



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Well howdy all and we sure do hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Now it's back to the routine, but with the excitement of a New Year! Hope you all had a chance to partake in whatever your favorite New Year's ceremony is...eatin' black-eyed peas, savorin' a bit of menudo or just kissin' on your darlin' on New Year's Eve! Regardless, here's to a wonderful 2009!

I'd like to start out with just a short look back to the ETI Christmas party (good times, eh?) and the President's Award. Again, this is a tradition started by one of our previous presidents, Jeff Kermode, and I was honored to continue the tradition. You all know the recipient, but again, our hats are off to Jeff Kelly, our Trail Boss, and we're all mighty proud to know him and sure glad he's in our club and in our canyon. Thanks again Jeff, for all you do...

Okay, enough of that...

So this is the beginning of your humble president's first full-term in office. Now lucky for me, you have elected a great ETI Board, and they'll be a bunch of the energy behind all the cool stuff we do in 2009 (and we recognized each member of the Board at



the Christmas party for bein' the best kind of club officers we could hope for...and I truly mean that). Hey, but don't forget,

we need to hear from you too! We want to hear what you'd like to do, what you'd like to learn

about (meeting speakers), or what you'd like to see the club accomplish in 2009. Just grab one of us and tell us what you're thinkin'...you know how we roll, nothin's out of the question...more just a matter of pulling it off. But that we can do! Like we say, Git-R-Done!

So gather your thoughts, take a look at our planned calendar of events and be sure and add some ideas to the pot. This club is great because of its members; the things we do will be fun because of the great ideas you've all shared...just keep 'em comin'!



Some of the things we've talked about but haven't quite pulled off include:



Cuttin' and connectin' new trails...



Collectin' money and installing a new sign over the arena entrance...



Building a washrack at the equestrian area of O'Neill Regional Park



A new relationship with O'Neill Regional Park centered on more ownership and more volunteers...you get the idea.

So anyway, off we ride into 2009. Good times and good things; safe ridin' and good friends. We all look forward to a prosperous and happy New Year! So, as always, until we get together next, here's to all of us workin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...

IMPORTANT DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY

Board Meeting: Thursday January 15th

Member's Meeting: Thursday January 8th

MAU Meeting: Thursday January 15th

Month End Ride: Saturday, January 24th

SUCCESS STORY FROM CANYON ACRES CHRIS' STORY

Before Canyon Acres

Chris was a frightened, lonely young boy, who was removed from his birth parents and assorted step-parents because they had failed to protect him from serious physical and emotional damage. He was placed in the child welfare system and, sadly, was moved from one facility to another, spending his time going between emergency shelter homes, foster homes, and group homes. Several of his moves were followed by psychotic episodes of paranoia that were at times life threatening. As Chris neared the age of 18 and was due to be emancipated from the child welfare system, many who were working his case thought that he would need a special guardian to take care of his mental and physical needs as well as his adult affairs. Chris was far behind in school with little hope of living on his own, much less graduating from high school.

Fortunately, two people saw a spark in Chris and believed he could be saved. One was a social worker, the other a psychologist. These two individuals started advocating for a different plan for Chris. The plan included placing him in a hand-picked foster home and referral to the Canyon Acres Wraparound and Creating Family Connections

Programs. The goal was to find lost family members that might care about Chris and help him to graduate from high school and eventually become an independent adult. This is a lofty goal for most foster children, but for Chris, it seemed almost impossible!

After Canyon Acres

With a literal "Army" for a Canyon Acres Wrap-around Team, consisting of his social worker, a psychologist, a therapist, a mentor, a youth partner, special education advocates, foster parents, tutors, a care coordinator, and a parent partner, Chris was guided down a very bumpy, sometimes very curvy road with lots of pitfalls as he headed towards success. With the support of his Canyon Acres team, Chris enrolled in public school for the first time as a senior, caught up on all his credits, and graduated with his class. Creating Family Connections was able to locate his grandfather who was living in Nevada. Several visits were arranged and a bond quickly formed. The grandfather expressed a desire to have Chris live with him.

Today, Chris is living with his grandfather, has a full time job, his own bank account, and is making new friends.

Chris' story was sent to us by Canyon Acres, the beneficiary of our 2008 Charity Ride



MEMBERSHIP REPORT BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Expired: Lydia Lawson 11/08, Tina Tedder 11/08, Angel Amos 11/08

Expiring: Brynne Van Putten 1/09, Cheryl Segien 1/09, Patti Williams 1/09, Shelly Novotny 1/09

Welcome New Member: Terri Steuben

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



MAU REPORT

BY JENNIFER GILLOTT AND DOUG SLAVIN

On a rainy grey Saturday morning in early December Joshua, Cowboy, Summer, Stetson, and Titon, set out from Trabuco Canyon to represent Corral 357 in the 2008 Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade. An inaugural entry for the Saddleback Canyon Riders all went as planned as we reported to the staging area.. Garland, Santa Hats, Antlers, Red and Green blanket covers were passed out without a hitch. Calming paste was administered, with Summer washing it down with a dose of Ace.

Parade activity started to ramp up with balloom arches, marching bands, fly overs, car clubs and general holiday cheer! As one unit we mounted our festively decorated steeds and headed towards the parade entry. And this is where the morning got interesting.....

Anxiously waiting to enter Crown Valley Parkway, the four geldings and lone mare waded through pedestrians and garnered quite a crowd. Always a crowd favorite, Titon gave a brief rear. Which was just a warm up. The five mounts calmly started to walk down the parade route...riders waving... Joshua side stepping and playing to the crowd... And everyone cheering the horses on...about 150 yards in to a mile long route..Titon, stopped, gathered it all in..and started to buck....and No this was not the 50th anniversary of the NFR...the crowd cheered hooray!!! So Titon reared a second time...'Hi Ho Silver'....and away he trotted... the crowd cheered wanting more, so Titon decided to give them what they asked for and he stopped

and reared again... Props to Kim Tillinghast-Debellis on her superior riding skills as she was always in control! The crowd gave Titon a wide berth and parted like the Red Sea. Clearly, Titon had a case of performance anxiety. In true MAU fashion a disaster recovery plan was put in to action---call Jeff Kelly!!!...Summer, Stetson, and Titon, pulled off the route onto a near by green belt. While Summer and Stetson stood near wondering what was going on, Titon was all lathered up with adrenaline! Stuck without a direct escape route, the three horses waited (not so patiently) until our trail boss and MAU member arrived. Jeff Kelly was able to lead the anxious horse back to the staging area in a calm fashion.

Meanwhile, back on the holiday trail...Joshua and Cowboy continued down the one mile parade route, and to quote the Cox Cable Parade Announcers represented the largest ETI Corral in Southern California in fine fashion! Jeff Kermode and Debi Geary, ETI's Lone Ranger and Tonto, turned around and realized at that point they were only two "representin'" and wondered where their reindeer clad pals wandered off to. The four of them continued down in the parade enjoying the festive atmosphere and holiday music.

All in the all the inaugural ride of ETI 357 in the Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade did not necessarily go as planned, but it sure was an adventure for all! Most importantly everyone was safe and sound and as pointed out at the start of this story, key lessons were learned. So put on your thinking caps...how are we going to top this next year?

To quote the Ramones...'I Want to Be Sedated'....

Lessons learned: Listen to your horse <=> Tranquilizers are your friend <=> Parade watchers find a rearing and bucking horse entertaining <=> Watch out for Mini-horses bearing jingle bells <=> And did I mention Listen to your horse?

2008 CHRISTMAS PARTY



Photos by Judi Winkel

ETI 357/MAU Calendar of Events 2009

	MEETINGS	TRAIL MAINT	TRAINING	EVENT	EVENT
JANUARY	1/8 Member mtg 1/15 MAU mtg 1/15 Board mtg		1/31 USFS Training	1/24 Month End Ride	
FEBRUARY	2/5 Member mtg 2/12 Board mtg	2/7 O'Neill Pk arena area	2/28 Fire Drill	2/7 Play Day in afternoon	2/28 Month End after Fire Drill
MARCH	3/5 Member mtg 3/12 MAU mtg-am 3/12 Board mtg				3/21 Swallows Day Parade & Month End Ride
APRIL	4/2 Member mtg 4/9 Board mtg	4/11 O'Neill Pk	4/4 & 4/5 Sensory Clinic & Trail Trials	4/22-4/26 Cowboy Festival in Santa Clarita	4/25 No Month End-going to Caspers 5/1
MAY	5/7 Member mtg 5/14 MAU mtg 5/14 Board mtg			5/1-5/3 Caspers Campout	5/16 PLAYDAY 5/30 Month End Ride
JUNE	6/4 Member mtg 6/11 Board mtg	6/13 O'Neill Pk		6/07 Full Moon Ride (Sun)	6/27 Month End at Gene Autry & Griffith Park
JULY	7/4 Ride in Parade 7/9 MAU mtg 7/9 Board mtg				7/25 Month End Ride 9:00am
AUGUST	8/6 Member mtg 8/13 Board mtg	8/8 O'Neill Pk			8/29 Month End Ride 9:00am
SEPTEMBER	9/3 Member mtg 9/10 Board mtg 9/10 MAU mtg			9/4 Full Moon Ride (Fri)	9/12 Kids-Do Play Day 9/27 Month End Ride
OCTOBER	10/1 Member mtg 10/8 Board mtg	10/3 O'Neill Pk	10/9-10/11 SAR City in Barstow		10/31 Month End Ride and Costume contest
NOVEMBER	11/5 Member mtg 11/12 MAU mtg 11/12 Board mtg			11/14 PLAYDAY	11/28 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00 am
DECEMBER	12/10 Board mtg			12/05 Christmas Party	12/26 Month End/MAU Ride 10:00 am

** For updated and complete information on events, please check our website
www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY ROBERT WILKS

ETI - CORRAL 357

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING

November 30, 2008

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$10,762.29

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After October Closing: \$ -0-

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$10,762.29

EXPENSES:

<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck #</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>
	1039	E.T.I.	Mbrships \$ 28.00		1251	D. Kelly	Charity Exp \$ 15.97
	1046	P. Gomez	Charity Exps \$ 45.16		1252	S. Segien	News/Ltr \$ 98.03
	1048	R. Balthaser	Charity Exps \$ 19.96		1255	D. Kelly	Brd Dinner \$ 30.00
	1049	Canyon Acrs	Donation/357 \$2,620.00		1257	Spike Wilks	P/day Food \$ 83.98
	1050	J. Iacono	Hat Pins Charity \$192.00		1259	P. Mode	Donation \$ 100.00

Total expenses paid in Oct/Nov 2008 (\$3,233.14)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck #</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>
	1253	E.T.I. Corp	Memberships \$ 192.00		1261	S. Segien	News Ltr \$ 137.25
	1254	E.T.I. Corp	Memberships \$ 68.00		1262	S. Wilks	Brd Dinner \$ 30.00
	1256	Void	Void \$0000000		1263	Cantina	Christmas \$ 500.00
	1258	SJCEC	Clinic Horse Aid \$ 360.00		1264	E.T.I.	Membrsps \$ 28.00
	1260	E.T.I. Corp	Memberships \$ 84.00		1252	S. Segien	News/Ltr \$ 98.03

Total Outstanding Checks NOVEMBER 2008 i.e. Spending: (\$ 1,399.25)

Funds on hand in checking as of 11-30-08 \$ 9,363.04

Petty Cash on Hand as of 10-31-2008 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 11/30/08: \$ 9,763.04

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 10/31/08 = After 1/3 payment for Fire Check-in Forms: (\$1,052.03)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (\$1,052.03) \$(1,052.03)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 **\$ 8,711.01**

1234567
2345678
3456789

CONTACT INFORMATION IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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 jkkelly52@gmail.com
SECRETARY Karen Hopkins	949-709-2359 ladieeee@aol.com	MEMBER-AT-LARGE Jim Schicht	949-858-4744 rustyshoe7@cox.net
TREASURER Bob Wilks	949-589-9144 robert-a-wilks@cox.net	SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Rick Balthaser	949-709-2359 RBalthaser@aol.com
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
PO Box 1026
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678-1026