



Corral News

June 2011
Volume 17, Issue 6



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY RICK BALTHASER

RICK'S 'RAMBLINS'

Howdy Saddleback Canyon Riders!

Spring is transitioning to summer, the perfect time for us to get out on our horses and go ridin'! As the old sayin' goes: "There's nothing better for the inside of a man (or woman), than to be on the outside of a horse". I have always felt that we are truly blessed to have some of the most beautiful riding trails in Southern California right in our own backyard.

We enjoyed a great Cinco de Mayo Members Meeting on the patio of Friends Sports Tavern. I was pleased to announce that Debbie Kelly and Bekah Segien (it was Debbie by a nose!) racked up the most hours in April for our POP or 'Patronize Our Park' contest! This distinction earned them both a gift certificate to Golden Spoon. The winner for March was yours truly. So, if you are a lover of frozen yogurt, I encourage you to get out there, rack up some hours in the park, and I'll meet ya' at Golden Spoon!

If you happened to miss our May Meeting, then you also missed Ricky B and Jimmy I's poetic tribute to both Mom's and Mother's Day. (I gotta tell ya', this is exactly WHY you cannot afford to miss ANY of our Member's Meetings! ... lol).

On May 7th, we represented our club and supported American Horse Products' Customer Appreciation Day (thanks Dave and Sue, Alberta, Kristen and Cami, Mindy and Karen and I). Special thanks to Diane and Jim Carter for inviting us to their event. It was a really great day (Dave set up a really cool booth for us!), and I particularly enjoyed the free Horse Nutrition and Saddle Fitting Clinics. We even sold some used tack that we are using to help fund some of the aforementioned POP prizes.

We have a very busy June planned, with a Member's Meeting, Trail Maintenance Day, Play Day, Movie Night and more! We'll be sending out email reminders as we get closer to all of these events.



To wrap 'er up, here's another quote that I enjoyed stumbling upon:

Never get up before breakfast, but if you have to ... eat breakfast first - Author unknown

Take care, and I hope to see ya' out on the trails!

Rick Balthaser, President
Cell: 949 439-2414
RBalthaser@aol.com

IMPORTANT DATES

(SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Date		Event	Time	Location	Contact	
June	2	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	4	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	8:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Jim S (949) 677-5200
	9	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	11	Saturday	Play Day	8:00AM	O'Neill Park	Jim (949) 459-7742
	26	Sunday	Cowboy Church	9:00AM	TCCC	Jim S (949) 677-5200
July	4	Monday	July 4th Parade/ BBQ	8:30AM	Trabuco Canyon, Ca.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	7	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	30	Saturday	Month End/ Full Moon Ride	TBA PM	O'Neill Park	Jim S (949) 677-5200
Aug.	4	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
		Saturday	Pancake Fund Raiser	5:30AM	Rancho Santa Margarita	Debbie (949)244-0670
	11	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	13	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200
	27	Saturday	Month End Ride	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200



A DAY WITH A FRIEND AND OUR HORSES BY JAMES M. IACONO

Last weekend, President Rick and I decided to do a little P.N.C. (Patronize North County). We visited the Fullerton Recreational Riders horse club to sample their Playday Faire. Let me tell you, the menu had 55 entrees, or I guess I meant "entrants". Wow, this place is popular. Bleachers on one side of the arena, and a park-like site setting on the other, splash in a healthy group of spectators, and you have a horse event as a community centerpiece.

Rick had Stormy spend the night at my place the night before because we wanted to introduce the trailer buddies for the next day. Rick was startled within 1 minute of putting Stormy next to Lacey when a metal rear shoe met metal pipe on a sliding door to put a ring in the air. He jumped, (he's never had a mare) but just enough to clear the Trabuco Canyon phone directory. We re-met up at 6:30 a.m., and after surprisingly only 15 minutes of effort, with a

stud chain and a butt rope..... I had Rick all loaded in; and then I got the HORSES in for the road trip. The trip was smooth as silk, and when we arrived we pulled into a nice shady spot on the end of the trailer line-up, furthest from the arena, but hey, we were just warming up to the new surroundings. Wanting to keep the horses occupied while we signed up and tested the Breakfast Burritos, we grazed them with a second flake of alfalfa. I mean, with only 55 entrants, there wasn't enough stimulation. When we got them down there for the 1st event warm-up, if it had been a golf tournament, they would have been saying, "Where's the first tee, and what's the course record!" They were wired for sound, but luckily they had time to sand the edge down a bit because Open Division goes last- EVERY TIME. A special plus was that Trail Boss Jim and Secretary Karen helped wile away the time with some familiar faces and lively encouragement. Despite watching 50 others run the course, yours truly was *(continued on page 6)*

PATRONIZE OUR PARK' CONTEST!

ETI 357 – Saddleback Canyon Riders
Log your hours in O'Neill Regional Park
and Win Cool Stuff!

OFFICIAL RULES:

Who is eligible?

Any member of ETI 357 – Saddleback Canyon Riders that is in good standing!

How does it work?

When you go for a trail ride, walk, hike, run, bicycle ride, do trail maintenance or volunteer in any way at O'Neill Regional Park your hours will count towards the contest. NOTE: Arena use is not counted as hours for this contest.

Prizes:

GRAND PRIZE:

The member that logs the most Park hours will win a beautiful trophy (More will be revealed on this!) with a plaque that will be engraved with their name. The winner keeps this trophy for a year, and then it gets handed to the next winner the following year (Just like the Stanley Cup in hockey). There will also be beautiful awards for SECOND and THIRD place finishers. And, there will be cool 'milestone prizes' for members that reach 50, 100, 150 and 200 hours!

How do we record our hours?

It's SIMPLE!

There is a black mailbox that is at the junction of Pawfoot Trail and Coyote Trail. (The area with a couple of parking spots and picnic tables just across (west) from the main entrance). The combination to the lock is 2-4-6-8. Go to the proper tab, and enter your start and end times.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Your 'start time' is when you leave your house to head for the park trails, and your 'end time' is when you return home after the park trails.

When does the contest start and end?

The contest starts on Saturday, March 12th and ends one week prior to our ETI 357 Christmas Party in December. The winners will be announced at the Christmas Party!

IMPORTANT NOTE!

As this is an O'Neill Park related contest, the rangers are very interested in getting reports from our members regarding: Trail maintenance needs, wildlife sightings, even suspicious or illegal behavior sightings. Leave a note in the mailbox, or call 949 923-2259, or email Ranger Lorrie at lorrie.zuczek@ocparks.com if there is something you feel is worth reporting.

Although this contest is sponsored by ETI 357, it is in no way a sanctioned ETI event, therefore ETI Members participating in this contest do so at their own risk.

QUESTIONS? Call or email Rick Balthaser - Cell: 949 439-2414 - RBalthaser@aol.com

IN THE SADDLE

VICKI IACONO, INTERVIEWED BY SUSAN SEROSKI

When I first decided I wanted to take riding lessons, I asked everyone I could think of if they knew anyone in the canyon who gave lessons. I called all the stables in the area and they all had someone, provided I had my own horse and could get it there. I finally found someone local but once she left the canyon, I thought we didn't have anyone else.

I was very surprised to hear a few months ago that our very own treasurer, Vicki Iacono, is a riding instructor and so I chose her as my interview subject. This way we could get the word out to the club in case members are asked for a good instructor and it would also give me the opportunity to find out more about this woman I've known for years, but not really.

Name: Vicki Iacono

Years in Canyon: Still relative newcomers, Jim and Vicki moved to the Canyon from Mission Viejo 17 years ago.

How did you come to live here? We made the decision to make the move after getting our first 2 horses, Sahara and Captain. We thought it would be great to be able to walk out the door and be with the horses instead of having to drive to visit them.

Besides Jim, what pets do you have? 2 cats, 2 dogs and 4 horses (Lacy, Zoe, Cerise and Sultan (the newest addition)). I also have a daughter, Tessa, and a son, Eric.

When did you start riding? How did you get your first horse? When I was about 5, I started asking my mother for riding lessons but each time, my mother reported that all the lessons were filled. Finally, when

I was about 11 an opening miraculously appeared and I was able to start.

I rode until I was about 15 then other interests caught my attention and I didn't start up again for about 20 years, when my daughter, Tessa, was in non-equine 4H. We saw a beautiful horse that both Tessa and I dearly wanted and when

Jim came home from work that night, we persuaded him to give horse ownership a try. I promised that if after 6 months we decided we couldn't afford the horse, I would sell Sahara. Of course, with his wife's

and daughter's pleading looks and pleading words, he caved. Prior to that, Jim's only interest in horses was watching them race at Del Mar, in fact that's where we went on our first date, but soon after Sahara joined the family Jim also became passionate about riding and thus, Captain joined the family.

What discipline? I

learned English first but I love Western. I found riding on an English saddle to be much like perching on a postage stamp-sized area; Western is much more comfortable. Besides that, with Western I'm out on the trails seeing things (continued on page 5)



IN THE SADDLE (CONTINUED)

whereas with English, it's all arena work and no real change of scenery.

What was your most memorable time on a horse?

As a child, I watched the high stepping, beautiful Saddlebreds and wished I could one day show one of them. The first time I rode into the ring at Del Mar on my Saddlebred, it was a childhood dream come true and I was so touched that it brought tears to my eyes.

What made you decide to start giving riding lessons?

Each Christmas Jim, dressed as a wise man, would ride Captain into Saddleback Church for the Christmas pageant. The children would crowd around and Captain would stand very still, taking care to not injure the kids. The Pastor's children wanted to ride, so would come out to our home and we would allow them to ride for free, while I instructed them. I realized I am good at it and that I have a good rapport with kids, so I decided to go for it.

The loss of Captain has been a huge blow in so many ways, including giving lessons. I knew him so well, trusted him completely and always knew how

he would react to any situation. I have a new horse now, Sultan, but am still getting to know him and am not ready to put new riders on him yet.

Other Hobbies: Jim and I took dance classes and I love to go dancing (Swing, Foxtrot, Rumba). I used to ski a lot but broke my wrist the last time I went so I won't do that any more. I do like to read old classics like Jane Austin and Henry James but Margaret

Mead's "Gone With The Wind" is one of my favorites. I never get tired of it.

Favorite Movie? Ideal Husband.

Favorite TV Show? The Office.

Favorite Musician? Has to be Bruce Springsteen! Of course, younger people won't

know who he is but I love his music.

What do you enjoy most about Saddleback Canyon Riders? The thing I love most about Saddleback Canyon Riders is the people. I know that sounds trite but it's the truth! The people in the club just want to have fun. There's never any drama, just people having a good time and the camaraderie can't be beat.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY SHEILA SEGIEN

Very Expired (sorry, last newsletter!!) Vansel Johnson 12/10, Doug & Jennifer Slavin 12/10

Expired: Fred & Helen Bruns 2/11, Rod Van Sickle 4/11

Expiring: Rick & Karen Balthaser 6/11, Schicht Family 6/11, Dave & Susan Seroski 6/11, Bob & Spike Wilks 6/11, Alberta Morehouse 6/11

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

A DAY WITH A FRIEND AND OUR HORSES (CONTINUED)

DQd in the first event for going OFF course. It's a bitch getting old. Things picked up for us, as we bagged 6 ribbons (or should I say "Buttons") between us, as well as a High Point Open Division Champ. Learned some great new games we'll be taking to our June Playday to boot.

Most of all, it was about spending time with a friend, doing something we

both like to- bond with our horses. We had a few laughs, met lots of new like-minded people, shared a few meals- all 3 actually- and got to know each other a little better. At the end of it all, I realized that sometimes you can stretch out a bit, hang with some friends and feel like you've spent a worthwhile day doing something that carves a pretty solid memory. Now let's all do the same come June 11th, O'Neill Park Arena!



PARTICIPATE AND WIN (PAW) SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDER'S CONTEST

Because, we want to **REWARD and RECOGNIZE** our Members for their participation, dedication and support of our great club!

OFFICIAL Git-R-Done! RULES:

Who is eligible?

Members of ETI 357 – Saddleback Canyon Riders that are in good standing!

(Note: Board Members of ETI 357 are not eligible for this contest)

How does it work?

EASY!

When you attend any ETI 357 - Saddleback Canyon Rider's Event in any capacity, whether it's as a participant, a volunteer, or even a spectator you get a POINT for your participation. Just sign in at the event and your point will be recorded!

These will include ALL of our GREAT sanctioned and even non-sanctioned club-related events: Members Meetings, Month End Trail Rides, Trail Maintenance Days, Play Days, Parades, Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival 'Field Trip', Camping Trips, Special Events, Volunteer Events like Equifest, ETI 357 Clinics, etc!

Prizes:

There will be an AWESOME GRAND PRIZE for FIRST PLACE!

AMAZING PRIZES for SECOND and THIRD PLACES

And even special prizes at our Members Meetings for those who rack up FIVE points and TEN points!

So, show up at our great events! ... Have FUN with your club! Rack up some points, and we'll see ya' at the AWARDS CEREMONIES at our Christmas Party in December!



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

ETI - CORRAL 357 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING April 30, 2011

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$
9,964.45.45

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After April Closing: \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 9,964.45

EXPENSES:

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	Ck#	Source	Reason	Amount
1443	ETI	membership	\$200.00	1444	SVUSD	parking	\$118.00
1445	D Kelly	board dinner	\$ 30.00			(playday)	

Total expenses paid in April 2011 (\$348.00)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	Ck#	Source	Reason	Amount
1446	ETI	liab insurance	\$575.00	1447	USPS	PO Box dues	\$38.00

Total Outstanding Checks April 2011 - i.e. Spending: \$613.00

Funds on hand in checking as of 04-30-11 \$ 9,351.45

Petty Cash on Hand as of 04-30-11 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 04-30-2011: \$8,951.45

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$8,951.45

Less Reserves:

1.- MAU as of 04-30-2011 = 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 \$ 8,171.56



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

