



# Quicksilver Quips

May 2020

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## Stay at Home Dispatch #2 - Message from *the Presidents' Horse*

As my humans are still busy playing 'quaren-team' (whatever that is) I have been asked to write this President's message.

It would seem that this 'quaren-team' thing is really taking up much of the attention of the humans, and is putting some real hurt on the ride season! We have not been out to an endurance ride since February and the big trailer continues to sit idly by leaving me to believe that there are no plans for going out in the near future. I hear talk that many of the rides through June have been canceled and even the Tevis will not happen this year.

'Zoom'ing would seem to be a part of playing the quaren-team game, and the QSER Board did do this with the aid of computers and phones last month in order to conduct some club business. There is discussion about having a big general club Zoom meeting in May, so you'll need to watch your email for information and updates on whether they can make that happen.

Jill tells me that Shannon Thomas is still thinking that a small group of club members may be able to ride at Fort Ord for a ride on May 16. I hope I get to go, as I really like her new horse Sam, but I suppose we will have to wait until the date is a little closer to see if this will happen.

I hope you too are getting out for some good fresh air and exercise and making the most of your quaren-team. Remember to keep that 6-foot distance, wash your hands and all that good stuff that keeps you healthy and makes you a good team player!

Yours from a safely sanitized social distance-  
Junior

## Officers

**President.....Jill Kilty-Newburn**  
**Vice President.....Dick Carter**  
**Secretary.....Shannon Thomas**  
**Treasurer.....Trilby Petersen**

## Board Members

**Sarah Gray**  
**Lori Oleson**  
**Maryben Stover**

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[bigcreekranch@wildblue.net](mailto:bigcreekranch@wildblue.net)  
**Elisabet Hiatt, Assistant Editor and Reporter**  
[lazo@ucsc.edu](mailto:lazo@ucsc.edu)

## Quicksilver on the Web

<http://www.qser.net/>



## General Information for the Membership



Trails Update on the Santa Clara County Side:

Henry Coe Parking at Hunting Hollow is now closed.. County Parks and Open Space at Casa Loma are open for horses. Rest Room is locked at OSA-Casa Loma due to continued theft of toilet paper and sanitizer!

Happy Trails!  
Stay Safe

Carolyn Tucker

Meeting on Zoom, April 2, 2020, Jill called to order at 7:05 PM. Present are Jill Kilty-Newburn, Lori Oleson, Marben Stover, Richard Carter, Trilby Pederson, and joining slightly later, Sarah Marriah Gray.

### **New Business:**

Quicksilver Fall Classic: Regarding our ride on Oct. 3rd, Shannon received a call from Chuck Stalley that the Tevis board was considering the same date as they anticipate having to push their date back. He was very respectful and asked how we felt about that and what our options are. We discussed our options: changing our date to the Tevis original date (Aug 1st), cancelling the ride (our main source of income), or changing to another date in October. We decided that Shannon would call Chuck back and get more information.

### **Quicksilver Calendar/Yearbook:**

Traditionally whomever has volunteered to make the annual commemoration decides which to assemble, a yearbook vs. calendar. This year Sandy volunteered to make a calendar but unfortunately it was not finished by the awards banquet and now we have a large mailing bill. Lori motions to repay Sandy and Dick for the mailing fees incurred. Shannon seconds.

Going forward, we will require that the committee and reports finish at the end of January. Also we need to be sure that the list of members is current with dues and if on a calendar, is not on a page that could be viewed by the public. Captions of who is in the pictures would also be appreciated. Any volunteers?

### **Committees and Reports:**

\*Trilby is working with Lori on the online banking.

\*Nick has made improvements to the website, check it out and let him know what other changes we might want.

\*Elisabet has been helping Barbara with the Quips.

\*Maryben reported that there are 18 members who currently owe dues. Marriah is going to help out with getting the membership on a spread sheet on Google Sheets.

We will need another virtual meeting soon to decide on the issue of our ride. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

# Treasurer's Report

## TRILBY PEDERSON

20535 ROME DRIVE  
SAN JOSE, CA 95120  
(408) 997-7500

QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT - to date

04-24-2020

GENERAL ACCOUNT \$ 10,799.72

MAJOR EXPENSES TO DATE:

BANQUET	\$ 2,646.65
CALENDARS	1,390.60
INSURANCE	500.00

General Account \$10,613.99  
Trails Account \$1,074.80

*Sent by Lori Oleson*

06/28/2007 15:03 4089977799

REMOTE CSID  
4089977799

DURATION  
23

PAGES  
1

STATUS  
Received

PAGE 01/01

\*\* INBOUND NOTIFICATION : FAX RECEIVED SUCCESSFULLY \*\*

# My First Horse

Oh, that ride! That first ride! - most truly it was an epoch in my existence; and I still look back to it with feelings of longing and regret. People may talk of their first love - it is a very agreeable event, I dare say - but give me the flush, and triumph and glorious sweat of a first ride, like mine of the mighty cob..."

*George Borrow (1803-81) From "Lavengro"*



## Julie Suhr

1932—My family bought Andy and I was the only one interested in him, so he was really just mine. But only for a short time. If I rode very far (which I wanted to do) my mother would follow me in a car to be sure I did not get hurt. Andy ran away with me a couple of times but I sort of enjoyed it. He bucked me off on a Thanksgiving Day, splitting open my chin. When I look at the mirror nearly 90 years later, I can still see the permanent scar. I never saw Andy again. I forgave him totally. However, my parents considered him too dangerous for me and he was off the ranch over night.

## Elisabet Hiatt

My first horse was a broomstick with a shoestring for reins. I rode it around the yard and pretended it was my faithful, white steed. (No photos available.) Sat on my first "real" horse on our last family vacation before my father died. I was 4 years old. I was instantly in love and insisted on riding on my own. Ran away from home once to go riding a neighbor's horse when I was 8. Got a good spanking for it. (No photos available.)



*Vacation with a friend in 1972, beach town south of Buenos Aires... first official photo! With my wallet in one hand and my D'Artagnan hat with a pampas grass feather on the other, I rode that lovely Criollo in my dreams for a long time after that vacation.*

*(Continued on pages 5 & 6)*

# My First Horse ...

## Carolyn Tucker

The real horse (below) was at my aunt's country home. I loved going there. I probably rode the playground horse many more times before the real horse. I love pintos and my first pinto pony was bought with babysitting money, at that time, 50 cents per hour! We lived in a mobile home park in San Fernando Valley, Southern CA. and babysitting was easy to get. Horses weren't too far away so I was able to ride other horses as I grew up... I moved up to San Jose during my junior year of high school.



Dolly, my own unregistered, gaited Morgan, whose great talents revealed themselves as time went by.

In this photo, I was 12, she was 5. She could jump 2-1/2 feet, would swim in the ocean, gallop amongst the earth-moving equipment during the construction of Highway 1, or stand quietly as a freight train passed by her only a few feet away.

## Barbara McCrary

My first "horse" was an oil drum with a feed sack for a saddle. Above is Queenie, our neighbor's work horse that I borrowed and rode around our field. I was 9 years old—1942.



# My First Horse



## Michelle Herrera

Growing up in the Carmichael/Fairoaks neighborhoods of Sacramento, we were surrounded by open fields of native Oaks, the American River, backyard chickens and you guessed it, HORSES.

One day a man walked through our neighborhood and asked if I would like my picture with his pony and that's all it took... bitten by the horse-crazy bug, forever.

We are so fortunate to have Elisabet as our associate editor and reporter, because she has such great imagination.. Her idea for the May issue—and maybe beyond—is the following:

Greetings, Quicksilverians... when you get bored of counting the rolls of TP left in your pantry, how about working on this assignment?

Find the earliest photo of you on a horse, write a short description of the event, date, horse's name etc. and send it to me. I will compile them into an article for the May Quips.

I have a couple already, including one of Julie on her first horse, taken in 1932. Not many of us will be able to beat that, but, hey, we can try! As a bonus, hopefully it will be a nice trip down memory lane!

Cheers, and stay sane.

(Beginning on page 4)

# Park Report: Rancho del Oso State Park

By Elisabet Hiatt

**Location: approximately 20 miles North of Santa Cruz, on HWY 1(across from Waddell Beach)**

**Day use Parking fee: \$10**

**Camping with horses fee: \$24**

**Trails: Easy to very difficult**



Does this trailer make my butt look big?

Before the world came to a screeching Corona virus halt, on a beautiful winter day, Jeanine McCrary and I decided to go for a ride at Rancho del Oso (RDO). Since it was on my way to the park, I picked up Jeanine and her horse Stetson and we car-pooled there. Although the park has an amazing number of trail options (and miles!!) the parking lot is not very big. I've never had a problem parking there, but you never know. If you go there and there is no parking in the grass, you can always park in the overnight camping

area. I've only seen people camping there a couple of times in many, many years, and the gate is never locked.

We decided that we wanted to get some miles, but were not ambitious enough to tackle the "tough" trails, so we stayed on the Skyline to the Sea trail. This trail is a wide, fairly flat, shared (bikes and hikers) road, and it takes you to the Berry Creek Falls (or as close to the falls as you can get on a horse without breaking the law!). It's an out and back ride that gives you about 10+ miles of stunning forests, a couple of nice creek crossings, and as a bonus, you get to see some pretty amazing, giant trees.



Elisabet and Echo at The Eagle Tree

For the more ambitious, there are a couple of "kick your butt" options. Mind you, these are NOT trails to bring an out of shape horse or one too young to understand the concept of "saving some energy for later."

From the Skyline to the Sea trail, the Clark Connector trail takes you to the Westridge trail, to the Chalks trail, to the Henry Creek trail and (finally!) back to Skyline trail. This makes a 16-mile loop that will take you from sea level to Chalk Mountain, which is about 1,600 feet. The views from up there are amazing! But beware... this is NOT an up and down trail... it's more like an UP and down and UP and down and UP some more before you actually get back down. Some sections are very steep and rutted, so if you don't have a sure-footed horse, getting off and walking a bit is probably a good idea. I never go there without a saw.

Also, there is NO water up there, so on a hot day, it's a pretty tough ride no matter how you look at it.

Thrown in for some fun, when you get to the bottom, is the dreaded Slippery Falls crossing with its hidden, barely-below-the-water slab of granite that makes just about the most sure-footed horse

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

take a dunk. The first time I went across (at least 35 years ago!) I had no warning, so yep... we fell in. Back then, I used to ride in cowboy boots.... not very fun to have to take them off and empty the the water out on the side of the trail, and then finish your ride with wet clothes sloshing on the saddle. I have to say that I'm proud to have crossed that creek many more times (it used to be part of the Castle Rock ride, which I did about 10 times) with 4 different horses, without further dunkings.

There is a trick to it, you see... if you are doing the loop clockwise, the Henry Creek trail takes you directly down to the hidden rock, but if you make a sharp right hand turn before entering the water and ride downstream just a bit and then make a U turn and approach the other side from the middle of the creek, you can save you and your horse a very cold and uncomfortable water baptism.

You're welcome!

Another option from the Skyline-to-the Sea trail is to take the McCrary Ridge trail, which will take you to (I think) the highest point in the park that you can access on a horse: Mt. McAbee Overlook, which is at 1,739 feet. From there... well, from there you can pretty much ride for as long as you please! RDO is connected with Big Basin Park, so it's technically possible to ride from the ocean to the Boulder Creek entrance to Big Basin (on Highway 236) if you so desire. I've never done it, and I hear that the trail is often not passable for horses due to trees down, but I know people who have done it. I understand that it's about a 25 mile round trip.

This is a great time of the year to go to RDO. There are wild flowers everywhere and the views are fantastic. If you want to spend a few days there, the horse camp has several pipe corrals, a water trough, and bathroom facilities. You can make reservations by calling (831) 338-8861, from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Mondays - Fridays. There are six primitive campsites available year round. Sadly, no dogs are allowed in the park. The visitors center is nice and the ocean is just across the highway (though no horses allowed on the beach.) What more could you ask for?



Jeanine and Stetson at the end of the trail



Horse camp

Editor's note: **This is a re-print of the May Quips, as somehow part of the above article was corrupted when I copied it from Elisabet's original version; some of her photos were omitted.**



# MY FIRST ENDURANCE EXPERIENCE

By Lori Oleson

While going through the Trail Blazer's that Julie gave me in February, I found a ride report on the very first ride I entered on August 26, 1978 - Faraonson Endurance Ride in Norco (Southern California). I remember it so clearly. This ride brought back a lot of memories.

About a week after finding the article, the friend that took me to the ride passed away. She taught me so much about horses and I wanted to learn everything she was willing to teach me. Prior to this weekend, aside from trail riding, I spent my time riding western in the show ring on her Quarter Horse named Wranglebar. My friend's name was Suzy Kelley.

When Suzy passed away, I started going through boxes in the garage, not even sure what I was looking for. What I came across, aside from a lot of old pictures, was a ride report on that first 25-mile ride and I thought I would share it. (Since no one has any current rides to share)

Suzy and I rode quite a bit, so when we heard about a 25-mile ride, we both thought, 'we can do that'. I was to ride my first horse, Rusty, and Suzy borrowed a horse, since her muscular Quarter Horses would have too much bulk to go 25 miles in the summer.

Here is a portion of my write up:

The race started at 6:30 in the morning. Suzy and I stayed together until we came to a clump of trees in the riverbed. The horse Suzy was riding, took a tight turn and hit Suzy's knee against a tree. I had to ride by myself or with people I didn't know after that. Suzy never caught up with me. (This was long before juniors had to ride with sponsors)

At the first stop, someone asked to see my card. I didn't know what they were talking about. I learned you are supposed to carry a card for the vets to write on. They gave me a new card and soon I was back on the trail. For my first endurance ride I thought I was making pretty good time.

I got pretty tired so we slowed down. The hills were steep and rocky, but it was nothing Rusty couldn't do.

At the next stop, it took a little longer to get back on the trail. At each stop, every horse had to have its pulse and respiration checked, also everyone had to have a vet look to make sure the horse was sound.

It wasn't long before I started on the last 5 miles; unfortunately I got turned around and was heading back to the last stop. I was all by myself riding along and I came up behind Suzy. We talked for a minute, then I turned around to find the right trail to the finish.

Rusty and I finished at 11:05am in 11<sup>th</sup> place. Suzy finished in 26<sup>th</sup> place. This endurance ride was a great experience. I might go to another one someday, but when I do, I will be more prepared. This sport is the hardest thing I've tried on a horse.



*Lori Oleson's first pony ride at about age 2 years*

## Book Report

# Beautiful Jim Key

## The Lost History of The World's Smartest Horse

By Mim Eichler Rias 2006

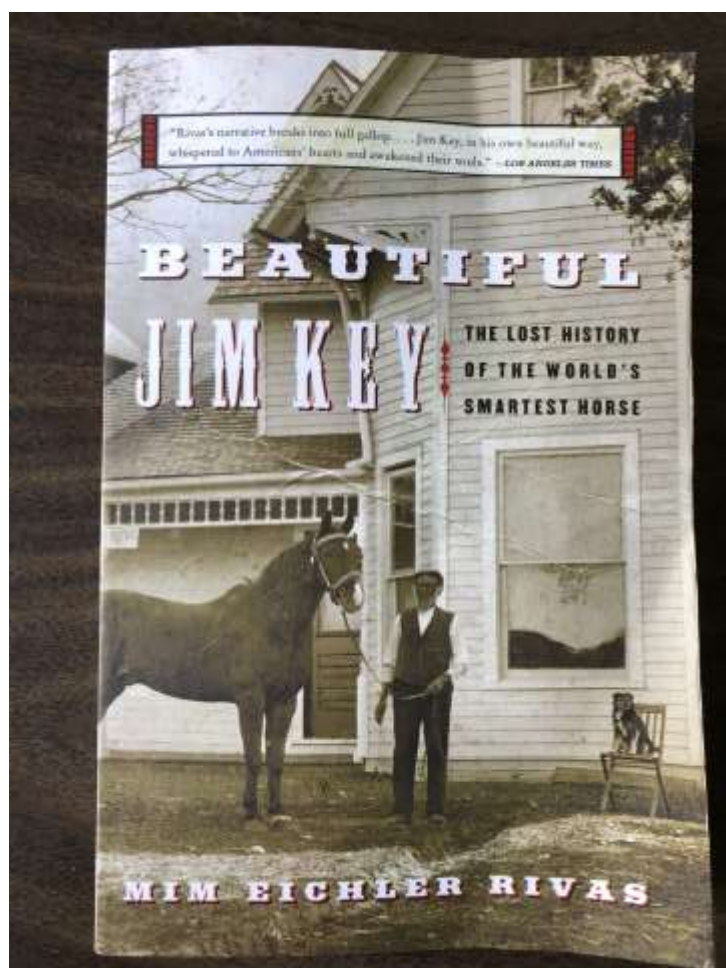
A google search of this book title brought up the following .....

"Beautiful Jim Key was a famous performing horse around the turn of the twentieth century. His promoters claimed that the horse could read and write, make change with money, do arithmetic for numbers below thirty, and cite Bible passages where the horse is mentioned. Beautiful Jim's trainer, Dr. William Key, was a former slave, a self-trained veterinarian, and a patent medicine salesman. Key emphasized that he used only patience and kindness in teaching the horse and never a whip."

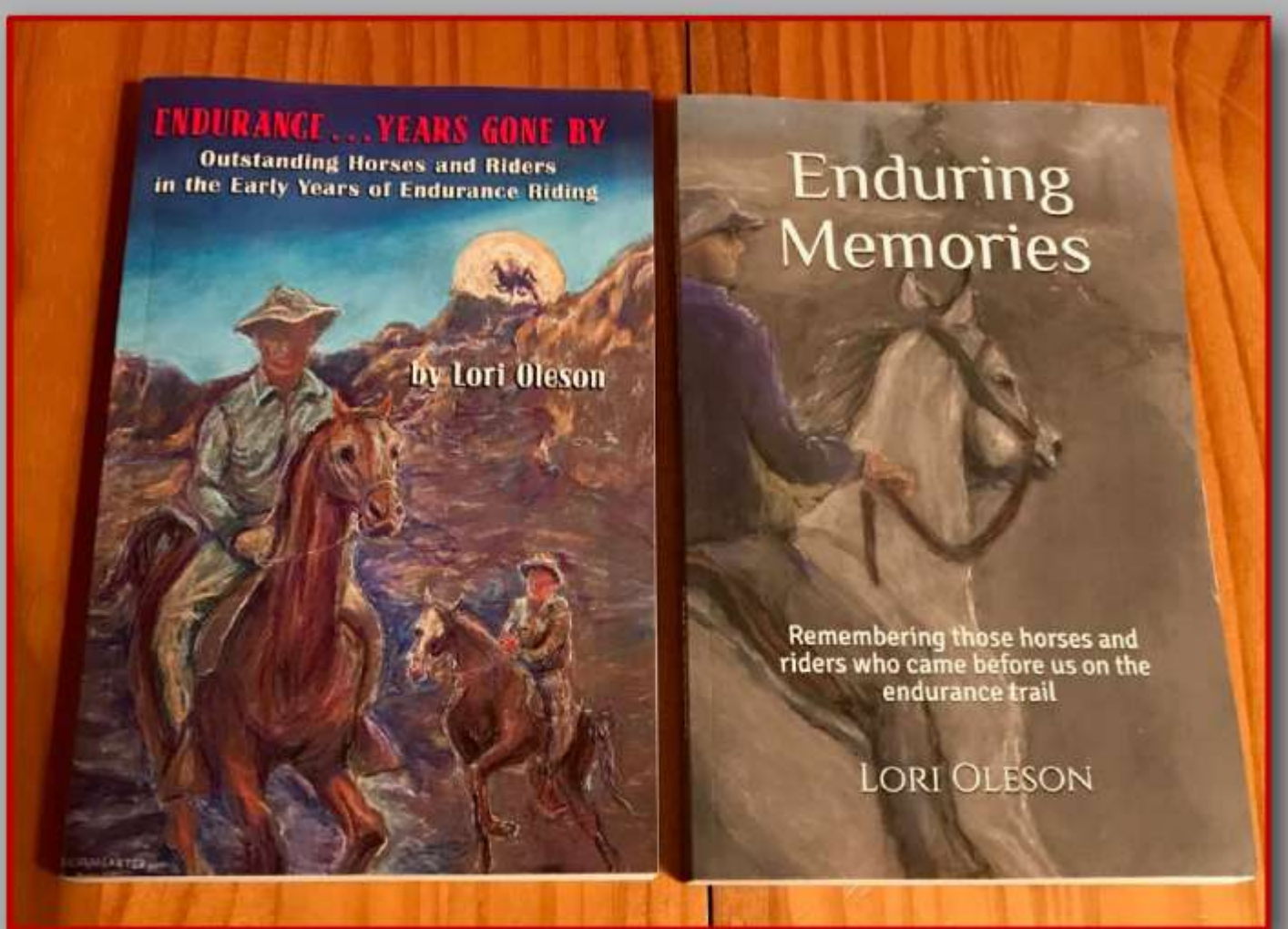
This is a long book which chronicles the remarkable life of an extraordinary former slave, a Civil War Veteran and self taught veterinarian/horse whisperer who coupled with an outstanding horse, an Arabian Hamiltonian cross, made history in the post-war South. Preaching the humane treatment of animals, Dr. William Key and his horse, Jim Key, also caught the attention of large audiences as he could prove that through kindness his horse could show an incredible intellect. While Dr. Key lets us in on some of his training methods which seem quite logical, they are not all divulged. One of the amazing things about this horse was that he apparently was able to tolerate traveling from one town to the next almost on a daily basis for many years. He even performed for President William McKinley.

It is a long story with in-depth research done by the author Mim Eichler Rias. Most of the book is set in Tennessee. For history buffs there is a tremendous amount of information about the post-war south. I found the pictures of Jim Key portrayed a rather tall and elegant horse which would attract attention exclusive of his talents. Dr. William Key, the ex-slave, certainly promoted in the South that animal welfare through kindness was a part of humanity that needed to be spread.

Submitted by Julie Suhr



## Classifieds and Services



Endurance...Years Gone By and Enduring Memories are available at \$25 each. Contact me at [endurancehistory@gmail.com](mailto:endurancehistory@gmail.com) or call (408) 710-5651. Both books are also available on Amazon.

**Lori Oleson**

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Stalls: \$320.00, pasture \$220.00,  
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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.

My place borders Quicksilver Park.

# Classifieds and Services

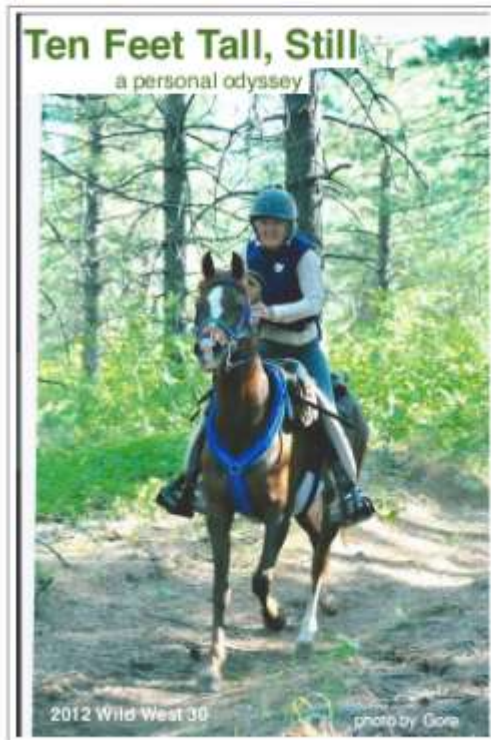


**BOOKS ARE THE PERFECT GIFT!**



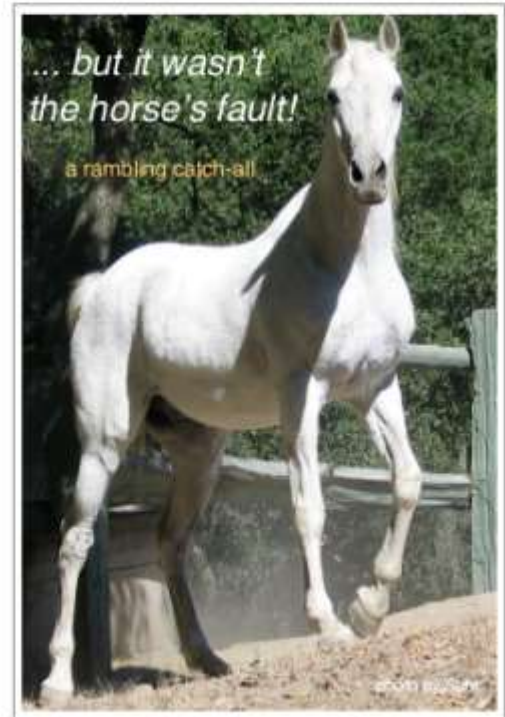
To benefit our trails and our horses, I have written two books. They are entirely different in style.

1. **Ten Feet Tall, Still** is out-of-print, but available as an e-book from Amazon, Barnes and Noble and others. All proceeds to **AERC Trails Fund** and **WSTF Trails Fund** for preservation of horse trails. \$9.99
2. **...but it wasn't the horse's fault!** Available from Marinera Publishing, [www.marinerapublishing.com](http://www.marinerapublishing.com) All proceeds to **CENTER FOR EQUINE HEALTH**, School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis, California \$24.95



by  
Julie Suhr

*You are never  
quite the same  
after you ride  
a good horse.*



## "TEN FEET TALL, STILL"

My first book, **Ten Feet Tall, Still**, is out of print, but is now an e-book for downloading at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and some other places. One Hundred Percent of the proceeds go to the AERC Trails Fund and the WSTF Trails Fund.

**Julie Suhr (831) 335-5933**

## **CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS**

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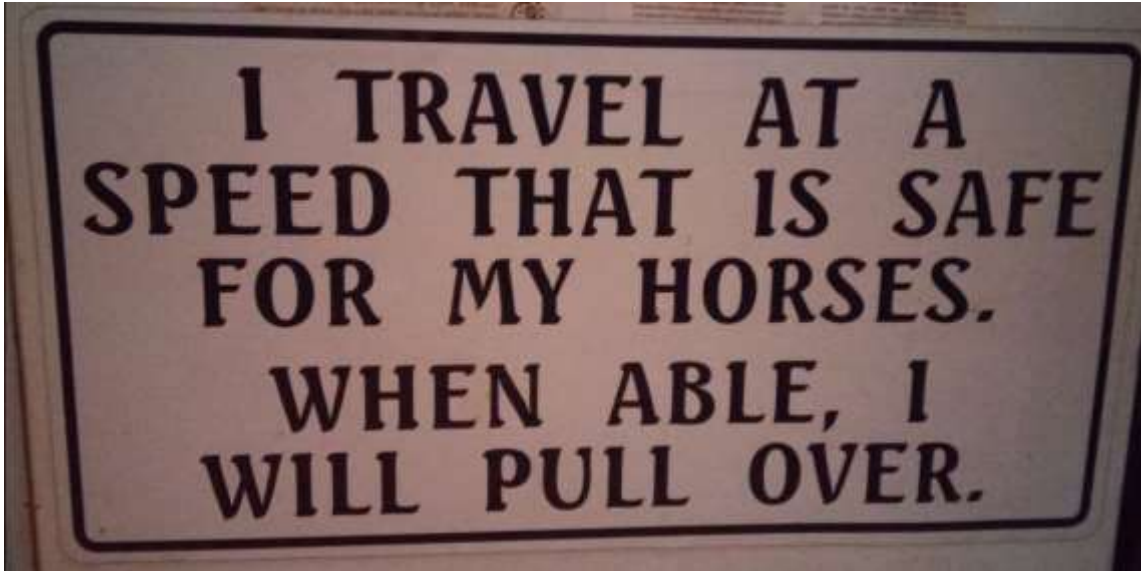
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## Classifieds and Services

For Sale—\$20



Magnetic sign for trailer. Can deliver. Michelle H. 831-427-1533

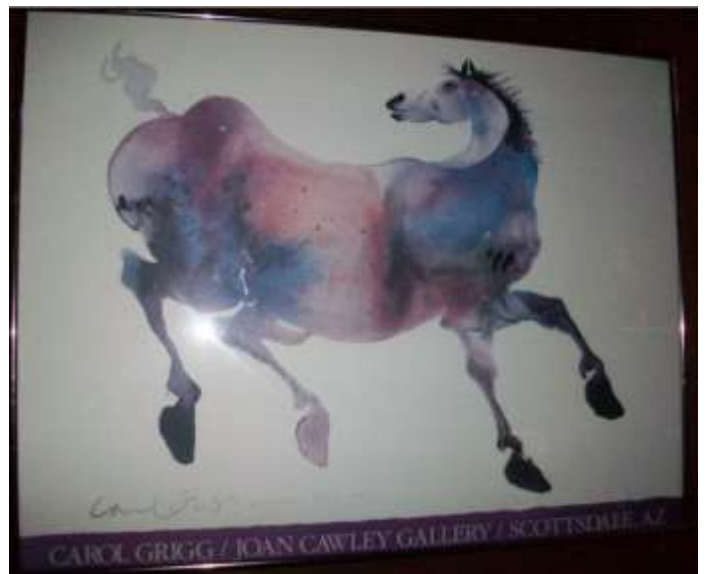
Carol Grigg print  
29"x22"

\$100 OBO

back of print sticker says:

The Brush and Palette  
125 Main Street  
Los Altos, Ca

Michelle H. 831-427-1533



**TAX SERVICES - Specializing in horses**

**Trilby — (408) 997-7500**

# Nostalgia for Sale

Ride award from the "Scotts Flat Ride", best offer, barter or trade and its yours.  
Great condition, too small for me.

Michelle H. 831-427-1533 or [montra7003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:montra7003@sbcglobal.net)



## New Cool Off

Hand sewn by Nancy Twight \$10

Michelle H. 831-427-1533 or [montra7003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:montra7003@sbcglobal.net)



# Humor, Philosophy, and Birthdays

## SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

(1). Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.

(2). When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.

(3). Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That is hope.

(4). We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.

(5). We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.

(6). On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.' That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!

I came across this in my collection of possible material for the Quips...

During this trying time of the Corona Virus and social distancing, I felt this very appropriate.



## Happy May Birthdays to our Quicksilver Members and Endurance Friends

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Courtney Hart	2
Bing Voight	5
Jennifer Voight	7
Jo Barrett	8
Barbara McCrary	9
Peter David	16

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## QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS — MEMBERSHIP

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 levels of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Membership \$30

Junior Membership \$20

Family Membership \$45

**Go to our website at [www.qser.net](http://www.qser.net) to join** or send a check made out to Quicksilver Endurance Riders and mail to:

Maryben Stover, 1299 Sandra Drive, San Jose 95125

"There is no secret so close as that between a rider and his horse." -R.S. Surtees

"To ride on a horse is to fly without wings" -Unknown

"Life outside of endurance? I don't think so" -Dave Rabe

**We would love to have you join the Quicksilver Endurance Riders!!**



## **Mission Statement of Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.**

**QSER 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 standards of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.**

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**Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.  
P.O. Box 71  
New Almaden, CA 95042**

