



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

### WINDING UP FOR FALL!

Fall is in the air! Nice cool days, even cooler nights and a great time to be riding. Fall is also the time we traditionally have our BIG Charity event. Not only are we having our BIG event as you all know on November 13th, this is also the year the club is celebrating our 20th anniversary! You've gotta each be proud and I sure am...it takes a lot for any organization to stick around 20-years! Our hats are off to our club founders, early supporters and members, and the foresight they each had to create a club that could endure. Your membership is proof their vision was true. The club's longevity is proof the equestrian lifestyle is alive.

And our club gives back to the local and equestrian communities. We do this in three ways, and as your president, it makes me proud to be able to serve with each of you in our commitment. There are three ways the club "gives back":

1. **Fire Plan:** By working with local fire authorities to implement a large animal evacuation and emergency preparedness plan. This plan was tremendously successful during the Santiago Fire of 2007, and is currently being updated under the guidance of and in cooperation with the OCFA. (Visit the website for details.)
2. **Trail Maintenance:** By working with park rangers at O'Neill Regional Park to maintain two specific trails (Vista and the Arroyo trails) and the Harmon Equestrian Area.
3. **Charity Events:** By conducting charity events for organizations in Orange County that use horses to improve the lives of children and young adults.

A big thanks to Rick, our vice-president, for creating, organizing and distributing the donation-getting folders at the September 2nd meeting. As Rick explained, these are for each of you to use when you talk to your friends, neighbors, favorite merchants and business associates for donations to our Charity event. We need everyone's help. What the club is asking, and what we need to support these very wonderful and worthwhile charities is your help getting donations for our auction. The folder has all of the information you'll need, and explains what to say with an easy-to-follow, step-by-step plan for success. We also now have a tax-deductible 501(c)3 Foundation so all donations are truly tax deductible! This provides the incentive every business person needs to support our charity event. It really is easy and the charities we've chosen speak for themselves.

Let's all use the month of October to gather up some really cool auction items. We need a big push so ask your friends, your neighbors, your employer, your favorite merchants, your less-than-favorite merchants and just about anyone you can think of for a tax-deductible donation.

We'll talk more about it at the October meeting which will be back at Friend's Sports Tavern in Dove Canyon, so don't miss it! (Continued on page 2)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

One other very important reason to be sure and be at the meeting is it's ELECTION TIME. Now our elections are actually in November, but we nominate all of our candidates in October. Be sure and show up and nominate your favorite and most-able candidates.

The Board offices up for election are:

- ◇ President
- ◇ Secretary
- ◇ Trail Boss
- ◇ Scribe

So, as always, until we get together next, here's to continuing summer, great plannin' together and ridin' together...see you on the trail...



### MAUERT REPORT BY DEBBIE KELLY

As we get closer to the official fire season we want to be sure everyone knows what to do and how to prepare. Please keep in mind that Trabuco Canyon Fire Watch has a weekly radio net for GMRS users. We meet on the Joplin repeater, channel 2, every Monday evening at 7:30 pm. The purpose of this net is to allow a core group of GMRS users to enhance their radio communication skills and allow all users to be comfortable transmitting over the radio.

Several ETI members are GMRS users and hold an FCC license which allows them to use the local Joplin repeater. If you wish to learn more contact Dave Seroski (Communications coordinator for ETI), Bob

Wilks, or Jeff or Debbie Kelly. Keep in mind that if Trabuco Canyon experiences an emergency; we will be utilizing the Joplin repeater (channel 2 on GMRS) and Channel 22 on your FRS hand held radios. This will be the most efficient way to obtain local information for Trabuco Canyon. Please read your FRS owners manual regarding licensing requirements.

Please be sure your family and pet emergency kits are up to date and accessible. For information on Emergency Preparedness you can go to the Red Cross website. For your pets, including large animals, you can go to the Orange County Animal Care website or for horses specifically, go to the ETI National hyperlink is Docs/Forms- "What do I do with my horse in fire, flood, or earthquake".



### TRAIN BOSS REPORT BY JEFF KELLY

Three Jim's and the Ladies...that is what you could have titled the August ETI Month End Ride. We had Jim Corley, Jim Iacono, and Jim Schicht. The ladies were Debbie Kelly (that's me and I led the ride), Sue Corley, and Karen Hopkins. Six being a nice even number we had a lovely ride.

The weather continues to cooperate and it did no less for us that day. We meandered along the trails and had a great leisurely ride in the park. The only problem I could see was there were just not enough

of you along, We hope you will join us for the October ride which will include a Halloween costume contest! Watch for more information on that. By the way, after more years than I can recall; Mr. Jeff Kelly's term as Trail Boss is almost up.

We can't tell you how much fun it is to lead the rides and coordinate the trail work ETI is committed to in O'Neill Park. If you want a voice and love the trails; think about running for Trail Boss for 2011. Or any office. More details for that to follow as well.

## IMPORTANT DATES

(SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Members Meeting: Tuesday, October 2nd

Board Meeting: Thursday, September 9th

Play Day: Saturday, September 11th

Month End Ride Saturday, September 28th



### ETI 357 PLANS LANDMARK DAY

BY JAMES M. IACONO

Please circle November 13th on your calendars to mark a day filled with fun and goodwill for all horse lovers. Wind down the fall-laden switchbacks from Rancho Santa Margarita to the O'Neill Equestrian Arena in the idyllic community of Trabuco Canyon, and you will be treated to a day that promises to whet the appetite with all that is good, right, and pure about being a Southern California Equestrian. The day will start promptly at 8:00 a.m. with coffee, donuts, and registration for our 2nd annual "Buckle Playday." These are highly coveted hand-crafted artisan western silver buckles made especially for ETI 357. Competitors will test their skills over 5 challenging arena events, and compete in two age appropriate divisions. Following the 5 events will be a western style barbecue where competitors will come together to share a meal and fellowship while discussing the day's challenges. Immediately follow-



ing the lunch (approximately 1:30) will be a live and silent auction benefitting two organizations near and dear to our hearts- Bethany's Gait and Hannah-leah. These organizations are run mostly by volunteers and either feed the soul of hurting horses, or use the horse to feed the souls of hurting people. Please tell all your friends that this is a triumphant day for the horse community. Costs are \$7 per event, and lunch will be served for \$8 to both participants and spectators. Bring your checkbook to bid on quality items from local retailers and tack and feed stores. There will be something for everyone. We promise!

For those who want a preview of the events on "Buckle" Playday, don't miss our last summer Playday on September 11th. This affair will preview all 5 "Buckle" events, so come down and get a jump on the competition by knowing what skills to practice between September and November. Good luck and good ridin'!



### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

**Very Expired (Sorry, Last Newsletter):** Cheryl Segien 4/10, Kim Tillinghast-DeBellis 4/10

**Expired:** Connie Presley 5/10, Beverly Warren 5/10, Chris Richardson 6/10, Debi Geary 7/10, Alice Sorenson 7/10, Connie Nelson 8/10, Pam Hutchins 8/10, Lori Hansen 9/10, Jeanette & Donavon Villegas 9/10, Sally Wooldridge 9/10

**Expiring:** Patti Gretzler 10/10, Judi Winkel 10/10, Jim & Sue Corley 10/10

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



## SAFETY FIRST BY DAVE SEROSKI

### CRASHING ON HORSE AND MOTORCYCLE.

Not much in common their huh? Really? I've crashed both and a few other things. In every incident it's the picking your self up off of the ground and the "what doesn't work any more?" part that gets your attention. Every mad-dog sport I've ever engaged in had some sort of protective equipment that let me, well, just get back up. Now the British have this quaint little motor cycle race on the little island of Mann that kills and maims a few riders each year. They send the injured off to the hospital, the dead off to the morgue, and start to plan for next year's race.

Realizing that the number of riders was dropping, and those left were getting kind of skittish, someone developed a vest that inflated with air on leaving the bike. This made the rider slide and bounce, but not croak. Their insurance when down and everyone was a bit happier. Then the fools could go faster, allowing the them to slide and bounce farther. It took two shakes of the horses tail for the equestrian population of England to realize "what the bloody hell? If it works on them, why not us?"

Soon the horse jumping and flying clubs were sporting the vests. And even though the horses never showed those wings, but were landing on the riders. The riders were getting up uncrushed! The horses were breathing a sigh of relief too-somewere in the horsy brain thinking "My predator is nice and soft to land on these days, lets do that again!"

There are two manufactures of these things, the big buck one is called a *Point Two Pro-Air Jacket* or *Point Two Jacket* and a cheaper version called the *Hit Air*. Google either one for great videos of flying horses and stuttering riders.

"Me life flashed-ed-ed before my eyes. St Peter was holding the gate of Heaven open, but the devil had me by the leg-g-g-g. Then I heard the POP of me vest-t-t-t !!!" (Protects collar bone, ribs, tail bone, back, neck, internal organs and gizzard)

\$700 for the good one \$400 for the cheap one. But then getting the ride to Mission Hospitalis about \$1,200.

#### A Change in the ETI Magazine Delivery

The bimonthly ETI national magazine, Equestrian Trails, is now available only online. It's very easy to access. One simple click from the ETI home page [www.etinational.com](http://www.etinational.com) where is says EQUESTRIAN TRAILS MAGAZINE NOW ONLINE CLICK HERE. Or go directly to [http://www.etinational.com/eti\\_magazine/](http://www.etinational.com/eti_magazine/) We will have a link available on the ETI 357 web site as well. The current issue is available now.



## THIS COULD BE YOU BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

### SHARE YOUR STORY WITH THE CLUB:

Your First Horse

Your Best (Or Worst) In-The-Saddle Experience

Some Cowboy Poetry

Something You've Seen On The World Wide Google-net

Pictures

Drawings

Horse Quiz

Email your submissions to [SDSegien@mac.com](mailto:SDSegien@mac.com)

If you are submitting work that was created by somebody else, please credit the source.

Oh yeah, the nifty illustration of Gene Aurty was created by freelance illustrator Robert Rodriguez, whose work has been featured on more than a dozen previous stamps.



# BUCKLE PLAY DAY CHARITY EVENT

BY RICK BALTHASER

Hi Saddleback Canyon Riders!

As you all know, it's Saddleback Canyon Rider's 20th Anniversary!

And we will putting on what is sure to be the biggest Charity Fund Raising Event to date!

It's gonna' be exciting! ... It's gonna' be crazy fun! ... So, be there! .... and bring ALOT of friends and family to make sure it turns out to be a HUGE SUCCESS!

Here's the details!

On Saturday, November 13th, we're having a "Buckle Play Day Charity Event" that will include a super-fun Play Day (sign up at 8 am, event starts at 9 am sharp! ... Ribbons for winners and Beautiful Buckles for Overall Winners!), Trail Ride (Be there by 9 am, Trail Ride leaves promptly at 10 am) terrific Bar-be-que lunch (Noonish, depending on when the Play Day finishes). This exciting day will culminate with a wonderful live auction with some really cool and very, very nice auction items.

There will also be fun Gift Raffles to boot!

The theme this year, "**HELPING ... HEALING ... HORSES**" truly demonstrates the spirit of this event, and there will be TWO very worthy beneficiaries:



Bethany's Gait, Inc., rescues abused and neglected horses and partners them

with hurting children and teens – helping all to heal. [www.bethanysgait.org](http://www.bethanysgait.org)



Hanaleleh rescues slaughter bound and neglected horses, and provides temporary foster care for them until suitable, loving permanent homes can be found. [www.hanaeleh.com](http://www.hanaeleh.com)

[www.hanaeleh.com](http://www.hanaeleh.com)

Saddleback Canyon Riders abides by a couple of "Un-official" catch phrases that we've adopted:

The first is "**We Aint' Skeered!**" to raise much needed funds to help worthy charitable horse-related organizations. The second, is "**Git R Done!**" ... and it's just what we intend to do with this fundraiser!

AND .... If you want to do even more to help your club and these organizations we need you to "Cowboy Up!" (or as the case may be ... "Cowgirl Up!"), "Don't be Skeered!" and help us to "Git R Done!"

We are looking to you, our members, to help us obtain some really great Auction Items (as well as get as many of your friends and family to attend this awesome event)!

For those of you who have not requested Auction Item Donations before, (probably quite a few of us), here are some frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs) that should make 'how this all works' pretty clear:

**Q: What kind of Auction Items are we looking for?**

A: To be honest, the sky's the limit! In past Charity Auctions we've had a wonderful assortment of Items: Framed fine photography and paintings, cool sculptures and other artsy stuff, lots of useful and fun horse tack and horse-related stuff, Farrier Services, Vet Services, a paraglide ride, lot's of restaurant certificates (we can include these in gift baskets or use them as raffle prizes), spa treatments, etc, etc!

Other fun Auctions Items worth considering (this is where your creativity will come in to play!) could include time-share or cabin rentals, Hotel or B&B stays, neat home furnishing items, jewelry, clothing, other fashion related items, sports items, sports memorabilia, etc, etc, etc.

We're only limited by our imaginations ... If you have a cool idea for an auction item,

most likely, someone will want to bid on it.

AND, if you, or any other individual or business wants to simply write a check as a donation, that's fantastic as well! Simply have them write the check to ETI Foundation. (continued on page 7)

# BUCKLE PLAY DAY CHARITY EVENT (CONTINUED)

**Q: What's the best way to contact a business?**

A: Whenever possible, it's usually better to show up at a place of business and talk to the owner or manager IN PERSON ... It shows that we're committed to our cause and are willing to take the time to discuss this with them personally. ... (Usually better than trying to convince someone over the phone).

**Q: What printed materials can I use to help me request an Auction Item Donation?**

A: We have a '**Cover Letter / Letter of Intent**', that you can print out and give to any business. It explains everything they need to know about our Fund Raising Event. There is also a Poster, which is a great way to get people excited about the event. (It prints out best at 11 X 17).

And finally, there is a **501(c)3 Tax Deductible Receipt**. Businesses will want this.

(When you receive an auction item, make sure to give them a receipt, and make out a duplicate version for our club records).

These three documents have been emailed to you (the Letter and Poster are also on [www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com](http://www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com)), but please email or call me if you would like me to re-email them.

How it will work: All proceeds will go to 'ETI Foundation' (a 501(c)3 Charity Organization) who will then equally disburse the proceeds to Hanaeleh and Bethany's Gait (who are also 501(c)3 Charity Organizations).

**Q: What can I tell businesses (or individuals) about the recognition that they will receive for their donation?**

A: All who donate will be recognized at the event, on our web site, and a very nice frame-able certificate will be mailed to them.

**Q: Where do I take the donated Auction Items? ... When do I need to have them there?**

Rick and Karen's. We can receive stuff anytime in the next month ... (just email or call to let us know your coming) ... It would be nice to have all donations at our home a week prior to the event ... (But we'll be happy to receive any items right up to the night before).

**What if I have any other questions?**

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call or contact me or my wife Karen!

Rick Balthaser, V.P. and Karen (Hopkins) Balthaser, Secretary

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Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678

Saddleback Canyon Riders / ETI Corral 357

Rick's Cell: 949 439-2414      RBalthaser@aol.com

Karen's Cell: 714 458-7772      Ladieeee@aol.com

Home: 949 709-2359

[www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com](http://www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com)

THANK YOU for your help! .... Please help any way that you can! ... and let's have a GREAT EVENT!





## 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

