



Corral News

January/February, 2010
Volume 16, Issue 1



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

HAPPY NEW YEAR! AGAIN?

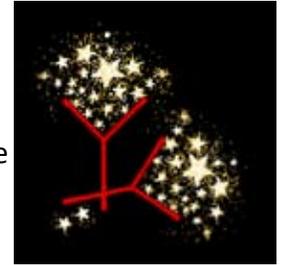
Hard to believe it's the start of a new year again... didn't we just have one? And it's a weird lookin' number 2010 – sounds so futuristic or something... just different I guess. But please, no space cowboys! Anyway, hope you all had wonderful holidays and you're all off to a great start in 2010!

Christmas is over, our Christmas Party was a blast, and Trevor Brazile won his seventh "All Around Champion" buckle and saddle at the NFR in Las Vegas (tying with Josh Peek of Colorado). What's so cool about Brazile winning this title is that he's now tied with Ty Murray's PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) record of the most all-around gold buckles (seven) and gets his name etched as one of the greatest cowboys in the history of ProRodeo. And right here in the canyon we had our own champions from our Buckle PlayDay. Congratulations to all of these competitors.

You know, competition is a great energy source, and a great source of inspiration. Rodeo and competition are an American mainstay. What's so cool about rodeo or any kind of competition is not only what it does for the spirit of each competitor, but what it does and offers to the spectator.

Even in today's down economy rodeo enjoys success. Attendance was up 12% at PRCA rodeos, and I hear that historically rodeos do well when times are tough. There's probably a few good reasons for this: people staying closer to home, it's affordable to attend, and you don't have to cover the kid's eyes and ears. There's probably another thing to consider:

that parents are trying to pass along some heritage to their kids. Rodeo is a sport that evolved from work on the cattle ranches of Western America in the early 1900s, and the American cowboy is the greatest icon there is. Rodeo is also a chance to see a living piece of American history. Cheyenne Frontier Days celebrated its 113th season in 2009 and the rodeo's George Strait concert was the largest concert ever held in the state of Wyoming. Now that's a statistic we love to hear!



So we always hear about the champions, the winners, but what about all those guys and gals who compete and never win the buckle? We all know that side of competition. But did you know there are five Pro-Rodeo competitors who, combined, competed in 90 National Finals Rodeo events and never won a championship? Guys like Barry Burk, Ace Berry, Denny Flynn, Mel Coleman and J.D. Yates competed, competed

hard but never won a single world championship. But you can imagine how these guys took it...the competitive spirit was strong and even though one of them, Barry Burk, finished second seven times, he always said, "...no shame in finishing second to any of those guys. It doesn't bother me at all that I couldn't beat those guys. I wasn't the only one; there were a lot of people who couldn't beat them. That's why they were the world champions." (continued on page 2)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

And just because these five guys and many others didn't win the championship you can be sure they kept competing and trying...harder and tougher. And that's the spirit of American Rodeo – to compete and not give up. To keep your eyes on the buckle (or whatever first place represents in your life) and try the best you can. To never give up. To be the best you can knowing that sometimes you may not win, but you sure did the best you could – and that's plenty to be proud of. Maybe that's what Trevor Brazile

was thinking during his last go at the NFR, and maybe that's exactly the edge he needed to win. What kind of thoughts will you have this year as you compete for your gold buckle?

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

Happy New Year! Now go get that buckle!



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JEFF KELLY

Well, I took a little time off from this exceptionally challenging job and didn't get my fingers busy at the keyboard last month. So my memory may be a little fuzzy about all the great club rides we have recently enjoyed-primarily the November and December month end rides. So I will start with December cause' that is more recent. We had a pretty good group (as I recall) for the day after Christmas! We even had some folks trailer over to O'Neill and join us. That is commitment and they must not have over done it the day before. I heard they had been at the park since 7:00 am that morning. Coming by rig were Jim and Sue Corely (kind of new to ETI), Sally Wooldridge (returning and former board member), and Vansel Johnson, former member but before my time and it was a pleasure to have him with us.

Thanks to all of you and you locals (here comes the memory lapse) but I believe we had Michelle Prieto and Rikki Lynne along with Gary Robinson. For those who I am missing, just come out in February and I will make sure I give you honorable mention the following month. I just enjoy and appreciate riding with new and old friends. It always reinforces my reason for being here. It certainly isn't the sculpted streets and cookie cutter homes! As I am writing this my wife has advised me we had to cancel the January ride due to rain. We can't complain. Here's hopin' February brings blue skies and dry trails so we can rendezvous on the 27th at O'Neill. And if you have an inklin' to throw in a hand, we have our first trail maintenance for 2010 on the 6th. Watch for details. Come on out and work up an appetite for Super Bowl Sunday!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired: (Sorry, last newsletter.) Robert & Caitlyn Nieblas 8/09, Connie Burns 8/09, Sarah Eaton 8/09

Expired: Lori Grossman 10/09, Nancy Johnson 10/09, Leslie King 10/09, Candice Itzkovics 10/09, Dalynn Zampino 11/09

Expiring: Fiona Nelson 1/10, Brynne Van Putten 1/10, Patti Williams 1/10, Segien Family 1/10, Leslie Ingham 2/10, Jacqui Moreland 2/10, Rich & Patti Gomez 2/10, Jane Adair 2/10, Helen & Fred Bruns 2/10

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

IMPORTANT DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY (SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Members Meeting: Thursday, Feb 4th

Trail Maintenance: Saturday, Feb 6th

January Month End Ride: **Rained Out**

February Month End Ride: Saturday, Feb 27th

KEEP IN THE SADDLEKNOW BEST

BY ZACK BALTHASER

My dad taught me horseback riding the same way he taught me how to drive a car—in possibly the worst conditions imaginable. If a new driver can navigate the hills of Orange in a Volvo station wagon at night in a pouring rainstorm, the philosophy goes; he can also jump onto a horse and keep in the saddle. So, with that in mind, I set off on my first *real* trail ride.

“We should ride through one of these big puddles,” my dad said as we walked by a water-filled rut in the trail. I was still coming to terms with the fact that the animal I was sitting on had a mind of its own. The only thing that kept it from bucking me over the drop-off to our right was—well, nothing that I could think of.

“On second thought, we probably shouldn’t,” he said after a moment. “These puddles can have nails or other sharp objects at the bottom. And try not to step on any of those bigger rocks, he might slip and go down on his knees. And steer him over to the right, the trail is collapsing here.” What kind of death trap was this?

Crossing the road (the one famous for speeding teenagers) was no cakewalk either. “Now this is a

blind turn,” he explained. “People like to drive way too fast here, so we should be careful. Let’s dismount and lead the horses across. It will be safer that way.” Well that didn’t make sense. If people drive fast, why take more time crossing by walking across? Horse logic seemed all backwards, but I did as I was told.

The trail on the other side of the road was smoother and had fewer rocks. I kicked back, and thought that maybe the trails around these parts weren’t so bad after all. Imagine my surprise when I found that someone had ruined these nice, safe trails with big strips of black rubber. I figured they put these in to trip up beginning riders, and when it was discovered that they also cut back on trail erosion, they decided to install a few more.

Well, a year or two later, things are a little different. Challenging trails don’t faze me, trail erosion ain’t nothin’ at all, and those big black rubber flaps are just part of the fun. The trail can be a little scary for a first time rider, but you just have to stick with it. Once the fear dies down, the exhilarating fun sets in. Even the greenest tenderfoot can start having a good time if they just keep in the saddle long enough.



MAU REPORT

BY DEBBIE KELLY

As I write this article, the much needed and overdue rain is busy creating concern of mudslides and debris in the LA burn area; and even closer to home in nearby Santiago and Modjeska Canyons. The emails continue to come in with updates from the EOC, Trabuco Canyon Women's Club, the Inner Canyon League, and the Fire Safe Council. Having such a profound network of information is reassuring and I don't mind at all the duplicate messages. I prefer that to none at all. This also tells me that should disaster strike we have a communication

tree that will keep us informed and also let us know where help is needed. If phones and the internet fail, we have GMRS radios and FRS radios for licensed users. The community response and education has been around for sometime in our neighboring canyons; but has really taken off in Trabuco over the past few years and especially since the 2007 fires. We cannot be apathetic and certainly cannot say it won't happen to us. Because it has. In the event of a large (or even just local) scope disaster, our community will be compelled to be self sufficient. To attain that we must prepare and educate ourselves. (*continued on page 6*)

2010 CALENDAR

BY KAREN HOPKINS

	Date	Event		Location	Contact
Jan.	Thur. 7th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 14th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 23rd	Month End Ride	10:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
Feb.	Thur. 4th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 11th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 6th	Trail Maintenance	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
	Sat. 27th	Month End Ride	10:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
March	Thur. 4th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 11th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 6th	Play Day	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	Sat. 20th	Swallows Parade	6:00AM	San Juan Capistrano	Jim (949) 459-7742
April	Thur. 1st	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 8th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 3rd	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
	Sat. 24th	Cowboy Festival	9:00AM	Santa Clarita, Ca.	Rick (949) 439-2414
May	Thur. 6th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 13th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 1st	Play Day	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	Sun. 23rd	Trail Trial	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
June	Thur. 3rd	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 10th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 5th	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
	25-27	Campout/Ride	TBA	Caspers Reg. Park	Jim (949) 459-7742
July	Sat. 3rd	Parade/BBQ	8:30AM	Trabuco Canyon, Ca.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	Thurs. 8th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 24th	Play Day	8:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
Aug.	Thur. 5th	Members Meeting	7:00PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 12th	Board Meeting	7:00PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 7th	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
	Sat. 14th	Pancake Fund Raiser	5:30AM	RSM	Debbie (949)244-0670
	Sat. 28th	Month End Ride	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
Sept.	Thur. 2nd	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 9th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 18th	Charity Ride	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742

2010 CALENDAR

BY KAREN HOPKINS

Date		Event		Location	Contact
Oct.	Thur. 7th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 14th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 9th	Trail Maintenance	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
	Sat. 30th	Costume Ride	10:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
Nov.	Thur. 4th	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Thur. 11th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sat. 13th	Buckle Play Day	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	Sat. 27th	Month End Ride	10:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jeff (949) 459-7101
Dec.	Thur. 9th	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	Sun. 12th	Christmas Party	6:00 PM	Rose Canyon Cantina	Jim (949) 459-7742



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 11,236.05
DEPOSITS:
 Deposits Made After November Closing: \$ 0.00
 Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 11,236.05

EXPENSES:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1335	J Iacono	playday	\$ 65.00	1344	S Segien	board dinner	\$ 30.00
1337	ETI	membership	\$220.00	1345	S Segien	newsletter	\$116.17
1341	V Iacono	board dinner	\$ 30.00	1346	ETI	membership	\$152.00
1342	J Iacono	playday	\$ 58.92	1348	J Iacono	T shirts	\$310.82
1343	ETI	membership	\$ 80.00				

Total expenses paid in – 2009 November & December (\$1,162.91)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

Ck#	Source	Reason	Amount
1347	Rose Cantina	Xmas dinner	\$599.09

Total Outstanding Checks December - 2009 i.e. Spending: (\$599.09)
 Funds on hand in checking as of 12-31-09 \$11,236.05
 Petty Cash on Hand as of 12-31-09 \$ 400.00
 Corral FUNDS On Hand at 12-31-09: \$10,836.05

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$10,836.05

Less Reserves:

1. MAU as of 07/31/09 = After payment for 2nd Chip Scanner: (\$ 779.89)
 2. Arena signpost deposit (\$ 400.00)
 Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (\$1,179.89)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 \$9,656.16

YOUR 2010 ETI 357 BOARD



President
Rich Gomez



Vice-President
Rick Balthaser



Secretary
Karen Hopkins



Treasurer
Vicki Iacono



Membership
Sheila Segien



Scribe
Don Segien



Trail Boss
Jeff Kelly



Member-at-Large
Bob Wilks



Sergeant-at-Arms
Dave Seroski



Events Coordinator
Jim Iacono



Web Mz
Judi Winkel



Historian
Debbie Kelly

MAU REPORT (CONTINUED)

In the canyons here, we have a local emergency response training known as "Canyon Emergency Preparedness Academy"

(CEPA). CEPA has been offered annually (except in the winter of 2008 due to fire recovery) for several years and is especially popular with canyon residents. This is held at the Modjeska Canyon fire station and all instructors are volunteering their time. It is an amazing course with modules that parallel the more urban and standardized CERT programs. Either course will leave you feeling more prepared to care for yourself, your family, and your neighbors. I encourage everyone to take one of these courses. Before I get off of my soapbox, you may be aware that our MAU

has offered an equine evacuation drill each year since 2006 except 2008. But of course we did it twice in 07; the drill and the real deal. In 2008 MAU coordinated a classroom module focusing on first response volunteers. This year we will take a little detour and will be partnering with the OC chapter of the Red Cross and offer a single evening workshop for ETI/357 and canyon residents. We want everyone to feel comfortable with their personal evacuation plan and be prepared to shelter in place in the event of an earthquake. So watch for more details. This will be scheduled for early March or April and you will be given plenty of advance notice so your schedule will allow you to attend. Well, thanks for listening and stay alert.



HORSE TALES

BY DAVE SEROSKI

Do Horses really “run” in the family? Sometimes more than others.

While I was back in Pennsylvania this year, Dad pulled out some old documents. Included in them was this picture of the Mounted Pennsylvania State Police lineup, ready for parade in the Spring. During our conversation, Dad recalled his training at the Pa State Police Academy in Hershey Pa; part of that training was his mounted duty.

His horse’s name was Sailor Bob. Dad remembered that Sailor Bob was always up to something and would test him at every turn, including ripping off his duty hat whenever the opportunity presented itself. Dad and Sailor Bob parted ways in 1946, the year he graduated from the Academy. But what were these magnificent black coated, black hooved beasts? What were they tacked in? Were did they come from? I was soon on the investigative trail of Sailor Bob.

I was quickly directed to Corporal Wade M. Crimbring of the Pa. State Police Mounted Unit. Wade filled me in on Sailor Bob, and yes he remembered the horse, and Dad, from the class of 1946.

Sailor Bob was a “cold” Cob horse, a “Heinz 57”

mixed-breed horse used by the US Cavalry, and that is exactly where they got them. This explains the tack and the lead rope knot I was able to identify as one used by the Light Cavalry (you can tie one of these knots; just follow the directions on <http://www.cow-girlslife.com/rope.html>). Now there are also “warm” Cobs, which include some thoroughbred in their lineage, but their temperament around crowds and their predictability were questionable so they were

not sought after for use by the PA State Police.

Cpl Crimbring is featured in an article in the Epoch Times, when 100 participants navigated a sensitivity course on which participants were judged on control & appearance. (For article, go to <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/16383/> or

Google Epoch Times-Pennsylvania State Police Day). They really expect their horses to be calm, working horses in the most extreme situations (move a cart filled with Pittsburg Steeler Fans?).

Wade went on to say that Sailor Bob was a trick horse, picked up on things easily and served in their stables until 1950. He was a kind horse to the novice, because I was born in 1951.

Thanks to Cpl. Wade Crimbring for his help in this investigation.





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
PO Box 1026
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678-1026