

Quicksilver Quips

November 2023

Happy
Thanks
Giving



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

President's Message, Jerry Wittenauer, 22 Oct 2023

With the successful conclusion of our Big Event – the Quicksilver Fall Classic, attention turns to a couple items of “Club Business” to wrap up the year!

- Board of Directors Nominations The annual activities of the QS Club are mapped-out and managed by our QS Board of Directors, meeting monthly during the year to maintain a focus on fostering a healthy and vigorous Endurance Community in the Santa Clara Valley, Santa Cruz Mountains, Steinbeck Country . . . and Beyond! Our Club has been doing its *Endurance Thing* since 1978, maintained and nurtured over the years by that “next group” of Endurance Riders ready to step up and give a little something back to our sport – by serving in the leadership of our club. This coming year, we have an opening for one new Board Member. Magda Bartilsson is leading a recruitment drive to solicit our next generation of leaders, please give this some thought. Magda can be reached at magda@bayarearidgeriders.com
- 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 El-Bizri	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!

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/>

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**

2023 QSER Club Calendar

18 Jan - Election of 2023 Officers
 4 Feb QSER Banquet
 23/24 Feb AERC Convention (Jacksonville)
~~8 Jul QS Support to Fireworks Ride~~ Ride cancelled.
 11 Jul “Go Live” for QS Ride Entries
 29 Jul QS Support to Tevis Cup – Finish Line Team

~~Aug 4-5 QS Camping at SCCHA – Cancelled~~
 10 Sep Kick-off Board Search Committee.
 30 Sept QS Fall Classic Endurance Ride
 15 Nov All Awards Nominations Due
 18 Jan Election of **2024** 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

Julie Suhr’s father’s wisdom:

This was my father’s way of solving problems:

I grew up on an orchard ranch with all dirt roads.

My mother complained about how the dust from farm equipment going back and forth made it impossible for her to keep the house clean.

My father said he could take care of that easily.

He took a shovel and dug about five pot holes where the road was near the house. Voila! Problem solved.

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:

Hi everyone - 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.

"Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; but remember that what you now have was once among the things only hoped for" Epicurus

You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face.

Eleanor Roosevelt

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!

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

From Nick Warhol – Club By-Laws modifications

Membership is invited to vote for an initiative the board has raised to modify the club by-laws a bit. The biggest changes are the number of board members, and to remove the three-year term limit for board members. The three-year limit was probably a good rule 20 years ago when there were 150 plus members in the club, and there were always people wanting to serve on the board. Now it's a challenge to find people to serve, and now that we have some dedicated people on the board who really contribute, the idea is to allow them to serve additional terms.

Individual members can vote once, and people with family memberships can have each named member vote. Please vote by November 22nd.

Members can see current bylaws in full at <https://www.qser.net/club-bylaws-1>

If you have any questions or concerns before voting feel free to reply to me, or give me a call at 510-484-8883.

Thanks from the Quicksilver Board.

Nick

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.

Existing wording: ARTICLE V - OFFICERS:

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the club. The term of office shall be one calendar year.

Proposed new wording: ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to three (3) additional Directors for a maximum board size of seven (7) members. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the club. The term of office shall be one calendar year.

Pro for change 1: Allows Board to still function with fewer individuals, since Board recruitment has been difficult in recent years

Con for change 1: Additional Board members provide further perspective and support for Club initiatives

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.

Existing Wording: ARTICLE VII - Section 5

Five (5) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum in and of the Board of Directors. No business may be conducted without a quorum being present except calls for a recess or adjournment.

Proposed Wording: Section 5:

A Seventy percent (70%) number of attendees of members of the Board shall constitute a quorum in and of the Board of Directors. No business may be conducted without a quorum being present except calls for a recess or adjournment.

Pro for change 2: Allows flexibility for the Board to make decisions even if not all Board members can attend a given meeting

Con for change 2: Requiring more Board members for a quorum ensures decisions made reflect a greater proportion of the Board

Change # 3 - Modify Article 3 which states that no officers can serve for more than three consecutive terms.

Existing Wording: Section 3:

No more than two members of the same family, living in the same household, may serve on the Board of Directors at the same time.

No officer of the corporation may serve for more than three consecutive terms.

Proposed wording: Section 3:

No more than two members of the same family, living in the same household, may serve on the Board of Directors at the same time.

Pro for change 3:

Allows the Board more flexibility when recruiting and retaining Board members, which is helpful given the limited number of Club members interested in serving.

Con for change 3:

Ensures there is consistently fresh perspectives from new Board members rotating in.

Change # 4 - Remove the requirement that the Quips Shall be published monthly.

Existing Wording: Standing Committees: Section 7. Newsletter:

The Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc. shall have an official publication with the name of Quicksilver Quips. The Quicksilver Quips shall be distributed on or about the first of each month.

Proposed Wording:

The Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc. shall have an official publication with the name of Quicksilver Quips.

Pro for change 4:

Gives the Club more flexibility on frequency for producing the Quips, that is based on volunteer availability

Con for change 4: Less frequent Quips availability for Club members

To vote go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3cgJS8jG1VNk3xWz8nrhD9eTYK6MS0hKu4RqLt9SinmggWQ/viewform>

In Memoriam - Becky Glasser

by Jessie Bouck

I never go to funerals. I always get ready for them. I plan to go and I even get dressed but I seem to never make it out the door. I guess I don't like celebrating the lives that I didn't want to have taken from me. I was very lucky to have an evening with my Aunt Becky 2 weeks before her stroke. We talked and laughed and planned a another visit that would never happen.

Everyone likes to share stories when someone passes away. Mine goes back a few years after my aunt who is nearly 80 years old broke her leg in her horse barn and then like the Savage she was, crawled up the hill which you've been to her home he's pretty gnarly to find my Uncle Doug. I doubt I could have done that. But that was my aunt invincible.

She recovered in a convalescent hospital which horrified me and the minute I found out I raced to this place to make sure she was okay. When I got there she was pissed off she's been calling the nurse for an hour to bring her her pain meds and they were yet to acknowledge her. She was stuck in bed with the broken leg so she was unable to hunt the devious nurse down.

I stomped down the hallway to the nursing station and very politely asked why my aunt had been pushing her button for help for the last hour to no avail. I politely asked why she'd not received her pain medication yet. The Man at the nursing counter (where five nurses are gossiping and laughing) asked who I was to which I replied "I am her niece Jessie". He then

informed me that he needed to see my identification in order to tell me why someone could not answer my aunts calls for her medication. Mind you until this point I've been completely lovely and without attitude. Now I was pissed.

I told him with a smile on my face: "Why do you need to see my f***** ID? You don't need to see my f***** ID. I'm not asking for medical information I'm asking why you aren't doing your f***** job! What you need to do is take your f***** ass down the hall and give my aunt her f***** pain pills. And by the way I'm a lawyer and if my aunt doesn't have her pain medication in the next two minutes I'm going to f***** put a malpractice complaint to the nursing board on all of you. Her f***** leg hurts and your worried about my f***** ID, you should be worried about your f***** patient and your job."

To this he replied: "I don't need to see your ID it's obvious you're Ms. Glacier's niece. We will be done with her pills shortly."

My Aunt Becky shared a great love of the F word with me. My son calls her Aunt Potty mouth to this day and he is 20 years old. My Aunt Becky is the only person on the planet that called me Blossom, a name I'm not sure quite fit me but I let her call me that anyway. She taught me many things: how babies were born, how they got into the stomach, a story which horrified me beyond measure and really pissed off my dad, she put me on my first horse and she was there for me anytime I needed her my entire life. Her brilliance and her quick wit always astonished me. Her fearlessness put me in awe. The day she died the world truly lost out on a phenomenal Woman. I was lucky and am forever proud to have called her my aunt.

I love you Aunt Becky take care of Tanky until I get there. I'd rather have you both here with me but I couldn't ask for two better guardian angels.



Remembering Lud McCrary



On Sunday October 29th a large number of people gathered at the UCSC Cowell Hay Barn to celebrate, remember and honor Lud McCrary. The venue was the perfect place, since the McCrarys donated much of the redwood that was used to restore the barn. I was working at UCSC when the decision to restore the barn, rather than tear it down was made. I am fairly sure that the McCrary's generous contributions had much to do with that.

This generosity was a recurrent theme during this event... many people telling stories of Lud and his family caring and working to keep history and beautiful buildings alive.

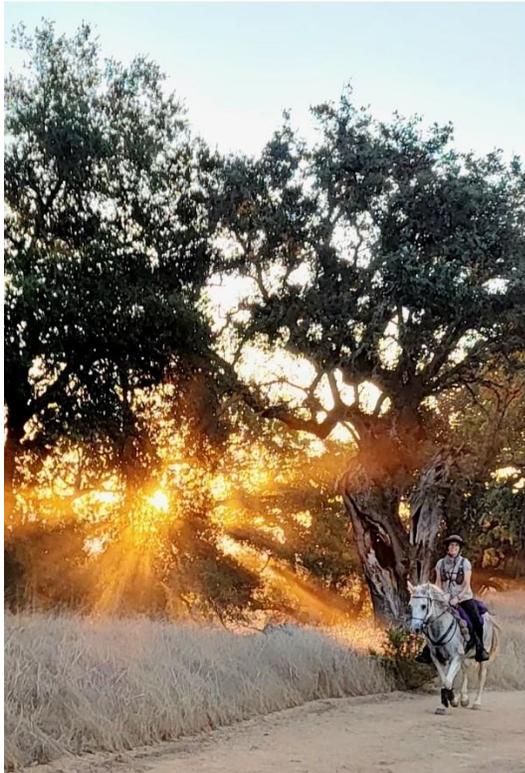
Many wonderful tributes and stories about Lud were heard. He seemed to be able to do anything, and do it right... on horseback, behind the wheel of his truck, in his business and even on vacation in far away places! (I have the feeling they are still talking about him in Mongolia!)

The love and admiration for the man was palpable. A long row of photos on one wall, along with printed comments and memories from friends and family was a sweet tour of Lud's life. From childhood photos to some taken shortly before he passed, it was clear that Lud was an amazing human... but you only had to spend a few minutes with him to figure that out for yourself.

Ride on, Lud. You were immensely loved and you will be sorely missed.

Elisabet Hiatt

Lake Sonoma ride recap by Rachel Miura



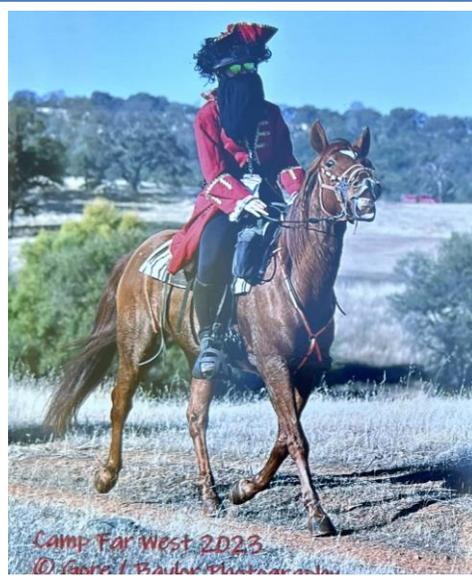
Theo and I rode the 50 at Lake Sonoma, on October 7, for our last ride of the year. We've been to Cooley Ranch nearby but not Lake Sonoma and, as expected, it was lovely! Lots of views in every direction of rolling hills and water. We also traversed through madrone, pine, and redwood forests, as well as open meadows. The ride was well managed and the trails were clearly marked, with spotters at some key intersections to keep us on track. Some of the route was on fire roads, and there were lots of single track sections to spice it up. The only downside was that it was very hot that day! When I got up at 5am and saw it was already 64F I knew it was going to be really warm, though between the shady sections of trail and an intermittent breeze it was reasonable until about noon. We were happy to be done and off the trail by about 3pm and spent the rest of the day lolling around camp and catching up with friends. We appreciated the chance to ride in a new place and meet riders, volunteers, and vets!

Another fun Ride report from Rachel Miura:

As usual, Camp Far West was a fun time, and this year it was BIG (over 200 horses!).

I got the opportunity to ride Magda Bartilsson's Mustang gelding, Milo, along with Magda (on Troy) and her guest Angela (on the infamous Pistola).

Milo and I had a smooth ride together, and he tolerated my costume 😊



Peanut Butter Alert for Your Pets! A new type of peanut butter (and other nut butters) is being sold with less sugar, but now includes xylitol, a sweetener. That is what is used in sugarless gum and it can be deadly to dogs. Many people use peanut butter as a dog treat, or to fill a Kong, or disguise medications; if they now use the type with xylitol, it could be very dangerous.

BE NICE TO YOUR VETERINARIAN!

Mental health is a serious problem in the veterinary profession. Veterinarians succumb to suicide at more than three times the rate of human medical professionals and four times the rate of the general population (Stoewen, 2015). Stress, anxiety, and depression are rampant among both veterinary students and veterinarians (Nahar et al., 2019; Bartram et al., 2009), who face an additional challenge specific to medical professionals: compassion fatigue.

JUST FOR FUN...

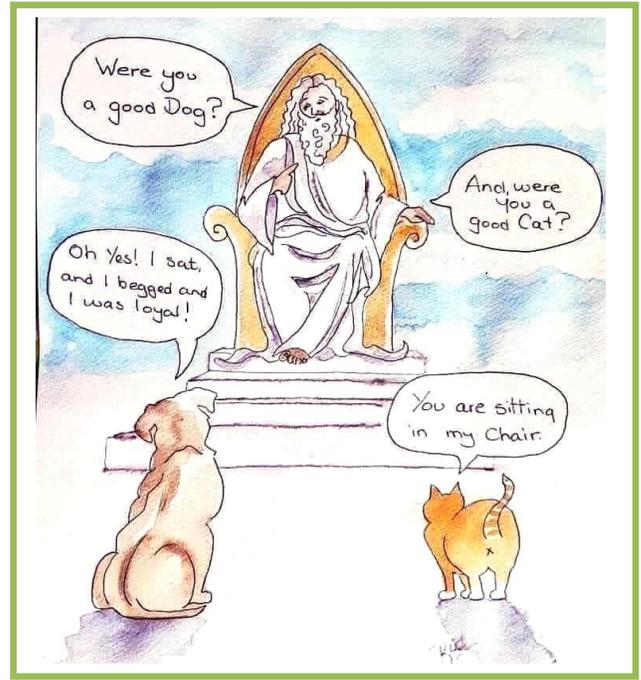
If you want to sound smart, when your horse is being a jerk, call it “**Obstreperous**” (ahb-STREPH-her-uhs): “Resisting control or restraint in a difficult manner; unruly”.
It may not help... but it’s worth a try!!

This makes me want to go back to school...

MISSOULA – Of the 1,681 courses taught this fall at the University of Montana, JRNL 102Y definitely grabs attention. Not so much for its catalog title, of course, but for its name: Calling Bullshit.

An online course, Calling Bullshit examines why it’s so easy to spread misinformation and untruths and why it’s so hard to combat it, while exploring what citizens can do to become better consumers and producers of factual information.

“The name is definitely provocative, but the class is not about the cussword,” said course instructor Professor Lee Banville, director of UM’s [School of Journalism](#). “It’s about information literacy. People need to be both better sharers of information and better consumers of information.”



99% OF HORSE PROBLEMS CAN BE FIXED BY SLAPPING THE OWNER, NOT THE HORSE...

*Dogs prepare you for babies,
cats prepare you for teenagers...*



Don't drink and ride??? - A Merced, California, horseback rider was arrested and charged with driving under the influence after a California Highway Patrol (CHP) spotted a person in the saddle with an open container.

CHP said in a Facebook post that one of its officers was on duty when he saw a horseback rider carrying an open container of alcohol.

When the officer caught up with the rider, CHP said, there was evidence the rider may have been impaired by alcohol. After an investigation, the rider was arrested for DUI.

On our way to church, we asked our grandchild why it is important to be quiet in church. She said “because there are people sleeping”

Clever insults from a bygone era...

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."
- Groucho Marx.

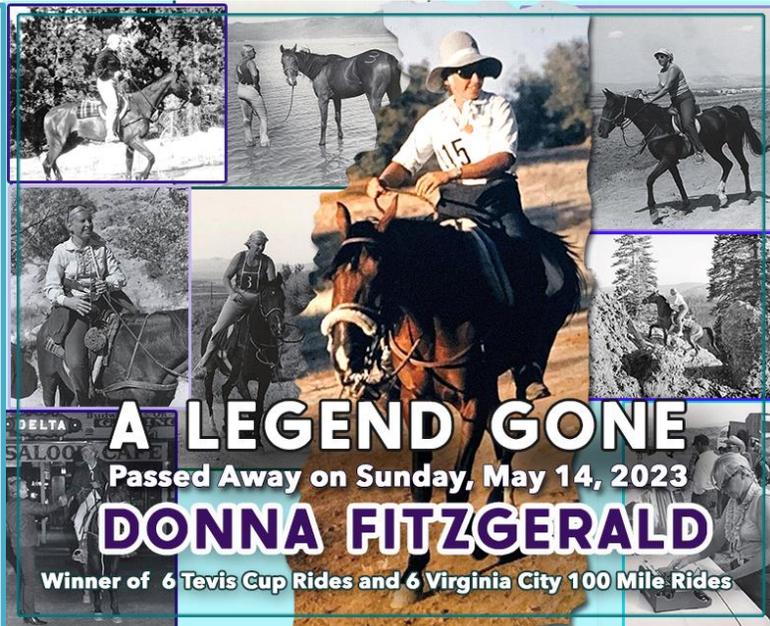
"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends.."
- Oscar Wilde

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."
- Mae West

For those of you who have been around for some time, we just learned of Donna Fitzgerald's passing.

She set a record at the Tevis Cup ride of SIX wins on the SAME horse – Hyannis Arabian WITEZARIF (Witezar out of Razifa).

May she ride to the Milky Way and back on her beloved Whitezarif.



Ride Report - QS Fall Classic 2023 by Lori Oleson

It's been a very long time since I've ridden the QS Fall Classic. To be exact, the last time I rode our ride was in 2008 on Flame. It was the first time we held the ride at Harvey Bear Co. Park.

Interesting to point out that the first ride in 2008, it rained. Well, in 2023 it rained again.

I rode my 5-year-old, Legacy XP (Reb) on his first ride. We did a very slow LD and had a successful day. He's going to be a fun horse as he learns and matures.

Next on Reb's agenda is Camp Far West 30 with Jill as his rider.



Fun times with Theo! by Rachel Miura

Theo and I took part in the Woodside Day of the Horse progressive trail ride on October 14.

The theme was the 60s and 70s, and costumes were encouraged!

We started at the Horse Park at Woodside and rode into Woodside, a loop around town, and then back.

We covered 8 miles and stopped at 14 checkpoints along the way to get horse and people treats.

It was a fun day out with other horse enthusiasts, and Theo even agreed to wear a wig!



Horsensei Haiku – Autumn 2023 – From Beverley Kane, MD



A caterpillar
this deep in fall –
still not a butterfly

Matsuo Bashō
(1644-1694)

equinox
even my horse runs

late –
summer coat

Beverley Kane

Everything was late this year—the berries in the U-pick field took three extra weeks to ripen; our mid-August amaryllis finally popped up four days ago, September 18th; *The Manual of Somatic Horsemanship*, like Bashō's caterpillar, is overdue in its cocoon. At the barn, we're on EST, Equine Standard Time, decoupled, often inconveniently, from clock and calendar time. Horses teach us patience and the time it takes. Now, too, the horses are unseasonably tardy, still sporting thin, sleek coats. By this time last year and years past, they were our fuzzy, fluffy bellwethers of winter.

Even the true equinox will be late this year. Although today, September 22nd, is the official Equinox, when the sun crosses the celestial equator, the Old Farmer's Almanac tells us the true equinox of equal 12-hour night and day is September 27th.

At the summer solstice, I wrote about the quantum universe and the illusion of spacetime in our three-dimensional brains. How do I reconcile that reality with my struggle to be on time, keep time, save time, beat the clock and cheat the calendar?

Like our amaryllis, I am a late bloomer. Married at 39. First horse at 52. Taiji as a new vocation at 60. With last month's birthday, I time traveled into my mid 70s. Thoughts creep in about how much time I have left to fulfill my purpose or just to live life with no purpose in mind. I will be mindful to fill my Day Timer with reminders to simply love more and spend more time with the horses and the land. Isn't that the key to having the time of one's life?

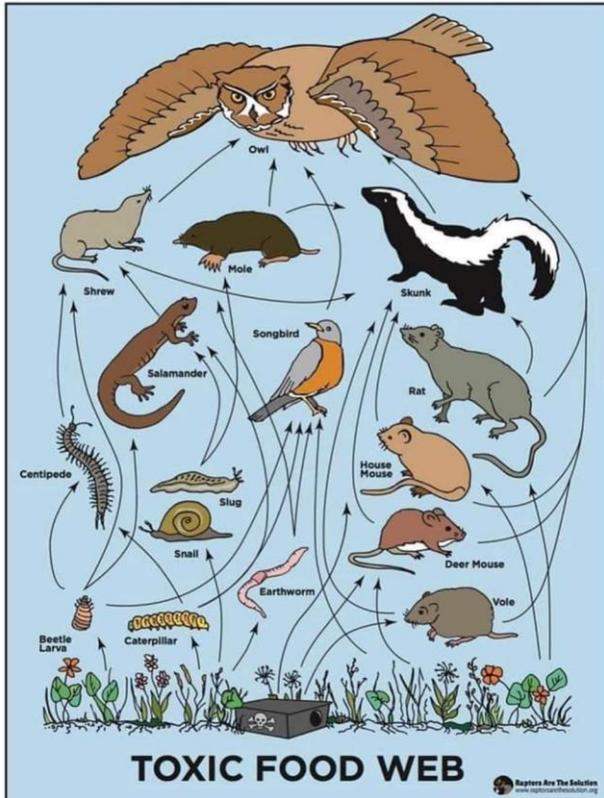
לכל, זמן; ועת לכל-ספץ, תסת השמים

*To everything there is a season
and a time for every purpose under heaven.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Horsensei wishes you bountiful Fall harvest and much time to relax in grace and gratitude

From the Humane Indiana Wildlife:



Exposure to rodenticides occurs when people use these chemicals to kill unwanted pests. Mice and rats, or possibly other animals, eat the poison, and then the birds eat the poisoned prey. Anticoagulant rodenticides work by thinning the blood and cause the animal to slowly bleed to death. A single feeding of an SGAR potentially contains enough poison to kill a rodent. However, it takes a few days for the animal to die, and in the meantime, they may continue to feed on the poison. During that time, they may be eaten by birds of prey, such as hawks and owls. Even after the animal dies, its carcass contains SGAR residues that can be lethal for scavengers.

For those looking for pest control solutions or hiring a pest management professional consider approaches other than ARs. Find out where the mice or rodents are coming in, plug up holes in the house or around windows, take away food and water sources, and clean out nesting sites—a process referred to as an integrated pest management approach. Your wildlife scavengers will thank you for it!

**ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST. EVEN WHEN NO ONE ELSE IS LOOKING, YOU ALWAYS ARE.
DON'T DISAPPOINT YOURSELF.
COLIN POWELL**

More news from Rachel Miura:

Theodore the Wonder Horse resumed his show pony side hustle by spending two days at the Harvest Special Schooling Show in Paso Robles September 23-24.

My 12-year old daughter Brynn piloted him through flat and pole classes, having fun and learning a lot along the way.

Doesn't Theo look nice all cleaned up?!

Theo recently finished the Tevis in 29th place out of 94 starters/61 finishers!

Congratulations, Brynn and Theo!!!!



No heaven can heaven be, if my horse isn't there to welcome me.

Quicksilver ride 2023

by Nick Warhol

The Quicksilver ride went off very well this past weekend in San Martin, Ca. We had a great turnout, in fact the best in several years with about 21 in the 50, about 49 in the 25, and about 18 fun riders. The weather was perfect all weekend except for, of course, ride day. Wouldn't you know we would get the first measurable rain in months on Saturday. It wasn't much, and the cool weather was sure nice, but it was wet enough to get some of the trails a little sticky and slippery in the morning.

Brian Reeves and I spent 11 hours on Thursday marking the trail and getting the water on the trail, then on Friday I went back out to finish the marking and check to be sure the cows had not done their usual damage on the signs. They did not; in fact, this is the first time in the ten years or so I have been marking this trail that we did not lose a single sign. We also provided Ride with GPS that a lot of people tried and liked.

I spent a couple of nights at the Kilty-Newburn Hilton in San Martin, where Sorsha got her own plush, private pasture. Thanks Jill and Michael! On Friday night I was going to stay in camp, but I did not have a place to sleep since I did not have my camper, so I got treated to a queen size bed in the Schneider rolling Hilton. I even got to sleep with Pony, Shel's sweet dog, on my bed. She's a big one, not a foo-foo dog. I have not slept with a dog on the bed since I was about ten. It was nice! She's a real sweetheart. Thanks Lisa and Shel!



Speaking of dogs, I had to include a picture of Lori Oleson's new puppy, Jemma, who was taking care of crew duties for Lori. She's a lab, but what a color! And I thought Podie was a cute puppy!

I started out on the first loop of the 50 in the light rain, riding with Nina Bomar from down south. We rode the whole first loop together and had a nice ride. I thought her horse was a seasoned, experienced guy since he was so good. Turns out it was his third ride! Nice horse. We did have to take it pretty easy in a few spots due to the slippery conditions. I did not have any issues with mud sticking to Sorsha's shoes since I had the Equi-pack sole guard in

there, but her feet kept throwing mud up all over. It hit the bottom of my shoe, which stuck, then it got between the stirrup and my foot. It was a bit slippery there for a while till I stopped and got rid of the mud from my shoes. We had a great loop- we just rode along and made the best of the wet conditions. Except for the vet check.

You may have heard that like in baseball, in endurance riding you can always have something happen that has never happened before. Yep, in my 32 years and 15K miles I have never crashed in a vet check while trotting my horse for the vet.

Michael Newburn drove the ambulance trailer up to the vet check; it was parked with the back open at 90 degrees, and pretty close to the vet trot out lanes. I was in the lane closest to the trailer as I trotted Sorsha for the vet. Michael was sitting on a chair inside the back of the trailer, and just as we trotted by, he moved. Sorsha saw that and jumped to her left a bit, which is where I was. She basically body-checked me in mid trot. She trots fast for the vet!

I took a real header, hitting the dirt and actually rolling over a couple of times. She just stopped while I picked myself up and tried to brush off the embarrassment. I was the laughingstock of the vet check for a while. I reminded everyone that "we shall never speak of this again!" Thank goodness no one got a video of that one!

Lunch at 25 miles went quickly; I headed back out and hooked up with Lisa Schneider on Shel's horse Paco. Another great horse! He really moved along nicely. The second loop was great since the mud was gone and the trails were in nice shape. I have not ridden with Lisa for a while, so we just trucked along at a great pace, catching up on family, horses, and of course AERC stuff. A lot of AERC stuff. We got to the last check at mile 38, and picked up a junior rider named Stella Stilwell, whose mom, Karen, had been pulled. A REAL junior. 8 years old! Lisa took her on in a heartbeat, and let me tell you, this kid is incredible. She rode her horse in front of Lisa and I just about the whole 12 miles to the finish, and she knows how to ride! She actually paces perfectly, much better than a lot of adults I know. She knows when to stop and walk. Oh, and she just happened to have finished the Virginia City 100 a couple of weeks ago. She's 8! It was a treat to ride with her.

We let Stella come in ahead of us for fifth, I got sixth, and Lisa seventh.



Our ride time was just over 8 hours- it was a 24.5 mile LD and a 49 mile 50 this year. The only issue I know of was a woman came off at about mile one and got hurt with a concussion and got taken to the hospital. I don't know who it was, or the extent of her injuries yet, but She did get a ride back to camp with Juan on my quad, so I think she's okay. Juan and Rachael went out and found the horse, and Rachael led it back to camp on foot. A long way! Thanks, Rachel!

Nina ended up with BC, which is pretty cool, since it's a new horse.

Sorsha blew through the ride as usual, and hit her 2000 mile mark with her finish. It was a great weekend from my perspective; we got loads of compliments on the ride in general. Thanks to ride manager Jerry Wittenauer and his crew, to Brian for his help with the trail and vet check work, to Jill and Michael for putting up with me and my Big, Brown, Girly Horse, and to Lisa, Shel, and Pony for the great bed on Friday night. The ride will return next year, better than ever, with some changes and improvements. It better be back- it's the only ride in the Bay Area anymore, unless the fireworks makes a return. That's so depressing.

Next stop: camp far west if all goes according to plan!

Intro to Endurance

by *Melissa Broquard*

Quicksilver Endurance Riders and SCCHA hosted an "intro to endurance" clinic at the end of August. I signed up with my young Haflinger Polly not so much because we're ready to go off and do an LD - we're not! - but because we could both use the exposure and confidence-building.

This was Polly's first time camping, aside from flood evac stays at a friend's house and the fire evac three years ago. This was also my first time camping in my trailer. No issues! She was even kind enough not to repeatedly dump over the water bucket 😊

We hauled in Friday evening and unloaded in the dark. The goal was to get there before dark, but as with most things horses, there's always one more thing.. and one more thing.. and oh maybe we'll need this. It was fine! Easy parking, nearby hose to fill Polly's water bucket, unexpectedly knew the folks we parked next to which is always a bonus.

Saturday was lecture day. There is an incredible wealth of endurance knowledge and history in this area. Those new to endurance may not realize it, but we are really very lucky in that regard. Nick Warhol, Debbie Boscoe, and Jill Kilty-Newburn spoke to us about the basics of endurance, what to do, what not to do, and why. They shared their stories of things that went well, and things that did not go so well. We heard their conditioning recommendations, feed recommendations, more resources to look into. (I took notes. So much was covered I'm barely scratching the surface here.) Join AERC, get a mentor, ask lots of questions and be receptive to the answers. We heard from a vet: vets are your friends, not your enemies. We're all in this for the welfare of the horse. Sometimes that means pulls (non-completions) and that is OK! Advocate for your horse, you know them best. If something isn't right, talk to the vets.

And there were even more speakers. Our fabulous organizers also brought back a rider who participated in last year's endurance clinic and is still early in their endurance career. They shared their struggles and their victories over the last year, what has worked for them, what has been more challenging. In contrast, we also heard from Becky Hart, a three-time World Champion among many other things. She shared her recommendations and stories from many years of endurance riding. It's always a joy to hear from Becky, and I learn something new every time. A saddle fitter talked to us about the many, many different saddle types and options that are out there, what to look for, what different terms mean. She also did a demo with a participant's horse so we could all see the differences and what "good" fit looks like. Jerry Wittenauer brought glow sticks and zip ties for our night ride. He gave us the science behind horses seeing in the dark. Jerry also talked us through when to use, or not use, headlamps on the trail, red light vs white light, when to use glowsticks instead of a headlamp, and more.



There was a "vet check" on Saturday evening where all participants did an endurance-style vet in. I know how this works; Polly does not know how this works. We've been practicing trot-outs for five years now so that's not a big deal for her. She thought some of the poking and prodding was a bit strange.

However, she was delightfully good about it. (Why does this surprise me after several years of new-and-exciting vet visits with this horse? I have no idea.) Trotted out and back when asked. Good pony.

Saturday night there was a short night ride around the Showgrounds. The good: Polly was sane enough that I got on with only a little bit of help, and I did not instantly channel my stress at her. Fetti and I did a reasonable amount of riding in the dark, sometimes at speed. Polly and I ride mostly at twilight. My anxiety wasn't about the darkness. I was more worried about going out with other horses. I definitely held on her face too much, but we had a minute or two of civilized walk/trot. The bad: when another horse in our group did some shenanigans, Polly and I both ran out of brainpower. There are definitely things I would have done differently in hindsight. End result was that I hopped off and handwalked my fire-breathing dragon back on in, eventually letting her move her feet in the round pen to work off some of the compiled anxiety.

Sunday morning, Nick offered trailer backing sessions. I am not a trailer backing expert; I very happily signed up. No matter how great your family or significant other may be about helping with your trailer, it's always nice to get coaching from someone unrelated! Nick gave me a refresher on the basics and talked me through some of the areas where I was struggling with fantastic patience and explanations. I'm really surprised no one else signed up and I hope it gets offered again next year, this is super fantastic to have.

Sunday was the group ride. We were split into three groups for this. Jill led our third group, followed by two junior sisters on their horses, a lovely lady (whose name I forgot at least a dozen times over the weekend) on her super zen chestnut mare, and Polly bringing up the rear.

- Polly stood perfectly still for me to get on despite horses milling around.
- We went out calmly at the back of the group. For a horse that nearly always leads at home, it was great to see that Polly went just as well in back.
- The culvert of doom was an absolute non-issue. "Huh. That's weird. Guess we walk over it. Whatever."
- Polly trotted out nicely when asked and the group started moving. We're both lacking fitness. We're also very new to trotting over trails with things like sharp turns and tree roots. Periodically Polly and I would be thinking really hard about feet and form and posture and balance and WOOPS the group was walking and we missed it. Again, saint of a mare in front of us absolutely did not care. (Not that I'd recommend this, either! But it was nice to not have to expend the mental bandwidth on also having discussions with Polly about always always always keeping more space; she was good about it when I insisted, and it's one we'll need to keep working on.)
- Polly navigated tree roots and steps up and steps down. The last time she did that was the spring of 2021, while hiking instead of riding. These were not all small steps. I need to be in better shape to give her a better ride through stuff like that. We made it work.
- When Polly got tired, she went at a respectable Polly-speed walk. She did not insist on staying with the group or trotting to catch up (though she would if I asked). We had a few "no you may not trot down hills" conversations. Those felt mostly like balance problems, not a desire to stay on top of everyone else. Fixable problems.
- After Polly tripped and went to her knees, I made the call that she was done trotting. Tired pony! Which sucked, as there were some really nice trottable sections, but: she wasn't ready.
- Zen Mare and her rider offered to stay back with us while the other three went on ahead, and Jill agreed, and I was very appreciative, and that all worked out nicely. Polly kept a nice marching walk. Zen Mare was very polite when the other horses trotted off in front of us, and even when she did a slow-motion canter at walk speed, Polly kept to her walk.
- Polly and I opted out of the second loop. We had only gone five miles, but that was already the longest ride I'd asked her to do, the most hills, the most trotting, in a group.. and handled all of it fabulously. I think everyone else went back out and got the full experience, which is awesome!

We did our "final vet check" after I pulled tack and brushed her off. She was tired but willing to trot out when I asked. There were some areas of slight concern; they were all perfectly reasonable and non-concerning when put in the context of our fitness and experience level.

In short: delighted. There's a lot of conditioning work to be done before we go to a 25. It's incredibly reassuring that she's grown up enough mentally to handle something like this, and that's really what we needed to get out of it.

Good pony. ❤️

10 October '23 – Gooding, ID: Carlos & I romping through sagebrush country in the rolling hills of southern Idaho at the Autumn Sun Endurance Ride. We had a great weekend with a solid 50-mile ride, catching up with some old friends, and making some new friends.

This ride featured the kind of “open space” that Carlos thrives on, and we had a great day at a well-run event. This ride was conducted on fire roads and single-track trails in open sagebrush country. This was real cattle country. For our ride weekend, the ride management worked with local ranchers to move some 2500 head of cattle off of the BLM lands that hosted us. For the ride route, the cattle were mostly gone, but they left their mark on the land with pulled ribbons and some choppy footing on the soft trails! Elevation changes were minor and the riding temperatures were pleasant. Although I travelled to this ride with a plan to do back-to-back 50's, Carlos showed some stress from the first day of riding (poor footing all day took its toll) so I elected not to ride the remaining two days. A minor disappointment, but as an experienced hand pointed out to me – there are lotsa rides available, but you only have one horse . . . so I was not gonna push it. We are wrapping up our season “13-for-13” in 50 mile rides this year, in 4 different states and taking a short break before we get ready to charge into the 2024 Ride Season on 2 Dec in Phoenix!!!

Travel Notes: For this trip, it was 10 hrs. to Elko NV, we stayed at the Elko NV Fairgrounds, then it was just 4 hrs. to the ride camp the next day. Elko Fairgrounds was a marginal place to stay, they assigned us to a barn that was basically 10 x 10 stalls with no outside pipe corrals. Well, Carlos is not a barn horse, and he was not about to walk into one of these cave-like stalls that were assigned, so I ended up setting up my portable corrals so he could be outside all night.

Here is what I'm learning with some of these travel stabling arrangements: Finding a horse hotel at someone's private ranch is the way to go. Advantages: I get my horse settled in and rest assured that he is safe for the night with a “human presence” to keep an eye on things overnight while I go into town for a decent meal and a hotel night. I get lots of talk about local Rodeo Grounds, County Fairgrounds, Event Centers . . . but what I find is that there are no other horses or people there, so my guy is unsettled being by himself, and I honestly worry that he'll get stolen if I don't stay there the whole night myself in my camper. Like, I would never leave Carlos unattended for the night while I'm at some cush Super-8 Motel in town, right? So I think I am “done” with public facilities – just not our style. On the way home we stayed at a very nice horse hotel in Winnemucca, then it was an easy 7 hr. drive to get home.





*Congratulations to Nicola Mohr
for finding her next endurance
horse and best buddy, "Prince
Charming" AKA Fynn!*

Happy trails to you both!

Quicksilver

Submitted by Beverley Kane

Maybe you knew this, but this was new to me just now:

"Secundino and his brother Teodoro Robles, bought Rancho Rincon de San Francisquito from José Peña in 1847. In 1824, Secundino Robles had discovered cinnabar deposits south of San Jose, when Ohlone Indians showed him where they retrieved their red-pigmented rock. By 1845, when these deposits proved to be rich in quicksilver, Secundino and Teodoro received cash and a one sixth share in Andres Castillero's New Almaden Quicksilver Mine.



The fun continues.... From Rachel Miura:

On October 22 my daughter Brynn rode Theo in the San Mateo County Horseman's Association Halloween Play Day held at Webb Ranch. The event kicked off with a costume contest and they were an "under-the-sea" theme, including a sea horse, shark, jellyfish, and other ocean bling!



Quicksilver Endurance Riders (QSER) Club October 18, 2023

Board Meeting Minutes

The Board meeting was held via Zoom on October 18, 2023, beginning at 6:30 pm.

In Attendance: Jerry Wittenauer, Nick Warhol, Rachel Miura, Elaine Elbizri, Carolyn Tucker, Brian Reeves and Maryben Stover. Apology from Magda Bartilsson

Review of Committees/Reports:

- A. Technical: Website/QUIPS/Other:
- B. New website with changes and upgrades are now accessible. There are still some items to be changed – Quips to be updated, inclusions to be extended in historical pages and members' stories.
- C. Membership – one new member this month.
- D. Goodwill -- Sympathies were sent to Nick Warhol on the passing of his father. Members were to represent QSER at the memorial for Ludd McCrary on October 29.
- E. Financial – with \$3,500 made from the ride financial standing was up from \$7,000 to \$10,000
- F. Trails – no concerns reported this month

G. Ride Committee Report

Rachel had put together a 'lessons learned' document that was up to 5 pages, Jill Kilty had also sent in some observations. Volunteers and riders were to be asked to send in comments. The document was to be reviewed at a working group meeting in March for the 2024 ride.

Nick reported there was lots of support for the new ride trails

There was lots of appreciation for the good course markings

Online sign up worked very well

Safety plan information was easily accessible and very useful. Emergency service worked very well.

Proposed ride date for 2024 was September 28

Awards Ctte Status - All committees were established. Eleanor Norton committee would be Jill Kilty Newburn, Carolyn Tucker and Elaine Elbizri (Chair). Jerry was to include a call for nominations which are due by December 15, in Quips

New business

New Board - Magda had a proposal of two new people, as new board members for 2024. Vote for the new board would be at the January meeting. Though Carolyn's term on the board is ending she undertook to keep the board up to date on trails and conditions and to be liaison for Fireworks.

Bylaws - A vote to change the bylaws was passed unanimously. Nick was to mail out the proposed changes to members for their responses within the next two weeks.

Awards Banquet - It was agreed that holding the banquet at a reserved room in a restaurant was preferable to a member's home. Brian proposed continuing at the Westside Grill, to save costs members could order their own meals and prizes and awards would be reduced. Carolyn suggested the banquet room at the Longhouse in Gilroy as an even more economical venue. She was to check the availability.

There would be no charge for participation but members would need to RSVP.

There was a unanimous vote for: the banquet to be held on Saturday February 10th from 2-5pm; and for the following awards: riders in each division, for junior rider and the rider with the most miles in the season.

Highlighting activities - Rachel was to use articles from quips and the website on Face book to highlight members' activities and successes and QSER events.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:30pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Elaine Elbizri

Treasurer's report:
Checking \$10,521
Savings (trails) \$1,075
Profit from ride \$3,500



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



Market Place

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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

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<http://equine-imity.com>

Illustrations by Judith Oqus

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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

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

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 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

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 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!!

