



Corral News

April 2010
Volume 16, Issue 4



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

WHAT WE DO...

Well by now you've all recovered from the Swallows Day Parade and all the celebrating that goes along with that. What a great tradition and your club was a part of it! A big thanks to our Activities Coordinator, Jim Iacono, and his team of volunteers who walked the parade route to display our banner and make sure everyone had water...and of course a big tip of the hat to all you riders who showed up and made us all proud. The club was strong and looked great on the streets of ol' San Juan (Capistrano that it).

This month we're all headin' out to the old Melody Ranch and the Santa Clarita "Cowboy Festival"! This should be a great day of hangin' out with your two-legged buddies, eatin', seein' and hearin' all the sounds of the old west. Be sure and join us! Watch the website for details...

Now one thing we do that isn't centered around fun but it sure is centered around our horses and the community is our Fire Evacuation Plan. Members of your Board and our Emergency Response Team Coordinators met with our new OCFA Division Chief Rick Robinson to outline what we have done, how we have organized and how we have conducted and participated in suc-

cessful large animal evacuations. It became clear to Chief Robinson that our club is dedicated to the safety and welfare of our neighbors and community horses. Our formalized plan and all its parts, our outreach to surrounding communities (Silverado and Modjeska Canyons, San Juan Capistrano) and organizations (Fire-Safe Council, Canyon Defense, Women's Club, CERT, Silverado/Modjeska Recreation & Parks District, etc.) showed Chief Robinson the thought, sweat and tears that have gone into creating the Trabuco Fire Plan and our dedication and commitment to that plan. This is

something you should each be proud of because you're each a part of its success. Through your Emergency Response Team Coordinators we have communication with the OCFA and supporting agencies during any emergency. Through your Emergency Response Team Coordinators you

and your horse and you and your neighbors have a resource to count on in case of emergency. We have a direct line to battalion command to help keep us all safe, and your club intends to continue and enhance that relationship. That goal is shared by Chief Robinson, and that is something to be proud of...

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



IMPORTANT DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY (SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Members Meeting: Thursday , April 1st

Cowboy Festival: Saturday, April 24th
and Sunday April 25th

Play Day: Saturday, April 10th

Board Meeting: Thursday, April 8th



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEEN

Very Expired (Sorry, last newsletter): Lori Grossman 10/09, Nancy Johnson 10/09, Leslie King 10/09, Candice Itzkovics 10/09

Expired: Dalynn Zampino 11/09, Fiona Nelson 1/10, Patti Williams 1/10, Leslie Ingham 2/10, Jacqui Moreland 2/10, Jane Adair 2/10, Helen & Fred Bruns 2/10, Karen Peyser 3/10, Roy & Melba Slavin 3/10

Expiring: Cheryl Segien 4/10, Delma Johnson 4/10, Rod Van Sickle 4/10, Kim Tillinghast-DeBellis 4/10

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



WHAT IS "HANAELEH"?

BY DEBBIE KELLY

The word alone often brings to mind a tropical paradise located on the island of Kauai, Hawaii spelled Hanalei. Baby boomers and fans of the 60's folk group "Peter, Paul, and Mary", recall Hanaeleh as the coastal refuge for the legendary "Puff the Magic Dragon" from the song with the same title. When we imagine either place; we see beauty and sanctuary.

Nestled at the bottom of the hills in historical Trabuco Canyon, there is a real safe haven for displaced horses appropriately called Hanaeleh (pronounced Hah-nah-lee). Many of the horses that call Hanaeleh their home were very close to slaughter when founder Elizabeth Zarcos was able to rescue them. Some horses were at feed lots on their way to slaughter for food to other countries; some were neglected or abused; and some have been voluntarily handed over by owners no longer able to care for these majestic animals.

Every horse at Hanaeleh has been given a second chance and most of them are available for adoption to loving homes. Due to their situation prior to coming to Hanaeleh, the horses have been or are in the

process of being rehabilitated. Many arrived underweight or with other medical conditions that have required intense intervention. Horses that have been abused, starved, or neglected are often

traumatized and experience serious trust issues. At Hanaeleh, they are given the opportunity to once again trust and reestablish the horse and human relationship. When the rehabilitation is complete the horse is offered for adoption and the screening process is designed to prevent them from ever returning to a life of pain and fear.

You can visit the website for more information on Hanaeleh and how to see our horses that are for adoption. Keep checking for events and fundraisers or opportunities to just lend a hand on a work day.

Hanaeleh's new home in Trabuco Canyon is easily accessible to the neighboring communities and just a ten or fifteen minute drive from Ranch Santa Margarita. They are a 501 c (3) charitable organization.

ETI thanks Hanaeleh, their staff, and their volunteers for hosting our recent horsemanship clinic.



SPEAKING HORSE ... A HORSE TALE

BY DAVE SEROSKI

SPEAKING HORSE is kind of like learning a new language, one spoken from horse to human. It's a secret language, shared between horses for eons and now they want to speak it to you but sadly, few will listen. I didn't, at first.

I had this 1,000 pound pet that I would climb up on and expected - no, demanded - him to do as I asked or he was getting it. I wanted respect and obedience, and I got it. Or took it. I was not about to lose a fight and I soon found out that our horse wasn't going to, either.

He was friendly enough, but very trying. I felt it was because he was young and clipped late. Little did I know we were not speaking. He was trying but I couldn't "hear" him or speak back to him. Then Susan found a book called *The Body Language of Horses* and I read it on flights to and from Pennsylvania.

On my return to the stall, I tried some of the suggested sequences: Greet the horse with your hand out and let him sniff it; see if he "invites" you closer. Blow lightly in his nose and watch his reaction. It's kind of like a horse calling card; you see them do it to each other all the time. You may not get the response you want or expect, so be careful with this.

As I started a new and different kind of training with him, one of the lessons was: Go sit in your horse stall for 20 minutes.

Don't touch your horse as you go in, just smile at him (or her) and go sit down and let the horse decide what is next

You are just about to meet your horse on his or her level. He or she will start "talking" to you just about right away. Just watch and enjoy what happens next. Your horse will get a puzzled look, then there will be some thought: tongue licking, chewing, eyes blinking. Once they have made up their mind, they will make a course of action: Avoid you, face you and watch what you are going to do next, walk right over to you and sniff you from head to foot, perhaps play with you. Every horse is different but you are on your way to communicating with your horse and he or she with you.

Horse hugs, mutual grooming and light commands on your part will enhance your relationship with your horse as you both start speaking. Don't be surprised, when you repeat a command to your horse and they got it the first time, if you get a double tail smack and a raised head, meaning "I got it the first time!" Just pet them and let them know you are still learning horse. They are very forgiving.



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JEFF KELLY

Well, I just heard I needed to get somethin' in print here pronto. It seems that so far this year we have cancelled two trail rides and two trail work days due to rain! This is disheartnin' for a trail buff like me but am looking forward to groomin' the trails later in the Spring and enjoyin' the foliage. Enough can't be said for the sound of water gently flowing in our streams, either!

As your trail boss I do keep in touch with park rangers both at O'Neill and Casper's. These fine folk count

on ETI to help them with their chores so you don't need to wait for a scheduled trail maintenance day to pitch in.

Casper's has a fine website that keeps ya all updated on events there. O'Neill offers lots of volunteer opportunities too and I do try to keep on top of that for ya. Don't forget-the next scheduled ETI 357 trail work day is April 3rd. Being the day before Easter we know it won't be raining. That won't work for the Easter Bunny! Hope you can join us.



SWALLOWS DAY PARADE 2010

PRELUDE TO THE RETURN OF THE "TRABUCO"

BY JAMES M. IACONO

There's a pretty little town just southwest of this Canyon that holds a historical link with our past and forever has a nexus with our nomenclature. History shows that in 1771 Gaspar de Portola and his band of explorers set out from the Mission in San Juan Capistrano to head for the luring foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains. They followed San Juan Creek, which joined with Trabuco Creek, and led them on a 27 mile journey to lush canyons and sparkling creeks. It was here they befriended the Juaneno Indians, and enjoyed a summer of hunting deer and fishing steelhead trout. Legend has it that one of Portola's lieutenants left his blunderbuss (musket) near the Upper Creek, and could never find his trusty "trabuco". So somewhere buried in the soils of this idyllic canyon is the origin of our name.

On March 20th, 2010, 12 chosen riders made the return 27 mile journey to the Mission which spawned the 18th Century journey that forever named their little town. Though the lost "Trabuco" was not in their hands, onlookers noted that it could be seen in their hearts. For these riders came with a purpose- came on 3 Quarter horses, 3 Fox Trotters, 2 Paints, a Thor-

oughbred, a Saddlebred, an Arab, and yes one Spanish Barb – a descendant no doubt of one of Portola's steeds- to let the San Juan Mission know that it would be their "mission" to next year return the lieutenant's Trabuco on the 240th anniversary of its disappearance. Let there be no doubt that the Saddleback Canyon Riders will fulfill their mission next year especially after having a pretty cool time this year!

Great weather, no horse dramas, a good spot in the lineup, and an appreciative crowd all added up to one fantastic way to kick off the spring! Thanks to all the uniformed riders...Rikilyn, Bekah, Jordan, Lauren, Rick, Zack, Vicki, Evelyn, Sue, and the three Jims (C., S., and I) for keeping all the horses in line and spinning in unison. (Eat your heart out Medieval Times!) Also many thanks to our ground crew- Karen, Brynne, the Buis, and the Lusks for keeping our riders hydrated and smiling! It should be noted that our club is a true family organization, and was represented as such. We had participants from the age of 15 to the age of 60. Thanks one and all!

So I am not kidding about next year – forget the Return of the Swallows- how about "The Return of The Trabuco"!





TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

ETI - CORRAL 357

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING
JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2010

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 11,236.05

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After February Closing: \$135.00
Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 11,371.05

EXPENSES:

<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck #</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1347	Cantina	Xmas dinner	\$599.09	1349	R Balthaser	Video	\$100.00
1350	3Metal	Arena Sign	\$453.00	1351	OC Parks	permit	\$ 65.00
Total expenses paid in – 2010 January & February							(\$1,217.09)

Funds on hand in checking as of 2-28-2010 \$11,371.05

Petty Cash on Hand as of 2-28-2010 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 2-28-2010: \$10,971.05

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$10,971.05

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 07/31/09 = After payment for 2nd Chip Scanner: (\$ 779.89)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: \$(779.89)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 \$10,191.16

2010 SWALLOW'S DAY PARADE



2010 SWALLOW'S DAY PARADE



SPECIAL EVENT APRIL 24TH AND 25TH

Celebrate the Old West at the Cowboy Festival!

If you love great foot stomping music, savory chuck wagon delights, laughing at jokes you will retell for days, the Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival will knock your boots off! The setting is a realistic western town that you've seen in movies for years. Hidden inside the doors at festival time are fine crafted jewelry, leather goods, clothing and home decor all with a

western theme. Join your ETI friends as we meet at the General Store promptly at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday April 24th to hit the road for a fun filled day at the Melody Ranch! The cost is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. For more information check out the web site <http://www.cowboyfestival.org/> and please call or email Karen (714) 458-7772 Ladieeee@aol.com or Rick at (949) 439-2414 RBalthaser@aol.com to let us know if you're coming!



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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