



Quicksilver Quips

December 2023



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Join the club/renew

(And random stuff here and there
just because I can :-)

Officers

2023 Board members are

Jerry Wittenauer - President
Magda Bartilsson - VP
Nick Warhol - Treasurer
Elaine Elbizri - Secretary
Carloyn Tucker - Board
Rachel Miura - Membership
Magda Bartilsson - Board
Brian Reeves- Board

Newsletter Editor

Elisabet Hiatt lazo@ucsc.edu

QSER on the Web:
<http://www.qser.net/>

President's Message, Jerry Wittenauer, 29 Nov 2023

Shorter days . . . still great trail conditions . . . and plenty going on with the club!

- Nominations are due for the Annual Club Awards on 15 December. If you would like to recognize one of our horse or rider members with a nomination, please contact one of the Board Members and we'll help you out! Nominations close on 15 December.
- Details are starting to firm up now for our Annual Club Banquet. Once again, Mary Anderson is taking the lead to create a program for the evening, and serve as our master of ceremonies. This year's Banquet will be held 10 Feb from 2:00 to 5:00 at the Longhouse in Gilroy – mark your calendars – save the date! You can count on additional notifications – we'd like to know a good headcount in advance.
- Rachel Miura is leading the charge for our annual membership directory / scrapbook. Please get your "highlight pic" and a sentence or two on your 2023 highlights to Rachel ASAP so that she can do the necessary preps (r8chlmiura@mac.com).
- QSER Membership Renewal – **Chance to WIN BIG!** Once again, a \$50 gift card will be awarded as a raffle prize from those names that renew for 2024 by 31 December. Please renew today – \$50 buys a lotta carrots for your best friend(s)!
- For those planning to attend the AERC Convention in Albuquerque (23/24 Feb), the QS Club will once again host a cocktail reception on the Thursday at the convention venue . . . details to follow . . . plan to attend!

Thanks for your support to our Club and this great sport of Endurance!

Hi everyone- I added the **2021 club directory** to the “members only” page on the web site.
From the web site click on the “Members only” button.
There is a button to download the directory in PDF format.

If anyone has any content, or any ideas for what they would like to see on the website
please let me know.

Thanks, **Nick**

2024 QSER Club Calendar

17 Jan - Election of 2024 Officers
10 Feb QSER Banquet
23/24 Feb AERC Convention (Jacksonville)
13 July QS Support to Fireworks ride
15 Jul “Go Live” for QS Ride Entries
20 Jul QS Support to Tevis Cup – Finish Line Team

Aug ? QS Camping at SCCHA
10 Sep Kick-off Board Search Committee.
28 Sept QS Fall Classic Endurance Ride
15 Dec All Awards Nominations Due
15 Jan Election of **2025** Officers

From Beverley Kane: Dear QSER Friends,

Our Webb Ranch Library needs donations of equine- and equestrian-related books, DVDs, and magazines, especially back issues of the San Mateo County Horseman. (Magazines are given away free.) Genres include, but are not limited to, Riding, Horse Care, Horse Training, General and Natural Horsemanship, Fiction, History, Memoir, Veterinary Medicine, Psychology & Spirituality, Equine-Assisted Learning & Therapy, Breeds.
Please e-mail or txt me to arrange delivery or pick up.

Thank you!

Beverley Kane

650-868-3379 --- bkane1@stanford.edu

Upcoming 2024 events:

Awards Banquet:

**We are confirmed reserved for Longhouse in Gilroy on Feb. 10 from 2-5pm in their Banquet room with single ordering. Plenty of room, large menu and full bar.
Address: 8195 Monterey St. Gilroy 95020
408 842-7664**

Santa Cruz Horsemens has the Fireworks Ride on the Calendar for July 13 if the River Crossing is Repaired in time.
Other Options being discussed.

From Judith Ogus



May is CUREPSP awareness month. PSP is Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, a neurodegenerative disease in the class of diseases that are called Parkinson's Plus syndromes. Another is CBD, corticobasal degeneration, which Becky was diagnosed with last July. We are in several non-profit support groups for these diseases. We meet monthly with other patients and caregivers to discuss methods of coping with and alleviating the symptoms of the disease. One week a fellow member of the group came up with this saying and I had to design a tee shirt to spread the word. I am doing some market research here to see if people would be interested in buying this tee. All proceeds after paying my expenses will go to CUREPSPS and to the UCSF MERI Center, which also host supportive groups that we attend. The tees will be \$20 plus shipping, which should be around \$5.50. I will get sizes from Small to XXL. Please share this post. There are no cures for these diseases, only palliative care as they progress. There is ongoing research, and we have just joined a study at UCSF. *Please let Judith know if you are interested: judith@randomarts.biz*

Website and other important updates from Nick and Rachel:

Hi everyone - we're in the process of updating our Club website, and wanted to see if anyone had any stories and/or photos we could add to the Club History page here:

<https://www.qser.net/club-history>

Also, do you have any ideas for what additional content you'd like to see on the site? Please send your ideas to Nick: nwarhol@comcast.net and Rachel: r8chlmiura@icloud.com !

2023 Yearbook

Work is beginning on the next version of our annual yearbook!

Please send me any photos of you and your horse, or any Club-related photos, by December 15. If I don't hear from you by then I reserve the right to peruse Facebook or the Web to find a suitable pic of you to include :)

Also, if your mailing address has changed in the last year or two please let me know so we can ensure we include the most up-to-date info.

*A true friend
accepts who you are,
but also helps you become
who you should be.*

I am in competition with no one.
I run my own race. I have no desire
to play the game of being better than
anyone, in any way, shape, or form.
I just aim to improve, to be better than
I was before. That's me and I'm free.

Annual Club Awards – Give it Some Thought!

As the year enters its final quarter, and thoughts turn to wrapping up the 2023 Ride Season, (the AERC Season ends on 30 November), it's appropriate to start thinking about our year-end Quicksilver Club Awards.

Annual Awards Nominations - Our Bylaws (Special Rules, Section 8) describe Awards for riders and equines that should be recognized each year for exceptional accomplishment or contribution to Endurance. In 2022, the Quicksilver Board developed a set of guidelines for eligibility, evaluation, and selection for the awards described in the Bylaws. It is hoped that the availability of these guidelines will help to maintain our proud Club tradition of recognizing and honoring the accomplishments of our outstanding athletes! Self-nomination is pretty common – don't be shy!

The awards and guidelines can be found on our website: https://www.qser.net/s/QS-Club-Awards-Guidelines-Jul_2022-pdf.pdf Award nominations must be submitted to the respective chairpersons of the awards committees no later than 15 December. These people are:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Ctte Chairman</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
Eleanor Norton	Elaine Elbizri	elainee0212@gmail.com
HOF Horse	Mary W-Anderson	horsemileage@hotmail.com
HOF Rider	Nick Warhol	nwarhol@comcast.net
Horse of the Year	Nick Warhol	nwarhol@comcast.net

Thanks for your support to our Club and this great sport of Endurance

Hi all —

The Board would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote for the recent club bylaws update initiative. We're happy to share that more than 50% of the membership voted! The votes cast were majority supportive of the proposed changes, in summary:

- **97% in favor - Change # 1** - Modify Article V section 1 by saying there can be up to seven board members, which is different from present wording that states there shall be seven.
- **100% in favor - Change # 2** - Change section 5 or Article VII to make a quorum of the board 70% instead of a fixed number of members required for a quorum.
- **90% in favor - Change # 3** - Modify Article 3 which states that no officers can serve for more than three consecutive terms.
- **92% in favor - Change # 4** - Remove the requirement that the Quips Shall be published monthly.

These updates will streamline the Club's ability to function based on a smaller group of Board Members and related volunteers.

Thank you again for voting, and please feel free to reach out to any Board Member should you have follow up questions or comments.

- Rachel, on behalf of the Board

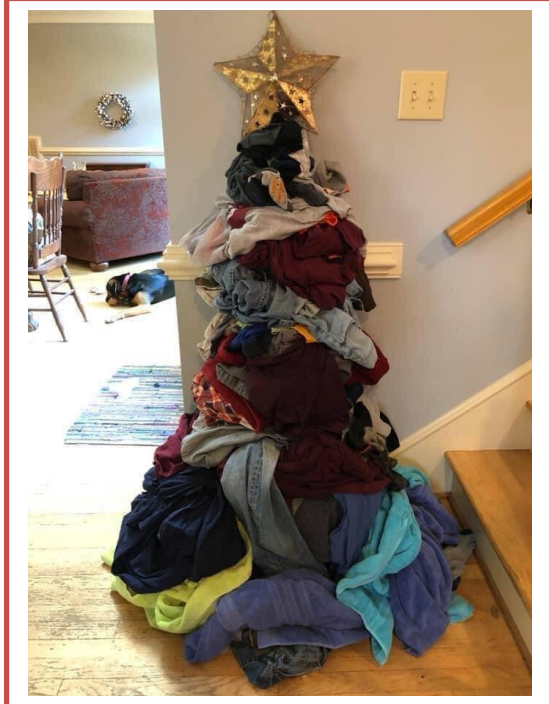


*Theo the wonder horse
and Rachael's
daughter, Brynn,
enjoying a ride on
Thanksgiving day in
Yosemite!*

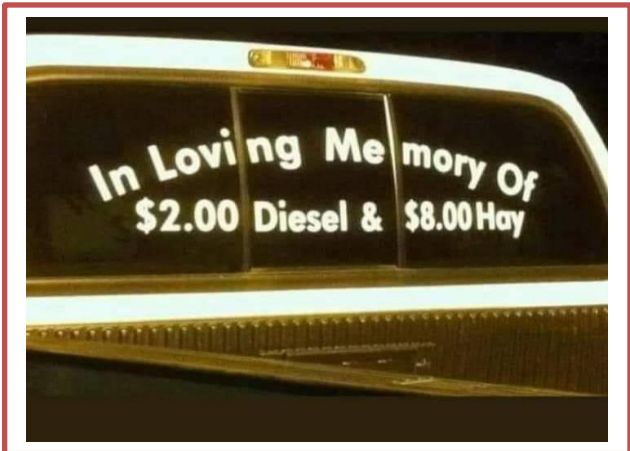
JUST FOR FUN...



Simple Christmas tree ideas for the busy equestrian...



HAPPY
Holidays
and may
2024
be your
best year
so far!



Be nice to me,
I don't have a
train of
thought. I have
seven trains on
4 tracks that
narrowly avoid
each other
when the paths
cross and all the
conductors are
screaming...



Never look
a gift
horse in
the
mouth...

Yeah,
right!



Sesenta Años XP Ride

by E. Hiatt and Alicia Stanton

Elisabet: On Thursday November 9th, *Alicia Stanton* and I caravanned from Santa Cruz to Lake Cachuma to attend the XP Sesenta Años ride. We had been really looking forward to this trip, and it was finally now happening! Yay! It's a 5 hour drive from Santa Cruz, so it was really nice to go together... even though we were in separate rigs, it felt a little safer, the road less lonely and more fun!

After an uneventful drive, we safely arrived at Rancho San Fernando Rey, near Cachuma Lake, found a great spot to park and quickly set up our camp.

Rancho San Fernando Rey is an original Spanish/Mexican Land Grant and is approximately 38,000 acres! Plenty of room to have a fantastic three day ride!

The landscape is lovely, even without much green grass left on the ground. There were plenty of fat, happy looking cows everywhere, beautiful old oak trees, an overabundance of water and incredible views.



John Parkes was the ride manager and he did an amazing job marking trail! Ribbons, plates, and other markings made it almost impossible to get lost, even if a few plates had been nibbled on by naughty, curious cows. Add to that VERY detailed maps with GPS points and you have a perfect recipe for fun!



A lot of the trails were not easy, but there was such a great variety of choices that pretty much everyone could find something that suited them, be it distance or elevation. Since we were riding the XP ride, we sure took advantage of the many options!! Each day, we picked and chose which trails we would explore.

Alicia: Walking Sparkie on a loose rein at the beginning of a ride was a treat!

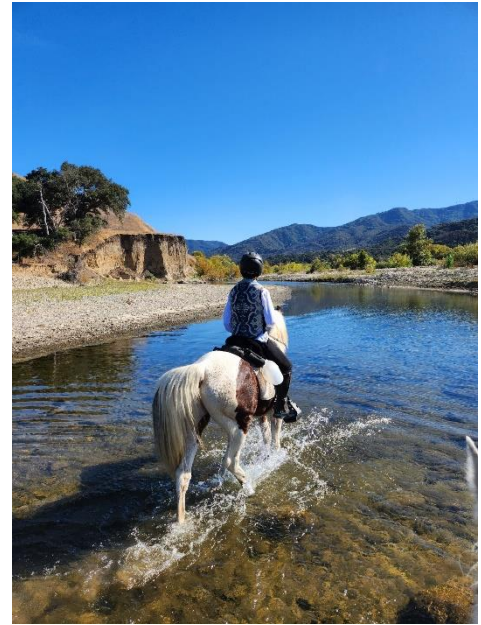
Elisabet: The toughest, mega climb to the top of the biggest mountain was our first day choice. Glad we did it in the morning!

Alicia: Looking from a mountain top over Lake Cachuma and out to the Pacific Ocean (or a fog bank, hard to tell) was amazing.

Elisabet: We had great opportunities to canter on broad, level roads, some tough climbs and technical trails to challenge our horses and pretty much on every trail, absolutely beautiful terrain and water... there was water everywhere!! Creeks and water troughs filled to the brim kept our horses well hydrated.

Echo and I did the 25 milers on day 1 and 3, and Tango got to do a nice 16 mile ride on day 2. Alicia and her amazing horse, Sparkie, did the same trails with us. We really had a great time!

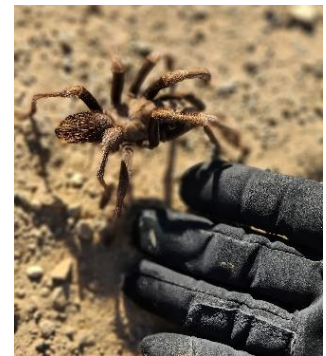
Alicia: QS member Shannon Thomas, with friend Ronnie, came on Friday and she rode her horse Sam in the AERC 25. They had a great ride and we had fun comparing trail notes and adventures over dinner. I believe this was Ronnie's first time at an endurance ride, and I'm sure he appreciated the friendly and relaxed group of people attending.



The good news is that John Parkes is planning to put on more rides next year, hopefully on this ranch in June. Seeing this place in the Spring, green and carpeted with wildflowers would be an unforgettable experience.

Elisabet: A few highlights for me:

-We saw the biggest tarantula that I have ever seen crossing a road. That's my hand next to it! I had to help it off the trail, it would have been a shame for it to get squished by other riders! I love tarantulas!



-We got to see the launch of the SpaceX rocket (a totally amazing experience) from just 20 miles away, while on top of a mountain!! I was so excited!!! To feel the sonic booms on our bodies from that distance was an unexpected experience that made it even more real!!!!

I think Alicia must have heard me say "We're on a BEAUTIFUL trail, RIDING our horses AND seeing a spaceship leave orbit... how COOL is that!?!?!?" at least 30 times for the rest of the day! She is very patient. And kind. And a good sport... but really, it was very, very cool... seriously, I'm not kidding!!

-Oh yes, Nina and Juan's tacos. Yum! Need I say more?

We can't wait to go back next year!!!



Sesenta Años

by Shannon Thomas

My horse and I had a very slow year. The rain cancelled many rides early in the season and then we had a busy summer so this was only our second ride. I decided an LD at Sesenta sounded great!

As a bonus incentive, we had scored a new saddle from the sale on the Specialized website and I made plans to meet Heidi Helly at the ride to help me fit it on Sam, my trusty steed.



This year has been full of big changes for me and the biggest is a partner who is really interested in horses. Ronnie has started helping with their daily care and wanted to crew for me, so he joined me on this trip.

We met our friends Elisabet and Alicia after their big day of Duck miles on Friday. They had saved us a beautiful parking spot and the horses settled in nicely. We had a delicious pot luck and a very brief ride meeting and went to bed with a nice bright moon.

We started at a lovely 8am and the weather was perfect. My horse however was a little hot and I had to really hyperfocus to stay in the saddle! We had one brief “unscheduled dismount” but apparently, I’m good at those and I was back in the saddle as we hit the vet check.

The trail was very well marked and the footing was rocky in spots but mostly pretty good! We passed and were passed many times as my gaited Rocky is a speedster down hills and the Arabs tend to pass us on the ups. We came in and pulsed down quick in the middle of the pack.

All in all a great ride!

Had a nice taco dinner with Juan and Nina Bomar. The next day Sam was in pretty good shape so after Heidi’s fitting, we took his new saddle out for a spin, with Ronnie riding my retired Arab Fawkes. Ronnie loved the trail and I loved the saddle! All and all the ride was about five miles.

Baby steps! Maybe we will do the ride together next year.



Unsolicited random advice...

"Don't trip over what's behind you"

The horse gets louder when you don't listen...

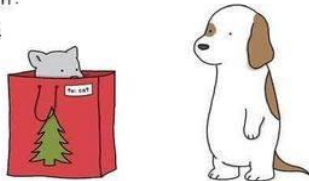
KEEP IT SIMPLE

this bag is empty. did you just get me an empty bag?



yes.

I love it so much.

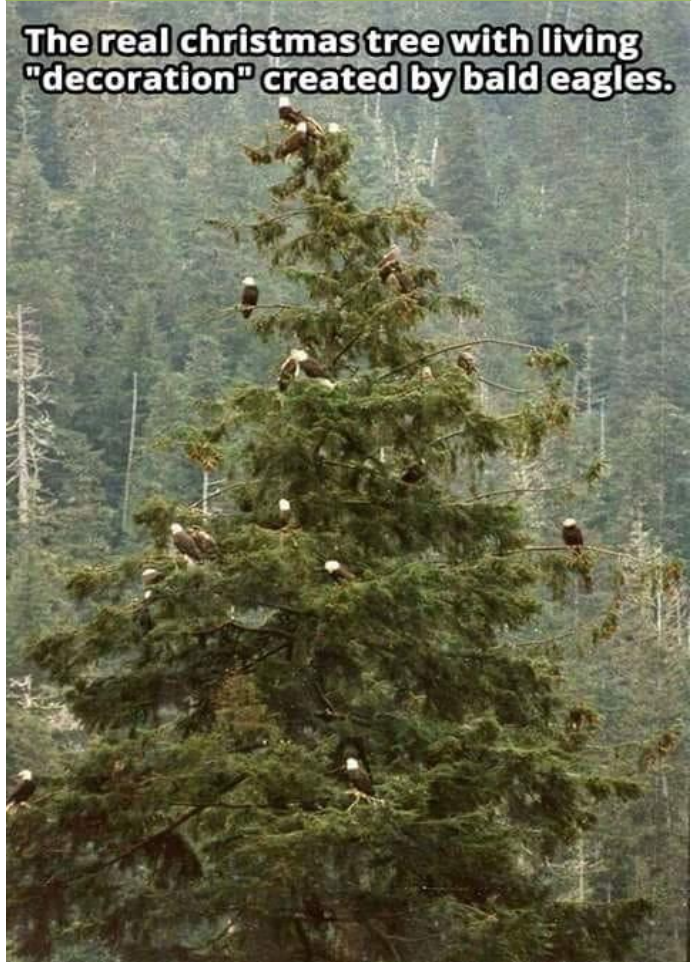


National Park Service
@NatlParkService

Trails often look more flat on the map.

Simplify your holidays! Convince some bald eagles to perch on your tree. No need to put them away after you are done, they'll just fly away!

The real christmas tree with living "decoration" created by bald eagles.



DID YOU KNOW...



The balancing required during transportation puts continuous demand on your horse—a **3-hour long trailer ride roughly equals to cantering a mile.**



To learn more about preparing your horse for travel and keeping them safe during transport, always **consult your veterinarian!**

In Memoriam

I was really sad to hear that Lyn Hood passed away. She was a friend, fellow Horse Patrol member, very active in the Equine Evacuation Team, SCCHA, and always ready to put on a training session for the members of those



organizations. I got to work with her a few times on some of those projects and it was always a good time. I'm pretty sure some of our QS members had the pleasure to work/ride with her, so I wanted to let you all know.

She will be missed. *Elisabet*

Lyn Hood -- 1952 - 2023

Horsewoman, artist, writer, gardener, friend, sister, daughter, and animal caretaker.

Thank you all for a wonderful ride.

I was incredibly fortunate to be raised by loving parents in the days when kids played outside until called in for dinner and were able to safely walk to school. I came of age in the late 60's in So. Cal. and moved to Santa Cruz in 1978 where I had a career at Cabrillo spanning 36 years spent helping students to choose career paths and find employment. The staff, faculty and students were a joy to work with.

I got to live out my childhood fantasy by owning two wonderful horses and many well-loved dogs, cats and one amazing love bird, and to live in my cottage by the ocean and play in the redwoods.

I have been surrounded by smart, kind and wonderful friends and family who have held me in their hearts both before and while I have been living with a terminal cancer diagnosis. I don't have a bucket list, because if I really wanted to do something, I somehow managed to do it. I am not religious, but I have been blessed. If you judge a person's worth by the quality of their friends, I have been rich beyond measure. Thank you all.

My favorite quotes:

"She never changed the stars from their courses, but she loved good men and she rode great horses". Anonymous

"She was not quite what you would call refined. She was not quite what you would call unrefined. She was the kind of person that keeps a parrot." Mark Twain

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## Quicksilver Endurance Riders (QSER) Club December 2023 Meeting Minutes

**\*\*No Board Meeting\*\***

**No Minutes.**

### **Treasurer's report:**

Checking \$10,333

Savings (trails) \$1,075



*Happy Birthday to all who are  
celebrating another trip  
around the sun!!*



## Market Place

### HORSE BOARDING FACILITY

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California. **Stalls: \$400.00, pasture \$330.00.**

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**

### ***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 Oqus**

### **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)

**From a friend of Debbie Boscoe:** I am looking for an Arabian or Quarter horse (or mix) for sale, for trail and some arena work, with the following qualities:

-age 9-19 yrs old gelding, 14h 2" to 15h 2"

-sound, no major health issues

-good ground manners and family friendly

-versatile Western, English

-up to date with worming, vaccinations, foot care/shoeing

Thanks, and please feel free to forward this to people you know in the horse community.

Susan 831-426-9313 [12ejsa@comcast.net](mailto:12ejsa@comcast.net)

**Posted for a friend of Elaine Elbizri:**

**For sale Good as New Dressage/Endurance saddle**

17,5 Lovatt & Rickett Rubicon MW Cross Over Saddle. Great to use for Dressage or Endurance. I gave up riding 1 year ago. I have ridden only one 25mile L D in this saddle, it was a perfect fit and very comfortable. Soft wool flocked, horses love it and it is a super soft seat for the rider. This saddle was made directly in England for my horse and me (but with a regular M/W tree) it has special D-rings. It fits a variety of withers but not so well for very high withered horses. Horses move out beautifully underneath. It is soft on the withers!!! My horse was never sore anywhere from long distance rides. Sold new: \$4,100, asking price: \$3,000 Please contact me, I can bring the saddle for you to try it! Karina Hoog [hoogkarina@yahoo.com](mailto:hoogkarina@yahoo.com) 408 646 4361



We are selling our EuroXcisor.

It is set up for four horses but could accommodate 8 if someone wanted to make changes. Comes with control box, about 75 feet of conduit, and full set of mats, plus the inner rails. You must dismantle and deliver yourselves.

Asking \$10,000. Located in San Juan Bautista. Control box allows for changing speed and direction but is not programmable.

Becky and Judith 408 525-7873 or 408 425-5860.



Very pretty, made in Colombia "Paso Fino" brand gaited horse saddle.

It belongs to a friend who no longer rides. It's super comfortable, but it doesn't fit either of my horses, so I'm selling it for her. I am not sure what it may be worth, so make me a reasonable offer.

It's in very good condition and I have lots more photos if anyone is interested.

Elisabet – [lazo@ucsc.edu](mailto:lazo@ucsc.edu)

**FOR SALE:**

**4Star 3 Horse LQ**

It is full of wonderful features for horses and people alike. It has been the perfect endurance trailer:

8' wide 7'6" tall; WERM flooring Air Ride; drop down windows at head, stock windows at rear; mangers; stud wall; escape door; roof vents; rear (collapsible) tack with 3 saddle racks, blanket bars, lots of hooks. 3 Spring-tie hi ties. Electric jack; roof rack, 4 fresh water tanks (135 gallons); solar panels; deep marine batteries. 9' short wall, custom built interior; queen bed with 10 cabinets; bench bed; full fridge/freezer; 2 burner stove with cover; microwave; extra big deep sink; heat; ceiling skylights with fans; 18' electric awning; full bath with shower, sink, large cabinets; LED lighting and luxury vinyl floors throughout; generator; day/night shades. Low mileage radial tires with 2 spares. Very clean, bright, and roomy. All is well and lovingly maintained. \$49,000



I have lots of pictures and more details. You can contact me at [debbieboscoe@gmail.com](mailto:debbieboscoe@gmail.com) or text me at 831 227 4960



ADVANTAGE Saddle #62. Hand made by Katee Owens of Mariposa. 14" Seat. Weighs 18lbs as shown. Super comfy, but the horse it was made for has passed on and it's too wide for my other 2 horses. More photos available. \$800.00  
Elisabet 831-234-4732  
LAZO@ucsc.edu

# 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!!**

