



# Quicksilver Quips

March 2021



*Happy  
Spring!!*

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## **Officers**

2021 Board members are  
Jill Kilty Newburn, President  
Jerry Witenauer, VP  
Nick Warhol, Treasurer  
Margaret Hastings, Secretary  
Carloyn Tucker  
Maryben Stover  
Trilby Pederson  
Dick Carter

## **Newsletter Editor**

Elisabet Hiatt  
[lazo@ucsc.edu](mailto:lazo@ucsc.edu)  
QSER on the Web:  
<http://www.qser.net/>

## **President's message**

We held the first QSER Virtual Awards Banquet via Zoom last month, and while it was a far cry from all of us being able to get together in the same place, it was still good to connect and share some laughs and time together. Mike Maul even made quick appearance from Texas! Presenting the Awards of Dubious Distinction was the main event of the evening, with Margaret Hastings and Jerry Whitenauer jumping in to be our 'presenters'. While most of the awards were indeed a bit dubious – like the Best Ass Award going to Milton Burro and his person Shannon Thomas – we did also take a moment to single out a few club members who have served the club over the years; Trilby Pederson was recognized for the many years she has served as the club Treasurer, and Barbara McCrary's service as our Quips Editor was appreciated.

On the subject of appreciation, I am most grateful that we did indeed have someone step up to my request last month to serve as a new club Treasurer. Nick Warhol has joined the Board and will be serving in this capacity. He is eager to get an electronic payment system set up for our club ride among other refinements which should serve us all well. In addition to this, Nick has been working on the QSER website and made a number of additions lately, which you can check out at [QSER.net](http://QSER.net). Have a story that you would like to add to the new 'Stories' section, or maybe some other ideas for what you would like to see on the site? Reach out to Nick at [nwarhol@comcast.net](mailto:nwarhol@comcast.net), and share your ideas.

Longer days, good riding, spring flowers, and news of friends and family getting their vaccines have brought much cheer and hope to me in the recent weeks. I hope you too have a good list of things that bring you comfort and joy.

Finally, don't forget about our **club ride** at Fort Ord on the 13th. Look for specific details further down on this Quips.

See ya out there-

Jill

**From Carolyn Tucker:**

On the final day of January 2021, taking advantage of the nice weather, Lori Oleson and Carolyn Tucker had a beautiful ride at Sierra Azul/Quicksilver Park/ Mount Umunhum.

Did you know that "umunhum" means hummingbird in the local indigenous language? The "cube" you see on top of Mt. Um, which is the fourth highest peak in the Santa Cruz Mountains, is a former Air Force satellite station used during WWII to detect enemy airplanes.



The area offers dry trails and amazing views when all other parks and trails are closed from too much rain!

They did a 12.5 mile ride out and back, and it sure looks great! Parking at Hicks Rd. lot & trail access via Woods Rd.

Here you can see both of them sporting the lovely Quicksilver face coverings all members received with the 2020 Quicksilver directory.

Happy Trails!

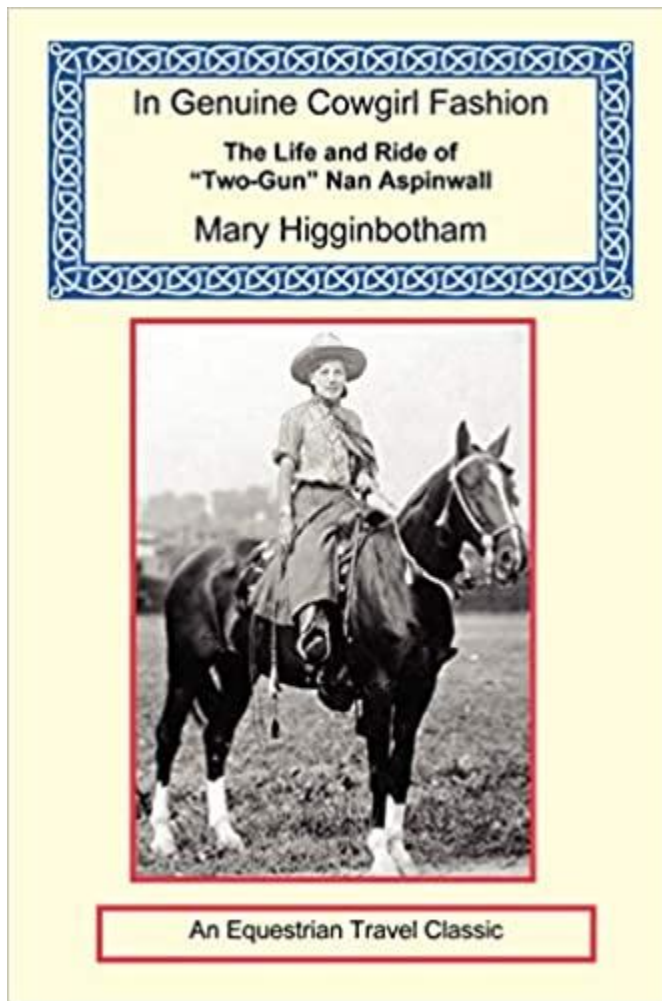
Quote by a forest ranger at Yosemite National Park on why it is hard to design the perfect garbage bin to keep bears from breaking into it:

**“There is considerable overlap between the intelligence of the smartest bears and the dumbest tourists.”**

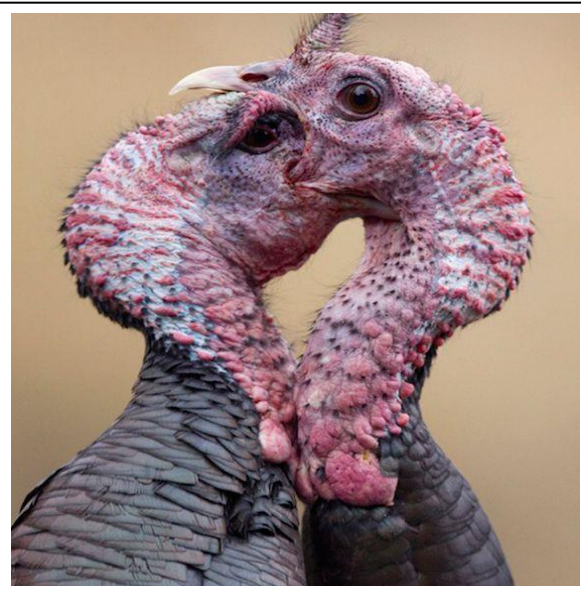
**Book review: In Genuine Cowgirl Fashion**

*By Elisabet Hiatt*

Nan Aspinwall led an extraordinary life as a sharp-shooter and trick-roper in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. According to legend, a disagreement between Cody and his rival showman, Pawnee Bill, led to the circumstances whereby Nan was challenged to undertake a solo transcontinental ride. Could a woman ride from the Pacific to the Atlantic alone the showmen argued? Nan set off in September 1910 to prove it was possible. Mounting her mare, Lady Ellen, the Long Rider packed her pistol, picked up a letter from the Mayor of San Francisco addressed to his counterpart, then set out to deliver it to New York. But after riding into the history books as the first woman to ride alone across America, Nan's amazing tale became lost due to a clerical error. Although researchers spent years trying to uncover what happened to this remarkable Long Rider, Nan's story was finally uncovered thanks to the diligent academic research of author, Mary C. Higginbotham. Thanks to her detective work Nan's extraordinary story was discovered under her married name in an obscure file in the Midwest. Featuring a special Introduction by Dr. Judi Winchester, Curator of the Buffalo Bill Cody Historical Center, this is a fascinating story which is amply illustrated with never-before-seen photographs of Nan in the saddle and on the stage.



**Julie Suhr** reports that this is the time of the year when the wild turkeys fight over the ladies. She has flocks of them on her driveway and they put on quite a show! It's a pretty gruesome sight and often they lock beaks and stay locked for a long time, pushing and shoving... it looks like they are trying to swallow each other's heads! Eventually, the loser, bloodied and battered, leaves the scene in one piece, if he's lucky. The fights last for hours, and it's all about being the toughest and meanest. I had the opportunity to watch one of these encounters up close, and the turkeys were so preoccupied with killing each other, I got so close I could have grabbed them! *Elisabet*



***The following article about Julie Suhr is from the Santa Cruz Sentinel:***

SCOTTS VALLEY — With an unquenchable love of horse riding and country living cultivated since childhood, Julie Weston Suhr did not have to be asked twice when her husband proposed buying up a vast swath of undeveloped land in the Santa Cruz Mountains some 50 years ago.

“I grew up in Santa Clara Valley in an orchard out in the country with no neighbors and I saw what happened to it, covered with concrete and it was disturbing,” Suhr said during a recent interview with the Sentinel. “And I had a very wonderful husband and he said, you’d like to live in the country with your horses, wouldn’t you? And I said yes, so we came over here and found this piece of property for sale and that was 1971 and then we built the home in ’73 and I’ve had horses here ever since.”

Suhr and her husband, Robert Suhr Sr., transported their life from Saratoga to unincorporated Scotts Valley off Weston Road, making their home in a place echoing Julie Suhr’s maiden name as a pure coincidence, she said. [Robert Suhr died in 2010](#), after 64 years of marriage to Julie Suhr.

As with her horses, the nearly 300 acres of undeveloped land which the Suhrs and, often, their neighbors, have roamed for hours on end in the past half century have left their indelible mark on Suhr. So much so that she devised a way to protect the property’s sanctity, long after she is no longer around to watch over it. Working with the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and a private financial gift from neighbor Ed Fenster, cofounder of Sunrun Solar, Suhr said her land will never be developed beyond an existing picnic table that overlooks a stunning view of the area. Through a conservation easement developed in the past three years, Suhr has entrusted her property’s development rights to the land trust in perpetuity, with an agreement that nothing will be built on nor taken from the land.



**Conservation in the blood**

“Santa Clara was all beautiful orchards, beautiful beautiful orchards in bloom, the whole valley. There weren’t orchards here in the (Santa Cruz) mountains, but I thought, Bob and I were one of the first houses on Weston Road and I always had a little guilt complex that we had invaded the natural world. Now I think there are 80 houses on Weston Road and the little offshoot roads and so I thought, I want to preserve what I have,” Suhr said. “I had eight parcels of land out here which we had bought early on, when land was cheap and probably they were worth something. I thought, well, I could afford not to sell them as parcels, I could afford to save them with a conservation easement. So, with the help of the Land Trust, I did that.”

Stephen Slade, executive director for the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, said Suhr’s easement is considered a type of habitat preservation easement, tailored to retain its open space qualities but not to offer general public access. Property ownership remains with Suhr, he said.

“It will forever be open space, it will forever be habitat. Which, there are some pretty unique habitats there,” Slade said. “The sandhills habitat, which occurs nowhere else in the world except Santa Cruz County. And there’s not much of it left. It’s a highly fragmented habitat.”

Suhr has a familial precedent to her efforts. Her father, William Weston served on the Santa Clara County Planning Commission for 27 years and led the charge in creating exclusive agricultural zones and Santa Clara County’s first greenbelt, in 1954, on 744 acres of pear orchards near what is now the Agnew neighborhood of Santa Clara, per the [2018 edition of the “California Legal History journal.”](#) According to Suhr, her father was aware at the time of the wave of urban development headed toward “The Valley of the Heart’s Delight,” ignited by returning World War II soldiers, and sought to limit the infringement of residential subdivisions on the area’s farmland.

### *Waking with a smile*

At her home on a recent sunny weekday, Suhr reflected on the trials of the past year, leaving her mostly walled off from family and loved ones’ visits for fear of the coronavirus pandemic and causing her to evacuate with her horses for nearly a week when the CZU August Lightning Complex fires encroached on her land. Despite the abundance of open space, mountain lions once kept their distance from the developed part of Suhr’s land. In the wake of the fires, she said, they openly cross her pastures during daylight hours and paw at her barn doors. Not long before, with a 45-year competitive international endurance horse-riding career behind her, Suhr took her last trot through her wooded trails often framed by golden California poppy blooms at age 94. Now 96, Suhr said she feared less for herself than for others who would be called on to rescue her, should she fall while out on a ride.



“You reach a certain age where you know that’s going to happen sooner or later and certainly don’t welcome it,” Suhr said. “You go to bed at night and you cry because you’re never going to ride a horse again. But it’s the right thing to do and it’s the right thing to do for your family, too, who’s worried about you. If you’re out there in your 80s, tromping through the woods on a horse, they get a little concerned.”

The Stanford graduate who has penned and self-published three personal memoirs, at least, had the

satisfaction of a horse-riding retirement age outlasting the careers of several rounds of her horses.

Two “very elderly” Arabian horses, Nudera, 30, Majic, 29, however, continue to keep Suhr company, corralled a short ride from her front door.

“I feed them every morning, about 6:15 and every night at 5:30 and then I groom ’em and pet ’em and hug ’em I don’t know how many times a day,” Suhr said. “I do get up every morning happily. I go to bed at night sometimes worrying about the world and worried about politics and everything else, and then I invariably get up in the morning happily.”

For information about land easements, call the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County at 831-429-6116 or visit [landtrustsantacruz.org/for-landowners](http://landtrustsantacruz.org/for-landowners).

**Welcome to our two New Quicksilver Members:**

*Elaine Elbizri* writes: I signed up two friends at Indian Hills Ranch, Milpitas. Some of you will know them, they are not strangers to endurance.

**Kimberly Frank** has been interested in endurance for several years and volunteered at rides with Becky Hart. Kimberley is in preliminary training with her two rescue horses - Zubeer and Ferasha. She is ambitious to have them out on the trails with us. Part of her preparation for working with her horses was learning farrier skills.

**From Kimberly:**



I moved away in 2013. Now I'm back with my two rescues, Zabeer and Farasha. Here are some pictures of my horses.

The photos on the left are of me with my 6 year old grade Arab gelding Zabeer who I got at auction as a stud at 3 and trained myself. Right now we are taking lessons with Elaine's daughter Alice with the goal of jumping this year.

The photo below is me with my 9 year old Arab mare Farasha, who I bought off a kill pen in OK last year and have been rehabbing with the plan to ride this spring on trails. She was sadly never registered but is a gorgeous purebred Arabian.

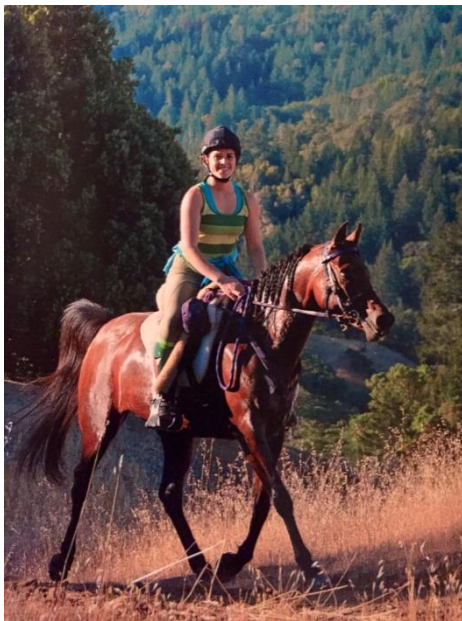


***We hope to see Kimberly and her horses on the trails soon!***

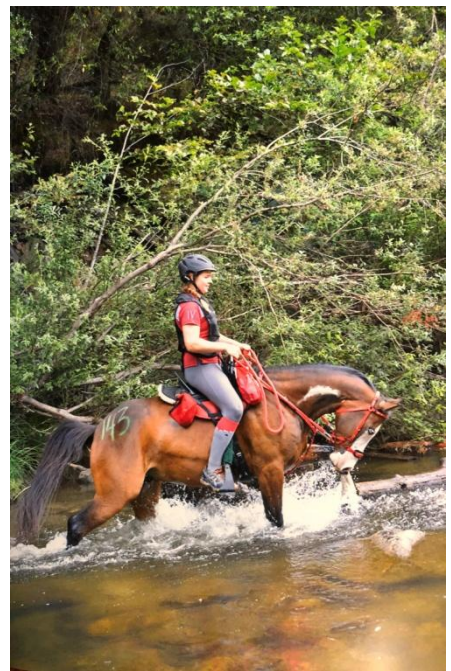


**Melanie Arshi** has Merry Legs in pasture with Elaine's horse Bella and thirteen other mares and has Remi in the gelding pasture. Both horses have lots of successful miles recorded with Melanie. Melanie completed Tevis as a junior, she is now in her twenties. She was very busy last summer rescuing animals big and small during the fires, including trailering out Bella and lots of other horses from Indian Hills.

**Pictured at left are Melanie and Remi.**



**Melanie tells us:** I have been doing endurance off and on since 2008, and completed Tevis in 2011. I injured my back shortly after, so had to take a pause for a few years, but have been slowly getting back into it with LDs and 2 50s since then, along with some dressage and working equitation. I have two horses, Remi who is a 9 year old half Arabian gelding kill pen rescue from Texas, and Merry Legs who is a 14 year old Arabian mare. My goals are to continue riding both horses in LDs and 50s (when my back

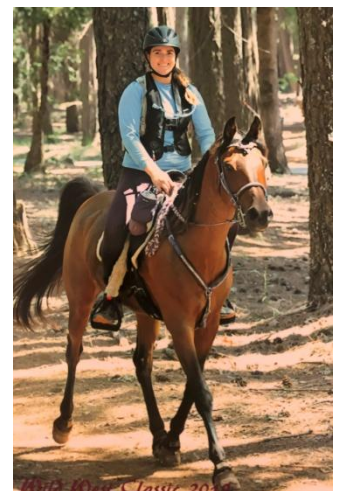


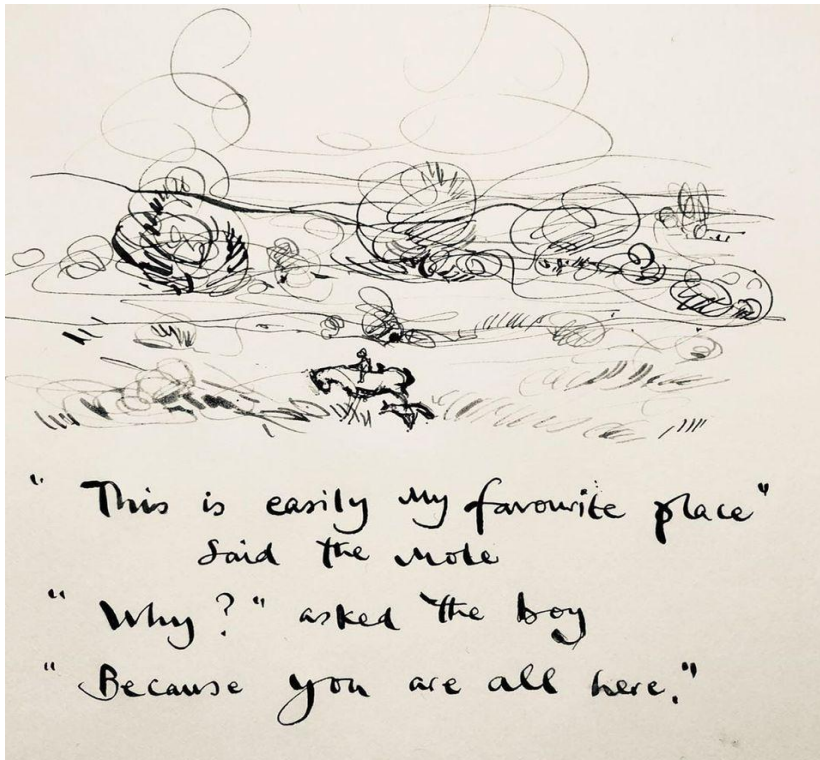
allows!) and participating in some endurance rides in different states! I'd love to do another 100 miler one day, but that may just be a dream :-)

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**The Horse is not here**  
to reward your ego  
to compete with you  
to punish you  
to control you  
**The Horse responds to**  
who you are  
how you feel  
what you think  
what you do  
**The Horse is here**  
to enable you to learn  
how to be a better You  
- and that is a blessing.

*by Joanne Verikios*

Quicksilver members Alicia Stanton on Sparkie, Nicola Mohr on Foxie and Shannon Thomas on Sam, enjoying a lovely ride at Zmudowski State Beach



If you are looking for a place to get your horse used to the ocean, Zmudowski beach is great. The Pajaro river makes its way to the ocean there, and the transition from river to ocean seems to make it easier for horses to accept the waves. Careful, though, the river mouth can get deep!



## SAVE THE DATE!!!

*Quicksilver Club ride at Fort Ord March 13 at 10AM*

*We plan to leave from the Creekside Terrace lot, located off Reservation Road/Portola Dr. The parking lot is large, but busy on weekends, so carpooling is encouraged.*

*And don't forget to tighten your cinch!*



### *Poetry corner and other goodies*

#### **The Warmth Of A Horse**

When your day seems out of balance  
and so many things go wrong...  
When people fight around you  
and the clock drags on so long...  
When some folks act like children  
and fill you with remorse...  
Go out into your pasture  
and wrap your arms around your horse.  
His gentle breath enfolds you  
as he watches with those eyes...  
He may not have a PHD but oh, he is so wise!  
His head rests on your shoulder,  
you hug him good an tight...  
He puts your world in balance and makes it seem all right...  
Your tears will soon stop flowing,  
the tension will be erased...  
The nonsense has been lifted. You are quiet and at peace.  
So when you need some balance  
from the stresses in your day...  
The therapy you really need is out there eating hay!

*Contributed by Sweet Beau Horses/Julie Suhr*

*"And now, I'm glad I didn't know  
The way it all would end  
The way it all would go.  
Our lives are better left to chance  
I could have missed the pain  
But I'da had to miss  
The dance"*

Garth Brooks - The Dance



*I'm fixin' to  
get in trouble.  
You comin'?*

**Virtual Tevis Challenge ride - 100 miles, 100 days!**

By E. Hiatt

Nope, I will probably never do the Tevis ride... I've crewed for a friend a few times, and I'm happy to say that I'm not yet crazy enough to try it, but when the "100 miles/100 days" challenge ride came around, it seemed like the perfect way to do it! Heck, I can ride a mile a day for 100 days, can't I?

Since the Tevis ride had to be cancelled last year due to COVID (like pretty much everything else, right?) their Board decided to offer a "virtual" Tevis. They created a website with a link to a lovely map, and accepted entries for the ride. We were given 100 days to finish. As we logged our progress on the honor system, bits of historical information about where we were on the trail were offered, as well as our overall placing.

I noticed that a few people just went for it... two 50 mile rides in two days, and they were done. Others rode more than one horse on two separate rides, and some did something completely different, like pushing their child in a stroller for 100 miles!

I took my time and did it in 8-12 mile bits. It was fun learning about the trail and riding with a friend who also participated. I don't know what place I eventually came in, but I love my "Tevis" shirt and now I can say that my horse and I "finished the Tevis"... just don't ask for specific details! ;-)



+++++

**Below are the official results for the Virtual Tevis, which apparently was a great success!**

[Riding Division](#)

[Non-Riding Division](#)

Completions: **1,063**

Youngest: **Nora Robinson (5 yrs)**

Oldest: **Wendy Fowler (83 yrs)**

Countries: **18**

Completions: **208**

Youngest: **Rose BezRoya (4 yrs)**

Oldest: **Peggy Hansen (97 yrs)**

Countries: **5**

Total Entries:**1,639** ~ Total Completions: **1,271** ~ Completion Rate: **77.5%**

**Trea\$urer'\$ report:**  
General Account Balance:  
\$9,859.09  
Trails account Balance:  
\$1,074.90

Your membership dues are pretty much the only source of income for the club, especially this year, since we had to cancel the Quicksilver Ride. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please consider doing that sooner rather than later! Thank you!

## Birthdays!!

### March

Kerstin Leuther: 11, Jan Jeffers: 13, Giulia Orth: 23

**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! Eijsabet

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

The Board meeting was held via Zoom on February 17, 2021, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Jill Kilty-Newburn, Jerry Wittenauer, Nick Warhol, Trilby Pederson, Maryben Stover, Carolyn Tucker and Margaret Hastings.

- The first order of business was confirmation of a new Treasurer for the Club. Nick Warhol has graciously volunteered to take over these duties. Trilby motioned that the Board elect Nick Warhol as Treasurer, Margaret seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion to elect Nick Warhol to the position of Treasurer of QSER. There was a brief discussion of next steps for the new Treasurer such as filing annual Federal and State tax forms as well as installing him as signatory on the Club's bank account. Lori Oleson has already taken care of paying the Club's insurance.
- The proposed Ad in the Tevis Forum Publication was revisited. Jerry sent a mock-up of the proposed Ad to Board members for review prior to the meeting via email. He made adjustments based upon comments and suggestions from the Board and the version including the Club logo, Club existence since 1978, and a note that Club participation extends beyond the Santa Clara Valley was chosen. It was mentioned that the Tevis Forum reaches some 6000 people and that the \$225 cost is well worth it. Margaret moved that the Board approve purchase of the quarter page Ad in the Tevis Forum at a cost of \$225, Carolyn seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase.
- The mailing of the Quips to approximately seven members who requested it was discussed as was the charge to do so. Elisabet Hiatt has updated the Membership Form in the Quips to include a check box to request the mailing option and pay the additional fee to cover postage. Maryben and Trilby will continue to handle this service to members.
- New Business: Nick Warhol reported that he has been updating the Club's Website. Some features he has or is working on adding are a "Members Only" page that includes the Club Directory, a "Stories Page," and he is adding a section for online registration and payment for entry in the Club's Quicksilver Ride. Nick is open to ideas from members. Jill reported that the club has a new member, Valerie Lance Khachadourian.
- The Board meeting schedule will continue on the third Wednesday of the month via Zoom. The next meeting will be at 7p.m. March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Hastings*

### **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)

### **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**

### **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**

*I saw this somewhere else, and as unpleasant as the thought is, it's good information to have. Elisabet*

### **B & P LIVESTOCK & FARM ANIMAL REMOVAL SERVICE**

We understand the sadness of a fallen animal.

That's why we created B&P Livestock & Animal Removal Service LLC. Our approach is stress-free, professional, and cost-effective for your animal removal. We offer multiple services that fit many budgets.

Please give us a call for a free estimate! - Brad and Pam Chatten  
**PLEASE CALL US AT 831-537-5250 FOR PRICING INQUIRIES!**

*TEACHER: give me a sentence using the words defense, defeat and detail*

*STUDENT: when a horse jumps over the fence, defeat go before detail*



NASA has a poster with bees hanging on their wall that reads:

"Aerodynamically a bee's body is not made to fly; the good thing is that the bee doesn't know".

Impromptu QSilver riders Coe ride!



Well, it was going to be just a couple of us but ended up being a fun group of folks who met at the Hunting Hollow entrance to Coe on Friday 2/19!

Margaret, Shannon, Jill, Elaine, Carolyn and I enjoyed a lovely day. The weather was perfect, and the views were spectacular and even though we ended up splitting in a couple of smaller groups, everyone had a great time.



Somewhere out there we ran into Becky, Judith and Stacey, too... a much more pleasant encounter than the earlier one we had with the GIANT bulldozer that was leveling and fixing the access roads! Eeek!

I had a lovely time riding with Margaret and her horse Pravda. I'm glad that my Echo walks fairly fast, but boy, we had to work hard to keep up with them!

We really should do this more often!!  
*Elisabet*



Book Report by *Julie Surh*:

## **Horseback Across Three Americas**

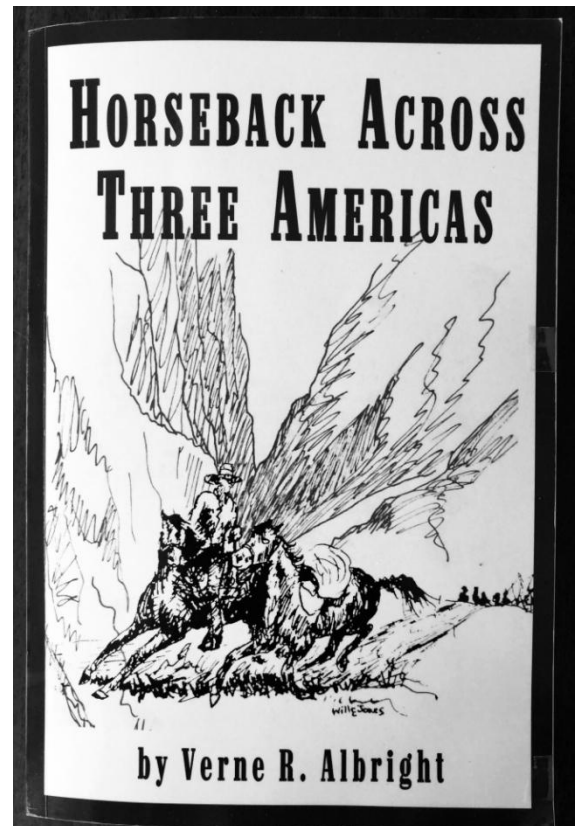
by Verne R. Albright

In 2020 Verne Albright published a book of memoirs of his 1967 ride from Peru to Los Gatos, CA. It is a true journey, but made more incredibly by the bureaucracy of each country to validate his journey and give him permission to proceed. Between Peru and his Los Gatos destination there was Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico before his feet and his two mares hoof prints touched American soil. Starting out on two Peruvian Paso geldings, he soon switched to two mares. His goal was to reach American soil in time for one of the horses to compete in the 1967 Tevis Cup Ride.

I think the thing that impressed me is the valor of mares. They were loaded on trucks, on tankers on trains but seemed to adapt quickly to the changing circumstances, seldom spending more than a couple of nights in the same stall, paddock, pasture, whatever could be found. Their diets changed daily with much of Verne's time spent locating hay for them and trying to make sure the nutrition was there to keep them healthy. He succeeded.

Verne brought \*Marinera into my life. Deciding that she was tougher than either of his long distance mares after their arrival in Los Gatos, he crewed for me when, I believe, she was the first gaited horse to finish the Tevis Cup Ride.

Following the story of his crossing three continents journey ride, Vern has become a fiction rider with considerable success. You can Google his name to see more about his other books and blog. He has returned many times to Peru to ride and visited the friends he made on that long distance trip.



*For those who weren't able to join the "Quicksilver Virtual Banquet and Awards" here's a list of the "special" award recipients as submitted by various club members. Enjoy!*

### **Trail Fairy Award**

This club member is an outstanding ambassador of the equestrian community. She educates trail users about safe multi-use trail when out enjoying trails near and far. She always has a

smile and friendly word to fellow trail users, and often has a special present for cyclists that she encounters on the trail – a **special jingle bell** on a string that that can be tied to the bike to let horses know they are coming. As with all things, there have been modifications in the COVID era: she sterilizes each bell and puts it in a plastic baggie so it is ready for hygienic gifting to cyclists that she encounters.



For her efforts to create a more harmonious trail experience, the **Trail Fairy Award** goes to **Carolyn Tucker**.

### Master of Disaster Award



This member travels many miles every year to ride, help out at rides, and enjoys many other outdoor adventures without his horse. He packs up his rig with all the needed supplies for any outing and away he goes. Sadly, he had a few mechanical malfunctions with his rig this year that left him stranded by the side of the road. Luckily he is clever, mechanically inclined and now has a good roadside assistance program. He and his cargo were safely removed from the highway and all ended well.

We hope that the mechanical malfunctions are now far behind him, and Honor **Nick Warhol** with the Master of Disaster Award.

### Horse - Best Babysitter Award

This horse is growing up to be a really good endurance horse who enjoys seeing the world and enjoying the trails with his friends. He has a fantastic walk and an easy going attitude that makes him great companion for other young horses, and this past year helped one new mare get through her first endurance ride.

For his patience and kind attitude in the face of rude mare antics, the **Best Babysitter Award** goes to **Pravda Hastings**.



### Horse - Big Shoe Award



This young horse is coming along quite well and enjoying the trails with his owner and friends. Of course there are many things to work out with a new young horse, and this horse seems to have some creative ideas about how to tackle some of these challenges, including getting very creative with his shoes.

For his creative footwear choices, the **Big Shoe Award** goes to **Echo Hiatt**.

### **Editor in Chief Award**

This member is known to all, as every month for many years she diligently put together the Quips Newsletter. Her work not only helps us stay connected, share stories and adventures, learn new things, and share a few laughs but it helps us build community as our club has grown more geographically dispersed. She has diligently prodded us to share our stories with each other, while also generously sharing her reflections and memories over the years. Every month she collects our submissions and thoughtfully weaves them together into the shared experience of our newsletter.



For her tremendous service to the Quicksilver Club, the **Editor in Chief Award goes to Barbara McCrary.**

### **Club Dead-ologist Award**



This member has a fascination with the carcasses of critters past that may be encountered along the trails or shorelines where she rides. She feels the need to get off of her horse and inspect the stinky remains of whatever animals she comes across. Pass the patchouli oil and stand back while she dismounts and checks out the decay and decomposition – but riding with her will always be an adventure!

For her interest in wild things living and dead, we award the **QSER Dead-ologist Award to Shannon Thomas.**

### **Best Buttercup Award**

This member is always of great service when he is at any ride, and recently he was willingly recruited to be a mentor, cheerleader, fearless “Grim Reaper” for candies and goodies, and overall Crew Chief at the Camp Far West Ride. In response to his duties, he was reported to have done a small amount of whining about how hard he was being pushed as the crew and that he was required to wear a costume! Anytime this member teased his riders about how hard they were pushing him (particularly to wear the costume), their response was “SUCK IT UP BUTTERCUP”!!



For crewing expertise and coming through for his riders so they could accomplish their goals of fun and frivolity . . . the **Best Buttercup Award goes to Dick Carter.**





### **Best Ass Award (And you thought this was a family friendly event!)**

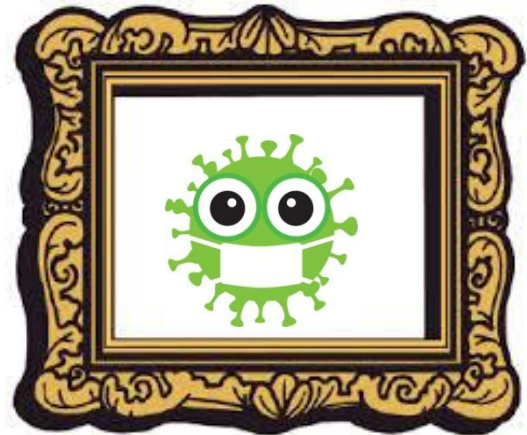
Lest you think there is much competition for this award, this member has the only ass in the club that the awards committee is aware of.

Yes, this little ass can be spotted darting down the beach with his bigger equine buddies near Moss Landing, or out enjoying a hike on trails with his human.

**The Best Ass Award** is an honor to be shared between **Shannon Thomas** and her Buddy **Milton Burro**.

### **Portrait in Persistence Award**

This member has jumped in to help with some of the club's biggest projects over the past year, and even though they did not turn out as planned, he showed amazing dedication, tenacity and perseverance in trying to achieve his goals. As the COVID shutdown unfolded, this member designed our ride COVID response plan, and doggedly pursued county officials in trying to get approval for our ride to be held once the stay at home orders were lifted.



While luck and COVID case counts were not on his side this time, we want to acknowledge and appreciate **Jerry Whittenauer** for all the work that he did, and present him with the **Portrait in Persistence Award**.

### **Club Bean Counter Extraordinaire**



This club member is a formidable competitor with an historic ride record, a compassionate horsewoman who is always very caring with her horses, and has generously served the club with her time and talents for many years. For over three decades this person has quite often been our club treasurer. She has maintained our financial records, kept our accounts in balance, paid our bills as needed, and ensured that the club's annual paperwork is always completed.

We are most grateful for the member sharing her time and professional expertise to help manage our collective funds for these many years, and we are pleased to present **Trilby Pederson** with the **Bean Counter Extraordinaire Award**.

# 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: Maryben Stover, 1299 Sandra Drive, San Jose, CA 95125-3535

**THANK YOU!!**

