



Corral News

March 2011
Volume 17, Issue 3



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY RICK BALTHASER

RICK'S 'RAMBLINS'

Howdy Saddleback Canyon Riders!

I had a really neat experience recently that reminded me of how cool it is to own horses and be a part of their lives. Our two nephews Connor, ten and Curtis, six, were spending the weekend with us while their parents were enjoying a romantic Valentine's weekend in Cambria. Well, Connor expressed an interest in riding a horse, and of course not wanting to be outdone by his older brother, Curtis was game as well. Both boys are fun, super-smart, incredibly active, and very adventurous. Just throw them up in the saddle and go, right? ... Sounds simple, right? ...

Well ... here's the deal ... I wasn't quite sure how it was going to work out, as both boys have ADD (Maybe that's why I relate to them so well!) and can sometimes be, let's just say, 'a bit of a handful'. There's a saying about kids that comes to mind: "Raising kids is like trying to nail Jell-O to a tree".

So, we just kinda' went for it. I took it super slow, showing the boys how to move safely around the horses, how to groom them and how to tack them up. The boys were absolutely fascinated and very calm, took an active role in the whole process and enjoyed a nice Sunday afternoon 'ride' (I led and Karen walked alongside). Sunny just took it all in stride, and I do believe he knew to take extra good care of these two little cowboys. The take away for me was a reaffirmation of the natural calming and healing nature of our wonderful equine companions, not to mention a good day for all (Thanks Sunny)!

Well, as a club, we're comin' out of the chute hot, and it's already shapin' up to be a fantastic year for Saddleback Canyon Riders! We had a great February Members Meeting with a wonderful and informative presentation by guest speaker Corey Schlom, a Silverado Canyon resident and professional photographer. Corey kept the fifty or so

attendees (a great turn out!) entertained with his historical anecdotes and his slide show of beautiful photography of the canyon areas. And that was just the kick off! Saddleback Canyon Riders also presented Bethany's Gait and Hanaeleh with commemorative checks representing the funds that we all worked so hard to raise for these two worthy Horse Rescue Organizations. And our Board of Directors received hand painted horse shoes from some of the kids that are a part of the Bethany's Gait family. Wow, what a GREAT evening!

In January and February, we have already had a couple of very successful Trail Maintenance Days, to do much needed work in our Park. Thanks to our Trail Maintenance Dude Jeff, and to all who participated! And how great is it to have most of the trails open, so that we can get out and ride our horses? Special thanks to our new Trail Boss, Jim Schicht for keeping us all posted on the condition of the trails.

Comin' up is our next Members Meeting on Thursday, March 3rd, at 7:00 pm at Friends Sports Tavern in Dove Canyon. Our guest speaker will be O'Neill Park Head Ranger, Lorrie Zuczek. This will be a unique opportunity to learn more about our park and engage in dialogue with our ranger. I encourage you to attend and invite your friends and neighbors.

But WAIT there's MORE! ...In fact there's a lot more exciting stuff that's in the works, including a really fun contest with great prizes to see who in our club can rack up the most documented hours in O'Neill Park (on horseback, foot, trail maintenance, etc.), but you'll want to attend our Members Meeting on March 3rd to learn more.

On a related note, if anyone out there in our Membership has any suggestions, ideas, etc. on how we can make our already fantastic club even better ... well it's easy ... just give me a call or shoot me an email! ... I would love to hear from you!

Well, I guess that's all for now ...I hope to see ya' out on the trails!

Rick



EX-TRAIL BOSS BOSS'S REPORT

BY DEBBIE KELLY

ETI/357 outgoing Trail Boss Jeff Kelly would like to say a few words. However, the reason his term as Trail Boss and not as Scribe totals close to ten years is because his efforts are better served on the trails than at the computer. He has composed some of his newsletter articles; but mostly has employed this ghost writer to put his thoughts and sentiments to print. This, along with working at my side on most of my ETI projects; has earned him the nickname of Mr. Debbie by some of his closer friends. For the sake of his long time commitment to his post, and to avoid confusion amongst the readers, he will simply be referred to as Jeff for this last Trail Boss report we will be submitting to the monthly newsletter.

To the best of my recollection, Jeff was first voted in as Trail Boss in (or around) 1998. We had been with ETI a couple of years and had participated in most monthly trail work days and regularly rode the trails in O'Neill Park. We also patrolled the Arroyo on weekends; a commitment the early founders of our club had made to the county. By the time he ran for office Jeff was well acquainted with the park staff and expectations. During his first term, Jeff took a Trail Maintenance training offered by Trails 4 All. He worked closely with leaders of various groups in an effort to form an alliance with other trail users committed to keeping our trails open and safe for all users. He coordinated our ETI trail days under the direction of the serving park rangers and he recruited groups such as the Boy Scouts, the Warrior Society, and Trails 4 All to put the most energy with the greatest results behind the trail effort. Jeff has continued the legend of the ETI trail boss duties. When his first term ended, I was elected as Trail Boss and Jeff continued to wear the hat as we approached the office together. He was really only away from it for a short while after my term ended and another member took on the role. Jeff eventually

stepped back into the role when that member could no longer continue as Trail Boss. Jeff would go on to fill the seat when others could not finish their term and was elected for a final two years in 2008; serving 2009 and 2010. In 2010 Jeff completed and was recognized for his participation in Trail Maintenance Crew Leader course at Casper's Park. Jeff received the 2010 bronze President's Award (that would be President Obama) for his 100 hours plus through the Adopt a Park program. This past November was highlighted by the Month End Ride that Jeff led. We had about 15 riders and many were joining us for the first time. We both mentioned that it reminded us of the month end rides in the beginning years of its inception. Jeff was instrumental back in the early part of this last decade in developing this monthly ride. I was Trail Boss at the time, but Jeff had suggested such a ride at a few board meetings during his term. In the early days these rides would see up to 25 riders. The club and the community were hungry for this type of trail ride without any bells, whistles, barrels, poker hands, or obstacles. It was to be called "The Informal Ride" and folks were encouraged to just show up at the arena and enjoy us for a stroll through the park with our horses. Even within the club membership, I found myself riding with and getting to know folks I had not previously known well. I believe this ride with no strings attached, sustained ETI/357 during some dry times.



The ride is a little more formal now but continues to be a success and I know the incoming Trail Boss, Mr. Jim Schicht who has a love for trail riding, will carry the legacy on with flare and fun. This is such an abused cliché' but I believe it really is appropriate as Jeff leaves this office. We baby boomers can appreciate "Happy Trails to you, until we meet Again". We hope to enjoy many more years out there on our trails.

IMPORTANT DATES

(SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Date			Event	Time	Location	Contact
March	3	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	10	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	12	Saturday	Play Day	8:00 AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	26	Saturday	Swallows Day Parade	6:00AM	Capistrano, Ca.	Jim (949) 459-7742
April	2	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200
	7	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	14	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	30	Saturday	Cowboy Festival	9:00AM	Santa Clarita, Ca.	Rick (949) 439-2414
May	5	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	13	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	20-22 Fri-Sun.		Casper's Campout	TBA	TBA	TBA
	28	Saturday	Month End Ride	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200



MEMBERSHIP REPORT BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (Sorry, Last Newsletter): Lori Hansen 9/10, Jeanette & Donavon Villegas 9/10, Sally Wooldridge 9/10

Expired: , 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, Vansel Johnson 12/10, Jeff Kermode 12/10, Doug & Jennifer Slavin 12/10, Jennifer Walters 1/11, Rich & Patti Gomez 2/11, Fred & Helen Bruns 2/11

Welcome New Members: Doug & Marni Nagy, Scott & Lori Wendland

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

Welcome New Members

Scott & Lori Wendland
Irvine, CA

Doug & Marni Nagy
Trabuco Canyon, CA



TRAIL BOSS REPORT

BY JIM SCHICHT

From the saddle of your trail boss.

I would like to thank all you who voted for me to become your new trail boss. Following Jeff Kelly will be a tough saddle to fit, but Jager and I are continuing the traditions of safe riding. I will be sending out trail boss memo's on trail conditions, riding days coming up, horse health information and training ideas we can use. I would like to have a camp out or two if I have interest from our members, there will be moonlight rides through the park, at night we have the ok as a group. Our month end events will continue as an important gathering and riding for our club. Jeff Kelly will still be leading our trail maintenance, as our newly created position of Trail Maintenance Leader. Let's continue to support him on keeping our trails clean and clear. Jager and I

have been on the trails they are safe and ready to ride. In keeping with our club motto, let's "Get-R"Done."



Happy Trails,
Jim Schicht



"MARCHING" INTO 2011

BY JAMES M. IACONO

March kicks off the activities for the club in a big way. Our first Play Day of the year will be Saturday March 12th in the O'Neill Park

Arena. 2010 Buckle Champions Anthony Montes and Jimmy Iacono will be back to defend their hardware and prove that their November conquest was no fluke. Rikilyn Prieto and Jamie Schicht, our other 2010 High Point Winners, will be striving to earn a bookend statuette to match their feats from 2010. Other top competitors such as Bekah Segien, Beverly Warren, Jim Schicht, Rick Balthaser, and Patti Gretzler will add to the spirited competition as one gifted and lucky equestrian establishes a foothold in the Club's history books for 2011.

The events will be as follows:
Poles, Barrels, Keyhole, Birangle, Egg and Spoon

A western BBQ lunch will follow the event, priced at \$5 for competitors and volunteers, and \$6 for spectators.

Following lunch will be a trailer loading exercise in the big arena. This will serve as a warmup for the

trailer loading that will indeed need to take place on March 26th for those traveling to San Juan for the Swallows Day Parade.

So please mark your calendars for March 26th as the Club travels south to return the "Trabuco". A group of riders plan to retrace the steps of Gaspar de Portola the day before the parade with a replica of the famed lost trabuco which is the namesake of this storied canyon. Please sign up by March 8th if you wish to ride in the parade on March 26th. Contact Jim Iacono at 714-612-1789 or e-mail him at jiacono@imgps.com no later than March 8th so that we can reserve a spot for you and your equine friend in the lineup. As always, we need help on the ground as well, so please advise if you can assist us on that day. Our plan is to caravan down as a group of trailers at 7:00 a.m. from the Jack in the Box on Plano Trabuco. We will be sporting our Parade Light Stone Colored Shirts, and light hats. Let's have a great showing, by showing that the Saddleback Canyon riders have a rich tradition and that we are from a community that has been an important footnote in the early history and development of Southern California.



MY HORSE NEVER DID THAT BEFORE

BY DAVE SEROSKI

When you're sitting around with a bunch of horse people the stories abound, and sooner or later out come the war stories. It doesn't take long and just about everyone around you has an injury story, most of them from getting tossed. Now I know that MY horse would NEVER do such a thing (editor/wife's note: BULLDUNG!!!) and I'm old and wise enough to avoid any problems (E/w: Hmph).

Just look at those big, sweet, loving, eyes. How could anything but good thoughts be going through that horse brain? Then he pinches me to see if we can play.

Horses are the powerful, dangerous animals we love. So strong that they readily buoy us on their backs for miles, run like the wind and stop on a dime (e/w's note: probably in a huge panic because the dime's shiny and scary), all while balancing their weight and ours. But at some time they are going to let that wild horse that lives in all of them out and

decide "I gotta get rid of this thing on my back!" And if that's you? You're going!

I decided to take the advice of my wife, who has experienced a few "They never did that before!" "Hey, look at this air vest thing. It inflates before you hit the ground, rather like an airbag for equestrians. Go get one, and see if they have something to protect your noggin, too, since I have NO doubt that Teddy's eventually going to try to make sure that you eat dirt, too."

I quickly found out that there were no distributors on the west coast or in the mid west or down south, only on the east coast (apparently they fall off more than we do). I wanted a distributor on the west coast, in Orange County so that if something when wrong with this thing I wasn't going to have to haggle with Japan, in Japanese.

Being that ETI had received some nice donations from El Toro Tack and Feed and I have had dealings with Guy in the past, he was my man. Willingly or unwillingly, he was it. I acted as a "go-between" for the US distributor, Japan & a guy by the name of Rubin and I am pleased to announce that El Toro tack and Feed is the first and only distributor of the air vest, known as "Hit-Air," in Orange County - or the west as far as I know.

I had mine as his first order. What a beauty: light weight, zip on and off, very adjustable & instructions in very understandable English! It even has 2 pockets - one zips and the other is Velcro. It is usable over and over (for those of us with left-brained extroverts).

It clips to the saddle and if you leave the saddle by more than a few feet it inflates fully before you hit the ground, saving not only your pride but your neck, spine, back, ribs and chest. (E/w's note: Another reason to avoid those "great trail horse's" I keep reading about that are "4-hands-high." Of course, sometimes they realize their mistake and correct it to "6-hands-high" but either way, the vest wouldn't have time to inflate before you hit the ground).

If you would like to see my vest, let me know and I'll gladly show it to you. Comes in gray, or gray and bouncible black.



Mitchell Field. Eagle ready for battle. An American pursuit pilot in combat gear is all set to climb into his plane. His flying equipment includes a combined oxygen mask and throat-type microphone, headphones, parachute and Mae West life jacket

AROUND THE CANYON

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

If you wondered who made it possible to enter O'Neill Park off of Live Oak and Trabuco Oaks Drive-mystery solved. A very productive first scheduled work day for 357. The project was overseen by former Trail Boss and now Trail Maintenance coordinator, Jeff Kelly.



TRIPLE CROWN PARTNERSHIP SUPPORTING OUR FRIENDS AT BETHANY'S GAIT

Bethany's Gait, Inc. a 501(c)3, youth ranch is proud to announce their acceptance into the Triple Crown Partnership program for non-profits.

The T C Partnership program is specifically designed to assist equine non- profit organizations with additional funding for events, programs and activities through customer loyalty.

This is where you as a customer come into play!

It's as easy as removing the "Proof of Purchase" located on the back of each bag. For each proof of purchase returned to Triple Crown, Bethany's Gait will receive 35 cents credit for our youth activities and education programs, now how easy is that.

Please leave your Triple Crown proof of purchase in the Bethany's Gait Triple Crown proof of purchase pouch at your local feed store or mail proofs of purchase to:

Bethany's Gait, Inc.
27762 Antonio Parkway, L1-464
Ladera Ranch, CA 92694



Thank you in advance for helping the children and horses of Bethany's Gait Youth Ranch & Horse Rescue

HORSE HISTORY IMAGES FROM THE US LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The attitudes of animals in motion : a series of photographs illustrating the consecutive positions assumed by animals in performing various movements; executed at Palo Alto, California, in 1878.



Copyright 1881 by
Edward J. Muybridge.



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

ETI - CORRAL 357

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING January 31, 2011

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America)									\$ 11,836.57
DEPOSITS:									
Deposits Made After January Closing:									\$ 0.00
Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits									\$ 11,836.57
EXPENSES:									
CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	CK#	Source	Reason	Amount		
1427	ETI	membership	\$168.00	1433	P Gomez	board dinner	\$30.00		
Total expenses paid in January 2011									(\$198.00)
UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD									
CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	CK#	Source	Reason	Amount		
1424	ETI	charity check	\$1983.00	1434	ETI	membership	\$72.00		
Total Outstanding Checks Jan 2011 - i.e. Spending:									\$2,055.00
Funds on hand in checking as of 01-31-11									\$ 9,781.57
Petty Cash on Hand as of 01-31-11									<u>\$ 400.00</u>
Corral FUNDS On Hand at 01-31-2011:									<u>\$10,181.57</u>
SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS:									\$10,181.57
Less Reserves:									
1.- MAU as of 01-31-2011 = After payment for 2nd Chip Scanner:									(\$ 779.89)
Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve:									<u>\$(779.89)</u>
NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357									\$9,401.68

CHARITY AUCTION SPONSORS

Below is a list of businesses and individuals who contributed generously to our charity event. Please remember to return the favor by patronizing their businesses.



24 Hour Fitness	Active Dog Adventures	American Horse Products
Asics Shoes	Autumn Lopez	Bad to the Bone
Bagel Me!	Barbara Balthaser	Bob Frazier
Canyon Creek Ramblers	Carlos Sifuentes	Carol Hargrove
Chris Hillman	Chrisie Lorie	Chrisie Lovee
Claygirl of California	Corey Schlom	Duane Turner
Ed Samra DDS	El Toro Tack and Feed	Elusive Cowgirl
Evelyn Ortega	Exquisite Hair Designs	Fred's Ortega Tack and Feed
Golden Spoon	Grace Design	Hands on Paws
Hitch'n Post	Hurley Personal Training	Island Cowgirl
Jewelry by Day	Jim and Sue Corley	Jim and Vicki Iacono
Johnny Rebs	Kate Roth	Kathleen Kelly Pardo
Kelly Collins	Ladera Family and Sports Chiropractic	Lisa Ruiz
Lori Bocchicchio Photography	Marni Nagy	Mauricio Aranda
Monty Roberts	Moreno's Mexican Restaurant	Norco Ranch Outfitters
O'Neill Regional Park	OCPottery.com	Pat and Shirley O'Keefe
Petco	Platinum Performance	Rather Be Riding Stables
Ritenour Photography	Rose Canyon Cantina	See's Candy
Silverberg and Cook	Skin Inc.	Stallipops
Starlite Dance Studio	Susan Johnston	Susie Nolen
SVUCD	Tejon Ranch Clothing	Terri Steuben
Thomas Hill	Thrifty Horse	Trabuco Canyon General Store
Trabuco Oaks Steak House	View Cleaners	Village Clayworks
Vintage Sculpture	Wags and Wiggles	West Coast Cowgirl
Z Pizza		



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

