th, 7:00 PM at American Horse Products
31896 Plaza Drive, #C4, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675, 949-582-5056
ETI 357 MAU Meeting Thursday August 14th, 6:15 PM Location TBA
ETI 357 Board Meeting Thursday August 14th, 7:00 PM Location TBA



July Camping Trip
at Casper's



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JEFF KELLY

Holy spokes and sprockets Batman! There sure seems to be a lot of bikes on the O'Neill Park horse trails these days. Apparently no one received the memo that Whiting Ranch has reopened and they can ride their batbikes there again! But that Joker the Trail Boss is going to see if he can get some new, larger NO BIKES signs for the designated horse trails. In the meantime, keep an eye out for those villains. More batnews to follow.

The next scheduled ETI trail maintenance is Saturday, August 2nd. This is a week earlier than previously advertised. We needed to move it up a week to accommodate the pancake breakfast fund-raiser on the 9th. Volunteering is not painful and you get to spend some quality time with friends, so come on out to O'Neill park on the 2nd at 9:00 am. We meet in the day use parking area near the Nature Center. Call Jeff at 858-7363 if you have any questions.



MAU REPORT BY DOUG SLAVIN

STAY COOL

In the dog days of summer, horses run the risk of overheating.

A recent *Horse & Rider* article by Greg Fellers, DVM, a graduate of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine notes several items to keep in mind to prepare your horse for trail riding during the hot summer. With preparation, breathing-and-pulse monitoring, and cool-down practices, you and your horse will enjoy a safe and memorable summer.

Get your horse fit! Simple logic...a well conditioned horse will go farther with less opportunity for overheating on a long, hot ride than an unfit mount. Teach your horse to drink along the trail. If necessary teach your horse to get comfortable drinking from different containers of water. On practice rides, allow your horse to drink from streams and natural pools. On trail, Dr. Fellers suggests the following techniques to keep your horse from becoming overheated:

Get a baseline heart rate. Your horse's heart rate is the best indicator of overheating. Get a baseline by recording his normal rate at rest, after an hour's ride, and following a long climb. Always allow your horse's heart rate to return to the walking/trotting rate after a climb.

Monitor your horse's respiratory rate. Normally, your horse's heart rate is three to four times his respiratory rate. Red Alert! If your horse overheats, he may experience an inversion – his respiratory rate exceeding his heart rate. If after a 10-minute rest, he doesn't show signs of recovery, he needs to continue to rest and cool down. And immediately lead him back to camp, ranch or stable.

Check for dehydration. Do the skin pinch, take a fold of skin on your horse's neck between thumb and forefinger, and release it. 1 to 2 seconds is all it should take for the skin to go flat. Also check his gums, they should be pink and moist, not gray and/or dry. If your horse fails the tests, he needs more water—now!

Stop at hilltops. Not surprising, your horse will exert the most when climbing hills. Let him rest at the top, under shade if possible and take advantage of any breeze to cool down. At longer rest stops, remove your saddle and pad to increase the amount of exposed surface area. This will assist in cooling.

Take water breaks. Encourage your horse to drink. After a ride of an hour or longer it is suggested to sponge water over the horse's poll, the underside of the neck, and down his lower legs, where there are a lot of major blood vessels close to the skin's surface.

The health and safety of your horse should always be first priority!



Thanks to Rich and Patti for hosting our July 4th BBQ





AROUND THE CANYON COMMUNITY INFORMATION

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING...SAY SOMETHING

By Dave Seroski

The fire roads are being used for illegal off-road riding into closed areas, and we are at danger of the same thing happening to us that happened in Malibu not long ago. People partying in a closed area turned that area into ash along with the loss of many homes. Authorities are still weighing through a huge lawsuit brought by those who were burned out---too little, too late. The area was decimated because complaints of trespassing were ignored by authorities

On a recent Friday evening as we munched dinner at restaurant in Mission Viejo, Ray Chandos called me to say he thought he saw smoke on the mountain and was calling 911. We left the restaurant, food on table, and made for the car. Susan hit the phones and I fired up the radio stack, crisscrossing hundreds of frequencies. Soon the one scanner found OCF dispatched to an unknown source of smoke on the mountain. Using a newly cut fire road they were soon in contact with a subject of interest coming down the road. His truck caught on fire and he was just walking away from it! The fire dept. took him into custody and put the burning truck out. However, as seen by many, there was a second fire a hundred yards away from the truck fire! So there were 2 fires going!

Fortunately there was no wind and humidity was high, so the fire stayed right where it was and was extinguished quickly.

Those of you who turned on channel 22 got a running report of the event as I relayed information from a number of radios. Ham radio operators were watching the ponds and lakes. One reported a helicopter using a Bambi bucket. However it was not used because it was too dark. GRMS // CREST high-level repeater was notified so other canyons were aware of our situation and that it might affect them.

ETI 357 was forming plans, while those not in the know ran about like scared chickens. There was no information anywhere available to the general public. But we had the inside track, we have a plan and we are radio connected.

Even if I am out of the area, if you see something that doesn't look right, call me at 949/533-7153. You could be seeing just the tip of something very bad. Or you could be seeing something no one else knows about and save us all. If you see something---say something. No age limit on this.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

By Debbie Kelly

We have been invited by SAMLARC to host a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, August 9th. This is instead of the usual BBQ we do for the folks at the Rancho Great Family Camp-out. This is a change but we are cowgirls and cowboys and we can do it. We need volunteers. We have to be at the park and setting up by 5:30 am! Breakfast will be served between 6:30 and 8:30 am so we will be out of there by 10:00. If you can at all drag yourself out to help, we would appreciate it. We know how to do the pancakes and do them right; we just need help. So contact me, Bob, or Spike if you can help. We could use help Friday night doing some early setting up. The location is Trabuco Mesa Park, just off Antonio Parkway and SM Parkway. Email me at rileyboy1@cox.net. We'll leave the light on for ya' and feed you too. Thank you in advance!



HORSE TALES

BY DEBBIE KELLY

I was just a young girl growing up in Redondo Beach, California when I discovered my love of horses. My grandfather worked at the stock yards in Los Angeles and he would occasionally take me with him to work. Of course, most of the “stock” was cattle and I know now he spared me the knowledge of what would be the fate of all those cows. I never complained about the smell and was never afraid, and I was always looking for my favorite animal there known as Shorty. Shorty was a Shetland pony that I was allowed to sit on and when he had time my grandfather would hand lead me around on this very quiet little fellow. Several Christmases ago my mother presented me with a photo album from my childhood which included a black and white of Shorty and I. What a fond memory. Fast forward a few years and I discovered my fear of horses. My Uncle Salty, and salty he was, nothing like my gentle grandfather, had two stallions. They were named King and Rex. Salty would put me up on the saddle of one of these bad boys, along with him of course, and he would have them rear up. He thought it was fun; I was scared to death. I came to think that all horses did that and decided they were much nicer just to look at and feed oats to. The next several years into adulthood



would involve riding rental horses whenever I could, but I generally ended up voluntarily dismounting when the horse would test me. I just knew he was going to rear up and Uncle Salty was not there to hold on to. When my first horse Jesse entered my life around 1993 and the bill of sale said she about 18-20 years old, I knew I was in good hands. She was absolutely my dream horse and the only time I dismounted her it was involuntarily because I did not know how to cinch up her girth. I was not in ETI but had been invited on a women’ ride and camp-out at Casper’s. I knew nothing! The gals were at a nice little canter and because I knew Jesse would not rear or buck; I let her trot alongside another horse. Just then the rider looked at me and said my saddle was slipping. It sure was. We slowed down just enough to make the ground forgiving. I learned how to tighten a cinch that day! I had Jesse for three years and she was a great teacher. I hope that she felt as blessed with me as I was with her. Jesse eventually went to a young girl who was just beginning to ride and then I heard she went to a retirement

home where she lived out the remainder of her life. I like to think she left feeling loved and appreciated. Sometimes I come across a picture of Jesse in a box or a file and I stop and just embrace the moment and the thought of her. But her memory is in my heart and I will always be grateful to Jesse and to Bob and Spike Wilks, who didn’t know me but had enough confidence to let me call Jess my first horse.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

WELCOME New Members: **Larry Brown** and family!

Expiring: Joanne Hubbard 8/08, Doug Slavin & Jennifer Gillott 8/08, Robert & Caitlyn Nieblas 8/08, Howard Pyle & Sandi Dunn 8/08

Expired: Chris Pena 6/08, Pam Ragland 6/08, Helga Thordarson 6/08, Michelle Prieto 7/08

Very Expired (sorry, last newsletter!!): Dale & Sandra Grabinski 5/08, Rick & Carin Frisby-Hart 5/08, Jonette Dopson 5/08, Carol Cutri 5/08

Annual Dues: Individual \$45; Family \$70 for the first two members, add \$8 for each additional family member.



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY ROBERT WILKS

TREASURER'S OFFICE...

ETI - CORRAL 357

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING

June 30, 2008

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 9,396.66

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After May Closing \$ 1,360.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$10,756.66

EXPENSES:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1147	S. Segien	News	\$ 90.24	1249	E.T.I. CORP	Membr's	\$ 56.00
1002	E.T.I. Corp	Membrs	\$ 65.00	1003	S. Seigen	May News	\$ 103.36
1004	E.T.I.	Memberships	\$ 80.00	1005	Fiona Nel	Ribbons	\$ 136.00
1007	4 th July Commit	Donation	\$ 150.00	1010	Karen Hopkins	P/D Lunch	\$ 90.24

Total expenses paid in MAY/JUNE 2008 (\$ 701.60)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1006	Jim Iacona	ETI Shirts	\$ 857.00	1008	E.T.I.	Mbr'shps	\$ 80.00
1009	Spike Wilks	Ply/Day	\$ 36.03	1011	D. Geary	MAU Sticn'g	\$ 160.00
1012	Fiona Nelson	Ribbons	\$ 20.75	1013	E.T.I. CORP	Membrshp	\$ 96.00
1014	Jim Iacono	Mo/Shirts	\$ 357.00	1015	S. Segien	News/Ltr	\$ 72.57
1016	Jackie Moreland	Brd/Dinnr	\$ 30.00	1017	Rich Gomez	Shirts	\$ 3 0.00
1018	E.T.I. Corp	Membr'ships	\$ 28.00	1019	Rich Gomez	4 th July stu	\$ 175.00

Total Outstanding Checks JUNE 2008 i.e. Spending: (\$ 1,360.00)

Funds on hand in checking as of 06-30-08 \$ 9,396.66

Petty Cash on Hand as of 06-2008 \$ 400.00

Total Corral FUNDS On Hand at 06/30/08 \$9,796.66

1.- MAU on hand as of 5/31/08 = \$201.56 + \$450bags (Less: Sticing[-\$160])= (\$ 491.56)

2.- Six months newsletter expense @ \$110.00 per month: (\$ 660.00)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (\$1,151.56) \$(1,151.56)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to Corral 357 **\$8,645.10**

1234567

CONTACT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

2345678

3456789

YEAR 2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT Rich Gomez	949-888-1604 rtgomez@aol.com	SCRIBE Don Segien	949-589-3347 SDSegien@mac.com
VICE PRESIDENT Doug Slavin	949-295-1331 dgslavin@cox.net	TRAIL BOSS Jeff Kelly	949-858-7366 jjkelly52@gmail.com
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MEMBERSHIP Sheila Segien	949-589-3347 bearfoot60@cox.net	EVENTS COORDINTOR Fiona Nelson	949-702-3258 fnelson1@hotmail.com

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT (MAU)

HEAD COORDINATOR Debi Geary	949-291-0551 debig@cox.net	ASSISTANT COORDI- NATOR-SECRETARY Patti Gomez	949-888-1604 pattiangomez@aol.com
ASSISTANT HEAD COORDINATOR Jennifer Gillott	949-643-0896 Jennifer.gillott@ ingrammicro.com	ASSISTANT COORDI- NATOR-RECORDS Doug Slavin	949-295-1331 dgslavin@cox.net
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM COORDINATOR Debbie Kelly	949-459-7191 rileyboy1@cox.net	EMERGENCY RE- SPONSE TEAM COM- MUNICATIONS: Dave Seroski	(949) 533-7153 DSeroski@cox.net

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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

O'Neill Regional Park Office: 949-923-2260

Head Ranger Lorrie Zuczek 949-923-2259
lorrie.zuczek@rdmd.ocgov.com



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 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.

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.

ETI Corral 357
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