

Oh Joy, Oh Rapture! *NEW FENCES!*

New Fences! Yes, Onion Creek Ranch, the south Austin HQ for Minis and Friends, now has 4- strand ElectroBraid, all the way around. Not the old falling-down slick wire many horses had leaned against and 3 floods had pushed on for 12 years. And that I'd tacked together 50 times.

The minis like Buckshot often simply ducked under the lowest strand and moused through. And then there's Mastercard. The Master. Sally Iwanski's Houdini in Horse Hair & Small Hooves who can get through *anything*. Guess what? He can't get under or through the Electrobraid.

In the field for the first time, the minis ran in wild, happy abandon to be free.. free... free.. to move around with the other horses. They took the big horses on a merry chase. When they came near the new fence I saw Mastercard furrow his mini-brow and stare at it. Then he went over and whispered something to Buckshot. I'm sure he was thinking: "When did fences start humming and biting!?!?" "They stay very clear of it and are enjoying their palacial pasture now..."

Installing the fences was relatively simple. The Ranch Hands set four strong H-posts in the corners with telephone poles for strength. They left the best, strongest set t-posts about 40-50' apart. Everything else, old wire and bent t-posts was pulled by hand and tractor. Then it was a snap! Just string the wire, attaching with the snap ons Electrobraid provides, and tighten using the tightener they provide. Attach the Energizer and "Fence Minder" (in case it goes off) and Voila! New Fencing! It took about 4 days in total for us to do 7 acres because there was a lot of cleaning out of old fencing/brush/old t-posts to do. We had to clean the area the fence would run so brush wouldn't touch it, and since spring growth along the creek this time of year is rampant, that was a job.

All in all, the new fence is gorgeous and tidy and SAFE and many people have commented on it. I think several are using it for an example to do theirs. We are extremely grateful to Electrobraid for their grant of \$3,000 in supplies to Minis and Friends. But mostly, the horses are grateful.

Lin Sutherland, Onion Creek Ranch
Austin, Texas
www.onioncreekranch.net

Sally Iwanski, Executive Director
Austin, Texas
www.minisandfriends.org





The 3 amigos come in every evening. Lin has trained them to come up when they start feeding, they get a nibble so they're happy and always come up and we secure them in their pen for the night. Lin likes to see and check all horses every day. They LOVE being out in the field. Quite happy they are stretching their legs and getting all the big horses to run and play with them. Fence is fine – Boy do they stay off it after that initial testing the first day. The Fence took the big test Friday night (May 10) during the winds and rains – solid, stable. We LOVE IT!

We hope to send to ElectroBraid many Mini owners and ranchers who comment highly on our new Fencing in south Austin. Words can never express our joy in having been granted this fencing – it will keep our minis safe, healthy and happy for a long time to come allowing them to work their magic in the community with “Horses Indoors”!



www.minisandfriends.org
Blog: www.minisandfriends.vox.com
P.O.Box 91704
Austin, TX 78709
USA 512-292-8746, mailbox 2