



# Quicksilver Quips

August 2021



*Happy  
Summer!*

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## **President's message**

It was great to be out at the Tevis last weekend- yes, even in the dust, dirt and heat. QSER had members riding, crewing, volunteering and even just cheering the riders on. While it was a busy and long day for all, I was sort of amused at how much I was enjoying myself. It has been so long since I have been around a large group of people and I just found it so enjoyable to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones while we all wandered through the hills trying to keep track of our horse and rider teams. Congratulations to all who made it to the start – your fine horsemanship and enduring spirit is an inspiration to us all.

Our local rides are coming up soon. I hope you will come out and either ride or help out – or demonstrate some real enduro-spirit and do both! Reach out to your ride managers to see where you might be able to help.

Hope to see you out there-

Jill

Congratulations Lori and Fargo!



## ***Quick Silver members and their club shirts go around the world!***

### ***From Nicola Mohr:***

Quicksilver Endurance Club T shirt sighting in Baden Baden, Germany..... where I met these 5 and 7 year old Schleswiger Horses and their elegant carriage. A breed threatened by extinction, now mostly used for pulling carriages. They stood an amazing 17 hands tall, weighed 1500 and 1600lbs, and were happily resting while waiting for customers.



### ***From Shannon Thomas:***

Shannon and family on safari in Africa and Zanzibar. They saw elephants, hippos, wildebeest, lions, tigers, zebras, monkeys, water buffalos, mongoose, giraffes, jackals, ostriches and all kinds of other exotic birds, sea creatures, and... a lizard wearing jeans! 😊



## Attention all Henry Cowell Park riders - Be warned:

As you may or may not know, the waterer at the observation deck has been repaired. Unfortunately, due to low water pressure, they had to add some kind of pressure pump, which now makes the waterer sound like a jet plane taking off, along with water spraying up in the air which will definitely spook your horse. Drink with caution! *Elisabet*

**Good News** – we have obtained our Special Event Permit from the Santa Clara County Parks for the 49<sup>th</sup> running of the Quicksilver Fall Classic to be held on 2 October 2021 at Harvey Bear County Park in San Martin CA. The ride has been sanctioned by the AERC, and we are no longer constrained by COVID-related considerations.

We will open up our registration on Monday 19 July. We are trying on-line registration and payment this year, although the option remains to print the registration form and send it to us with your check for payment. Registration information can be accessed at our Quicksilver website: <https://www.qser.net/> Our Park Permit this year limits us to 99 people for over-night camping, so we may have to limit the entries at some point (although our ride has not been this large in recent years). We hope that you can join us on October 2nd!

Hope That Your Training is Going Well!

As some of you know, Jo Barrett has been a committed volunteer at the San Jose Rose Garden for a very long time. Recently, heartless vandals came and removed many of the identification labels on the young rose bushes. Jo is heartbroken and states "This is actually what tipped me over the edge with the Rose Garden. Many of the roses there were gifts/donations, or cuttings taken from established roses, and of course, now we have no idea where these labels were taken from." It's really hard to imagine why anyone would do this.



### **Keep Going**

by Edgar Guest

When things go wrong,  
as they sometimes will,  
And the road you're trudging seems all uphill,  
When the funds are low  
and the debts are high,  
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,  
When care is pressing you down a bit,  
Rest if you must, but don't you quit!

## **Cooley Ridge Ride – June 30 2021**

### ***A roller coaster ride or a cautious lesson.***

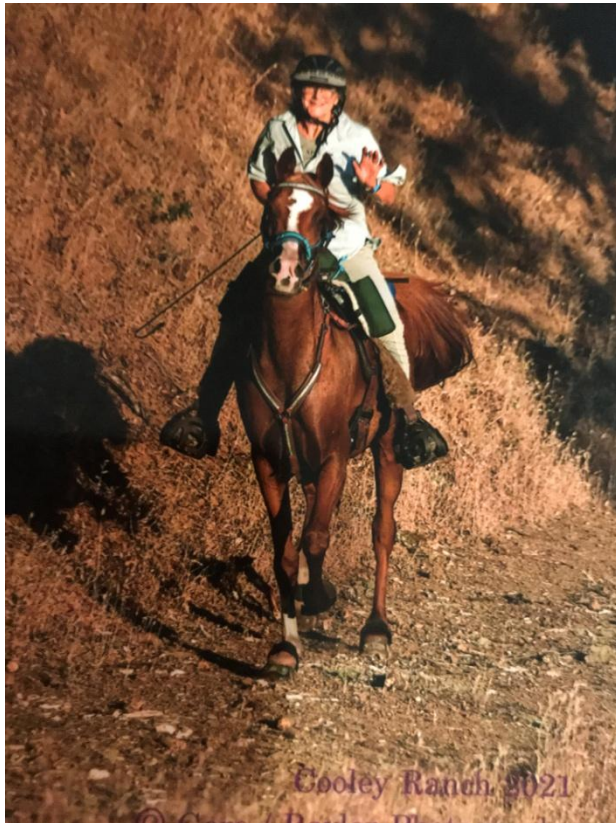
***By Elaine El-Bizri***

“If you have completed Tevis and are looking for challenges do Cooley Ridge” This quote is from a very experienced endurance old timer when we shared our day after completion.

Yes, this was a hot hilly ride. We set off at 5:30 to avoid the worst of the day's heat. I was confident, all my preparations were in order, Bella and I had done a lot of miles in recent weeks. We had completed Cache Creek slowly, which had been our first 50 in more than a year.

Cooley ride numbers were low which surprised me as we were a month from Tevis and I thought there would be more riders using this as a conditioning ride. Not having any Tevis ambitions myself I really don't know what it takes. The ride was very well organized and I felt truly taken care of by Jennifer Niehaus our ride manager. At the ride meeting Dr James Kerr told us that 6 horses at Cache Creek had needed treatment and warned us about the demands of this ride. He also informed us that 30 gulps equal a gallon.

Leaving at 5:30 in the morning meant Bella had not taken her customary morning drink,



though I had listened to her munching her hay pile through the night and eaten a very early morning mash. We were saddled up and ready 20 minutes before start time and Bella knew what this was all about. We started with the leaders she got very excited and wanted to keep up. It was cool and we made good speed though the hilly trails. It was beautiful up there, mountains and forests beyond mountains and forests above the early morning mists over Lake Sonoma. We had a great ride into the first vet check, there was no hold time. We trotted out for the vet and were free to be on our way. Bella had not taken a drink till now. Cautious and wary by nature and on an unfamiliar ride she would not drink. She put her head down but was too concerned by all that was around her to stick her nose in the water.

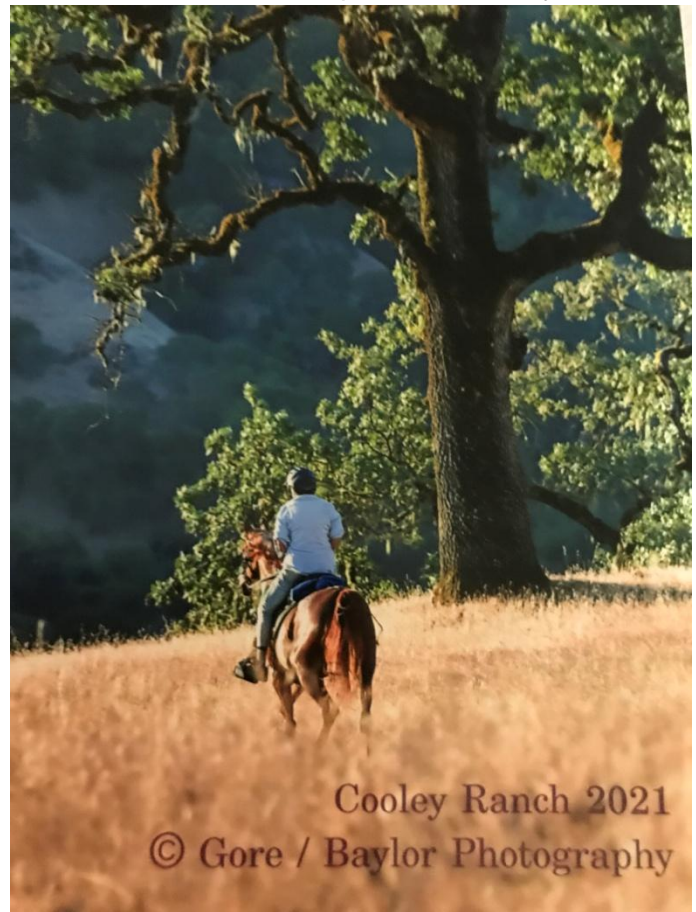
The second loop was a lollipop we trotted along a fairly flat service road for about 3-4 then joined a trail which took us uphill through a wooded area that began to twist and climb." The trail had

been recently cleared and leveled going was easy but uphill! We climbed and climbed until it became obvious that we would move faster if I was on the ground. I led her to the top and then steep down. When we got back to the service road she was still slow and we both knew she needed water. We walked that 3-4 miles back into the vet check. By now we had completed 31 miles. Bella stuck her nose into the first water bin she met which was there for riders to cool and wash off their horses. At that moment dirty water meant nothing. She drank and drank; I had not remembered to count her gulps. From the water she went to a very slurpy mash. She scored D and C for two gut sounds but otherwise the vet was happy and we got an overall A.

Bella was reluctant to leave the other horses and the carrots and hay she had not managed to clean up, we left the vet check at a steady walk. Whether it was the experience of dehydration or just anxiety of being out alone she did not want to move on, this put the idea in my head that we would do the remaining 19 miles at a walk and arrive at camp by moonlight! Other riders caught up with us and this inspired her energetic self to move out. Bella was not the only horse that had difficulty I overheard another rider at the vet check relating a similar story of loss of energy and at a water stop on the third loop I left a horse where the rider would not leave until his horse's heavy panting subsided.

Nearly home we rode by vine orchards, then walking under the sun and trotting in the shade we climbed a winding road - one of those that seems to go on forever - to a water trough with a treat for riders of sodas and gummies. A short ride from there back through the wooded area we started from and into camp.

Both Bella and I finished in good spirits and as is often the case at endurance rides next morning she did not want to leave camp.



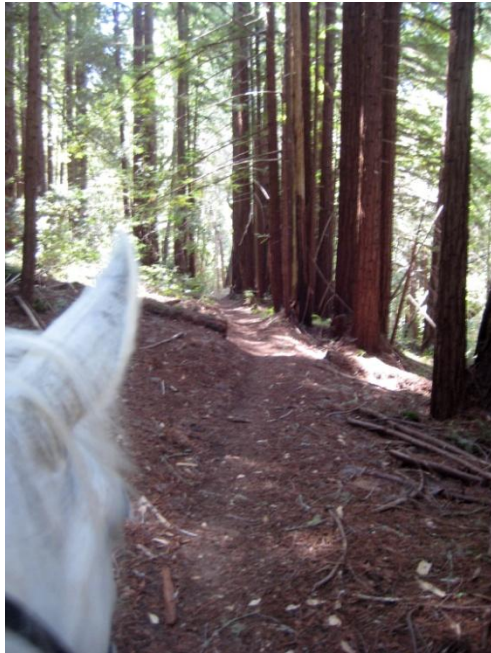
## Jack Brooks campout

*by E Hiatt*

On the weekend of July 9-11 I joined the Monterey Bay Equestrians on a camping trip to Jack Brook Horse Camp, located in the Pescadero Creek County Park. I have been there before, but it's been at least 25 years since my last visit and I thought it would be fun (interesting?) to go again, with a group of people I didn't really know. I have to confess that the lure of catered meals by an amazing chef was also a very strong draw, and it didn't disappoint!



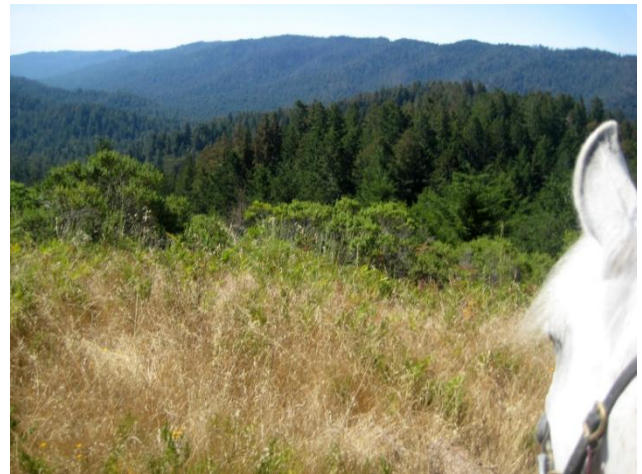
I got there early enough to get a great spot... shady, at the end of a row of larger pens, and next to the wash rack. Since I brought both my horses, I set up an electric fence corral, so Tango and Echo would not have to share meals... Tango eats everything in sight!



The camp is large, with probably 50 corrals, nice, clean bathrooms with showers, a kitchen, a huge fire pit and, best of all, really nice trails. Unfortunately, a very big section of the park is still closed due to last year's fires, but there are enough trails left to keep most of us entertained for a few days.

Some of the trails are in the sun, but most are shady and safe. Water is not abundant, but there are several trails that you can ride to the creeks. We had to be careful in the water, as there are Coho salmon babies swimming around and, since they are protected, we were asked to spend as little time as possible in there.

The views from some of the trails are really great. You can see the ocean (fog!) in one direction and beautiful mountain ranges in the opposite direction. Giant old growth redwoods were abundant, along with many other trees and some wild flowers still hanging on to the hope of rain.



I ended up having meals with the large group of nice MBE members, but riding alone. Even though I told several people I was there by myself and that I would like to join some of their group rides, no one invited me along. Seems like most people came with friends and rode with them. I guess this is something we, as a club, should think about if we ever put on a campout. I don't mind riding alone, but others may, especially if their horse is not used to it.

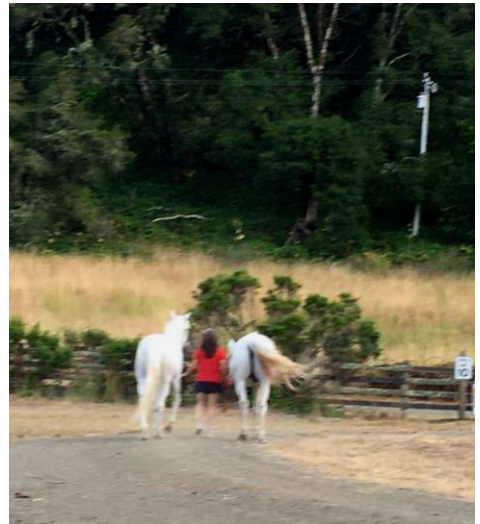


So many people come with large rigs and end up setting up house there in small groups... I kind of miss the way it was "in the old days" when sitting around the fire and chatting was more attractive than going to your chilly tent! The fire pit was definitely a very nice spot to sit and chat, and a large fire was built every night. One of the nights someone brought marshmallows and all the fixings to make s'mores... yum!

I believe our group was the first group allowed to camp there this year. I was expecting to see a lot more wildlife scurrying around, but other than some lovely birds and wild turkeys, there weren't many visitors.

I had to leave a day early due to other commitments, and I was sad to miss out on the amazing meals... I could definitely get used to camping (glamping??) like that!

I will probably go back there soon, and hopefully the rest of the trails will be open then!



## Congratulations to Barbara White, recipient of the 2021 Drucilla Barner Award



Drucilla Barner, Wendell Robie's executive secretary at Heart Federal Savings and Loan was one of the first women to ride the Western States 100 Mile One-Day Ride and in 1961, she became the first woman to win the Ride. In addition to riding, she contributed to and supported the Ride from the first day she rode the trail until her death. After her death she continued to support the Trail and the Ride through the Dru Barner Memorial Foundation created out of her very modest estate. The Foundation has been instrumental in the creation of Dru Barner Equestrian Park in El Dorado County and has supported the preservation and enhancement of the Western States Trail and other trails on the Western slope of the Sierra Mountains for many years.

Drucilla Barner's memory is honored annually by presenting a distinguished service award to a person, who like Drucilla Barner, has made a significant contribution to the goals of the Western States Trail Foundation.

## Tevis report from Margaret Hastings:



This weekend Jill Kilty-Newburn, Janine McCrary and I crewed for **Lori Oleson and Rushcreek Fargo** on the Tevis Cup 2021 endurance ride - 100 miles from Tahoe to Auburn in 24 hours.

The day started smoky as Jill and I waited for them to arrive at Robinson Flat for their first one hour hold (at 36 miles). Fargo vetted, ate and drank like a champ. Refreshed, they headed out on the next leg - 32 miles through the American River Canyons on their way to Foresthill.



Judith Ogus and Becky Hart were just ahead of us packing up and heading down the mountain to Foresthill.

Lori and Fargo arrived and Fargo's pulse was amazing. An hour of rest, food and drink and at 8:10 they were off again for the last 32 miles to Auburn, most to be ridden in darkness.

Our crew of three were waiting for them at 4am as they finished at Auburn Overlook tired but happy. Fargo took a quick drink at the trough under the Tevis moon before heading over to McCain Stadium and their victory lap and vetting.



**Well done Lori and Fargo! Congratulations!**



# *Through the ears, through the years*

*By Doreen Hallow*

*Submitted by Julie Suhr*

My favorite view of the world is through the ears - up the horse's neck and between his ears to the way ahead. If the eyes are the window of the soul, then the ears are the radio of the brain. I watch his ears to see what he's thinking - is he listening to me (cocked back)? Does he see something I don't (pointed to the side, perhaps)? Or is he focused on the trail and where we're going next (straight ahead)?



In the dark I could hardly see Salty's ears, because he was a bay, and they pretty much didn't show. Oh, sometimes on a light road I could see them at night. But I knew they were there. And with Salty, they were nearly always pointed emphatically straight ahead.

Now I ride my gray Arabian, Calypso, who is white except for those little dark spots horsemen call fleabites. Calypso's ears fairly glow under the moon, as if lit by some exotic witchlight. And in the daytime, sometimes they are actually blue in the shadows or around the edges.

But no matter the color of the ears, I love them all. When I said my final goodbye to Salty, I just took a second to lean over and look through his ears one last time. It is truly the best way to see the world.

All my life I wanted a horse. Many young girls do, and many outgrow the desire, just like my mom thought I would. Alas for Mom, I never did. So when I grew up and finally had my own money, I bought a horse. My poor husband thought I was only satisfying a childhood wish and that it would be a temporary thing. Like most people, he thought the reality of shoveling up after the animal would outweigh the romantic fantasy. And like most people, he reckoned without understanding the depth of the connection. But how could he have known? I hardly understood it myself back then.

I have now had horses physically in my life for almost 30 years. They have taken me to the heights of exhilaration and the depths of sorrow. In the same day I have ridden on top of the world and bid goodbye to my companion of 16 years who carried me to that mountain. I walked blisters on my feet trying to save him, and my husband sat up watching the IV bag when exhaustion claimed me. When the ultimate mercy was at hand, we held his head in our arms, and the whole family wept for him when he left us. I have few memories more painful than the ride home with an empty horse trailer.

So why does anybody do this? Why take the chance of embarrassment in competition, of injury, of getting lost, hot, thirsty, sick, sore, and just plain exhausted? Why go to all that work caring for this creature -and it is work-to feed, to vaccinate, clean up after, groom, maintain equipment, and manage the rather delicate health of a large animal? To never go away without worrying whether the caretaker has fed on time, filled the water tank, and followed the thousand and-one detailed instructions? Why take on the tremendous responsibility for a life that could last 30 years or end tomorrow, leaving you desolate? Who in their right mind would do such a thing?

Ah, who indeed. Good question - very good question. Anyone who has ever loved a companion animal already knows part of the answer. Mothers know, too. Yes, there is unconditional love and trust. But horses are different, because we ride them. And in that act, to do it well, we must cede a part of ourselves to the animal in

a way that perhaps only a blind person and a guide dog also understand. It is an act of faith as profound, I think, as what happens in any church. The horse and I are partners on our adventure, and we do it together. I savor the solitude, but I am never alone, because my equine partner is with me. When we top out on an mountain trail at dawn, it is a powerful spiritual experience, and I am never closer to the Creator than at those times. You can taste the wind of morning, and the journey itself is the reason we go.

Horses are metaphysical, you see. Together a horse and a rider create something that is somehow greater than the sum of its parts. Consider choral music for a moment. A chorus is nothing more than a collection of rather ordinary voices, where having one outstanding voice is a bad thing. If that singer is unable to give himself to the group and cease standing out, then the choir cannot attain the balance needed to make its harmony. But if the voices do meld, and everyone does their part, then the result can reach right out and grab you by the roots of your soul.

Horses are like that. Some days my horse do nothing but argue, and the result is like a kid with his first violin. But on a good day, when each is talking and listening to the other, it's the Hallelujah Chorus, and we can fly without wings.

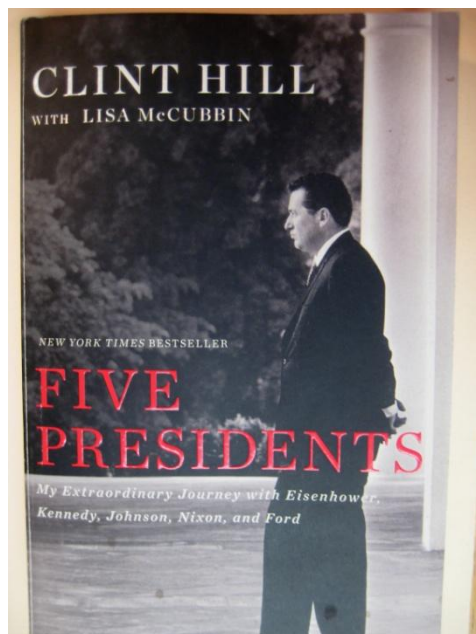
Why do I ride? Because it's good for my soul. Because when I look through those ears, I am bigger, stronger, prettier, faster, and braver than I am alone. All these things the horse gives to me. Horsemen have a saying, "Throw your heart over the fence and the horse will follow". I don't do fences - I do distance. It doesn't matter. I long ago threw my heart away, and the horse has been following ever since.



## Book report: Five Presidents

by E. Hiatt

by Clint Hill



This book is not really horse related at all (unless you count the horses that pulled heads of states' carriages during dignitary visits or the caisson, used for carrying dead presidents on the procession to their burial site) but I couldn't resist writing about it for two reasons: it's a heck of a good read and I **love** history. I seldom read one book at a time, but pretty much consumed this book as fast as I could.

To help you go "ah!" Mr. Hill is the man you see climbing on the back of the car attempting to protect Jackie Kennedy when President Kennedy was shot. We all have that image imprinted in our minds. Even though that moment was a total life changing experience for Mr. Hill, there is so much more in this book! Not only about the Kennedys but also about presidents Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon and Ford, their families, lifestyles, quirks, travels, favorite things, places and the incredible challenges each one faced during their presidencies. Mr. Hill eventually became "the guy" who pretty much hung out with the presidents and their families all the time and saw sides of all these people that few of us even hear about. I really admired his ability to remain true to his duties and not get mired in politics or parties. He would have willingly laid his life down for any of the people he was changed to protect. One can't help but to admire that kind of dedication.

## ***Fun ride at Henry Cowell.***

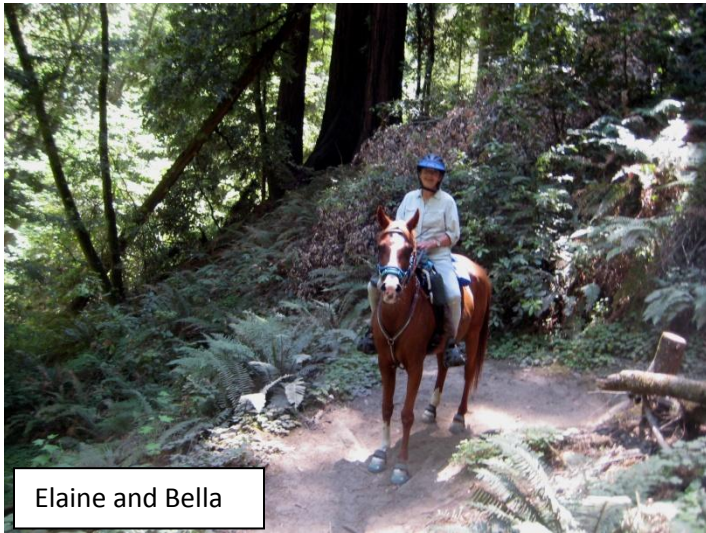
By E. Hiatt

On a lovely morning in July, Elaine El Bizry and new QSilver member Kim Frank came over the treacherous "Hill" to Santa Cruz to brave the dreaded Fireworks River Crossing. Since my horse and I cross it on a regular basis, they thought it would be good to have Echo and I lead the way. Elaine will be crewing for Kim and her horse Zubare, but she came along for the sheer fun (terror?) of it. A few years ago, Elaine's horse Bella had a nasty fall on the river and she is being very wise and cautious not to repeat the experience.



Kim and Zubare

Since I didn't know the exact route the ride will go, we rode the Graham Hill trail to the river and made a loop, coming back a different way to the observation deck, so that Kim's horse would see both possible ways to get there and back.



Elaine and Bella

Our horses were well behaved and well matched so we had a very fun ride. I love taking people on rides at Cowell, since I know the park very well and it's fun to point out some of the "out of the way" little things most people miss.

For those of you who have not done "The River Crossing" and those of you who fear being "baptized" in it (for the first

time or maybe again?) relax, I have good news! The steep entry has been eroded/filled with sand and it's now a gentle incline. The water level is pretty low, barely reaching the horses' knees. There are lots of rocks, but as we know, a dedicated crew will go there sometime before the ride and create a rock free channel for the horses to walk on. All you have to do is keep your horse in it for a short distance.

The trail across the river is REALLY overgrown, but again, I'm sure it will be cleared before the ride. If for some reason they don't clear it, there is a nice beach to the right that makes the crossing a little longer but totally doable.

Elaine chose to wait for us above the crossing and was glad and relieved to see Kim and I come back smiling and DRY!

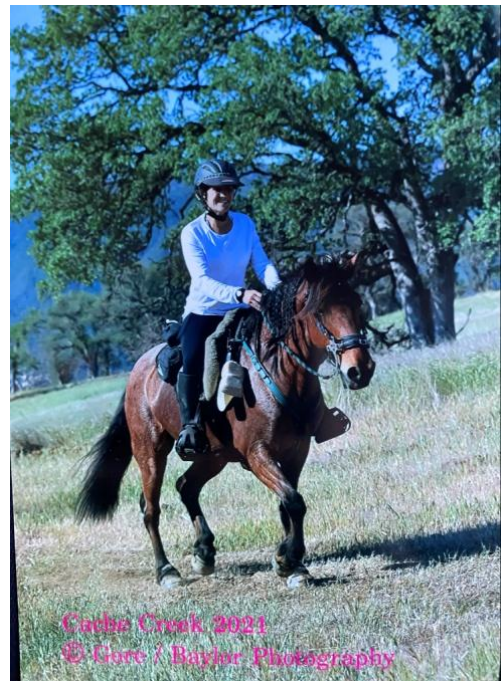
We had a very fun and pleasant time and I hope Kim and Zubare have a successful ride. I know they will have a great crew!

**Meet some of the upcoming Quicksilver Fall Classic riders. They may not be QS members, but they are all looking forward to the ride!**

***Katie de Jong:***

I'll be riding MM Tonka at the ride this year and doing the LD. Tonka is a 7 yr old mustang gelding from Triple B HMA. I've had him just over a year and this will be our second endurance ride, the first being Cache Creek 25mi LD in May. We have hopes to someday complete Tevis! Here's a picture of us for anyone that wants to come say hi at the ride!

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***Hanna Rokni:***

My horse, Eowyn, and I enjoy trail riding- mostly technical trails, but something simple and easy is also appreciated. We often go camping, though I had my gallbladder removed a month ago, so that's put a bit of a damper on things.



We're part of several organizations and we go camping at least 2 weekends out of the month. My goal is to go all weekends. Camping and trail riding is my favorite way to get some good conditioning in. It's difficult to trailer out every single day and I live in a FLAT area, so getting away for the weekend allows us some more time to be out in the hills.

I've honestly only done one ride so far; my gallbladder removal is making me miss 3 rides that I

had planned. It's very disheartening, because it's been 6 weeks since I've been able to be on my horse and our conditioning is taking a hit from that. Our first and only ride was successful though! We rode the Cache Creek LD. It was hot and long, but so much fun and a great first ride.

I also do historical costuming! I'm Iranian-American, so I'm trying to combine all of my passions together- SCA equestrian events, Persian outfits, historical costumes, and horseback riding; and all of that is being documented on my Instagram: @chai\_and\_parche.

Here's a picture just for fun, from the Equestrians of Color Photography Project, that I participated in.

**Laura Matthews:**

I have 3 horses all gaited, a Missouri Foxtrotter, a Rocky Mountain Horse, and a Tennessee Walker. This is a switch after 3 Arabians all of whom I owned until they passed. I always wanted to ride a gaited horse and after the first one I had to have more. My horses live with my husband and I at our home in the Santa Cruz Mountains. I have lived with and ridden horses since I was seven years old so at this point I don't see things changing. My husband always warns people to not get in between Laura and her beloved horses.

I love to ride both for conditioning and pleasure. I'm in the saddle 4-5 days a week and would make it 7 if I could get out of working. I will ride all types of trail but my favorite is the out of the way places where no one goes, which is harder and harder to come by these days. I've never been a big fan of arena riding but will venture in to teach and work on specific skills.

My life consists of family, horses & dogs, work, chores, gardening, and knitting...pretty much in that order!

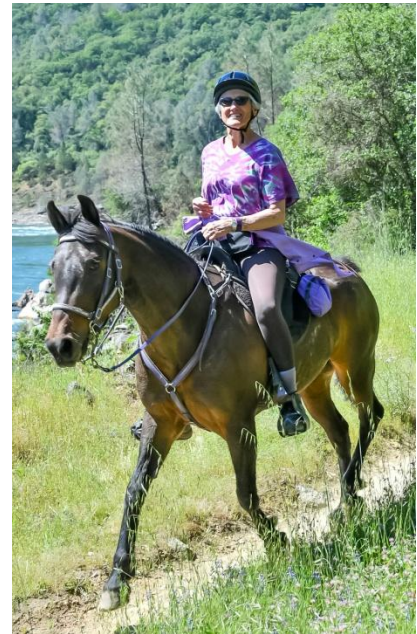
Looking forward to getting to know all of you at QSR. Safe and happy trails.

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**Dorothy Foster:**

My name is Dorothy Foster AERC #1836. I have been an AERC member since - hmmm, I am not really sure - about 1980. I remember my first endurance ride, American River, when the ride started at Cal Expo followed the river east to the Watt Avenue Bridge, riding over the bridge (which is now an 6 lane highway,) crossing the river again on the Hazel Avenue Bridge (another heavy traffic thruway now,) and going on to Auburn.

My first endurance horse was an Arab stallion, but I now ride a 14.1 hand Missouri Fox Trotting mare I call Abby. She is a perfect "S" horse. Julie Suhr said that older riders should look for Short, Safe, Smooth, and maybe Sane? I don't recall how many "S" words there were. Abby is also Sweet, but I am pretty sure that Sweet was not one of Julie's criteria! We only do LD rides now, and believe me, at my age I find them as challenging as 50's used to be. Next year if I can still lift the saddle up and stay in it, Abby and I will become a "Decade Team" as well as "Century Team." She will be 17 and I will be 83. "You don't quit riding because you get old; you get old because you quit riding!"



My favorite ride used to be Barbara McCrary's Castle Rock Ride, and now I would say Tahoe Rim, but they don't have an LD anymore. I like technical trails close to home, so presently Wild West, especially the last day, is probably my fave.

I live right on the Loafer Loop Trail at Lake Oroville, so I ride here all the time, but when I take a break from trail riding, I love to ride in playdays. Abby and I don't go very fast, but she is so willing that we do pretty well with our times. She really is the perfect horse for me!

## "You, Your Horse, and Lady Luck"

by Julie Suhr

I remember vividly walking through a department store when I was expecting my first child. I was appalled at a screaming two year old and thought "my child will NEVER behave like that." However, the first thing I learned as a new mother was that you do not take your newborn baby and mold him like a piece of clay into what you think he should be.



I remember vividly my first endurance ride and looking at some ill-mannered horses and thinking "my horse will NEVER behave like that." Well... you know the rest of the story. Horses vary as much as humans and there are times when things do not go according to YOUR plan.

Having now been a mother of multiple offspring and a multiple horse owner, I have reached some conclusions. Luck plays a huge part in the game. My best horses have been ones I lucked into and not ones for whose special talents I can take credit. Once you have a talented individual, that you may have selected thoughtfully after much studying and asking of questions, but you more than likely lucked into, you have three options--train too much, too little or just right. Some people have a natural instinct for this. All the training in the world cannot make a winner out of a horse who does not have natural talent. Too much training can ruin a horse who does have natural talent. But I also think a mediocre horse, properly trained, will frequently out perform the super horse whose training has been handled improperly.

When I think of winners in our sport, I do not think of the horse that lashes brilliantly across our endurance skies for a couple of years and then we hear of no longer, but the horse who comes back year after year with great performances. The name of our sport is "endurance" and that means longevity on the trail. I hear people say they are "not into the mileage thing." I am. When I see a horse in our Yearbook that has anywhere in excess of 6,000 miles, I know I am looking at a horse who has natural talent and an owner who did it right. The horse who wins five rides in one year is not nearly as impressive as the horse who wins one ride a year for five years. There are those who do not have the time or circumstances to campaign to that extent and therefore cannot achieve such records. So I think it is a correct assumption that there are great horses and riders out there that have never had the opportunity to prove themselves.



Many people become famous in our sport because one exceptional horse put them there. Without that special horse, we may not have seen particularly distinguished performances from the rider. The mainstay and strength of AERC and endurance riding is made up of members who have never found that super horse, but come back year after year with respectable performances.



Attitude is all important in the horse. When you buy a horse it is pretty easy to tell if he is either hyper or laid back. But it is difficult to predict what behavior modification will take place as he is exposed to a rigorous training schedule and the excitement of ride day. There have been rides where I would not know that I was aboard the same animal that I had been training for a year. Personality changes on ride day will never cease to amaze me. And it happens with riders too.

If you find a horse that loves this sport, you are probably going to succeed. If you recognize when he has peaked and don't demand more than he can willingly give, you are very wise.

From personal experience, I know that a previously well conditioned horse can return from a lay-off of many weeks and put in a sterling performance. I really feel that the low completion rate at some of the better known 100 miles rides are due to too many tired horses being asked to make supreme efforts. There are hundreds of horses that have completed the Tevis Cup Ride as a first endeavor. There are hundreds who have failed to complete it in spite of years of preparation in lesser competitions. There has to be a lesson in this someplace.



Attitude is all important in the rider. Many years ago a friend bemoaned the last minute cancellation of a ride with "I can't think about all that time I wasted conditioning my horse." If you do not enjoy the training, forget this sport. It's not for you. But if you enjoy the preparation, you have found your niche.

Finding the perfect horse is quite similar to finding the perfect mate. You marry someone and then you both mature at different rates and find different interests that may or may not be mutual. You are very simply not the same person you were twenty or so years ago. If it works, you are lucky! And it is the same with horses. What you start out with is not necessarily what you end up with. So, if you have found, or lucked into, a gifted athletic horse, who likes his work and you pay attention to your end of the partnership, we will probably hear about you. It only takes one good horse to put a person on the endurance map forever.



One of the traits I admire most in people is enthusiasm. But an enthusiastic ignorant rider is one of the worst things that can happen to a horse. I was one once and I heaped a world of abuse on a gallant horse because I was ignorant -- perhaps a good rider, but not a good horsewoman. There is a vast difference. And I was unbelievably lucky. She withstood my constant demands, lived to be 30 years old and gave me 9 foals. It is too bad that learning experiences have to sometimes come at the expense of a giving animal. So try to avoid pitfalls by letting common sense, inquiry and education walk hand in hand with Lady Luck. One of the most important guidelines I have found to determine the status of my horse is to look into his eyes on a daily basis. They tell you so much. Learn to read them.

Now lest you think I lay everything to luck, I do not. I am assuming that the horse owner puts a great deal of effort into making the relationship work.

You have developed patience; you have educated yourself; you have asked a million questions, discarded some answers and put others to work for you. You have been religious about your conditioning program and there are times when you have not done something because a hunch told you the right thing was not to do it. It is up to you to find out what works with your particular horse. When you cross an endurance ride finish line and you are feeling pretty good about it all, divide the credit between yourself, your horse and Lady Luck. It took all three. And then look into his eyes. He will tell you whether you asked too much or whether you did it just right.

Endurance excellence reaches its greatest heights when a talented horse, with the right mind set, is trained properly to endure -- for years.



Julie and Marinera

## Quicksilver Endurance Riders (QSER) Club - July 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board meeting was held via Zoom on July 14, 2021, beginning at 7:05 p.m.

In Attendance: Jerry Wittenauer, Nick Warhol, Trilby Pederson, Maryben Stover, and Margaret Hastings.

- Website: Nick reported that online entry for the Quicksilver Ride is pending and will go live on the Club website closer to the ride date.
- Newsletter: Elisabet Hiatt – nothing to report. Members are always encouraged to send in articles. Hopefully there will be an article regarding Tevis this year.
- Membership and Goodwill: Nick is continuing to update the membership list and will provide a revised list to the Board. There are currently 65 paid members. Goodwill sent to Nick Warhol who lost his sister and Jill Kilty-Newburn, Carolyn Tucker and Kathy Brayton who recently said goodbye to their senior horses.
- Ride Committee: Jerry reported progress on the ride with Parks approving it. The online entry and payment should be up and running by July 19<sup>th</sup>. Releases will need to be signed in person on the day of the ride. There will be a fun ride. There was a discussion on the number of campers that will be allowed at the ride. We hope to have a potluck dinner Friday night and a hosted Awards dinner Saturday night if this is allowed.
- Fireworks ride scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Treasurer Report: Nick reported 15 new members over the past few months. Nick sends Elisabet a monthly report for inclusion in the newsletter.
- Old Business: Individual club members continue to plan social rides on the last Friday of the month.
- The Board meeting schedule will continue on the third Wednesday of the month via Zoom. The next meeting will be at 7p.m. on August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Hastings*

### Trea\$urer'\$ report:

General Account Balance: **\$11,034**

Trails account Balance: **\$1,075**

Paypal balance **\$1,952**

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***HEAR YE.... HEAR YE.... Important notification for club dues:***

**From now on, please send your club membership dues directly to:**

**Nick Warhol, QSER Treasurer**

**3664 Old Quarry Road, Hayward CA 94541**

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## *Birthdays and other announcements*



Lori Oleson and Barbara White - 8/16,

**A note on birthdays:** I don't have a complete list of Quicksilver member's birth dates. If you feel inclined (and don't mind having your birthday date published), please send me a note. I don't want the year, just the month and day. Thanks! Elisabet

## The difference between try and triumph is a little Umph!



Shannon, Elisabet, Elaine and Carolyn



Elaine and Bella sharing a reassuring moment

Thanks, Carolyn for the great photos!

### **Fun Quicksilver ride at the Salinas River Beach.**

Carolyn Tucker, Elaine El-Bizri, Shannon Thomas and Elisabet Hiatt enjoyed a nice ride at the Salinas River beach on July 30th.

The tide was low, the wind soft, the ocean calm and the beach pretty empty (if you don't count the zillion birds everywhere!!).

The horses behaved well, even though they were not crazy about the water, with the exception of Shannon's horse Sam, who could care less about getting his feet wet!

It was a great training opportunity to be there with supportive riders who understood how important it is to "take your time" when it comes to scary situations. We rode for about 2 hours and got within sight of the shipwreck.

On our way back we took some of the dune trails, which was a welcome relief from the noisy ocean, although a lot more work for the horses, as they had to walk on deep sand. Even at a slow pace, I consider beach rides really good exercise... physical AND mental!

Hope you can join us next time!

*Elisabet*

# Market Place

## HORSE BOARDING FACILITY

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California.  
Stalls: \$350.00, pasture \$280.00, fed twice a day high-quality orchard-alfalfa mix hay.  
96' X 48' uncovered outdoor arena. We clean. Shavings available. 1.25 miles to entrance to the Quicksilver County Park (3600 acres and 19.2 miles of manicured trails). I provide my trailer for use to boarders. **Trilby – (408) 997-7500**

## CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS

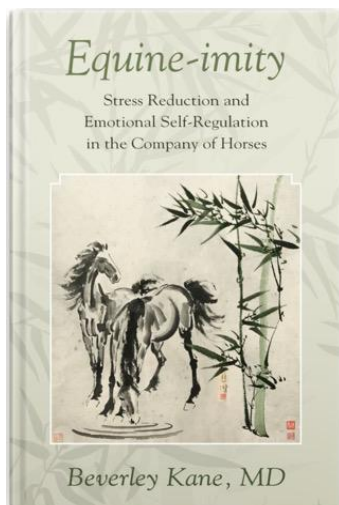
Help your horse use him/herself effectively while going down the trail. Take the stress out of your body and your horse's body. Find out how to have a better seat and make your horse more comfortable.  
Centered Riding® lessons available with Level 3 Centered Riding instructor. Clinics available upon request. **Becky Hart (408) 425-5860**

**Books by Julie Suhr --- Ten Feet Tall, Still and ...but it wasn't the horse's fault!** are available for sale. All proceeds go to AERC Trails Fund and Center for Equine Health at UC Davis. Please contact Julie Suhr at **(831) 335-5933**

**Books by Lori Oleson --- Enduring Memories and Endurance... Years Gone By** are available for sale. Re-live the adventures that tell the stories of horses and riders who made their way down the trail in the 1960s through the 1990's. Books are available by contacting Lori at **(408) 710-5651** or [lorioleson@alumni.cpp.edu](mailto:lorioleson@alumni.cpp.edu)

**Michelle Herrera** is still looking for a few more **ride t-shirts** to complete her quilt... if you have some that are duplicates or... ahem, don't fit you any more, how about letting her have them?

Please contact: Michelle Herrera - 831 427 1533 or by e-mail: [montra7003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:montra7003@sbcglobal.net)



**\*\* NEW BOOK by Dr. Beverley Kane! \*\***

***Equine-imity—Stress Reduction and Emotional Self-Regulation in the Company of Horses*** by Beverley Kane, MD

*Equine-imity* teaches moving meditation in the form of qigong, a tai chi-like practice, with, and optionally on, horses. Based on our Stanford program of the same name. Written with non-equestrians in mind. Share your love of horses with friends and family! Purchase paperback or e-book on Amazon and other outlets. Learn more and download free Introduction at <http://equine-imity.com>

***Illustrations by Judith Ogus***

# IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN THE QUICKSILVER RIDERS!!!!

**Club Mission** - Quicksilver exists to promote the sport of endurance riding by conducting endurance rides and advocating for equestrian trails. It seeks to provide a model for the highest level of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.

FIRST: We need your name \_\_\_\_\_

And then your address \_\_\_\_\_

And your phone number and e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

And then we need your money! Senior membership is \$ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

Junior membership is \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

(a junior is under 16 years of age)

Family Membership is \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed Quips (paper copy) \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can go to our website at : [www.qser.net](http://www.qser.net) to join, OR send a check made out to: **Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.** to: Nick Warhol, 3664 Old Quarry Road, Hayward CA 94541

**THANK YOU!!**

