



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

OFF 'N' RUNNIN'

The January Board meeting is an important meeting because it's at that meeting that your Board finalizes the calendar of events for the upcoming year, and considers all club members for the Board-appointed positions. These board-appointed positions are non-voting positions and are in office for just the current year (unlike the general election board members who are elected by YOU for two-year terms). But man, are they important! These are the positions we need to keep the club going...like our Trail Boss would say, they're the "boots on the ground!" So please join me in extending congratulations to our Board-appointed club officers.

- Sergeant-At-Arms: Rick Balthaser
- Events Coordinator: Fiona Nelson
- Events Coordinator: Jim Iacono
- Webmaster: Judi Winkel

Our Mounted Assistance Unit operates somewhat independently in that the MAU members themselves elect and appoint unit coordinators. Congratulations to the 2009 MAU Coordinators:

- Head Coordinator: Debi Geary
- Assistant Head Coordinator: Jennifer Gillott
- Assistant Coordinator – Secretary: Patti Gomez
- Assistant Coordinator – Records: Doug Slavin
- Emergency Response Coordinator: Debbie Kelly
- Emergency Response Team – Communications: Dave Seroski

So again, congratulations and a big thanks to all of these volunteers! It's commitments like this from our members that make our club work so well. And it's commitments like this that make it easy for each member of the club to be involved and proud.

Also in January, ETI National had it's fist-ever Presidents' Brunch. This was a brunch to "...meet the pres-

idents from other corrals and share your ideas." Our corral of course got a formal invitation to the brunch and your humble president did attend. It was really a great event held at the Rose Bowl Riders Equestrian Center in La Canada/Flintridge. We each got a notebook with lots of helpful information including the new ETI National By Laws and the new ETI Corral kit. The best thing about this event was meeting all the other folks from the other corrals. No kidding, there were about fifty people at the brunch – it was huge! One of the best things about the event was just hearing about the other corrals – what they do, what they've done. There was a go-around-the-room introduction by each president and I heard such great stuff from our other ETI amigos. For example, Corral 35 in Glendora is the only other corral that has an official animal evacuation plan. You've got to be proud of our evacuation plan because what we do in Orange County, Corral 35 does in Los Angeles County. We'll be sharing and comparing notes in the near future, but it was exciting to hear of such accomplishment. Corral 26 hosts an old-time harvest train ride from Fillmore to Santa Paula every October. Sounds like a good time, complete with a headless horseman! The "covered wagon" corral has their regular Death Valley ride and this year is going to be movin' and circlin' the wagons from Lone Pine to Bishop with a grand entrance at the Mule Days celebration. We heard about ETI history and we'll be sharing some of that stuff at upcoming meetings. I've gotta tell you, I left the meeting with a great feeling for our association with such a wonderful group of horse lovers. I left proud of our corral and proud to be representing each of you at such an important club event.

So you can betcha we're off 'n runnin' into 2009. We've got a holiday weekend celebrating Presidents' Day so be sure and get out there on your horse! Good times and good things; safe ridin' and good friends. 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 (SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Member's Meeting: Thursday, February 5th

Board Meeting: Thursday, February 12th

Playday/ Trail Maint. : Saturday, February 7th

Fire Drill and Month End Ride: Saturday, February 28th



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JEFF KELLY

Be careful what you ask for. Rain, that is. With the unpredictable weather fluctuation our month end trail ride has been cancelled three months in a row. Add to that the unprecedented warm weather and the strong winds this month we know we are not in Kansas- but the very diverse California. As a club, we are bound by the park rules, so when the "Closed due to wet and muddy conditions" is up; we can't go in. This is for safety reasons as well as preservation of the trails. We can't make any promises, but if the weather cooperates, we will be hittin' the trails again on February 28th. The ride will begin at 1:00 pm just following the annual Equine Evacuation Drill. Convenient, huh? Bring your horses to the arena that morning to practice evacuation procedure, then take them out on the trail as a reward. Our month end rides this year are certainly a bit more creative!

Orange County Fairgrounds Equestrian Center.

This month the call went out for equestrians to join their voices together to save the equestrian facilities

at the Fairgrounds. Members from several focus groups and residents attended this meeting. Since ye ol' Trail Boss had the time, not to mention the wife insisted, I went to see what this was all about. If this facility closed (possibly for a parking lot), another link in the equestrian lifestyle would be gone. Not only do the fairgrounds offer horse shows for those who fancy such things, it provides sanctuary for evacuated horses and other stock during local fires and disasters. Members from the San Juan Equine Coalition, including Dr. Janice Posnikoff, attended and voiced their concerns. I felt privileged to stand along side them. I spoke specifically of the importance the facility remain an evacuation site. What was the outcome of this meeting? To launch a study that will determine the most appropriate use of the property that now houses the equine facilities. Since no determination has been made, there will likely be more opportunities to have input in this critical decision. Remember the ETI charter: "*Dedicated to the Acquisition and Preservation of Trails, Good Horsemanship, and Equine Legislation.*" So let your voice be heard!

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF TRAIL RIDING

FOLLOW THESE RULES AND HAVE MORE FUN ON THE TRAIL

1. Thou shalt not kill the spirit of the ride.
2. Thou shalt not litter.
3. Thou shalt not steal around another horse and rider upon the trail. Ask permission, then pass at a moderate pace.
4. Blessed are the hikers and bikers, though they fear horse manure, for they will be allies in trail legislation.
5. Thou shalt not have false expectations of the trail: Expect flies, expect mud, expect obstacles along the way and prepare accordingly. (And don't complain about acts of you-know-who.)
6. Thou shalt hold the health and safety of your horse and others above all personal desire for fun, adven-

- ture or being first back to the trailer.
7. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's truck and trailer, nor park your horse where he might ding them.
8. 'Tis better to tie a single red ribbon in your horse's tail than to curse the person who rides into the kick zone.
9. Thou shalt not assume that other riders need or want your assistance or advice.
10. Honor thy horse's natural instincts above your own, forsaking gimmickry and false training.

From the September 18, 2008 issue of America's Horse Daily. Submitted by Jim Schicht



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM REPORT

BY DEBBIE KELLY

"Wherever we live and keep horses, we must be self-reliant for at least 72 hours. In the event of a major disaster, many horsekeeping community areas probably will not receive outside help because of their rural nature. Suburban areas may find themselves in the same situation. If a major disaster occurs, do not expect city or county services to be available. We all need to be individually responsible, remain self-sufficient, and be able to provide our own personal and community self help."

This is a quote from an Emergency Preparedness booklet published by ETI Corral 36, Monte Nido Mountain Ridge Riders. It can be purchased or downloaded in its entirety at <http://www.equestriantrailsinc.com>.

We can see that being self-sufficient is key in being prepared. Horses, like small children or the aged are completely dependent on their people to protect and take care of them; except they eat and drink a whole lot more! It is important to have feed and water stored on your property or speak with the barn manager where you board to ensure these basics are covered. ETI/357 can help you be ready to evacuate by inviting you to our annual Equine Evacuation Drill on February 28th. Details will be posted on our website, and of course those annoying emails will be coming your way, too. So be sure to mark 2/28 on your calendar. And don't forget, our February month end ride will follow.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (Sorry, Last Newsletter): Lydia Lawson 11/08, Tina Tedder 11/08, Angel Amos 11/08

Expired: Cheryl Segien 1/09, Shelly Novotny 1/09

Expiring: Leslie Ingham 2/09, Lori McCammon 2/09, Helen & Fred Bruns 2/09

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



HORSE TALES

BY DAVE SEROSKI

SELF-HERDING

HORSE As told by Leonard Schwendeman.

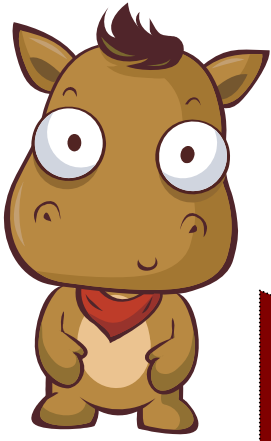
In those days, the Holly Sugar Farms on Dryer raised sugar beets. The tops were fed to cattle kept on the farm. This fattened the cattle plenty and on occasion a beet top would get stuck in the steers throat, requiring a wrangler to cut the steer out of the herd, and stuff a tube down its throat to clear the beet top.

Now a horse by the name of Dutch took a interest in all this cutting out stuff and, on his own, would go cut a steer out of the herd, or 2 or 3 depending on his mood. Sometimes he would just move the whole herd. But you could always tell when he got this on his mind.

Leonard took one look at this and just had to have him and in due time, Dutch was his. Leonard had one

fine cattle horse. Dutch had some peculiarities about him. There was no way you could come up on his right side as he once had a big scare there. Leonard thinks it was from a lion attack but wasn't sure. But what was sure is you would get a hoof in the head if you walked up on him on the right. Dutch didn't like bare back, it was a saddle or you were in the dirt. Working Dutch was always a challenge until Leonard found that the clanging of spurs put him straight. Yoe didn't have to wear them, just make the noise with them and he was good for the day. Leonard used him for years, then let his daughter ride him. She was very gentle with him. Dutch ended up at the horse stable across from the park as a lead horse for group rides and knew the trails so well that he would handle with out harness, hackamore or lead.

Later he took up residence as a cow horse at Smith's Ranch were he lived out the rest of his life.



SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS
trabuco canyon, california



ETI 357

Horse Playday!

When: Saturday, Feb 7th, 2009 at 1pm
Registration will begin at Noon!

Cost is \$7 per event for members and \$8 for non-members.
(Preprint your Waiver and Release form from the website to save time)

Where: O'Neill Park Arena

What: Playday Games: Barrels, Poles, Ribbon
Race and Musical Saddles

Any Questions Contact
Fiona Nelson
949-702-3258
fnelson1@hotmail.com

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

December 31, 2008

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$10,351.04

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After October Closing: \$ 303.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$10,654.04

EXPENSES:

| Ck# | Source: | Reason: | Amount: | Ck # | Source: | Reason: | Amount: |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|
|-----|---------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|

| | | | | | | | |
|------|--------|----------|-----------|------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1253 | E.T.I. | Mbrships | \$ 192.00 | 1255 | E.T.I. | Mbrships | \$ 84.00 |
| 1254 | E.T.I. | Mbrships | \$ 68.00 | 1256 | S. Segien | News/Ltr | \$ 137.25 |

Total expenses paid in NOV/Dec 2008 (\$481.25)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

| Ck# | Source: | Reason: | Amount: | Ck # | Source: | Reason: | Amount: |
|------|-------------|----------------|-----------|------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 1258 | E.C.O.C. | Nov. Clinic | \$ 360.00 | 1266 | Kinko's | News Ltr | \$ 83.85 |
| 1262 | Spike Wilks | Dec Board Din | \$ 30.00 | 1267 | E.T.I. | Mbrships | \$ 124.00 |
| 1263 | Cantina | Christmas Prty | \$ 500.00 | 1268 | K. Balth | Brd Dinner | \$ 30.00 |
| 1264 | E.T.I. | Mbrship | \$ 28.00 | 1269 | D. Slavin | MAU/exps | \$ 29.08 |
| 1265 | E.T.I. Corp | Mbrships | \$ 56.00 | 1270 | S. Segien | Ribbons P/D | \$ 310.83 |

Total Outstanding Checks NOVEMBER 2008 i.e. Spending: (\$ 1,551.76)

Funds on hand in checking as of 12-31-08 \$ 9,102.28

Petty Cash on Hand as of 12-31-2008 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 11/30/08: \$ 9,502.28

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 10/31/08 = After 1/3 payment for Fire Check-in Forms: (\$1,022.95)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (\$1,022.95) \$(1,022.95)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 **\$ 8,479.33**

1234567
2345678
3456789

CONTACT INFORMATION IMPORTANT NUMBERS

YEAR 2009 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@gmail.com | TRAIL BOSS Jeff Kelly | 949-858-7366 jjkelly52@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 COORDINATOR Fiona Nelson | 949-702-3258 fnelson1@hotmail.com |

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT (MAU)

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| HEAD COORDINATOR Debi Geary | 949-291-0551 debig@cox.net | ASSISTANT COORDINATOR-SECRETARY Patti Gomez | 949-888-1604 pattiangomez@aol.com |
| ASSISTANT HEAD COORDINATOR Jennifer Gillott | 949-643-0896 Jennifer.gillott@ingrammicro.com | ASSISTANT COORDINATOR-RECORDS Doug Slavin | 949-295-1331 dgslavin@gmail.com |
| EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM COORDINATOR Debbie Kelly | 949-459-7191 rileyboy1@cox.net | EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM COMMUNICATIONS: 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