



Corral News

April, 2009

Volume 15, Issue 4



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

ON THE TRAIL...

Well the weather's been nothing short of great for ridin' so sure do hope you're all gettin' your share of time hittin' those trails. Not too hot and not too rainy, but just about the start of a perfect spring here in the canyon.

I wanted to share a useful article I came across on www.horsechannel.com from a rider I've known for some years. It's about trail ridin' and always appropriate...

Mind Your Trail Manners By Audrey Pavia

A trail ride with friends is one of the most relaxing activities you can do on horseback. But that is only if you and your friends observe good trail manners while you are out and about.

Following good trail manners is vital to having a safe, fun and relaxing ride. Riders who ignore or are not aware of the rules of trail etiquette not only jeopardize the safety of other riders, but also become unpopular trail partners.

Here is a list of basic trail manners and the reasons they are important:

Ω Keep at least one horse's length between you and the horse in front of you. Many horses don't appreciate having another horse's nose in their rump, and some will kick in retaliation. Staying one length back keeps horses safe and happy.

Ω Don't trot or gallop past another rider. Horses have a strong herd instinct, and if you speed past the horse in front of you, odds are that horse is going to bolt and take off after you in an attempt to keep up. Slow to a walk when passing other trail users. Also, ask fellow trail riders if they want to trot or canter before doing so.

Ω Don't leave a water source until all the horses are

finished drinking. The equine herd instinct dictates that when one horse leaves the drinking area, the other horses follow. In trail riding situations, it's vital that horses drink all the water they can, especially if the weather is hot. Don't disturb another horse's drink by leaving the water before he's finished.

Ω Make sure you have complete control of your horse before you go out on a trail ride. If you have a nervous, hard-to-handle horse, learn how to control him before you expose him to other horses. A spooky horse often spreads his anxiety to other horses on the ride.

Ω On multi-use trails livestock traditionally have the right of way, but don't assume that this is always the case. Courtesy, common sense and good judgment are essential to safely sharing the trail. Use care approaching hikers or bikers—and remember they may not be familiar with horses. If there's any doubt, communicate to them about the safest way to pass, and be friendly and considerate.

Ω As a final note, always thank a fellow trail user who yields the right of way.

So a big thanks to www.horsechannel.com and the author. Good tips to keep in mind...

So until we get together next, here's to all of us workin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...

Oh, and one last thing. We got our new sign on the trailer...check it out...



IMPORTANT DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY (SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Member's Meeting: Thursday, April 2nd

Trail Maintenance: Saturday, April 11th

MAU & Board Meeting: Thursday, April 9th

Sensory Clinic and Trail Trials: April 4th a 5th



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JEFF KELLY

FEBRUARY

The day of the February Month End Ride was certainly an eventful one. It began with yours truly helping the wife get ready for the Evacuation Drill at O'Neill Park. All week she was fussin' to be sure we were ready for the drill and kept reminding me that the ride would follow the drill. Me being a creature of habit, she didn't want me to forget that we would be diverting from a morning ride to an afternoon one. Well, we kept on schedule at the drill; and most riders were saddled up and ready to go at the designated 1300 time of departure. As a special bonus, we had Mark Eades with the OC Register riding along with us, something we have been trying to arrange for some time. Mark rode Senora, Michelle Prieto's horse and I was sure all would go well with that mare. Senora was with us during our August pack trip last year and she proved herself up to the task for a novice. She is very sound. All was good.

We decided the best trail would be the Arroyo as it offers a solid trail and an abundance of the beauty offered in O'Neill Park. Since most of the riders had also participated in the drill that morning, it was best we provided a comfortable ride with minimal challenges such as ascending and descending. We had already had a full day. It was a positive experience and I think our personal reporter enjoyed himself and hopefully was not in too much pain the following few days. These rides are meant to offer quality time on our horses and good times with our friends. I know both fit the bill for me that day. Thanks to all, especially those of you who joined us and participated in the drill. Cowboy hats off to ya'.

There are a few changes in April; so read carefully.

Our quarterly Trail Maintenance is not the first Saturday following the first Thursday member's meeting. Due to the Sensory Clinic and Sensory Trail Trials on the 4th and 5th of April (the weekend our esteemed trainer Marc Hedgpeth has open for us), trail maintenance will be the second Saturday following the first Thursday. Are you following me? That would be the 11th of April 2009. So please, mark your calendar for this important day. Since we only schedule trail work quarterly it shouldn't be too much trouble to help and it is truly needed. We begin by meeting at 9:00 am and work until we are finished, generally before noon. I'll be meeting with our park ranger to be sure we are doing the work where it is most needed. Additional information will be sent your way and be sure to check our website.

Don't forget; maintaining those trails is a primary focus for ETI/357. It is a commitment our founding fathers here made long before most of us were riding these trails. We continue and as a result have carried on a legacy and have our own park and trails to ride. It doesn't get much better than that.

The April Month End Ride will really be in May (how's that for change?) and will be at Casper's Park. That is the weekend for our campout. Even if you can't join us for the weekend, bring your horses on over for the day on Saturday the 2nd and join us for a day of riding. And...if you can't do that, no worries. We are back in the saddle on the trails for our May ride on the 30th.

Whew, that's a bunch to remember. Good thing I have my own personal ETI assistant to keep me advised of my calendar. Until we meet again on the trails, I share with you the words of the late, great, Commander in Chief Ronald Reagan " There is nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse".





HORSE TALES "SUNNY'S DAY OUT"

BY FIONA NELSON

Well, just wanted to tell you folks about a rootin', tootin', shootin' adventure I had at the Swallows Day Parade! I have to confess I was a bit surprised when Brynne turned up before sunrise and expected me to go with her. But, I thought, okay then, so I did.

She took me to the Kelly's house where my old buddy Riley was waiting for me. We loaded on up into the trailer and set off. I was pleasantly surprised to find the trailer had plenty of hay in it. Made the journey pass all too quickly as we munched contentedly all the way to San Juan Capistrano. I was having a fine time!

The trailer stopped and Riley and I let ourselves be coaxed out. Didn't want to leave the hay really but, I thought, okay then, so we did. I was pleasantly surprised to find that, once they fastened us up outside the trailer, we were given more hay. So Riley and I, and all the other horses, we just did some more munching. Brynne gave us some carrots too. So I did some more munching. I was just having a fine time!

Brynne groomed me and Debbie groomed Riley and all the other horses got groomed too. Then they started putting a real fancy getup on us. Brynne brought me a huge garland of flowers and leaves. When I saw her coming I thought "Good job I'm not full, coz I'm going to be doing some more munching now". But I was disappointed to find out I couldn't munch on those flowers – tasted awful they did when I tried them. So I thought, okay then, so I just munched some more on the hay and carrots. I thought to myself well, handsome is as handsome does, but I don't really see the point in plants you can't eat.

A while later, all us horses were ridden down to where there were lots of other horses all waiting. I was surprised when it turned out that we were waiting in a field full of grass. I thought, okay then, and just started munching some more. I really was having a fine time! Well, I don't mind telling you now; I had been a tad nervous about this whole 'parade' thing. Had heard stories about

things being exciting and all. Lots of horses and other strange animals and carts and people rushing around everywhere is what I'd been told but you know, I was so busy munching, I didn't really have time to notice much going on around me. Have to make hay while the sun shines I always say. Couldn't understand some of those horses prancing around when there was perfectly good grass to eat.

When I was finally full up and couldn't have eaten another bite, we rode out onto the street and there was wall to wall folks looking at us and cheering and waving and shouting and yelling. It was a sight to see. Although I don't blame all those folks for getting excited when they saw us coz we looked mighty fancy let me tell you so we just strutted up those streets like we owned them.



Me and my buddy Riley, we plodded along and, guess what? As soon as we had finished the parade, we went right back to the trailers and, by now I was getting a mite peckish, so I was just glad to get back to the hay and carrots. Needed to have a bit of munch after all that walking I'd just done.

Our fancy getup was taken off and, all too soon, Riley and I were loaded back up into the trailer. Luckily there was just a bite of hay left to see us through the trip back home. So I thought it best to munch steadily all the way home, so that is what I did.

Well, I certainly enjoyed my time at the Swallows Day Parade – and I'm hoping that I'm going to get to go again next year!

Sunny

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

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America)	\$ 9,237.01
Deposits Made After October Closing:	\$ 468.00
Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits	\$ 9,705.47

EXPENSES:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1267	E.T.I.	Mbrships	\$ 124.00	1273	S. Segien	News Postg	\$ 117.85
1269	E.T.I.	D. Slavin	\$ 29.08	1274	OC Pizza	Dec Brd Din	\$ 59.61
Total expenses paid in JAN & FEB				(\$481.25)			

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1276	Corral Ins.	E.T.I.	\$ 748.00	1280	D. Slavin	ERT Shirts	\$ 153.00
1277	J. Winkel	Play D/ Exps	\$ 30.00	1281	D. Kelly	Fire Drill Exp	\$ 54.83
1278	P. Gomez	Feb Brd Diner	\$ 30.00	1282	T-Shirts Inc	Mbr Shirts	\$ 360.00
1279	R. Gomez	Play D Sign	\$ 57.54				

Total Outstanding Checks NOVEMBER 2008 i.e. Spending:	(\$ 1,433.37)
Funds on hand in checking as of 02-28-09	\$ 8,272.10
Petty Cash on Hand as of 02-28-09	\$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 02/28/09:	\$ 8,672.10
Plus funds due us from sale of ERT & "T-Shirts"	\$ 452.00

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 02/28/09 = After 1/3 payment for Fire Check-in Forms:	(\$1,022.95)
Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve:	(\$1,022.95)
NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357	\$ 8,081.15



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Expired: Leslie Ingham 2/09, Lori McCammon 2/09, Gretchen Jones 3/09, Chris Richardson 3/09, Ken & Jody Kott 3/09, Melba & Roy Slavin 3/09

Expiring: Duane & Ceci Turner 4/09, Delma Johnson 4/09, Paul Lynch 4/09, Jeanette & Donavon Villegas 4/09, Rod Van Sickle 4/09, Bonnie & Stu Love 4/09, Kim DeBellis 4/09

WELCOME New Members!! Jane Adair and Karen Peyser

MARCH PLAYDAY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)



CONTACT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

YEAR 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT Rich Gomez 949-888-1604 rtgomez@aol.com	VICE PRESIDENT Doug Slavin 949-295-1331 dgsalvin@gmail.com	MEMBERSHIP Sheila Segien 949-589-3347 bearfoot60@cox.net	SECRETARY Karen Hopkins 949-709-2359 ladieeee@aol.com	TREASURER Bob Wilks 949-589-9144 robert-a-wilks@cox.net
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Rick Balthaser 949-709-2359 RBalthaser@aol.com	MEMBER-AT-LARGE Jim Schicht 949-858-4744 rustyshoe7@cox.net	TRAIL BOSS Jeff Kelly 949-858-7366 jjkelly52@gmail.com	Webmaster Judi Winkel 949-322-1669 oliveoyljkw@gmail.com	SCRIBE Don Segien 949-589-3347 SDSegien@mac.com
EVENTS COORDINTORS Fiona Nelson 949-702-3258 fnelson1@hotmail.com	Jim Iacono 949-459-7742 jiacono@imgps.com			
		O'Neill Regional Park Office: 949-923-2260 Head Ranger Lorrie Zuczek 949-923-2259 lorrie.zuczek@rdmd.ocgov.com		

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT

HEAD COORDINATOR Debi Geary 949-291-0551 debig@cox.net	ASSISTANT Jennifer Gillott 949-643-0896 Jennifer.gillott@ingram-micro.com	SECRETARY Patti Gomez 949-888-1604 pattiangomez@aol.com	RECORDS Doug Slavin 949-295-1331 dgsalvin@gmail.com	ERT COORDINATOR Debbie Kelly 949-459-7191 rileyboy1@cox.net
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RADIO COMMUNICATIONS: Dave Seroski, (949) 533-7153, DSeroski@cox.net

GMS Channel 22

WARNING TO HORSE OWNERS



There are a number of Fiddleneck weeds that are growing everywhere this spring. They are toxic to horses so be sure to keep your horses from grazing on them. Fiddleneck (tarweed)- Causes photophobia, photosensitivity, jaundice, liver failure, diarrhea, depression, aberrant behavior (head pressing, incessant licking, aimless walking), weight loss, edema of the extremities. As little as 15 mg of dried plant per kilogram of weight over 2 weeks will induce severe liver failure. It takes approximately 50 lbs. to kill / poison a horse over a life time. The weed can't be digested and accumulates in the horse's belly. It is a sad death for your horse. The weed is about 24 inches tall. It grows in a bunch but you can see each tall stalk and at the tip it is curled over like the end of a fiddle with small yellow bloomson it. See the weed on this web site and in the photo.

<http://kaweahoaks.com/html/fiddleneck.html>



WHO ARE THE SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS?

The Saddleback Canyon Riders are ETI Corral 357. Established in 1991, we are one of the largest ETI corrals 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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