



## RICK'S RAMBLIN'S

BY RICK BALTHASER

### NOVEMBER ELECTIONS!

Howdy Saddleback Canyon Riders!

Well, it's been a great year so far for Saddleback Canyon Riders!

In November we are having our annual elections. The Board Member positions that are up for election or re-election are: Scribe, Secretary, Trail Boss and President. Serving on our Board is certainly a fun, fulfilling and honorable way to serve and be an integral part of our great club.

If you, or if you know someone you think would be well-suited for any of these positions, well heck, Cowboy or Cowgirl Up and put your, or their name on the ballot! We will vote at our November's Meeting, and you will also be able to vote via email if you can't make it to the Member's Meeting.

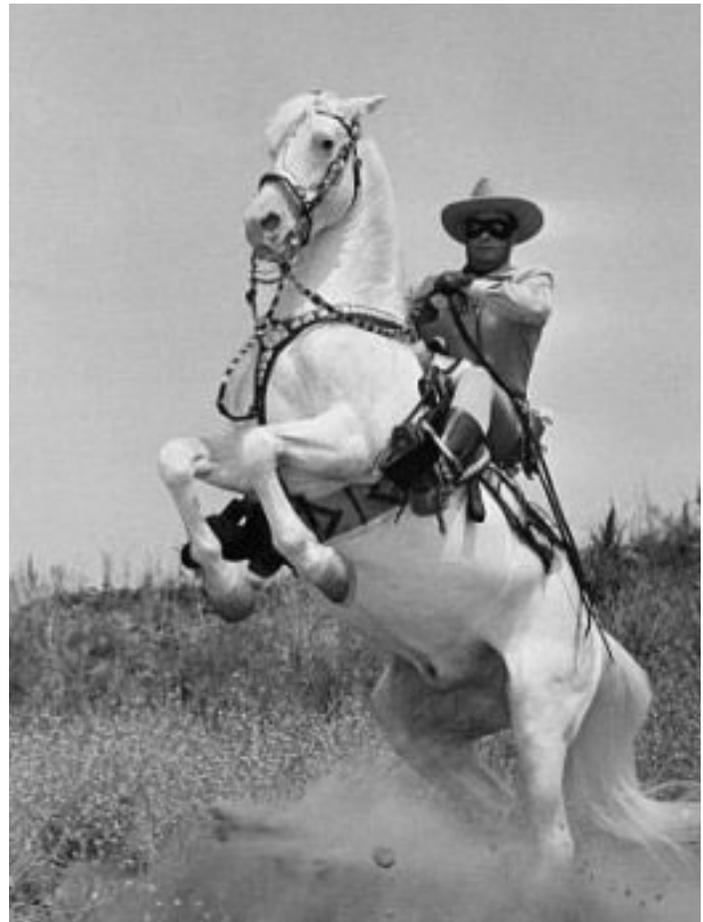
So, good luck to all of our worthy nominees!

I would like to close with something that seems appropriate in light of our upcoming elections:

#### ***The Lone Ranger's Creed***

*I believe that to have a friend, a man must be one. That all men are created equal and that everyone has within himself the power to make this a better world. That God put the firewood there, but that every man must gather and light it himself. In being prepared physically, mentally, and morally to fight when necessary for that which is right. That a man should make the most of what equipment he has. That "this government, of the people, by the people, and for the people," shall live always. That men should live by the rule of what is best for the greatest number. That sooner or later... somewhere... somehow... we must settle with the world*

*and make payment for what we have taken. That all things change, but the truth, and the truth alone lives on forever. I believe in my Creator, my country, my fellow man.*



Hope to see ya' on the trails!

Rick Balthaser

Prez

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## HORSE SENSE

BY BY DAVE SEROSKI

### WHY USING PARELLI NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP IS A GOOD IDEA:

#### (OR JUST ANOTHER BENEFIT OF OUR CLUB)

Many moons ago it was offered to go to see this thing called a natural horsemanship demo. Good idea, something different, nice day and a perfect ride down the Ortega. Led the club to a nice shady cover by a small round pen. We all settled in our fold up chairs to see this "Horse Magic" unfold before our very eyes. I was just enjoying the perfect morning, the company I was in, and the wonderful ranch we were at. The horse Voo-Doo? Well all trickery as I understand. Nothing more than pre trained horses doing things they all knew how to do. Were "all" horse people so their will be no tricking us.

Soon Susan Johnston entered the arena and asked that the most troubsom horses be brought to her. One after one she had them doing what she said she would they would be doing! With only some strange maneuvers. The horses knew what she wanted? And did it!

How could this be? Natural Horsemanship is doing what the horse already knows. It's you that have to learn to "speak and act horse"

In The Parelli camp the basics are used in everyday

problems and articles are constantly written by the Parellies addressing common problems.: Solutions for your cinchy horse, Help! My horse is way to smart, Stop the trail grazing, Why dose my horse kick?, Understanding Horse & Human emotions, In and out of the Heard. Just a few that you can read, go the arena, and use that day.

If you know and practice the basic 7 games. As I see the Parellis grow (Pat & Linda), they evolve with other trainers so as you follow them? You change and learn too..

Check into Parelli Connect and find out what you have been missing in your horse experance.They even have a side bar were you can ask questions and get answers from the trainers free! Dont miss out on equipment, thier saddel fitting DVD (free) is one of the best around. Some thing you can take your time with and finaly get that perfect fit for you and your horse, Soon you will be getting nuzzeled and loved by your horse like never before. Rides will be less tire-some and more enjoyable, and the experances you have with your horse will be life time good memorys.



## HO! HO! HO!

BY JAMES M. IACONO

### That's not meant to stop your horse!

It's an invitation to join us to ride in the Laguna Niguel Christmas Parade. Let me know if you are available the morning of December 8th to have a jolly good time down in Laguna Niguel. If you are interested and need a ride, or have a trailer to offer a ride, please let me know by November 15th. More details will follow.Please e-mail me direct at [jiacono@fontissolutions.com](mailto:jiacono@fontissolutions.com) or call me at 714-612-1789.



# CORRAL CALENDAR

Date			Event	Time	Location	Contact
Oct.	4	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	6	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	9:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200
	7	Sunday	Acorn Day	10:00AM - 2:00PM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Rick (949) 439-2414
	11	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	20	Saturday	Buckle Play Day	8:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim (949) 459-7742
	27	Saturday	Costume Ride	4:00 PM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200
Nov.	1	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00PM	Friends	Karen (714) 458-7772
	8	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	18	Sunday	Month End Ride & Cowboy Church		TCCC	Pastor Robert (714) 334-7126
	24	Saturday	Month End Ride	10:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200
Dec.	13	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00PM	TBA	Karen (714) 458-7772
	9	Sunday	Christmas Party	6:00PM	TBA	Jim (949) 459-7742
	29	Saturday	Month End Ride	10:00AM	O'Neill Park T.C.	Jim S (949) 677-5200



## 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?** 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!



## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR - FALL

BY JAMES M. IACONO

As the leaves turn burnt orange, and the days shorten, and the house gutters beg for a swiping, we are reminded that a new season is upon us-Fall. Say it again-fall. I wonder from where the name of the season comes? Is it the earlier "fall" of the sun into the ocean at a time when Leisure World is still dining? Is it the sudden "fall" of the temperatures from the scorching days of September to the nipper nights of October? Or is it the gentle "fall" of the crumpled sycamore leaf, buoyed by the breath of a benevolent breeze that has inspired the moniker "fall"?

It was thinking about this last image that inspired me to make the connection between how nature handles falls, and how I, a cognitive thinking human being, recently handled a fall. Some of you may know that in September, while competing in a Gymkhana in Fullerton, I personally took a "fall". While I am sure the spectacle didn't impress on anyone watching that a horrible fall had just occurred, the unnatural way in which I fell did cause considerable damage- 7 broken ribs, a collapsed lung, four days in the hospital, and a cancelled European vacation was the price that was paid. Damage indeed.

Nothing seemed out of the ordinary as Lacy and I sprinted back to the finish line after pivoting around the third barrel. However, the fact that I had given her all the rein, she was on her left lead, we usually go left, and the saddle slipped slightly to the right, should have swayed me to go left in the direction she

was headed as we crossed the finish line. However, I made a split second decision to try and send her right with a lean. She continued to the left, and I leaned right- right out of the saddle. Here is where my unnatural reflex, however cost me dearly. Had I thought about that sycamore leaf, how it simply rides gravity to the ground, how it crumples and turns its ends inward to itself, I might have saved myself a whole lot of pain. Instead, as I fell from my rather short-legged Arabian Mare, I decided to reach out and grab for the top rail of the arena fencing. Since I was moving, and the fence was stationary, grabbing the top rail whipped me into the two lower rails, my chest, side, and back exposed and unprotected. Thud.

So nature begs us to study what it has been doing since the beginning of time. It has lots of experience at "fall." We should pay attention, and it may save us from paying a price. Simply turn your limbs into yourself, and let gravity be the lead dancer on your way to the ground.

On the bright side, I want to thank everyone from this great Club- ETI 357- for the support and compassion I received. From the ride to the hospital, to the return home of my horse and trailer that day, to the visits in the hospital, cards, books, brownies, movies... there's nothing better for the inside of a person, than the outside of a mailbox filled with good wishes and encouragement from horse people. Thanks everyone! I hope to make that European "trip" next year, as long as I can avoid the "fall".



## TRAIL MAINTENANCE

BY DEBBIE KELLY

The last scheduled trail maintenance for 2012 brought out a small but mighty group! Big thanks to members Dave and Sue Seroski, Jim Schicht, Terry Roberts, and his buddy Vic. The order of the day was to once again clear the rocks that cover the path into the equestrian arena. I think those rocks really laugh at us. We pat our backs and stand back in awe about twice a year when we aggressively do rock clearing. Then before we know it they are back. Well, I guess that is job security for those of us who really embrace our Trail Maintenance program! We also leveled the sand in the first round pen. Thanks to Bob Wilks and Rich Gomez for hanging the Play Day banner. Take a look at the new path between the two arena entrance gates too. It remains unnamed but the new gate and path is a Saddleback Canyon Riders brain child (under the persistence of one Dave Seroski) so we take it very seriously. The committee that launched the gate proposal and the labor that went

into it hallmarks what our club can do when we come together to make the experience equestrian experience even better for horse and rider.

Anyone reading this might want to consider the time, energy, and resources that go into planning and then executing the events ETI offers all year long. We are glad so many benefit and participate. Please take a moment and consider becoming part of the core that keeps this going. Elections are coming up and some positions are also appointed by the board. If this is not the right time that's ok too. You can volunteer at any event; usually with just an RSVP when the email's or sign up's go around.



# TRAIL MAINTENANCE PHOTOS (CONTINUED)



## TRAIL BOSS REPORT BY JIM SCHICHT

Howdy, I was here riding my chair in the air-conditioned kitchen, when the thought hit me, after reading articles on training

our riding partners.

When do we start our training? Is it when we get out of our truck? Is it when we walk up to the gate to the barn area? Is it walking up to our partner? Is it when we halter them? Is it when we brush them? Is it when we saddle them up or is it the time we step up for a ride?

It is all the above. Your mind set and your body language, is what your partner is picking up the first time he sees you. Your day on the ground, or riding should be considered a training day, as we always want to have the finest riding partner.

Ride safe, ride smart and trim the trails.

Your Trail Boss,

Jim and Jager



# TREASURER'S REPORT

BY VICKI IACONO

## TREASURER'S OFFICE...ETI - CORRAL 357 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPT. 30,2012

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$10,994.72

**DEPOSITS:**

Deposits Made After September Closing: \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$10,994.72

**EXPENSES:**

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck #	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
1528	ETI	membership	\$ 96.00	1533	ETI	membership	\$ 18.00
1535	O.C Parks	permit	\$ 75.00	1536	D Kelly	bd dinner	\$ 30.00
1537	D Kelly	playday	\$ 80.00				

Total expenses paid in September 2012 (\$299.00)

**UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD**

1527 D Kelly playday coffee \$15.00

Total Outstanding Checks September 2012 i.e. Spending: \$ 15.00

Funds on hand in checking as of 9-30-2012 \$10,979.72

Petty Cash on Hand as of 09-30-2012 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 09-30-2012: \$11,379.72

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$11,379.72

**Less Reserves:**

1.- MAU as of 09-30-2012 = (\$ 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**

\$10,599.83



## **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