

# Corral News

Saddleback Canyon Riders ETI Corral 357



February  
2016

Volume 23  
Issue 2



## From the President's Corner

By James M. Iacono

### ...Reminds me of a story

As you all know, the responses to the Ferber Ranch and O'Neill Oaks RMPs (Resource Management Plans) are due February 8th. We urge everyone to express themselves as our voices need to lead in forming the future landscape of our community. We were lucky we didn't have to watch our surrounding natural acres overrun by the whims of developers, thanks to the Measure M funds the County has funneled into buying sensitive habitat areas to preserve into perpetuity. We are left with merging our future vision of our Community's surrounding open terrain with those who are the current guardians of them as Preserves.

Our response in full is available on the website- ([saddlebackcanyonriders.com](http://saddlebackcanyonriders.com)). The RMP has allowed for some recommended access. It's a crack in the door. Our position is, for eventual sunrise to sunset access. Our stance is firm in that this is the perfect opportunity to connect the trails outlined in the Foothill Trabuco Specific Plan (FTSP). The trigger in the FTSP for those trails to be dedicated and established is development. I had to dedicate land for the Rose Canyon trail on my property when I built some 20 years ago. Given that the Preserve will never be "developed", we feel that this is

the perfect opportunity to connect the trails we can, and perhaps circumvent the land still owned privately by re-routing through non-sensitive areas. Our specific position is that because the Measure M funds require mitigation (accomplished through the purchase of the

Ferber and O'Neill Oaks properties among two others in Trabuco Canyon) for speedy approval of "development" projects along roadways (13 specific projects), those projects ARE development and therefore trail alignments must be dedicated. And if I had to dedicate an easement for the mapped trail per the



FTSP, why shouldn't the OCTA have to do the same?

This is a process. In the meantime, we want to stay in the forefront as responsible advocates. We need to prove our mettle. We need to put our values on exhibit. We, too, care about preservation. Using the trails responsibly, avoiding disturbance of all lands adjacent to the trails, and educating the public on the importance of maintaining an ecosystem that continues to thrive will show that we can cohabitate with the Nature enmeshed in our Community. After all, isn't that why we choose to live here? We have a

bond with open space. It attracts our soul.

We will need all of our members' help. We need to lead the rides on 6 designated dates this year. We need to show up in numbers. We may need to form a Mounted Assistance Unit. We have offered to help offset the costs associated with Patrols. The OCTA isn't just going to walk away from this land. They have invested millions. Part of the fear of opening it is that the Public at large will wonder why that money was spent on a "Preserve" - why those reports were drafted, why that data was collected, why those studies were designed and postulated if the gates were just going to be thrown open. The other fear is that opening it could mean managing it beyond what their allotted resources would allow. We want to allay that fear by offering assistance aligned with their objectives. We could have taken a more aggressive stance: That we demand access and refuse to cooperate and assist with the docent rides in which the OCTA has agreed to in their report. In my opinion, that seems risky, and poses an "all or nothing" scenario, by which we could wind up with "nothing".

However, the closing of the trails has had an adverse effect on our community. The Recreation Component of the FTSP has been ignored. We also need access to these trails in the event of an emergency. They offer alternative exit routes for people off of Rose Canyon Road, Trabuco Oaks Road, and Hamilton Trails. Under CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) guidelines,

these effects should be mitigated. How? We propose that easements for hiking and riding trails compliant with the already established Regional Trails Map of the FTSP be dedicated as soon as possible.... We must, however realize that this might have to be an objective that develops over time, and that creating a timeline is our best hope of achieving our objectives.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to our response. Rich Gomez has been instrumental in addressing the RMP intelligently, backing up his response with solid knowledge of Measure M and the FTSP. Bob Wilks has offered his opinions from his legal perspective, and Delma Johnson has voiced her passion and spent time educating the community on principles which form a strong argument to gaining immediate access. And I have offered what I could to craft language that promotes synergy between parties in control and parties with the most at stake. Please review the comments on our website and please voice your opinion on the OCTA's Response tab to RMPs on their site. If our voices are loud enough, we will be heard.

James M. Iacono  
President  
ETI Corral 357  
Saddleback Canyon Riders

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE ~ O'Neill Regional Park

### Saturday, February 6th at 9:00 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!!!**



## Special Note from Canyon Feed & Tack

By Lyzz Wahlberg

# “What is Brome, anyway?”

“What is Brome, anyway?” Customers often wonder. They’re used to ordering “ATB” pellets (also often mistakenly referred to as “ABT pellets”, or “ABC pellets”) but many people aren’t sure what that “B” stands for. Others see the word on the menu of feeds we offer and are intrigued by the novelty of an unknown forage source.

Stepping beyond the familiar Alfalfa, Timothy, Orchard Grass, and Bermuda can be a bit scary; because there isn’t any pasture in most of Southern California, many locals aren’t as familiar with the various types of grasses and legumes as our equestrian compatriots in other states. Even so, Brome is a fantastic choice for many horses, and if you’ve been wanting to give it a try but were hesitant to try it, here’s a little information to assist you in making an informed choice.

Brome hay is a cool-season grass in the same family as wheat, barley, and rye. While there are dozens of brome grasses around the world, the variety commonly grown in the midwest United States for animal forage is of Russian origin. Because it doesn’t grow well in the more arid climates of the southwestern United States, this type of hay has had limited availability in Southern California, even though it is a common forage source other parts of the country.

With a roughly 9% protein and an NSC (non soluble carbohydrate) under 10%, brome hay is a moderate protein, high fiber, low starch hay. These characteristics make brome an ideal hay for horses with PPID (Cushing’s disease), Laminitis/founder, Insulin Resistance, and PSSM. Brome is also a good choice for ponies, overweight horses, and breeds known for a proclivity towards metabolic disorders. For comparison, Timothy has about 10% protein and averages a 12% NSC, while Orchard grass is roughly 7% protein and a 12-15% NSC.

Concern over the quality of the foods we and our animals consume has grown in recent years, and our

decision at Canyon Feed & Tack to introduce brome hay to our customers is, in part, a reflection of that. Our brome hay is grown pesticide free and is not sprayed with any of the preservatives sometimes used to keep poorly cured hay greener than it naturally would be after drying. The bluish green-to-brownish color variations let you know that the hay was naturally sun-cured before being baled. The quality of the hay is also reflected in the soft, leafy texture and fresh grassy smell.



One satisfied brome hay customer recently had this to say:

“My gelding has had health issues off and on since he was a colt. After numerous vet visits, a battery of allergy tests, and several rounds of medication, his health improved, but the Timothy hay quality just wasn’t consistent enough, and the Teff hay he’d typically done well on was harder and harder to acquire. I had a chat with Lyzz at Canyon Feed and she suggested I try the brome hay. Even though his tests showed he could safely eat Timothy hay, he just wasn’t thriving on it. That was over 5 months ago, and my gelding no longer has the bad bouts of diarrhea that always followed each new hay delivery. I attribute it to the lack of pesticides and preservatives in the Brome.” - S.K.

If you think you’d like to give this great hay a try for your horse or other livestock, to check pricing, or ask a question, give us a call at (949) 766-2825. We always look forward to hearing from you!

Lyzz Wahlberg  
Canyon Feed & Tack  
30555 Trabuco Canyon Road, #100  
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679  
(949) 766-2825





## Trail Boss Report

By Debbie Kelly

# Ridin' in the Rain

Sometimes we need to be careful of what we ask for. We have needed rain for so long and have been warned of El Nino storms for the past several months. Many of us have prepared our homes, property, stalls, and pastures in anticipation of storms that may bring flooding, debris runoff and even mudslides. This planning would not be a first for most of us. It is what we do to live and ride here. But are you prepared if you get caught in one of these storms while riding your horse? Many horses have no issue with rain or wind. They live outside and experience the brunt of it in their stalls or pasture. Their reaction however may be drastically altered when they find themselves away from home and vulnerable to the sights, sounds, and vibrations of a storm. I took the liberty to reprint some tips if you ever find yourself stuck in a storm with your horse. I will say, I find riding in the rain very exhilarating. Since our local trails close during rains until it is safe to reopen them, there is not much opportunity. I did get stuck in the rain the day prior to this writing and my horse was a bit excited on the return ride home. I kept a little tighter rein and watched his ears. We are both here just fine to talk about it.

**Source: [about.com/horses](http://about.com/horses) in the rain:**



Sometimes you get caught in the rain during a trail ride or at an event. Sometimes it's nice to go out and ride in a pleasant rain. However, if the weather turns violent, your horse may become quite upset and

spooky. It's important to know what to do when the weather turns ugly. Here are tips for making the best of things in rainy weather and avoiding hazards in bad weather.

If you choose to ride in the rain, check weather forecasts to be sure that it is only going to rain.

In a hard rain your horse might try to turn around so its rump is to the wind and rain, with its head down. This is how horses stand in bad weather to protect themselves.

### Thunder and Lightning

Riding in a thunder or hail storm isn't a good idea. People and horses do get hit by lightning, so if the thunder rumbles, head indoors and wait for clearer skies. If you are close to home, quickly head for shelter if you can.

If you get caught away from home in a thunderstorm, even if the thunder seems distant, avoid high areas, such as hilltops and low-lying areas that may flood in a downpour. In some places, can become quite dangerous.

Stay away from lone, or small clusters of tall trees, wire fences or other metal structures. Dismount and tie your horse safely to a low bush--not a tree. Move away from your horse, and squat with your feet tightly together, arms around your knees and your body curled down. This will keep you low, and minimize the 'ground' you could create for a lightning strike. Don't lie on the ground. If you feel your skin tingle, your hair raise or hear a static like noise, go into the crouch position. Be sure the storm is way passed before mounting your horse again.

### Wind and Rain

Winds can blow up quickly during a storm. You will want to dismount. High winds can make horses nervous. Stay out of heavily timbered areas. Take shelter in a sturdy building, or behind immovable landforms, like large rocks or boulders. Hail often accompanies storms. Your helmet will help protect your head, and your saddle will protect your horse's back. Your horse will probably want to stand with its haunches towards

the hail and wind. Dismount and pull your horse into shelter, even if it's just scrubby bushes that will break the fall of the hail stones.

If it isn't already doing so, encourage your horse to put its head down and do your best to protect it. Your horse may become very upset, so be careful that it doesn't react in a way that hurts you. Remember that lightning often accompanies hail.

Rain can change the footing on familiar trails. Heavy sudden rain can make pathways slick and expose roots or rocks that might not have been there before. Storms can down trees. A partially fallen tree might be a hazard to ride underneath.

### At Shows and Other Events

If you are at an event when a storm blows in, put your horse in the trailer, close the doors, especially if there is a ramp, and make sure all rump chains, towing safety chains and anything else that could conduct a

circuit from the ground to the truck or trailer are clear of the ground. This includes lawn chairs leaning against the truck or trailer, sun shade poles or any other object that 'connects' your truck or trailer to the ground. Then, the safest place for you is in the truck. Without any pathways to the ground, your truck and trailer tires provide some insulation from a lightning strike. If hail or high winds blow in, at least you and your horse have some protection overhead.

Ride safe, stay dry.

Debbie Kelly  
Trail Boss  
ETI Corral 357  
Saddleback Canyon Riders



## Horse Sense

By Dave Seroski

# What are those pesky things?

**A**nd what do they really do? Well, in western saddles when a Horsemen OR Horsewomen plunks down good money on a saddle that was hard earned and wisely spent? Lots, if you know what to do with them.

The saddle has to do a lot of things. First, FIT the horse & FIT the rider (that's you). When I saddle Teddy, it is a work of love & study. The result? Happy horse & VERY comfortable rider. WOW! Saddles are comfortable? You bet, like an easy chair. Once settled in the saddle and the saddle is settled to the horse, neither one of you will want to be anywhere else. He/She is excited to be out, riding with the trail boss. And you are comfy on their back.

The Double Dee(as pictured): The double D comes from way back. In the day, the cowboy had to get a saddle that fit "every" horse. It was his living, his life, and his butt. So the double D... It can be rigged in FULL position, or 3/4 position, or 7/8 position. Hidden secrets from today's horse person... until now.

Teddy & Max will reveal these riggings one at a time in future months. (unless bribed with apples).



Even the Enduro-balanced rear "D" will be explained! Teddy's saddle.

But now you know the saddle? Where does it go on his/her back for maximum comfort to the horse & you? Only from the horse's mouth? In future issues...

Dave Seroski  
Person At Large  
ETI Corral 357  
Saddleback Canyon Riders



## Special Feature

By Katie Farrington

# Geology of Trabuco Canyon

Many thoughts may come to you as you ride through the hills of Trabuco canyon on a crisp, sunny, morning. You may look out amongst the scrub covered hillsides and oak filled canyons and think about the rich cultural history of the canyon and south orange county, you may think about the different types of birds you hear chattering amongst the trees, you may even think about your grocery list and what you are going to make for dinner. My favorite thought, however, is how Trabuco Canyon became to be, millions of years ago. How mother earth shaped the world we see today. Most people don't know this, but the rocks and dirt hiding below the thickets, and jutting up above your head tell a complex story about the geologic history of the canyon we call home.

Our story is told through groups of bedrock we refer to as Formations. A formation is defined as "an assemblage of rocks that have some defining character and are mappable as a unit". Generally speaking, all of the rocks within a formation were formed by the same processes at the same time. The geologic history of the canyons is illustrated by several formations that crop out within our hills and below our feet.

We start our story about 225 million years ago. The California coastline is just a distant dream and much of what you see today does not exist. Sands and cobbles which cover the landscape are being cooked by magma intruding from below. These sediments are being transformed into the Bedford Canyon Formation surrounding a granitic core of cooled solidified magma. Together these are the backbone of the Santa

Ana Mountains and can be seen today in the form of quartzite and shale intermixed with a boulder filled landscape along Ortega Highway.

The magma continues to be active for millions of years. The Bedford Canyon Formation is eventually torn apart and covered up by extruding lava. The resulting volcanic rock, which we call the Santiago Peak Volcanics, covers the Bedford Canyon Formation until it is subject to the perils of a changing earth and partially eroded away to reveal its prisoners below.

We fly forward in time to about 140 million years ago, Orange County, at least what exists of it, has an

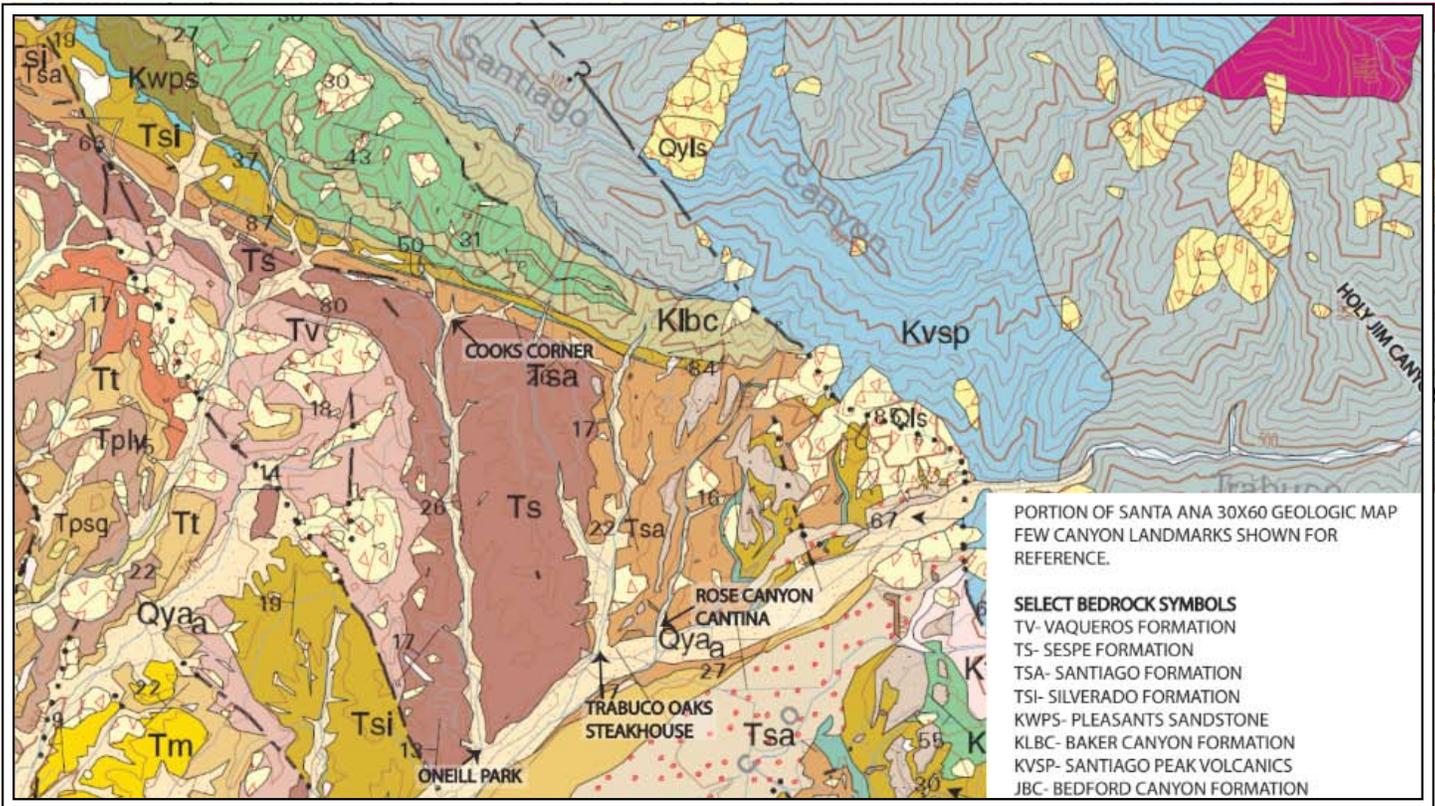
arid climate. Sands, cobbles, and boulders are being eroded away and deposited within an alluvial environment. Today these sediments can be seen in irregular ribbons higher up in the canyons and form the Trabuco canyon's namesake formation; the Trabuco Formation.

About 100 million years ago, the landscape starts to

vastly change and shallow seas cover the area. Sands, beach cobbles, and abundant sea shells cover the land and are forever preserved within the Ladd Formation as shell riddled outcrop exposures within Santiago, Silverado, and Modjeska Canyons. However, it doesn't stop there, the earth's crust is being pulled apart by movement of the tectonic plates, and the whole area continues to subside and sink deeper into the ocean.

The area remains submerged under ocean water until about 70 million years ago. At the end of the "Age of Reptiles", the land reemerges and becomes a swampy marsh and home to the new dominant class,





mammals. For about 40 million years, the ocean regresses and digresses and leaves behind the deposits that make up the Silverado, Santiago, and Sespe Formations. Chances are, if you live in Trabuco Canyon, one of these formations is under your house and these formations are closely tied to the recent history of the canyon. The Silverado Formation contains coal deposits that were mined at the mouth of Silverado Canyon during the turn of the century within a long-gone town called Carbondale; the Santiago Formation can be seen along Trabuco Oaks road and erodes into caves which provided a “hide-out” for banditos during the last century; and the Sespe Formation forms the spectacular red cliffs that have become a hiking destination within Orange County.

Time continues, as it does, and our story now finds us at about 25 million years ago. Orange County is covered in a warm sea and sharks are leaving behind an abundance of teeth for us to find. Faulting is widespread and volcanic activity continues within the San Joaquin Hills. Suddenly, about 15 million years ago, there is a great sea inundation as the area rapidly drops and the tectonics of California begins to forever change. The mighty San Andreas has not been born yet, but the earth is beginning to lay groundwork for her. The area is torn apart by faulting and rocks within the canyon are sliding past each other. The San Andreas fault, as

we know it today, comes into existence about 5 million years ago and continues to wreak havoc on the area.

Plano Trabuco is fully formed within the last million years or so. Stream Terrace deposits are forming within the old flood plains of Trabuco Creek. These deposits continue until today within the active creek. The older Terrace deposits sit higher above the creek and may plague those who live in Rose Canyon and Hamilton Trail as gravel and cobble that are constantly popping up in the arenas and corrals. The younger deposits lie within the active creek as a reminder that one day they too will be part of a rock formation that is just being born.

So, next time you are out on trail, camping in O’Neil park, or just enjoying the view from your own yard, remember that the spectacular canyons, mountains, and hillsides that lie before you didn’t just come to be. They were formed during a 225 million year long journey, and the journey isn’t over yet.

***Katie Farrington will be speaking at our Members Meeting on Thursday, February 4th at 7:30 pm at Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant in Rancho Santa Margarita. For more information call James (949) 459-7742. All are welcome! Please join us!***

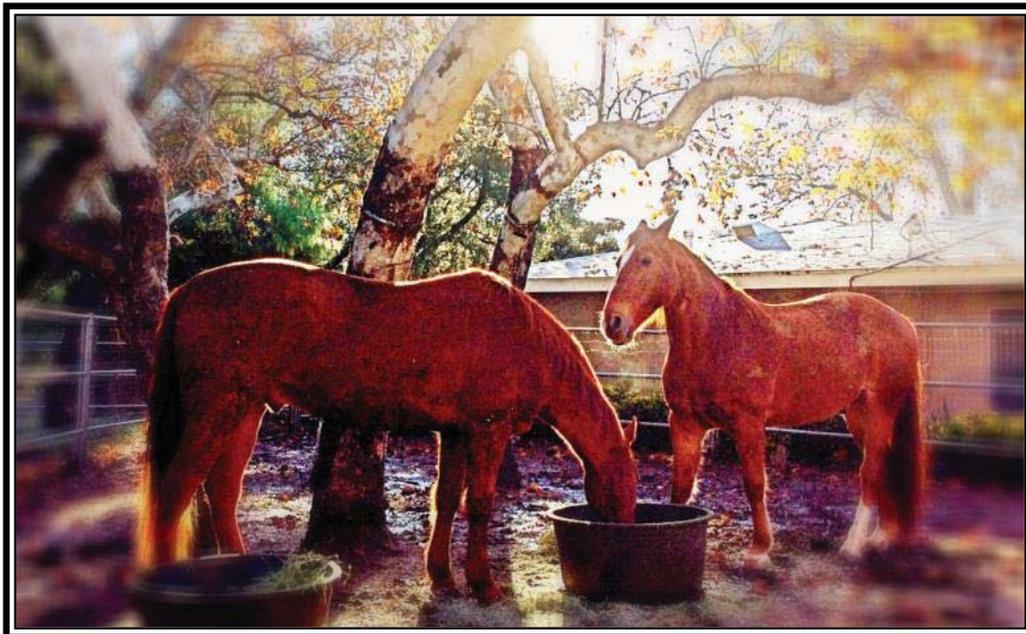




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- Wednesday:** Trabuco Canyon, Lake Forest, Serrano
- Thursday:** Coto de Caza, Rancho Carillo, Ortega, San Juan Capistrano, Nellie Gail, Laguna



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

**949-766-2825**

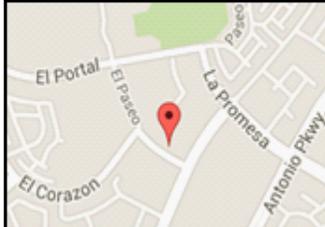
Monday - Saturday 9-5



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# ETI Corral 357 Upcoming Events

February



## FEBRUARY MEMBERS MEETING

**Topic:** Earthquakes & Earthquake Preparedness  
**Guest Speaker:** Katie Farrington  
**Engineering Geologist**



Katie is a geologist at a local firm and will be speaking to us about how earthquakes work and what to do to prepare yourself.

**Date:** Thursday, February 4th at 7:30 pm  
**Time:** Meeting starts at 7:30, arrive early for dinner.  
**Location:** Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant, 22322 El Paseo, RSM  
**Contact:** James (949) 459-7742



## O'Neill Regional Park TRAIL MAINTENANCE Saturday, February 6th, at 9:00 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!!!**



11	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Bob & Spike's	Spike (949) 589-9144
15	Monday	Presidents' Day Ride to Cook's Corner	9:00 am	O'Neill Park arena	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
27	Saturday	Month End Ferber Ranch Ride	10:30 am	O'Neill Park staging area	Debbie (949) 459-7191

March

3	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
10	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Kristen's	Kristen (949) 444-1990
12	Saturday	Swallows Day Parade	6:00 am	San Juan Capistrano, CA	Mary & Sue (949) 858-8001
27	Sunday	Month End Ride	10:00 am	O'Neill Park equestrian area	Debbie (949) 459-7191
29	Tuesday	Park Meeting	7:30 am	O'Neill Park Ranger Station	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789

April

7	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
9	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	9:00 am	O'Neill Park	Sue (949) 858-8001
14	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	
16	Saturday	Horsemanship Clinic	8:00 am	TBA	
23	Saturday	Ferber Ranch Preserve Ride	9:00 am	End of Trabuco Oaks Dr.	Debbie (949) 244-0670

Like Us! Follow Us! Join the Club!



**Membership Contact:**  
 Kristen Holden  
 Kristen3091@gmail.com  
 (949)444-1990

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 CALL: KRISTEN HOLDEN - MEMBERSHIP.....949-444-1990  
 JIM IACONO - PRESIDENT.....714-612-1789



## Treasurer's Report

By Vicki Iacono

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING: December 31, 2015

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$8,966.65

**DEPOSITS:** Deposits Made After Closing: December: \$0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$8,966.65

**EXPENSES:**

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
2040	K Holden	board dinner	\$20.00	2041	R Soderstrom	board dinner	\$50.00
2044	V Iacono	Xmas dinner	\$987.10	2045	R Gomez	Xmas dinner	\$98.8

Total expenses paid in – December 2015 (\$1,155.90)

**UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD:**

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
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Total Outstanding Checks December 31,-2015 - i.e. Spending: (\$00.00)

**Funds on hand in checking** as of 12-31-2015 \$7,810.75

**Petty Cash on Hand** as of 12-31-2015 \$400.00

**Corral FUNDS On Hand** as of 12-31-2015 \$8,210.75

**SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS:**

Less Reserves: ERT as of 12-31-2015 \$(476.73)

Total Corral Funds Committed To Reserve: \$(476.73)

**NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of: Corral 357** **\$8,210.75**



## 2016 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	Debbie Kelly	949-244-0670	debbiekelly57@yahoo.com
Activity Director	Sue Marucci	949-858-8001	smarucci@ymail.com
Activity Director	Mary Grbic	949-521-3713	mary.grbic@cox.net
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b><i>To Be Appointed; Accepting Nominations!!!</i></b>		
Social Media Coordinator	Crystal Hansen		
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
<u>Others:</u>			
O'Neill Regional Park	Steve Aleshire	949-923-2259	steve.aleshire@ocparks.com
ETI National Office	Debbie Foster	818-362-6819	eti@linkline.com
OCFA Station #18(captains)	Greg/Dennis/Nate	949-858-9369	greghosburg@ocfa.org



### Note from the Editor:

By Renate Soderstrom

Thank you  
**DAVE SEROSKI** for  
sending these super cool  
drone photos!





## 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**