

Corral News

Saddleback Canyon Riders ETI Corral 357



September
2015

Volume 22
Issue 9



Reminds me of a Story... from the President's Corner

By James M. Iacono

...ABOUT COMMUNITY

For the past 25 years, Saddleback Canyon Riders has stood ground as its own community, while being an active part of the community at large. We have board members who lead, members who contribute, social events that bring our members, their horses, and the larger community together, and fund raising events that benefit not only our Club coffers but worthy organizations and causes within our larger community. I have learned over my 10 plus years in the Club that there is beauty in community, and that by standing together we blur the lines between Membership and Non-Members so that there is not only pride in being a member, but also pride that one lives in the same community from which the Club hails.

There have been several events and responses over the past few months that illustrate not only how the Club provides for its members, but in so doing has benefitted the community at large.



copied last month by all the necessary public agencies and will be the protocol to provide synergy between all parties- including members of the community- when conditions require its activation. Way to go people like Debbie Kelly, Debbie Geary, and Rich Gomez for your time, effort, and passion.

A few months back, three Trabuco Canyon Equestrians (some ETI members, some not) were riding in O'Neil Park when they were attacked by a dog off leash. Horses and people were hurt, but the most disturbing part of the incident, was that the dog's owner provided bogus information so she could not be readily identified and assessed the punishment consistent with violating Park policy. Even more saddening is the blatant indifference by the dog's owner for the people and animals traumatized by the incident. Luckily a photo was taken by one of the victims and was posted on several social media sites asking for help in identifying the woman and dog in the picture. After a few weeks with no real leads developing, the ETI Board voted to offer a \$500 reward for the identification leading to

Our home-grown evacuation plan has evolved through some great club innovation and leadership over the years to be endorsed and accepted by the fire authority as THE plan that goes into action should there be an emergency that triggers the need for an evacuation. The plan was signed and

Neighborhood Evacuation Plan – Trabuco Canyon

Voluntary Evacuation: (Incident impact is hours away)

- Evacuate all residents and animals in vehicles and trailers; see Page 7-8 for locations
- NOTE:** All horses will be vaccinated; consent is implied and mandatory.
- Listen for evacuation instructions on **KSRB radio FMRSS**, via email, the website or fire information number (all shown below). **Trabuco Residents: FRS Channel 22**
- Do not turn horses loose
- Leave corrals unlocked
- Leave doors unlocked and a light on for firefighters

Mandatory Evacuation: (Incident impact is now or minutes away)

- Halter and walk horses on a lead-line or as directed to the O'Neil Park arena and loading
- No trailers** can be used for evacuation
- Do not** only; once you evacuated you will not be allowed to return
- Do NOT** turn horses loose
- Leave corrals **unlocked**
- When you evacuate, **leave doors unlocked and a light on** - even in the daytime
- Check stove, iron and coffee pot
- Horses can be taken to the Orange County Fairgrounds **ONLY** under official, ordered, mandatory evacuation by County authorities (see Page 7-8 for additional locations)
 - 55-Fwy South, exit Del Mar Avenue/Fair Drive off-ramp via Newport Blvd.
 - at Fair Dr, turn right, at Fairview, turn right, at Arlington, turn right and proceed to Gate 2 (north side of fairgrounds). Check-in at Gate 2 with Fair personnel.
 - Horse owner/evacuation team to provide all **feed and medication** for duration.

Tips from our local Fire Captain and your neighbors...

- Remove weeds, shrubs and flammable vegetation 100 feet from your home
- Tag horses with identifying information and hang halters near horses
- Look for possible horses near decks and doors; that's where owners will land
- Don't start the fire; don't block the road

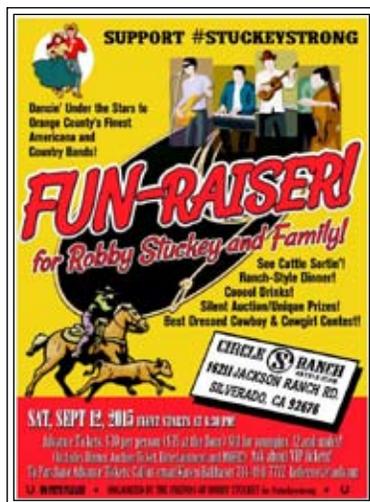
If you have any questions, or we can help in any way please contact us:

KSRB Radio FMRSS (P.O.)	949-582-8727
Trabuco Canyon Park Gateway	(home) 949-888-1634
http://www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com	(cell) 714-335-3123
Madrigal Canyon (Diane Carter)	714-649-3082
Silverado Canyon (Connie Nelson)	714-649-3331 or 714-470-8054
O'Neil Park (office)	949-923-2260
KI (Joanne Hubble)	714-649-2041
Emergency Fire Information (P.O.)	714-573-6200
OC Sheriff Information	949-776-6011
CA Highway Patrol Information	949-559-7888

Version 4.6.2014

punishment of the guilty party. Within days, leads began coming in, and within a few weeks, the woman and dog in the photo were identified and assessed a stiff fine as well as the banishment of the dog from any Orange County Public Park in perpetuity. I'd like to think the Club was at least responsible in spurring on the investigation in earnest. Thank you, Bob Wilks and Dave Seroski for putting a plan into action and following it through.

If roaming dogs are not enough to dodge in the park, we had a recent rash of close calls between equestrians and bicyclists. Again, what makes this disturbing is the blatant disregard for Park rules, which clearly post which trails are off limits to bikes. But the close calls had some in our Club considering no longer riding in the park. This led us at ETI to call a meeting with the Park Ranger Steve Aleshire to discuss the trend and our concerns. We were given an empathetic ear, and a promise that soon there would be cameras installed to help identify the offenders. Our equestrian community and hiking community will both be beneficiaries- if nothing more than the word gets out that there is a plan to identify and punish violators of the policy in a Park that we ALL love and use. Thank you Helga Helga Sveinsdottir for initiating this growing concern which will hopefully stem the tide of a growing problem.



Finally, a former Board Member, Robby Stuckey, who was instrumental in getting our website hosted as well as creating our first social media presence was suddenly afflicted with a stroke a few months ago and has racked up incredible medical bills as he recovers. Some members of our club have offered to help organize a "Fun Raiser" along with other members in the Community. On September 12th at Circle S Ranch, there will be cow sorting, live music, dancing, food, silent and live auctions all in an attempt to raise money for Robby and his family as he continues physical therapy in the hopes of getting back to work sometime next year. In the meantime, assistance is needed, and the "Friends of Robby Stuckey," are here to try and help. Thank you Karen Balthaser, Lyzz Wahlberg, Corey Schlom and a host of others who feel compassion for a local fixture in the community. Everyone please save the date for September 12th at Circle S Ranch.

All of these examples promote the integration of the Club into the Community, and it makes me proud to be a member of both. I hope you see the value we bring, and come to appreciate that "membership not only HAS its privileges", but "membership also PROVIDES privileges" as well.

See you on the trail!

James M. Iacono
 President
 ETI Corral 357
 Saddleback Canyon Riders



FOR THE RECORD: Last month's newsletter gave credit to Sue Baldwin for helping out at the Pancake Breakfast. So that I won't be "Sued", I would like to correct my mistake. It was actually Sue Marucci who gave her time and effort and talent to the great event.



Trail Boss Report

By: Rick Balthaser

CREATING A 'FUN-RAISER!'

for the Robby Stuckey Family

"The Who's ... What's ... Where's ... and Why's"

Hi all, I'm Rick Balthaser, a good friend of the Stuckeys, Trail Boss for ETI Corral 357 – Saddleback Canyon Riders, proud Member of the 'Fun-Raiser!' Committee and husband to Karen Balthaser (but not necessarily in that order ... lol).

A couple of evenings ago I chatted with Robby (and Kristina) to get a first hand account of their life-changing journey that started four months ago. I'll sprinkle in some of Robby's thoughts and observations throughout this article. This multi-faceted story has "a lot of moving parts" so buckle up, hang on with me to the end, so that you get THE WHOLE STORY.

WHO #1: ROBBY STUCKEY

Robby Stuckey. 43. Athletic and takes pride in staying in shape and pushing himself physically. More handsome than any man has the right to be. Equestrian. Intelligent, tech-savvy, soft-spoken, humble, religious (family has attended Saddleback Church for 14 years), big sports and hockey fan. Basically one of the coolest guys I know, and certainly not the guy I thought would have a stroke. Wife Kristina, daughter Savannah. My lovely wife Karen and I basically fell in love with this sweet family from the moment we met them.

WHAT #1: THE STROKE

On April 27, 2015 Robby suffered a major hemorrhagic stroke while he was jumping rope at the gym. Robby spent the first nine days in the ICU under heavy



sedation, and ultimately 24 total days in the hospital. Was this a major, life-threatening stroke?... Yes it was.

There was an immediate outpouring of love and support from family and friends with well wishes and contributions to #stuckeystrong via 'YOU CARING' and 'go-fundme' on Facebook. Currently, Robby's rehabilitation and recovery is going very well, but he has a long road ahead of him with many physical therapy and speech therapy treatments. I was

curious to hear how Robby deals with this challenging recovery on an emotional level. Robby responded with, "Every day I have to have faith ... I ultimately get through it knowing that I have family and friends that are rooting for me, my faith and (with a chuckle) my own stubbornness."

Robby's insurance covered six physical therapy treatments, and these six were used up in the first two weeks of his rehabilitation. So, this is just one important reason that we are putting on this event for the Stuckey family.

The love and support for Robby and family still runs deep and strong. In fact, a couple of weeks ago, Robby and Kristina's dear friends, Vic and Tracy Quinn took them to Mexico and treated them to an all-expenses-paid week of much needed rest and relaxation. I asked Robby about the trip, and his answer was surprisingly simple, "Being able to go on that trip and 'get away' made me feel normal again for a while."

WHO #2: ETI 357 - SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

So, as Robby launched into a serious regimen of occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy, our little horse club, ETI Corral 357 – Saddleback Canyon Riders started to informally kick around ideas on how we could help.

An idea was hatched and approved at our Board Meeting to assist in creating a 'Community Event' called a "Fun-Raiser!" And, at our Member's Meeting, a sign-up sheet for those in support of the event came back with a signature from every single person. Our "Fun-Raiser!" was off and running!

AN IMPORTANT NOTE: Although this "Fun-Raiser!" idea was launched and is informally supported by many members of ETI, this event is NOT an officially sanctioned ETI event. What does this mean? ... It means that if you would like to support this, come join and have fun with us! ... (and if you choose not to support it, you will be missed!)

WHO #3: Karen Balthaser, Our Fearless Leader

(NOTE: This next paragraph will probably get me into some serious hot water with my wife, as she does NOT like to have her 'horn tooted')

From the beginning, we knew that we would need a capable leader to take charge of this project. My wife Karen was suggested. Karen had just spent the last year fighting cancer, and ultimately kicked its ass. I ran the idea by her. Karen didn't hesitate, and said, "Sure, I'll take it on."

This project was immediately dear to Karen's heart, as her mother had suffered two strokes in her lifetime.

One of the best things a leader can offer is experience. Here's just a couple of Karen's many accomplishments:

President and Treasurer of the PTA, Committee Leader for fundraising efforts for both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and when her son was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of two, she worked tirelessly for the Leukemia Society of America and helped them raise over \$100,000.

Karen only picks projects that she fully believes in. Because of that, she doesn't second-guess a project or question the integrity of anyone involved in it. She puts a lot of herself into her work, so there will be plenty of creativity, warmth and love that will go into the "Fun-

Raiser!" for Robby Stuckey and Family".

WHO #4: Daniel Bonte

My job on the committee was to find some really great bands to play at our "Fun-Raiser!"

Although I diligently followed up on many, many leads, they simply did not pan out. We were exposed to Daniel Bonte and the Bona Fides music, and although we had never met Daniel, we thought he would be perfect for our event. Daniel immediately responded to my call and within 30 seconds of talking to him, he cut me off and said, "I'm all in... my mom had a stroke and this is something I believe in."

I immediately knew that we had found our band. There will be three amazing bands that will play at the "Fun-Raiser!"

WHO #5: Corey Schlom

Why Corey?... Because he's Corey and he's awesome! (oh yeah, and he's donating his entire ranch to us for our event)

So there ya' go... That's the basic who's ... what's ... where's ... and why's...

It takes a lot of hours, hard work and people to put something like this together. If anyone is considering being a part of this, I would say, "Come on out and have a good time with us!" (and we're more than happy to accept anyone that would like to be on our team!)

Robby actually said it much better than I ever could, when he mentioned to me, "I'm really looking forward to spending time in an environment where we ALL are a part of something!"

Please come join us and be "a part of."

Best!

Rick Balthaser
Trail Boss
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon Riders





SUPPORT #STUCKEYSTRONG

**Dancin' Under the Stars to
Orange County's Finest
Americana and
Country Bands!**



FUN-RAISER!

for Robby Stuckey and Family!

**See Cattle Sortin'!
Ranch-Style Dinner!
Cooool Drinks!
Silent Auction/Unique Prizes!
Best Dressed Cowboy & Cowgirl Contest!**



CIRCLE S RANCH
CATTLE CLUB
16211 JACKSON RANCH RD.
SILVERADO, CA 92676

SAT, SEPT 12, 2015 EVENT STARTS AT 6:30 PM!

Advance Tickets: \$30 per person (\$35 at the Door) \$10 for youngins' 12 and under!

(Includes Dinner, Auction Ticket, Entertainment and MORE!) Ask about VIP tickets!

To Purchase Advance Tickets: Call or email Karen Balthaser 714-458-7772 ladieeee@aol.com

U NO PETS PLEASE ★ ORGANIZED BY THE FRIENDS OF ROBBY STUCKEY for #stuckeystrong ★ U

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Drop Off
Auction Items for
Robby Stuckey
FUN-Raiser
Silent Auction



Professional Courteous Service.
Delivery to Home or Stable.

- Monday:** Rancho Carillo, Ortega, Sycamore, San Juan Capistrano, Nellie Gail, Laguna, Mission Viejo
Tuesday: Coto, Santiago, Modjeska, Silverado, Carbondale, Peacock Equestrian, Orange, Yorba Linda
Wednesday: Trabuco Canyon, Lake Forest, Serrano
Thursday: Coto de Caza, Rancho Carillo, Ortega, San Juan Capistrano, Nellie Gail, Laguna



30555 Trabuco Canyon Road, Suite 100
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

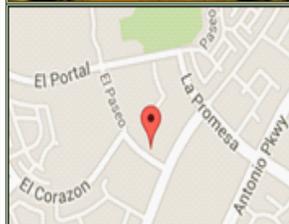
949-766-2825

Monday - Saturday 9-5



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Saddleback Canyon Riders 2015 Calendar



SEPTEMBER MEMBERS MEETING

Terri Steuben ANIMAL COMMUNICATOR

Terri has spoken at our meeting in the past and she looks forward to sharing her new book with us. She will speak with us about her efforts in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina and also help us understand what our pets are trying to tell us.

Date: Thursday, September 3, 2015
Time: 7:30 pm; arrive early for food and drinks!!!
Location: Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant, 22322 El Paseo, RSM
Contact: James (949) 459-7742

September	3	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 PM	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	9	Wednesday	Park Meeting	7:30 AM	O'Neill Park Ranger Station	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	10	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	
	12	Saturday	Robbie Stuckey Fund Raiser	6:30 PM	Circle S Ranch	Karen (949) 709-2359
	19	Saturday	Inner-Coastal/Watershed CleanUp	7:30 AM	Trabuco Creek Bridge	Rich & Patti (949) 888-1604
	26	Saturday	Month End Event - Ferber Ranch Ride (OCTA)	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Rick (949) 439-2414
October	1	Thursday	Members Meeting and Nominations	7:00 PM	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	3	Saturday	Acorn Day	10:00-3:00	O'Neill Park	Karen (714) 458-7772
	8	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	
	10	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	8:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Kristen (949) 444-1990
	17	Saturday	Buckle Playday	8:00 AM	O'Neill Park arena	
	31	Saturday	Month End Event	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Rick (949) 439-2414
November	5	Thursday	Members Meeting and Elections	7:00 PM	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	11	Wednesday	Park Meeting	7:30 AM	O'Neill Park Ranger Station	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	12	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	
	28	Saturday	Month End Event	9:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Rick (949) 439-2414
December	10	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA	
	12	Saturday	Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade	TBA	Laguna Niguel	Evelyn (949) 275-8943 Tracy (949) 444-1974
	13	Sunday	Christmas Party	5:30 PM		Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	27	Sunday	Month End Event	10:00 AM	O'Neill Park	Rick (949) 439-2414



ocparks.com

ACORN DAY

Saturday, October 3
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

O'Neill Regional Park
30892 Trabuco Canyon Road
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678

For more information: (949) 923-2260
oneillpark@ocparks.com



Come join us under the oaks at O'Neill Regional Park

Enjoy a fun filled day of excitement and learning! We will celebrate our majestic oaks and the small acorns from which they grow! Includes free crafts, music, games, a Native American presentation, live butterfly tent, face painting, nature exhibits, oak tree planting and more!

Vicinity Map ONEILL REGIONAL PARK



30892 Trabuco Canyon Road, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678
949-923-2260 • oneillpark@ocparks.com
www.ocparks.com/oneillpark

This is a free event.
Park Entry: \$5.00

INNER-COASTAL AND CANYON CLEANUP DAY

Date: Saturday, September 19, 2015

Time: Cleanup is 9am - Noon
ETI members arrive at 8am
Registration for the public starts at 8:30

Location: Trabuco Creek Bridge area on Trabuco Canyon Road & Trabuco Creek Road

RSVP: Rich & Patti (949)888-1604

- Saddleback Canyon Riders are Site Captain for Trabuco Canyon
- Last year we had 175 volunteers and picked up 13,500 pounds of trash
- There are 20 cleanup groups in Orange County
- Last year there were 1,365 volunteers who picked up a total of 22,261 pounds of trash that would have ended up in the ocean!



CALIFORNIA
COASTAL
COMMISSION

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov>



<http://ocwatersheds.com>



TRAIL MAINTENANCE O'Neill Regional Park

Saturday, October 10th at 8:00 am



30892 Trabuco Canyon Road
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678

Meet at the Nature Center
Parking Lot.

RSVP: Kristen (949) 444-1990

**Hope to see you there!!!
Remember to bring tools!!!**



www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com



**For when
you get
buffalo'd.**

Mike Brenhaug, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0J10152
mike@bestocinsurance.com
www.bestocinsurance.com
Bus: 949-855-8325

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State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

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Membership Contact:

Kristen Holden
Kristen3091@gmail.com
(949)444-1990

ADVERTISING RATES

Ad Size	Member	Non-Member
Full Page	\$45.00	\$75.00
Half Page	\$30.00	\$50.00
1/4 Page	\$15.00	\$25.00
1/8 Page	\$5.00	\$10.00

contact: Renate Soderstrom
Newsletter Editor/Scribe
831-359-1079
renate.soderstrom@gmail.com



Treasurer's Report

By Vicki Iacono

**ETI - CORRAL 357 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING
July 31, 2015**

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America)	\$8,384.76
DEPOSITS: Deposits Made After Closing: July \$0.00	\$0.00
Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits	\$8,384.76

EXPENSES:	<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amnt:</u>	<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amnt:</u>
	2010	Parade	4th July	\$50.00	2011	ETI	Donation	\$500.00
	2012	V Iacono	bd dinner	\$30.00	2013	R Gomez	July 4 BBQ	\$541.20
Total expenses paid in – July 2015				(\$1,121.20)				

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD:	<u>Ck#</u>	<u>Source:</u>	<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Total Outstanding Checks July 31,-2015 - i.e. Spending:				(\$0.00)

Funds on hand in checking as of 07-31-2015	\$8,384.76
Petty Cash on Hand as of 07-31-2015	\$400.00
Corral FUNDS On Hand as of 07-31-2015	\$8,784.76

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: Less Reserves: ERT as of 07-31-2015	\$(476.73)
Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve:	\$(476.73)
NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of: Corral 357	\$8,308.03



2015 Board of Directors



President	James Iacono	714-612-1789	jiacono@fontissolutions.com
Vice-President	Bob Wilks	714-608-1881	robert-a-wilks@cox.net
Secretary	Patti Gomez	714-335-3123	pattiangomez@aol.com
Treasurer	Vicki Iacono	949-285-5975	zoegal@hughes.net
Membership	Kristen Holden	949-444-1990	kristen3091@gmail.com
Scribe/Newsletter Editor	Renate Soderstrom	831-359-1079	renate.soderstrom@gmail.com
Trail Boss	Rick Balthaser	949-439-2414	rbalthaser@aol.com
Activity Director	Evelyn Ortega	949-275-8943	jinjo27@dishmail.net
Activity Director	Tracy Tuttle	949-444-1974	pinkysgrooming@cox.net
Sergeant-at-Arms	Susan Seroski		sseroski@yahoo.com
Social Media Coordinator	Heather Latchford		heather.latchford@live.com
Emergency Response			
Team Coordinator & Webmaster	Rich Gomez	714-504-7001	rtgomez@aol.com
Emergency Response Team			
Communications & Person-at-Large	Dave Seroski	949-533-7153	DSeroski@cox.net

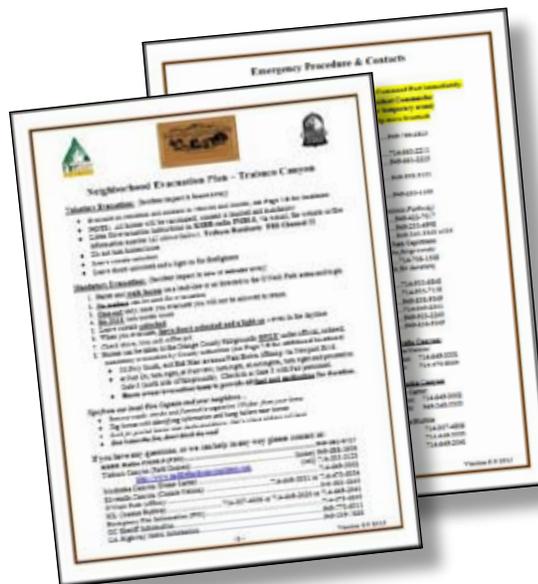


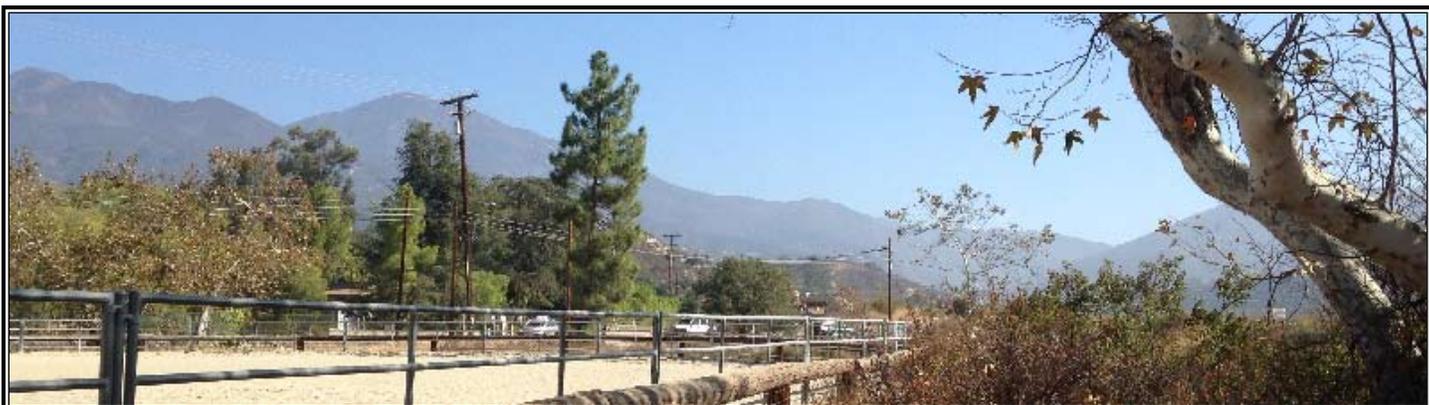
Note from the Editor:

By Renate Soderstrom

Check out our Emergency Evacuation Plan now at:
saddlebackcanyonriders.com/our-mission/emergency-preparedness

Helpful Tip: Keep a sharpie marker in your tack box and write your contact info on your horse's hoof during an evacuation.





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.



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.

Saddleback Canyon Riders
ETI Corral 357
PO Box 1026
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678