



**Septemeber
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August 2014 Ferber Ranch Ride

by Kristen Holden (Membership Chairperson)

As many of us in the club know, a number of areas that were previously open for public use have been closed. These properties have been sold or become part of the park system or other agency



acquisitions. This is what occurred in 2011 when almost 400 acres known as Ferber Ranch was purchased by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). Although use of the Ferber land has been extremely restricted to public use, OCTA has been cooperative in opening some of the trails to the hiking and equine communities under controlled situations. This was the case this past August with three group rides on the Ferber Ranch property.

With the cooperation of OCTA, I was fortunate to lead the second ride with 11 riders. All the riders showed up on time, well equipped with helmets and chaps, and more than that with the excitement to have an opportunity to show OCTA that the horse riding community is committed to the

preservation of protected lands. The trails have been maintained so the ride was easy to follow. The riders stayed together and ensured that we stayed on the trails and followed the guidelines as outlined by OCTA.

Overall, it was a successful ride for all who participated. Those of us who love to ride were able to do so. And the OCTA personnel who set the ride up found it easy to work with us as a group. Waivers were provided and guidelines followed with ease.

I would most like to give an accolade to Rich Gomez, who tirelessly works with so many entities and most notably OCTA in an effort to keep open public lands for future rides. With his efforts we have had the opportunity to ride on Orange County trails and to show the powers that be that we are a responsible group. The more participants we have when these rides become available, the louder our voice becomes. That is how we fulfill our mission to the equestrian lifestyle



Saddle Care.

by Dave Seroski – Person at Large (PAL)

I don't know how many saddles I have taken apart to clean or restore that I have found the same condition over and over again and it's so easy to avoid. Here's how.

When you store your saddle and it's near any hay or dust producing element cover it! Cover it completely. First, it will protect it from most of the leather-drying dust that will settle on it, leaching out the oils. Next, it will keep the light from fading the leather, like those strips and fender leathers that always hang down from under the traditional covers either partially or completely.

If you can keep your saddle inside in the winter do it. Stored in the barn it is exposed to a lot of weather changes and humidity that will soon crack the face of the leather. Freezing temperatures can be as damaging to it as cooking it in the summer in a hot shed; the leather needs the same temps as the "leather" that you are made of.

Cleaning: Best done on a weekend with the radio on and lots of time.

Take your saddle apart (only as far as you feel comfortable). Now that's scary. How do I get it back together?

Take notes, place each item on the side you took it off of and in the order you took it off in. Take pictures with your phone. Dust off everything. If you have a vacuum, use it to reach every spot you can to remove sand, dirt, dust and cob webs. Use a new paint brush to finish the difficult parts or hard to reach spots. If you have a rough out or suede seat you can get a suede leather cleaner kit, just follow the directions. You really want to get after the suede or rough out that is getting shiny and get it back to its original condition but make sure you never oil or saddle soap it or it's kaput!

Next get a damp clean cloth and wipe off all the dirt, wring it out often and don't use it wet, just damp. Use another cloth to dry everything as you go. Once clean, it's time for the saddle soap. Now most use this incorrectly; here's how to do it the right way.

Use a small sponge and whip up a good lather. Rub it into the leather but don't rinse it off, just let it set. Make sure it is on evenly; get your clean rag and give the soaped area a rub to make sure everything is even, with no streaks, then go on to the next area do the same.

See, saddle soap is really a conditioner, not to be used as soap as we know it. It just lathers up like soap, and so the name.

When you're done let the saddle dry. Next get your Lexal out. Now this is great stuff even for light leather saddles. Use sparingly and rub in well, then get your clean rag and rub the leather to a nice finish.

Reassemble your saddle and you're done.

If you have the need for repair or an extensive cleaning, I can do that for you. Just let me know

Dave Seroski





GMO ALFALFA- *What to Know*

From “Oregonians for Farm and Food Rights” (website)

contributed by Jim Schicht- Sargeant at Arms

What is GMO Alfalfa?

The term GMO (Genetically Modified Organism) is used to describe an organism (plant or animal) whose genetic material has been altered using genetic engineering. The biotechnology company Monsanto genetically engineered the alfalfa plant to be able to resist the herbicide Roundup, a huge moneymaker for the company. This is done by invading an alfalfa plant cell through the use of E Coli bacteria in order to deliver a soil

bacteria gene into its DNA that will allow it to survive exposure to glyphosate (the main ingredient in RoundUp). The plant thus becomes a GMO that is resistant to Roundup. This specific GMO is named Roundup Ready alfalfa (RR alfalfa).

What are the risks of GMO Alfalfa?

Genetically Modified Alfalfa poses unique economic and medical risks that didn't exist with the alfalfa varieties farmers have grown for decades.

The economic risks:

Planting of genetically modified alfalfa *will* result in pollen from those plants contaminating organic and traditional crops. Once a non-GMO crop is affected there is no recourse for the damage done nor is there any way to reverse the process. No law or regulation requires that farmers using GMO alfalfa seeds take measures to avoid cross-pollination with neighbors' crops or weeds.

“Promises were made about containment and segregation, and they weren't kept, and you might say they could never be kept.”

Philip Regal, Biologist University of Minnesota

Several weeds growing among GMO tolerant plants have developed resistance to glyphosate making them more difficult and costly to deal with.

“We can't stop the spread of this weed.”

Arkansas Extension Agent about glyphosate-resistant pigweed

Roundup Ready alfalfa increases herbicide use. Herbicide use on herbicide tolerant crops increased by more than 138 million pounds between 1996 and 2004. It is estimated that RR alfalfa will result in the application of an additional 200,000 pounds a year. This is costly to the pocket book, the environment and human health.

The increasing control that patented seed technologies grant companies like Monsanto reduces the availability of affordable, public seed varieties, and further reduces the control American farmers and ranchers have over U.S. agriculture (not to mention their own farms).

RR alfalfa costs twice as much as other proprietary seed varieties because a technology fee is tacked onto the price of the GM seed.

“Some of our Japanese hay customers are asking us to sign documents saying no genetically modified products will be coming over.”

Jeff Plourd of El Toro Export El Centro California

Many countries and businesses are refusing the use of GM foods. This means an elimination of markets for producers of GMO tainted alfalfa, including markets for meat and dairy derived from livestock fed GMO alfalfa, and the honey industry (most US honey is derived from alfalfa pollen).

The examples above mean that non-GM sources of feed will be increasingly expensive or impossible to find.

“They’ve introduced a technology that they can’t manage and now I have to pay the bills.” –

David Vetter, Nebraska Farmer

The medical risks:

The US Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service did not analyze the effect of RR alfalfa on animals and plants before approving of this GMO. Yet, there is growing evidence about the health detriments of GMOs to people and animals.



How do I know if my livestock feed has GMO alfalfa in it?

You can’t know because there is not a law requiring the labeling of GMOs in Oregon. Even if such a law existed, so long as GMO alfalfa is grown in an outside environment cross-pollination is inevitable with non-GMO crops. Honey bees can transfer pollen several miles. Birds can carry seed even farther.

To learn more about GMO Alfalfa visit <http://www.worc.org/> and click on the link Guide to Genetically Modified Alfalfa, found at the bottom right-hand side of the page.

*Reminder! **Member’s Meeting Thursday 9/4- 7:00pm San Giovanni’s Italian***

Don’t miss it. September 27th “Month End Ride” in Imperial Beach! Leave from TC at 7:00 am. Watch for details.



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My Life with Pepper or

(The Lessons Pepper Taught Me)

Saturday started off okay. Cammie and I headed off to finish setting up my classroom because school was starting on Monday and I had so much still to do. We were working

efficiently thinking we would get done quickly then make a day of shopping and just hanging out.

Then I got the call no one ever wants to get, that Pepper was in distress and based on the suggestions of the vet, Pepper needed to be put down. I was stunned and before I knew it, Cammie and I left everything and raced to the stables. Pepper was standing in his stall calm because he had been given a sedative. I remember thinking that the flies were particularly bad and all I wanted to do was to keep them away from his face.

After talking with the vet, we went into the stall to be with him. As was his personality, he was sweet and had such a gentle way about him you just thought he had an old soul that just understood your feelings. He stood there so gently. It was hard to believe that the cancer had taken over and he wasn't going to make it. He still looked so pretty, his mane and tail so white and flowing. It just didn't make sense. He still had so much life to live.

But sadly it was true. So Heather, Cammie, and I walked Pepper under a shade tree in the field and said good bye. The three of us cried and stayed with him until he took his final breath. So sad and so final. I remember

thinking; why would I want pets, the loss is so painful until I remembered all the good times, rides, playing in the arena and just the licks and kisses I got regularly from that horse. He was one of a kind.

I think the most important lesson I learned from that horse was appreciation. When I first saw Pepper he had been abandoned and was stuck in a small stall day after day. Instead of being mean, he just appreciated any kind of attention by licking my face and arms. He just wanted the attention. He always appreciated any attention he was given, no matter the amount.

Pepper's relationship with my horse Mocha was priceless. From the first moment they met, they became inseparable, BFF's till the end. The two of them loved to be together and when I went out on a ride with Mocha...way up high in the park, somehow they would whinny to each other. Another lesson learned- friendship matters. Do the things that matter with your friends, life is short. Stay in touch.

There are so many other lessons I learned but I don't think I have enough room to share them all. Needless to say, enjoy your friends and animals, life is short, so don't take it for granted.

I will miss you Pepper, rest in peace in the most fabulous green pasture.

By Kristen Holden





Another Successful Event!
by Kristen Holden

As I reflect back on my first pancake breakfast fundraiser as the coordinator, I am amazed at how well everything went. The reason has nothing to do with me and

everything to do with the core group of volunteers who tirelessly participate year after year. So this article will be about them and the effort they put in to ensure a "FUN"raiser extraordinaire.

First, I would like to thank our pancake and sausage chefs: Bob, Rich, Jimmy I., Rick, and Dave. What a team...from Mickey Mouse pancakes to every kind of size, they successfully made over 700 pancakes and sausages in record time. Jimmy I. even found the time to flip some pancakes over his head into a pan held by Tracy and Dave. Go Jimmy!

Next I would like to thank the pancake mixing team: Spike, Karen and Tracy who managed to mix batches of batter using an electric drill and were able to keep up with the demand. This entailed even running to the grocery store to pick up more batter. Go girls!

Our next team of volunteers ensured that the campers got hot pancakes and sausages, kept the butter and syrup flowing, and most especially the coffee and juice; Patti, Tracy, Vicki, Amanda, Carrie, and Debbie. They greeted the tired

campers in pajamas and served all the food with warm smiles. Amanda and Carrie our youngest volunteers never gave up. Way to go girls!

I can't tell you how many campers thanked us for providing such a delicious feast. Even the SAMLARC crew came

over to tell me that working with our club was a pleasure because we know how to serve up a great breakfast year after year.

So thank you to the "pancake breakfast crew" for making my first fundraiser as coordinator a success. I look forward to next year knowing that being the coordinator is much easier than it looks...all because of the great volunteers who show up every year.





TREASURER'S OFFICE...

ETI - CORRAL 357

Financial REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING July31, 2014

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$ 9,695.01

DEPOSITS:

Deposits Made After Closing: July \$0.00 \$ 0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$ 9,695.01

EXPENSES:

<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Ck #</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1551	ETI	membership	\$108.00	1552	E Ortega	playday	\$115.28
1553	K Holden	board dinner	\$ 30.00	1554	P Gomez	4 th BBQ	\$330.79
1556	D Kelly	playday	\$ 48.46	1642	D Seroski	board dinner	\$ 30.00
1649	T Tuttle	playday	\$181.01				

Total expenses paid in – July 2014 (\$843.54)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD

<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1555	J Kelly	arena drag	\$ 58.00
1559	Smart/Final	Breakfast	\$466.37

Total Outstanding Checks July, 31-2014 - i.e. Spending: (\$ 524.37)

Funds on hand in checking as of 7-31-2014 \$ 9,170.64

Petty Cash on Hand as of 7-31-2014 \$ 400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand at July,31-2014 \$ 9,570.64

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS:

Less Reserves:

1.-ERT as of 7-31-2014 (\$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 \$ 9,093.91

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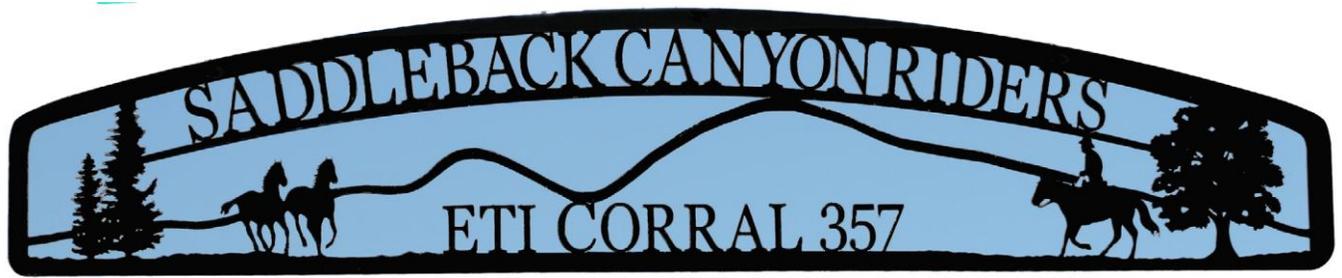
Did you know....

Our club, ETI/357 Saddleback Canyon Riders donates hundreds of collective hours each year to maintain and patrol the trails in O'Neill Park? Additionally, we maintain the equestrian arena on regular intervals and for events. This is a formal commitment the club has with O'Neill rangers. For the month of July the club logged approximately forty-nine hours of volunteer time in the park which includes riding, hiking, bike riding, and trail maintenance. I would estimate it is many more hours than that as sometimes we forget to log our time. Don't forget to do that. Who knows, you may be next to have your name engraved on the coveted POP award at the end of this year! A big ETI thanks to Tracy Tuttle and crew for hitting the trails for the August Maintenance.



Looking for a stall in a quiet, private setting? Call Jennifer at 949-521-2496. Located in Trabuco Canyon.





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
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