

Corral News

Saddleback Canyon Riders ETI Corral 357



March
2016

Volume 23
Issue 3



Reminds Me of a Story... From the President's Corner

By James M. Iacono

Horses and Mother Nature

This past weekend I was in Nashville for the birth of my grandson. Or at least I thought that's what I was there for. I arrived one day before the due date, and I was scheduled to leave 5 days later. Originally a C-Section was planned- something about the placenta blocking the exit route. But three weeks before the due date and two days after I booked our flights, the placenta magically moved and we were back on Nature's timing. Now don't get me wrong- I was thrilled that my daughter would not be subjected to surgery when thousands of times every day people all over the world are having babies naturally. But now the birth date would not be a C-Section scheduled event. However, if I WAS a betting man (and some of you may know the answer to that), one would think I would have a pretty good shot at being there to see a natural music city miracle birth during the days I would be there. But, alas, I write this on my return flight home, baby still in womb, and me not feeling lucky enough to bet bucks in the Las Vegas Airport slot machines on my layover home.

Now you would think I might be a little upset that I will miss one of the significant milestones in my life. You might think I'm pouting, feeling sorry for myself, arguing with the airlines to arrange some kind of special return deal for me. If you are thinking that, you're wrong. Sure, I'm a little disappointed. But owning horses has prepared me for times such as these. Horses have taught me that nature has a mind of it's own, and it's usually right. Why would I mess with that? Nathan Alexander will come out of his protective shell when he's good and ready. Grandpa can fly to Nashville, but Nathan doesn't have to show. Kind of sounds like, "You

can lead a horse to water, but you can't get him to drink." You see, I have learned a lot about the things out of my control when it comes to horses. If there's a new set of



cones on the road just sitting there minding their own business, my horse is gonna sidestep.... No matter how much I talk to him. If I pull one horse out of the herd and take him for a ride, the others are gonna run and winny as I leave, no matter how much I try to reassure them. If I feed #2 in the pecking order first, #1 is gonna make him move off it, no matter how much I tell him he's being selfish. If I give one a bath and then turn him out, he's gonna roll no matter how much I run after him trying to keep him upright. Geesh, why does he want to get that clean, shiny, coat dirty? Well, I stopped asking, and I have learned to accept, that horses want to be horses, and that's just the way God made them.

Which helps me accept that babies know what they need, and that's not worrying about the day of their grandfather's return flight! Maybe next month you'll see a picture of the boy on the OUTSIDE of his Mother! Only if Nature tells him that's the plan!

James M. Iacono
President
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon Riders



Trail Boss Report

By Debbie Kelly

A Ride Down Memory Lane

I was feeling a little apprehensive on Saturday morning when I realized the night before that twenty five people had signed up for the first ETI led ride in Ferber Ranch for 2016. After all, I was leading it, and as I take that responsibility very seriously, was feeling accountable for each and every one of those riders. Large rides are not new to me at all, however it has been a while since I have led one of that size and I was asking myself “what if someone’s horse blows”, “what if we go too fast, or even too slow”, “will someone question my skills as Trail Boss” and what if, what if. But as Riley and I approached the gate leading us to what must be into one of the most beautiful and tranquil preserves in Orange County, I recalled all the years I went through that gate without hesitation or trepidation. I never once felt fear or anxiety. Why now? So on Saturday, February 27th, Riley and I decided to seize the moment and embrace the beauty we now would enjoy for something we used to take for granted. The more riders the better. Bring it on.

There were a few cancellations and a few riders not registered on the OCTA website for this ride, so all in all we were a group of about twenty. We were joined by two mounted OC Sheriff who rode with us part of the way. Had I still been anxious, that would have cured it. There were three late comers who rode out apart from us and the deputies met up with us at the conclusion of our first loop to inform they had arrived and were sanctioned to be there. At that point, some riders decided to complete their ride and head back home. The rest of us continued on for a second tour and it was this part of the ride that the memories of my time riding on the Buck Ranch kept flooding back. Of course, I needed to draw on the memory of others to make all the right turns.

Many reading this knew the owners of the property back in the 90’s and beyond, Marsha (Smiley) and Howard (Howie) Ross. What they provided for us at the Buck Ranch is now woven into the tapestry of ETI and Trabuco Canyon. Howard served as VP at one time and Marsha was newsletter editor forever. Marsha and Howard showcased what it was to share your good fortune with others. I am not talking monetarily (however they were known for that as well) but they had an abundance of land and wanted others to



benefit from it. They had all this beautiful land and wanted others to enjoy it. When the El Nino storms of 1997-1998 impacted Live Oak Stables and other boarding facilities, the Ross' began accepting horses for boarding. They would soon start their sales facility on the property, bringing in the beautiful Tennessee Walking Horses and it did not take long for that business to grow and TWH's went viral. I would purchase my horse Riley from them in 2001. He was coming up three when I bought him and will be nineteen this year. He is my Buck Ranch keepsake.

My earliest memory of Buck Ranch is Rudy the lion. Rudy was synonymous with Howard and Marsha, and the ranch. On any day after a delivery of horses from Tennessee, you could find the "Rudy Van" parked at the barn with Rudy on board so the new horses would adapt to the scent of a predator and not fear it. I first met Rudy when he was just a cub. When he was a little older, I was impressed how his enclosure appeared larger than the little studio I was living in. Rudy would travel with them, even go camping and as said earlier, had his own van complete with a full size cage built in and air conditioning. Rudy was and still is an icon in this canyon. What a blessing to have had him.

You could ride the Buck Ranch trails for hours. Many hours. We had organized rides and impromptu rides. If you boarded there, you really did not need to look elsewhere to ride. There would be BBQ's, hayrides to the top to watch the fireworks on the Fourth of July, wedding

receptions, and even Howard's fiftieth birthday. Marsha could not find a place large enough to hold the crowd. So she put Howie in the car, blindfolded him and drove him down Rose



Canyon Road to his own property for the celebration. Of course, the speed bumps along the road were the first clue where he was heading. Most of the social events occurred on the Rose Canyon side.

We had midnight rides, both co-ed and some reserved just for the ladies. We would stay over in the bunk house and giggle all night like a bunch of high school girls. Since this is a family club, I must omit the more clandestine rides. You can use your imagination though. You could ride at night with no "closes at sunset" restrictions. I recall a night ride once that was so dark we found ourselves off trail and in the creek before we realized where we were and that we were lost. So many fond memories. There were some mishaps but we watched out for each other and there was always someone close to assist. Those were the days, so they say, and even though we live in a climate of change and uncertainty, connection to this land is still within our reach. Back in the Buck Ranch days we would never have thought of riding our horse as anything more than that. We would ride in the moment; put our foot in the stirrup, throw the other leg over the back of the horse, and just go. No thought that this amazing culture known to us only as Buck Ranch would not always be there for us. By showing up to the scheduled rides on the Ferber Ranch we are saying that equestrians are serious about keeping the land available to themselves and other users. We prove our good stewardship and give back by respecting the habitat and the restrictions now in place. To sustain that and even enhance it, commitment is essential. That is why, after further consideration on the 27th, I was grateful for the large turn out that day and look



forward to more. I hope you enjoy the pictures and will join us on April 23rd for another ETI led ride on the Ferber Ranch Wilderness Preserve.

Debbie Kelly
Trail Boss
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon Riders





Horse Sense

By Dave Seroski

My Best Expo Ever

This year, Horse Expo in Pomona was more special than usual for me. As Susan & I wandered around the buildings, thousands of products were offered. And what a good year for them. Top names had returned to expo, the crowd was large and excitement was in the air - horse excitement, with pure-bred-horse people.

And there was my product line, Teddy's Twisted Products, featured in the Thrifty Horse exhibit, video and all.

Top names were there, shaking hands and filling the stages and arenas with excited fans! Expelling myths and such with nothing more than the pure truth. And right before our eyes!

But when it came to Pat Parelli, it was standing room only. It didn't matter where he appeared, or what he spoke about... standing room only. People had notebooks, taking notes. Yeah, me too.

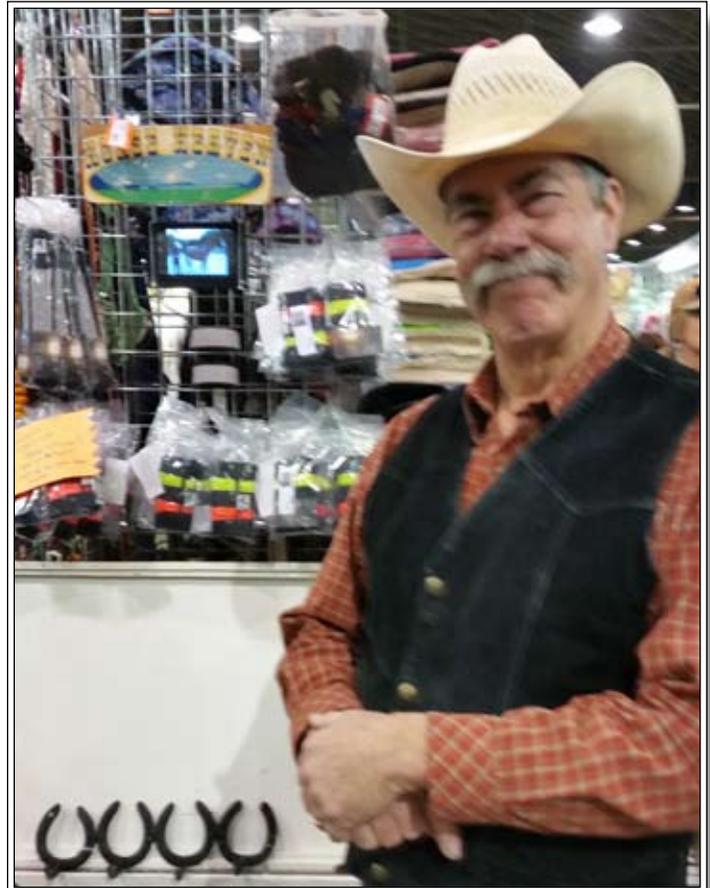
Reminded me of the times when Virgil Fox was playing the organ on the rock circuit in the 70's. True organists at the time brought sheet music and made notes on them as he played and even brought friends that could speak German to translate him in the middle of play, explanations only worthy of German. It just shows the purity of study.

Now, Pat wasn't speaking German; he was "speaking" Horse to the learned & to the beginner - all in the same tongue. Then going to the arena and showing how it worked.

Then he pulled the rug. He announced he brought nothing to sell: no gear, no saddles, no clothing, no leads, no nothing. Just sign up for a part of over \$20K in prizes.

In his demonstrations, he was using his friend's horse. When he worked with 2 women who had problems with their horses, he solved their problems with little more than voice direction, instructing the rider to do this and that. He NEVER touched the horse in question, but directed the rider to help her achieve the desired result. And right before the crowds' eyes! Success!

And later I found Pat at his booth, reading his e-



mail on his phone. Taking time for himself, but when he was done and looked up I told him thanks for what he has taught me. Thanks for what my horse Ted has become. I had no questions for him like the others, just thanks.

He shook my hand and asked my name. I told him, but I'm sure he had heard a thousand before me. I told him I had modeled my business after his; the stay in touch, personal approach, solid products, mid-course corrections, ever changing relationship with the market's needs. I told him I wanted him to have that product and I placed it in his hand.

Yeah, now where else would you get the chance to do that?

Dave Seroski
Person At Large
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon Riders



Special Feature

By Katie Farrington

San Andreas & Earthquake Safety

As I am writing these words I am staring out the window at a beautiful oak tree ever so slightly shimmering in the cool afternoon breeze. The sun is shining above as a lone puffy cloud hangs out in the vast blue of the sky. Its days like this that one feels blessed for having the upmost fortune of living in Southern California. However, this is not always the perfect place to live, as Hollywood is prepared to remind us with the release of the latest blockbuster film "San Andreas".

The movie synopsis is simple enough, a magnitude 9+ earthquake has hit all of California and "The Rock" Johnson must travel from Los Angeles to San Francisco to save his only daughter. The cast, the story, and the special effects might make for an entertaining movie, but much of what makes it a good movie is far from reality. Whether you plan on seeing the movie or not, the fact is we do live in a seismically active area of the world, and I thought I would take a moment to clarify some myths, point out the truths, and provide some quick suggestions to stay safe during and after an earthquake.

First off, the myths: I will start with the biggest one, it is not physically possible for California faults to experience an earthquake of 9.0 magnitude or greater. We live along a tectonic plate boundary that is essentially sliding past each other, rather than one being subducted under the other (such as those in Alaska, south America and Indonesia, etc.) Therefore, our seismically active zone does not extend deep enough into the earth to produce the large earthquakes that occur in other regions of the world. It has been suggested that the largest earthquake possible in California would be an 8.2. Don't get me wrong, that is still a LARGE earthquake. However, when this earthquake occurs, the ground will not open up and swallow up towns, large tsunamis will not take out the Golden Gate Bridge, the fault will not rupture the entire length of the state, and the California coast will not snap off and sink into the ocean.

However, there are some truths to the movie. It

is true that the southern segment of the San Andreas fault is long overdue for a large earthquake, or the "Big One". It has been suggested when this earthquake occurs it may rupture from the Mexico border to the San Gabriel Mountains. Damage that occurs will be dependent on how the fault ruptures and which direction it ruptures (north to south or south to north). In addition, it may not be the San Andreas that lets loose, it could be the San Jacinto fault, or even their smaller cousin, the Elsinore fault.

So, what does this mean? First off, keep in mind that almost every major roadway and water pipeline crosses the fault to get into the southern California area. This means that although your house may not fall down, critical infrastructure may be severely damaged during a large earthquake. If you live in the canyon, you can probably perform a fire evacuation in your sleep. However, a large earthquake may not be as simple as evacuating horses to a nearby barn. There is a possibility that no one will have potable water for an extended period of time, that supplies may not be able to shipped in due to damaged roadways, and even gas stations may run out of gas.

Not to echo the PSA's on TV, but **make sure you are prepared**. At a minimum, I suggest the following to everyone:

- 1) make a habit of keeping your vehicles gas tanks full,
- 2) keep at least a week's worth of non-perishable food, medications, and hygiene products in the house,
- 3) keep plenty of fresh drinking water on hand for both you and your animals, because there might not be anywhere to evacuate to (remember, a hot water heater is a 40+ gallon fresh water storage tank, so keep it in good shape)

4) ground shaking doesn't kill people, falling items kill people. Standing in a doorway is no longer recommended, so remember to duck and cover.

Most everyone should have an emergency kit by now. Some additional suggestions to include in your kit are: plenty of candles/batteries, iodine pills and camp stove for decontaminating drinking water, a hand crank am/fm radio, phone numbers to out of state contacts that family members can check in with, and a gas valve shut off tool or multipurpose tool.

Everyone be safe out there; make sure you are prepared for you and your animals when the "Big One" hits.



Katie is a local Engineering Geologist and spoke about Earthquake Safety at our February Members Meeting.

Join us for **TRAIL MAINTENANCE** at **O'Neill Regional Park** **Saturday, April 9th at 9:00 am**



30892 Trabuco Canyon Road
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678

Meet at the Nature Center
Parking Lot.

RSVP: Sue (949) 858-8001
or just show up!

Hope to see you there!!!

**Remember to bring tools
and gloves!!!**

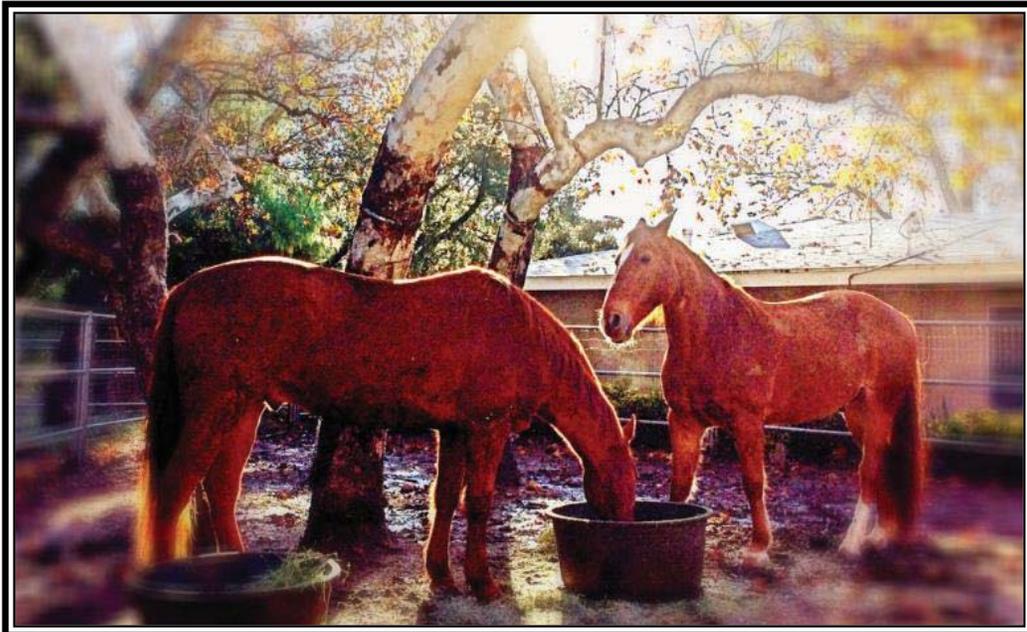




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ETI Corral 357 Upcoming Events

March	3	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	10	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	Jimmy I (949) 459-7742
	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
May	5	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	7	Saturday	Playday	8:30 am	O'Neill Park arena	
	12	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	
	21	Saturday	Month End Event - Ride at Casper's	10:30 am	Caspers	Debbie (949) 459-7191
	20-22	Fri - Sun	Casper's Campout	all day	Caspers	Debbie (949) 459-7191
	31	Tuesday	Park Meeting	7:30 am	O'Neill Park Ranger Station	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
June	2	Thursday	Members' Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	4	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	8:00 am	O'Neill Park	Rich & Patti (949) 888-1604
	9	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	
	11	Saturday	Modjeska House/BBQ (Sue's - 1:00 pm)	10:00 am	Meet at Cook's	Mary & Sue (949) 858-8001
	25	Saturday	Month End Ferber Ranch Ride	10:30 AM	O'Neill Park staging for Ferber Ranch	Debbie (949) 244-0670
July	4	Monday	July 4th Parade & BBQ	8:30 am	Trabuco Canyon, Ca.	Jimmy I/Patti
	14	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	
	16	Saturday	Giracci & Cowboy Wineries	Noon	at winery	Mary & Sue (949) 858-8001
	26	Tuesday	Park Meeting	7:30 am	O'Neill Park Ranger Station	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	25	Saturday	Month End Poker Ride	8:30 am	O'Neill Park staging for Ferber Ranch	Debbie (949) 459-7191
August	4	Thursday	Members Meeting	7:00 pm	Mi Casa	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	5	Friday	Pancake Fund Raiser - Setup	5:30 pm	Rancho Santa Margarita	Kristen (949) 444-1990
	6	Saturday	Pancake Fund Raiser	5:30 am	Rancho Santa Margarita	Kristen (949) 444-1990
	11	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBA	
	13	Saturday	Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum	8:30 am	Meet at CVS parking lot	Mary & Sue (949) 858-8001
	27	Saturday	Month End Ferber Ranch Ride	9:00 am	O'Neill Park staging for Ferber Ranch	Debbie (949) 459-7191



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JIM IACONO - PRESIDENT.....714-612-1789



2016 Board of Directors

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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
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Emergency Response Team Communications & Person-at-Large	Dave Seroski	949-533-7153	DSeroski@cox.net
Others:			
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



Treasurer's Report

By Vicki Iacono

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING: January 31, 2016

Ending Bank Balance (Bank of America) \$9,365.65

DEPOSITS: Deposits Made After Closing: January: \$0.00

Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$9,365.65

EXPENSES:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
2035	ETI	membership	\$48.00	2039	ETI	membership	\$45.00
2046	ETI	membership	\$124.00				

Total expenses paid in – January 2016 (\$217.00)

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED IN THIS PERIOD:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
2036	R Soderstrom	postage	\$37.24	2037	P Gomez	bd dinner	\$30.00
2043	R Soderstrom	postage	\$50.00	2042	K Holden	bd dinner	\$20.00
2047	ETI	membership	\$96.00				

Total Outstanding Checks December 31,-2015 - i.e. Spending: (\$00.00)

Funds on hand in checking as of 01-31-2016 \$9,365.65

Petty Cash on Hand as of 01-31-2016 \$400.00

Corral FUNDS On Hand as of 01-31-2016 \$9,765.65

SUBTOTAL CORRAL FUNDS: Less Reserves: ERT as of 01-31-2016 \$(476.73)

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

NET Funds on Hand in Checking, Petty Cash to credit of: Corral 357 \$9,288.92



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