



Corral News

December 2010

Volume 16, Issue 12



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH GOMEZ

ADIOS— SORT OF...

Well it's been just about 3-1/2 years that I've been writing this column hopin' that someone reads it. As they say, writin' does more good for the writer than for the reader...at least from a rememberin' and clearin' your head kinda way...it's sure done that for this humble president...and I gotta say, it sure seems like a lot of words have been written.

What's amazing to me is how things have changed... and maybe best summed up by one of my many ridin' amigos when he said, "You know life's better because we've stopped mendin' fences and now we're buildin' 'em!" (well, he didn't exactly say that but it was close)...I like that and I know that's exactly what this club has accomplished – thanks to each of you – during my time as president.

We had some kinda tough times in the beginning, but we sure are "Gettin' – R – Done" now! In my very first article I said, "...my first task is to mend some fences, so I'm off to do a little repairin' - I'll get back to you on where I found the holes..." Well, I found the holes in the fences, and with everyone's help, we got 'em mended (or at least patched or permanently blocked off). We also found life's a lot easier when we plough around the stump.

To see how we're "Getting' – R – Done", all you had to do was be at last weeks "20th Anniversary – First Annual – Buckle PlayDay – Trail Ride – BBQ – Charity Auction Extravaganza!" to see first-hand how far we've come and what an absolutely incredible club of horsemen and horsewomen we have!!! I want to thank each and every one of you for our event success and of course special acknowledgement to our chairman, VP Rick. You could tell how hard he worked by the success of three things:

the amount of money we raised for charity!

the good time everyone had

the fact that we had a parking crew run with military precision and a solid "No Exceptions" rule (if you don't know the story, you'll have to ask me...)

We've gotten some other really cool things done too including our Canyon Acres Charity Ride, getting our arena sign replaced (though

we're still working on getting that back at the arena where it belongs), fixin' up our logo, getting' a whole line of clothing, getting a presence on the front page of the Trabuco Canyon News, formalizing our commitment with O'Neill Regional Park (two trails and the Harmon Equestrian Area, and we'll need everyone's help to do that), winning best overall in our 4th of July parade (with our annual BBQ), participating in the Swallows' Day parade, conducting some Parelli training, going to the *(continued on page 2)*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival, and providing a solid list of equestrian improvements to the park that we'll likely see before the end of the year. Not bad considering we're just a horse club...

I also want to say that I'm sure proud to have been president during this corral's 20th Anniversary! The club started a long time ago around the Arroyo and we're "on the books" twenty years later still takin' care of that area. That says a lot for a group that's just a horse club...and that says a lot about each of you and each of our past members who still come to our events and participate...we couldn't ask for more so thanks to all those who started this club and thanks to each of you for being a part of this fine group of horsefolks.

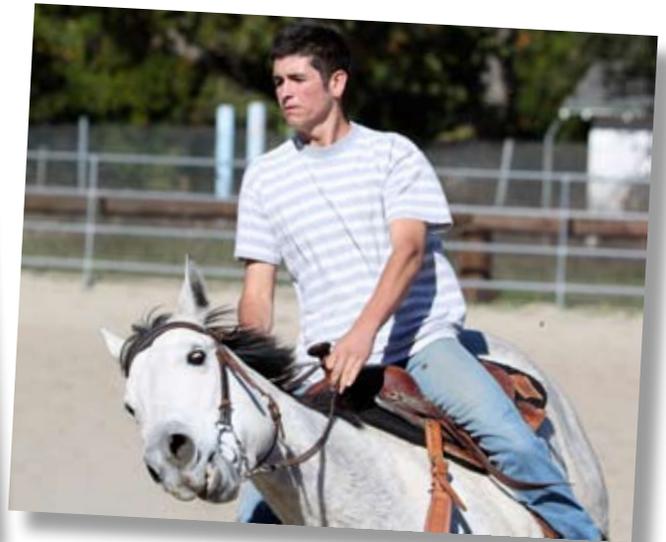
And I couldn't sign off without acknowledging our new Board members. I sure do wish them the best

and remain ready, as each of you are, to help keep this club going ever-stronger. Congratulations to...

President	Rick Balthaser
Secretary	Karen Hopkins
Trail Boss	Jim Schicht
Scribe	Don Segien

So, adios for now. I sure do appreciate having been your president and like the old cowboy says, "It's better to be a has-been than a never-was!" As always, until we get together at our **BIG 20th Anniversary Christmas party**, here's to a great run ridin' together and workin' together...see you on the trail...

Or as they say in Wyoming, "Well, bye..."



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SECRETARY KAREN HOPKINS-BALTHASER

First, I must say thanks for electing me for another term, I will do my best to serve this little horse club well. With that in mind, I need your help. Part of my job is to communicate meetings and ETI info to our members in a timely manor. I have been using email, but I am sure I am missing many who might like to hear what's going on. We usually

only get one email address from the membership application, but there may be other members in the house who would like to get the notices. If any ETI member would like to be on the mailing list, please send me an email to ETI357@AOL.com and you will be included. Together we can make this another great year in ETI!



NIGHT RIDING SAFETY

BY DEBBIE KELLY

If you don't mind the chill and have the right outerwear, you may find yourself riding at night here in Trabuco; not wanting to give up

that midweek time in the saddle. Night riding can be exhilarating and can make facing the day much easier; knowing that after work or school we can be with our horse. But night riding brings the increased risk of an accident or injury, especially on Trabuco Oaks or Rose Canyon. Both are narrow, unlit roads and visibility is compromised once it becomes dark. Before I share some internet tips and an awesome website on reflective gear for you and your horse, let me tell you a brief story A few weeks ago, as the fall days began to shorten and the nights became just a bit cooler, I noticed some folks heading towards home or the barn as I was heading towards home. It was pretty dark when I came upon several riders heading up Trabuco Oaks and two horses being hand walked by their owner. It was truly dark and not one person or horse was wearing any reflective gear.

Adding to that, one of the riders had a German shepherd on a leash she was "ponying" and two of the three or four riders were riding side by side; with the dog trying to get away. I think there must have been some commotion in one of the yards as the Shepherd pulled away from the owner and began running between the horses legs. All along traffic was completely stopped both directions since the

road was taken over by the riders and the dog was out of control. This was a totally unsafe situation that could have been deadly if a car driving too fast would have come up on it. It truly speaks to good riding etiquette and safety. A rider coming home in the dark is not an anomaly here but safety and consideration were in short supply that evening. I am glad no person, horse, or dog was hurt but it reminds me that by sharing these roads with others we really need to be aware of our surrounding and practice safety. Below are some safety tips from About.Com Horses on night riding. I was also told about an awesome website featuring night riding gear. It is a local business, just out of Norco. Go to www.saddlelights.com. There is a great story there, too.

- Always carry a flashlight or a headlamp on your helmet.
- Avoid riding on roadsides.
- Wear brightly colored and reflective clothing.
- Walk
- Stay in the open where light is best.
- Don't ride alone
- Stay together.
- Stay on known trails.

IMPORTANT DATES (SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Members Meeting in December

Christmas Party: Sunday, December 12th

Board Meeting: Thursday, December 9th



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (Sorry, Last Newsletter): Connie Presley 5/10, Beverly Warren 5/10, Chris Richardson 6/10 **Expired:** 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, Patti Gretzler 10/10, Judi Winkel 10/10, Jonette Dopson 11/10, Lauren Helsel 11/10, Pam Ragland 11/10, Jill Corley 11/10, Jordan Bui 11/10 **Expiring:** Vansel Johnson 12/10, Jeff Kermode 12/10, Steve & Debera Conkling 12/10, Doug & Jennifer Slavin 12/10, Ken Weiss 12/10, Brenda Kalb 12/10

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



You are invited!
ETI 357 20th Anniversary Christmas Party

Date: Sunday, December 12th, 2010

Time: 5:30-9:30

Where: Gentile's 23331 Via Venado, Coto De Caza*

949 713-5600

Cost : \$5.00 Includes Salad, Roll, Chicken Marsala,
PastaCoffee, Tea, or Milk

(Bar and bar tip not included)

Bring: \$\$\$ for no host bar, and holiday
treats to share for dessert!

Tickets available at the door but please RSVP to ETI357@AOL.com
or Karen 949 709-2359 by December 10th

Don't forget the highlight of the evening; the popular
"Cowboy/Cowgirl" gift exchange
Bring a wrapped gift valued at \$20.00 if you wish to participate..

"Kids exchange" is for 16 and under
(Gifts suitable for all ages recommended)

*Tell the guard you are going to Gentile's, go through the gates, take an
immediate left then right at the last road.

Turn left into the "village area" and watch for signs to Gentile's



BUCKLE PLAYDAY RESULTS

BY JAMES M. IACONO

21 RIDERS "BUCKLE" DOWN FOR CHARITY PLAYDAY COMPETITION Two local riders collect the vaunted hardware

Amidst the bouquet of slow-cooked barbecue beef brisket, the blazing of trails by a group of 8, the scribbling of silent auction positioning, and the melodic sound of the Canyon Creek Ramblers, a diverse band of horse and riders gathered in a nail-biting quest for two ornately engraved silver western belt buckles. It was ETI 357's 2nd annual tradition of the belt buckle competition, and for those spectators who lined the south side of the O'Neill Regional Park Arena, they were treated to a first class affair. Five events challenged both horse and riders with a mixture of speed, agility, and composure. An established point system awarded points in varying amounts for first through sixth place finishes in each event. Two local riders and members of ETI 357 accrued the most points in their division and were awarded the coveted silver buckles. Anthony Montes with his gray mare Sonora edged his sister Rikilyn Prieto and Little Miss to capture the win in the under 30 division. Jim Iacono riding the little Arab Lacey outlasted both Rick Balthaser and Jim Schicht who tied for second best in the over 30 division.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who kept the games moving along and of colorful interest to the

spectators who came to see the Community's year end signature event. No one left disappointed! A list of events and the top three finishers in each event/division appear below.

UNDER 30

Poles: Sierra Madrigal, Lauren O'Connor, Rikilyn Prieto

Barrels: Anthony Montes, Jaimie Schicht, Sierra Madrigal

Step, Sqz., etc.: Rikilyn Prieto, Lauren O'Connor, Bekah Segien

Potatoe Poles: Rikilyn Prieto, Anthony Montes, Christina McKenzie

Ribbon Race: Anthony Montes, Christina McKenzie, Lauren O'Connor

OVER 30

Poles: Jim Iacono, Rick Balthaser, Jim Schicht

Barrels: Jim Iacono, Jim Schicht, Rick Balthaser

Step, Sqz., etc.: Rick Balthaser, Jim Iacono, Jim Schicht

Potatoe Poles: Jim Schicht, Jim Iacono, Rick Balthaser

Ribbon Race: Jim Iacono, Evelyn Ortega, Sue Corley





TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING October 31, 2010

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 9,994.48
 DEPOSITS:
 Deposits Made After August Closing: \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 9,994.48

EXPENSES:

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	CK#	Source	Reason	Amount
1405	ETI	membership	\$108.00	1408	V Iacono	Ribbons	\$135.50
1409	V Iacono	board dinner	\$ 30.00	1410	J Iacono	permit	\$ 65.00
1411	J Iacono	newsletter	\$ 50.00	1412	D Seroski	donuts	\$ 14.00
1414	D Kelly	misc.	\$ 55.00				

Total expenses paid in October 2010 (\$457.50)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	CK#	Source	Reason	Amount
1406	J Iacono	permit	\$ 65.00	1413	J Kelly	Arena drag	\$ 40.00
1415	ETI	membership	\$108.00				

Total Outstanding Checks October - 2010 i.e. Spending: \$ 213.00

Funds on hand in checking as of 10-31-10 \$ 9,781.48
 Petty Cash on Hand as of 10-31-10 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 10-31-2010: \$10,181.48

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$10,181.48

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 10-31-10 = 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 \$9,401.59



ETI 357 Appreciation to our Major Contributors

Equestrian Trails Inc. Corral 357 would like to extend a TREMENDOUS THANKS to the following contributors to the success of our November 13, 2010 Charity Event:

24 Hour Fitness	Lori Bocchicchio
Active Dog adventures	Mauricio Aranda
American Horse Products	Monty Roberts
Asics	Moreno's Mexican Restaurant
Asics Shoes	Norco Ranch Outfitters
Autumn Lopez	O'Neill Regional Park
Bad to the Bone	OCPottery.com
Barbara Balthaser	Ortega Tack and Feed
Bob Frazier	Pacific Party Rental
Boot Barn	Pat and Shirley O'Keefe
Canyon Creek Ramblers	Petco
Canyon Feed	Platinum Performance
Carlos Sifuentes	Rather Be Riding Stables
Carol Hargrove	Ritenour Photography
Chris Hillman	Rose Canyon Cantina
Chrissie Lovee	See's Candy
Clair's Saddle Shop	Sierra Soil, Inc.
Claygirl of California	Silverberg and Cook
Corey Schlom	Skin Inc.
Duane Turner	Stallipops
Ed Samra DDS	Starlight Studio
El Toro Tack and Feed	Streetwise
Elusive Cowgirl	Susan Johnston
Evelyn Ortega	Susie Nolen
Exquisite Hair Designs	SVUCD
Golden Spoon	Tail Spin
Grace Design	Tejon Ranch Clothing
Hands and Paws	Terri Steuben
Hickory Joes Sandwiches	The Button Box
Hitch'n Post	The Spa at South Coast Plaza
Hurley Personal Training	Thomas Hill
Island Cowgirl	Thrifty Horse
Islands	Trabuco Canyon General Store
Jewelry by Day	Trabuco Oaks Steak House
Jim and Sue Corley	View Cleaners
Jim and Vicki Iacono	Village Clayworks
Johnny Rebs	Vintage Sculpture
Kate Roth	Wags and Wiggles Daycare
Kathleen Kelly Pardo	West Coast Cowgirl
Kelly Collins	West Coast Cowgirl
Ladera Family and Sports Chiropractic	Z Pizza
Lisa Ruiz	

BUCKLE PLAYDAY ACTION

PHOTOS BY DON SEGIEN







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

