



**June
2014**

**Volume 21
Issue 6**

Rick's Ramblin's
"A Saga of the Sprinkling of our Parents Ashes"

Howdy fellow Saddleback Canyon Riders!

Occasionally I'll write about stuff that is personal to me, and this month's article certainly falls under that category. Wednesday, May 28 was a bit of a bittersweet day for the Balthaser family; as it marked the one year anniversary of our Dad's passing. On the day, I had not given the matter a lot of thought, and then an idea came to me in the late afternoon. So I called 'my much better-half', "Hey Karen, what if we were to drive down to Lake San Marcos and sprinkle some of Dad's and Mom's ashes on the lake." Being a sweetheart as well as obliging MANY of my spontaneous follies, her response was "Sure!" I bolted out of work, and while driving south, called the Lakehouse Resort with the hopes of renting a small boat. Meanwhile at home, Karen started to gather up Dad, Mom and any other 'ash sprinkling accoutrements' she could think of. I spoke to a clerk at the Resort and explained what we wanted to do, but she informed me that the boat rentals closed at four ... no exceptions. I was disappointed, but figured we would just kind of 'wing it' when we got there (as if we weren't already totally 'winging it'). About five minutes later I received a call from Katrina, a different woman at the resort, who said that she heard what we were hoping to do and told me "We will absolutely make this happen for you." In the parking lot of the Lakehouse Resort we got busy dividing Dad and Mom into smaller plastic bags and trying hard not to forget 'who was who'. We loaded Dad, Mom and some flowers into what appeared to be about a 6 foot long electric boat. We left the dock and raced the quickly setting sun at what I would estimate to be a top speed of 1-2 mph. (I think we could have canoed quicker).

We eventually reached our destination, a very scenic little spot out by the dam where the rocks, reeds and lily pads all met together at the water's edge. It was quite beautiful, calm and serene. We sprinkled the flowers and the ashes in the water and said a few brief words about two of the most amazing people that have graced our lives and this world. And with our ceremony complete, we started to motor back to the Resort. My sister Amy had told us to watch for herons (one of Mom's favorite birds) and a big majestic Blue Heron flew closely overhead and landed in some reeds a hundred yards or so ahead of the boat. We pulled up close to it and it just stayed there for what seemed like a couple of minutes as we enjoyed its company. It then slowly took flight. We started heading back again and as we did a single bright yellow balloon floated over the lake a hundred feet or so in front of the boat then gently touched down on the water. We scooped it up and pointed the boat toward the resort as dusk set in over the lake. It may not have been the most dignified "sprinkling of ashes" but I'm hoping my folks were looking down and thinking "that's exactly the way we would have wanted it".



To you and all of our loved ones, Rick Balthaser, Prez



Summer Fly Season Tips from your Trail Boss

As it approaches summer and the fly's presence increase I am often asked for fly prevention advice from some of our tenants.

I have used the following methods with a degree of success and they may also be helpful for you.

Keep Riding

Trail Boss Terry

You can take care of all those pesky flies that hang around enclosed areas like barns or transportation trailers, by using you own homemade vinegar fly trap:

- 3 cups (750 ml) Water
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) Apple Cider Vinegar
- 1/4 cup (60 grams) Sugar

Dissolve the sugar in the vinegar solution then place in a large jar and punch holes in the lid. The flies will get in but won't be able to fly out.

For even more protection against insects and flies, try to identify the type of insect or fly bothering your horse because they all have their own preferred breeding spots and feeding times as shown in the table below, then use the appropriate horse care tips for natural fly protection listed below the table.

Fly Type	Breeding Spots	Feeding Time
Black flies	Running water	Morning & late afternoon
Deer flies	Water & Vegetation	Daytime
Stable flies	Manure	Daytime
Horn flies	Cattle	Daytime
Mosquitoes	Water	Dusk to early evening
NoSeeUms Culicoides	Standing water Manure Decaying vegetation	Twilight to dawn

Best Horse Care Tips for Natural Fly Protection

Eliminate insect **breeding sites** as much as possible.

Cover manure piles and dispose of them often.

Remove daily from stalls and pens all manure, wet straw, and waste hay then spread thinly or compost in a covered pile.

Eliminate standing water that can collect in such places as cans, old tires, discarded bedding and wet organic material.

Stable horses at sunrise and sunset, peak feeding times for black flies, no- see-ums and mosquitoes. Always use fly masks.

Contributed by Terry Roberts

Watch for more fly protection tips in our next newsletter.



TREASURER'S OFFICE...

ETI - CORRAL 357

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING

April 30, 2014

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 10,233.51

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After April Closing: \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 10,233.51

EXPENSES:

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	Ck#	Source	Reason	Amount
1637	ETI	membership	\$ 84.00	1638	R Gomez	Website	\$ 99.00
1639	D Kelly	playday	\$ 32.00	1640	Balthaser	bd dinner	\$ 30.00

Total expenses paid in April 2011 (\$245.00)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

CK#	Source	Reason	Amount	Ck#	Source	Reason	Amount
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Total Outstanding Checks April 2014 - i.e. Spending: \$0.00

Funds on hand in checking as of 04-30-14 \$10,233.51

Petty Cash on Hand as of 04-30-14 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at 04-30-2014: \$10,633.51

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: \$10,633.51

Less Reserves:

1.-ERT as of 04-30-2014 (476.73)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: (476.73)

NET - NET - NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of : Corral 357 \$10,157.08



*Save the date for this very important event.
Contact Rich or Patti Gomez 949-888-1604*

2014 Board of Directors:

PRESIDENT: Rick Balthaser
(949) 709-2359 rbalthaser@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Iacono
(949) 459-7742
jiacono@fontissolutions.com

SECRETARY: Patti Gomez
(949) 888-1604
pattiangomez@aol.com

TREASURER: Vicki Iacono
(949) 459-7742 zoegal@hughes.net

MEMBERSHIP: Kristen Holden
(949) 444-1990
kristen3091@gmail.com

TRAIL BOSS: Terry Roberts
(949) 620-4740
Terrymxtrm@gmail.com

MEMBER-AT- LARGE
COMMUNICATIONS: Dave Seroski
(949) 533-7153 dseroski@cox.net

SCRIBE: Debbie Kelly
(949) 244-0670
debbiekelly57@yahoo.com

ERT: Rich Gomez (949) 888-1604
rtgomez@aol.com

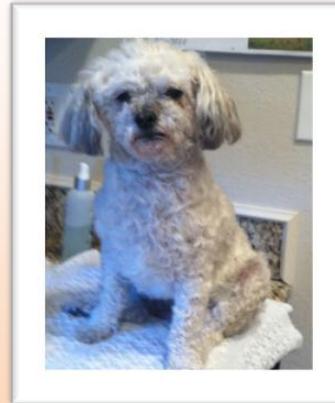
SERGEANT-AT- ARMS: Jim Schicht
949-677-5200

Events Director: Evelyn Ortega
949-858-0903 jinja27@dishmail.net

Events Co-Director: Tracy Tuttle
949-444-1974
lettherebcake@cox.net

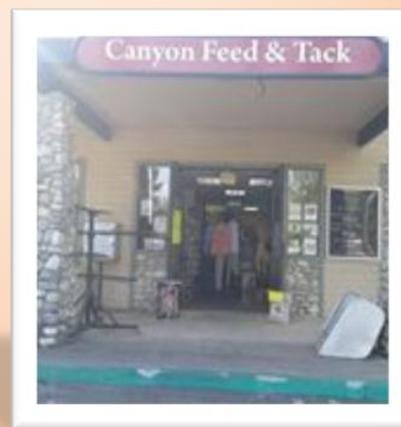
Social Media: Robby Stuckey
(949) 788-1750
robby@awekeninteractive.com

Farewell to my little Dixie Doodle. I miss you so much. Thank you for all the love and comfort you brought me. You are forever in my heart. I will see you again one day.

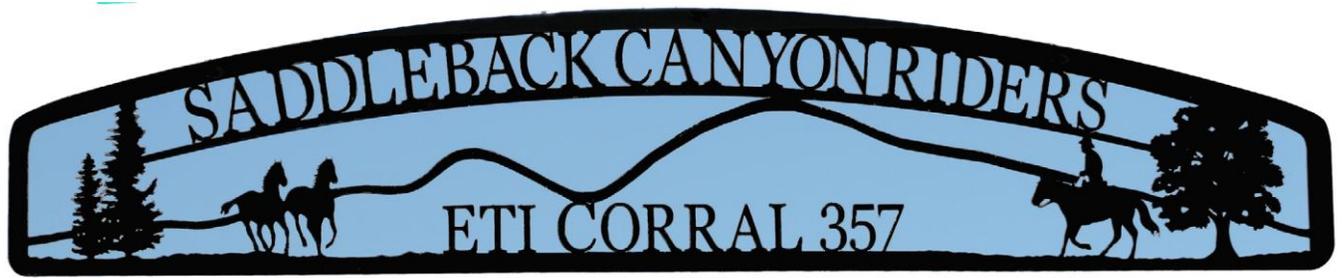


*Dixie
Crossed the Rainbow Bridge May24, 2014.
Loved and adored by Debbie Kelly*

Canyon Feed and Tack for all your Equine needs and more!



(949) 766-2825 "Like" them on Facebook.



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.

Who are the Saddleback Canyon Riders?

The Saddleback Canyon Riders are ETI Corral 357. We were established in 1991 and currently boast sixty plus members from 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.

ETI Corral 357
PO Box 1026
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678