

CORRAL NEWS



ETI CORRAL 357 | SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

JUNE 2018

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 6



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

SWEET HOME CALIFORNIA

I know it seems fashionable right now to bash California. Long-time residents are packing up for other states, weary of the traffic, high real estate costs, rising cost of gas, excessive state income taxes, just to name a few. I was born and raised in California. More specifically, Southern California, as I have lived my whole life within a 120 mile radius between Los Angeles and San Diego. Sure, I have seen lots of changes. When I was in grade school, half of Orange County was open space and farmland. Disneyland cost \$15 for admission, and you could use all of your A thru E tickets by dusk. The 105 and most of the 210 freeways and ALL of the toll roads did not exist. I drove 21 miles to high school near downtown LA every morning and could be there in 40 minutes. The beaches had free parking and enough of it. Gas was under \$.50 per gallon. Yes, California was a different place.

But there are things still being done right. Despite the regulations some are saying cripple our business climate, when standing on our own, we are the 5th largest economy in the world. Population in California has doubled in the last 40 years, and the number of automobiles has grown by 2 ½ times. Yet, when was the last time we had a "smog day"? You know, the days we used to have refrain from outdoors activity during school days. But as a precocious twelve-year old, I rarely abided on the weekends. The result was chest pain and incessant coughing. But because of a different grade of gas we now use in California that is unfortunately more expensive, and the work of the AQMD that monitors our air quality, the "smog day" has become a thing of the past. So, I would like to focus on the positive.

This past week I got to see a part of California that sang to my heart. I was invited on the Tortuga Ride (an annual trek of about 100 men that lets



us dig deep to find the Cowboy in all of us). This year we visited the Tejon Ranch in Lebec, CA. It's only about 90 minutes from downtown LA, yet, at the same time, it's a century away. It's 270,000 acres, the largest contiguous private property in the state. Cattle leases cover about 250,000 acres, and depending on the time of year there can be as many as 12,000 head grazing. We went on a 7-hour ride one day, capturing views that I'm sure were partly responsible for the massive western migration which began in the second half of the 19th century through the mid- 20th Century. My family came here in that time. I wonder if the horizon of golden hills freckled with oaks I saw this past week were the draw for my ancestors? I tend to think it was the sea.... A big part of our earth that connects us, that looks familiar no matter what side of the world you sail. My father, my father's father, and his father were fisherman originally based on an island in the Mediterranean

not far from the Amalfi coast. They found the waters of Southern California recognizable, equally as stunning. That coastline stands up to some of the best shores in Europe and Mexico and the South Pacific I have ever seen.

The other reason they came, is the opportunity. Those waters were teeming with sardines, mackerel, tuna. But it was fished out within 50 years. During



that period, at the Port of Los Angeles, the fleet went from 100 to 25. Enter the Department of Fish and Game. Regulations were imposed on the "catch." Seasons were established. The ecosystem is slowly coming back. Some of the giant squid caught in local waters are in high demand all over the world.

So, the state is doing some things right, to preserve what we can of the California we have come to know, the California that attracted our ancestors.

The Tejon Ranch I visited has a conservancy in place to protect 240,000 acres. Into perpetuity. The California Condor will maintain their nesting grounds as long as heaven will allow. It's the largest land use pact and conservation in California history. We have protected land right here in Trabuco Canyon. Conservancies, Wildlife Refuges, and Dedicated Open Spaces, surround us here in the Canyon. We try to hold on to the optics, as well as the feeling.

The feeling is what gets me out For a ride, a trek, a connection to the men on horseback that have roamed the hills of California for 3 centuries. California has so much to offer. The best weather, employment opportunities, the beach, the golden hills that I meld into.... Real estate that continues to appreciate faster than just about anywhere else in the country. Maybe there are greener pastures somewhere else for certain slices of life....taxes, seasons, traffic... But for the whole pie.... California is Crème de la crème. Of all the places the Great Stork in the Sky could have landed me, to step down in Southern California is like hitting the lottery. Counting all of the people in the world, I had about a 1 in 200 chance to be born here. Sweet. Thank you, God.

So while we are all here together, let's enjoy it. And think about how lucky you are to be alive right now. This weekend, we will be galloping on the beach, at the border of Mexico. How lucky is that? California Dreamin'.

James M. Iacono
President
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon Riders





Horse Sense

By Dave Seroski

GOING, GOING, GONE!

That's what the Cumming Consulting Group thought, well, expected was going to happen.

In a report dated Feb 1, 2018 under the title "Repurpose Equestrian Center Space - Phase 3," it proposed spending one million dollars tearing the existing equestrian center down and then rebuilding a much, much smaller one (by chopping off 6 acres) for about another million dollars.

The new center would include \$5,000 picnic tables and stall heaters. Heaters for barns in So-Cal? Oh, that's right, they are from Chicago and, as the report exposed, non-equestrians trying to fake out real ones.

The report made its way over to the barn and as far as I know, it was the first time it became public. As soon as they read it, the ladies from the barns made a bee line to the meeting, ready to expose the inaccuracies and grossly overstated costs as projected. Public speaker after public speaker after public speaker did just that, to the point that the board was starting to wonder about the rest of the projections in the report. The ladies were very nice, respectful and professional and each one built on the previous one's testimony.

Kind of like Southern belles ("Why sweetie! Haven't you heard? People in these parts think you are a darn fool! A nice fool, but a fool just the same. Now you just run along now or Rufus will feed you to the hogs. God bless, and have a wonderful day").

All of their points were well taken. Or it was gonna be Rufus and his hogs. They just were not going to go away. I did have chance to speak on behalf of ETI and being the only male speaker, I thought I better hit (or kick it) out of the park.

I introduced myself, stated I was from ETI and asked if they were going to still be able to abide by the California Emergency Service Act if they went through with this eradication of the equestrian center. I reminded them that at the last meeting I submitted into the public record a letter from ETI, requesting to be informed of proceedings and provided reports, and offered to provide guidance. To date we have heard nothing. Once again we are requesting involvement.

Gee, still had 2 minutes left.

They were all looking and listening to me, so I just reached out and kicked old green teeth in the knee and stole a page out of Clint Eastwood's Fistful Of Dollars.

Let me change hats here. I removed my hat,

ran my hand through my hair, and replaced my hat. Adjusted it and started: the room got really quiet.

This is from me.

When Deputy Chief McGill ran his first 4th of July in Newport Beach, he asked "Who are your mounted officers?" The answer was "there are none." His response was "get some and do it now." And for the first time in the history of Newport Beach, the home of John Wayne, mounted police officers rode into the streets of Newport. Applause.

Mounted officers received national attention during civil unrest right here, where I am standing, in Costa Mesa. And then again in Anaheim, at 135 mounted strong.

They should have an expanded area in the expansion plan, not a cut in the reduction plan. Applause

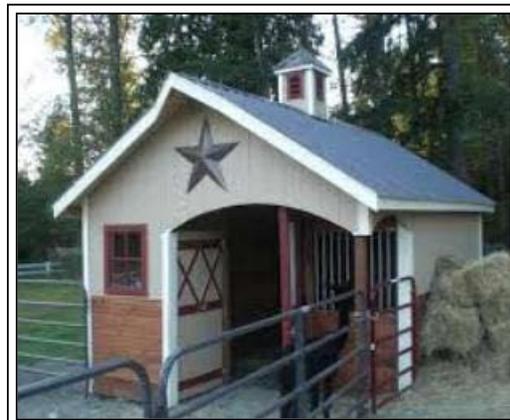
Take the one million dollars in demolition costs and repair and expand the equestrian area BACK to its original 15 acres! Crowd-went-Crazy.

In closing, I would like to say don't let this become an Irvine Lake, where one day it is public recreation and the next day it is RV parking. Thank You.

Final applause. The board voted to repair the equestrian center and form a 3 person committee to study the area in depth. As far as the Cumming's report, they best be looking out for Rufus and his angry hogs.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Seroski
Saddleback Canyon Riders
PS: o-i-n-k



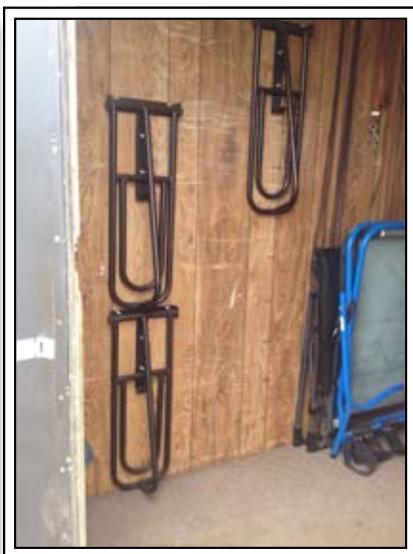
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Trail Boss Report

By Debbie Kelly

WHO LET THE HORSE OUT? PART 2 "RILEY'S BIG ADVENTURE" THE SEQUEL

I can't say it started out as any other evening. Those who live in Trabuco may recall a few weeks ago when the power suddenly went out in the entire canyon. All of the homes and streets went pitch black. The only illumination was solar lights and the big cross on the hill. It did not take long to learn that a vehicle had hit a pole on Live Oak Canyon near the Monastery road. Evidence of that was present the next morning as debris was still scattered and crews were still working on the clean-up and repair. Unfortunately, this is not an unusual occurrence here and the inconvenience is minimal compared to the lives that suddenly change when a car or bike loses control due to accident or recklessness. But I digress. This was not the night of my story. It would be the following evening when once again the lights went out in Trabuco and we were bringing the flashlights and candles back out. On this particular evening I had been doing my usual evening barn chores past dark. I cleaned the stalls, changed the water, prepared for the morning feed as I get up before daylight and it is easier to have everything ready for morning rounds. Then the lights all went out, again, and we were in total darkness. I went inside to gather up the flashlights and candles and planned to go back outside to finish up once the power was restored. It was not out long but I thought it wise to hurry as I needed to give the horses their grain and turn Riley out in the round pen for the evening. Our routine is simple. I put Riley's grain bucket in the pen, open his stall gate, and he runs into the pen since he is starving. I then give our boarder horse Bella her grain, along with the goat Dutch who also receives a bedtime snack. Everyone is happy and ready to turn in. With the power on I get myself ready for the next day and head to bed. Around 11 pm my dog Lacy breaks out into a barking fit and she won't stop. Then my deaf dog Gigi follows suit. I believe her hearing loss is very selective. They are barking incessantly. I can't figure it out as Lacy is not a barker, and generally quiets when told. Sometimes. I say out loud to her "Why didn't you make this kind of a ruckus the night Riley escaped and went on his big adventure"? And it hit me. Could I have left the gate unlocked, again? I jumped out of bed, called to my daughter and ran up to the stalls. Did I in my haste after the power went back on leave the gate open? Yes, I did. Did Riley once again flee the property go visit the mare called Easy? Well, he tried. He failed.



All evidence says he meandered down the driveway (the hoof prints in the gravel and the guilty look on his face) but he turned around, went back up and was just standing in front of Bella's stall waiting to be led back into the pen. We grabbed his lead rope and did just that. Sorry Easy, Riley's heart belongs to Bella now. I don't know what changed his mind that evening. Could be the dog barking or the fact that our cars were parked at an angle that made it difficult to go between them. I like to think it was the dog. So does Lacy. She definitely knew she did her job as a watch dog and we are very grateful she did. Now if she could learn to check the gate and lock it when I can't seem to remember that simple task. My stress level would definitely improve.



Debbie Kelly
Trail Boss
ETI Corral 357
Saddleback Canyon
Riders



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Wednesday: Trabuco Canyon, Lake Forest, Serrano
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Friday: Coto de Caza



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SADDLEBACK CANYON RIDERS

2018 CALENDAR | ETI CORRAL 357



JUNE MEMBERS MEETING

Equine Inspired Growth and Healing

with guest speakers from **Brave Grace**

April Dona *Equine Facilitated Psychotherapist*

Sheila Segien *Equine Specialist*

Thursday, June 7 | Dinner at 7:00 | Meeting starts at 7:30
M&C Grill, Dove Canyon/Rancho Santa Margarita

See more info on page 7; contact: James (949) 459-7742

	Date	Event	Time	Location	Contact	
June	2	Saturday	Imperial Beach Ride	8:00 am	8:00am at CVS	Debbie (949) 244-0670
	7	Thursday	JUNE MEMBERS MEETING	7:00 pm	M&C's Sports Grill	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	9	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	8:00 am	O'Neill Park	Debbie (949) 244-0670
	14	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	30	Saturday	Ferber Ranch Preserve Ride	8:30 am	Stage O'Neill; meet Trabuco Oaks gate	Debbie (949) 244-0670
July	4	Wednesday	July 4th Parade	8:30 am	Trabuco Canyon	Jimmy I/Crystal
	12	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	21	Saturday	Medieval Times	6:00 pm	meet at CVS	Crystal (949) 207-8921
August	2	Thursday	Members' Meeting	7:00 pm	M&C's Sports Grill	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	3	Friday	Pancake Fund Raiser - Setup	5:30 pm	RSM	Kristen (949) 444-1990
	4	Saturday	Pancake Fund Raiser	5:30 am	RSM	Kristen (949) 444-1990
	9	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	26	Sunday	Ferber Ranch Preserve Ride	9:00 am	Stage O'Neill; meet Trabuco Oaks gate	Debbie (949) 244-0670
September	6	Thursday	Members' Meeting	7:00 pm	M&C's Sports Grill	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	13	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	15	Saturday	Inner-Coastal/Watershed CleanUp	8:00 am	Trabuco Creek Bridge	Rich/Patti (949) 888-1604
	29	Saturday	Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum	10:00 am	meet at CVS	Crystal (949) 207-8921
October	4	Thursday	Members' Meeting and Nominations	7:00 pm	M&C's Sports Grill	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	6	Saturday	Acorn Day NEED VOLUNTEERS	10:00-3:00	O'Neill Park	Debbie (949) 244-0670
	11	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	13	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	8:00 am	O'Neill Park	Dave S (949) 459-7153
	20	Saturday	Ferber Ranch Preserve Ride	9:00 am	Stage O'Neill; meet Trabuco Oaks gate	Debbie (949) 244-0670
November	1	Thursday	Members' Meeting and Elections	7:00 pm	M&C's Sports Grill	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789
	3	Saturday	Trail Maintenance	9:00 am	O'Neill Park	Rich/Patti (949) 888-1604
	8	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	18	Sunday	Ferber Ranch Preserve Ride	10:00 am	Stage O'Neill; meet Trabuco Oaks gate	Debbie (949) 244-0670
Dec	13	Thursday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm		
	15	Saturday	Christmas Party / Dance	5:30 pm	Circle S Ranch	Jimmy I (714) 612-1789

www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com



CALLING ALL HIKERS AND RIDERS

TRAIL MAINTENANCE O'Neill Regional Park

Saturday, June 9th at 8:00 am



Meet at the Nature Center Parking Lot.

Contact/RSVP: **Debbie Kelly 949-713-6133**

Hope to see you there!!! Remember to bring gloves & tools!!!

www.saddlebackcanyonriders.com

ETI 357 June Meeting



Learn about Equine Inspired Growth and Healing

Brave Grace co-founders, April Dona and Sheila Segien, will discuss how horses are used to facilitate psychotherapeutic treatment for addiction, trauma, and other mental health issues, helping clients overcome challenges and build confidence.

Explore herd dynamics and discover how applying lessons learned from the horses can promote self-discovery, improve communication, and develop new life skills.

Date: June 7, 2018
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: M&C Grill
31911 Dove Canyon Drive
Trabuco Canyon



April Dona, MA, LMFT | Co-Founder, Equine Facilitated Psychotherapist

April has loved all things equine for as long as she can remember and will never forget her first ride on a big Palomino named River. April was blessed to grow up riding, and spent time working on a ranch in college. This gave her the opportunity to interact with many different horses, it was here she fell in love with their intuitive nature and kind hearts. Her dream of bringing the horse into the healing process has been realized in her work as an Equine Facilitated Psychotherapist. April is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, she is also certified in Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy. April's therapeutic philosophy involves inviting the horse as a willing participant into the session, she firmly believes in the horses ability to facilitate change and healing. She has worked with adults, children and families struggling with a variety of issues, and has been witness many times to the power of equine therapy.



Sheila Segien | Co-Founder, Equine Specialist

Growing up in rural Idaho, Sheila's favorite thing to do as a young girl was to spend time on her grandparent's ranch in Montana and be among the horses. Carrying this love into her adult life, she has become very skilled at reading horses and brings years of experience into her sessions. As a student of her own horse, a beautiful Colonial Spanish Barb, she has learned how horses are the perfect teachers of patience, respect and understanding. After raising her children, she found her calling as an Equine Specialist. Sheila helps clients connect with the horses and discover new insights about themselves. She holds a certificate in Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy and blends natural horsemanship and a good measure of heart into her work. Since 2009 she has worked as an Equine Specialist serving a variety of populations. Sheila loves this work and is a gift to those who benefit from her wisdom.



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Treasurer's Report

By Vicki Iacono

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING: APRIL 30, 2018

Ending Balance (BofA): \$8,246.67

DEPOSITS: Deposits Made After Closing: \$0.00
Sub-Total for beginning Balance + Deposits \$8,246.67

EXPENSES:

Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:	Ck#	Source:	Reason:	Amount:
2182	ETI	member dues	\$ 80.00	2183	R. Gomez	web domain	\$99.00
2184	D. Seroski	lock	\$ 15.06	2185	J. Iacono	bd dinner	\$50.00
2186	J. Iacono	3 newsletters & 2 spkr dinners					\$145.03

TOTAL EXPENSES PAID: \$389.09

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED THIS PERIOD:

Ck# Source: Reason: Amount:

TOTAL EXPENSES PAID & UNPAID THIS PERIOD: (\$00.00)

FUNDS ON HAND AFTER EXPENSES PAID & UNPAID CHECKS THIS PERIOD: \$8,246.67
PETTY CASH ON HAND (INCLUDED IN BALANCE): \$400.00
CORRAL FUNDS ON HAND: \$8,646.67



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Saddleback Canyon Riders | ETI Corral 357

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Note from the Editor

Renate Soderstrom

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1/8 Page	\$5.00	\$10.00

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



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